

Hello — and thanks for taking a look at my work!

My name is Rich Kurz and I am an experienced graphics design professional. My philosophy has grown simpler through the years. Good design is not about me, but about us. I want to do good work that serves the needs of my client and that I am proud to put in my portfolio. This pdf shows some of my capabilities.

**Note that all concepts and original drawings are owned by Through the Bible Publishers. The images in this document are my own and are under copyright to Rich Kurz.**

The challenge was taking the DiscipleLand Sunday School sequence for 2nd graders and creating a visual progression tied to it. All six elementary grades used a set of cartoon children created by the artist Rob Lassiter. Budgets are tight of course, so I would create the backgrounds and desktop publish it all together.

The 2nd grade fourth unit (2D) presented the gospel as a message beginning with salvation and progressing to living a life producing the fruit of the Spirit. With all that in mind, I art directed a journey adventure covering 10 lessons. Rob's characters advance from the lowlands towards a mountain. It requires the cross to traverse a canyon. They arrive at the distant mountain and scale it. At the top, they discover not the setting sun, but a shining tree of spiritual fruit. The backgrounds would be mine and Rob's art would interact with it. So both the lesson and the art would have a progression, the art reinforcing the idea of a life progression and adventure in its own subtle way.

The last two pages show the same approach used for a 1st-grade level set of lessons. This time, we were using village life in the time of Jesus as the setting for each week's lesson. For this set, I used one wide, continuous scene and shifted as the background.

Deliverables: 2-page spreads, 8-1/2"×11", full color, created in Illustrator

I am available to discuss *your* design, illustration, marketing, and advertising needs. Let's talk!



Rich Kurz





# AWESOME ADVENTURE

## My New Life with Jesus Christ

ages 9-12



by Karl & Sara Bastian



For additional discipleship materials, visit: [www.ThroughTheBible.com](http://www.ThroughTheBible.com) or call 800-284-0158.

AAAS "Awesome Adventure"



Website: [www.ThroughTheBible.com](http://www.ThroughTheBible.com)  
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## In-Depth Bible Training for Children

Through The Bible Publishers  
 1111 Riverside Avenue  
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Dear Christian Educator,

This **DiscipleLand Sampler** has been carefully prepared to equip you and your team to make an informed decision. We want to join hands with you in growing Christ-like children who will display His love and forgiveness to all people everywhere.

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In the magnificent Jesus,

*Mark Steiner*  
 Mark Steiner, Th.M.  
 President



# AWESOME ADVENTURE

## My New Life with Jesus Christ

by Karl "the Kidologist" & Sara Bastian

A unique and powerful tool for discipling kids and follow-up of new Christians. Students and teachers will love this introduction to the basics of the Christian faith. Twelve lessons combine 3-D graphics (3-D glasses are included) with lots of Scripture and activities.

**Awesome Adventure** can be used by kids individually, with a mentor, or in a class setting.

- Follow-up kids who have recently received Christ.
- Use in a "foundations" class or mentoring situation.
- Teach in combined-age elementary classes.
- Use as a family devotion/discussion guide.

A free sample lesson is available at [www.ThroughTheBible.com](http://www.ThroughTheBible.com)



Help children discover that they have an...

- Awesome Power!
- Awesome Purpose!
- Awesome Life!
- Awesome Team!



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# The Barrier

The Apostle John spent three years living with Jesus and learning from Him. He wrote a letter to explain what it means to be God's friend.

With his own **ears**, John \_\_\_\_\_ about the way to God.

With his own **eyes**, John \_\_\_\_\_ about the way to God.

With his own **hands**, John \_\_\_\_\_ the way to God.

With his own **mouth**, John \_\_\_\_\_ the way to God.



Why did John tell others about the one way to become friends with God (1:3-4)?

What do you learn from these verses about John?





**Remember...** God is holy and loving.

But a huge sin barrier separates people from God. God sent Jesus, who died to bridge the sin barrier.

**How can people cross over the bridge?**

**Read 1 John 2:18-23.**

Loving the "world" is wrong because Satan (also called "antichrist") rules the world system.

### Beware of "Antichrists"

- \_\_\_\_\_ They try to lead Christians away from the truth.
- \_\_\_\_\_ They pretend to be Christians.
- \_\_\_\_\_ They deny that Jesus is from God.

**2:19    2:22    2:26**

"Anti" means "against."  
Anti-christ refers to any person who opposes Christ or pretends to be Him. Many antichrists will come to deceive people before the final antichrist comes.

In the end, Jesus will cast the antichrist and all his followers into the lake of fire. (See Revelation 20:7-15.)



**Christians have a special "anointing" who helps them resist antichrists...**

**...the Holy Spirit**

- He shows Christians the difference between \_\_\_\_\_ and error (2:20-21).
- He keeps Christians from being \_\_\_\_\_ (2:26).
- He lives inside Christians and \_\_\_\_\_ about all things, especially how to remain loyal to God (2:27).



The Holy Spirit indwells (lives in) Christians and helps us remain loyal to God. He helps us choose to love God rather than to love the world.

The Holy Spirit helps us pass God's "test."

Do you sometimes have trouble not loving things in the world? **Yes** **No**

**In prayer, ask God to help you love Him more than anything in the world.**



**God's Test  
1 John 2:15**



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# Sampler



Through the Bible Publishers

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*Flourish in the fertile soil of a Bible times culture. Experience the customs, worship, and lifestyle of ancient families and communities.*

## Family Life

Unit Bible Reading: Mark 1-3

**A** Skill: Manners Matter to God



Travel back two thousand years and live with a Bible times family. Wear their clothes. Eat their food. Recognize that God's desire for families to love and care for each other stays the same throughout history.

## Life at Work

Unit Bible Reading: Mark 4-7

**B** Skill: My Amazing Mind



Observe people who use their special talents for God. Discern truths as your hands plunge into the potter's clay, plant tender seeds in the farmer's soil and take part in many other Bible times occupations.

## Life with God

Unit Bible Reading: Mark 8-11

**C** Skill: Worshipping God



Come to know, respect and love God as you join ancient Jewish feasts, festivals and worship practices. Discover how faith in God drew families together and influenced daily living just as it does today.

## Village Life

Unit Bible Reading: Mark 12-16

**D** Skill: N.T. Book Names



Participate in the activities of a close-knit community—uniting hearts, minds, and spirits in all facets of life. Experience this strong bond as you enjoy "living" in a Bible times village.

# 1

LEVEL

ages 6-8

Discovering  
Bible Times







# Our Need



All people need \_\_\_\_\_  
All people want to have fellowship with God.

"Fellowship" means being together and doing things \_\_\_\_\_  
Fellowship means being friends.

Though everyone knows about God, all people do not know God. All people do not have fellowship with God.

A **huge** **BARRIER** separates \_\_\_\_\_ all people from \_\_\_\_\_ God.

The barrier is \_\_\_\_\_

The barrier is so **huge** that *no one* can go over it, *no one* can go through it, *no one* can go around it, and *no one* can go under it.

The barrier is **impossible** to cross. **No one** can reach God without God's help.

Why is it impossible to reach God on your own?



# Light and Darkness

Read 1 John 1:5-7. **Circle** the right answers.

With God, there is no **darkness** **light** at all.

People who have fellowship with God walk in the **darkness** **light**.

People without God walk in the **darkness** **light**.

People who walk in the light have fellowship with **no one** God other believers.

People who walk in the light are **guilty of** **purified from** sins.



## If-If-If

Complete each "if" statement below with one of these words.

**truth** **purified** **liar** **forgiven**

1 If I claim to be without sin, I am lacking \_\_\_\_\_ (1:8).

2 If I confess my sins, they are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (1:9).

3 If I claim to have not sinned, I am calling Jesus a \_\_\_\_\_.



The Barrier  
1 John 1:8

3

## Remember...

God is holy and loving.  
All people want to be friends with God.  
But a sin barrier separates people from God.

### People who know God:

\_\_\_\_\_ His commands (2:3)  
walk as \_\_\_\_\_ did (2:6)  
love their \_\_\_\_\_ (2:10).

### People who **DON'T** know God:

do \_\_\_\_\_ obey His commands (2:4)  
\_\_\_\_\_ their brother (2:9).  
walk in the \_\_\_\_\_ (2:11)

God sent His only Son, Jesus, to die for our sins. Jesus became our substitute. His blood satisfied God. Jesus' death became the **only** bridge from God to man.

## How can People Reach God?

What are some ways that people try to cross the barrier to God?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Jesus is the **only way** to God. He is the **only One** who forgives sins.

Do you believe that Jesus died to forgive your sins?

Ask a parent or teacher how you can be sure that Jesus has forgiven you.



God's Bridge  
1 John 2:12

7

6







### Remember . . .

James wrote about "faith." Christians joyfully face trials with faith, knowing that God uses trials to make them strong. Their genuine faith always leads to good deeds! Christians treat everyone fairly, never showing favoritism.

Read James 3:6-12.

Circle all the **good** things about the tongue.

makes great boasts (3:5)

is a fire (3:6)

is a "world of evil" (3:6)

corrupts the whole person (3:6)

is set on fire by hell (3:6)

is untamable (3:8)

is a restless evil (3:8)

is full of deadly poison (3:8)

praises our Lord and Father (3:9)

curses men (3:9)



James 3:13-18 describes two kinds of wisdom.

### EARTHLY

Earthly "wisdom" comes from \_\_\_\_\_ (3:15).

Name a person who has earthly wisdom (3:14-16).

### HEAVENLY

Heavenly "wisdom" comes from \_\_\_\_\_ (1:5).

Name a person who has heavenly wisdom (3:17-18).



God's wisdom steers us from dangerous words. It prevents our tongues from spreading poison. Only God's wisdom can bridle an out-of-control tongue. In God's hands the tongue becomes a wonderful tool.

In prayer, dedicate your tongue to God.



Ask God for His wisdom and help  
in your areas of struggle.

Faith and Words  
James 3:10







# Faith and Judgment

Read James 5:1-6.

Jesus will return to judge everyone's deeds.

Draw what you think the judgment  
of believers' works will be like.



What will happen to earthly possessions  
at the judgment (5:2-3)?

In the judgment, God will honor those who are

**generous**

**greedy**.







### Remember . . .

James wrote about "faith." Genuine faith always leads to good deeds! Christians treat everyone fairly, never showing favoritism. God's friends gladly trade their own desires for what God desires.

### Read James 5:7-16.

James wanted God's friends to know how to wait patiently for the Lord's return.

What should we do or not do?

5:7 \_\_\_\_\_

5:9 \_\_\_\_\_

5:12 \_\_\_\_\_

5:13 \_\_\_\_\_

5:16 \_\_\_\_\_

In the judgment, God will honor those who are

**patient**      **complainers** .



### Read James 5:17-20.

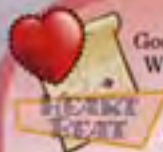
What happened when Elijah prayed?

Why?

What can happen when you pray?

In the judgment, God will honor those who

**pray hard**      **hardly pray** .



God keeps track of everything we do. When Jesus returns, He will judge believers according to our deeds on earth. Jesus will destroy every earthly possession and judge all our selfish deeds. But Jesus will also reward everything we do in faith.

To demonstrate your love for God, circle one of these to do this week:

- 1 Use money or earthly possessions to help someone in need.
- 2 Avoid grumbling or judging others at home, school, and church.
- 3 Pray every day for the personal needs of someone you know every day.



**4** Worship God with your whole heart.      **Faith and Judgment**

*James 5:16*









# 6 LEVEL

ages 11-14

Walking  
with God

Develop the skills of Bible study, personal devotions and Christ-centered living. Count the costs and experience the joys of being Christ's disciple.

## Bringing the Bible to Life

**Unit** Bible Reading: Jonah

**A**

**Skill:** O.T. Themes, Genesis — Ezra

Discover the exciting adventure of personal Bible study! Carefully observe, interpret and apply Biblical principles to your own life. Be astonished with the depth and treasures in God's Word.

## God—Up Close and Personal

**Unit** Bible Reading: 1 Samuel, Psalms, Philippians

**B**

**Skill:** O.T. Themes, Nehemiah — Daniel

Encounter God one-on-one. Become aware of His presence as you dialogue with Him and keep a journal of your times together. Commune daily with God and enjoy His life-changing power.

## Wanted: Dead and Alive

**Unit** Bible Reading: Psalms 79-101

**C**

**Skill:** O.T. Themes, Hosea — Malachi

Explore how to reflect Christ's character. Find genuine fulfillment and freedom as you "take up your cross," are "crucified with Christ," "walk by faith," and "die to self." Expect more of God—and yourself.

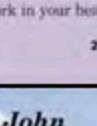
## After God's Own Heart

**Unit** Bible Reading: 1 Samuel 16—2 Samuel 24

**D**

**Skill:** Bible Mastery

Experience the fascinating life of David, a "man after God's own heart." Observe how David trusted God through impossible circumstances. Make wise choices based on principles from David's life. Watch God work in your heart.



# The Bible, My Compass

The Barrier

God's Bridge

God's Test

God's Children

God's Spirit

God's Gift

Faith and Trials

Faith and Deeds

Faith and Words

Faith and Desires

Faith and Judgment

Love and Truth



## 2 John & 3 John

# Love and Truth

Read 2 John 1-6.

How can Christians walk in love (verse 6)?



Read 2 John 7-13.

What does John warn Christians about (verses 7-11)?







Read 3 John 1-8.

What does John say about truth in verse 4?

How can Christians walk in truth?



Read 3 John 9-14.

John wrote about someone who was causing trouble in the church. Write the verse number beside the trouble.

- \_\_\_\_\_ talked badly about others
- \_\_\_\_\_ loved to be "first"
- \_\_\_\_\_ didn't welcome other Christians

Write in your own words what God wants you to know about **love** (2 John 6).

Sign your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Write in your own words what God wants you to know about **truth** (3 John 4).

Sign your name: \_\_\_\_\_



God loves all Christians and wants the best for them.

How can you show your love to God this week?

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_



Review 5 verses:

James 1:2-3, James 2:26, James 3:10, James 4:7, James 5:16

### Forever Fruitful Galatians 5:24-25



Anyone can decide to live by a list of rules for a period of time.



When the Holy Spirit dwells within, He changes our desires. We please God, and we bear spiritual fruit.

List each aspect of the Spirit's fruit from Galatians 5:22-23.

- |         |         |
|---------|---------|
| 1 _____ | 6 _____ |
| 2 _____ | 7 _____ |
| 3 _____ | 8 _____ |
| 4 _____ | 9 _____ |
| 5 _____ |         |

Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to continue bearing spiritual fruit in your life.





Draw Naaman when he was proud and sick.

Draw Naaman when he was humble and well.

(Before)



(After)



# Health & Healing

God helped His people stay healthy in Bible times.

They did not eat certain (dofos)

**foods**

They took a day of (sret)

**rest**

was cle

every week.

They (hwedas)

**washed**

after touching dirty things.

They made sure their drinking (trewa)

**water**



# Healing an Injury

Dee fell down and skinned her knee. Show what her knee looked like...



that day



three days later



one week later

How did her knee get better?



When you are sick or hurt, who heals you?

doctors **God** medicine therapy



Recite the names of all 27 New Testament books. Can you repeat their names by heart? **yes / no**



I read (or someone helped me read) Mark 15:1-15. Match the name of each person with the correct title.

Pilate ~~the King of the Jews~~ a prisoner  
 Jesus ~~the Roman governor~~  
 Barabbas ~~a prisoner~~