

Teacher Notes for “Discovering God's Story.”

Investigative English Bible Study for adults with limited English (ELSS)

(Each class is 90 minutes, ideal student:teacher ratio is 10:1. Chinese should be used sparingly. Explain English with English and actions. The key points of the lesson should be summarized in Chinese at the end a native speaker.)

Unit 1 : In the Beginning

0 GENERAL GUIDELINES

0.1 Purposes of this study

1. *To introduce students to the God of the Bible, the problem of sin, and their need for a savior with a view to seeing them experience salvation, thus fulfilling the Great Commission*
2. *To train students in the use of practical English, giving them confidence in expressing themselves in English.*
3. *To train the local coworker to lead an Investigative Bible Study using the communicative approach.*

0.2 Key components

1. *Weekly 90' meeting which includes: Simple conversation, Learning a song, Studying a Bible passage, memorizing and finally application. The application summary should be conducted in Chinese.*
2. *Workbook for students to study at home*
3. *Audio files for students to listen to at home (MP3). These can also be used in class if the teacher desires.*
4. *Video files showing the actions that accompany the songs.*

0.3 Labour Allocation

a. Leader (local coworker)

- teach 2-3 lessons (if English level acceptable)
- midweek phonecall to students (if possible same sex)
- prepare and care for the name cards (photocopy to foreign servant)
- prayer
- prepare pens/books for students.
- prepare small Birthday gifts
- prepare small snack

b. English teacher (foreigner/local)

- teach 6-7 lessons in unit 1
- midweek phonecall (divide with leader based on sex)
- prayer
- attract students (study English with native speaker)

1 IN THE BEGINNING, GOD CREATED

In this lesson we are “Introducing God” and also introducing ourselves!” The song emphasis is that our knowledge of God comes from the Bible and from nature as interpreted by the Bible.

a.

b. Making of the textbook

In this activity the students will make their own textbook. This activity should be started as soon as the first students arrive for class!

1. *Printed textbook on A3 pages (front and back along with a cover page) to make a single leaf.*
2. *Fold in the middle.*
3. *Cut with sizzors 1cm long cuts (separated by 2.5 cm) along the back of the book.*
4. *Sew the book together starting at the middle.*
5. *Tighten string (one person pulls both ends and another person flicks the string.*
6. *Use a “surgeons knot” to tie the string ends together (knot on outside of book)*
7. *Cut off excess string.*
8. *Tape the back of the book (use 2” wide duct tape)*
9. *Cut off excess tape.*

c. Overview of the course

32 classes

“He who fails to try, will fail to succeed” “He who fails to fail, will fail to succeed.” Many people who are successful have first failed many times. I have failed many times in research but sometimes successful. Try to speak English -- try to answer questions.

d. Teacher introduction

Emphasis on the English level & skill of the local collaborator...

1.2 Game & Conversation : The Beginning class.

a. Choose name from the list if do not have an English name.

b. Game: Hello my name is...

Practice the dialogue inserting their own names

Students introduce themselves to every one in the class, writing their new friend's name on paper. The decision on who is “person A” and who is “person B” is decided by the winner of “Sizzors, paper, stone”. The game is played as follows: Together the 2 players say “Sizzors” and both show sizzors, then together say “paper” and both show “paper”. The third time they both say “stone” and both show stone. Finally, they choose which symbol to show to decide the winner. Stone wins sizzors, sizzors wins paper and paper wins stones.

c.

1.3 Music “File: (elss.xiaotu.com) TheBIBLE”

The B-I-B-L-E

Yes that's the book for me

I stand alone on the word of God,

The B-I-B-L-E

Learn new song procedure:

1. echo key words and make sure students know meaning.
2. echo line by line.
3. sing slowly
4. sing at speed

5.introduce actions

1.4 Filling out forms:

One of the most common and difficult tasks is the filling out of forms -- not only for non-native English speakers but also for native English speakers. Students fill out the name card with help from teachers. For example they can fill out as shown

1.5 Classroom rules

Westerners and Taiwanese have different ideas of politeness. For a Westerner it is very impolite to promise to do something and not to do it. Thus we expect you to try to attend all classes. It is also considered to be very inconsiderate if you miss a meeting and do not tell the host in advance. If the group or class is small, then the other members will wait for the person. This inconveniences everyone. Similarly, it is also very impolite to be late for an appointment or class as the others will wait. To a Westerner, all of the above actions say: "I am more important than you are." In Japan, once the teacher has arrived to start a class, the door is shut. Students may no longer enter the classroom. We will not be that strict in this class but we do expect you to follow the rules.

1.6 Bible

a. Bible reading

1. Any questions

2. Who created the heaven and the earth?

God

3. Think: If someone creates something, whose is the owner?

The creator

1.7 Memory: "In the beginning God created..."

1.8 Application.

God created the universe therefore he is the owner. This implies that land belongs to God – not to us. We are custodians, not owners. If we don't think of possessions as ours, how will it affect our view of life?

2 THE 1ST WEEK

The first week. We see that all God created is good. God likes to create. We could say that this was his hobby. So the conversation emphasis is on hobbies and the song emphasis on the goodness of the creator-God

2.1 Conversation...

2.2 Music: "God is so good"

First review previous week's songs...

God is so good, (3x)

He is so good to me (you, him)

2.3 Bible: The 1st Week

Some of you like to create/make things. that was your hobby. My daughter loves to make things. God also likes to make things.

If God is good, then it makes sense that what he made is good. Lets read about it.

Reading is once or twice by echoing the text.

1. Any questions

2. What did God create on the first day?

Comment: Light=energy. From Big-Bang theory that is the first thing to be created. Note that one of the proposers of Big-Bang theory was a Catholic priest.

3. What did God create on the 3rd day?

Makes sense that God created plants first. Food for fish/birds/animals.

4. What did God create on the sixth day?

Animals and humans. Note that God prepared everything for man before man came. This is confirmed in fossils -- man is the last creation.

5. What is unique about man?

1. Man is in image of God. 2. responsibility, 3. talk to God.

6. Did the man have a job? Did he have work to do?

Important in understanding the role of man in creation is that he is to take care of the creation. Work is part of creation

7. What phrase is repeated?

8. Was the creation good or bad?

This is important point the author wants to get across. God created everything perfect. So we cannot blame God for bad things. God is like a parent who prepares everything for his child – how can the child blame the parent when he rebels and things go wrong?

9. What is man allowed to eat? What is he not allowed to eat?

Students may ask about meat. In Genesis 9, man is given permission to eat meat. Originally this was not so since eating meat requires an animal to die.

10. What is special about the seventh day?

Day God rested. Principle for us “Rest 1 day per week.

11. Chinese character: What do you see in this character that reflects the story?

Light/energy were created first.

2.4 Memory: God saw it was good.

2.5 Application (Choose 1)

- God made everything. --> get to know God. What does he expect of his creation? What does he expect of us?
- 1/7 principle,
- God made everything good. (we can see the key point of an author by what he repeats)
- Man only permitted to eat vegetables --> how does this affect my actions
- Man is in image of God --> how should that affect my actions and view towards others.
- Work is good : Man is made to have work to do.
- Man is responsible to care for nature – plants and animals --> how should that affect my life.

3 THE 1ST MAN AND WOMAN

God created man and woman. Man gave names to the animals. God gave man a place to live. Thus the conversation concentrates on where we live. The song emphasis is the key lesson point that “God made humans.” It is not an accident, it is design.

3.1 Game & Conversation

(Review names) Introduce yourself to every member in the class.

Ask about hometown.

3.2 Music “File: (elss.xiaotu.com) “GodMadeM”

Review previous songs..

God made me (2x)

In my Bible-book it says that...

New Song: Me/You/Him/Her --> point at people

3.3 Bible: Genesis 2

1. *Before God made man, did it rain?*
2. *How were the plants watered?*
3. *What did creature did God decide to make?*
4. *How did he make man?*
5. *What is special about man?*
6. *What did God make for man to live?*
This shows God's care for man.
7. *What was man's job?*
Man had a job --> work is good, it is a gift of God. It is not a result of sin.
8. *In the garden, there were 2 special trees? What were their names?*
9. *Did God allow man to eat fruit from all the trees?*
10. *What did God see that was not good?*
That man was alone.
11. *Did God immediately make a wife for him?*
No
12. *What job did God give Adam to do?*
13. *Why do you think he first asked him to look at animals?*
Man needed to first realize his need for a helpmate before God could provide.
Man needed to first realize that dogs and cats were not suitable helpmates
14. *What method did God choose to use to make Adam's helpmate?*
15. *Why do you think he used this method? Would it not have been simpler just to make woman out of dust?*
Woman is to be one flesh with man – they came from one flesh.
16. *How many wives did God make for Adam?*
One wife.
17. *How many wives did God intend a man to have?*
One
18. *Did God intend for divorce?*
No
19. *Chinese character: What do you see in this character that reflects the story?*

3.4 Memory: Genesis 2:24

3.5 Application

- God made me. --> what are our responsibilities to God?
- Marriage --> number of wives, divorce

- Work --> attitude towards work
- How God works. God knew animals were not suitable for Adam to love, but Adam did not know this, he had to find out. --> sees we have need but must first let us realize before he can meet it.

4 THE 1ST SIN

talk about 1st sin. The learning of people's favorite fruit is to relate to the fact that Adam/Eve ate a forbidden fruit. The song is to emphasis the last 2 weeks -- creation it 7 days, 1 day of rest.

4.1 Game

Name review: Go around and each person say name and say favorite fruit.
Could also play Blame Game (see next week's lesson)

4.2 Music "File: (elss.xiaotu.com) "SundayM"

Review 2 songs.
New song: teach chorus first, [Echo words] explain the meaning of the song.

4.3 Bible Genesis 3

1. *How many special trees were in the garden?*
Two
2. *Did God say: "You may not eat fruit"?*
No he didn't. He said there was 1 tree that they should not eat.
3. *What did God say was the result of eating the fruit?*
Death.
4. *What did the serpent say would be the result of eating the fruit?*
You will be like god. You will not surely die.
5. *Did the woman eat the fruit?*
Yes
6. *When God came, what did the man and woman do?*
7. *What explanation did the man give for disobeying God?*
8. *What explanation did the woman give for disobeying God?*
9. *What was the result of disobedience for the serpent?*
10. *What was the result of disobedience for the woman?*
11. *What was the result of disobedience for the man?*
12. *How did God show his care for the man and woman?*
The animal skins.
The prophecy of the seed.
13. *Chinese character: What do you see in this character that reflects the story?*

4.4 Play act...

4.5 Memory

4.6 Application -- mini-lecture

Thinking question: "God said the people would die." Did they die? What is death? If we think of death = separation, then they died immediately. Separation from God. Separation from each other.

God cares for us even if we do wrong. (animal skins)

God has told us rules that we need to obey. If we disobey then there are consequences of actions. Even if we don't know the rule and break it, then we will still face the consequences. (i.e. Gravity if jump out of window – consider small child does not know the rule. Running on the road. --> if know or don't know rule same consequences). We should be thankful for the Bible. God has told us the rules. We should study the Bible so as David said, "so as not to sin against God."

5 THE 1ST MURDER

A consequence of sin. The game is the blame-game which is what Adam and Eve played with the serpent and the response of Cain (he claimed ignorance -- the last line!). Use to review previous lesson. Song: Amazing Grace. It is really amazing that God did not decide to wipe out mankind but rather sent his son to die. With only the animals, "It was good"

5.1 Blame Game

Purpose: Both this week and last blamed others for sin.

Game: Who took the cookie from the cookie box? (see games)

5.2 Music "Amazing Grace"

Author: John Newton (former slave trader, sailor, Born: July 24, 1725, London, England. Died: December 21, 1807, London, England.)

Publish data: in American hymnals for close to 200 years (first appeared in the Olney Hymns (London,1779) probably the most popular English hymn

See memory. If we repent, despite the evil we do there is forgiveness.

5.3 Bible

1. *What was the name of Adam's wife?*

Eve

2. *What was the name of their first son?*

Cain

3. *What work did he do?*

Grew vegetables and grains

4. *What was the name of their 2nd son?*

Abel

5. *What work did he do?*

Looked after sheep.

6. *What did Cain bring as an offering to God?*

Some Vegetables, grains

7. *Was God happy with Cain's offering?*

No

8. *What did Abel bring as an offering?*

The best of the best of his sheep

9. *Was God happy with Abel's offering?*

Yes

10. *Why do you think God reacted this way?*

Abel brought the best --> shows respect. Cain brought whatever...

11. *What was Cain's reaction?*

Anger. Sulking.

12. What did God tell Cain?

Choose to do good, still time --> your offering can also be accepted.
If choose to not do good and remain angry --> you will sin.

13. Did Cain choose to do good?

No, he did not. As a result he murdered his brother.

14. When God talked to him, did he ask for forgiveness?

No. He left the presence of God.

15. What was the name of Adam and Eve's next boy?

16. What did Seth's family start to do?

Call on God. Contrast to Cain's family.

5.4 Memory "If you do well, won't you be accepted?"

5.5 Application

- True: Adam and Eve learned about evil. They learned evil is not pleasant.
- Sin of parents affects children. (Blame game...)
- Are we more like Cain or like Abel? Do we offer our best or some of our stuff? (I don't like this question – I am afraid of the answer.)
- When God touches us and gives us a chance to repent, how do we respond?
- Warning: if anger in hearts then will develop into evil plan and then evil actions.
- God lets man leave his presence. He talks to Cain twice. Then lets Cain go. We need to be careful.

6 THE 1ST FLOOD: JUSTICE AND MERCY

The Bible story deals with a boat and the fact that God remembered one man. Thus the conversation deals with transportation and the song is one asking God to remember us. The song is an African-American spiritual.

6.1 Game "Battleship" / Conversation: "Transportation"

For a younger crowd you might use the game: "Battleship". (See elss.xiaotu.com under games)

6.2 Music "File: (elss.xiaotu.com) DoLordOh"

Do Lord, Oh Do Lord oh do remember me (3x)

Look away beyond the blue horizon.

I've got a home in glory land that outshines the sun (3x)

Look away beyond the blue horizon.

6.3 Bible: Genesis

- 1. As time went on and there were more people, did people get better and better?*
- 2. Was God happy about this change in man?*
- 3. What did God decide to do?*
- 4. Did God decide to destroy the fish?*
No
- 5. Who found Grace in God's eyes?*
- 6. What type of man was Noah?*
- 7. What did God tell Noah was going to happen to the world?*

8. *What job did God give Noah?*
9. *How many people got on the boat?*
10. *Did Noah obey God?*
11. *Who shut the door?*
God
12. *How long did it rain?*
40 days and nights
13. *Who stopped the rain?*
14. *How long did the earth remain covered with water after the rain stopped?*
15. *What did Noah do after he got off the boat?*
16. *Will God destroy the world again because of man's evil?*
Yes, but only at the end of the world
17. *What did he put in the sky to represent this promise?*
18. *What 4 commands did God give Noah?*
19. *What job did God give man?*
Similar to the creation as given to Adam.
20. *How does man's responsibilities differ from that of Adam?*
Same
21. *What is man allowed to eat?*
May eat meat but not meat with blood. Permission does not equal must eat.
22. *How does this differ from Adam?*
Adam was a vegetarian. Idea: Man can survive on vegetables
23. *If a person kills another person, what is man to do?*
24. *Why does this only apply to man (i.e. Not animals)?*
25. *What phase is repeated twice?*
To repeat something means to emphasize. i.e. God saw that it was good.
26. *Prepare a skit of this passage.*
27. *Think: Some people say: "It would not be possible to take 2 whales on the ship. They are too big". How do you answer?*
Yes, you are right it would be difficult. But God never said he would destroy fish!
28. *Chinese character: What do you see in this character that reflects the story?*
8 people in boat.
29. *Think: These 4 commands. Who do they apply to you?*
a) Ie only to Noah and his sons, b) to man in general (all times and places) c) to man (but only at certain times) d)to me today. If so, then how apply?
Catholic church --> reason for no birth control, protestants-->command has been fulfilled. Should a Christian use birth control? Should their be capital punishment?

6.4 Memory

6.5 Application

- God gave people time to repent.
- God does not give infinite time (sometime it will be too late: God shut the door.)

- --> God's love is demonstrated in giving us time to repent. But we should not be complacent. --> Am I complacent?
- Noah obeyed God doing everything God said. (2x) --> God wants total obedience. --> Am I obeying God totally?
- Some people think people are getting better and better --> it does not seem so...
- Chinese characters....
- Our Eating habits
- Death Penalty.

7 THE 1ST VINEYARD

In this section the Bible story deals with drinking and respect for parents. The conversation is related as the person is asked whether or not they wish to drink a beer. The song "Be careful little eyes". Two brothers were careful about what their eyes saw while the third brother was not. The result is blessing and curse (memory verse)...

7.1 Conversation: "Can I get you a drink?"

Two scenes conversation to follow depends on who wins "Sizzors, Stone, Paper". If stone wins then can choose conversation. There are 2 key teaching points related to politeness. In the first conversation, the person who does not want to drink explains why and offers an alternative so as not to offend the person who is offering. (If however, you do not want to talk more to the person, you could just say "No, thank you") In the 2nd conversation, the person gives the choice of two options so as not to inconvenience the host (this would be the case if the person asks for coffee at a house that only drinks tea). If the host has both beverages available, he may then say, "We have both, which do you prefer?" At that point you may make your preference known. If he has only one, the host may reply, "OK, lets have a pot of tea."

7.2 Music "File: (elss.xiaotu.com) OBeCare"

*Oh be careful little eyes what you see (2x)
For the father up above is looking down in love
(ears hear, hands touch, feet walk, heart loves, mind thinks)*

7.3 Bible: Genesis 9

Today's story is about people who were and were not careful with their eyes.

- 1. How many sons did Noah have?**
- 2. What were the names of Noah's sons?**
- 3. Whose son was Canaan?**
- 4. Are you a descendent of one of Noah's 3 sons?**
- 5. What was Noah's job?**
- 6. What was he the first person to do?**
- 7. What was the result of drinking wine?**
Noah became drunk. So he was the first man to get drunk. Amazing how fast man can find a bad use for a good thing!
- 8. Where was the drunk Noah?**
In his tent. He was naked.
- 9. Who saw his father naked?**
- 10. What did he do?**
- 11. Was this a good think to do?**

No!, Very bad. Seems he laugh at his father. He does not respect his father.

12. *What did his brothers do when Ham told them about their father?*

Put a blanket over him.

13. *Did they look at their father?*

14. *When Noah woke up and found out what happened, what did he do?*

Cursed Canaan, Ham's son.

Blessed the God of Shem, Japheth.

15. *Compare and contrast the sins of Adam and Eve and that of Ham.*

Both were not respectful of their fathers.

7.4 Memory

7.5 Application.

- Grapes are good. Wine is good. Amazing how fast man can do a shameful thing with something good. The man who discover how to make wine is the first to misuse it!
- From people's reactions can see heart: 2 sons respected their father. 1 son did not.
- A godly man's children may not be godly. Noah was a Godly man, as where 2 of his children.
- Respect for Father/Mother is very important in the Bible. Lack of respect yields serious consequences. Do we respect our parents? From my experience in Taiwan, I have found a surprising lack of respect for parents among young people, even Christians.
- Discuss: What does it mean to respect our parents?
- Some people may ask: "Why was Canaan and his children cursed when the sin seems to be his father?" Actions of parents affect children. Adam sinned and we feel the consequences.

8 THE 1ST ORGANIZED REBELLION

This is a story of the building of a tower and the start of languages. As such our conversation deals with language and the song deals with construction and building.

8.1 Conversation: "Can you speak English?"

8.2 Music "File: (elss.xiaotu.com) WiseMan"

The wise (foolish) man built his house upon the rock (sand) (3x)

And the rains came tumbling down.

The rains came down and the floods came up (3x)

and the house on the rock (sand) stood (fell) firm (flat)

8.3 Bible: Genesis 11

1. *How many languages did people speak?*

1

2. *Did the people go to different places?*

No, they stayed together and moved east.

3. *Where did they decide to settle?*

A plain.

4. *What did they decide to do?*

Make a city and tower.

5. *Why did they want to make a tower?*

- To be famous – honour themselves, not God.

- To get to heaven by man's own efforts, not by trusting God.
- To avoid being scattered.

6. *What did God think about the people's actions?*

He was concerned about what people would do next. Already they are rebelling together against God.

7. *What did God do?*

Created different languages.

8. *What was the final result for the people?*

Scattered. One goal of making the tower was so not to be scattered.

9. *Chinese character. What do you see in this character that reflects the story?*

Man 1 language.

Earth + grass --> bricks.

8.4 Memory

Basis of trying to make a name for myself is pride. God hates pride.

8.5 Application

Learn about God: God does not like pride.

- Am I proud?
- Review the Chinese characters from beginning.....

9 REVIEW LESSON

This is a key lesson. 1) Reviews all the conversation allowing student to have a 3-4 minute polite conversation. 2) Review all songs -- teacher emphasis the key points. 3) Review that God is the creator, the creation was good, man is responsible for evil entering the world -- causing pain and death not only to self but also to all creation 4) Man's rebellion continued. 5) God showed mercy to those who found his favor by seeking him. 6) God's idea of evil may not be the same as ours. ie respect for parents. 7) our heart continually seeks evil.

9.1 Conversation: Review from beginning, put together.

9.2 Music: Review all songs.

9.3 Bible: Lesson by lesson

9.4 Memory: John 3:16

Unit 2: God Chooses a People

10 ABRAHAM: THE FATHER OF FAITH

Today we talk of a man honoured by Jews, Christians and Muslims as the “Father of Faith”. As such in the conversation deals with the issue of religious belief. The music also discusses this man's life.

10.1 Conversation: “Do you believe in God?”

10.2 Music “The God of Abraham Praise”

10.3 Bible: Genesis 11-13

Key points in this lesson:

“God will bless Abraham. All the world will be blessed because of God's blessing of Abraham.”

Repeated 2X in the Bible. --> blessing is not just for self. 2nd promise of the messiah (recall Geneses chapter 2--seed of woman, now the ultimate blessing is focused to descend from Abraham and Sarah)

Faith --> righteousness. Not works --> righteousness.

Note the sequence: God chooses, Man responds in faith, God declares righteous, Man responds with good works

Comment: The culture of the day required a childless wife to supply another lady for her husband to provide a son.

bi

10.4 Memory:

10.5 Application:

11 ISAAC: THE PROMISED SON

Abraham/Isaac can be seen as a type of God/Jesus. The difference is that Jesus actually died. Trust and obey. Isaac trusted. Abraham trusted and obeyed and received the blessing.

11.1 Conversation:

11.2 Music: “Trust and Obey”

Words: John H. Sammis, 1887. Music: Daniel B. Towner. This song gives a simple, clear explanation of living the Christian life. The title expression was used in a testimony meeting, following an evangelistic crusade in Brockton, Massachusetts, by Dwight L. Moody. A young man stood to speak, and it soon became clear he knew little Christian doctrine. But he finished by saying, “I'm not quite sure, but I'm going to trust, and I'm going to obey.” Daniel Towner, who was in the meeting, jotted down the words, and gave them to John Sammis, who developed the lyrics from them. (Ref: <http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/t/r/trstobey.htm>)

11.3 Bible

Blessing is stated again: it is not just for Abraham but in order to bless the whole world

This is a strange story. In science when we see something strange we want to investigate, we are curious. From the “strange data point” we can often learn alot.

Mount Moriah: At this place, 2000 years later, Jesus would die.

12 JACOB: FATHER OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

12.1 Conversation:

12.2 Music: Review

12.3 Bible

This is a strange story. Why did God favor Jacob and not Esau? There does not seem to be any answer. The only reason we can see here is that he despised his birthright.

- Note the importance of “the blessing”
- birthright: the title to the blessing of the promise that God had given Abraham + leadership of the family.
- blessing: leadership of the family.

1. *What do you think it means when it says: “Isaac was a man of peace.”?*

2. *Why do you think that God favored Jacob over Esau?*

Jacob valued the blessing while Esau did not.

13 JOSEPH: GOD TURNS EVIL INTO GOOD

Joseph is interesting as a type for Christ. He is one of the few men in the Bible of whom you do not hear of him doing anything wrong or evil. In his life we see the start of the fulfillment of God's blessing: Abraham's seed blesses the nation of Egypt.

13.1 Pronunciation Practice

L and R. different meaning of love. One's children are often referred to as “little ones”

13.2 Music: “This Little Light of Mine”

Joseph let his light shine. Although bad things happened to him, he still looked to God.

13.3 Bible

Joseph is about 20 at time of sexual temptation. How many 20 year old's would say NO to a beautiful lady?

1. *What is Joseph's attitude towards sin?*

Sin is primarily against God. Secondarily against my fellow man.

2. *Did Joseph claim to be able to interpret dreams when asked by the king?*

No, he gave the glory to God. It was God who gave the interpretation not himself.

3. *How was Joseph's dream fulfilled?*

13.4 Application

1. *(Non-Christian) Following God does not mean that one is protected from suffering or troubles.*

God will be with us. He will do his will. Becoming a Christian is not a way to have an easy life.

2. *Sin is primarily against God. Not against one's fellow man.*

3. *All things work together for good for those that love God.*

If God is with us, all things will work together for good. However in the short term it may not be

4. *(Christian) How do I react to adverse situations?*

Do I blame God or accept them. God was with Joseph and he was careful to follow God and not

sin. Joseph had the attitude that was in Christ Jesus (Philippians 2)

5. *God promised to bless the world through Abraham's seed. How does this fulfill this blessing?*

13.5 Memory

14 MOSES: GOD SETS THE CAPTIVES FREE

14.1 Pronunciation

See if your partner can identify which word you are saying!

14.2 Music: "The Horse and Rider"

14.3 Bible

1. *Could the magicians remove the frogs from the land?*

No. They could cause the disaster but they couldn't stop it!

This marks the turning point. For the first miracles the magicians could also do them so the king was not too concerned.

2. *What was the next plague?*

3. *Could the magicians do the same?*

4. *What was their conclusion?*

5. *Did the king listen?*

15 MOSES: GOD GIVES THE LAW

15.1 Music: Shema

The most important thing for all Jewish children to remember. A little like memorizing The Confucious Lunyu.

15.2 Bible

a. Shema

1. *What are the Israelites to know about God?*

There is only 1 God.

2. *What are their responsibilities towards this God?*

(1) love, (2) learn/memorize & obey his laws, (3) teach their children.

3. *How are they to teach?*

Naturally, at all opportunities. Not classroom but always looking for a teaching moment.

4. *Who is responsible for the teaching?*

Parents not school.

b. Middle

1. *What is the promise for obedience?*

Rain. Very important for a farming nation. No rain, no food.

2. *What is the danger he asks them to be aware of?*

Forget God when rich.

3. Do poor or rich people tend to forget God?

People call to God when they have trouble they cannot handle. When things go well they tend to forget God.

c. Decalogue

This is the “10 commandments” posted on many schools in the USA and considered the basis for Western Law

1. On what basis can God ask them to follow these commandments?

He redeemed them from Egypt.

2. What is the nature of the 1st three commandments?

Respect God.

3. What is the nature of the 4th commandment?

Respect self – God's design for your body requires rest.

4. What is the nature of the last 6 commandments?

Respect for others.

5. How is does the 4th commandment act as a bridge between the first 3 and last 6?

Respect for God as God rested. Respect for self. Respect for your workers(ie those weaker than you.)

6. The last six commandments seem to be in order of most serious to least serious. (honor father /mother, murder, adultery, stealing, false witness, coveting. Do you agree? How does this relate to Chinese culture?

7. The most serious is “honor your father and mother.” How do we do this?

15.3 Comments

- Jewish people are famous for their education and the great thinkers (Einstein, Marx). Likely due to the commands of the Shema. This result in universal education. In most societies only the children of the leading class might learn to read. Even Jesus, a poor boy, was taught to read!
- Seems to be true, when people are in trouble they think of God, when things going well, they forget God.
- How do we honour our parents? Burial in ground and not cremation a sign of honour?

16 FORTY YEARS

17 JOSHUA: ENTERING THE PROMISED LAND

17.1 Music: Joshua won the battle of Jericho

17.2 Bible

1. What condition was there on the people's promise to obey Joshua?

He obeyed God.

2. What does the stopping of the Jordan river remind you of?

Crossing of Red Sea

3. Why do you think God did this miracle?

So peopel have confidence that God is with Joshua.

4.

17.3 Application

- When God's judgment comes it is severe. The people had 400 years to repent from when Abraham was there.
- The people followed God and God gave them victory.
- Holy war
- Rahab : God's mercy. Only a prostitute survives.

18 REVIEW: PASSEVER SEDAR

Unit 3 : Learning about God through his dealings with a nation.

19 JUDGES: REBELLION & GOD'S MERCY

20 SAMUEL: THE LAST JUDGE

This is the last of the judges. During his life, the people demanded and received their first king. This week we will start to memorize a Psalm that was written by David. This is the most famous of the Psalms

20.1 Bible Study:

a. The birth of Samuel

1. *What was Hannah's problem?*

No children. A disgrace. God did not let her have children (worldview: God is responsible for everything)

2. *What did she promise to God?*

If child, she would not cut his hair. He would serve God.

3. *Who was Eli?*

The Priest

4. *What did the priest think?*

She was drunk.

5. *Why do you think he thought she was drunk?*

She was so sad in crying and earnestly praying.

6. *What did Hannah name her child?*

7. *Why did she give him this name?*

8. *What do we learn about God?*

God takes pity on those who pray to him.

b. The Young Samuel

1. *Why was God angry with Eli's sons?*

Sons stole from offering.

Slept with worshipers

2. *How was Samuel's actions?*
3. *Did Samuel immediately recognize God's voice?*
4. *Who did he think was calling him?*
5. *How many times did God call?*
6. *What was God's message?*
7. *Why did God decide to destroy Eli's family?*
Despite being warned they did not change.
8. *How did the people know Samuel was a prophet?*
- actions
- what he said came true
9. *Did people listen to Samuel?*
10. *What do we learn about God?*
He will not tolerate his name being disgraced.
11. *How can we recognize a prophet?*

c. God's judgment

1. *What is the scene?*
2. *What did they bring to the battlefield?*
3. *Why did they do it?*
4. *What was the effect? Who was afraid?*
5. *Who won the battle?*
6. *Who died?*
Eli, and his sons.
7. *What happened to the ark?*
Captured.
8. *The enemies were punished by God for taking the ark. What did they do to see if it really was a punishment from God?*
9. *What happened?*

d. Serving God

1. *The people cried to God. What did Samuel say they must do if God is to help?*
Put away idols, false gods. Worship only God.
2. *What was the people's response?*
3. *What was God's response?*
4. *If we want God to help us what must we do?*

e. Samuel is old

1. *Were Samuel's sons good like their father?*
2. *Who was unhappy?*
3. *What did the people want?*
4. *Was Samuel happy?*
5. *What did God say?*

6. *What can we learn about family?*
Good father does not mean good son.

20.2 Application

21 SAUL: THE FIRST KING

22 DAVID: A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

23 SOLOMAN

24 ELIJAH/ELISHA

25 JOB

26 JEREMIAH

27 REVIEW

Unit 4 : Coming to God through the Son

28 BIRTH

29 BAPTISM

30 FIRST MIRACLE

31 POWER & AUTHORITY TO HEAL & TO FORGIVE SIN

32 POWER & AUTHORITY OVER NATURE

33 POWER & AUTHORITY IN SPIRITUAL WORLD

34 DEATH

35 RESURRECTION

**36 SUMMARY OF TEACHING
Unit 5A : Early witnesses**

37 PETER

38 STEPHEN

39 PAUL

40 JOHN

Unit 5B : The End Times

41 VISIONS OF DANIEL

42 THE END OF MAN

43 RETURN OF JESUS

44 FINAL JUDGMENT

45 REVIEW

Music

Michael row your boat ashore

Jordan River is swift and deep,
Chills the body by not the soul.
Michael's boat is steady and strong
Jesus is our captain and guide
He will get us o'er the other the side
There we will meet the God of all.

Swing low, sweet chariot,
Coming for to carry me home

I looked over Jordan and what did I see
Coming for to carry me home
A band of angels coming after me,
Coming for to carry me home.

If you get to heaven before I do
Coming for to carry me home
Please wait for me, cause I'm a coming too,
Coming for to carry me home