

IMPLEMENTING GOD'S WORD...

YEAR THREE | WINTER QUARTER
OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY 2

LESSON SEQUENCE

WINTER QUARTER

The **Lesson Sequence** gives the teacher an overview of the entire quarter. The central goal of the **Implementing God's Word...** curriculum is to equip youth to put the truths of Scripture together in their minds and to work in their hearts, by the help of the Holy Spirit.

LESSON ONE	Joshua 1-12
LESSON TWO	Joshua 13-24
LESSON THREE	Judges 1-3
LESSON FOUR	Judges 4-16
LESSON FIVE	Judges 17-21
LESSON SIX	I Samuel 1-7
LESSON SEVEN	I Samuel 8-31
LESSON EIGHT	II Samuel 1-10
LESSON NINE	II Samuel 11-24
LESSON TEN	I Kings 1-11
LESSON ELEVEN	I Kings 12-22
LESSON TWELVE	II Kings 1-17
LESSON THIRTEEN	II Kings 18-25



DEDICATED TO THE YOUTH MINISTRY OF
PEAR ORCHARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

LESSON ONE --- JOSHUA 1-12

OVERVIEW

We continue our survey of the Old Testament with the Historical Books—starting with the Book of Joshua. Joshua picks up where Deuteronomy left off, with the death of Moses. Joshua is now called and equipped by the LORD to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land. He is the commander of the army, and is to prepare God’s people for battle.

Joshua sends two spies to check out the land, specifically the mighty walled city of Jericho. Rahab the prostitute puts her trust in the LORD, hides the spies, and is spared from destruction. Israel now mobilizes and God miraculously parts the Jordan River so they cross into Canaan on dry ground. They are told to put up memorial stones to teach the next generation. Israel celebrates the Passover and the fruit of their new home!

The commander of the LORD’s army shows up and tells Joshua how to conquer Jericho. It will be the LORD who knocks down the walls and provides the victory. Israel obeys and Jericho is defeated. Unfortunately, Achan disobeys, causing defeat by the small city of Ai. Joshua purges the camp of the sin and God now defeats Ai. Joshua renews the covenant with the people and again teaches them God’s law.

This section ends with Gibeon deceiving Joshua and the elders thereby making an alliance with Israel. Israel saves Gibeon from destruction by God’s miracle of the sun standing still. The LORD continues to conquer Canaan for His people!

TEACHING ENCOURAGEMENT

If Christians could just keep their minds on the fact that the battle is the LORD’s, we would enjoy much more peace and rest. Unfortunately, we are forgetful, making us prone to fear, anxiety, anger, and even depression. Use the history taught in the Book of Joshua to encourage your students to rest in the strength of the LORD. Help them see that He is the One who fights for them. He is the all-powerful warrior that always wins. Our task is to trust in Him alone and follow His commands!

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

WELCOME

Psalm 19:1-2

2–3 mins.

DRILL TIME

The Pentateuch

3–5 mins.

MIND-IN-TRAINING

Literary Relations I

6–8 mins.

BIBLE

IMPLEMENTATION

Joshua 1-12

30 mins.

MIND-IN-ACTION

The Battle is the LORD’s

3-5 mins.



WELCOME

THE **WELCOME** SERVES AS BOTH AN OPPORTUNITY TO GREET YOUR STUDENTS AS WELL AS AN EFFORT TO HELP THEM GET FOCUSED.

EACH WEEK, YOU WILL BEGIN WITH A PASSAGE FROM PSALMS THAT WILL “CALL” THEM TO STUDY AND GROW IN WISDOM!

DRILL TIME GIVES YOUR YOUTH THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECALL AND REHEARSE WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN TAUGHT IN THE PAST. THESE WILL BE QUESTIONS FROM A PREVIOUS LESSON OR FROM THE SCRIPTURES.

Greet the students. Welcome visitors. Open with prayer.

*Listen to God’s Word. **Read Psalm 19:1-2.***

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. ² Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

We study God’s Word to learn more about God and what He requires of us. Yet we also learn more about God when we study His world! If you pay attention, you study God everywhere!



DRILL TIME

Now, we will move on to DRILL TIME—our weekly opportunity to review what we have learned from God’s Word. Are you ready?

Today’s questions: *How many books are there in the Old Testament? What are the first five books of the Old Testament? As a group, what are those first five books called? Who wrote the first five books, under inspiration of the Holy Spirit? Who died at the end of Deuteronomy?*

Call on students to answer.

Answers:

1. 39 books.
2. Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy.
3. The Pentateuch.
4. Moses.
5. Moses.

The first five books of the Old Testament set the foundation for the rest of God’s Word. We learn so much about God and how He deals with His people. We see His holiness, love, and compassion on display, as well as our sinfulness. We’ll build on these foundational truths as we continue our survey of the Old Testament.



MIND-IN-TRAINING

Say: *We are continuing to train our minds to be careful observers of God's Word. You and I will only properly interpret and apply Scripture to our lives if we OBSERVE it correctly first.*

Today, let's consider larger sections of Scripture—relations between chapters and books. We have learned to observe sentences and verses, so this is the next step.

*Turn to Romans 5. Briefly scan verses 1-10. In these two paragraphs we see the principle of COMPARISON at work. A COMPARISON is the association of "like things." What is being compared here? **Allow answers.** Basically, the comparison is how Christ's death brings us life!*

*Now look at verses 12-21. Here we see CONTRAST within this section. CONTRAST is the association of opposites. So what is the Apostle Paul CONTRASTING in these verses? **Allow answers.** The main contrast is death in Adam versus life in Christ!*

Turn to the Book of Leviticus. One important way to observe when you are studying an entire book of the Bible is to watch for REPETITION of a particular word or idea. Flip through the pages of Leviticus. What word is repeated most often? [HOLY!] So without even closely reading the book, we can tell it will be about the HOLINESS of God!

*Finally, turn to Luke 15. This is a great chapter to point out the literary relation called CONTINUITY. CONTINUITY is the repeated use of SIMILAR words, phrases, or clauses to connect ideas. Look at the three parables. What is the CONTINUITY between them? **Allow answers.** These three parables of Jesus are all about being LOST and FOUND. We have the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the Lost Son!*

We'll learn more literary relationships next time.

THE **MIND-IN-TRAINING** SECTION IS DESIGNED TO HELP YOUR STUDENTS TO LEARN TO THINK.

THIS ELEMENT TEACHES A BIBLICAL VIEW OF THE MIND AS WELL AS BIBLICAL HERMENEUTICS.



BIBLE IMPLEMENTATION

THE **BIBLE IMPLEMENTATION** TIME IS THE HEART AND SOUL OF THE WEEK'S LESSON. IT TAKES THE STUDENT ALL THROUGH GOD'S WORD, SYSTEMATICALLY TYING IT TOGETHER TO BUILD A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW.

ALL SCRIPTURE TEXT INCLUDED IN THE CURRICULUM IS FROM THE ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION (ESV).

THE BIBLE READING IS TAKEN IN SHORT SECTIONS, SEPARATED BY TIMES OF **DISCUSSION, QUESTIONS, AND APPLICATION POINTS.**

THIS FORMAT ALLOWS AMPLE OPPORTUNITIES TO STOP, THINK ABOUT AND DISCUSS WHAT IS BEING READ.

Introduction: *We now enter the Historical Books of the Old Testament, picking up right where Deuteronomy left off. We will see more of God's work in the lives of His people.*

Turn to Joshua 1. **Read Joshua 1:1-3.**

¹ After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, ² "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. ³ Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses.

Discussion: *We already know that Joshua was the new leader of the Israelites. Joshua's name means "Yahweh is Salvation." He is a picture of Christ as Warrior, leading God's people to victory in Canaan that God had promised. The LORD goes on to repeatedly tell Joshua to be strong and courageous; to obey His Word and trust in Him alone.*

Go to Chapter 2. **Read Joshua 2:1.**

¹ And Joshua the son of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." And they went and came into the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab and lodged there.

Discussion: *Who can summarize the story of Rahab and the spies for us? **Allow discussion.** Rahab put her faith in Yahweh and demonstrated that faith by hiding the spies. The men returned to Joshua to report about taking Jericho. It was time to cross the Jordan River to begin to take the Promised Land!*

Let's keep reading. **Read Joshua 3:14-16.**

¹⁴ So when the people set out from their tents to pass over the Jordan with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, ¹⁵ and as soon as those bearing the ark had come as far as the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the brink of the water (now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest), ¹⁶ the waters coming down from above stood and rose up in a heap very far away, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, and those flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho.

Discussion: *This scene is meant to remind us of the miracle at the Red*



Sea. God made a way *OUT* of Egypt through the waters of the Red Sea. Now He makes a way *INTO* Canaan on dry land through the Jordan.

Application: *It is God ALONE who delivers us from slavery to sin and brings us into the Promised Land—Heaven! God also instructed the people to build a memorial of stones so that they could teach the next generation about the LORD!*

Go to Joshua 5. **Read Joshua 5:10-12.**

¹⁰ While the people of Israel were encamped at Gilgal, they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening on the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ And the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² And the manna ceased the day after they ate of the produce of the land. And there was no longer manna for the people of Israel, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

Discussion: *These verses may not seem very important, but just think about it from the viewpoint of the Israelites. For forty years, they wandered the wilderness and ate bread from heaven. They ate manna every day! Now, they enjoyed the abundant produce of the land of Canaan. It was a day to rejoice and feast for what the LORD had done for them. They left Egypt on PASSOVER, so it was time to celebrate their first PASSOVER in Canaan!*

Let's read on. **Read verses 13-15.**

¹³ When Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing before him with his drawn sword in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us, or for our adversaries?" ¹⁴ And he said, "No; but I am the commander of the army of the LORD. Now I have come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped and said to him, "What does my lord say to his servant?" ¹⁵ And the commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, "Take off your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

Discussion: *Who is this commander of the army of the LORD? [Most likely the pre-incarnate Jesus.] If you thought that Joshua was the commander in Canaan, you were wrong! Now that the true commander has shown up, the battle truly is the LORD's!*

THIS **SIDEBAR** FOUND ON ALL PAGES IS FOR THE TEACHER TO WRITE NOTES AS HE OR SHE PREPARES THE LESSON.

OTHER TEACHING TIPS OR IMPORTANT EXEGETICAL INFORMATION MAY ALSO APPEAR ON THE SIDEBAR FROM TIME TO TIME.



Let's read on in Joshua 6. **Read Joshua 6:1-3.**

¹ Now Jericho was shut up inside and outside because of the people of Israel. None went out, and none came in. ² And the LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor." ³ You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days.

Discussion: *If you have never heard this story before, you are meant to see that this was an impossible task. Jericho was a walled city that was totally impenetrable. So the LORD gives the most unique battle plan ever—simply march around the walls for six days. And watch what the LORD will do!*

Look at the next verses. **Read verses 4-7.**

⁴ Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. ⁵ And when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, everyone straight before him." ⁶ So Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, "Take up the ark of the covenant and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD." ⁷ And he said to the people, "Go forward. March around the city and let the armed men pass on before the ark of the LORD."

Discussion: *Did the walls fall flat? Yes! Joshua and the Israelites DID NOT fight the battle of Jericho. The LORD did it all. All the Israelites did was take what was given to them. But one man took things that were not given to him.*

So we now have Joshua 7. **Read Joshua 7:4-5.**

⁴ So about three thousand men went up there from the people. And they fled before the men of Ai, ⁵ and the men of Ai killed about thirty-six of their men and chased them before the gate as far as Shebarim and struck them at the descent. And the hearts of the people melted and became as water.

Discussion: *After defeating Jericho, the tiny city of Ai seemed like a piece of cake. But Israel was soundly defeated. Joshua asked the LORD why this happened. The LORD told Joshua about Achan's sin and how it impacted the whole community.*



So look at verse 25. **Read verses 25-26.**

²⁵ And Joshua said, "Why did you bring trouble on us? The LORD brings trouble on you today." And all Israel stoned him with stones. They burned them with fire and stoned them with stones. ²⁶ And they raised over him a great heap of stones that remains to this day. Then the LORD turned from his burning anger. Therefore, to this day the name of that place is called the Valley of Achor.

Discussion: *Sin had to be dealt with so the LORD would return to His people. The Israelites then followed God's battle plan again and Ai was defeated.*

Turn to Joshua 8. **Read Joshua 8:34-35.**

³⁴ And afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessing and the curse, according to all that is written in the Book of the Law. ³⁵ There was not a word of all that Moses commanded that Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel, and the women, and the little ones, and the sojourners who lived among them.

Discussion: *After the sin of Achan, the entire assembly needed to renew their covenant with the LORD!*

Now go to Joshua 9. **Read Joshua 9:3-6.**

³ But when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai, ⁴ they on their part acted with cunning and went and made ready provisions and took worn-out sacks for their donkeys, and wineskins, worn-out and torn and mended, ⁵ with worn-out, patched sandals on their feet, and worn-out clothes. And all their provisions were dry and crumbly. ⁶ And they went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal and said to him and to the men of Israel, "We have come from a distant country, so now make a covenant with us."

Discussion: *The Gibeonites knew they would also be destroyed by Israel. So they deceived Joshua and the elders, because Joshua didn't consult the LORD. The Gibeonites ultimately became slaves to Israel.*

And we'll end in Joshua 10. **Read Joshua 10:12-14.**

¹² At that time Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD gave the Amorites over to the sons of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, "Sun, stand still at Gibeon, and moon, in the Valley of Aijalon." ¹³ And the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, until the nation took vengeance on their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jasher? The





sun stopped in the midst of heaven and did not hurry to set for about a whole day. ¹⁴ There has been no day like it before or since, when the LORD heeded the voice of a man, for the LORD fought for Israel.

Conclusion: *Again, in a miraculous way, God fought for Israel. That's really the theme of this book! In Chapters 10-12, God conquers Southern and Northern Canaan, with the most powerful kings destroyed. We'll survey the rest of Joshua next time!*



MIND-IN-ACTION

Each week, we will end our time together with a MIND-IN-ACTION section. Often times, our minds are "Missing in Action!" It is vital you and I put what we learn from God's Word into action so we are DOERS of the Word, and not hearers only.

So, here is my challenge to you as we close today:

Be strong and courageous in the LORD.

This was God's charge to Joshua—and it is for us as well. Living in this world takes spiritual courage and strength. If you try to live by your own strength, you will fail all the time. Living in the LORD's strength comes from putting your faith in Him and following His ways. The LORD has given all Christians His Spirit for this strength!

And the second part of my challenge is this:

Recognize the LORD is fighting for you.

I hope you know by now that you are in a spiritual war against sin, Satan, and the forces of this dark world. But you are not alone. The battle is the LORD's! He fights for His people. Look to the LORD, depend on Him, and watch what He does in your life!

Close in prayer.

THE MIND-IN-ACTION

SECTION IS DESIGNED TO MOVE YOUR STUDENTS TO ACTION. AS THEIR MINDS GROW IN KNOWLEDGE, THEY ARE CHALLENGED TO GROW IN WISDOM. THEY WILL NEVER TRULY LEARN IF THEY DON'T PUT WHAT THEY HAVE STUDIED INTO PASSIONATE ACTION!