Dear Parents,

Every child is a gift from the Lord, and unique in His purpose for the kingdom. Children can touch the lives of others unlike any other person. Children show us the Lord in many ways—if we will stop to notice. Scripture even calls us to become like little children in order to enter the kingdom of heaven (Luke 18:16, 17). Since the Lord created every child unique, not all children learn the same way. It is important that we, as mature adults, embrace these differences in order to expand their knowledge of God.

The Lord pursues each child with tender love. The most important thing you as a parent can do is spend time with your children, modeling your trust in the Lord. Below are some suggestions for parents that you can use with your children to help them understand the Lord’s message in their Sabbath School Bible study guide.

- Have family worship, modeling your commitment to the Lord. Include a brief thought for your growing child/youth to think about during the day.
- Read the Bible together. If some of the words are too difficult, take turns reading and let them read the words they know.
- Study the lesson with your child/children during the week in preparation for Sabbath School. Knowing that the lesson will be reviewed on Sabbath in their classes will strengthen in them a sense of accountability and will facilitate a deeper spiritual understanding of the content.
- Download the audio lessons at www.juniorpowerpoints.org/podcast.php?channel=1 so your child/youth can hear the lesson on their own. Use DVDs and CDs that will help children understand the lessons (e.g., Bible stories, Your Story Hour, and even the Bible on CD—this works great with children who struggle with reading in their Bible courses. Technology is great for students in general, and it will be particularly beneficial for students with special needs, providing tools that will assist them in becoming more independent learners.
- If you have a child with special needs, you may be interested to search for ideas, accommodations, and tools available for them at http://www.juniorpowerpoints.org/article/4/resources#.VGUZIYdSxx4.
- Talk with your children about the lesson. For example, where do they see the lesson being applied in their daily lives? Whom did they see reflect Jesus today? How has the power text (memory verse) helped them with issues they’re facing?
- Use a simple activity with the lesson. The children’s lessons themselves contain some excellent ideas for family worship activities.
- Think about how your child learns best, and adapt the lesson to that way of learning. It could be auditory (listening), visual (seeing), or tactile (manipulating and touching), or it may be all three ways (multisensory)! Use what works.
- Talk with their Sabbath School teachers and let them know what you are doing at home, so they can reinforce it in Sabbath School. In return, support their efforts by encouraging your children to memorize the power text and to make it a habit to bring their Bible to church on Sabbath. By doing this, you provide positive affirmation of their good efforts, a feeling that each child needs to experience to grow spiritually.
- Talk with the pastor when your child is ready to make a commitment to the Lord. Let him or her know what studies you have done with your child, and ask what he or she would recommend prior to baptism.

Our children are important to the Lord, and He wants each one to be successful. It is our privilege to see that we return to God what He has given us.
Core teaching of this lesson
Together we are part of God’s plan.

Power text (memory verse)
“Noah did everything just as God commanded him” (Genesis 6:22).

Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs no. 14, Unity in the Body of Christ: “We are all equal in Christ, who by one Spirit has bonded us into one fellowship with Him and with one another; we are to serve and be served without partiality or reservation” (Seventh-day Adventists Believe, p. 201).

Where this lesson is found in Scripture

Ellen White reference
Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 7, pp. 90-97. “While Noah was giving his warning message to the world, his works testified of his sincerity. It was thus that his faith was perfected and made evident. He gave the world an example of believing just what God says” (p. 95).

The Bible Story reference
The Bible Story, vol. 1, pp. 101-104 (“Sad, Bad Days”)

Family worship ideas
Use the following texts to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Genesis 6:22 (power text)
Sunday—Genesis 6:13
Monday—Genesis 6:14
Tuesday—Genesis 6:15, 16
Wednesday—Genesis 6:17
Thursday—Genesis 6:18-22
Friday—Genesis 6:13-22

Use the following questions as discussion starters of the lesson with your family:

■ What is God's plan for my life?
■ How do I examine my life regularly?
■ In what ways does God use me to do His will?
■ How do I feel about being called to be a part of God’s plan?
■ How could I reach out to others who need to hear about God's plan to save them?
■ How could I demonstrate God’s love?

Choose from the following activities to help energize your time together:

■ As a family discuss how the wickedness of the world makes you feel unsafe.
■ List what you would have taken on the ark and compare to the things you will take to heaven.
■ Talk about how your family and your church compare to the ark.

Coming up next week!
Noah set an example. God uses us to influence others.
Family Influence
(Noah’s family followed his example)

1 **Core teaching of this lesson**
   God uses us to influence members of our family positively.

2 **Power text (memory verse)**
   “The LORD then said to Noah, ‘Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation.’” (Genesis 7:1).

3 **Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain**
   Our Beliefs no. 23, Marriage and the Family: “God blesses the family and intends that its members shall assist each other toward complete maturity” (Seventh-day Adventists Believe, p. 329).

4 **Where this lesson is found in Scripture**

5 **Ellen White reference**
   Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 7, pp. 97-104. “Noah’s warnings had been rejected by the world, but his influence and example resulted in blessings to his family” (p. 98).

6 **The Bible Story reference:**

7 **Family worship ideas**
   Use the following texts to explore the core teaching with your children:

   - Sabbath—Genesis 7:1 (power text)
   - Sunday—Genesis 7:1-4
   - Monday—Genesis 7:5
   - Tuesday—Genesis 7:6-10
   - Wednesday—Genesis 7:11, 12
   - Thursday—Genesis 7:13
   - Friday—Genesis 7:1-13

   Use the following questions as discussion starters of the lesson with your family:
   - How are my choices affecting the members of my family?
   - What changes might God be calling me to make?
   - What can I do to more positively influence my family?
   - Do I recognize opportunities to be used by God to encourage my family?
   - How does my faith influence members of my family?
   - What is the key to being a positive influence on others?

   Choose from the following activities to help energize your time together:
   - Noah waited for a long time in the ark. Share how you could wait patiently for God.
   - Brainstorm with your family ways you can encourage each other more.
   - As a family, plan a project that will be a positive influence in your neighborhood.

8 **Coming up next week!**
   The rain comes! When we help and encourage others, we are part of God’s plan.
God’s Rescue Plan
(Noah tried to convince others)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
God will use us to help and encourage others.

2 Power text (memory verse)
“For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing” (1 Thessalonians 5:9, 11).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs no. 10, The Experience of Salvation: “Led by the Holy Spirit, we sense our need … and exercise faith. … This faith which receives salvation comes through the divine power of the Word and is the gift of God’s grace” (Seventh-day Adventists Believe, p. 133).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture
Old Testament, Books of Moses: Genesis 7:14-24

5 Ellen White reference
Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 7, pp. 98-104. “For a hundred and twenty years the preacher of righteousness warned the world of the coming destruction, but his message was rejected and despised” (p. 102).

6 The Bible Story reference:
The Bible Story, vol. 1, pp. 113-115 (“Heaven’s Floodgates Open”); pp. 116-119 (“Strangest Voyage in History”)

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following texts to explore the core teaching with your children:
Sabbath—1 Thessalonians 5:9, 11 (power text)
Sunday—Genesis 7:14
Monday—Genesis 7:15, 16
Tuesday—Genesis 7:17-20
Wednesday—Genesis 7:21-24
Thursday—2 Timothy 1:3
Friday—1 Peter 1:3-6

Use the following questions as discussion starters of the lesson with your family:

- In what ways do I encourage people around me?
- What storms are raging in my life today?
- How do challenges help point me to Jesus?
- Do I listen and respond when God warns me of danger?
- How could I help someone accept God’s offer of safety and rescue from sin?
- How could I encourage this week the people God brings into my life?

Choose from the following activities to help energize your time together:

- Visit a small farm or petting zoo and talk about what the ark might have been like.
- Write a letter or send an email to someone you would like to encourage to accept Jesus.
- Discuss with family members experiences they had receiving encouragement.

8 Coming up next week!
God offers new beginnings. We should offer others second chances as well.
Lesson 4 Year D Qtr 3

Colors of Promise
(God’s rainbow of promise)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
New beginnings are part of God’s plan for our lives.

2 Power text (memory verse)
“Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth” (Genesis 9:16).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs no. 6, Creation: “God is Creator of all things and has revealed in Scripture the authentic account of His creative activity. . . . The first man and woman were made in the image of God as the crowning work of Creation, given dominion over the world, and charged with responsibility to care for it” (Seventh-day Adventists Believe, p. 79).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture
Old Testament, Books of Moses: Genesis 8; 9:1-17

5 Ellen White reference
Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 8, pp. 105-110. “When man by his great wickedness invites the divine judgments, the Saviour, interceding with the Father in his behalf, points to the bow in the clouds, to the rainbow around the throne and above His own head, as a token of the mercy of God toward the repentant sinner” (p. 107).

6 The Bible Story reference:
The Bible Story, vol. 1, pp. 120-123 (“Beginning Again”)

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following texts to explore the core teaching with your children:
- Sabbath—Genesis 9:16 (power text)
- Sunday—Genesis 8:1-12
- Monday—Genesis 8:13-22
- Tuesday—Genesis 9:1-7
- Wednesday—Genesis 9:8-11
- Thursday—Genesis 9:12-17
- Friday—Genesis 9:1-17

Use the following questions as discussion starters of the lesson with your family:
- What did God promise through the rainbow?
- How does God continue to reveal His love and care for me?
- What strengthens my confidence in God?
- What new beginning have I been offered?
- How can I encourage others who need a new start?
- Who needs to hear my words of encouragement today?

Choose from the following activities to help energize your time together:
- Discuss what Noah did when he first came out of the ark.
- Plan how you would like to start each new day.
- Share your favorite Bible promises with one other.

8 Coming up next week!
The Red Sea is parted. When we see God work in our lives, we should praise Him.
Lesson 5  Year D  Qtr 3

Stand Still, Watch, Then Sing
(God parts the Red Sea)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
We praise God for His power in our lives.

2 Power text (memory verse)
“The LORD is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him” (Exodus 15:2).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs no. 22, Christian Behavior: “We are called to be a godly people who think, feel, and act in harmony with the principles of heaven” (Seventh-day Adventists Believe, p. 311).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

5 Ellen White reference
Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 25, pp. 281-290. “Jehovah alone had brought them deliverance, and to Him their hearts were turned in gratitude and faith. Their emotion found utterance in songs of praise” (p. 288).

6 The Bible Story reference:

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following texts to explore the core teaching with your children:
Sabbath—Exodus 15:2 (power text)
Sunday—14:1-14
Monday—Exodus 14:15-20
Tuesday—Psalm 27:14
Wednesday—Exodus 14:21-31
Thursday—Exodus 15:1-21
Friday—Psalm 100:2

Use the following questions as discussion starters of the lesson with your family:
- How has God rescued me from my enemies?
- Do I turn to God when I’m in trouble?
- What can I do to praise Him?
- What is a favorite song that praises God for His saving grace?
- In what way does praising God change my life?
- How could my attitude of praise to God encourage someone else?

Choose from the following activities to help energize your time together:
- Share during worship a time that God has rescued you.
- For worship, sing songs of praise to God for His goodness.
- Decide today that you will live your life praising God.

8 Coming up next week!
God sends food from heaven. We worship God when we follow His instructions on how to live.
Lesson 6  Year D  Qtr 3

Who’s in Charge?  
(God sends manna)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
We worship God by following His loving instructions for our lives.

2 Power text (memory verse)
“So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, ‘In the evening you will know that it was the Lord who brought you out of Egypt, and in the morning you will see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we, that you should grumble against us?’” (Exodus 16:6, 7).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs no. 7, The Nature of Man: “When our first parents disobeyed God. . . . The image of God in them was marred and they became subject to death. . . . But God in Christ reconciled the world to Himself and by His Spirit restores in penitent mortals the image of their Maker” (Seventh-day Adventists Believe, p. 91).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture
Old Testament, Books of Moses: Exodus 16

5 Ellen White reference
Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 26, pp. 291-302. “The manna, falling from heaven for the sustenance of Israel, was a type of Him who came from God to give life to the world” (p. 297).

6 The Bible Story reference:
The Bible Story, vol. 2, pp. 139-145 (“Food in the Desert”)

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following texts to explore the core teaching with your children:
Sabbath—Exodus 16:6, 7 (power text)
Sunday—Exodus 16:14-16
Monday—Exodus 16:17-21
Tuesday—Exodus 16:1-3
Wednesday—Exodus 16:10
Thursday—Exodus 16:27
Friday—Exodus 16

Use the following questions as discussion starters of the lesson with your family:

- How can I trust God when difficulties come?
- What are some of the things I grumble and complain about?
- What can I do to strengthen my faith?
- How can I exhibit a humble, trusting heart to those around me?
- How do I respond when God provides for my needs?
- How could my experiences of God’s providence encourage someone?

Choose from the following activities to help energize your time together:

- Talk about a time you succeeded because you followed God’s plan.
- Make a poster showing how God meets your needs.
- Share how you would provide for the needs of thousands of people on a 300-mile journey.

8 Coming up next week!
The Israelites face a longer day. We give thanks to God for the victories in our lives.
Lesson 7  Year D  Qtr 3

The Lord Is My Banner
(God stops the sun)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
We worship God by giving thanks for the victories in our lives.

2 Power text (memory verse)
“May we shout for joy over your victory and lift up our banners in the name of our God. May the LORD grant all your requests” (Psalm 20:5).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs no. 11, Growing in Christ: “As we give ourselves in loving service to those around us and in witnessing to His salvation, His constant presence with us through the Spirit transforms every moment and every task into a spiritual experience” (Seventh-day Adventists Believe, pp. 149, 150).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture
Old Testament, Books of Moses: Exodus 17:8-16

5 Ellen White reference
Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 26, pp. 298-300. “The care of God is over the weakest of His children. No act of cruelty or oppression toward them is unmarked by Heaven” (p. 300).

6 The Bible Story reference:
The Bible Story, vol. 2, pp. 146-150 (“Too Busy Doing Good”)

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following texts to explore the core teaching with your children:
   Sabbath—Psalm 20:5 (power text)
   Sunday—Exodus 17:7
   Monday—Exodus 17:8, 9
   Tuesday—Exodus 17:10, 11
   Wednesday—Exodus 17:12, 13
   Thursday—Exodus 17:14-16
   Friday—1 Samuel 15:2, 3

   Use the following questions as discussion starters of the lesson with your family:
   ■ Do I depend on God for the victories in my life?
   ■ In what ways can I be connected to God?
   ■ On whom could I count to hold me up when I’m discouraged?
   ■ Is there someone who needs my support?
   ■ How does it help to remember the ways that God has led me in the past?
   ■ How can I keep my connection with God open every day?

   Choose from the following activities to help energize your time together:
   ■ Find a way to thank the people in your life that support you.
   ■ Discuss ways you can supportive and encourage others.
   ■ Plan a praise-worship, read Psalm 95, and sing praise songs.

8 Coming up next week!
God gives plans for the building of the sanctuary. God meets with us at church.

...
Core teaching of this lesson
God is present with us when we worship Him together.

Power text (memory verse)
"Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them" (Exodus 25:8).

Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs no. 12, The Church: “In continuity with the people of God in Old Testament times, we are called out from the world; and we join together for worship, for fellowship, for instruction in the Word . . . and for the worldwide proclamation of the gospel” (Seventh-day Adventists Believe, p. 163).

Where this lesson is found in Scripture
Old Testament, Books of Moses: Exodus 35:30-40:38

Ellen White reference
Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 30, pp. 343-358. “All who love the worship of God and prize the blessing of His sacred presence will manifest the same spirit of sacrifice in preparing a house where He may meet with them” (p. 344).

The Bible Story reference:

Family worship ideas
Use the following texts to explore the core teaching with your children:
Sabbath—Exodus 25:8 (power text)
Sunday—Exodus 26:1-3
Monday—Exodus 36:4-7
Tuesday—Exodus 37
Wednesday—Exodus 38
Thursday—Exodus 40
Friday—Exodus 27:9-19

Use the following questions as discussion starters of the lesson with your family:
■ How could I allow Christ to live in me?
■ In what special ways could I meet with God?
■ Is my heart prepared to worship God?
■ Why is it important to worship God together with other believers?
■ How could I make my church attendance and worship meaningful?
■ Who are some people I could invite to church?

Choose from the following activities to help energize your time together:
■ Draw a representation of the sanctuary furniture that is described in the Bible.
■ Discuss how each piece of furniture helped Israel worship God.
■ Plan some worship activities that could make worship more exciting and meaningful.

Coming up next week!
Spies visit Canaan. With God we can serve with courage.
Spy Service
(Twelve spy out Canaan)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
We can face risks with courage when we serve God.

2 Power text (memory verse)
"Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, 'We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it' " (Numbers 13:30).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs no. 8, The Great Controversy: “All humanity is now involved in a great controversy between Christ and Satan. . . . To assist His people in this controversy, Christ sends the Holy Spirit and the loyal angels to guide, protect, and sustain them in the way of salvation” (Seventh-day Adventists Believe, p. 113).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

5 Ellen White reference
Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 34, pp. 387-389. “In their unbelief they limited the power of God and distrusted the hand that had hitherto safely guided them” (p. 388).

6 The Bible Story reference:
The Bible Story, vol. 3, pp. 26-31 (“So Near Yet So Far”)

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following texts to explore the core teaching with your children:
   - Sabbath—Numbers 13:30 (power text)
   - Sunday—13:1-20
   - Monday—Numbers 13:21-25
   - Tuesday—Numbers 13:26-33
   - Wednesday—Deuteronomy 1:19-32
   - Thursday—Joshua 14:7, 8
   - Friday—Psalm 28:7

   Use the following questions as discussion starters of the lesson with your family:
   - How has God provided in the past?
   - What is my response to God when He is providing for my needs?
   - How will remembering His provisions help me move ahead?
   - What are some risks that I face in my life?
   - In what situations have I been when I needed courage?
   - How could I trust God as I take risks to serve Him?

   Choose from the following activities to help energize your time together:
   - Talk about a time you felt God calling you to take a risk in serving Him.
   - As a family, plan a service project that takes you out of your comfort zone.
   - Consider with your family members what God is calling you to do for Him.

8 Coming up next week!
Moses is patient. We should serve others with patience and love.
Lesson 10 Year D Qtr 3

Adventure and Challenge
(Moses leads compassionately)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
Serving others for God can be an adventure and a challenge.

2 Power text (memory verse)
“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love” (Ephesians 4:2).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs no. 17, Spiritual Gifts and Ministries: “God bestows upon all members of His church in every age spiritual gifts, which each member is to employ in loving ministry for the common good of the church and of humanity” (Seventh-day Adventists Believe, p. 237).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture
Old Testament, Books of Moses: Numbers 13:31-33; 14

5 Ellen White reference
Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 34, pp. 389-394. “As the spies had spent forty days in their journey, so the hosts of Israel were to wander in the wilderness forty years” (p. 391).

6 The Bible Story reference:
The Bible Story, vol. 3, pp. 26-31 (“So Near Yet So Far”)

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following texts to explore the core teaching with your children:
- Sabbath—Ephesians 4:2 (power text)
- Sunday—Numbers 13:31
- Monday—Numbers 13:32, 33
- Tuesday—Numbers 14:1-9
- Wednesday—Numbers 14:10-19
- Thursday—Numbers 14:20-35
- Friday—Numbers 14:36-45

Use the following questions as discussion starters of the lesson with your family:
- What qualities did Joshua, Caleb, and Moses possess?
- How can I develop these qualities?
- How do I deal with people that are difficult?
- Do I focus on the best in others?
- Do I rely on God’s long-suffering with those who grumble?
- How could I cultivate the patience needed in conflict situations?

Choose from the following activities to help energize your time together:
- Serve someone this week, even though it may be challenging.
- Tell this Bible story to your family during worship.
- Plan a service initiative that may require risk-taking in a difficult setting.

8 Coming up next week!
The Israelites cross the Jordan. No matter where we are, we can serve God.
Across the Jordan (Israelites cross Jordan)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
New situations bring new opportunities to serve and witness for God.

2 Power text (memory verse)
"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs no. 3, God the Father: “[God the eternal Father] is just and holy, merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness” (Seventh-day Adventists Believe, p. 35).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture
Old Testament, Books of History: Joshua 1; 3; 4

5 Ellen White reference
Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 44, pp. 481-486. “When the tidings that God had stayed the waters of Jordan before the children of Israel, reached the kings of the Amorites and of the Canaanites, their hearts melted with fear” (p. 485).

6 The Bible Story reference:
The Bible Story, vol. 3, pp. 78-83 (“Crossing the Jordan”)

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following texts to explore the core teaching with your children:
Sabbath—Joshua 1:9 (power text)
Sunday—Joshua 1:1-9
Monday—Joshua 1:10-18
Tuesday—Joshua 2
Wednesday—Joshua 3
Thursday—Joshua 4
Friday—Joshua 4:4-8

Use the following questions as discussion starters of the lesson with your family:
- Why did God ask the Israelites to build an altar?
- What opportunities do I have to witness for God?
- With whom can I share how God has led me in the past?
- How will I share my story in my own unique and personal way?
- Why is it so hard to wait for something I am looking forward to doing or receiving?
- Do I trust God to guide my life according to His plan?

Choose from the following activities to help energize your time together:
- During worship, sing some songs/hymns about God’s power and guidance.
- Have each family member name something special that God has done for your family.
- As a family, think of new ways you can share what God has done for you.

8 Coming up next week!
Israel conquers Jericho and Ai. When we follow God’s plan, He will bless us with success.
Lesson 12 Year D Qtr 3

Victory and Defeat
(Islam conquers Jericho and Ai)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
Our service will be a success when we follow God’s plan.

2 Power text (memory verse)
“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight” (Proverbs 3:5, 6).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs no. 5, God the Holy Spirit: “[God the eternal Spirit] draws and convicts human beings; and those who respond He renews and transforms into the image of God. Sent by the Father and the Son to be always with His children, He extends spiritual gifts to the church, empowers it to bear witness to Christ, and in harmony with the Scriptures leads it into all truth” (Seventh-day Adventists Believe, p. 69).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture
Old Testament, Books of History: Joshua 6; 7; 8

5 Ellen White reference
Patriarchs and Prophets, chaps. 45, 46, pp. 487-504. “Every chapter and every verse of the Bible is a communication from God to man” (p. 504).

6 The Bible Story reference:
The Bible Story, vol. 3, pp. 88-91 (“The Shout That Wrecked a City”)

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following texts to explore the core teaching with your children:
- Sabbath—Proverbs 3:5, 6 (power text)
- Sunday—Joshua 6:1-14
- Monday—Joshua 6:15-27
- Tuesday—Joshua 7
- Wednesday—Joshua 8:1-29
- Thursday—Joshua 8:30-35
- Friday—Ephesians 5:5

Use the following questions as discussion starters of the lesson with your family:
- What plan might God have for me that I don’t understand right now?
- How does God call me to serve Him this week?
- How do I show I’m willing to completely trust His leading in my life?
- Whom is God calling me to serve?
- How do I seek God’s will daily?
- What is my response to God if His plan is different from mine?

Choose from the following activities to help energize your time together:
- Talk about a time your family sought God’s guidance and how it turned out.
- Discuss how God could give us victory over some walls in our lives.
- For worship, sing some praise songs.

8 Coming up next week!
Joshua chooses God’s way. We choose to obey and worship God because we love Him.
Lesson 13  Year D  Qtr 3

Whose Side Are You On?  (Joshua renews covenant with God)

1 **Core teaching of this lesson**
   We respond to God’s grace by choosing to obey Him every day.

2 **Power text (memory verse)**
   “But if serving the L ORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the L ORD” (Joshua 24:15).

3 **Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain**
   Our Beliefs no. 19, The Law of God: “Salvation is all of grace and not of works, but its fruitage is obedience to the Commandments. This obedience develops Christian character and results in a sense of well-being. It is an evidence of our love for the Lord and our concern for our fellow men” (Seventh-day Adventists Believe, p. 263).

4 **Where this lesson is found in Scripture**
   Old Testament, Books of History: Joshua 23; 24

5 **Ellen White reference**
   Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 49, pp. 521-524. “It is only because the Redeemer has borne the curse of sin in our behalf that man can hope to escape, in his own person, its dire results” (p. 522).

6 **The Bible Story reference:**
   The Bible Story, vol. 3, pp. 102-104

7 **Family worship ideas**
   Use the following texts to explore the core teaching with your children:
   - Sabbath—Joshua 24:15 (power text)
   - Sunday—Joshua 24:1-4
   - Monday—Joshua 24:5-10
   - Tuesday—Joshua 24:11-13
   - Wednesday—Joshua 24:14-22
   - Thursday—Deuteronomy 6:3
   - Friday—Joshua 24:28-33

   Use the following questions as discussion starters of the lesson with your family:
   ■ How do my choices show my love for God?
   ■ Is my life built on service to God?
   ■ What will be the effects of following God’s goals for our lives?
   ■ What will be the consequences of ignoring God’s advice?
   ■ How can modern-day idols get in the way of my relationship with God?
   ■ Why are blessings connected with obedience to God?

   Choose from the following activities to help energize your time together:
   ■ Discuss ways you can be a positive influence on your family and friends.
   ■ Share with your family members Bible promises that are connected with obedience.
   ■ Encourage someone who is discouraged with God’s promises.

8 **Coming up next week!**
   Solomon asks for wisdom. We need wisdom to be effective in our service.
**Holy Scriptures**

The Holy Scriptures, Old and New Testaments, are the written Word of God, given by divine inspiration. The inspired authors spoke and wrote as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. In this Word, God has committed to humanity the knowledge necessary for salvation. The Holy Scriptures are the supreme, authoritative, and infallible revelation of His will. They are the standard of character, the test of experience, the definitive revealer of doctrines, and the trustworthy record of God’s acts in history. (Ps. 119:105; Prov. 30:5, 6; Isa. 8:20; John 17:17; 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Heb. 4:12; 2 Peter 1:20, 21.)

**Trinity**

There is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a unity of three coeternal Persons. God is immortal, all-powerful, all-knowing, above all, and ever present. He is infinite and beyond human comprehension, yet known through His self-revelation. God, who is love, is forever worthy of worship, adoration, and service by the whole creation. (Gen. 1:26; Deut. 6:4; Isa. 6:8; Matt. 28:19; John 3:16; 2 Cor. 1:21, 22; 13:14; Eph. 4:4-6; 1 Peter 1:2.)

**Father**

God the eternal Father is the Creator, Source, Sustainer, and Sovereign of all creation. He is just and holy, merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. The qualities and powers exhibited in the Son and the Holy Spirit are also those of the Father. (Gen. 1:1; Deut. 4:35; Ps. 110:1, 4; John 3:16; 14:9; 1 Cor. 15:28; 1 Tim. 1:17; 1 John 4:8; Rev. 4:11.)

**Son**

God the eternal Son became incarnate in Jesus Christ. Through Him all things were created, the character of God is revealed, the salvation of humanity is accomplished, and the world is judged. Forever truly God, He became also truly human, Jesus the Christ. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived and experienced temptation as a human being, but perfectly exemplified the righteousness and love of God. By His miracles He manifested God’s power and was attested as God’s promised Messiah. He suffered and died voluntarily on the cross for our sins and in our place, was raised from the dead, and ascended to heaven to minister in the heavenly sanctuary on our behalf. He will come again in glory for the final deliverance of His people and the restoration of all things. (Isa. 53:4-6; Dan. 9:25-27; Luke 1:35; John 1:1-3, 14; 5:22; 10:30; 14:1-3, 9, 13; Rom. 6:23; 1 Cor. 15:3, 4; 2 Cor. 3:18; 5:17-19; Phil. 2:5-11; Col. 1:15-19; Heb. 2:9-18; 8:1, 2.)

**Holy Spirit**

God the eternal Spirit was active with the Father and the Son in Creation, incarnation, and redemption. He is as much a person as are the Father and the Son. He inspired the writers of Scripture. He filled Christ’s life with power. He draws and convicts human beings; and those who respond He renews and transforms them. He extends spiritual gifts to the church, empowers and teaches its members, and prepares them for spiritual service. He brought about the salvation of humanity. He is the same unit of time that we call a week. It together with the Sabbath constituted a test of experience, the definitive revealer of doctrines, and the trustworthy record of God’s acts in history. (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:7, 15; 3; Ps. 8:4-8; 51:14; 58:3; Jer. 17; Acts 17:24-28; Rom. 5:12-17; 58:3; Jer. 17; Acts 17:24-28; Rom. 5:12-17; 2 Cor. 3:18; 5:19, 20; Eph. 3:17; 2 Thess. 1:12; 1 John 3:4; 4:7; 8, 11, 20.)

**Nature of Humanity**

Man and woman were made in the image of God with individuality, the power and freedom to think and to do. Though created free beings, each is an indivisible unity of body, mind, and spirit, dependent upon God for life and breath and all else. When our first parents disobeyed God, they denied their dependence upon Him and fell from their high position. The image of God in them was marred, and they became subject to death. Their descendants share this fallen nature and its consequences. They are born with weaknesses and tendencies to evil. But God in Christ reconciled the world to Himself and by His Spirit restores in penitent mortals the image of their Maker. Created for the glory of God, they are called to love Him and one another, and to care for their environment. (Gen. 1:26-28; 7:1-2; 15; Ps. 8:4-8; 51:5, 10; 58:3; Jer. 17; Acts 17:24-28; Rom. 5:12-17; 2 Cor. 3:18; 5:19, 20; Eph. 3:17; 2 Thess. 1:12; 1 John 3:4; 4:7; 8, 11, 20.)

**Great Controversy**

All humanity is now involved in a great controversy between Christ and Satan regarding the character of God, His law, and His sovereignty over the universe. This conflict originated in heaven when a created being.
endowed with the freedom of choice, in
self-exaltation became Satan, God’s adversary,
and led into rebellion a portion of the angels.

He introduced the spirit of rebellion into this
world when he led Adam and Eve into sin.

This human sin resulted in the distortion of the
image of God in humanity, the disordering of the
created world, and its eventual devastation
at the time of the global flood, as presented
in the historical account of Genesis 1–11.

Observed by the whole creation, this world
became the arena of the universal conflict,
out of which the God of love will ultimately
be vindicated. To assist His people in this
controversy, Christ sends the Holy Spirit and
the loyal angels to guide, protect, and sustain
them in the way of salvation. (Gen. 3:6–8; Job
1:6–12; Isa. 14:12–14; Eze. 28:12–18; Rom.
1:19–32; 3:4; 5:12–21; 8:19–22; 1 Cor. 4:9; Heb.
1:14; 1 Peter 5:8; 2 Peter 3:6; Rev. 12:4–9.)

9 Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ

In Christ’s life of perfect obedience to God’s
will, His suffering, death, and resurrection,
God provided the only means of atonement
for human sin, so that those who by faith
accept this atonement may have eternal
life, and the whole creation may better
understand the infinite and holy love of the
Creator. This perfect atonement vindicates
the righteousness of God’s law and the gracious-
ness of His character; for it both condemns
our sin and provides for our forgiveness.

The death of Christ is substitutionary and
expiatory, reconciling and transforming. The
death of Christ triumphed over the forces of evil, and for those
who accept the atonement assures their final
victory over sin and death. It declares the
Lordship of Jesus Christ, before whom every
kneel in heaven and on earth will bow. (Gen.
3:15; Ps. 22:1; Isa. 53; John 3:16; 14:30; Rom.
1:4; 3:25; 4:25; 8:3, 4; 1 Cor. 15:3, 4, 20–22;
2 Cor. 5:14, 15, 19–21; Phil. 2:6–11; Col. 2:15;
1 Peter 2:21, 22; 1 John 2:2, 4:10.)

10 Experience of Salvation

In infinite love and mercy God
made Christ, who knew no sin, to be sin
for us, so that in Him we might be made
righteousness of God. Led by the Holy
Spirit, we sense our need, acknowledge our
sinfulness, repent of our transgressions, and
exercise faith in Jesus as Saviour and Lord,
Substitute and Example. This saving faith
comes through the divine power of the Word
and is the gift of God’s grace. Through Christ
we are justified, adopted as God’s sons and
daughters, and delivered from the lordship
of sin. Through the Spirit we are born again
and sanctified; the Spirit renews our minds,
writes God’s law of love in our hearts, and we
are given the power to live a holy life. Abiding
in Him, we become partakers of the divine
nature and have the assurance of salvation
now and in the judgment. (Gen. 3:15; Isa.
45:22, 53; Jer. 31:31–34; Eze. 33:11; 36:25–
27; Hab. 2:4; Mark 9:23, 24; John 3:3–8, 16;
16:8; Rom. 3:21–26; 5:6–10; 8:1–4, 14–17;
10:17; 12:2; 2 Cor. 5:17–21; Gal. 1:4; 3:13,
14, 26; 4:4–7; Eph. 2:4–10; Col. 1:13, 14; Titus
3:3–7; Heb. 8:7–12; 1 Peter 1:23; 2:21, 22;
2 Peter 1:3, 4; Rev. 13:8.)

11 Growing in Christ

By His death on the cross Jesus
triumphed over the forces of evil. He who
subjugated the demonic spirits during His
early ministry has broken their power and
made certain their ultimate doom. Jesus’ vic-
tory gives us victory over the evil forces that
still seek to control us, as we walk with Him in
peace, joy, and assurance of His love.

Now the Holy Spirit dwells within us and
empowers us. Continually committed to
Jesus as our Saviour and Lord, we are set
free from the burden of our past deeds. No
longer do we live in the darkness, fear of evil
powers, ignorance, and meaninglessness of
our former way of life. In this new freedom in
Jesus, we are called to grow into the likeness
of His character, communing with Him daily
in prayer, feeding on His Word, meditating
on it and on His providence, singing His
praises, gathering together for worship, and
participating in the mission of the church. We
are also called to follow Christ’s example by
compassionately ministering to the physical,
mental, social, emotional, and spiritual needs
of humanity. As we give ourselves in loving
service to those around us and in witnessing
to His salvation, His constant presence with us
through the Spirit transforms every moment
and every task into a spiritual experience.

(1 Chron. 29:11; Ps. 1:1, 2; 23:4; 77:11, 12;
John 20:21; Rom. 8:38, 39, 2 Cor. 3:17, 18;
Gal. 5:22–25; Eph. 5:19, 20; 6:12–18; Phil.
3:7–14; Col. 1:13, 14; 2:6, 14, 15; 1 Thess.
5:16–18, 23; Heb. 10:25; James 1:27; 2 Peter
2:9; 3:18; 1 John 4:4.)

12 Church

The church is the community of believers who confess Jesus Christ as Lord
and Saviour. In continuity with the people
of God in Old Testament times, we are called
out from the world; and we join together for
worship, for fellowship, for instruction in the
Word, for the celebration of the Lord’s Supper,
for service to humanity, and for the worldwide
proclamation of the gospel. The church derives
its authority from Christ, who is the incarnate
Word revealed in the Scriptures. The church
is God’s family; adopted by Him as children,
its members live on the basis of the new
covenant. The church is the body of Christ, a
community of faith of which Christ Himself is
the Head. The church is the bride for whom
Christ died that He might sanctify and
cleanse her. At His return in triumph, He will present
her to Himself a glorious church, the faithful
of all the ages, the purchase of His blood, not
having spot or wrinkle, but holy and without

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Our beliefs continued
13 Remnant and Its Mission
The universal church is composed of all who truly believe in Christ, but in the last days, a time of widespread apostasy, a remnant has been called out to keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. This remnant announces the arrival of the judgment hour, proclaims salvation through Christ, and heralds the approach of His second advent. This proclamation is symbolized by the three angels of Revelation 14; it coincides with the work of judgment in heaven and results in a work of repentance and reform on earth. Every believer is called to have a personal part in this worldwide witness. (Dan. 7:9-14; Isa. 1:9; 11:11; Jer. 23:3; Dan. 7:9-14; Micah 2:12; 2 Cor. 5:10; 1 Peter 1:16-19; 4:17; 2 Peter 3:10-14; Jude 1, 4; Rev. 12:17; 14:6-12; 18:1-4.)

14 Unity in the Body of Christ
The church is one body with many members, called from every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. In Christ we are a new creation; distinctions of race, culture, learning, and nationality, and differences between high and low, rich and poor, male and female, must not be divisive among us. We are all equal in Christ, who by one Spirit has bonded us into one fellowship with Him and with one another; we are to serve and be served without partiality or reservation. Through the revelation of Jesus Christ in the Scriptures we share the same faith and hope, and reach out in one witness to all. This unity has its source in the oneness of the triune God, who has adopted us as His children. (Ps. 133:1; Matt. 28:19, 20; John 17:20-23; Acts 17:26, 27; Rom. 12:4, 5; 1 Cor. 12:7-14; 2 Cor. 5:16, 17; Gal. 3:27-29; Eph. 2:13-16; 4:3-6, 11-16; Col. 3:10-15.)

15 Baptism
By baptism we confess our faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and testify of our death to sin and of our purpose to walk in newness of life. Thus we acknowledge Christ as Lord and Saviour, become His people, and are received as members by His church. Baptism is a symbol of our union with Christ, the forgiveness of our sins, and our reception of the Holy Spirit. It is by immersion in water and is contingent on an affirmation of faith in Jesus and evidence of repentance of sin. It follows instruction in the Holy Scriptures and acceptance of their teachings. (Matt. 28:19, 20; Acts 2:38; 16:30-33; 22:16; Rom. 6:1-6; Gal. 3:27; Col. 2:12, 13.)

16 Lord’s Supper
The Lord’s Supper is a participation in the emblems of the body and blood of Jesus as an expression of faith in Him, our Lord and Saviour. In this experience of communion Christ is present to meet and strengthen His people. As we partake, we joyfully proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes again. Preparation for the Supper includes self-examination, repentance, and confession. The Master ordained the service of foot washing to signify renewed cleansing, to express a willingness to serve one another in Christlike humility, and to unite our hearts in love. The communion service is open to all believing Christians. (Matt. 26:17-30; John 6:48-63; 13:1-17; 1 Cor. 10:16, 17; 11:23-30; Rev. 3:20.)

17 Spiritual Gifts and Ministries
God bestows upon all members of His church in every age spiritual gifts that each member is to employ in loving ministry for the common good of the church and of humanity. Given by the agency of the Holy Spirit, who apportions to each member as He wills, the gifts provide all abilities and ministries needed by the church to fulfill its divinely ordained functions. According to the Scriptures, these gifts include such ministries as faith, healing, prophecy, proclamation, teaching, administration, reconciliation, compassion, and self-sacrificing service and charity for the help and encouragement of people. Some members are called of God and endowed by the Spirit for functions recognized by the church in pastoral, evangelistic, and teaching ministries particularly needed to equip the members for service, to build up the church to spiritual maturity, and to foster unity of the faith and knowledge of God. When members employ these spiritual gifts as faithful stewards of God’s varied grace, the church is protected from the destructive influence of false doctrine, grows with a growth that is from God, and is built up in faith and love. (Acts 6:1-7; Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:7-11, 27, 28; Eph. 4:8, 11-16; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; 1 Peter 4:10, 11.)

18 Gift of Prophecy
The Scriptures testify that one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is prophecy. This gift is an identifying mark of the remnant church, and we believe it was manifested in the ministry of Ellen G. White. Her writings speak with prophetic authority and provide comfort, guidance, instruction, and correction to the church. They also make clear that the Bible is the standard by which all teaching and experience must be tested. (Num. 12:6; 2 Chron. 20:20; Joel 2:28, 29; Amos 3:7; Acts 2:41-21; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Heb. 1:3-6; Rev. 12:17; 19:10; 22:8, 9.)

19 Law of God
The great principles of God’s law...
are embodied in the Ten Commandments and exemplified in the life of Christ. They express God’s love, will, and purposes concerning human conduct and relationships and are binding upon all people in every age. These precepts are the basis of God’s covenant with His people and the standard in God’s judgment. Through the agency of the Holy Spirit they point out sin and awaken a sense of need for a Saviour. Salvation is all of grace and not of works, and its fruit is obedience to the Commandments. This obedience develops Christian character and results in a sense of well-being. It is evidence of our love for the Lord and our concern for our fellow human beings. The obedience of faith demonstrates the power of Christ to transform lives, and therefore strengthens Christian witness. (Ex. 20:1–17; Deut. 28:1–14; Ps. 19:7–14; 40:7, 8; Matt. 5:17–20; 22:36–40; John 14:15; 15:7–10; Rom. 8:3; 4; Eph. 2:8–10; Heb. 8:8–10; 1 John 2:3; 5:3; Rev. 12:17; 14:12.)

21 Stewardship
We are God’s stewards, entrusted by Him with time and opportunities, abilities and resources, and the blessings of the earth and its resources. We are responsible to Him for their proper use. We acknowledge God’s ownership by faithful service to Him and our fellow human beings, and by returning tithe and giving offerings for the proclamation of His gospel and the support and growth of His church. Stewardship is a privilege given to us by God for nurture in love and the victory over selfishness and covetousness. Stewards rejoice in the blessings that come to others as a result of their faithfulness. (Gen. 1:26–28; 2:15; 1 Chron. 29:14; Haggai 1:3–11; Mal. 3:8–12; Matt. 22:33; Rom. 15:26, 27; 1 Cor. 9:9–14; 2 Cor. 8:1–15; 9:7.)

22 Christian Behavior
We are called to be a godly people who think, feel, and act in harmony with biblical principles in all aspects of personal and social life. For the Spirit to re-create in us the character of our Lord we involve ourselves only in those things that will produce Christ-like purity, health, and joy in our lives. This means that our amusement and entertainment should meet the highest standards of Christian taste and beauty. While recognizing cultural differences, our dress is to be simple, modest, and neat, befitting those whose true beauty does not consist of outward adornment but in the imperishable ornament of a gentle and quiet spirit. It also means that because our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit, we are to care for them intelligently. Along with adequate exercise and rest, we are to adopt the most healthful diet possible and abstain from the unclean foods identified in the Scriptures. Since alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and the irresponsible use of drugs and narcotics are harmful to our bodies, we are to abstain from them as well. Instead, we are to engage in whatever brings our thoughts and bodies into the discipline of Christ, who desires our wholesomeness, joy, and goodness. (Gen. 7:2; Ex. 20:15; Lev. 11:1–47; Ps. 106:3; Rom. 12:1, 2; 1 Cor. 6:19, 20; 10:31; 2 Cor. 6:14–7:1; 10:5; Eph. 5:1–21; Phil. 2:4; 4:8; 1 Tim. 2:9, 10; Titus 2:11, 12; 1 Peter 3:1–4; 1 John 2:6; 3 John 2.)

23 Marriage and the Family
Marriage was divinely established in Eden and affirmed by Jesus to be a lifelong union between a man and a woman in loving companionship. For the Christian a marriage commitment is to God as well as to the spouse, and should be entered into only between a man and a woman who share a common faith. Mutual love, honor, respect, and responsibility are the fabric of this relationship, which is to reflect the love, sanctity, closeness, and permanence of the relationship between Christ and His church. Regarding divorce, Jesus taught that the person who divorces a spouse, except for fornication, and marries another commits adultery. Although some family relationships may fall short of the ideal, a man and a woman who fully commit themselves to each other in Christ through marriage may achieve loving unity through the guidance of the Spirit and the nurture of the church. God blesses the family and intends that its members shall assist each other toward complete maturity. Increasing family closeness is one of the earmarks of the final gospel message. Parents are to bring up their children to love and obey the Lord. By their example and their words they are to teach them that Christ is a loving, tender, and caring guide who wants them to become members of His body, the family of God, which embraces both single and married persons. (Gen. 2:18–25; Ex. 20:12; Deut. 6:5–9; Prov. 22:6; Mal. 4:5,
24 **Christ’s Ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary**

There is a sanctuary in heaven, the true tabernacle that the Lord set up and not humans. In it Christ ministers on our behalf, making available to believers the benefits of His atoning sacrifice offered once for all on the cross. At His ascension He was inaugurated as our great High Priest and began His intercessory ministry, which was typified by the work of the high priest in the holy place of the earthly sanctuary. In 1844, at the end of the prophetic period of 2300 days, He entered the second and last phase of His atoning ministry, which was typified by the work of the high priest in the most holy place of the earthly sanctuary. It is a work of investigative judgment, which is part of the ultimate disposition of all sin, typified by the cleansing of the ancient Hebrew sanctuary on the Day of Atonement. In that typical service the sanctuary was cleansed with the blood of animal sacrifices, but the heavenly things are purified with the perfect sacrifice of the blood of Jesus. The investigative judgment reveals to heavenly intelligences who among the dead are asleep in Christ and therefore, in Him, are deemed worthy to have part in the first resurrection. It also makes manifest who among the living are abiding in Christ, keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and in Him, therefore, are ready for translation into His everlasting kingdom. This judgment vindicates the justice of God in saving those who believe in Jesus. It declares that those who have remained loyal to God shall receive the kingdom. The completion of this ministry of Christ will mark the close of human probation before the Second Advent.

25 **Second Coming of Christ**

The second coming of Christ is the blessed hope of the church, the grand climax of the gospel. The Saviour’s coming will be literal, personal, visible, and worldwide. When He returns, the righteous dead will be resurrected and, together with the righteous living, will be glorified and taken to heaven, but the unrighteous will die. The almost complete fulfillment of most lines of prophecy, together with the present condition of the world, indicates that Christ’s coming is near. The time of that event has not been revealed, and we are therefore exhorted to be ready at all times. (Matt. 24; Mark 13; Luke 21; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Cor. 15:51-54; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 5:1-6; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; 2 Peter 3:1-5; Titus 2:13; Heb. 9:28; Rev. 1:7; 14:14-20; 19:11-21.)

26 **Death and Resurrection**

The wages of sin is death. But God, who alone is immortal, will grant eternal life to His redeemed. Until that day, death is an unconscious state for all people. When Christ, who is our life, appears, the resurrected righteous and the living righteous will be glorified and caught up to meet their Lord. The second resurrection, a resurrection of the unrighteous, will take place a thousand years later. (Job 19:25-27; Ps. 146:3; Eccl. 9:5; 6, 10; Dan. 12:2, 3; Isa. 25:8; John 5:28, 29; 11:11-14; Rom. 6:23; 1 Cor. 15:51-54; Col. 3:4; 1 Thess. 4:13-17; 1 Tim. 6:15, 16; Rev. 20:1-10.)

27 **Millennium and the End of Sin**

The millennium is the thousand-year reign of Christ with His saints in heaven between the first and second resurrections. During this time the wicked dead will be judged; the earth will be utterly desolate, without living human inhabitants, but occupied by Satan and his angels. At its close Christ with His saints and the Holy City will descend from heaven to earth. The unrighteous dead will then be resurrected and with Satan and his angels will surround the city; but fire from God will consume them and cleanse the earth. The universe will thus be freed of sin and sinners forever. (Jer. 4:23-26; Eze. 28:18, 19; Mal. 4:1; 1 Cor. 6:2, 3; Rev. 20; Rev. 21:1-5.)

28 **New Earth**

On the new earth, in which righteousness dwells, God will provide an eternal home for the redeemed and a perfect environment for everlasting life, love, joy, and learning in His presence. For here God Himself will dwell with His people, and suffering and death will have passed away. The great controversy will be ended, and sin will be no more. All things, animate and inanimate, will declare that God is love, and He shall reign forever. Amen. (Isa. 35; 65:17-25; Matt. 5:5; 2 Peter 3:13; Rev. 11:15; 21:1-7; 22:1-5.)

Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only creed and hold certain fundamental beliefs to be the teachings of the Holy Scriptures. These beliefs, as set forth here, constitute the church’s understanding and expression of the teaching of Scripture. Revision of these statements may be expected at a General Conference session, when the church is led by the Holy Spirit to a fuller understanding of Bible truth or finds better language to express the teachings of God’s Holy Word.

www.adventist.org/beliefs/fundamental/index.html