

Sword Training

Tutor Training



May 2017

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Introduction

Two Goals of Sword Training

Put on the Whole Armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-20)

13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. 14 Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. 16 In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; 17 and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God (ESV)

Machaira

The word of God is described as the sword of the Spirit. To the early Christian, the sword (or machaira) was a short blade, perhaps even a dagger. As a weapon, such a short blade required skill and precision to be effective.



Equip Families to Equip Their Children
(Deuteronomy 11:18-19)

18 “You shall therefore lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 19 You shall teach them to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. (ESV)



Quick Overview

- Three-year curriculum.
- Designed for age four through 5th grade.
- Repeats on a three year cycle.
- Emphasis on simplicity.



Three sets of timeline cards are the backbone of the curriculum.



Emphasis on using interactive teaching techniques, with music as a key learning tool.

The goal is mastery of the content for children who attend regularly and cycle through twice.



Teach geography, so children know that these are real stories that happened in the real world.

How It Works

Our Kids' Brains

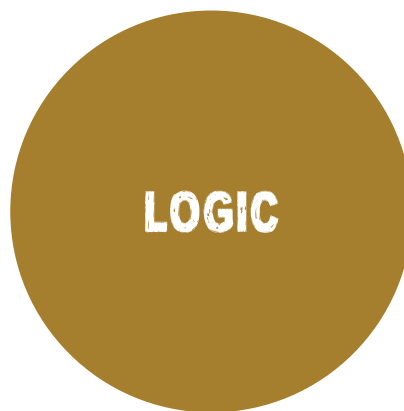
In the early years, our children's brains soak in everything. God designed children this way. Our job is to help equip families to help fill their children's brain with the tools from God's Word that will prepare them for battle!



Classical Education Basics

3 Stages of Development

- **Preschool-5th grade (Grammar)**
Brains are sponges, they absorb easily but with no real knowledge of 'purpose.'
- **Middle School Years (Logic)**
Children start to ask "Why?" and "How?" They enjoy arguing.
- **High School Years (Rhetoric)**
Pieces come together and they gain the ability to argue their point well, (if provided a good foundation). More into creative thinking, becoming more eloquent and persuasive.



*The Ultimate Goal is to guide children
to learn for themselves.*

Understanding the Tutor Role

The Heart of the Tutor

A tutor has a heart for bringing children to Christ by equipping families to learn God's Word.

Partner

- The parent is the primary teacher.
- You are a provider of amazing information and facts.
- You are a model.
- You are an equipper.
- DRILL DRILL DRILL!

Encourager

- You are a cheerleader.
- You are helping to build an army.
- You partner to build a firm faith foundation for the next generation.
- DRILL DRILL DRILL!

Learner

- You are a FOLLOWER of God.
Students will imitate you as you imitate Christ.
- Good news! You don't have to know it all.
- Learn the material and trust the process.
- Make learning SIMPLE.
- DRILL DRILL DRILL!



What To Do

Class Structure & Timing

- **10 Min Story Time**
Present the week's story in an engaging way. This is when you introduce the basic facts of the story for the week. If you like, you can do the story time with all the kids together.
- **20 Min Drill**
After introducing the week's story from the timeline, you spend 20 minutes drilling the entire month's worth of memory work.
- **15 Min Review**
For older kids, spend the last fifteen minutes reviewing memory work and story facts with interactive games.
For younger children, complete a timeline art page to reinforce the story for this week.

Curriculum Material

- **Timeline Cards** – Each class will use one set of timeline cards. There is one card for each story in a year, with a total of 48 stories. There are also cards for the timeline divisions (e.g., Age of Beginnings, Age of the Patriarchs)
- **Memory Booklet** – Provide each student's parents with a memory booklet. Encourage parents to review each month's content with their children.
- **Memory Songs** – One of the best ways to review each month's memory content is by listening to the music CD. Provide one of these to each family.
- **Memory Hand Motions** – Sword Training uses a variety of teaching methods to engage all types of learners. We set some of our memory work to hand motions, which greatly enhances the learning for some children. Those hand motions are available to you on Sword Training's Vimeo (similar to YouTube) channel.
- **Maps** – The maps are used in class to put the Bible stories in their geographical context. For the Old Testament, there are two maps, one of the Middle East, and the other of the Promised Land.
- **Timeline Art Page** – For younger children, we provide an art page to correspond to each of the 48 stories in a year. We provide these digitally for you to reproduce. You can cut out the number of craft pieces you need each week.

What To Do In Story Time

This is the time to be as creative as you want to be in the way that you tell the story. Here are some guidelines and tips for delivering the story in an engaging way.

- **Combined Class** - You may want to do the story time with all of the children who are in Sword Training. We have done story time with ages 4 through 5th grade in the same room. As long as you have some adults to wrangle the kids, this works well. After the story is over, you can split into different classes.
- **Involve Men** - Most Bible school teachers in most churches are women. The storyteller role is a great way to get men involved in the lives of your church's children. Just be sure to find men who are gifted with children.
- **Cover the Questions** - Use the questions on the back of that week's timeline card to structure your story. Some of the stories we cover are fairly short. You can read the story in scripture in just a few minutes. Some of them require more prep time. (E.g., The story of Esther covers the entire book of Esther.)
- **Make It Fast** - You can cover any of these stories in ten minutes. For stories that cover a lot of scripture, remember that you aren't doing an in-depth exegesis. Again, use the questions on the back of the card to help you structure it.
- **Make It Fun** - Be animated. Be silly. You can have fun with the stories and still impart all the key elements of the story.
- **Remember, kids love Dora and Diego** - Many educational cartoons use a technique where they have kids repeat information back. Dora and Diego are great examples. You can easily integrate this into your storytelling, and kids respond really well. This is a particularly good way to involve a larger group where there is a big age differential. For example, might say, "When Solomon died, his son Rehoboam became king. Can you say Rehoboam?" The kids will then repeat back in unison, "Rehoboam!" Dora has pre-programmed them to do this.
- **Storytelling Ideas** - Here are a couple of ideas for telling the story. What you use will depend on the storyteller and your resources.
 - **Free Bible Images** – This website provides free story-telling images for just about any story in the Bible. You can download the images right into PowerPoint or Keynote. You can quickly modify what they provide to build the specific part of the story you want to tell. Kids respond well to these images as storytelling aids. (freebibleimages.org)
 - **Flannelgraph** – This decidedly low-tech storytelling system is so old it's new.
 - **Dramatic Reading** – Some stories are short enough that you can read them right from scripture. This is hard to do well with younger children, so you're going to need to amp up the drama and read it like you mean it!
 - **Pictionary Style** – A storyteller with decent drawing skills can have fun with a whiteboard and markers. You can start by drawing different objects from the story while the kids try to guess what you are drawing. Then, use those drawings as illustrations as you tell the story.

What To Do In Drill time

Board Preparation

The focal point of drill time is your whiteboard. If you don't have a whiteboard on the wall, you can get a very inexpensive table-top board. You may need to modify the layout from what we demonstrate, but it is a suitable alternative if you have a small class. Just search Amazon for "table top flip chart white board," and it should be the first option. They currently cost \$21.99 on Amazon Prime.

Before each class, you will prepare your board with the information for that month. The board should look basically the same at the beginning of each class. If you don't have a marker tray along the bottom of your board for the timeline cards, you can make something using clotheslines and clothespins to display your timeline cards.



Types of Learners

Sword Training is designed to teach children with multiple learning styles. That's good news for the fidgety kids in your class! Sword Training does not expect a child to sit still and quiet. God did not make children to learn this way, so we don't expect them to either! As you plan your class, be sure you choose a variety of learning activities incorporating these types of learning.

- **Tactile:** Hand/Body Motions, Pointing to Map Locations, Sorting Timeline Cards
- **Visual:** Whiteboard, Timeline Card Images, Maps
- **Auditory:** Singing, DRILLING
- **Active:** Jumping, Throwing, Standing/Sitting, Marching

Eleven Drilling Techniques

Here is a list of different techniques that you can use when drilling your students. Each week, make sure you mix it up a bit. While repetition is critical to learning, especially for children, monotony kills learning!

- **Read Aloud** - Simply read the information from the board. You'll usually start with this.
- **Read From the Bible** – For the older kids, have them read the scripture from their own Bibles. Of course, their translations might be different, but it's still important that they get used to using their own Bibles.
- **Sing** – You don't need a great voice. Use the CDs to sing the songs with the class. Of course, if you are able, feel free to go without CD accompaniment.
- **Rhythm** – Say a sentence with rhythm such as clapping or stomping. Older kids enjoy reciting the information using a rap-type of cadence.
- **Student Led** – Have a child stand in front of the class and lead the class in reciting something together.
- **Going Solo** - Have a child recite something from memory. (They can use the rest of class as a lifeline whenever it's needed.)
- **Performance** – Older kids enjoy reciting the information in a silly style. (E.g., old man style, country style)
- **Eraser Challenge** – One of the best techniques is to erase key words from the board and then have children recite it. As they become more proficient, you can erase more and more words. You'll likely use some of this method in each class.
- **Point, Label, Draw, or Trace Maps** – Give each student a map. Show them where a feature is on the map, and have the students point to it on their own map. For children who can write, have them label their laminated maps with fine-tipped dry-erase markers. For more challenge, have students draw or trace a map or a section of a map. (If you do this, you will need to cut down the review time that week, since this takes some time.) It's important that children learn that these stories really happened in the real world!
- **Rearrange Timeline Cards** – Give the kids the current month's cards and have them put them in order. For extra challenge, add in the past month's cards as well.
- **Hand Motions** – Say the Spiritual Truth and Timeline with hand motions. Remember, this type of learning is VERY important for some children. Don't neglect it.
- **Active Learning** – Many children will learn more simply by moving while they repeat something. Try marching in a circle or passing a ball around while reciting the memory work.

The goal is to cover each piece of memorization work seven times in one class. It's not as hard as it sounds. Just keep things moving quickly, and you'll get there.

7Xs

A Sample Plan For Drill Time

Map It

- Tell It – “The map points for this month are...”
- Point To It – See on my map, here are...”
- Link It – “You’ll remember that Abram was from Ur, and he went to Haran on his way to Canaan.”
- Point To It – “Can you point to Ur on your map?” Go around and ask each kid to point to Ur.
- Label It – Using fine-point dry-erase markers.

Sword Point

- Read Aloud – Read it from the Bible, including book, chapter, and verse.
(All memory work uses the ESV.)
- Read Aloud – Everyone in class read it together.
- Student Led – Have a child lead the class in reading it together.
- Sing – Play the song twice and sing along.
- Eraser Challenge – Erase two words. Ask for a volunteer to recite it. Erase two more words and ask for another volunteer.

Timeline

- Read Aloud – Read the timeline from the board.
- Point to It – Read this month’s timeline as you point to the timeline cards.
- Rearrange It – Shuffle this month’s cards and have them help you put them in order.
- Rearrange It – Have the students gather in a circle on the floor and put them in order themselves.
- Hand Motions – Say this month’s timeline three times using the hand motions.

Books of the Bible

- Read Aloud – Read this month’s books off the board.
- Read Aloud – Have the class read it together.
- Active Learning – Have the class do one jumping jack while saying each book. Do three sets.
- Sing – We don’t provide music for the books of the Bible. Just sing a version you know.
- Going Solo – Have a child from class recite them from memory without the board.

Spiritual Truth

- Read Aloud – Read it from the Bible, including book, chapter, and verse.
(All memory work uses the ESV.)
- Read Aloud – Everyone in class read it together.
- Hand Motions – Say this month’s spiritual truth sentence three times using the hand motions.
- Eraser Challenge – Erase two words. Ask for a volunteer to recite it. Erase two more words and ask for another volunteer.

What To Do In Review Time – Younger Kids

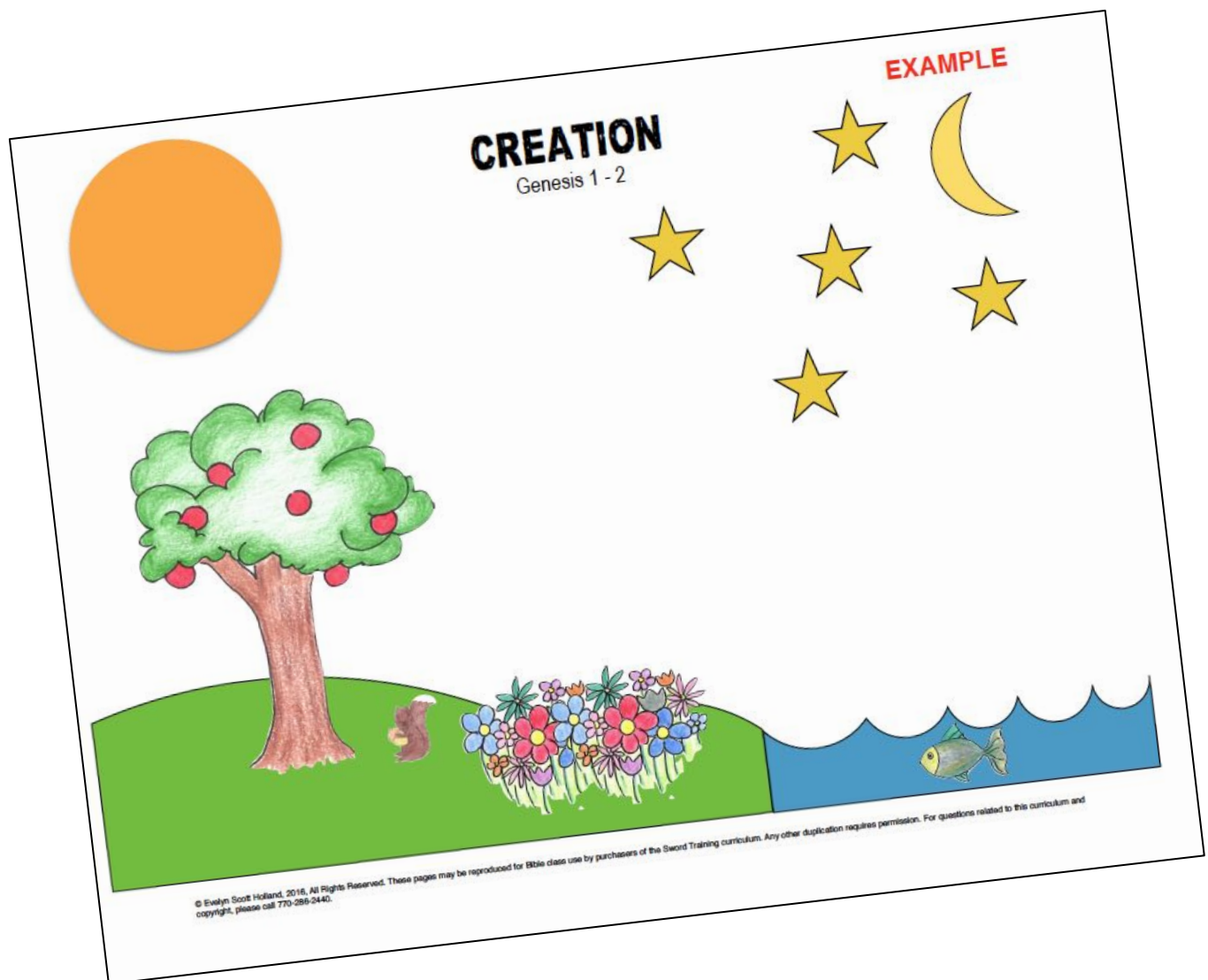
Timeline Art Pages

Supplies:

- Timeline art canvas for each student (The first page in each file)
- A set of cut-out story elements for each student (Kids who can use scissors can cut their own after you do a rough cut.)
- Glue sticks for each student.

How To:

- Show the students the sample picture.
- Have kids cut and glue their story elements on their page.
- As they work, review the story with them.
- GREAT IDEA: Keep the students' timeline art pages and combine them into a timeline book. Every six months, send them home with a new timeline book of their own creation.



What To Do In Review Time – Bigger Kids

Each class ends with review time. You can review memory work, questions from story-time, or a combination of the two. This time should be fun and lively. While a bit of competition is healthy, keep in mind that the goal of Sword Training is to learn the information, not outlearn classmates. Keeping that in mind, we always allow kids to reach out for help when they need it during a review game.

Also, you will see that these game ideas are very simple. We want to provide you with simple ideas that don't overwhelm you. Trust us, the kids love these low-tech games. Of course, feel free to develop your own games as you go. These are here to get you started.

Trash Ball

Supplies:

- A trash can
- A wadded up piece of paper

How to Play:

- Line the kids up behind a shooting line.
- Ask the first person in line questions from the material you are currently reviewing.
- If they get the question right (they can get help from their friends) they get the opportunity to throw the wad of trash into the can for points.
- You can make this even more exciting by giving options like “double your points by hitting a swinging trash can.” Or, you can come up with your own ‘extra points’ shots.

4 Corners

Supplies:

- 4 pieces of construction paper in 4 different colors.
- 1 chair

How to Play:

- Place a piece of construction paper in each corner of the room (or as close as you can get based on furniture and such).
- Have one child as “it” in the middle of the room sitting in the chair. That child closes their eyes while all the other children choose a corner to stand in. Then the person who is “it” chooses a color (without looking).
- You can also have the person who is “it” choose the category (e.g., Map It or Sword Point)
- Ask those children standing in the corresponding color corner the question.
- RULES: You can modify these as you like, but these rules work well.
 - Limit how many kids can be in each corner. Often you can work it out so there is always someone in one of the corners.
 - They cannot return to the same color twice until visiting all four corners.
 - You can't be with the exact same people back to back.

Learning Explosion

Supplies:

- Bowl or basket to draw from.
- Small squares of paper. Each square will have a number (for points) or a picture of a bomb. It's good to fill up the bowl with papers, because that increase the tension when the kids draw at random. Also, don't overdo it on the bombs. Do something like three numbers for every one bomb.

How to Play:

- Divide the class into teams (2 or 3 depending on class size. You want more than 2 people per team.) and have them sit together in a tight circle.
- Choose a "speaker" from each team for the first round, then go around the circle letting each child have a turn to be the "speaker."
- Give the a question. For example, "Tell me about redemption..."
- Allow the team to discuss the answer together, but have the speaker give the final answer.
- If they get it right, they get to draw from the bowl. A numbered slip of paper gives points. A bomb wipes out all their points.
- This game allows the kids to compete while still having a fun element of chance.

On Target

Supplies:

- Nerf gun that shoots suction darts
- White board
- Dry erase markers and eraser

How to Play:

- Draw 5 large circles on the board.
- In each circle, write one of the learning subjects (Spiritual Truth, Map It, Sword Point, Books of the Bible, Timeline). At the top of the board write "Storytime Question."
- One by one have students aim and shoot at the board.
- Ask the student a question from the corresponding subject. If they hit outside of the target, ask a question from the back of the timeline cards. As weeks are added, you can have them draw out of a cup 1-6 representing what week's info you will be asking.
- REMEMBER: You will have students who are perhaps brand new and others that have worked hard at home. Varying levels is no problem. **ALWAYS assure students we are NEVER alone.** We are here to help each other always. That's what Christian friends are for. We work to get to heaven together! So, they can always get help from their friends!

Tower of Knowledge

Supplies:

- A wooden tower game (e.g., Jenga®)
- A Sharpie®

How to Play:

- On each block from the game, write a subject type (Spiritual Truth, Map It, Sword Point, Books of the Bible, Timeline). Be sure to write on a long side, not the end.
- Have each student take a turn pulling out a block.
- As they pull out a block, ask a corresponding question.
- REMEMBER: They can get help if they need it.
- There is no score based on getting the answer right or wrong. It's just a fun way to mix review into an exciting game.

Musical Chairs

Supplies:

- One chair per person.
- A paper tag for each chair, labeled with a memory subject. (Post-It Notes® work well.)
- A basket with the memory subjects on slips of paper.

How to Play:

- Put the chairs in a circle facing outward.
- Put a tag on each chair with a different one of the memory subjects written on it. You can have repeats so that every chair has a tag. You can even put "CHOICE" on one chair.
- Play the memory songs while the children walk around the chairs. (There shouldn't be any major pushing, everyone will get a chair. No chairs go away.)
- At some point, stop the music.
- Once everyone gets seated, choose a subject from a basket and call that out.
- Everyone sitting in a seat labeled with that subject stands, and you ask them a question.
- REMEMBER: They can get help if they need it.

Fishing Game

Supplies:

- Large popsicles sticks.
- A Sharpie® or similar
- A cup

How to Play:

- On the popsicle sticks, write each of the memory subjects. Add a couple of sticks with a picture of a worm drawn on them.
- Have the kids take turns pulling a stick.
- If it's a subject, have the child recite the memory work. (Since this game is geared toward younger kids, you will usually do this as a class.)
- If the child draws a wiggle worm, have the whole class get their "wiggles out" by shaking, jumping, waving their arms, or whatever fun way helps them release some energy.

Tic Tac Toe

Supplies:

- White board, markers, and eraser

How to Play:

- Divide the class into 2 teams.
- For every correct review question the team can choose to place their mark on the board.

Resource Samples

Memory Booklet Sample Pages – Front Cover



A Message to Parents

Why Sword Training?

The word of God is the sword of the Spirit. (Ephesians 6) Children who learn the word of God early will always have access to the truth about mankind, God, and our need for the Lord. And through the truth of this ancient story, we pray they will grow in faith, hope, and love.

How Does It Work?

As you know, God made a child's brain like a sponge. Never again will your child be able to absorb so much information so quickly. This curriculum and teaching approach is based on a classical model of education. The basic principle is this. Focus first on teaching facts and information. As children grow and mature, they will eventually begin to make connections and understand how their knowledge fits into a larger picture. Eventually, they will develop the ability to fully connect this story to their lives and their growing faith.

What Are They Learning?

This booklet contains the core content for an entire year. There are two more booklets, for a total of three year's worth of learning content. (Year two covers the Life of Christ, and year three covers the early Church.) The goal of this stage in the classical model is for your child to achieve mastery of this content.

- **Sword Point** - Each month has a new verse from scripture. The verse is selected to reinforce the theme of the Bible stories for that month.
- **Spiritual Truth Sentences** - Each month, your child will learn a new sentence or two describing how the stories for that month tie into the overall story of redemption and Christian living. Younger children may not fully understand the content yet, but later in life, they will be able to fully explore and understand these concepts, using what they have learned as a child as a powerful framework.
- **Timeline** - Each month, the timeline covers four stories from the Bible. These fit into a timeline for the entire Old Testament. Learning this timeline now will help your child understand that the Bible is more than a collection of stories. Rather, it is a narrative that unfolds over thousands of years, telling the story of Jesus Christ and of the redemption we have through his blood.
- **Map It** - Learning key geographic features from scripture connects the stories of the Bible to our world.

A Message to Parents

You Are Your Child's Best Teacher!

Here are some ideas about how you can work with your child on a regular basis. Of course, the age of your child will determine the level of mastery your child can achieve, but even young ones can begin to learn, especially through the use of the songs on the accompanying music CD.

- Each week, talk to your child about the corresponding story. Just look at the timeline for that month to know what story was covered. Note that in the timeline, some of the items are listed in ALL CAPS. These designate divisions in the timeline. These are not stories in and of themselves. For example, month one starts with the story of "Creation." "AGE OF BEGINNINGS" is simply a section of the timeline.
- Listen to the music on the CD. The Sword Point, Spiritual Truth, and Timeline are all found on the CD, divided by month. The final track on the CD has the entire timeline for the year (48 stories all together).
- Quiz your children verbally. For example, say, "Tell me about Redemption." Focus on the current month's material, but be sure to go back and review previous months as well.

By working together as families, we are raising a generation of children with a firm grasp of the fundamentals of scripture. We all want the best for our children. That's why we spend so much time helping them with homework and shuttling them to sports events and music lessons. In addition to all of those good things, let's all remember our responsibility to teach them about the Lord and his love for us. As we read in Deuteronomy...

You shall therefore lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.
Deuteronomy 11:18-19 (ESV)

Month 1 - Old Testament

Sword Point

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Spiritual Truth Sentence

Tell me about redemption:

When Adam and Eve sinned against God in the garden, all of mankind was separated from God. Thankfully, God had a perfect plan to bring us all back to him.

Timeline

AGE OF BEGINNINGS

- Creation
- Fall of Man
- Cain & Abel
- The Flood

Map It

Tigris River

Euphrates Rivers

Old Testament Books

Books of Law:

- Genesis
- Exodus
- Leviticus
- Numbers
- Deuteronomy



Old Testament Timeline

AGE OF BEGINNINGS

1. Creation
2. Fall of Man
3. Cain and Abel
4. The Flood
5. Tower of Babel

AGE OF THE PATRIARCHS

6. Call of Abram
7. Birth & Sacrifice of Isaac
8. Jacob and Esau
9. Jacob's Dream
10. Jealous Brothers
11. Pharaoh Dreams
12. Famine in Egypt

MOSAIC AGE

13. Moses' Birth
14. Burning Bush
15. Plagues & Passover
16. The Exodus
17. God Provides in the Wilderness
18. Ten Commandments
19. 12 Spies
20. Balaam and the Donkey
21. Joshua & the Battle of Jericho

AGE OF JUDGES

22. Gideon
23. Samson
24. Ruth and Naomi
25. Hannah's Promise
26. Samuel Is Called

AGE OF KINGS

27. Saul, Israel's first King
28. David Anointed
29. David Slays Goliath
30. Wise Solomon
31. Temple Built

AGE OF THE DIVIDED KINGDOMS

32. Israel and Judah Divided
33. Elijah at the Brook
34. The Widow's Oil
35. Elijah & the Prophets of Baal
36. Elisha & Naaman
37. Isaiah Prophecies About Jesus
38. Jonah Goes to Nineveh
39. Assyrians Destroy Israel
40. Josiah Restores Worship
41. Jeremiah Weeps Over Jerusalem

AGE OF CAPTIVITY

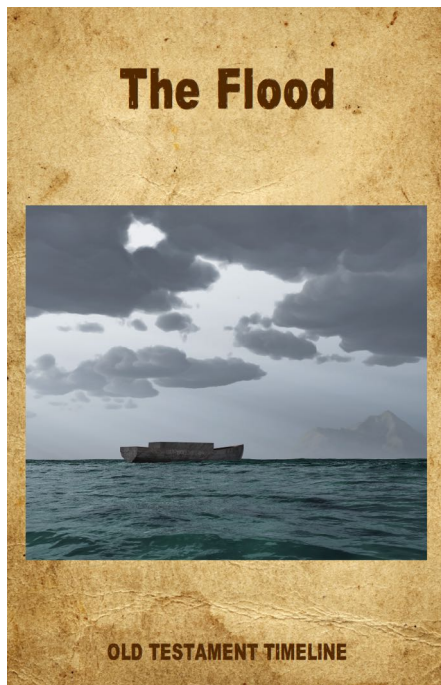
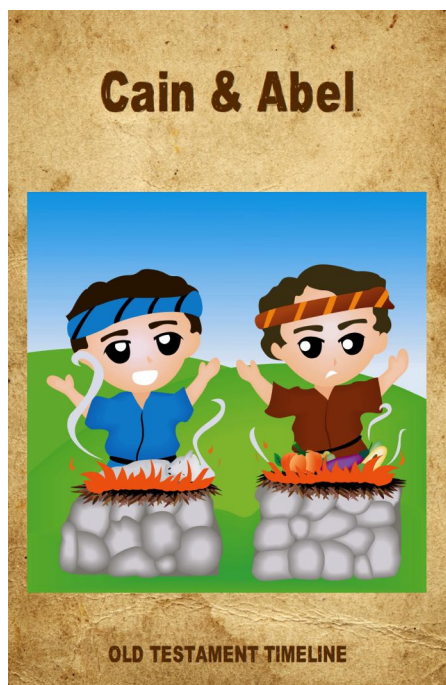
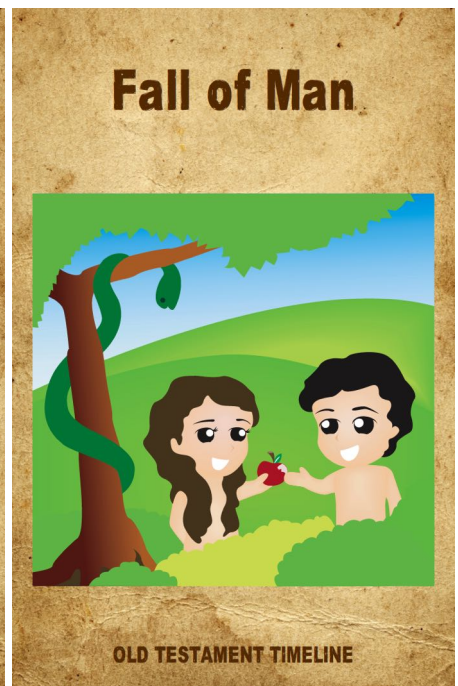
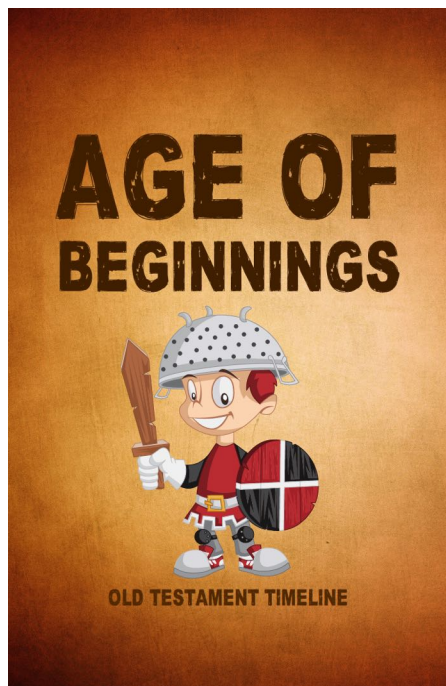
42. Babylonian Captivity
43. Fiery Furnace
44. Lion's Den
45. Ezekiel & the Valley of Dry Bones

AGE OF RESTORATION

46. Temple Rebuilt
47. Queen Esther
48. Ezra Restores the Law & Nehemiah Rebuilds the Walls



Old Testament Timeline Card Samples – The First Month's Worth



Creation

Genesis 1 - 2

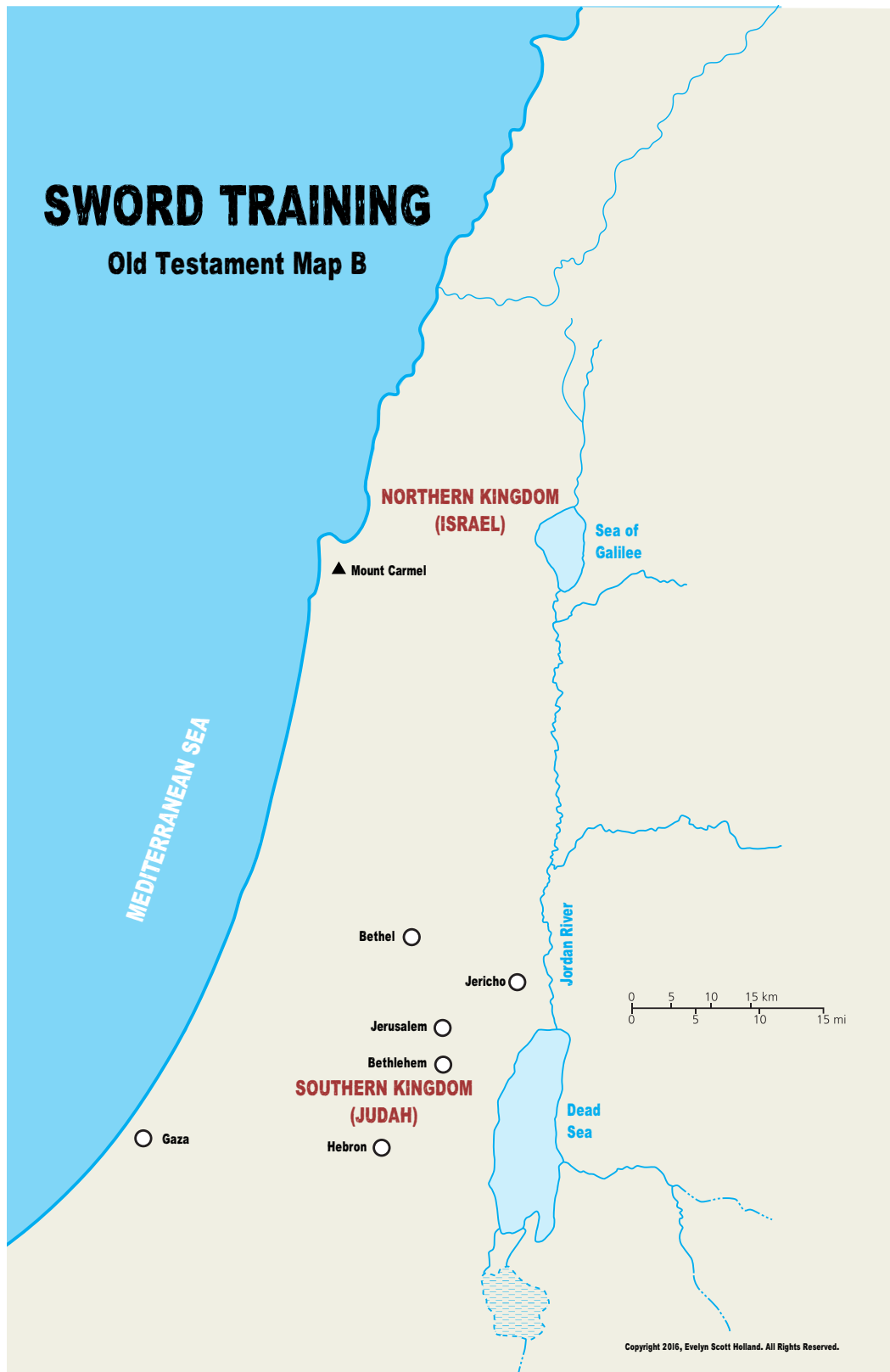
- What does the word Genesis mean? (**Beginning/origin**)
- How many days did it take God to create our world? (**6 days**)
- Who was the first man on earth? (**Adam**)
- What was the first woman's name? (**Eve**)
- What was the first command God gave Adam and Eve? (**Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.**)
- What did God do on day 7? (**Rested**)
- From what did God make Adam? (**Dust of the ground**)
- What do we know about the location of the garden of Eden? (**Four rivers, including the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, flowed out of it.**)
- What two trees were in the middle of the garden of Eden? (**Tree of Life, Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil**)
- What was the one tree from which Adam and Eve couldn't eat? (**Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil**)
- From what did God make Eve? (**Adam's rib**)

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Old Testament Map Sample – The Maps The Kids See Aren't Labeled

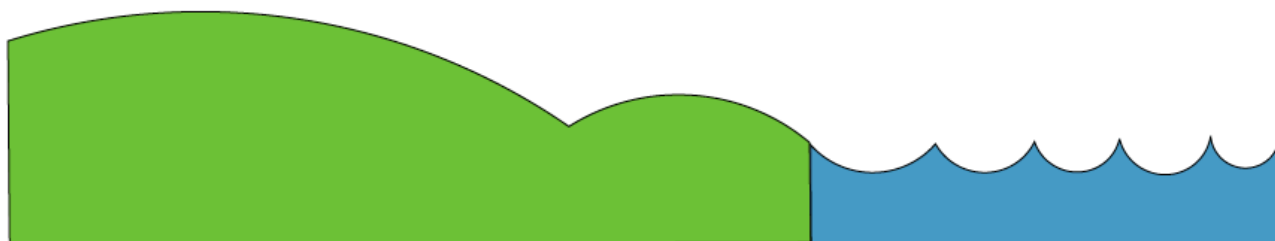


Old Testament Map Sample – The Maps The Kids See Aren't Labeled



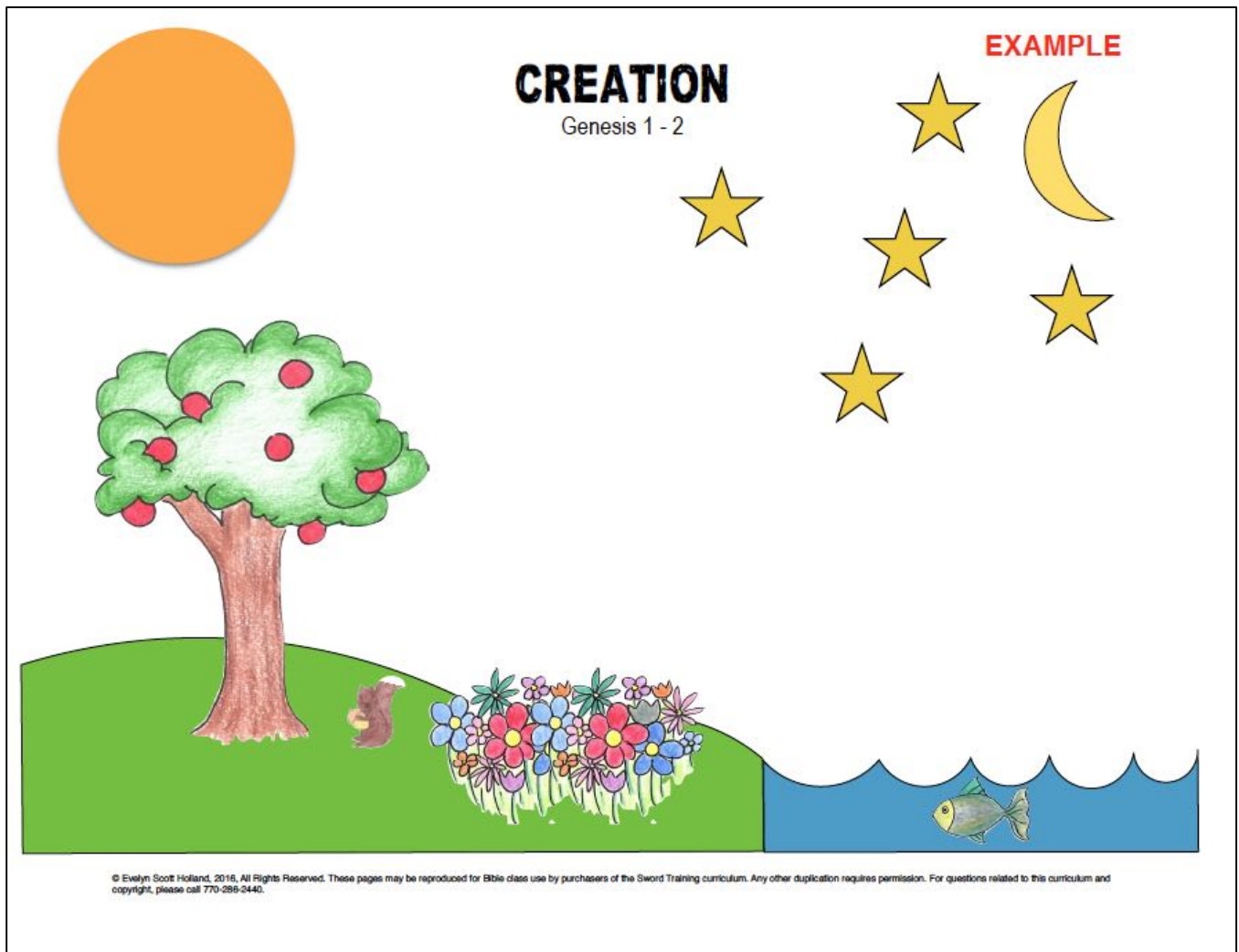
CREATION

Genesis 1 - 2

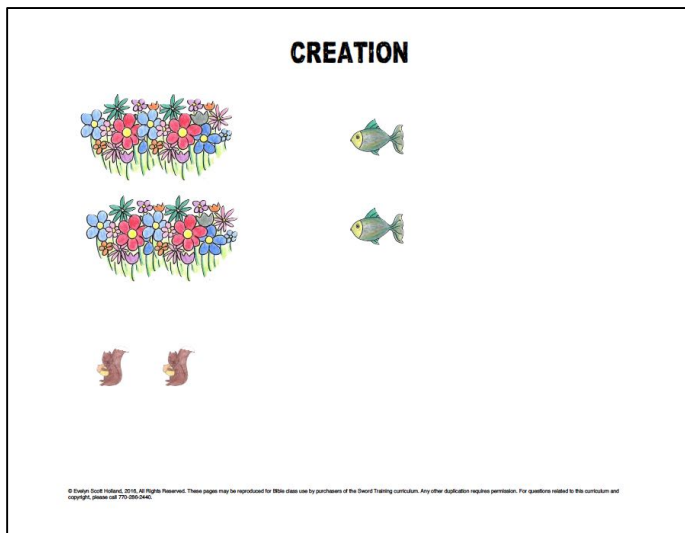
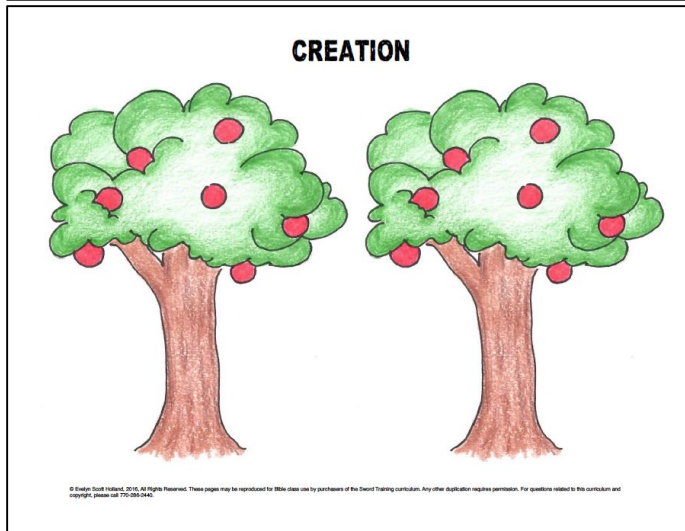
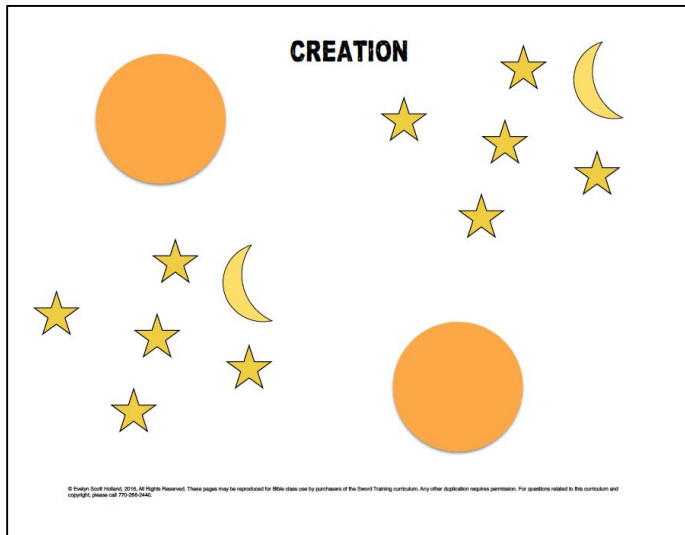


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Timeline Art Page Sample – Each File Has a Completed Example



Timeline Art Page Sample – Cut These Out for The Children



Weekly Message to Parents

For each week, we have a web-based page for parents that reminds them of the month's memory work and gives them questions to ask their children in the car ride home. The links to these pages are available on www.bibleswordtraining.com in the members only section. The recommendation is to schedule a text or email (text is better) to automatically go out to parents just as Bible class is ending. Here is a sample.

This Week in Bible Class...



This Week's Story - Creation

This week we learned about Creation. You can use these questions to help your child remember what we learned. If you missed this week in Bible class, you can use this to help your child stay up on this week's lesson. If you have a younger child, pick out some of the easy questions and focus on those.

Creation Review Questions - Genesis 1-2

- What does the word Genesis mean? (Beginning/origin)
- How many days did it take God to create our world? (6 days)
- Who was the first man on earth? (Adam)
- What was the first woman's name? (Eve)
- What was the first command God gave Adam and Eve? (Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.)
- What did God do on day 7? (Rest)
- From what did God make Adam? (Dust of the ground)
- What do we know about the location of the garden of Eden? (Four rivers, including the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, flowed out of it.)
- What two trees were in the middle of the garden of Eden? (Tree of Life, Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil)
- What was the one tree from which Adam and Eve couldn't eat? (Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil)
- From what did God make Eve? (Adam's rib)

Month One Memory Work

Every four weeks, we have a new set of memory work. Don't forget to use your music CD to help your child remember what we've been working on in class! If you have a younger child, focus on the Sword Point.

Sword Point

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Spiritual Truth Sentence

Tell me about redemption:

When Adam and Eve sinned against God in the garden, all of mankind was separated from God. Thankfully, God had a perfect plan to bring us all back to him.

Timeline

AGE OF BEGINNINGS

- Creation
- Fall of Man
- Cain & Abel
- The Flood

Map It

Tigris River
Euphrates Rivers

Old Testament Books

Books of Law:

- Genesis
- Exodus
- Leviticus
- Numbers
- Deuteronomy

A Thought for Parents

Where Do Babies Come From? You Want A Popsicle?

When a child asks, "Where do babies come from?" we tend to giggle nervously. When that question comes, a child usually isn't ready for the full "birds and bees" conversation. The easy answer is something like, "Babies come from their mummies' tummies." But that gets more challenging when you have a child who is more persistently inquisitive. "Yeah, but where does the Mommy GET the baby?" "HOW does God put it in there?" "What do you MEAN you have a baby when a Daddy loves a Mommy?" I usually end these conversations with something like, "I'll tell you more when you are older. Do you want a popsicle?"

I wonder if God feels the same when we want to understand everything about how he created the earth. "But how did you do something in a day, if you hadn't even created the sun yet?" "How do you even define a day without the sun?" "And how did plants grow before the sun was created?" And of course, "Exactly how do dinosaurs fit in with Genesis? Where did they go? Why and when?"

There are Christian scientists much smarter than I who study the issues of the age of the earth and biological evidence of intelligent design. I sometimes listen to them. I understand some of it. Some of it goes over my head. In the end, I can't help but wonder if God sees us all in much the same way I see a five year old. Perhaps he is watching us and saying, "I've given you the answer in as much detail as you need for now. I started with light; I finished with Adam and Eve; and of all the things I created, I like you the best."

