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The official children's Sabbath School curriculum of the
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

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BIBLE STUDY GUIDE FOR JUNIORS & EARLITEENS

powerpoints®

God's Grace
Builds Community



powerpoints®

A Sabbath School Bible Study Guide for Juniors/Teens



GraceLink Sabbath School Curriculum

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YEAR

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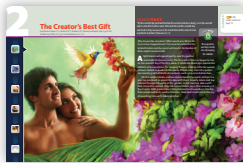
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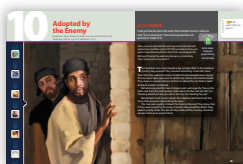
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Parents!

See the back of the book for a special **Parents' Page** to go with each lesson.

our beliefs

1 The Word of God

I believe that God inspired through the Holy Spirit every writer of the Bible. Everything written in the Word of God is true, and can help me live a happy and healthy life.

2 The Godhead

I believe that the God who loves me is One God manifested in three persons—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each works hard to teach me how to live a better, more meaningful life.

3 God the Father

I believe that God the Father is the power that keeps me—and every other creature in the universe—alive. He is kind and forgiving, and will never leave me.

4 God the Son

I believe that Jesus, God the Son, created this world and everything good in it. Two thousand years ago He came to this earth as a baby, grew up, and lived a sinless life. He then died on the cross so that I could someday live forever with Him in heaven.

5 God the Holy Spirit

I believe that God the Holy Spirit speaks to me through that still, small voice I hear in my thoughts whenever I feel afraid, sad, or lonely. He tells me that everything will be all right. The Holy Spirit also tries to teach me right from wrong by making me feel guilty when I sin and joyful each time I choose to obey God's laws of love.

6 Creation

I believe that God created the universe, and in a recent six-day creation He made "the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them" and rested on the seventh day. When He finished making the trees, animals, oceans, mountains, and people, God looked around at all that He had done and said joyfully, "This is very good!"

7 The Nature of Humanity

I believe that Jesus made people in the image of God. Each enjoys the freedom to think and act any way they choose. Even though sin and bad choices have brought pain and suffering to many, we're still children of God. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can care for each other just as God cares for each one of us.

8 The Great Controversy

I believe that Satan is a real being who wants to destroy us all. He works hard each day to bring sin into our lives. God wants us to live each day with joy, happiness, and love. God and Satan are fighting for control over our lives and our futures. To help us overcome sin, Jesus sends the Holy Spirit and loving angels to guide and protect us.

9 The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus

I believe that Jesus lived a perfect life in order to show us that it's possible to overcome sin. He died on the cross so I won't have to lose my heavenly home because of my sins. Then God the Father raised Jesus from the dead to show how He'll someday raise me from the dead if I die before Jesus returns.

10 The Experience of Salvation

I believe that when I allow Jesus into my heart, He helps me change from a sinner to a child of God, ready to live forever in heaven. He teaches me how to be like Him as I read my Bible and follow the loving guidance of the Holy Spirit. Because of Jesus, I can feel confident that I'm forgiven and that there's a home waiting for me in heaven.

11 Growing in Jesus

I believe that when someone invites Jesus into their heart, changes start to happen. What they read, watch on television or on the Internet, eat, and listen to, and the places they

go, even the words they say, will change. The pages of the Bible will become like a textbook for living, and they will talk to Jesus throughout each day. These changes keep happening, day after day, until Jesus comes. I also believe that we are called to follow Jesus' example by compassionately ministering to the physical, mental, social, emotional, and spiritual needs of humanity.

12 The Church

I believe that my church is a place where people who love Jesus can praise Him together with joy and anticipation. It's like attending a fun family reunion each week. Jesus loves His church and listens to every word spoken and every song sung.

13 The Remnant and Its Mission

I believe that before Jesus comes the second time, some people in my church will choose sin over salvation. Those who stay faithful to Jesus and to what the voice of the Holy Spirit tells them to do are called the remnant, and they will work extra hard to bring the love of God to the world. Though the remnant may be small in number, they will accomplish great things for God so that Jesus can return.

14 Unity in the Body of Christ

I believe that any church whose members worship God should welcome people from any nation, who speak any language, and whose skin is any color. We're all equal in God's sight. How we look and how we sound makes no difference. We're all children of the same heavenly Father.

15 Baptism

I believe that when I'm baptized, I'm telling everyone that I love God and want to live my life in service to Him. Baptism is like being buried as a sinner and then rising up to live a new life for Jesus.

16 The Lord's Supper

I believe that when Jesus ate His last meal with His disciples right before He was crucified, He taught us something wonderful. He said that the grape juice (wine) represented His spilled blood and that the bread represented His broken body. When I partake of "The Lord's Supper" at church, it helps me remember the sacrifice Jesus made for me on the cross.

17 Spiritual Gifts and Ministries

I believe that God has given us special talents that we can use to serve Him. We each enjoy different skills, such as music, preaching, teaching, art, giving Bible studies, visiting the sick, or making people feel welcome when they visit our church. Each spiritual gift is important to God's work.

18 The Gift of Prophecy

I believe that the people in God's church have needed help knowing how to live and what to look forward to in the future. So God appointed a woman named Ellen G. White to be His prophet and provide guidance, instruction, and correction for His people. Her writings also help us understand the important lessons found in the Bible.

19 The Law of God

I believe that God's Ten Commandments contain the best rules for living. Each is designed to protect me from sin and help me love God and others better. Each represents how much God loves me and how He wants me to live a happy, healthy life. Obeying the Ten Commandments is like saying "I love You" to God and others.

20 The Sabbath

I believe that God created the seventh-day Sabbath (Saturday) to be a holy day. He commands me to rest, worship Him, and serve Him by doing acts of kindness

for others on that day as a way of showing Him—and others—that I believe He is the Creator of all good things. God's holy Sabbath begins at sundown on Friday and ends at sundown on Saturday.

21 Stewardship

I believe that everything belongs to God: the trees, the flowers, the animals—even me. God has asked me to take care of what He created and to protect all things from harm—even me. So I will cherish God's creatures and creation. To show Him how proud I am to be His steward, I'll faithfully return a tithe (10 percent) of my time, talent, and money. I want God to bless this world and everything in it—even me.

22 Christian Behavior

I believe that anyone who loves Jesus should talk, act, eat, work, and play differently from those who don't love Jesus. As a child of God I need to think, feel, and act in harmony with the teachings of the Bible in all aspects of personal and social life. Everything I do should show others that Jesus lives in my heart and that I live by His rules of love.

23 Marriage and the Family

I believe that God designed marriage to be the lifelong union between a man and a woman. Our heavenly Father wants our earthly homes to be safe places where we learn about His love and forgiveness. When we love our brothers and sisters, parents and grandparents, uncles and aunts, we're experiencing a beautiful example of what it will be like to live in heaven with everyone who has chosen to love and obey God.

24 Jesus' Ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary

I believe that God instructed Moses and the children of Israel to build a temple in the wilderness to explain what Jesus is doing right

now in the heavenly sanctuary. Jesus is our high priest who speaks to the Father on our behalf in the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary. He forgives us, cleanses sin from our hearts, and prepares us for His kingdom.

25 The Second Coming of Jesus

I believe that very soon Jesus is going to return to this earth and take to heaven everyone who has chosen to love and obey Him. When He comes, those who hate Him will be destroyed. But everyone who has remained faithful to Jesus will leave this dark world and spend eternity with Him in His heavenly kingdom.

26 Death and Resurrection

I believe that Jesus can raise people from the dead. He did it before, raising Lazarus and the widow's son, and He will do it again when He comes the second time. So even though some of my family members are asleep in their graves, I'll see them again because of the power of God over death.

27 The Millennium and the End of Sin

I believe that someday sin and sinners will be gone forever. Even those who died hating God will fully understand the lies that Satan told them, and will agree that God's judgment is just. Without God's presence to shield them from harm, Satan and every sinner will be completely destroyed by fire.

28 The New Earth

I believe that after Satan and sinners are destroyed, my heavenly Father will create a brand-new world for us to enjoy. There will be no death, no tears, no pain, no suffering. All will be peace and love. Best of all, I will enjoy this wonderful world forever together with my family and all who love God.

biblical timeline

Is your life exciting and fun every single day? Probably not! But everyone experiences certain events that are memorable and even life-changing. Being born is certainly one of those major events in life! Starting school, performing your first music recital, learning to read, going on a mission trip, inventing a game that your friends love to play, or committing your life to Jesus by

being baptized may be other events you remember. Something terribly sad may also have happened that you can't forget.

The Bible is a little bit like your life. Even though it contains many stories, and all of them can teach us something about God and His love for us, only a few of the Bible stories contain events that are both memorable and life-changing. Those events

were turning points in the history of God's people. Once they took place, everything was different afterward.

Six of those life-changing stories are illustrated in the six pictures you see below. Very likely you can look at them and figure out what Bible stories they represent. The six pictures form a Bible-picture timeline that can help you make sense of the whole, big Bible story.



1600
YEARS

CREATION

Without it none of us would be here. That certainly changed everything forever!



900
YEARS

THE FLOOD

The world is very different now from what it was like before the Flood.



THE EXODUS FROM EGYPT

After God's people were led out of Egypt, they became a nation. They were no longer just individual families and tribes.

900
YEARS



THE CAPTIVITY IN BABYLON

God's people wandered far from the friendship God wanted to have with them, so He sent them into captivity in Babylon. Eventually they were able to return home, but never again did they have their own king. They were always under the power of some other kingdom.

In your Bible Study Guide you will find each weekly Sabbath School lesson marked as to where it fits in the big Bible story. Today we live between the first coming and the second coming of Jesus. We live very close to the Second Coming!

As you become more familiar with fitting the individual stories into the picture timeline, you will better understand the Bible as one big story and become closer friends with Jesus. And when you see how the small stories fit around the six bigger stories, then the Bible will become even more meaningful to you. Hopefully you will realize more than ever that you are part of the big Bible story!



600
YEARS



THE FIRST COMING OF JESUS

At last the Messiah, Jesus, for whom God's people had been waiting thousands of years, came to this earth to rescue us from the power of sin. From then on, the message about His love and salvation began to go to the whole world.

2000
YEARS



THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS

This is the last major event foretold in the Bible. When Jesus comes, He will take us to heaven and end sin and suffering forever.

1000
YEARS

dear student

You are a gift from God, and He loves you very much! If the Lord knows each star by name and makes sure that it is in the proper place each night (Isaiah 40:26), how much more important are you?

Not every person is alike. Look around you. Everyone has different color eyes, hair, skin, and build (tall, short, big-boned, and thin). We all learn differently. Some people learn by listening, others by sight, and still others by touch. Some people use all three ways to learn.

Regardless of how you learn, the Lord wants you to love Him and serve Him with all your heart. You do that when you pray, learn about Him (in your lesson study), talk about Him to others, and do what is right.

Here is a great truth you should know about the Lord: Jesus isn't primarily concerned about how well you can read or write, or even how well you can speak. What Jesus cares about most is how much you love Him and want Him in your life. The greatest accomplishment in your life will be to show others how much God has blessed your life.

In school you use different ways to get the information that you want. Use those same ways to learn more about the Lord: Use your computer, iPod, or iPad to hear or study your lesson. Or have your parents read your lesson to you. Use the Bible on CD, or the audio podcast of your lesson at www.juniorpowerpoints.org/podcast.php?channel=1. It does not matter which way you get the information, as long as you are growing and maturing in the Lord.

Think about this when you meet Jesus face to face: He is not going to ask to see how well you write something. He will not ask you to read anything. His only pursuit is to read your heart to see how much you love Him. He wants to spend eternity with you!

This Bible study guide is **about . . .**

Our worship of God that involves our whole beings; we dedicate ourselves entirely to Him.

A respectful Christian community that results when we nurture positive relationships with God's children.

Jesus' example of servant leadership that encourages us to dedicate our lives to His service.

Jesus' saving grace that transforms us and inspires us to share the good news of His resurrection.

Welcome to PowerPoints about God's grace.

God's grace is power. It's the unlimited, for-sure, forever power that finds you and fills you up with everything you need to live a full and wonderful life in Him.



How to use this Bible study guide

The lessons and stories in this Bible study guide include principles that you can apply to your everyday life. They encourage you to communicate with God through prayer, reading from your Bible and reflecting on what you read. That is how to grow in your relationship with Jesus. You will study the Bible lesson during the week, and in Sabbath School you will review it with your teacher and peers. This review process will help you gain a deeper spiritual understanding of the lessons.

A big part of your Sabbath School lesson is the study you do from the Bible and the discussions you have with your teachers and peers on Sabbath. Learn and review the power text during the week as you prepare for Sabbath School. As you memorize passages from the Bible you will become familiar with the truths found in God's Word, and you will learn to apply them to your life. As you study your Sabbath School lesson, engage your family members in discussion and share with them what you learned.

Most important, please take time to read, pray, and reflect on Jesus every day. Ask Him to help you apply what you study to what you do in real life. It isn't only what you know with your head, but it's also what you know with your heart, that helps you be a strong, growing Christian.

Happy growing in Jesus!

—General Conference Sabbath School Department

PS: Write and tell us how you're growing in Jesus.

Sabbath School/Personal Ministries Department
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904

WORSHIP

We worship God, the Creator.

(LESSONS 1 THROUGH 4).

- Created in God's image.
- The gift of Sabbath.
- A choice with devastating consequences.
- Cain and Abel choose how they worship God.

COMMUNITY

We reflect God's love in our relationships.

(LESSONS 5 THROUGH 9).

- Joseph is the favored son.
- Joseph's brothers sell him.
- Joseph honors God in his master's house.
- Joseph makes friends in prison.
- Joseph forgives his brothers.

GRACE

God offers Himself to us.

(LESSONS 10 THROUGH 12).

- Rahab hides spies.
- The walls of Jericho fall.
- God gives Samson the victory.

GRACE IN ACTION

We remain faithful to God when facing difficulties.

(LESSON 13).

- Ruth stays with Naomi.

