

YEAR 1 BOOK 2

JUNIOR 2

Student Workbook



THEME:

The Pentateuch

Student's Devotional – Turn Away

“If you play with fire, you get burned.” (English Proverb)

“Pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.”

2 Timothy 2:22

Turning away from doing what you know is wrong isn't always easy, especially if you have an audience. But there is always one person who applauds the wise choices you make – God. Every time you turn away from things that can harm you physically, mentally or spiritually, you are turning toward your loving Father. He always has your best interests at heart. When you feel like you're the only one backing away from danger, realize that God is by your side.

“Get all the advice you can, and you will succeed; without it you will fail.”

Proverbs 15:22

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YEAR 1 BOOK 2

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The Pentateuch

UNIT THEMES:

Unit 1: The Beginning of Faith

The book of Genesis covers many "beginnings," from the creation of light, to the first animals, to early human history. More importantly for us is the beginning of faith in God. We come to learn about Israel and God's chosen people as well as their place in His master plan of salvation. Although the first book of the Bible was penned thousands of years ago, its stories and characters offer us many life lessons and help strengthen our faith, no matter what time period we live in. From these lessons, we will learn the value of having God's words rooted within us and how the Bible can aid us as we journey through this world.

Unit 2: Freed from Sin

When the Israelites were released from bondage, they were probably both relieved and glad that they were no longer slaves. Though they could live freely, they did not really understand the significance of their freedom. Their focus was on the physical, not having to work under the orders of the Egyptians, slaving from morning to night. But as they journeyed through the desert, they learned that freedom from God is spiritual freedom. As they traveled, they learned more and more about God and His plans for them. They received God's commands as well as instructions for building the tabernacle. In these lessons, we learn along with the Israelites what it means to be truly free: the freedom to obey God and do His will.

Unit 3: Holiness

In the book of Leviticus, there are many laws and regulations, from how to prepare a burnt offering to specific rules about personal hygiene. The purpose of all these laws was not to burden the people of Israel but rather to allow them to understand that they needed to serve in complete holiness, as they were set apart as a holy nation. Today, we do not need to observe these laws because Jesus Christ sacrificed His life for us and is our everlasting high priest. But by understanding the spiritual significance behind these laws, it can remind us that we too are a holy people and should act accordingly.

Unit 4: Learning from Our Mistakes

The Israelites made many mistakes in the wilderness. They murmured against their leader, complained about their food and fueled many fights. During their years of wandering in the desert, many lost their lives because of their rebellious ways. When the new generation was poised to take on the promised land one more time, Moses hoped that they would learn from their parents' mistakes. Similarly, the stories of the Bible serve as reminders for us. When we are caught up in this world, it is often difficult to stand firm in our faith and take a good long look at everything around us before making a godly and wise decision. In the last book of the Pentateuch, Moses spends much of the time repeating the laws, hoping to help the Israelites learn from the past and continue to walk on the pathway to the heavenly kingdom.

MEMORY VERSES FOR DECEMBER, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

1. "For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law until all is fulfilled." (Mt 5:18)
2. "O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all." (Ps 104:24)
3. "Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith." (Heb 12:1b-2a)
4. "For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope." (Rom 15:4)
5. "You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men." (1 Cor 7:23)
6. "But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him." (1 Jn 2:5)
7. "And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." (Ex 19:6a)
8. "Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God." (Rom 12:1b)
9. "Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am the Lord your God." (Lev 20:7)
10. "The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust in Him." (Nah 1:7)
11. "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Phil 4:13)
12. "That you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days." (Deut 30:20a)

Overview of the Pentateuch



Book	Author	Date	Theme	Purpose	Key Concept	Key Verses
Gen	Moses	1420 BC		Points out Israel's place in God's master plan of salvation	Fall from grace	1:1, 12:1-3
Ex	Moses	1420 BC	Israel receives deliverance	Announces Israel's transformation into God's holy nation		19:6
Lev	Moses	1420 BC		Declares the standards for a holy nation	Service	11:45
Num	Moses	1400 BC	The failures of the Israelites		Sacred journey	33:1
Deut	Moses	1400 BC	Decrees to Israel	Pronounces the commands of God that the Israelites must abide by prior to entering Canaan		10:12

Teachings Found in the Pentateuch


- a. God's Creation
- b. God's Chosen Ones
- c. God's Covenants with Man
- d. God's Laws
- e. God's Deliverance
- f. The Sin of Man

Worksheet #2

Why is the Bible divided into two sections called the Old and New Testaments? What is the significance of the word "testament" and why is it important to our faith?



We know that we cannot be saved through obedience to the Law because we cannot follow it perfectly. Then what is the relevance of all the laws found in the Pentateuch to our lives today?




List some reasons why it is important to study the Old Testament.






How is the Old Testament subdivided? Which books belong to each subdivision?



What do you think about when you read about all the sins of our ancestors?



We are saved because of Jesus Christ died and resurrected. By doing so, He broke down all the barriers from the past. Why is it important, then, to learn about the history of the Israelites?



Which of the five books are you most familiar with? Explain your reasons.



The prince of Grenada, an heir to the Spanish crown, was sentenced to life in solitary confinement in Madrid's ancient prison. Everyone knew that anyone who went in would never come out alive. The prince was given one book to read the entire time – the Bible. Obviously, with only one book to read, he read it over and over hundreds of times. After thirty-three years of imprisonment, he died. When they came in to clean out his cell, they found some notes he had written by using nails to mark on the soft stone of the prison walls. It contained things of this sort: Psalm 118:8 is the middle verse of the Bible; Ezra 7:21 contains all the letters of the alphabet except the letter j; the ninth verse of the eighth chapter of Esther is the longest verse in the Bible; no word or name of more than six syllables can be found in the Bible. Isn't it kind of strange that an individual who spent thirty-three years studying the greatest book of all time could only become an expert at Bible trivia? As far as we know, he never made any religious commitment to Jesus Christ.

THE BIBLE AND ME

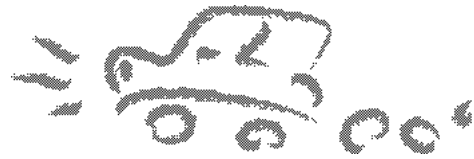
After reading this story, we need to ask ourselves what kind of faith we have. Like the prince, we may know a lot about the Bible, but what do we do with the teachings we receive every week from church?

Do we just become an expert in the teachings? What kind of attitude should we have towards the words of God?

- 1. We must respect the Bible and its teachings. We shouldn't add to or subtract from it or misinterpret it in any way.
- 2. We should believe the Bible in its entirety, without doubting any part of it.
- 3. We should study the Bible with humility.
- 4. When we encounter problems we cannot solve on our own, we can turn to the Bible for guidance.
- 5. We should practice the teachings we have learned and try our best to apply them to our lives.
- 6. We need to introduce and share the Bible with our friends and family so that they can also rely on God.

How important is it to you to study the Bible and understand its teachings?

Think of your answer based on the following scenario: Many of you are old enough to drive. None of you would consider driving at night without the use of your headlights because it is too dark outside. If you didn't have the lights on, you would likely get into an accident. But how many of you go out daily without the words of God rooted inside of you?



This world is equally dark and there are many temptations around us. The words of God are like the headlights on the car. They can illuminate the path before us and steer us clear of many "accidents." So, is studying the Bible as important to you as turning on the headlights? If not, how can you make it so that it is?

How can we effectively apply the teachings we have learned from the Bible in our lives? Give a concrete example.

What is a good method of introducing the Bible to our friends and family? Share your experiences.



In the section that discusses the teachings found in the first five books, are any of those teachings especially meaningful to you? Explain your answer.

**What
do you think is the greatest
invention of mankind?**

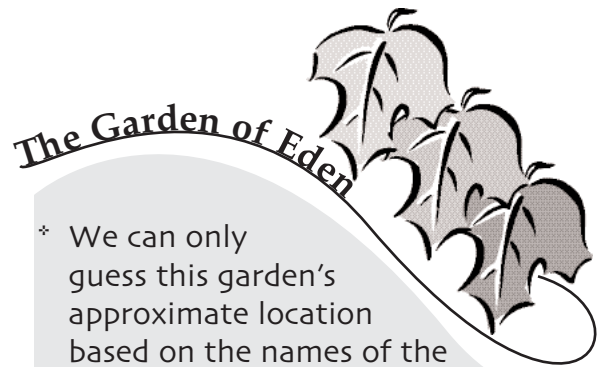
The Creation

- Day 1:** light (so that there was day and night)
- Day 2:** waters were separated (so that there was water and the sky)
- Day 3:** land, oceans and vegetation
- Day 4:** sun, moon and stars as signs to mark the seasons, years and days
- Day 5:** creatures to fill the sea and air (fish and birds)
- Day 6:** animals to fill the land, man and woman to care for God's creations
- Day 7:** rest



Early Human History

- The Flood
- The Descendants of Noah
- Ancient Civilizations
- Egypt and Babylon



The Garden of Eden

- * We can only guess this garden's approximate location based on the names of the rivers mentioned in Genesis 2:10-14 (*it would have likely been somewhere in present day Iraq*). The climate was also very pleasant since there was no need for clothing (*Gen 2:25*).
- * **Pishon River**
(*untraceable, perhaps due to the flood*)
- * **Gihon River**
(*untraceable, perhaps due to the flood*)
- * **Tigris River**
(*located in present-day Iraq*)
- * **Euphrates River**
(*located in present-day Iraq*)



**The word Eden means
"joy" or "delight."**



1. Is there any way the creation, in its present order, could have been “done” differently (i.e. the creation of day 3 things before day 2)?

2. List two things you learned about the Garden of Eden that you did not know before.

3. Why do you think God chose to confuse the language of the people when they were building the tower of Babel? How was this a good solution?

4. How did the Babylonian Empire influence and affect the history of the Israelites?

5. List three ways the Egyptians played a role in shaping the faith of the Israelites.

6. What role do the various civilizations, past and present, play in God’s plan of salvation?

The Tree of Life

How should we respond when we realize that God is our very Tree of Life today?



We should be thankful and praise God for everything He has provided for us.

We should look forward to the heavenly kingdom and view this world as only a temporary place.

We should cultivate ourselves by studying the word of God and praying constantly for guidance and strength so that we are not tempted by the world.

We should be bold and spread the gospel so that others may also eat from the Tree of Life.

We should plan for our lives, but should do so around the will of God so that we do not risk falling away.

1. What can you do, in a practical way, to repay the love and grace of God now?

2. Many of you are thinking about university. What is your plan when you start college? God has, from the day you were born, prepared things for you and included you in His plan. How will God play a role in your life when you attend school away from home?

3. How can we plan our lives and know that we are obeying the will of God?



4. *Does it make you more of a Christian if you stand up for what you believe in and less of one if you don't? Explain your answer.*

5. *Has your faith ever been challenged? What happened and how did it turn out?*

6. *Can you think of a good answer to someone who might challenge your faith in the future? What would you say that wouldn't offend him and yet would make your point about your love for God?*

Have you ever stopped to think about what your life of faith has been like? If someone were to put together a book about you, what kind of stories would you have? Would there be more peaks than valleys or vice versa?



ABRAHAM (Gen 12-25)

He acted on his faith.
He lied to get out of trouble.
He tried to fulfill the will of God using his own ways.
He put God above all else.

ISAAC (Gen 25-27)

He prayed to God.
He lied to get out of trouble.
He was patient.

JACOB (Gen 27-36)

He was deceitful.
God appeared to him.
He was patient.

JOSEPH (Gen 37-50)

He was proud and immature.
He didn't fight or argue.
He was forgiving.

- ▶ Why do you think people tend to lie to get out of trouble?
- ▶ Why is it that sometimes we turn to God immediately for help (i.e. Isaac prayed for Rebekah) and sometimes we choose to try out our own ways first? What determines how we respond to a situation?
- ▶ Isaac didn't seem to have a problem obeying his father even though what he had to do didn't make sense to him. How difficult is it for you to submit to your parents? Explain your reasons.
- ▶ Who of the four people we looked at today had the "best" faith? Explain your answer.
- ▶ Share one thing you have learned from each of the characters. How can you apply them in your daily life?



Our Line of Faith

Just as we drew lines for each of the four characters we studied today, we can each draw a line that represents our faith. Are there more peaks than valleys? Are there long stretches of plateaus? Take a moment to highlight some of the more important times of your faith, memories that stand out (both good and bad). Chart your line and be ready to explain the peaks, valleys and/or plateaus you have included.

Q.1

The more Joseph suffered, the closer he drew to God. Look at your own line of faith. At what times or under what circumstances do you find yourself closer or closest to God? Explain your reasons.

Q.2

What is happening in your life when you see the plateaus in your line? Are these things affecting your relationship with God?

Q.3

What is your goal for your faith in this upcoming year? What do you want your line to look like in the near future?

My faith or someone else's faith?

When I went away to college, I had been a Christian for several years. I had done almost everything the church had taught me. I had attended church up to 2-3 times a week, read my Bible daily, shared the gospel with non-Christians and tithed. But when the influences of church were removed, I was faced with who I really was. I realized that I acknowledge Christ as my Savior, but didn't put Him in my life. I was not a disciple who followed Christ in everything. Jesus Christ said, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me" (Luke 9:23). The Scriptures were clear about the relationship between a disciple and his Master. The Master has full reign, and the servant's responsibility is to follow and fulfill every request of the Master. I knew I had to make a decision. I had to decide whether I was going my own way or Christ's way. Intuitively, I knew that either I would become a real disciple now or I would remain a mediocre Christian for the rest of my life.

I spent many days pondering whether I really wanted to be a disciple...

Q. 1

What does it mean to be a true disciple?

Q. 2

What about the things this person has done in the past—tithing, reading the Bible, praying to God. Do these things not count towards being a true disciple?

Q. 3

Do you feel you are a true disciple? Explain your answer.

How important is God to you on a scale of one to ten (with ten being the most important)?

How important is the church to you on the same scale?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



Do the numbers surprise you?

The God of Genesis

- A. The Creator
- B. The Almighty
- C. The Everlasting
- D. The God Who Watches Over Us
- E. The God Who Listens to Our Prayers

Prefigurations of Jesus Christ

- a. God created light, which is symbolic of Jesus Christ (*Jn 8:12, 1:5*).
- b. God created Eve out of Adam's rib. This prefigures that Jesus Christ's side would be pierced and blood would be shed to establish the church (*Gen 2:21-23; Jn 19:34-36*).
- c. God clothed Adam and Eve with garments of skin. Likewise, Jesus Christ, who is the Lamb of God, died and shed His blood so that we could put on the robe of righteousness. For us, this means we put on Jesus Christ and become justified (*Gen 3:21; Gal 3:27*).
- d. Melchizedek, the king of Salem, is seen as representing the Lord Jesus as the King of Peace. Just as he gave bread and wine to Abraham, we can also receive grace and truth from God (*Gen 14:18-20; Heb 7:2-3*).
- e. Isaac's life has many parallels to that of our Lord Jesus.
- f. The heavenly ladder in Jacob's dream symbolizes Jesus Christ, through whom believers can gain entrance into heaven (*Jn 1:51; 14:6; Heb 10:19-20; Act 4:12*).
- g. Joseph's life foreshadowed how Jesus Christ was rejected, betrayed and killed by His own people.

The Church in Genesis

- A. The Garden of Eden
- B. Eve
- C. The Ark

1. Describe three characteristics of God.

2. What are five prefigurations found in the book of Genesis regarding Jesus Christ?

3. What are three prefigurations found in the book of Genesis pertaining to the church?

4. The church is often described as the bride of Jesus Christ (during His second coming). What should the bride be doing in preparation for the groom's arrival?

The Church and Me

1. The church is the body of Jesus Christ, the assembly of the redeemed (*Eph 1:22-23, 4:12, 5:23; Col 1:24, Acts 20:28*). As members of the true church we belong to the same body and should act as one.
2. The church speaks the word of God (*1 Tim 3:15; Eph 2:20*).
3. The church has the spirit of Jesus Christ (*Rom 8:9; 1 Cor 12:13*).
4. The church manifests the power of Jesus Christ (*Mk 16:17-20; Heb 2:3-4; Acts 14:3*).
5. The church expresses the nature of Christ (*Eph 4:11-16; Jn 8:31, 15:8, 13:35*).
6. The mission of the church is to proclaim the gospel (*Mt 28:19-20; Acts 1:8*).



Although Abraham had many sons, Isaac was the only chosen one. Similarly, there are many churches and denominations today, but only one true church. How important is it to you to belong to the True Jesus Church? Do you think it is a prerequisite into the heavenly kingdom or will any church do, as long as we have faith?



Since the members are the church, have you been doing what the church is supposed to be doing as described above? Do you speak the word of God or manifest the nature of Jesus Christ?

Questions to Think About



Many of us try very hard to keep our bodies in good shape. Do you treat the church as if it were the body of Christ? What have you been doing or not doing?



Do you often pray for the growth of the church? What does church growth involve and how vital is it to our faith?



Which section(s) of the "church body" do you feel you are a part of?



What can you do starting today to help the growth of the church?

We know that our service often goes unrecognized and we know that it is not always easy to display a Christ-like attitude. This is the tension with which we live. Other Christians share it. Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow.

Questions to Think About



a. Do you ever wonder about how you feel when you serve God, even when no one is looking? Think about it now, and jot some reflections down.

b. Are there ways you are serving now where nobody sees and nobody knows? Where and how?

c. If you feel you would grow as a Christian from such service, and would like to plan to begin, jot down your ideas here and date their implementation.

Lord, you know my fervor
when I am on the pulpit;
Lord, you know how I glow
when I speak at a Bible study;
Lord, you know my enthusiasm
as I lead weekly fellowships;
But I wonder how I would feel
if you asked me,
to clean the bathroom stalls,
week after week,
year after year,
where nobody saw
and nobody knew.

Would I still be full of fervor?
Would I glow and be filled with genuine
enthusiasm?
I wonder...



An old Jewish story tells of a rabbi who asked the Lord to show him heaven and hell.

"I will show you hell," said the Lord as He opened the door to a room. Inside was a large, round table with a delicious stew in the center. The people in the room were equipped with long-handled spoons, but they were starving. They were able to dip into the stew quite easily, but because the spoon handles were longer than their arms, they were unable to get the nourishing food to their mouths.

"Now I will show you heaven," said the Lord. This time the rabbi saw a room identical to the first, except that the people were well-nourished, laughing and talking. They had the same long-handled spoons, but somehow had overcome this handicap.

To the puzzled rabbi, the Lord explained, "The solution is simple, but it requires a certain skill—they have learned to feed each other."

Serving begins with each of us, but Christians in a community follow Christ by helping each other. However, we don't stop there. We help those outside the community as well, and soon, those people who were once "outside" become a part of the Christian community. Now, think of ways you could serve others in your home, neighborhood, church, and nation. Share your ideas with the class.

Did you know that slavery still exists today? In some African countries, parents sell their children, often for less than \$20.

Part 2

Moses

From the moment he was born, Moses led a life of adventure. But more importantly, it was a life guided by God. Moses probably didn't realize that until he was much older. How did God prepare Moses every step of the way? As you study the events of his life, think about your own. Is God guiding you daily? Do you feel God working in you to accomplish His will? Have you recently made any excuses about doing God's work?

- a. Moses was born during a time of great danger.
- b. Although it may have seemed unfair to the many Israelites who were suffering and laboring, God planned for Moses to receive a good education so that he would be better equipped to do God's work later on.
- c. God set His plan in motion when Moses killed an Egyptian out of rage and had to flee for his life. While in the wilderness, Moses was humbled and became a good leader (Ex 2:16-25; Num 12:3).
- d. At about 80 years of age, Moses was called by God to save His people.
- e. Moses returned to the palace to see Pharaoh and demanded that he set the Israelites free.

Part 1.

Life in Egypt

Major Ancient Egyptian Cities:

- Memphis:** located near Cairo, was Egypt's ancient capital
- Thebes:** center of Upper Egypt, Egypt's near ancient capital
- On:** Egyptian capital in the time of Joseph (Gen 41:45; Num 13:22), Joseph's father-in-law lived here
- No:** Egyptian capital during the last days of the nation of Israel (Jer 46:25; Ez 30:14)

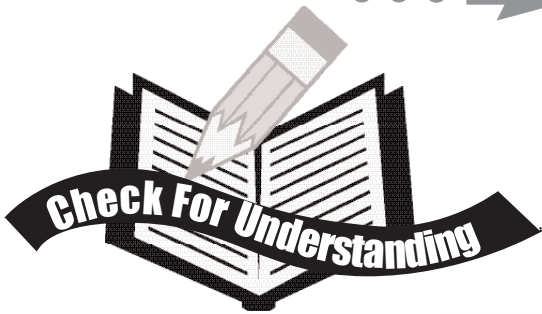
Current major Egyptian cities:

- Cairo:** present-day capital, located to the south of the Nile delta
- Alexandria:** located in the northeast, by the Mediterranean Sea
- Ishmael Harbor:** near the Suez Canal's opening to the Red Sea

Part 3

The Ten Plagues

Miracle	Verses	Duration
Plague of Blood	7:14-25	7 days
Plague of Frogs	8:1-15	2 days
Plague of Gnats	8:16-19	1 day
Plague of Flies	8:20-32	2 days
Plague on Livestock	9:1-7	2 days
Plague of Boils	9:8-12	1 day
Plague of Hail	9:13-35	1 day
Plague of Locusts	10:12-20	1 day
Plague of Darkness	10:21-29	3 days
Plague on the Firstborn	12:1-36	1 day



List two things you learned about ancient Egypt.

Three horizontal lines for writing.

Describe how God was involved in Moses' life, guiding and nurturing him. Do you feel that God is an integral part of your life? Why or why not?

Four horizontal lines for writing.

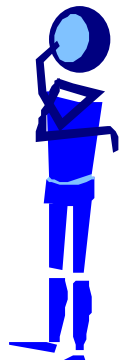
Which of the ten plagues do you feel was hardest to survive? Explain your reasons.

Three horizontal lines for writing.

Sometimes God works within us and we don't realize it.

In hindsight, was there any event that occurred where you feel God guided you, only you didn't know it at the time?

Share your thoughts with the rest of the class.



Reflect on the following questions
and see if you are a slave
to anything in your life.

1. Besides daily necessities such as brushing your teeth or eating three square meals, is there anything else that you absolutely must do, or else you would feel funny, like your day was incomplete?

----- If you were suddenly no longer allowed to do that task, how would you react or feel?

2. Besides the daily necessities, is there anything that you are spending more than 5 hours a week doing?

----- What would happen if you were required to cut down the hours?

3. What are the top five priorities in your day?

If you have found that you are a slave to many things in this world, is there something you can do about it?

Is there a difference between being free in the world and free with God? What does it mean to be truly free?

----- Are all these things beneficial to you and your faith?

Worksheet #1

The Journey

This is the path the Israelites took in their journey until they reached Mount Sinai, where they received the Ten Commandments as well as the laws of God.

Rameses/ Succoth/ Etham/ Pi Hahiroth/ Red Sea/ Marah/ Elim/ Wilderness of Sin/ Rephidim/ Wilderness of Sinai

Trials Along the Way

Although it would have been much faster to directly cut across the desert from Egypt to Canaan, God had a different plan (Ex 13:17-18). By traveling to Mount Sinai, it gave the Israelites time to know God and also toughened their spirit.

- For three days they traveled in the Wilderness of Shur without finding water.
- When they came to the Wilderness of Sin, the Israelites grumbled because they were hungry.
- After they camped at Rephidim they couldn't find any water.
- The Amalekites came and attacked the Israelites at Rephidim.

What do you do when you want to show gratitude to someone?

Camped at Mount Sinai

A. The Ten Commandments

The Ten Commandments can be found in Exodus 20:1-17.

B. The Tabernacle

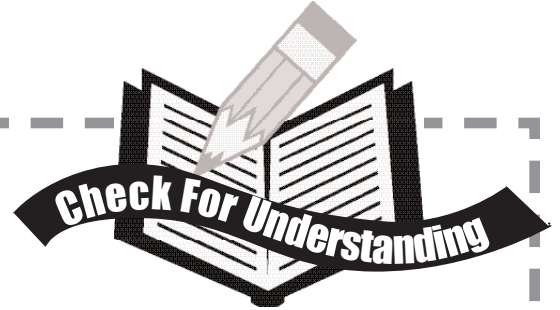
The tabernacle was surrounded by an outer courtyard that contained two important items: an altar for sacrifice (Ex 27:1-8) and a bronze laver (Ex 30:17-21) where the priests washed before entering the actual tabernacle or tent. The tabernacle itself measured 15 by 45 feet and was divided into two main sections: the outer room (also known as the Holy Place) and the inner room (also known as the Holy of Holies or the Most Holy Place, Ex 26:33). The outer room contained an altar where the incense offering was burned (Ex 30:1-10). It also had a table for showbread (Ex 25:23-30) and a lamp stand (Ex 25:31-40). The Most Holy Place contained only one item, but it is probably the most crucial item in the entire tabernacle: the ark of the Testimony.

C. The Ark of the Testimony

The ark of the Testimony was placed in the most inner room because it was where God would "meet" with His people, from above the mercy seat between the two cherubim. When the Israelites left Mount Sinai, they carried the ark before them, as a way to remind them that God was always with them.

D. The Priesthood

Priests had to come from the tribe of Levi. Aaron, Moses' brother, was made the first high priest (Ex 28:1). A high priest had many responsibilities.



1 List the reasons why God made the Israelites travel a longer route in the wilderness instead of guiding them directly across the desert into Canaan.

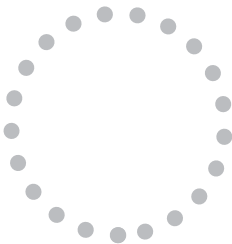
2 In what ways did the Israelites grumble against Moses and God as they traveled?

3 What are the Ten Commandments?

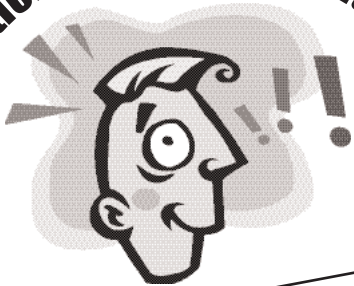
4 What purpose did the tabernacle serve?

5 What was the Most Holy Place and only who could enter it?

6 Why was the ark of the Testimony so important? Can you describe what it looks like? Why do you think God wanted the mercy seat to be made out of pure gold (Ex 25:17)?



Questions To Think About



Jesus Christ and Me

Have you thought seriously about why you obey the commands of God?
It is out of fear? Is it out of love?
Or is it out of pressure?
Think about the following questions and then look inside of yourself and tell God why you want to obey Him.

Why do we still need to obey the Ten Commandments but not the other laws regarding everyday life?

1

Why do you come to church on the Sabbath?

2

What is most important to you about prayer?

3

When you find yourself reading the Bible, what do you hope to gain from it?

4

Why do you love God and why do you want to obey Him? Think about the questions on the next page. Your answers will tell you a lot about whether you really love God.

God says... The world says... You say...

God wants us to, "Honor our fathers and mothers in the Lord."

↔ "Well, what's wrong with telling them that I can have my own ways?"

.....

God wants us to, "Keep the Sabbath by coming to church and worshipping."

↔ "Well, what's wrong with skipping an occasional Sabbath service and having a good time with our friends?"

.....

God does not want us to cheat on tests and "bear false witness."

↔ "What's wrong with cheating on some tests? It's not like I killed someone. Besides, I know the answers anyway."

.....

God does not want us to lie and "bear false witness." "Each one of you must put off falsehood...." (Eph 4:25).

↔ "Well, if you don't tell a white lie here and there, you are not going to get anywhere and you are not going to succeed in life."

.....

God wants us to take care of and treasure our bodies since the body is the "temple of God."

↔ "It's okay to get drunk and have sex. Everyone is doing it. What are you afraid of?"

.....

God wants us to get rid of lustful thoughts and "not even have a hint of sexual immorality."

↔ "How can you guard your eyes and hearts? There are plenty of pretty guys and girls out there. What's wrong with flirting with one another? Besides, it is not like you are going to have sex."

.....

God does not want us to gossip and slander other people.

↔ "How can you not gossip? That's part of life. How else are you going to know the latest news?"

.....

God does not want us to use "His name in vain."

↔ "'Oh, my God!' is just an expression. Of course you don't mean it!"

.....

God does not want us to hate our friends, family and enemies, because hating is like killing.

↔ "What's wrong with a bit of hatred? Why be a goody-goody all the time?"

.....

God wants us to read the Bible and pray to Him every day.

↔ "That's for the nerds. Go and watch a movie and have a good time with your friends. Why be stuck in the house and read the Bible?"

.....

What do you think of
when you think of the word

Salvation

A. Moses

the Savior of the Israelites

The life of Moses has many striking parallels to that of our Lord Jesus. By examining the similarities between these two lives, we are reminded of God's plan of salvation for all people.

a. Moses was born during a time when the Israelites were severely oppressed. Similarly, Jesus Christ was born in a time when things were very corrupt.

b. Both Moses and Jesus Christ suffered through trials and persecution in order to save people.



c. Both Moses and the Lord Jesus performed many wondrous signs and miracles.

d. Moses looked for water to quench the thirst of the people. Likewise, our Lord Jesus gives us the water of life, which becomes "a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life" (Jn 4:14, 7:37-39).

e. Like a savior, Moses delivered the Israelites out of hardship in Egypt and brought them to a land of their own. Our Lord Jesus is the Savior of mankind. He rescues us from sin and brings us into eternal life in heaven (Acts 7:35-36, 4:12; Mt 1:21; 1 Tim 4:10).

B. The Passover

Although we do not celebrate this day, there are some important teachings that we can learn from this feast.

a. The Passover Lamb--- The sacrificial lamb prefigures Jesus Christ who was crucified on the day of Passover to deliver the people of the world (Ex 12:5-13; 1 Cor 5:7; Jn 1:29).

b. The Passover Feast--- During the feast, the people ate meat roasted over a fire, along with bitter herbs and bread made without yeast. The roasting of the lamb represents the body of Jesus Christ and how He suffered greatly for us. The bitter herbs remind us how much the Lord Jesus suffered for our sake. The unleavened bread was made without yeast because yeast represents sin. God specifically told the Israelites to remove all yeast from their homes on the first day of the feast (Ex 12:15-20). The bread is symbolic of how the body of Jesus Christ is sinless and holy.

C. The Tabernacle

Placed within the tabernacle were six important items. Each of them reminds us of our relationship with Jesus Christ.

a. Altar of Burnt Offering (Ex 27:1-8)

Spiritually, it symbolizes the cross where Jesus Christ sacrificed Himself and shed His precious blood for us.

b. The Bronze Laver (Ex 30:18-21)

Spiritually, the act of cleansing symbolizes how a believer needs to constantly clean himself through the spirit and the truth so that he may become sanctified and be able to see God (Acts 1:5; Jn 3:5; Eph 5:26).

c. The Showbread (Ex 25:23-30)

The table for the showbread was located in the inner courtyard. This bread symbolizes how Jesus Christ offered His life, serving as spiritual food for believers today.

d. The Gold Lampstand (Ex 25:31-37)

Spiritually, it symbolizes how believers should shine their light before men (Mt 5:16).

e. Altar of Incense (Ex 30:1-8)

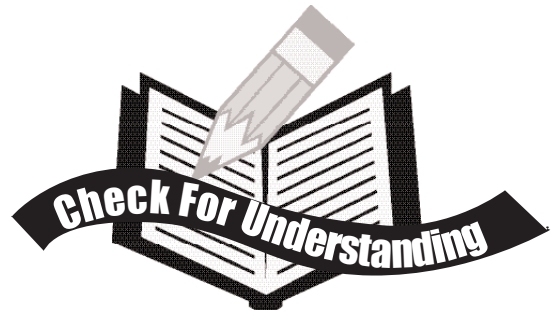
Symbolically, it represents the prayer of the saints (Rev 5:8, 8:3-4).

f. The Ark of the Testimony (Ex 25:10-16)

The ark was the only item placed in the Most Holy Place. Three important objects were placed in it. First were the two tablets that contained the Ten Commandments. Second was the jar of manna. Third was the budded staff belonging to Aaron. Each of these objects holds spiritual significance for us today. Just as the tablets were stored in the ark, we should also store God's truth and laws within our hearts. The jar of manna represents the spiritual food we need in order to sustain ourselves. The budding of the staff is evidence of God's choosing. Today, only those spiritually reborn will belong to God.

g. The Curtain (Ex 26:31-33)

A curtain divided the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. No one could enter the Holy of Holies except the high priest to atone for the sins of the people once a year. Spiritually, this curtain represents the body of our Lord Jesus (Heb 10:19-20).



1. List some of the parallels between the life of Moses and that of Jesus Christ.

.....

.....

.....

2. What is the significance of the Passover lamb for us today?

.....

.....

.....

3. What were the six items found in the tabernacle?

.....

.....

.....

4. What spiritual meaning does the Ark of the Testimony have for believers today?

.....

.....

.....

5. What significance does the tearing of the curtain that divided the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place have for us?

.....

.....

.....

A Spiritual Tabernacle

Each of our bodies is a
.....
spiritual tabernacle of God.

Take a look at the following questions and examine whether you see your body as a dwelling place for Jesus Christ.

Q1. *What do you do on a regular basis to keep your body clean and holy?*

Q3. *When you wake up every day, what do you do to invite God into your spiritual tabernacle?*

Q2. *Is your body clean of filth and dirt? Is there anything that might be polluting it in a way that prevents Jesus Christ from living there?*

Q4. *How do you know that God is living within you?*

Clean and Holy

Eyes: "But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. And if your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell." (Matthew 5:28-29)

2 Ways to Keep Them Holy

- 1.
- 2.

2 Ways to Keep Them Holy

- 1.
- 2.

Head: "If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth." (Colossians 3:1-2)

2 Ways to Keep Them Holy

- 1.
- 2.

Ears: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath." (James 1:19)

2 Ways to Keep Them Holy

- 1.
- 2.

2 Ways to Keep Them Holy

- 1.
- 2.

Hands: "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men." (Colossians 3:23)

Hearts: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." (Colossians 3:16)

2 Ways to Keep Them Holy

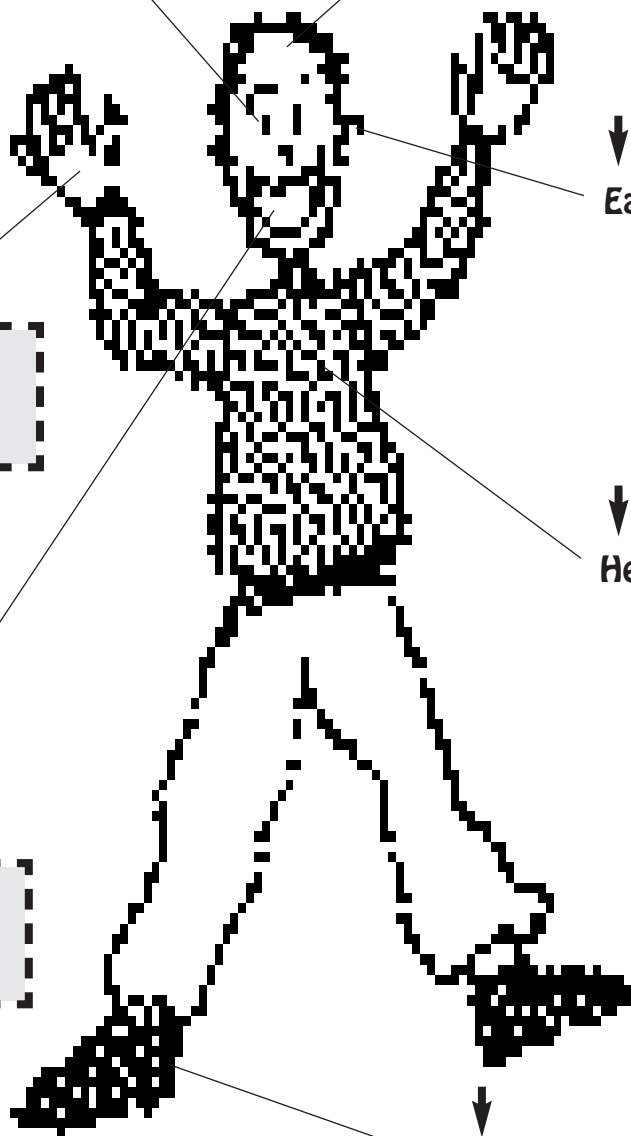
- 1.
- 2.

Mouth: "But now you must also put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds." (Colossians 3:8-9)

2 Ways to Keep Them Holy

- 1.
- 2.

Feet: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)



How often do you say "I'm sorry" in a given day?

Do you say it for just about anything?

Do you mean it or do you say it out of habit?

Part 1: Sacrificial Offerings

A. Burnt Offering (Lev 1, 6:8-13)

This sacrifice was performed for the atonement of sins in general. This offering has the following spiritual significance to our faith today:

a. To use an animal without defect points to our Lord Jesus as faultless and without sin. We should also pursue perfection so that we may find favor with God (2 Cor 5:21; 1 Pet 1:19; Mt 5:48; Phil 2:15).

b. The sprinkling of blood around the altar represents Jesus Christ's shedding of blood on the cross to save us. We should learn from His willingness to sacrifice (1 Jn 2:2, 3:16; Ps 107:1-3; Rom 9:2-3).

c. The skinning of the burnt offering reminds us that the Lord Jesus did not seek His own glory and did not place emphasis on His outward appearance. We too should not place emphasis on outer appearance or the vanity of the world (Jn 7:24; Jas 2:1-7).

d. Cutting the sacrifice into pieces means that we need to deny ourselves and take away our self-centeredness (Mt 6:1-5, 26:39; 1 Sam 15:24, 25, 30).

e. The washing of the inner parts and the limbs refers to the cleansing of our hearts, exercising self-control and walking in the holy path (Jer 17:9; Mk 7:20-23; Prov 4:26-27).

f. Complete burning of the offering is equivalent to our complete sacrifice, without holding anything back (Rom 14:7-8).

B. Grain Offering (Lev 2, 6:14-18, 7:12-13)

This offering was made of fine flour from wheat. It was offered together with the burnt offering, with oil, salt and incense added on top.

a. The pouring of the oil is in reference to the Holy Spirit. Believers also need the down-pouring of the Holy Spirit to become sanctified (Lk 4:18; Heb 9:14; Rom 15:16; 2 Thess 2:13).

b. Adding the incense to the offering represents the fragrant aroma of our Lord Jesus. Similarly, believers should also give off a sweet spiritual scent.

c. The mixing of the salt reminds us that we need to demonstrate the characteristics of salt, which can preserve and season (Mk 9:50; Mt 5:13, 11:29).

d. The absence of yeast signifies that Jesus Christ was sinless and without blame. We also need to rid ourselves of any malice, hypocrisy and sin (1 Cor 5:6-8; Eph 4:31).

C. Peace Offering (Lev 3, 7:11-21, 28-34)

There were three types of peace offerings: to show gratitude to God, to fulfill a vow that was made or as a freewill offering. It also accompanied the burnt offering (Lev 3:5).

a. Burning the fatty portions of the sacrifice is symbolic of repaying the grace of God with the best of the sacrifice. We should also offer our best to God as we humbly serve Him (1 Pet 5:5-6; Lk 17:9-10).

b. This was the only offering where the person presenting it could eat the sacrifice. This tells us such offerings please God and

by partaking of it, it can bring about peace, joy and blessings to the family (Heb 13:15-16; 2 Cor 9:7-8).

D. Sin Offering (Lev 4:1-5:13, 6:24-30)

This was done for the atonement of unintentional sins.

a. For this offering, the higher a person's status, the higher the value of the animal used for sacrifice. It implies that people with greater responsibility are held more accountable than others (Lk 12:47-48). We should always remember our role and importance as members of the church.

b. Sprinkling and smearing of blood implies that it is by the Lord Jesus' blood that we are able to come before Him and confess our sins. By the blood of Jesus Christ, we can humbly pray and confess our sins to God and ask Him for forgiveness (Heb 10:20; Rev 8:3-4; Heb 4:15-16; Ps 51:17).

c. The burning of the fatty portions refers to the dedication of our talents and abilities to God. The burning of the rest of the animal outside the camp represents the complete removal of our sinful nature (i.e. pride, self-righteousness, passion, lust, Rom 8:6; Jas 1:21; Deut 23:9-14).

E. Guilt Offering (Lev 5:14-6:7, 7:1-7)

The guilt offering was for the atonement of unintentional sins that required restitution (i.e. touching unclean things, lying, swearing falsely, stealing).



What were the five major sacrificial offerings?

List one spiritual application to our lives from each.

Part 2: Priestly Duties

A. Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the priests included the care of the tabernacle and everything within it. They also instructed, taught, judged and blessed God's people (Num 18:4-7; Mal 2:6-7; Num 6:23-27, 16:46-48).

B. Special Garments (Ex 39:1-20; Lev 8:7-9)

The clothing that the priests wore was special and each piece held important meaning.

a. The tunic was an undergarment made of finely twisted linen. It is symbolic of Jesus Christ's inner holy purity.

b. The outer garment consisted entirely of blue cloth. Pomegranates of blue, purple and scarlet yarn were added to the hem of the robe. Bells made of pure gold were also fastened around the hem. These signify that the wearer is spiritual, belongs to heaven and bears much good fruit.

c. The ephod was the centerpiece of the clothing. It was worn over the outer robe, like a vest. It was woven out of gold, blue, purple and scarlet thread, and fine linen thread. Two shoulder straps mounted with onyx stones engraved with the names of the sons (the tribes) of Israel held the ephod together. A breastpiece was fitted to the ephod. On it, 12 gemstones were mounted, each engraved with the name of one of the 12 tribes of Israel. The ephod is symbolic of how valuable we are in the eyes of God.

d. The sash or waistband was woven out of blue, purple and scarlet thread and fine linen thread. By tying it around the waist, it symbolizes servitude and humility. As God's followers, we should always remember that Jesus Christ came into the world to serve others and that we need to imitate Him.

e. The turban was the headdress. It was affixed with a gold plate with the inscription "Holiness to the Lord." This reminds us to set ourselves apart to be holy.



What was the importance of using unblemished animals as sacrifices?



How do you think these specific rules and regulations about the sacrifices affected the people's state of mind when preparing for them? Do you think they made them take everything more seriously or would they have just thought they were cumbersome?



Describe the special garments the priests wore and their spiritual significance to our lives.

Restoring Our Relationship with God



1. Today we do not need to bring any animal offerings to God when we ask for forgiveness of our sins. However, we do need to show God our sincerity. How should we approach God when we want to ask for forgiveness?
2. Read Matthew 18:21-35. Jesus Christ clearly talks about true forgiveness. What do you think it involves?
3. Is it difficult for you to forgive others who have wronged you? Think about how Jesus Christ is forgiving and merciful towards you. Does that change the way you feel about forgiving others?
4. Is there someone you need to forgive or ask for forgiveness from?

The Bible says in Ephesians 4:26-27, "In your anger do not sin: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry. And do not give the devil a foothold." God says, "Do not even let ONE DAY go by while you are still mad. If you do, you give the devil a foothold in your life."

Ephesians 4:31-32 tells us how to deal with anger: "Get rid of every form of bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassion to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

How can it be really done, to truly forgive?

- a. Memorize scriptures
- b. Make a step to truly forgive

LAWS OF CLEANLINESS

Clean and Unclean Food (Lev 11)

*All land animals could be eaten if they chewed the cud and had split hoofs that were completely divided.

*For sea animals, as long as they had fins and scales, it was permissible to eat them. *Birds that consumed carcasses or were characterized by violence (i.e. eagle, raven) were to be detested and avoided.

*Flying insects that walked on all fours were considered unclean except for those that walked with joint legs for hopping (i.e. locusts).

Personal Hygiene (Lev 12-15)

There were very strict laws concerning leprosy, as it was a dreaded and incurable disease at the time.

- Leprosy symbolizes sin because it spreads rapidly and cannot be healed other than through the power of God.
- The priest symbolizes the Lord Jesus because only He is qualified to condemn us of sin and also to purify us to make us clean again.
- Once a person was healed, he had to make an offering that required two birds. One was to be killed and the other released (Lev 14:1-7). This symbolizes the death and resurrec-

Rules for Priests (Lev 21-22)

Priests were held to very high standards when it came to ceremonial cleanliness:

- could not touch a corpse unless it was a close relative (21:1-2)
- could not shave their heads, the edges of their beards or cut themselves (21:5)
- could not marry a prostitute, a widow or a divorcee; if his daughter were to become a prostitute, she would have to be burned in fire (21:7, 9)
- any priest with a defect or deformation was forbidden to offer food to God, although he could eat of the food (21:16-22)

Moral Laws

Below is a quick summary of some of the moral laws that our society doesn't always recognize:

- forbidden to eat blood since it contains life (Lev 17:1-15)**
- must not practice incest, homosexuality or any sexual relations with animals**
- need to live in harmony with others around us, show compassion to the poor and not to pervert justice (Lev 19:15-18, 35)**
- anyone who sacrifices his children must be put to death (Lev 20:2-3)**

The Seven Annual Feasts

The Israelites observed seven annual religious feasts: the Passover, the Feast of the Unleavened Bread, the Feast of the First Fruits, the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost), the Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah), the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) and the Feast of the Tabernacles (or Booths/Tents).

A. The Feast of First Fruits (Lev 23:9-14)

This event took place on the 16th of the first month, the day after Sabbath.

B. The Feast of Weeks (Lev 23:15-22)

This celebration began on the sixth day of the third month, the day after Sabbath, and it was to last for 50 days. In the New Testament, it was called Pentecost.

C. The Feast of Trumpets (Lev 23:23-25; Num 29:1-6)

This took place on the first day of the seventh month.

D. The Day of Atonement (Lev 23:26-32; Num 29:7-11; Lev 16)

E. The Feast of Tabernacles (Lev 23:33-44; Num 29:12-40)

F. Other Celebrations

*The Sabbath Year

*The Year of Jubilee

Worksheet #2

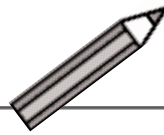
Take a look at Leviticus 11-15 closely and list five kinds of animals that could not be eaten because they were considered unclean.

1



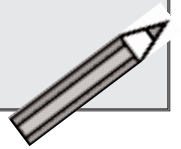
What are the spiritual significance of split hoofs and regurgitated food?

2



How is leprosy like sin?

3



What were the seven annual feasts? List the purpose for each celebration.

6

List four things priests were forbidden to do.

4

Read about some of the moral laws found in Leviticus 17-20. Do you think most of them are common sense regulations? What was the purpose of spelling them out so clearly?

5



Imagine yourself as an Israelite at that time. How do you think you would have felt having to abide by so many laws each day? It seems as if almost everything had a rule. Would you have felt restricted or do you feel you would have been closer to God as a result?

What were the Israelites required to do during the Year of Jubilee?

7

Check For Understanding

8

Worksheet #3

Dear Diary,

I was shocked today when I was returning from shopping for E2 year-end prizes at Sonshine. A car bumped into me from behind as I was turning from Culver to Harvard. It was a red light, so I had stopped and was about to go when I heard a loud thump from behind. The first thing that came to my mind was, "Did that just happen?" And the second was to hurry and shout hallelujah! The third was, "Oh, I'm okay." But what about the car? So I pulled over after turning, and so did the guys who bumped into me. Thank God, when they came out to check with me, they were very calm and sorry. The first thing they said was, "Are you okay?" I said I was fine, but what about my car? I turned and looked, expecting a large dent into the trunk, but to my surprise, there wasn't. I searched for the damages, and I finally saw that the paint from the rear bumper, driver's side, was scratched off. I gently touched it and some paint fell off. I turned and looked at the damages on the other car. The front bumper on the passenger's side was completely caved in and the headlight was probably damaged.

During this little accident, another incident from earlier today came to mind. Earlier today I went to Movatto, a small shop that sells cute stuff in University Center, to shop for E2 prizes, and as I was browsing through the greeting cards for fun, I accidentally broke part of a very fragile greeting card. I felt bad and wanted to pay for it, but instead, I somehow put it back, pretending nothing had happened, and walked out of the store with-

out doing anything about it. Immediately after I left the store, I felt a little funny, but I somehow suppressed that feeling and thought that I should just go on with my life. About 2.5 hours later, the little accident on my car occurred. I knew it was no coincidence. I immediately repented for being so slow to God's warning and for quenching the fire of the Spirit.

Although the two guys who bumped into my car were very sorry, in my heart I felt that I couldn't blame them for it. It was completely the consequence of my disobedience to God. However, for some reason, God was very nice to me in that the guys who bumped into me were very nice and willing to pay for my paint and help me out. I truly thank God that as I was talking to them, I felt tranquility in my heart; I felt God moving me to speak very kindly to them. Instead of yelling and calling them names or acting very upset, I found myself asking them if they went to UCI, and if they lived in the apartments nearby, etc. I believe that they were relieved that they bumped into someone who was able to speak such nice words.

Later I decided to go back to Movatto to pay for the damages I had caused, because I was afraid of anything else happening to me. (It was clear to me that the accident was no accident at all.) So I went into the store and found the exact card I had torn. Then I grabbed a few rolls of wrapping paper for the E2 year-end prizes and went to the lady at the cashier (I know her very well since I shop in her store quite often). As she was ringing up my purchases, she asked me if I had a friend who was getting married

(the card I had broken was a wedding card). I ashamedly admitted that I had broken the card and felt bad about it, and so I wanted to pay for it. She was really nice and understanding, so she gave me a 10% discount for the card. I paid, and then I told her that the wrapping paper was actually for prizes for kids at church. (She is a Christian and knows that I teach kids at church, because I had been shopping around for journals in her store earlier this month.) So she said, "You should have told me it's for church. I give 10% discounts for Sunday School." That was very sweet of her.

God does work in miraculous ways. I really thank God for this lesson He taught me. I'm just a little (or maybe more than a little) upset at how I reacted so slowly to the warnings. This incident reminded me of these verses we studied during the last Sabbath afternoon Bible Study (the E2 class also read these verses in Hebrews 12:5-6): "My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline, and do not resent His rebuke, because the Lord disciplines those He loves, as a father the son He delights in" (Prov 3:11-12).

These words remind me that God truly loves me. This incident strengthened my faith in God and I know that He watches my every move, testing me and refining me as gold, molding me as clay. During these trials, I should remember to not put out the Spirit's fire (1 Thess 5:19). The Holy Spirit is always guiding me to do the right thing, but I am the one who needs to make the right decisions and to carry out the right actions.

Winnie Chen, September, 2003
Irvine, CA, USA

Being honest about everything is something quite difficult to do in this world. We are all told that little white lies are okay and damaging a greeting card is no big deal. But our decision at that moment to pay or walk out the door is crucial. Below are some other things that society says is okay for us to do. Think about whether they are okay for Christians to be a part of.

listening to Christian rap and/or rock music

going dancing in clubs and/or favorite hang-out places

watching all the latest movies

kissing or being similarly intimate with your boy or girlfriend

keeping extra change given to you by accident

cursing someone who cuts you off on the road



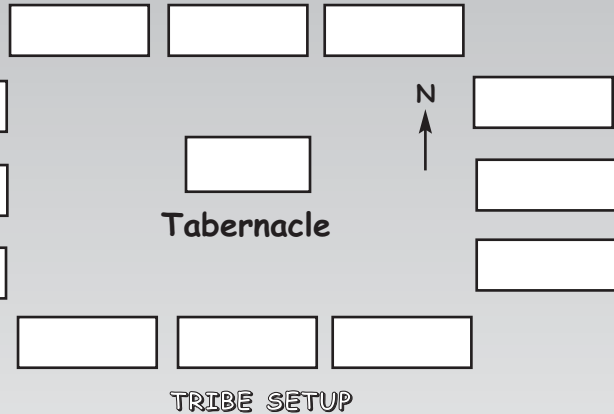
WHAT IS ONE BAD HABIT YOU WISH YOU COULD CHANGE ABOUT YOURSELF?

Part 1: Preparations for Canaan

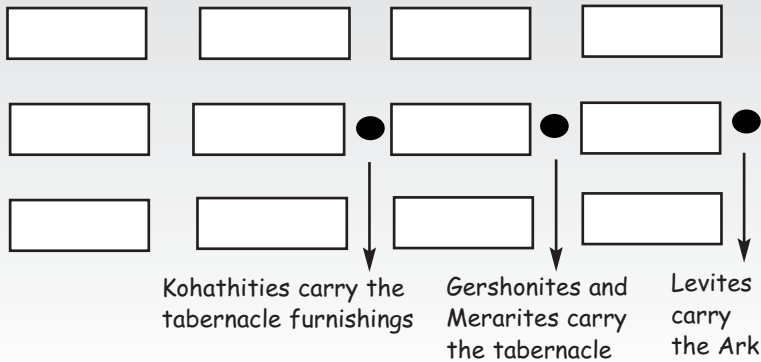
The First Census (Num 1)
Every man who was twenty and older and able to serve in the army was counted. Excluding the Levites, the number came to be 603,550.

Q How were the 12 tribes situated around the tabernacle? What was their marching order?

Tribal Camps and Marching Order (Num 2)



MARCHING ORDER →



Part 2: Incidents at Kadesh

- The Israelites Demand Meat
- Miriam and Aaron Criticize Moses
- The Report of the Ten Spies

Q What purposes did the sounding of the silver trumpets serve?

Q Why did God strike the Israelites with such harsh punishment for wanting to eat meat? Was it wrong to want to eat meat?

Q Miriam and Aaron were Moses' siblings. Yet they allowed jealousy to come into their hearts. How does jealousy creep into our hearts?

Q The Israelites thought they could conquer the land on their own. Why do we trust in our own abilities more than that of God? Do you find that in most situations, God is the first or the last you turn to?

The Guide

What do you think you will be doing five years from now?

What about ten years from now?

Although we all have our plans, the reality is that we can't see even five seconds into the future. We cannot see the struggles that are to come.

But God has given us the Holy Spirit to be our guide through life—to walk before and behind us, and to dwell in us. Our role is to listen and obey.

When skiing in Colorado one day, a man noticed some people on the slope wearing red vests. Moving closer, he could read these words on the vests: BLIND SKIER. He couldn't believe it. He had difficulty skiing with 20/20 vision! How could people without sight manage to ski? He watched the skiers for a while and discovered their secret. Each skier had a guide who skied beside, behind, or in front of him, always in a position where the two could easily communicate. The guide used two basic forms of communication. First, he tapped his ski poles together to assure the blind person that he was there. Second, he spoke simple, specific directions: "Go right. Turn left. Slow. Stop. Skier on your right." The skier's responsibility was to trust the guide to give good instructions, and to immediately and completely obey those instructions.

Finding the Path

E. Stanley Jones tells the story of a missionary who became lost in an African jungle. Looking around, he saw nothing but bushes and a few clearings. He stumbled about until he finally came across a native hut. He asked one of the natives if he could lead him out of the jungle and back to the mission station. The native agreed to help him.

"Thank you!" exclaimed the missionary. "Which way do I go?"

The native replied, "Walk." And so they did, hacking their way through the unmarked jungle for more than an hour.

Pausing to rest, the missionary looked around and had the same overwhelming sense that he was lost. All he saw were bushes, and a few clearings.

"Are you quite sure this is the way?" he asked. "I don't see any path."

The native looked at him and replied, "Bwana, in this place there is no path. I am the path."

Today, we have so much happening around us that we can hardly see beyond the next week, let alone the next year. We have school obligations, tests to study for, friends to see and church activities to think about. With so many things to do, it can be overwhelming. What colleges will we attend? Will we have good jobs? These are all questions we have to worry about. Although there are no immediate answers, we do know one thing:

God promised to guide us. When we have no clues, we must remember that God is omniscient—all wise. When we run out of time, we must remember that God is omnipresent—all time is in His hand. When we are weak, we must remember that God is omnipotent—all power belongs to Him.



After serving God for most of his life, it seems unfair that Moses lost out on the inheritance because of one small incident. After all, didn't he have the right to be a little angry? He was yelled at, murmured against and threatened over and over by his own people. If you had been Moses, what would you have done?

The younger generation probably didn't want to repeat their parents' mistakes. Is there something you see in your parents that you want to make sure you don't repeat as a parent in the future? Is there something that you want to pass down to your children?

Why was Joshua chosen as the successor to Moses? What kind of qualities did he have that made him a good choice?

Describe the purpose of the cities of refuge.

From the moment the Israelites left Egypt until they arrived at Canaan, God punished them many times for their sin. But if we were to look closely, He also blessed them and protected them. How do you see God in your life, one who punishes constantly or one who blesses?

TAKE TWO $1+1=2$

Steve had the sense to stop in his tracks before things really got out of hand. He took the opportunity to turn his life around. He didn't want to wait for a second chance because sometimes, we don't get second chances in life. But even if we did, would we be able to take hold of that moment and change? Answer the following questions:

Steve was a Christian senior in high school who knew that drinking was wrong, but he'd go to parties with his friends to hang out anyway. Nothing serious, just for fun. But within a month he was pulled into trying one glass of beer...then another, then another. His testimony for the Lord and all of his good intentions were shot. He wanted to get out of this rut, but he realized that would mean he'd have to quit going to parties, something that would likely cost him his friends. After nearly getting into a car accident, he finally came to his senses. First, he sincerely asked God for forgiveness, then he informed his friends he was going to quit partying and start going back to his youth group at church. Steve finally turned around and was committed to change.

If you could go back in time and change something you regretted doing, what would it be?

Why did you choose this incident?

Would your life have been affected for the better or worse?

Although it may not seem like it, God gives us many **second chances**. But in order to grab hold of those opportunities, we must see the need for changes. That may mean not being so stubborn all the time or **not insisting that our way is the best way**. It could mean being more open-minded and accepting of others' opinions. It also means we need to be big enough to admit it when we are wrong and ask for forgiveness. How do we ask for forgiveness? First, we need to humbly ask for God's forgiveness. **1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."** Then we need to truly repent. This is not the same as asking for forgiveness. And it doesn't mean that you go and cry in your prayer for two hours. **Repent means to change your mind about something, and turn your life around.** Think back to that incident once more. It's not possible to alter the past. So what

36 can you do today to turn that experience into something positive for the future?

Deuteronomy: Repeating the Law

If you knew you were going to leave this world soon, what would be the top three things you would do?

Do any of these things have to do with God and salvation?

Section	Subdivision	Highlights of Each Chapter	Chapter(s)
Looking Back Deut 1-11	Historical Reflections	Mt. Horeb to Kadesh	1
	Reminiscing God's Grace Ch. 1 to 3	Wandering in Kadesh Kadesh to the Plains of Moab	2 3
	Review of the Laws Ch. 4 to 11	Distinguishing Between the True God & False Gods The Spirit of the Ten Commandments Keeping God's Decrees & Commands	4 5 6-11
Looking Forward Deut 12-34	Keeping of the Laws Ch. 12-26	Religious Regulations Political Regulations Social & Familial Regulations	12-16 17-20 21-26
	Curses and Blessings Ch. 27-30	Obedience & Disobedience Renewal of Covenants	27-28 29-30
	Final Counsel Ch. 31-34	Dying Words The Death of Moses	31-33 34

Part 1: Reiteration of the Laws

- Moses wanted the Israelites to be able to distinguish between the True God and other false gods (Deut 4:15-40).
- Moses repeated the Ten Commandments (Deut 5). This was to remind the younger generation of God's commandments and the spirit behind them.

Part 2: Renewal of the Covenant

- They were to never worship idols or depart from God once they entered Canaan (Deut 29:25-27). Disobedience would result in God's curses and exile to a foreign land (Deut 29:14-21, 28).
- If the people sinned but repented and turned back to God, He would show them mercy and restore their fortunes (Deut 30:1-5).
- The Lord wished to circumcise Israel's heart so that the people would become fully devoted to God (Deut 30:6) and so that they may be saved (Rom 12:26-27).
- God will judge Israel's enemies (Deut 30:7; Is 14:1-2; Joel 3:1-8).

- The Lord will make Israel prosperous when the people obey Him and keep His commands (Deut 30:9-10).

Part 3: Curses and Blessings

A. Blessed if obedient to the Lord (Deut 28:1-14)

- God will set you high above all the nations on earth. (v. 1)
 You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country. (v. 3)
 The fruit of your womb and the crops of your land and the young of your livestock will all be blessed. (v. 4)
 You will be blessed in your comings and goings. (v. 6)
 Your enemies will be defeated and they will flee from you. (v. 7)
 The Lord will bless everything you put your hand to. (v. 8)
 The Lord will establish you as His holy people. (v. 9)
 The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of His bounty. (v. 12)
 The Lord will send rain on your land in season. (v. 12)
 The Lord will make you the head, not the tail. You will always be at the top, never at the bottom. (v. 13)

B. Cursed if disobedient to the Lord (Deut 28:15-68)

- You will be cursed in the city and cursed in the country. (v. 16)
 The fruit of your womb will be cursed. (v. 18)
 You will be cursed in your comings and goings. (v. 19)
 The Lord will plague you with diseases. (vv. 21, 27-35, 59)
 The Lord will strike you with scorching heat and drought, with blight and mildew. (vv. 22, 38-40)
 The Lord will cause you to be defeated before your enemies. (vv. 21, 27-35, 59)
 You will serve enemies in hunger and thirst, in nakedness and poverty. (v. 48)
 Your families will be broken up and you will eat the flesh of your own children. (vv. 53-57)

Part 4: Moses' Final Encouragements

- Final Address
- The Song of Moses

1. List two reasons why Moses took the time to repeat many of the laws and commands of God just before his death.

2. What does it mean to keep the spirit of the law?



3. If you had to write down your own list of personal blessings (blessings you feel you have received from God in your lifetime so far), what would it include?

4. What do you think was going through Moses' mind as he stood high on Mount Nebo and looked over the land of Canaan, knowing he was about to die and not be able to step foot in it?

5. What made Moses a great leader? List five of his qualities.

Chris became a Christian at a SSC last year. He still remembers the feeling of that unbelievable summer night when he received the Holy Spirit. After he returned from the SSC, Chris continued to feel close to God for a while. He never missed youth study group on Friday nights, and he even began to talk to his friends at school about their need for a relationship with God.

But then it started. The battles with peer pressure, lust and other worldly things began to rage—just as they had before Chris became a Christian. In fact, the intensity of the battles seemed to be even greater than before. Then there were the demands of athletics, academics and other activities that seemed to totally dominate Chris' time and energy. God and church gradually became less and less important. Chris' victory in God quickly became a momentary retreat from the war. He realized that he had to start reading the Bible and praying again. Then, one night, he opened the Bible and he read this verse, "Therefore, I urge you brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will." Immediately, he knew he had to repent and ask God to fill him with the power of the Holy Spirit.

We will never live transformed lives until we have transformed minds. Spiritual renewal is losing your old perspective of life and gaining God' perspective so that you may think and act like Him. How do we experience intimacy with God and learn to see as He sees? Read Romans 12:2.

1. What do you think Paul means when he talks about the "pattern of this world"?
2. According to Paul, what is the key to transformation?
3. What does "the renewing of your mind" mean to you?
4. Think of one area in your life where you tend to continue to sin. What excuses do you make to rationalize that wrong behavior? What is the lie behind that justification?
5. Use this opportunity to renew your personal covenant with God. God has made many promises to you. Make a promise to do one thing for Him today.

Worksheet #1

- 1. What are the five books of the Pentateuch? Write down briefly what each book is about.**

- 2. Pick one of the following characters of the Bible and highlight three aspects of this person's faith: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. Write down one thing you learned from this character that you can apply in your life.**

- 3. Write about three prefigurations of Jesus Christ found in the book of Genesis.**

- 4. List two reasons why God made the Israelites travel a longer route into the wilderness instead of guiding them directly across the desert into Canaan.**

- 5. What were the six items found in the tabernacle? Write about the spiritual significance of three of those items.**

- 6. What were the five major sacrificial offerings? List one spiritual application to our lives from each.**

- 7. What are the spiritual significance of split hoofs and regurgitated food?**

- 8. What were the seven annual feasts celebrated by the Israelites? Briefly list the purpose of each celebration.**

- 9. Why was Joshua chosen as Moses' successor? What kind of qualities did he have that made him a good choice?**

- 10. Moses spent a lot of time repeating the laws and commands of God before his death. Why? What does it mean to keep the spirit of the law?**

“Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified of the truth that is in you, just as you walk in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.”

3 John 2-4



"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking,
correcting and training in righteousness."

2 Timothy 3:16

J2 YEAR 1 BOOK 2