“Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers” (Galatians 6:10).

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose” (Romans 8:28).

“For this is what the Lord has commanded us: I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth” (Acts 13:47).

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone” (Ephesians 2:19, 20).

“No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are” (Acts 15:11).

“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me” (Galatians 2:20).

“Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, ’Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all’” (Mark 9:35).

“I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength” (Philippians 4:11-13).

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” (Matthew 28:19, 20).

“Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand” (Ephesians 6:13).

“I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well” (Psalm 139:14).

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven” (Acts 1:11).
God’s Grace Offers Salvation
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1 The Word of God
I believe that God inspired through the Holy Spirit every writer of the Bible. Everything written in the Word of God is true, and can help me live a happy and healthy life.

2 The Godhead
I believe that the God who loves me is One God manifested in three persons—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each works hard to teach me how to live a better, more meaningful life.

3 God the Father
I believe that God the Father is the power that keeps me—and every other creature in the universe—alive. He is kind and forgiving, and will never leave me.

4 God the Son
I believe that Jesus, God the Son, created this world and everything good in it. Two thousand years ago He came to this earth as a baby, grew up, and lived a sinless life. He then died on the cross so that I could someday live forever with Him in heaven.

5 God the Holy Spirit
I believe that God the Holy Spirit speaks to me through that still, small voice I hear in my thoughts whenever I feel afraid, sad, or lonely. He tells me that everything will be all right. The Holy Spirit also tries to teach me right from wrong by making me feel guilty when I sin and joyful each time I choose to obey God’s laws of love.

6 Creation
I believe that God created the universe, and in a recent six-day creation He made “the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them” and rested on the seventh day. When He finished making the trees, animals, oceans, mountains, and people, God looked around at all that He had done and said joyfully, “This is very good!”

7 The Nature of Humanity
I believe that Jesus made people in the image of God. Each enjoys the freedom to think and act any way they choose. Even though sin and bad choices have brought pain and suffering to many, we’re still children of God. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can care for each other just as God cares for each one of us.

8 The Great Controversy
I believe that Satan is a real being who wants to destroy us all. He works hard each day to bring sin into our lives. God wants us to live each day with joy, happiness, and love. God and Satan are fighting for control over our lives and our futures. To help us overcome sin, Jesus sends the Holy Spirit and loving angels to guide and protect us.

9 The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus
I believe that Jesus lived a perfect life in order to show us that it’s possible to overcome sin. He died on the cross so I won’t have to lose my heavenly home because of my sins. Then God the Father raised Jesus from the dead to show how He’ll someday raise me from the dead if I die before Jesus returns.

10 The Experience of Salvation
I believe that when I allow Jesus into my heart, He helps me change from a sinner to a child of God, ready to live forever in heaven. He teaches me how to be like Him as I read my Bible and follow the loving guidance of the Holy Spirit. Because of Jesus, I can feel confident that I’m forgiven and that there’s a home waiting for me in heaven.

11 Growing in Jesus
I believe that when someone invites Jesus into their heart, changes start to happen. What they read, watch on television or on the Internet, eat, and listen to, and the places they go, even the words they say, will change. The pages of the Bible will become like a textbook for living, and they will talk to Jesus throughout each day. These changes keep happening, day after day, until Jesus comes. I also believe that we are called to follow Jesus’ example by compassionately ministering to the physical, mental, social, emotional, and spiritual needs of humanity.

12 The Church
I believe that my church is a place where people who love Jesus can praise Him together with joy and anticipation. It’s like attending a fun family reunion each week. Jesus loves His church and listens to every word spoken and every song sung.

13 The Remnant and Its Mission
I believe that before Jesus comes the second time, some people in my church will choose sin over salvation. Those who stay faithful to Jesus and to what the voice of the Holy Spirit tells them to do are called the remnant, and they will work extra hard to bring the love of God to the world. Though the remnant may be small in number, they will accomplish great things for God so that Jesus can return.

14 Unity in the Body of Christ
I believe that any church whose members worship God should welcome people from any nation, who speak any language, and whose skin is any color. We’re all equal in God’s sight. How we look and how we sound makes no difference. We’re all children of the same heavenly Father.

15 Baptism
I believe that when I’m baptized, I’m telling everyone that I love God and want to live my life in service to Him. Baptism is like being buried as a sinner and then rising up to live a new life for Jesus.
Adapted from God Loves Me 28 Ways  | By Charles Mills

16 The Lord’s Supper
I believe that when Jesus ate His last meal with His disciples right before He was crucified, He taught us something wonderful. He said that the grape juice (wine) represented His spilled blood and that the bread represented His broken body. When I partake of “The Lord’s Supper” at church, it helps me remember the sacrifice Jesus made for me on the cross.

21 Stewardship
I believe that everything belongs to God: the trees, the flowers, the animals—even me. God has asked me to take care of what He created and to protect all things from harm—even me. So I will cherish God’s creatures and creation. To show Him how proud I am to be His steward, I’ll faithfully return a tithe (10 percent) of my time, talent, and money. I want God to bless this world and everything in it—even me.

26 Death and Resurrection
I believe that Jesus can raise people from the dead. He did it before, raising Lazarus and the widow’s son, and He will do it again when He comes the second time. So even though some of my family members are asleep in their graves, I’ll see them again because of the power of God over death.

28 The New Earth
I believe that after Satan and sinners are destroyed, my heavenly Father will create a brand-new world for us to enjoy. There will be no death, no tears, no pain, no suffering. All will be peace and love. Best of all I will enjoy this wonderful world forever together with my family and all who love God.
Is your life exciting and fun every single day? Probably not! But everyone experiences certain events that are memorable and even life-changing. Being born is certainly one of those major events in life! Starting school, performing your first music recital, learning to read, going on a mission trip, inventing a game that your friends love to play, or committing your life to Jesus by being baptized may be other events you remember. Something terribly sad may also have happened that you can’t forget.

The Bible is a little bit like your life. Even though it contains many stories, and all of them can teach us something about God and His love for us, only a few of the Bible stories contain events that are both memorable and life-changing. Those events were turning points in the history of God’s people. Once they took place, everything was different afterward.

Six of those life-changing stories are illustrated in the six pictures you see below. Very likely you can look at them and figure out what Bible stories they represent. The six pictures form a Bible-picture timeline that can help you make sense of the whole, big Bible story.

Without it none of us would be here. That certainly changed everything forever!

The world is very different now from what it was like before the Flood.

After God’s people were led out of Egypt, they became a nation. They were no longer just individual families and tribes.

God’s people wandered far from the friendship God wanted to have with them, so He sent them into captivity in Babylon. Eventually they were able to return home, but never again did they have their own king. They were always under the power of some other kingdom.
At last the Messiah, Jesus, for whom God’s people had been waiting thousands of years, came to this earth to rescue us from the power of sin. From then on, the message about His love and salvation began to go to the whole world.

This is the last major event foretold in the Bible. When Jesus comes, He will take us to heaven and end sin and suffering forever.

In your Bible study guide you will find each weekly Sabbath School lesson marked as to where it fits in the big Bible story. Today we live between the first coming and the second coming of Jesus. We live very close to the Second Coming!

As you become more familiar with fitting the individual stories into the picture timeline, you will better understand the Bible as one big story and become closer friends with Jesus. And when you see how the small stories fit around the six bigger stories, then the Bible will become even more meaningful to you. Hopefully you will realize more than ever that you are part of the big Bible story!
You are a gift from God, and He loves you very much! If the Lord knows each star by name and makes sure that it is in the proper place each night (Isaiah 40:26), how much more important are you?

Not every person is alike. Look around you. Everyone has different color eyes, hair, skin, and build (tall, short, big-boned, and thin). We all learn differently. Some people learn by listening, others by sight, and still others by touch. Some people use all three ways to learn.

Regardless of how you learn, the Lord wants you to love Him and serve Him with all your heart. You do that when you pray, learn about Him (in your lesson study), talk about Him to others, and do what is right.

Here is a great truth you should know about the Lord: Jesus isn't primarily concerned about how well you can read or write, or even how well you can speak. What Jesus cares about most is how much you love Him and want Him in your life. The greatest accomplishment in your life will be to show others how much God has blessed your life.

In school you use different ways to get the information that you want. Use those same ways to learn more about the Lord: Use your computer, iPod, or iPad to hear or study your lesson. Or have your parents read your lesson to you. Use the Bible on CD, or the audio podcast of your lesson at www.juniorpowerpoints.org/podcast.php?channel=1. It does not matter which way you get the information, as long as you are growing and maturing in the Lord.

Think about this when you meet Jesus face to face: He is not going to ask to see how well you write something. He will not ask you to read anything. His only pursuit is to read your heart to see how much you love Him. He wants to spend eternity with you!
How to use this Bible study guide

The lessons and stories in this Bible study guide include principles that you can apply to your everyday life. They encourage you to communicate with God through prayer, reading from your Bible, and reflecting on what you read. That is how to grow in your relationship with Jesus. You will study the Bible lesson during the week, and in Sabbath School you will review it with your teacher and peers. This review process will help you gain a deeper spiritual understanding of the lessons.

A big part of your Sabbath School lesson is the study you do from the Bible and the discussions you have with your teachers and peers on Sabbath. Learn and review the power text during the week as you prepare for Sabbath School. As you memorize passages from the Bible you will become familiarized with the truths found in God’s Word and you will learn to apply them to your life. As you study your Sabbath School lesson, engage your family members in discussion and share with them what you learned.

Most important, please take time to read, pray, and reflect on Jesus every day. Ask Him to help you apply what you study to what you do in real life. It isn’t only what you know with your head, but it’s also what you know with your heart, that helps you be a strong, growing Christian.

Happy growing in Jesus!
—The Editor

PS: Write and tell us how you’re growing in Jesus.

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COMMUNITY
We experience God’s love in our church.
(LESSONS 1 THROUGH 5).
■ Early Christians care for others.
■ Early Christians are persecuted.
■ Saul is converted.
■ Christians support each other.
■ Ministry to the Gentiles redefined.

SERVICE
We follow Jesus’ example by serving others.
(LESSONS 6 THROUGH 9).
■ Paul writes to the Galatians.
■ Paul is shipwrecked.
■ Paul is imprisoned in Rome.
■ The Great Commission.

WORSHIP
We worship God as Lord of our lives.
(LESSONS 10 THROUGH 12).
■ Paul teaches about Christian armor.
■ We are created for God’s companionship.
■ A commitment like a marriage.

GRACE IN ACTION
We share the good news of Jesus’ return.
(LESSON 13).
■ Jesus is coming back soon!