

real.solid.stories

CORNERSTONE CONNECTIONS

1ST QUARTER 2024

TEACHER'S GUIDE



Kings and Prophets

cornerstone connections

Teacher's Guide

REAL. SOLID. STORIES.

1st Quarter 2024
Kings and Prophets

world Sabbath School director
Jim Howard

General Conference adviser
Ted N. C. Wilson

Biblical Research Institute adviser
Clinton Wahlen

design direction
Review and Herald® Design Center

circulation
Rebecca Hilde

PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

welcome

Welcome to the experience of teaching from *Cornerstone Connections: Real. Solid. Stories.*

The following are provided for your assistance:

- A Word About What's Ahead . . . (student introduction) [p. 2]
- Why the Bible Story Approach? (teacher introduction) [p. 3]
- What Tools Are Provided for Teaching the Stories? [p. 4]
- Complete Scope and Sequence [p. 5]
- Current Year Overview [p. 6]
- Current Quarter Overview [p. 9]

A WORD ABOUT WHAT'S AHEAD . . . (student introduction)

The goal of *Cornerstone Connections* is to lead you to the Bible to see the big story of God and people. This big story continues from the first generation in Eden to your generation today. It's about the lives of people as the God of the universe interacts with them.

If you are looking for a word from God that is **real**, *Cornerstone Connections* captures the message of Scripture and challenges you to make the connections to your real life.

God's Word is not only real; it is rock-**solid**. For the first generation to hear God's voice in the garden to the last group standing before Christ at the Second Coming, the Word of God has been and continues to be reliable.

The word from God comes to us in the **stories** of people who encountered Him and made a decision either to follow Him or walk away.

Real. Solid. Stories. You will find one in *Into the Story* in each lesson. *Out of the Story* will provide you with ways to search for truth you can apply to your life. In each lesson you also will find:

- **What Do You Think?**—a mental activity to get your mind and heart in gear for the story to follow. Every time you approach a Bible story, you are coming to it in the context of the story in which you live every day.
- **Did You Know?**—a brief statistic or definition that digs a little deeper into the story or simply provides some helpful facts to bring to the lesson.
- **Key Text**—a verse that points out a key concept from the story. It is also a great place to find verses that you can memorize and store away for later use.
- **Punch Lines**—a few other verses from Scripture that punctuate key concepts of the lesson. You may see connections between them and the Bible story as well as your own life.
- **Flashlight**—a brief snapshot of Ellen White's input on the story. These glimmers that shed light onto the biblical passage will also give you a glimpse of what awaits you in the suggested weekly reading from her inspired commentary on the stories—the Conflict of the Ages.*
- **Further Insight**—one or two quotes that will provide further insight into the central message of the lesson.

- **Connecting to Life**—the guide to making the truths about God in this story your very own. Study the Bible lesson during the week in preparation for Sabbath School. On Sabbath you will have the opportunity to review, discuss, and elaborate on what you learned with your teacher and other students in your Sabbath School class. Each day of the week you will be directed to explore one of the sections of the lesson, to relate it to the story you live, and to make the message from God apply to you personally.

WHY THE BIBLE STORY APPROACH? (teacher introduction)

There is a tendency to neglect God’s Word because the Bible seems so old and the issues of life today don’t seem to automatically connect with the ancient, inspired text. But the Bible was never meant to be read. It was meant to be studied, reflected on, and integrated into life. It wasn’t written to be analyzed as much as it was to be obeyed. It takes effort. If you simply want a story to entertain you, then the Bible isn’t for you.

The Bible is not a novel that grips you (although many of the stories are quite compelling), but if you get a firm hold on the message of the Bible with a teachable heart and an eye that seeks God, you will find something more than entertaining. You will discover a message just for you. “You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart” (Jeremiah 29:13, NIV). Jesus said, “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock” (Matthew 7:24, NIV).

The Bible is the tool used by the promised Teacher—the Holy Spirit. We, the earthly teachers, will be effective as we first let the Spirit teach us. Each of these lessons is built around a specific Bible story. You will lead the students *Into the Story* and help them mine truth for their lives *Out of the Story*. The gems of truth are not already mined for you. You and your students will have an opportunity to dig for yourselves.

“In daily study the verse-by-verse method is often most helpful. Let the student take one verse, and concentrate the mind on ascertaining the thought that God has put into that verse for him, and then dwell upon the thought until it becomes his own. One passage thus studied until its significance is clear is of more value than the perusal of many chapters with no definite purpose in view and no positive instruction gained” (*Education*, p. 189).

Welcome to *Cornerstone Connections*.

—The General Conference Sabbath School Department

PS. Don’t forget to check out the reading plan.

*A special adaptation has been created just for you by the Ellen G. White Estate and Pacific Press® Publishing Association. Get more info about it at: www.cornerstoneconnections.net.

www.cornerstoneconnections.net

cornerstone connections

Teacher's Guide

REAL. SOLID. STORIES.

1st Quarter 2024

Kings and Prophets

CORNERSTONE CONNECTIONS Teacher's Guide (ISSN 0742-8685), Vol. 55, No. 1, First Quarter 2024. Published quarterly, January, April, July, and October, and copyrighted by the General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists®, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600, U.S.A. Printed for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists® by Pacific Press® Publishing Association.

Postmaster: Send address changes to *CORNERSTONE CONNECTIONS Teacher's Guide*, P.O. Box 5353, Nampa, ID 83653-5353. Single copy, US\$38.99 plus postage. One year, United States, US\$92.64. Canada and foreign: US\$101.64. Prices subject to change without notice.

Scripture quotations marked CEV are from the Contemporary English Version®. Copyright © 1995 American Bible Society. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked NASB are from the New American Standard Bible®, Copyright © 1960, 1971, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked NIV are from THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Scripture quotations marked NLT are from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2007, 2013, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked NRSV are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

STUDENT LESSON INCLUDED

what tools are provided for teaching the stories?

(Bolded text helps you review the suggested steps at a glance.)

- ① With each lesson in this *Teacher's Guide* you will find an *Explore* section with topics listed that relate to each week's story. We have provided a variety of resources for exploring the topic you choose—from discussion questions to illustrations, from reader's theater scripts to learning activities. **Use the resources at www.cornerstoneconnections.net to create an experience that is relevant to your group.**
- ② **Begin the actual "lesson" time with the *What Do You Think?* activity (and the *Did You Know?* information)** in the student lesson. The activities are designed to get your students to think, respond, and share with one another. The rich discussion that can grow out of this exercise is a great entry point. The key question to ask at the end is "Why did you respond the way you did?"
- ③ Your *Teacher's Guide* provides an illustration, along with a short "bridge" thought that will help you **lead your students into the Bible passage itself.**
- ④ The heart of the lesson experience is to **read the Bible passage**, *Into the Story*, together and to **discuss it** with the help of your *Out of the Story* for Teachers questions. Other passages to compare to this one for further study of the Word are sometimes provided as well.
- ⑤ Then **share the information about context and background** that will make the story become more understandable for you and your students.
- ⑥ You are provided with a short guide to help you **unpack the other sections of the student lesson with your class.** (Your students are also directed to work through one section of their lesson on their own each day by following the instructions in *Connecting to Life*.) Encourage students to study the Bible lesson during the week in preparation for Sabbath School. On Sabbath you will review the lesson and will help them elaborate on it. This process will strengthen in students a sense of accountability and will facilitate a deeper spiritual understanding of the content under study in Sabbath School.
- ⑦ Each week's *Teacher's Guide* includes a teaching tip in *Rabbi 101* that will be helpful for you to keep for future reference. You are also provided an activity and a summary that helps to **draw the lesson together and close.**
- ⑧ In each lesson students are provided with a reference to the volume from the Conflict of the Ages Series, by Ellen White, that corresponds with the week's story. Students who follow the reading plan included in these Sabbath School Bible study guides will be able to read the entire series in four years. The audio and e-book versions of the Conflict of the Ages Series in Today's Language are now available online at www.cornerstoneconnections.net. The prayerful study of God's Word along with the reading of these books promise to help students grow in their relationship with God!
- ⑨ Teachers, in your role as a discipler of youth, the GC Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department wants to help you in every way possible to be equipped for this important work. You are encouraged to go to www.growingfruitfuldisciples.com. There you will find resources to help you be more intentional and fruitful in the discipling of your students.

scope & sequence

2021

1st Quarter

1. Jesus
2. It's Time
3. Mary
4. Simeon/Anna
5. The Wise Men
6. The Child Jesus
7. The Voice
8. Victory
9. Messiah Found
10. Marriage Feast
11. The Temple
12. Nicodemus
13. John the Baptist

2nd Quarter

1. Samaritan Woman
2. The Nobleman
3. The Lame Man
4. John the Baptist
5. The Anointed One
6. Peter
7. Capernaum
8. The Leper
9. Levi-Matthew
10. The Sabbath
11. The Disciples
12. The Centurion
13. The Demonic

3rd Quarter

1. Woman/Jairus
2. The Seventy
3. The Disciples
4. Misunderstandings
5. Broken Barriers
6. Jesus' Ministry
7. Who Is Jesus?
8. Lawyer/Ruler
9. The Children
10. Lazarus's Family
11. Zacchaeus
12. Mary
13. James and John

4th Quarter

1. The King Comes
2. The Pharisees
3. The End of Time
4. Servanthood
5. The Last Supper
6. Gethsemane
7. The Trial
8. Calvary
9. Resurrection
10. Mary Magdalene
11. The Emmaus Road
12. By the Sea
13. Jesus' Ascension

2022

1st Quarter

1. The Mission
2. The Holy Spirit
3. The Lame Man
4. Ananias/Sapphira
5. God's People
6. Stephen
7. Paul
8. Peter
9. Paul/Barnabas
10. Gentiles Included
11. Spreading Good News
12. The Thessalonians
13. The Ephesians

2nd Quarter

1. The Corinthians
2. Workers for Christ
3. Romans/Galatians
4. Last Journey
5. Adventures and Trials
6. Philemon
7. Colossians/Philippians
8. Final Arrest
9. Before Nero
10. John the Beloved
11. Patmos
12. The Revelation
13. Church Triumphant

3rd Quarter

1. First Believers
2. Seekers
3. Wycliffe
4. Luther
5. Zwingli
6. French Reformation
7. English Reformers
8. French Revolution
9. American Reformers
10. William Miller
11. Prophecy Fulfilled
12. The Sanctuary
13. God's Law

4th Quarter

1. Renewal
2. Investigative Judgment
3. Origin of Evil
4. Snares
5. Great Deception
6. The Papacy
7. Spiritual Challenge
8. The Bible
9. Last Chance
10. Time of Trouble
11. Deliverance
12. The End
13. The Beginning

2023

1st Quarter

1. Adam and Eve
2. The Serpent
3. Cain and Abel
4. Seth and Enoch
5. Noah
6. Tower People
7. Abraham
8. Isaac
9. Lot
10. Rebekah
11. Jacob and Esau
12. Jacob

2nd Quarter

1. Joseph
2. The Brothers
3. Moses
4. Egyptians
5. Fleeing Slaves
6. Unhappy Campers
7. Chosen Nation
8. Aaron
9. The Tabernacle
10. Miriam and Zipporah
11. Twelve Spies
12. Korah
13. The Bronze Serpent

3rd Quarter

1. The Borders Revisited
2. Balaam
3. Questionable Neighbors
4. Law Review
5. Moses' Death
6. Crossing Jordan
7. Rahab
8. Blessings and Curses
9. Gibeonites
10. Canaan Divided
11. Last Words of Joshua
12. Annual Feasts
13. Early Judges

4th Quarter

1. Samson
2. Samuel
3. Eli
4. Philistines
5. First King
6. Saul's Death
7. Anointed
8. Fugitive
9. Lunatic
10. Crowned King
11. Incumbent
12. Sinner
13. The Fathers

2024

1st Quarter

1. God's People
2. Solomon
3. Temple Builder
4. Proud Potentate
5. Repentant Author
6. Rehoboam
7. Jeroboam
8. Asa, Ahab, Jezebel
9. Elijah
10. Evangelist
11. Coward
12. The Sabbath
13. Jehoshaphat

2nd Quarter

1. Ahab
2. Elisha
3. Prophet
4. Naaman
5. Jonah
6. Hosea
7. Isaiah
8. Jehovah
9. Ahaz
10. Hezekiah
11. Assyria
12. Manasseh
13. Josiah

3rd Quarter

1. Jeremiah
2. Approaching Doom
3. Last King
4. Captives
5. Daniel
6. The Dream
7. Three Hebrews
8. Nebuchadnezzar
9. Belshazzar
10. Daniel
11. Daniel 7
12. Daniel 8, 9
13. Daniel 10-12

4th Quarter

1. Haggai/Zerubbabel
2. Zechariah
3. Temple Two
4. Esther
5. Queen
6. Ezra
7. Nehemiah
8. Builders
9. Plotters
10. Reformers
11. Jesus
12. Deliverer
13. Future Glory

2024 scope & sequence

1st Quarter

1. An Undelivered Gift **Scripture Story:** Deuteronomy 32.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, Introduction.
2. Wise Beyond His Years **Scripture Story:** 1 Kings 3; 4; 10.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 1.
3. A House for God **Scripture Story:** 2 Chronicles 5:2–14.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 2.
4. The Wise and Foolish King **Scripture Story:** 1 Kings 11.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapters 3; 4.
5. Confessions of a Foolish Wise Man **Scripture Story:** Proverbs and Ecclesiastes.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 5.
6. Idol Threats **Scripture Story:** 1 Kings 11:14–43; 12:1–24; 2 Chronicles 9:29–12:16.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 6.
7. Jeroboam Sin-drome **Scripture Story:** 1 Kings 12:16–14:20; 2 Chronicles 13.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 7.
8. Crossroads **Scripture Story:** 2 Chronicles 14–16; 1 Kings 15:8–16:34.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 8.
9. Never Alone **Scripture Story:** 1 Kings 17:1–16.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapters 9; 10 first part (pp. 119-132).
10. Faith on the Mountaintop **Scripture Story:** 1 Kings 18:1–40.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapters 10 last part (133-154); 11.
11. Doubt in the Valley **Scripture Story:** 1 Kings 18:41-46; 19:1–18.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapters 12; 13.
12. Who's Counting? **Scripture Story:** 1 Kings 18:20–22; 19:14–18; Revelation 18:2, 4, 5.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 14.
13. Life Sentence **Scripture Story:** 1 Kings 22; 2 Chronicles 17–21.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 15.

2nd Quarter

1. Just Scratching the Service **Scripture Story:** 1 Kings 21; 2 Kings 9.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 16.
2. Focus on Prophets **Scripture Story:** 1 Kings 19:15–1 Kings 21; 2 Kings 2.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapters 17; 18.
3. The Miracle Worker **Scripture Story:** 2 Kings 4.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 19.
4. Test of Faith **Scripture Story:** 2 Kings 5.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapters 20; 21.
5. Pride and Prejudice **Scripture Story:** Jonah.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 22.
6. Come Home **Scripture Story:** Hosea.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapters 23; 24.
7. Are You Available? **Scripture Story:** Isaiah 6.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 25.
8. Hope for the World **Scripture Story:** Isaiah 11; 12; 44.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapters 26; 31.
9. Bad Moon Rising **Scripture Story:** 2 Chronicles 28:1–5; 2 Kings 16.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 27.
10. Recipe for Revival **Scripture Story:** 2 Chronicles 29–31; 2 Kings 18–20; Isaiah 39.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapters 28; 29.
11. Not Like Other Gods **Scripture Story:** 2 Chronicles 32; 2 Kings 19.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 30.
12. What Legacy? **Scripture Story:** 2 Kings 21; 22; 2 Chronicles 33.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 32.
13. Cleaning House **Scripture Story:** 2 Kings 23; 2 Chronicles 34.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 33.

3rd Quarter

- 1. Who, Me?**
Scripture Story: Jeremiah 1.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 34.
- 2. Storm Warning**
Scripture Story: Jeremiah 25; 36.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 35.
- 3. Israel Takes Its Medicine**
Scripture Story: Jeremiah 28:1–15; 29:1–14.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 36.
- 4. Be Swayed and Besieged**
Scripture Story: Jeremiah 37–39; 2 Chronicles 36.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 37.
- 5. Obedience Is Not a Bad Word**
Scripture Story: Daniel 1.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 39.
- 6. God Even Gave the Dream**
Scripture Story: Daniel 2.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 40.
- 7. Choose Your Kingdom**
Scripture Story: Daniel 3.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 41.
- 8. Humility Check**
Scripture Story: Daniel 4.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 42.
- 9. This Party's Over**
Scripture Story: Daniel 5.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 43.
- 10. Deliverance**
Scripture Story: Daniel 6.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 44.
- 11. Troubling Dream**
Scripture Story: Daniel 7.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 45.
- 12. God Is in Control**
Scripture Story: Daniel 8; 9.
- 13. A Man, Some Kings, and the End!**
Scripture Story: Daniel 10–12.

4th Quarter

- 1. Temple Building and You**
Scripture Story: Haggai. Ezra 4–6.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 46.
- 2. I Want You Back!**
Scripture Story: Zechariah 1–3 (Zechariah 2–3:5).
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 47.
- 3. Build It**
Scripture Story: Zechariah 4.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 48.
- 4. A Story of Faith**
Scripture Story: Esther 1–4.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 49.
- 5. Esther's Victory**
Scripture Story: Esther 5–10.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 49.
- 6. Leading Them Home**
Scripture Story: Ezra 7–10.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapters 50; 51.
- 7. Nehemiah, the Kneelogian**
Scripture Story: Nehemiah 1.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 52.
- 8. Risky Witness**
Scripture Story: Nehemiah 2–4.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 53.
- 9. Getting It Right**
Scripture Story: Nehemiah 5; 6.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapters 54; 55.
- 10. Hungry for More**
Scripture Story: Nehemiah 7–13.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapters 56; 57.
- 11. A Candle in the Dark**
Scripture Story: Isaiah 11; 29; 40.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 58.
- 12. The Servant Hero**
Scripture Story: Isaiah 53; 61.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 59.
- 13. Eternal Liberation**
Scripture Story: Malachi 3; 4.
Commentary: *Prophets and Kings*, chapter 60.

CORNERSTONE CONNECTIONS

1ST QUARTER 2024

January

6—An Undelivered Gift [p. 11]

God sends a message to Israel through the final words of Moses, expressing His anger at their refusal to be the blessing to all the nations that He called and empowered them to be.

13—Wise Beyond His Years [p. 19]

Solomon's reign is remarkable not only for Israel's peace with its neighbors, but also for its peace within.

20—A House for God [p. 27]

Solomon's spiritual high point is the building and dedication of a permanent place for God's presence among His people.

27—The Wise and Foolish King [p. 35]

Among the many lessons to be learned from the life of Solomon is the important one about the dangers of unfettered prosperity.

February

3—Confessions of a Foolish Wise Man [p. 43]

In the end of Solomon's life he confesses that only God can fulfill the deepest desires of the soul.

10—Idol Threats [p. 51]

The story of Rehoboam is a sobering reminder that idolatry—in any form—will not be tolerated by God.

17—Jeroboam Sin-drome [p. 59]

The life of Jeroboam is a classic case study of what happens when someone refuses to follow God's leading.

24—Crossroads [p. 67]

Although King Asa's legacy is not free from failure, he nevertheless distinguished himself as a committed follower of God.

March

2—Never Alone [p. 75]

Elijah, a normal human being, chose to go against the flow of the culture around him and stand up for what he believed in.

9—Faith on the Mountaintop [p. 83]

Elijah's "extreme" faith seems far removed from everyday reality; however, his absolute trust in God is exactly what is needed in the days ahead.

16—Doubt in the Valley [p. 91]

God's followers will face times of discouragement and despair; however, His Word is full of helpful guidance for these down times.

23—Who's Counting? [p. 99]

Taking a stand for Christ is a challenge when it is a call to live differently from all those around. However, God finds ways to speak hope and clarity into our lives.

30—Life Sentence [p. 107]

King Jehoshaphat's story is about someone who sought to do what was right in God's eyes. That desire earned him a special sentence of affirmation in the Bible.

Kings and Prophets

FIRST QUARTER 2024



CORNERSTONE CONNECTIONS

Youth Sabbath School
Teacher's Guide



EYT240101