2022-2023 MS Bible School Plan

Introduction

The curriculum is separated into three units: Pre-History (Genesis 1-11), Patriarchs (Genesis 12-36), Joseph (Genesis 37-50)

Components of a Bible School lesson:

- Patristic Interpretation of the Scripture
  - To give a sound and Orthodox Interpretation
  - To model for them the fact that we get our interpretation from the Fathers and not from our own mind

- Three Levels of Interpretation: Literal, Tropological, Allegorical
  - The Literal should include cultural and historical context as needed, and explanations of exactly what happened
  - The Tropological should be fitting for the age group, with real examples they may encounter
  - The Allegorical should be of sound interpretation and according to the Tradition of the Church

Unit 1: Pre-History (Genesis 1-11)

Date	Topic	Content	Goal	Assignee

Wed 08/31	Introduction to the Old Testament	• What is the Bible? • What is inspiration ? • Why to read the Bible? • Story of the Old Testamen t • Relation to the New Testamen t	Understand the importance of the Scripture and the purpose of the Old Testament	
Wed 09/07	Introduction to Genesis	• Authorshi p • Structure • Symbolic or Literal? • Science vs Religion • God's revelation to Mankind through Nature and Scripture • Why learn Genesis?	Prepare them for discussions about Creation	

Wed 09/14	Genesis 1:1-2	"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" • What is "the beginning " • Who is "God" • How did God "create" • What are "the heaven and the earth"	Introduce the Concept of studying a single verse in detail	

Wed 09/21	Genesis 1-2: Creation	• The Bible is not a Scientific Textbook
		• Answer questions like:
		  ◦ how is there light before the Sun is created
		  ◦ Did God create darkness?
		• Apologetics related to Creation
		• Don't discuss the Making of Man or "Image of God" in detail, that will be discussed next week
			• Memorize the Seven Days of Creation	

Wed 09/28	Genesis 1: Making of Man	• The Lord prepared all of Creation for Man
		• Image and Likeness of God
		  ◦ How do we grow in the Likeness of God
		  ◦ How is this concept related to the rest of the Holy Scripture and the economy of Salvation?
		• Male and Female
		• Breath of Life
		• Be Fruitful and Multiply
		• Seventh
			• What does Image of God me	

Wed 10/05	Genesis 2: Garden of Eden	• The Rivers of Baptism • The Tree of Life (Eucharist) • Marriage • Man's state in the garden • Relate this Paradise to the Paradise described in Revelation		

Wed 10/12	Genesis 3: The Fall of Man	• Why did God give a command ment?
		• What is free will?
		• Relate the temptatio n of Eve with the temptatio n of Christ and with the verse in St John "the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, the pride of life"
		• How can we overcome Temptatio n?
		• What are the effects of sin?
		  ◦ The ir eye s wer e ope ne d
		  ◦ The y trie d to ha ndl e the situ ati on on the ir ow n
		  ◦ Sh am e an		

Wed 10/19	Genesis 4-5: Cain and Abel	• Why was Abel's sacrifice acceptable and Cain's not?
		• The Lord seeks out Cain and wants him to repent
		• Sin leads to sin
		  ◦ Jealousy --> Murder --> Lying --> ???
		• Punishment of Cain versus punishment of Adam
		• Evil of Lamech
		  ◦ Example of the behavior of Cain's descendants
		  ◦ Cain's way is becoming the way of the land...		

Wed 10/26	Genesis 6-9: Noah (Part 1)	• Sons of man and daughters of God
		  ◦ What does it mean? (Seth it eViews vs Nephilim)
		• The Lord was sorry that He had made man
		  ◦ Did the Lord make a mistake? Can God make a mistake?
		  ◦ God's love for us and God's hatred of evil
		• Noah found grace in the eyes of the		

Wed 11/02	Genesis 6-9: Noah (Part 2)	• The dove
		• Noah built an altar and offered a sacrifice
		• The New Covenant
		  ◦ The Rainbow
		  ◦ Be fruitful and multiply
		• Noah's Drunkenness
		• Canaan's Punishment		

Wed 11/09	Genesis 10-11: Tower of Babel	• Genealogy of Noah
		  ◦ Some common names like Mizraim (Misr - Egypt), Canaan, Assyria, etc.
		  ◦ Purpose of Genealogy
		• Tower of Babel
		  ◦ Why would they do this?
		  ◦ What does it mean for God to "come down and		

Wed 11/16	Review and Bible Jeopardy			
Wed 11/23	No Bible Study			

Unit 2: The Patriarchs

In this unit, we'll study the characters of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob

Date	Topic	Content	Assignee
Wed 11/30	Genesis 12-13: Abram's Travels	• From Ur of the Chaldeans • To Egypt	
Wed 12/07	Genesis 13-14: Abram and Lot	• Conflict and separation of Abram and Lot • Captivity of Lot and Rescue by Abram • Melchizedek	
Wed 12/14	Genesis 15-17: Promise of a Covenant	• God's promise about multiplying Abram's seed • Sarai takes matters into her own hands (Hagar) and regrets it • God renews His covenant with Abraham	
Wed 12/21	Genesis 18-19: Sodom and Gomorrah	• Hospitality of Abraham • Intercession for Sodom and Gomorrah • Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah • Deliverance of Lot • Sin of Lot's Daughters	

Wed 12/28	Genesis 20-21: The Son of Promise	• Abraham and Abimelech • Birth of Isaac • Casting out of Ishmael	

Wed 01/04	Genesis 22-24: Isaac a Type of Christ	• Slaughter of Isaac
		• Death of Sarah
		• A bride for Isaac
		  ◦ How the bride is a type of the Church whom the Lord adopted after His Crucifixion
		  ◦ Eliezer ("God is Help") as a symbol of the Holy Spirit who united Isaac to his Bride, as the Holy Spirit on Pentecost	

Wed 01/11	Genesis 25: Jacob and Esau	• Abraham and Keturah • Death of Abraham • Birth of Jacob and Esau • Esau sells his birthright	
Wed 01/18	No Bible Study	Theophany Feast	
Wed 01/25	Genesis 26: Isaac and Abimelech	• Isaac and Abimelech and the Wells	

Wed 02/01	Genesis 27: Isaac Blesses Jacob	• Deception of Rebekah and Jacob • Blessing of Jacob • Wrath of Esau	
Wed 02/08	Genesis 28-29: Jacob and Laban	• Jacob's Ladder • Jacob meets Rachel • Laban's Deception • Jacob marries Leah and Rachel	
Wed 02/15	Genesis 29-30: Jacob's Sons	• Leah and Rachel's Contest • Jacob's Agreement with Laban	
Wed 02/22	Genesis 31-32: Jacob Flees Laban	• Jacob Flees from Laban • Laban pursues Jacob • Jacob wrestles with God	

Wed 03/01	Genesis 33-34: Jacob in Shechem	• Jacob meets Esau
		• Jacob settles in Shechem
		  ◦ Jacob did not take God's opinion when he dwelt here
		  ◦ Also, Jacob did something Abraham and Isaac never did - he bought land
		• The Dinah Incident
		  ◦ This wouldn't have happened if Jacob had followed God's will for him and went to his father Isaac	

Wed 03/08	Genesis 35-36: Jacob in Bethel	• Jacob dwells in Bethel • Death of Rachel • Death of Isaac • Family of Esau	
Wed 03/15	Review and Bible Jeopardy		

Unit 3: Joseph

Date	Topic	Content	Assignee

Wed 03/22	Genesis 37: Joseph's Dreams	• Joseph Dreams of Greatness • Joseph is sold by his brothers	
Wed 03/29	Genesis 38-39: Judah and Joseph	• Judah and Tamar • Joseph and Potiphar's Wife • Contrast how Judah dealt with temptation from a woman versus how Joseph dealt with it.	
Wed 04/05	Genesis 40-41: Joseph Interpreter of Dreams	• Joseph interprets the baker and the cupbearer's dreams • Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream • Joseph is made ruler of Egypt	
Wed 04/12	No Bible Study	Holy Pascha Week	
Wed 04/19	No Bible Study	Pascha Relief Week	
Wed 04/26	Genesis 42-43: Joseph and His Brothers	• Joseph's brothers seek food • Joseph sends them away and keeps Simeon • Joseph's brothers return with Benjamin	
Wed 05/03	Genesis 44-45: Joseph Revealed to His Brothers	• Joseph's Cup • Judah intercedes for Benjamin • Joseph reveals himself to his brothers	

Wed 05/10	Genesis 46-47: Jacob in Egypt	• Jacob's journey to Egypt • Jacob meets Pharaoh • Joseph deals with the famine	
Wed 05/17	Genesis 48-49: Jacob's Last Words	• Jacob blesses Ephraim and Manasseh • Jacob's Last words to his sons	
Wed 05/24	Genesis 49-50: Jacob and Joseph's Deaths	• Jacob's Death and Burial • Joseph's Death and Burial	
Wed 05/31	Review and Bible Jeopardy		

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