

Judges to Kings

Scripted Lesson Plans



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INTRODUCTION

The Veritas Press Bible Curriculum and History Curriculum were each written to stand alone and, at the same time, demonstrate an integrated understanding of both the Bible and history. Many times children think that things noted in the Bible are older than things not mentioned (or at least not emphasized) in Scripture. For example, children are prone to think that Jesus must have lived before the pyramids were built *because* we learn of Him from the Bible. Using this Bible and History curriculum will help eliminate such errors.

The history curriculum is specifically geared to having the children master a timeline in history, while learning many important facts along the way. Learning *who, what, where* and *when* is emphasized. *How* and *why* are not. That will come with older, more dialectally inclined students. While it may sound a bit odd to say this at first, it is not the purpose of the history curriculum to spend a great deal of time reading the Scriptures. That will be done extensively in the Bible curriculum. However, when studying an event that is also a biblically recorded event, it is important to note that it is found in the Bible and its biblical reference.

The Bible curriculum is specifically geared to having the children master the *who, what, where* and *when* of Scripture. It should cause the children to become intimately familiar with their Bible. It should *always* be the case that they read the biblical passages cited on the cards. The mastery of Scripture that is intended by this curriculum will provide them great benefit when they are older and more dialectically inclined. That will be the time to develop their theological understanding. For now we want to help you help them learn what's in the Bible and where.

Of course, this approach to history and Bible of getting the basics down first is exactly what classical Christian educators seek to do. Getting the *grammar* of Bible and *grammar* of history comes first, then we learn how events and circumstances are connected and, finally, we learn to articulate a position of what we believe and why. But first we must start with the basics—and that is what you will be doing.

GRADE BY GRADE

Below is the grade level recommendation for the Veritas Press Bible and History curriculum. Since this is content-related, it matters little what level is done at a given grade—the content can be learned at any level (after the student has the ability to read and write adequately). Ordinarily, one would do them at the grade level indicated below. This would be in chronological order for history and beginning to end (mostly) for the Bible, which also ends up substantially in chronological order.

However, we recognize the constraints in many homeschool situations due to having multiple children. Many times teaching the content-oriented disciplines like history and Bible with all the children together provides an important timesaving, if not necessary, efficiency. Each homeschool situation will have to plan out what to do when in order to have all children cover all the material.

You may have learned already that if you selected a certain history that you were forced to use the same “grade level” Bible or vice versa. This is necessary for several reasons. Most notably, it allowed for maximum integration of the material in the production of the lesson plans and that was deemed of great importance.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Bible</u>	<u>History</u>
2 nd	Genesis through Joshua	Old Testament and Ancient Egypt
3 rd	Judges through Kings	New Testament, Greece and Rome
4 th	Chronicles through Malachi and Job	Middle Ages, Renaissance and Reformation
5 th	The Gospels	Explorers to 1815
6 th	Acts through Revelation	1815 to the Present

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

1. Watch the 16-minute video on the Veritas Press History and Bible Curriculum found on your Enhanced CD or at www.veritaspress.com.
2. Refer to the Veritas Press Scholars Lesson Plans, Lesson 1 for Books and Materials that will be needed to begin.
3. You are ready to begin.

ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS

Bible and History Overlap

It will quickly become obvious that the biblically recorded events of the Old Testament and Ancient Egypt and New Testament, Greece and Rome history series overlap with the five Bible series. Remember what we said above in the Introduction. The primary purposes of each curriculum are different.

However, when you come to an event in history that was previously studied in Bible, you might approach the topic and the children a bit differently. Encourage them to *remember* rather than *learn*. Consider adding some fun projects or even give them a bit of a break.

Testing

Tests are provided on the history and Bible enhanced CDs. They generally include writing out the chronology of events studied to date. There are 32 Bible events and 32 history events for the year. By the middle of the year testing on both Bible and history chronologies every week can get very time consuming. As the length builds you should consider having the child do the chronology portion of the test in a separate sitting. We strongly recommend testing both history and Bible chronologies every week.

Older/Younger

In the Bible and history lesson plans you will see the phrases *For younger children* and *For older children*. When you see this, it is to alert you to the fact that this portion of the lesson is specifically written for younger children (second and third grades) or for older children (fourth through sixth grades). Choose whichever one is appropriate for your child to do. Unless otherwise stated the file is for all children, second through sixth grades. As you may recall, the resources varied depending on whether you were using the curriculum for older children, younger children or both. This was done to help match the level of the material with the advancing age (and abilities) of the children.

Using the Projects

We all know that occasionally we have weeks where everything seems to go wrong. The baby is sick, your husband had to go away on a business trip, and the washer broke, all in one week. When this happens, feel free to delete the projects for the lesson and just drill the cards, complete the worksheet and take the test. An occasional such occurrence will make little difference in the grand scheme of things.

There will be times when you want or need more. Become familiar with the additional projects in the Appendixes of the Teacher's Manuals. There are some wonderful games, activities, etc. that you may not want to miss.

Supplemental Writing Projects

There are occasional writing exercises, generally under the heading of Supplemental Writing Project. These are additional writing exercises you may wish to incorporate related to the history and Bible material. The teaching portion for the Institute for Excellence in Writing (IEW) is in the Grammar Lesson Plans file, and you may want to apply what you have learned from IEW to these lessons.

Not Before Second Grade

We do not recommend using this history or Bible curriculum before second grade, as the children are not yet ready to learn the material. It is pretty hard for a five- or six-year-old to understand the Unification of Upper and Lower

Egypt by Pharaoh Menes. Furthermore, much of the learning requires reading and writing abilities that are generally beyond their years. If you have younger children, let them color from a coloring book. There are many in the Veritas Press catalog that will allow these young ones to follow along. However, their participation in singing the timeline songs will prove very beneficial to them later.

Historical Literature

Within the lesson plans you will find the inclusion of a category called Historical Literature. The purpose for using this literature is to bring the time periods alive to your children. It has been separated into older and younger (as explained above), and you choose which is appropriate for your children.

Judges of Israel

BOOKS

Judges-Kings Bible Cards, #33 “Judges of Israel”
Judges-Kings Enhanced CD

MATERIALS

Copy of Worksheet on pg. 7 of Teacher’s Manual of the Enhanced CD
Judges’ robe and gavel or picture of a judge
Circle of paper with four points on it

OBJECTIVE

The children should begin to understand the transformation of being a slave in Egypt, to being delivered by God, and the responsibility placed on them by God to obey Him because they were the chosen nation of God. What that meant was that they were to follow and trust God alone. They should also understand certain concepts:

- Faithfulness/unfaithfulness
- Cycle
- Oppression
- Judges then and judges today

TEACHING

While listening to the Judges-Kings Bible song, have the children flip through their cards, looking at the cards’ pictures.

HOOK: Come into the room with a gavel and a judge’s robe. Ask them if they know what a judge does today in court. Or show a picture of a judge.

Judges in Israel did not have a robe, nor a gavel, but many times a sword, a dagger. Read through the card. This can be done by the teacher or by the children, either way, make sure the children understand the main points that are presented on the card. Sometimes this means that the teacher will have to explain in further detail some concepts.

Concepts to understand:

Faithfulness / Unfaithfulness: When I was in second grade, there was a girl named Sarah who was very smart (she read voraciously), very beautiful (her long blonde locks were like curls of gold on her shoulders), and very much NOT a friend to me. But I did have a best friend named Missy. She and I spent many nights over at each other’s house, and we even had a tea party. We were so close that we told each other all kinds of secrets. I remember one day I came to school, and Missy did not play with me at recess or at lunch. Rather, she was playing with Sarah and her friends. I was hurt, but not as hurt as I would be. By the end of the week, Sarah and all her friends were laughing at me because of a very personal secret I had told only to Missy. Missy turned out to be an UNFAITHFUL friend because she did not talk to me, she mocked me, and she forgot me. What did God do for the Israelites? How were they unfaithful?

Cycle: You know what a bicycle is – what do you think a cycle is? A bicycle has wheels that go round and round. (hold up a circle with four different points on it) When you ride the bicycle, there is a point that will always come around and hit the ground over and over. (*show this with your circle*) The Israelites went through the same kind of CYCLE. God would deliver them (*turn the circle so that point 1 is “bitting the ground”*), the Israelites would then forget their God and be unfaithful (*turn the circle so that point 2 is “bitting the ground”*), then God would allow the Israelites to be oppressed by other nations (*turn the circle so that point 3 is “bitting the ground”*), then the people would

repent and cry out to God (*turn the circle so that point 4 is "bitting the ground"*), then God would deliver them again (*turn the circle so that point 1 is "bitting the ground" again*).

Oppression: God would allow other nations to rule over them. They would take their food, they destroy their homes, and leave the Israelites in poverty. Why do you think God would do that to His chosen people, the ones He loved? (*Think of your parents disciplining you*). Israel was not faithful or grateful to God when God kept them safe from their enemies. It wasn't until Israel realized that it was God who kept them, loved them, and cared for them, that they were truly grateful for what they had. Sadly, the Israelites did not realize this until they were oppressed by other nations. Then they repented. What about you? Are you living grateful, faithful lives to the Lord? Or do you take God's blessings for granted?

Judges: The judges were not like the judges we have now. Judges were called judges because they were chosen by God to deliver Israel from the oppressors and exact "God's judgment" on that nation.

ASSIGNMENT

Worksheet

COMPLETED GRADED

Have the children answer all the questions on the worksheet.

ALERT: As often as possible, have the children answer each question in complete sentences, with capital letters where appropriate and ending with the correct punctuation. The more they practice this, the more proficient they become. Help the children understand that the reason for this is to help them become better writers. Explain to them that they will be receiving three grades on each paper, a comprehension grade (define "comprehension": to make sure they understand what they're learning), linguistics grade (spelling), and grammar grade (their correct use of words and punctuation). Look at the Before You Begin instructions for an explanation of how to grade.

Use the example below to help your children understand how to answer each question in complete sentences. If your children are not familiar with this type of questioning, take a weaning approach. On the first worksheet have the children answer the questions out loud and you write the answers down on another sheet of paper, then have the children copy the answers onto the worksheet. The following week give them the questions and the beginning of the answers, then let them finish the answers. For example, you would say, "What is the date given for the Judges of Israel?" You would write down, "The date given for the Judges of Israel . . ." and then let them finish the rest ("is c. 1389–1050 B.C."). Continue in this manner until they can do it on their own. It usually takes three to four weeks for second graders or children who have not worked through this system before to master this technique.

ALERT: Look ahead to the memory game in Lesson 4; you will need to prepare two of each card.

Judges of Israel

BOOKS

Judges-Kings Bible Cards, #33 “Judges of Israel”
Judges-Kings Enhanced CD
Bible

MATERIALS

Copy of Project 1 from pg. 8 of the Enhanced CD
Pencils

OBJECTIVE

The children should see first-hand from Scripture the cycle of the judges.

TEACHING

REVIEW

1. While listening to the Judges-Kings Bible Song, have the children flip through their cards, looking at the cards' pictures.
2. Review the main facts of the card, including the date.
3. How many years was this after the Minoan culture ended?
sixty-one years

HOOK: When I was a little girl, my mother fixed dippin' eggs on Monday, oatmeal on Tuesday, Wednesday was scrambled eggs, on Thursday we had French toast, on Friday, we had fried eggs, and on Saturday, our choice of cold cereal. Can you imagine for eighteen years or 936 weeks, we went through this same cycle? Today we are going to review the cycle of the Judges.

INSTRUCTION

Open the Bible to Judges 1 and read. Note that from verses 2, 19, and 22, it was God who gave them the victory. Also note who obeyed God in utterly destroying all.

Judah did. (vs. 17)

Benjamin did not. (vs. 21)

House of Joseph did. (vs.23)

Manasseh did not. (vs. 27)

Ephraim did not. (vs. 29)

Zebulun did not. (vs.30)

Asher did not. (vs. 31)

Naphtali did not. (vs. 33)

Dan did not. (vs. 34)

What does God call us to *mortify*, or utterly destroy? (Ro. 8:13; Col. 3:5)

ASSIGNMENT

Bible reading Project

COMPLETED GRADED

After reading, do the Bible Reading Project 1, pg. 8 of the Judges-Kings Enhanced CD, unscrambling the words.

Judges of Israel

BOOKS

Judges-Kings Bible Cards, #33 “Judges of Israel”
Judges-Kings Enhanced CD

MATERIALS

8 ½” X 5 ½” piece of paper
Scissors
Glue

OBJECTIVE

The children should be able to answer most of the questions in review while working on their project.

TEACHING

1. While listening to the Judges-Kings Bible song, have the children flip through their cards, looking at the cards’ pictures.

HOOK: While handing out the materials for the making of the Judges of Israel project, ask the children if they know how many total judges there were (14), then discuss that this year we will be focusing on eight main judges.

2. Instruct the children to begin Project 2.

ASSIGNMENT

Project 2

COMPLETED GRADED

Have the children do Project 2 on pg. 9 of the Judges-Kings Enhanced CD while rehearsing information on the card.

Judges of Israel

BOOKS

Judges-Kings Bible Cards, #33 “Judges of Israel”
Judges-Kings Enhanced CD

MATERIALS

Memory game cards

OBJECTIVE

The children will be able to communicate back excellently the information necessary in understanding the general information of the book of Judges and the cycle of the Israelites.

TEACHING

While listening to the Judges-Kings Bible song, have the children flip through their cards, looking at the cards’ pictures.

ASSIGNMENT

Memory Game

COMPLETED GRADED

Play a memory game to review the information needed to know for the test. See below for what to write on the cards. Lay out all the cards upside down, on the table. Then turn two cards at a time. When the children find two that go together, a match has been made. If playing alone, then record the time it takes to finish the game and the next time, see if it can be played in quicker time. If playing with another, then the one with the most matches/pairs wins.

Memory game cards:

What the book of Judges is about. God’s Faithfulness.

The date for the Judges of Israel. What is c. 1389 – 1050 BC?

The way the Israelites were unfaithful when they entered the promised land The Israelites refused to destroy their enemies.

In the cycle of the Judges, the Israelites FIRST sinned by doing this. The Israelites followed after other gods.

In the cycle of the Judges, this is how God punishes the Israelites. Israelites. God allows other nations to oppress the

After being oppressed, the Israelites finally do this. The Israelites cry out to God.

God then sends this. A deliverer.

After being delivered, the Israelites are this. Unfaithful

Name three judges. Othniel, Ehud, Samson

Judges of Israel

BOOKS

History Through the Ages Suggested Placement Guide and Notebook
History Through the Ages Timeline Figure CD

MATERIALS

Copy of Test on pg. 12 of the Enhanced CD
Pencils

OBJECTIVE

The children will be able to communicate back accurately and excellently the information necessary in understanding the general information of the book of Judges and the cycle of the Israelites.

TEACHING

Instruct the children to take the test.

ASSIGNMENT

Test

COMPLETED GRADED

Complete the Judges of Israel test.

After taking the test, have the children place the Judges of Israel picture in their Timeline notebooks.

Othniel and Ehud

BOOKS

Judges through Kings Card, #34 “Othniel and Ehud”

MATERIALS

Copy of the Othniel and Ehud Worksheet from the Enhanced CD
Picture of a battle between two armies
A picture of a single soldier

OBJECTIVE

The children should begin to see in more detail the first and second example of the cycle of the judges.

TEACHING

REVIEW

Play the bible song and have the children flip through the cards while the song is playing. Then review with the children the cycle of the Israelites in the book of Judges: The Israelites are unfaithful; God punishes Israel by allowing other nations to oppress them; The Israelites finally repent and cry out to God; God sends a deliverer; The people are delivered and faithful for a while; The Israelites are unfaithful.

HOOK: Display two pictures: The first one a battle of some sort with two armies. The second one should be of one man. Say to the children: God used our first two deliverers, or judges, in a very different way. Hold up the two pictures. Our first judge was used by God to defeat strong armies. Show the picture of the battle between the two armies. The second judge worked alone at first.

INSTRUCTION

Say to the children: The first two judges, *deliverers*, delivered the Israelites in different ways, and they were many years apart. The first was Othniel. Othniel had married Caleb’s daughter. Do you remember who Caleb was in the Scripture? *He was one of the spies sent out by Moses to “spy out the land of Canaan.”* **Numbers 2** God used Othniel, mightily in battle against the soldiers of Cushan-rishathaim. Even though Othniel was older, God still used him.

Eglon, the second deliverer, had quite an exciting way of delivering the Israelites. God used this left-handed man in quite a remarkable way! Let’s read the card and find out more.

While reading the card, it is helpful to make the memory fun by saying the following when the appropriate word is read:

It is fun to allow the king of Mesopotamia’s name r-r-roll off the tongue a number of times with an amusing beat: “Cushan-rishathaim, Cushan-rishathaim, Cushan-rishathaim, Cushan-rishathaim.”

Also, children tend to confuse the names of Eglon and Ehud. So when you reach the name of Eglon, say the name in a low voice, showing his immensity with your hands.

When you read the name of Ehud, reach (with your left hand) to your right thigh (as if you are reaching for a dagger) and then make a stabbing motion with the left hand.

ASSIGNMENT

Complete the Othniel and Ehud Worksheet.

COMPLETED GRADED

Othniel and Ehud

BOOKS

Judges through Kings Bible Card, #34 “Othniel and Ehud”
Judges-Kings Enhanced CD
Bible

MATERIALS

Copy of Project 1, Bible Reading

OBJECTIVE

To continue to have the children understand the story of Othniel and Ehud. .

TEACHING

REVIEW

Sing the Judges-Kings song through the first sixteen events.

INSTRUCTION

Read Judges 3 out loud with the children.

Instruct the children to do Project 1.

ASSIGNMENT

Project 1

COMPLETED GRADED

Complete Project 1, Bible Reading.

Othniel and Ehud

BOOKS

Judges through Kings Bible Cards, #34 “Othniel and Ehud”
Judges-Kings Enhanced CD
Bible

MATERIALS

Copy of pg. 15, Project 2

OBJECTIVE

To continue to have the children understand the story of Othniel and Ehud.

TEACHING

REVIEW

Sing the Judges-Kings song through the first sixteen events.

INSTRUCTION

Instruct the children to begin Project 2.

ASSIGNMENT

Project 2

COMPLETED GRADED

Complete Project 2.