

BEGINNER BIBLE TEACHER +

For Teachers of Children Ages 4 & 5



WINTER | December
2026-27 | January
February

Beginner Bible Teacher⁺

WINTER QUARTER

December 2026, January, February 2027

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Dear Beginner Teacher,

Welcome to *Beginner Bible Teacher*! As witnesses for Christ in a changing world, we have to think creatively about how we minister, while still holding firmly to the Word of Truth.

Our Plus Series contains robust Bible lessons and background information that have been clearly crafted to help you excite your students to learn God's Word.

***Beginner Bible Teacher*⁺ features:**

- **Introductory pages** for each unit will connect the units to one another and point toward the quarter's major themes.
- The **Big Idea** is the main point of the lesson. This helps you focus your lesson on the one thing you want your students to take away about God and His Word.
- **Prepare Your Mind** and **Prepare Your Heart** will ready you to teach with background information and a short devotional.
- **Supplies, Suggested Song**, and **Prepare the Room** give you all the practical information you need to prepare for class time.
- A **glossary** section keys you in to words in the lesson that may be difficult to understand for young students.
- The **Conversation Starter** is an interesting question or object lesson that helps you kick off your class and get your students invested in the lesson. It will always tie in with the first part of the Bible lesson.
- **Teacher Tips** in the lesson will give you quick tips to involve your students or deal with difficult subject matter.
- **Just Curious** prepares you to respond to questions students might ask about the lesson.
- **Prop Prompt** symbols notify you when to use a prop listed in the supply list at the beginning of the lesson. All props and supplies are in **bold** the first time they appear.
- **Action** symbols help you see opportunities to invite your class to take part in the lesson.
- **Activities** get your students' wiggles out while thinking about the lesson.
- **Review Questions** will test your students' comprehension of the lesson.
- **Next Steps** help your students apply the lesson to their lives.
- **Prayer Points** give teachers some prompts for ways to pray for the students.
- The **Christ Focus** encourages thought about how the Scripture passage and lesson point to our loving Savior.
- **Bonus pages** for you and your students will be included each quarter as supplements in the back of this book.

KEY:

Teacher Tips



Just Curious



Prop Prompts



Actions



December 6, 2026

Lesson 1

THE LORD'S LOVE

Lesson Text: Lamentations 3:1-3, 19-39

"[God's] compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:22-23).

 **BIG IDEA:** In sad or scary times, God's love gave His people hope.



- The people in Jerusalem were sad because they had lost their homes.
- One person had hope because he remembered God's love.
- God's love is amazing; it never stops and never changes.

MEMORY HELPER



Just like hugs make us feel safe, God helps us feel safe. God is powerful and His love is forever and ever.



CHRIST FOCUS

Jesus showed God's love for all people everywhere so that we can all have hope in Him.



Beginner Bible Learner* • 3

Here's a peek at features of the *Beginner Bible Learner*®:

- A **lesson recap** summarizes the lesson in language beginners can easily understand.

- The **Memory Helper** reminds students of something interesting in the Bible lesson that will help them remember the Big Idea.

- The **coloring page** is bigger than ever to make it easier for little hands to color.

- **Talk About It** connects with Next Steps and cues parents or caregivers in on how they can help their children apply the lesson throughout the week.

- Each page is perforated, so it is easy to rip out and take home!

TALK ABOUT IT

Ask your child about what makes him or her feel safe and loved.

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UNIT 1:

Love Sends a Savior

Lesson 1: Lamentations 3:1-3, 19-39

The Lord's Love

Lesson 2: Isaiah 62:1-12

Salvation for Zion

Lesson 3: John 1:1-14

Light of the World (Christmas)

Lesson 4: John 3:1-21

Born Again

God's love can be difficult to fathom. Children may understand love. Maybe they have parents, close friends, or family members who genuinely care for them. But God's love goes far deeper. It is essential to inform your students about the greatness of God's love—His compassion that runs so deep that He came to earth for us. He loved us so much that He was willing to live the life of a human, which can be very hard. But even more than that, Jesus also suffered and died an excruciating death for us on the cross. Because of what He did for us, we can experience His deep love forever in heaven.



The Lord's Love

Lamentations 3:1-3, 19-39

Lesson 1

December 6, 2026



[God's] compassions fail not. They are new every morning:
great is thy faithfulness (Lamentations 3:22-23).



Big Idea: In sad or scary times, God's love gave His people hope.

LAMENTATIONS 3:1 I *am* the man *that* hath seen affliction by the rod of his wrath.

2 He hath led me, and brought *me into* darkness, but not *into* light.

3 Surely against me is he turned; he turneth his hand *against me* all the day.

19 Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the worm-wood and the gall.

20 My soul hath *them* still in remembrance, and is humbled in me.

21 This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope.

22 *It is of* the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.

23 *They are* new every morning: great *is* thy faithfulness.

24 The LORD *is* my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him.

25 The LORD *is* good unto them that wait for him, to the soul *that* seeketh him.

26 *It is* good that *a man* should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.

27 *It is* good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.

28 He sitteth alone and keepeth silence, because he hath borne *it* upon him.

29 He putteth his mouth in the dust; if so be there may be hope.

30 He giveth *his* cheek to him that smiteth him: he is filled full with reproach.

31 For the Lord will not cast off for ever:

32 But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies.

33 For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men.

34 To crush under his feet all the prisoners of the earth,

35 To turn aside the right of a man before the face of the most High,

36 To subvert a man in his cause, the Lord approveth not.

37 Who *is* he *that* saith, and it cometh to pass, *when* the Lord commandeth *it* not?

38 Out of the mouth of the most High proceedeth not evil and good?

39 Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins?

Prepare Your Mind

The book of Lamentations is difficult to read, but it was much more difficult to write. The author, Jeremiah, lived through the destruction of Jerusalem and the exile of God's people to Babylon. He saw terrible things, and his suffering was made worse knowing that all this destruction came about because of the sin and failure of Judah. However, in the middle of this intense suffering, Jeremiah found hope, remembering that the love of God endured for His people. Even though they had failed Him, He remained faithful in loving them. Their story was far from over. God had not given up on them.



Supplies

- markers
- paper
- scissors
- glue
- craft sticks

Prepare Your Heart

The world can feel much scarier for children than it does for adults because children don't have the same frame of reference. The Lord's love can bring hope, regardless of age or maturity level. Whether your students are sad because of a lost toy or a lost parent, the love of Jesus can bring them healing. Take the time to hear your students' hearts and shine the love of Jesus into their lives.



Prepare the Room

Use **markers** to draw a happy face, a sad face, and a scared face on three pieces of **paper** (one face per piece).



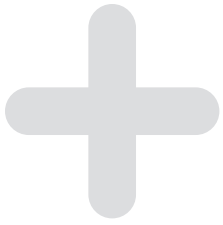
Suggested Song ⌚ 5 min

"I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord Forever"
(Fillmore)



Glossary

hope: being sure that what God has promised will happen



Conversation Starter

Do you know how to give yourself a hug?
 (Show students how to give themselves a hug.)
 Give yourself a hug.

Bible Lesson ⌚ 10-15 min

Hugs make us feel happy. When we feel sad or scared, it is wonderful when someone who loves us gives us a hug. When we fall and scrape our knee, hugs help. Hugs show love, and being shown love when we are sad makes us feel a lot better, doesn't it? Can you tell me about a time when you got a big hug from someone who loves you? (Allow answers.)

Our Bible lesson is about a time when God's chosen people were extremely sad. (👉 Hold up sad face.) Who can make a sad face? Oh my, we all look so sad! I think I might cry! That is how God's people who lived in Jerusalem looked. (🗨️) Why do you think they were sad? (Allow answers.)

God's people did not listen to God and chose to disobey Him. Because of their wrongdoing, they were forced out of their homes and had to move to another place. They knew God was not happy with them. Losing their homes and their families made them sad. (❓) If I lost my home and family, I would be very sad and scared. (👉 Hold up scared face.) Can you make a scared face for me? How scared you all look!

The people in Jerusalem felt as if they would never be happy again. They felt sad. (👉 Hold up sad face.) They felt scared. (👉 Hold up scared face.) Would God leave them alone and never let them go back home? What were they going to do?

But then one person remembered something wonderful. Remembering the wonderful thing made him have hope. That hope made him happy. (👉 Hold up happy face.) Show me your happy faces!

What do you think the person remembered that gave him hope and happiness? (Allow answers.) That would make me happy too. He was happy because he remembered that God loved him and the people of Jerusalem. He remembered God's love, and that changed everything.

Just like a huge hug can make us feel better when we're sad (👉 hold up sad face), God's love makes us happy. (👉 Hold up happy face.) Just like a hug makes us feel safe when we're scared (👉 hold up scared face), God's love keeps us safe. (👉 Hold up happy face.) God's love never stops. It never changes. He loves us every day, no matter what.



Be mindful of students who may have recently lost a loved one or suffered some other tragedy. Be prepared to respond in love if they bring up their situations.



Why did they lose everything? They were punished for their sins, but there are many other reasons bad things happen to people. No matter what, God always loves us.



Activity: Spread the Joy ⌚ 5-10 min

Choose one student to be "it." That student should have a happy face while all the other students make their faces look sad. Proceed the game like tag. When the student who is "it" tags a sad student, the student makes a happy face and gets to be "it" too. Every time a student is tagged, he or she joins the "happy" team, spreading the joy to the sad students. Continue to play until every student is "happy." Tell the students, "When God's love makes us happy, we should tell others about it so that they can be happy too!"

Story Time ⌚ 5 min

“Let the dogs in, Joey,” Mom said. Joey opened the back door to let the dogs in from outside. They did not come in. In fact, they were nowhere to be found. When Joey and his mom looked in the yard, they saw that the gate was open. The dogs had gotten out!

Mom and Joey went driving through the neighborhood, looking for the dogs. Joey was very sad and scared that he would never see them again. Mom pulled over and gave him a big hug.

“I know you are sad and scared,” she said. “Why don’t we pray and ask God to help us find them?”

“Do you think He will?” Joey asked. “He probably has more important things to take care of.”

“Do you remember what you learned about God

at church?” Mom asked.

“You mean how God’s love can give us hope when we are sad or scared?” he asked.

“Yes. What else?”

Joey thought for a moment. “God loves us?”

“Yes! And what else besides that?”

“Hmm—He’s very powerful too. Powerful enough to help us find our dogs!”

They prayed together and kept looking for the dogs. After a little bit, Mom’s phone rang. It was someone who lived nearby. He had found the dogs and called the number that was on their collars. Joey was so glad that he had trusted in God’s love and care.



Handcraft: Heart of Hope ⌚ 10 min

Help children as needed.

Instructions:

1. Draw a happy face on one heart and a sad or scared face on another.

2. **Glue** the two hearts together with a **craft stick** in between them, sticking out like a handle.

Have the students hold up the sad or scared heart and say, “When I am sad and scared,” (have the students flip the heart to the happy side) “God’s love gives me hope.”

SUPPLIES:

- scissors
- paper
- markers
- glue
- craft sticks

PREP: Cut out heart shapes from paper.

Review Questions

1. Why were the people of Jerusalem sad? (They had lost their homes and families.)
2. Why did one person in Jerusalem have hope? (He remembered God’s love.)
3. What is so amazing about God’s love? (It never stops and never changes.)

Next Steps

When you see people who are sad or scared, show them God’s love to give them hope. Everyone needs more hope, and it can come in many different ways. Maybe you can give them a hug, spend time listening to them, or remind them that God always loves us, no matter what.

Christ Focus

Jesus showed God’s love for all people everywhere so that we can all have hope in Him.

Prayer Points

- Pray for any students who may be afraid or sad. •
- Pray for ways to show God’s love to those in need. •