



TEACHER NOTES FOR CHAPTER 1 THE BIG PICTURE

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THEME	INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE FOR STUDENTS
HOMEWORK BIBLE READING	None for this chapter
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OVERVIEW

This chapter is designed to help you introduce the course and Bible to your students. It begins with a chance to find out what they know about the Bible and includes an exercise to see how well they already know its storyline.

Of particular importance in this chapter is the introduction of the concept of ‘turning points’ in the Bible’s storyline. Students are also provided with the opportunity to connect the reality of the Bible as a unified, historical story to what they already know of popular movies they have seen.

OUR TIPS

It is essential that at the beginning of the course students are shown that what they are coming to study is not a book of random commandments. In the first lesson or two of the semester we want to show the students in our classes the unity and wonder of the Bible’s storyline.

We can provide two means of aiding you to do that:

1) The visual aid: This has been designed to sit on the wall of a classroom or in front of students in the fold out version. The visual aid is a tool to help you show students the unfolding story of the Bible without being verbose.

When it is being used throughout the course of a semester by the teacher to constantly reinforce where they are up to in the story it is a powerful and effective tool for building a scaffold that the students can build upon.

The visual aid can be ordered through our website. We are also happy to speak with you about alternative printing options if you know of a cheaper way of producing it for your classroom.

2) The 'Turning Points Challenge' game has been designed to be a simple but fun tool that can be used at the start of the course to help students learn the order of events in the Bible.

As the course progresses it has the added function of teaching students to tell the story of the Bible. It also has extra layers of complexity to help reinforce where different parts of the story are located in the Bible. The game can be downloaded for free from this site.

YOUR TIPS

We would love to hear what you have learnt after teaching this chapter. If you have tips that you are happy for us to freely share with other teachers using this course please let us know by emailing them through to us at admin@biblicalturningpoints.com.au.

COMMON QUESTIONS STUDENTS ASK

You will find in this opening session that students will make a lot of connections between the parts of the Bible they have heard before. You will hear students say things like "that's why it is called the Old Covenant!".

Some students may offer objections to studying the Bible's story. It is important that you are ready with a confident answer for why you think it is important that they do!

We would love to hear what questions students are asking in response to the content of this chapter. Please let us know at admin@biblicalturningpoints.com.au.

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU TEACH THIS CHAPTER

- Visual aid
- The Turning Points Challenge Game

If you know of any websites or resources that would assist teachers with bringing this chapter to life please let us know at admin@biblicalturningpoints.com.au.

ANSWERS FOR CHAPTER 1

Answers have been provided for questions where we believe clarification may be needed or where an activity requires the teacher to have the correct answer before the students commence the activity.

If you have any questions about an activity not written up in the following notes, please contact us at admin@biblicalturningpoints.com.au.

P12 Activity Label the following events from 1-20 as they occur in the Bible

- 18 Paul's missionary journeys
- 19 Jesus' second coming
- 12 Elijah defeats the false prophets at Carmel
- 11 Solomon builds the Temple
- 10 King David, and God's covenant with him
- 6 The 10 Commandments are given to Israel at Mt Sinai
- 20 The New Creation
- 14 Israel spends 70 years in exile
- 7 Israel builds the Tabernacle as a place of worship
- 5 Moses is used by God to rescue Israel from slavery
- 2 Adam and Eve's rebellion in the garden of Eden
- 9 Israel enters the Promised Land led by Joshua
- 13 King Nebuchadnezzar destroys Jerusalem
- 4 God promises to bless the world through Abraham
- 16 Jesus' death and resurrection
- 8 Israel wanders in the desert for 40 years
- 17 God pours out the Holy Spirit to followers of Jesus Christ
- 3 God floods the world but saves Noah and his family
- 1 God creates the universe
- 15 The birth of Jesus