

JUNIOR BIBLE TEACHER **+**

For Teachers of Children
Ages 9 through 11



June
July
August

SUMMER
2026

Junior Bible Teacher⁺

SUMMER QUARTER

June, July, August 2026

How to Use <i>Junior Bible Teacher</i> ⁺	2
THE LORD'S PATIENCE WITH HIS PEOPLE	
UNIT 1: Slow to Anger	
June 7 — Moses Prays for Mercy—Num. 14:11-24	5
June 14 — God Promises to Be Merciful—Ex. 34:1-14	8
June 21 — God's Mercy in Times Past—Josh. 24:2-13	11
June 28 — God Gives Israel a King—1 Sam. 8:1-18	14
UNIT 2: Faithful to His Promises	
July 5 — God Calls All People to Turn to Him—Jer. 3:11-20	18
July 12 — God Sends a Good King—Jer. 23:1-8	21
July 19 — God Promises Justice—Jer. 26:1-13	24
July 26 — God's Good Plans for His People—Jer. 29:1-14	27
Aug. 2 — God's Promised Land—Jer. 30:1-11, 18-22	30
UNIT 3: His Compassion Never Fails	
Aug. 9 — A New Start for God's People—Jer. 31:1-14	34
Aug. 16 — The Good Shepherd—Ezek. 34:1-16	37
Aug. 23 — God's Love for Israel—Hos. 11:1-11	40
Aug. 30 — God's Faithfulness to Israel—Mic. 7:14-20	43
Bonus Activities	46

**Editor in Chief:**

James M. Leonard, Ph.D.

Managing Editor:

Michelle Birtasevic

Writers: Nance Keyes, Jody Stinson,
Union Gospel Press Editorial Staff

ISBN 978-1-64495-827-8

Edited and published quarterly by
LIFESTONE MINISTRIES | UNION GOSPEL PRESS

Rev. W. B. Musselman, Founder

Dear Junior Teacher,

Welcome to *Junior 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.

Junior 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** and **Prepare the Room** give you all the practical information you need to prepare for class time.
- 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.
- **Discussion Questions** help students engage with the Scriptures intellectually and emotionally throughout the lesson. These questions appear in both the class and teacher books.
- **Action** symbols help you see opportunities to invite your class to take part in the lesson.
- The **Activity** helps juniors get their energy out while thinking about the lesson.
- The **Big Question** addresses common doubts or fears junior students might have about God and His Word from a biblical worldview.
- **Explaining the Memory Verse** explains the Scripture in language familiar to juniors.
- **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



Discussion Questions



Here's a peek at the features of *Junior Bible Class*®:

MOSES PRAYS FOR MERCY Lesson 1 June 7, 2026

Lesson Text: Numbers 14:11-24

"Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy" (Numbers 14:19).

BIG IDEA: Moses asked God to forgive Israel's sin, and God did.

NUMBERS 14-11 And the Lord said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have showed among them?
12 I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they.
13 And Moses said unto the Lord, Then the Egyptians shall hear it, (for thou broughtest up this people in thy might from among them).
14 And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land: for they have heard that thou Lord art seen face to face, and that thy cloud standeth over them, and that thou goest before them, by day time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night.
15 Now if thou shalt kill all this people as one man, then the nations which have heard the fame of thee will speak, saying,
16 Because the Lord was not able to swear unto them, therefore he hath slain them in the wilderness.
17 And now, I beseech thee, let the power of my Lord be great, according as thou hast spoken, saying,
18 The Lord is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation.
19 Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy; and as thou hast forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.
20 And the Lord said, I have pardoned according to thy word:
21 But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord.
22 Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have not hearkened to my voice:
23 Surely they shall not see the land which I swear unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:
24 But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land where-into he went: and his seed shall possess it.

BIBLE LESSON

How would you feel if you gave someone a nice gift, but the person complained and grumbled about it, hoping to get something else? God had already blessed the Israelites. He delivered them from Egypt and fed them in the wilderness. But they grumbled about the gifts God gave them and disobeyed Him. God became angry with them (Numbers 14:11). "How long are My people going to turn away from Me?" God asked. "I performed many miracles for them. Still they reject Me."

• The **Big Idea** helps the student focus on the main point of the lesson.

• **Discussion Questions** are interjected within the Bible lesson to help students engage with the Scriptures intellectually and emotionally.

The Israelites had an agreement with His people, and they agreed to not hold up their side of the agreement.

How can God love His people?

God was patient with His people (Exodus 32:10). "I will strike them out of my book, and I will blot out the nation from your family instead of them. I will make you a nation from among the nations, and you shall be called My people." God did not want nearby nations to see God strike down His people. He worried the Egyptians would think God was not able to get His people to the Promised Land. The people of Egypt had seen how God led His people. They knew God was taking them to the land He promised them. Moses asked God to show His power and forgiveness to His people. They knew that disobeying God would cause problems for the people and for their children. Still, Moses asked God to forgive them for disobeying Him.

What feelings should we have toward God, who has done so much for us?

God answered. He forgave the people. But there were consequences for refusing to listen to God. The people who rejected God would not see the Promised Land. The Israelites would have to wander in the wilderness for forty years. After that, Joshua would bring their children into the land. Caleb, a man who stayed true to God, would enter the land then too.

God still gets angry at sin. But Jesus gave His life so that God would pardon, or forgive, sin. Those who put their trust in Jesus have the promise of being forgiven and entering heaven.

• The **Big Question** addresses common doubts or fears junior students might have about God and His Word from a biblical worldview.

IS IT WRONG FOR A CHRISTIAN TO BE ANGRY?

It is not always wrong to get angry about something. God gets angry at sin, for example. God made us to be like Him in several ways (Genesis 1:27). We should get angry about sin too. However, the way we deal with anger is what can become wrong. God does not get angry quickly (Psalm 145:8), and we should not get angry quickly either (James 1:19-20). God gets angry at disobedience (Exodus 32:10-11; Romans 1:18). Jesus was angry at the sinful things people did (Matthew 21:12-13; John 2:13-18). We can be angry when someone is unfair to someone else, dishonest, or does something evil. The wrong way to handle that anger is to react with sinful words or actions. Instead, pray and ask God how to respond to things and people that make you angry.

Unscramble the letters in brackets to find the words.

 [] [] [] [] [] []
 [] [] [] [] [] []
 [] [] [] [] [] []
 [] [] [] [] [] []
 [] [] [] [] [] []
 [] [] [] [] [] []
 [] [] [] [] [] []

• The **Christ Focus** encourages thought about how the Scripture passage and lesson point to our loving Savior.

NEXT STEPS

Pray for other people as Moses did. Pray that people will turn to God and see His power and glory. You can make a list of people to pray for in your family, school, neighborhood, and country.

CHRIST FOCUS

Jesus died on the cross so that we can have God's forgiveness and enter heaven.

TALK ABOUT IT

Ask a trusted Christian adult to teach you how to pray for others who need God's forgiveness.

• **Talk About It** prompts students to engage trusted Christian adults in their lives in conversation about God's Word.

UNIT 1:

Slow to Anger

Lesson 1: Numbers 14:11-24

Moses Prays for Mercy

Lesson 2: Exodus 34:1-14

God Promises to Be Merciful

Lesson 3: Joshua 24:2-13

God's Mercy in Times Past

Lesson 4: 1 Samuel 8:1-18

God Gives Israel a King

Juniors who are churchgoers probably have been introduced to the concept of God getting angry, but that should not come to mind first when thinking about God. God is slow to anger, and His anger does not last long. He is patient. Examples of His patience can be seen in His dealing with the people of Israel as Moses and then Joshua led them to the Promised Land. The people of Israel rejected God as their King and wanted Him replaced with a fallible human king. Still, God was patient and slow to anger toward them.



Moses Prays for Mercy

Lesson Text: Numbers 14:11-24

Lesson 1
June 7, 2026

Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy (Numbers 14:19).



Big Idea: Moses asked God to forgive Israel's sin, and God did.

NUMBERS 14:11 And the LORD said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them?

12 I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they.

13 And Moses said unto the LORD, Then the Egyptians shall hear *it*, (for thou broughtest up this people in thy might from among them;)

14 And they will tell *it* to the inhabitants of this land: *for* they have heard that thou LORD *art* among this people, that thou LORD art seen face to face, and *that* thy cloud standeth over them, and *that* thou goest before them, by day time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night.

15 Now *if* thou shalt kill *all* this people as one man, then the nations which have heard the fame of thee will speak, saying,

16 Because the LORD was not able to bring this people into the land which he swore unto them, therefore he hath slain them in the wilderness.

17 And now, I beseech thee, let the power of my Lord be great,

according as thou hast spoken, saying,

18 The LORD *is* longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing *the guilty*, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation*.

19 Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy, and as thou hast forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.

20 And the LORD said, I have pardoned according to thy word:

21 But *as* truly *as* I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.

22 Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice;

23 Surely they shall not see the land which I swear unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:

24 But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.

Prepare Your Mind

Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt toward Canaan, the Promised Land. But the people grumbled about God's blessings, so they wandered in the wilderness until they died. Their children entered the land decades later.



Supplies

- note card
- pen
- gift box
- map of Middle East with Northern Africa
- art of pillar of cloud and fire
- whiteboard
- dry-erase marker
- small gifts

Prepare Your Heart

Moses called on God's character when he prayed on behalf of the Israelites. He knew the sinful ways of the Israelites. But he also knew the abundance of God's patience and mercy. He knew that God had offered forgiveness in the past, and He could provide again. Moses cared for the people and pleaded that God's anger toward them would relent.

Moses demonstrated the selfless nature of intercessory prayer. His prayer was for God's glory and the Israelites' well-being, not his own glory. You can pray for the children in your class, your church, your community, and the nation. Call on His patience and forgiveness. Ask for His mercy. Sincerely pray for the spiritual well-being of those in your care. Pray for an outcome that will glorify God.



Conversation Starter

Let's list our blessings. ( **List** suggestions on **board**.)
For each blessing, let's list reasons we sometimes grumble about it.
(Example: for the blessing of food, we might grumble about the taste.)

Bible Lesson 🕒 10-15 min



Imagine you gave someone a nice gift. It was something you worked hard to save money to buy. Maybe you took time to make it with your own hands. How would you feel if the person who received your gift complained about some minor detail? What if the person tossed it aside and grumbled about hoping for something else? (Discuss how that would make them feel.)

God had already blessed the Israelites in many ways. He delivered them from being enslaved in Egypt. He told Moses to lead them out. He fed them in the wilderness. 🗨️ And He had even more blessings prepared for them. Sadly, however, they grumbled about the good gifts God gave them. They also disobeyed Him. God *was* patient with the Israelites, but they kept disobeying Him. That caused God to be angry with them (Num. 14:11).

The book of Exodus in the Old Testament tells how God rescued the people of Israel from the African country of Egypt. (🗺️ Show **map of Middle East with Northern Africa**.) Numbers, the fourth book in the Old Testament, tells us that the Israelites complained about the blessings God gave them. Then they disobeyed God—the One who blessed them. It also tells us God’s response to their behavior. (🗨️ Tell students to say “No thanks” whenever the **gift box** is lifted.)

“How long are My people, the Israelites, going to turn away from Me?” God asked. “How long will they refuse to believe Me? I performed many miracles for them. Still they reject Me.” (🗨️ Briefly lift gift box.)

The Israelites had an agreement with God. God agreed to bless them as His people, and they agreed to live for God. Other nations would watch them and learn what being loved by God is like and what loving God is like. They learned about God’s power by seeing Him do miracles for Israel. Some others heard about His amazing power. But the people of Israel did not keep their side of the agreement. (🗨️ Briefly lift gift box.)

🗨️ How can God love His people but still be angry with them?

God was patient with His people, but He was sometimes angry with the Israelites (see Ex. 32:10). “I will strike them down,” God told Moses. “I will make a huge nation from your family instead of them. I will make you greater and stronger.”

Moses thought about the people of the nations around them that would see God strike down His own people. He was worried the Egyptians would hear about how God destroyed His people. What would that tell them about God? They would think that God was not able to get His people to the Promised Land. They would think He was not much of a God.

Moses said that the people of Egypt knew about how God led the people away from Egypt. They had seen how God led His people with a pillar of cloud in the day and how that cloud was full of fire at night. 🗨️ They knew God led and protected the Israelites. They knew God was taking them to the land He promised them.

Moses prayed. He asked God to show His power and mercy to the people of Israel. He asked God to forgive them for their disobedience. Moses knew that God would punish His people for not following Him and the laws He had set up for them. Moses knew that disobeying God would cause problems for the people and for their children and their grandchildren. Still, Moses asked God to forgive them about forgetting and ignoring Him after He had done so much for them.

🗨️ What feelings should we have toward God, who has done so much for us?

God answered. He forgave the people. But there would be punishment for refusing to listen to God. (🗨️ Briefly lift gift box.) The people who rejected God would not see the Promised Land. All the adult Israelites would have to wander in the wilderness for forty years. After that, Joshua would bring their children into the land. Caleb, a man who stayed true to God, also would be allowed to enter the Promised Land. 🗨️

People still sin today. And God still gets angry at sin. But Jesus gave His life so that God would pardon, or forgive, sin. Those who put their trust in Jesus have the promise of being forgiven and entering heaven. Even if we grumble and sin, we can be forgiven because of Jesus.



For any student who does not remember and to remind others, review the Exodus (Ex. 14) and how God fed the Israelites in the wilderness (16:4-28).



For students unfamiliar with God’s glory leading the Israelites, take a moment to read to them from Exodus 13:21-22.

(🗺️ Show **art of pillar of cloud and fire**.) The Israelites were given rules to follow that would make them live separate and holy lives.



Who were Joshua and Caleb? They were two of the twelve spies sent to check out the Promised Land (Num. 13). Joshua had been Moses’ helper and captain of Israel’s army.

Explaining the Memory Verse

Moses prayed for the people of Israel. They deserved punishment because they kept breaking God's laws. Moses asked for God's great mercy. Moses asked God to forgive them just as He had in the past.



Activity: Good Gifts ⌚ 5-10 min

Give the gift box to a student and ask, "What type of gift would you accept?" After the student answers, ask, "What type of gift would you reject?" After the student answers, ask him or her to get up and hand the gift box to another student, asking the same two questions. Others should stand any time they agree. Continue and make sure each student receives the gift box once and has a chance to answer both questions. Then ask the last student to receive the box to open it and read the note aloud. After that, distribute **small gifts** to students.

SUPPLIES:

- gift box
- note card
- pen
- small gifts

PREP: Print on a **note card**: "God's gift to you is forgiveness through Jesus." Place the card in the **gift box**.

Big Question: Is it wrong for a Christian to be angry?

It is not always wrong to get angry about something. God gets angry at sin, for example. God made us to be like Him in several ways (Gen. 1:27). We should get angry about sin too. However, the way we deal with anger is what can become wrong. God does not get angry quickly (Ps. 145:8), and we should not get angry quickly either (Jas. 1:19-20). God gets angry at disobedience (Ex. 32:10-

11; Rom. 1:18). Jesus was angry at the sinful things people did (Matt. 21:12-13; John 2:13-18). We can be angry when someone is unfair to someone else, dishonest, or does something evil. The wrong way to handle that anger is to react with sinful words or actions. Instead, pray and ask God how to respond to things and people that make you angry.

Next Steps

Pray for other people as Moses did. Pray that people will turn to God and see His power and glory. You can make a list of people to pray for in your family, school, neighborhood, and country.

Prayer Points

- Praise God for the forgiveness we have through what Jesus did for us on the cross. •
 - Pray that your students will learn to trust and obey the Lord. •
- Pray for God to have mercy and forgiveness on the people of our country. •

Christ Focus

Jesus died on the cross so that we can have God's forgiveness and enter heaven.

Word Scramble answers: Moses; Egypt; pillar; wilderness; nations; forgive; pardon; glory; Caleb; love and mercy.