

LETTERS & DEVOTION

Bible: Kings, Prophets and a Promise, a Second Grade Year

Free sample: Unit 1, Lessons 1 to 8

These are 8 lessons from *Bible: Kings, Prophets and a Promise, a Second Grade Year: Grade 2*, a Grade 2 year a parent runs at the kitchen table. Each lesson is a short script for you, a page to read together, and a practice sheet you may copy for your household. Answers are at the back.

Bible: Kings, Prophets and a Promise, a Second Grade Year: Grade 2. Sample edition.

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Letters & Devotion is a Christian curriculum: a Bible course in every grade from the King James text, and science taught as scientists teach it, including an old earth. Standards references: Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards.



BIBLE · UNIT 1

When Judges Ruled

Nine weeks in Judges and Ruth: a nation with no king, going round and round the same circle of forgetting and being rescued. Deborah, Gideon, Samson, and then one quiet family in Bethlehem.

In this unit

1. Everybody did what they wanted
2. Deborah under the tree
3. The smallest one in the family
4. Three hundred men
5. The strongest man
6. The last prayer
7. Where you go, I will go
8. Picking up leftovers

BIBLE · UNIT 1 · LESSON 1

Everybody did what they wanted

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “Everybody did what they wanted” (Judges 2:6-19), and say Judges 21:25 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: Everybody did what they wanted

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Judges 2:6-19, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

Joshua died, and the people who remembered what God had done for them died too. The children who grew up next did not know those stories, and they went after other gods.

Life got hard. Enemies came. The people cried out to God, and God sent a rescuer called a judge.

While the judge lived, things went well. When the judge died, the people forgot again, and the whole thing started over.

That circle happens six or seven times in this book. Forget, trouble, cry out, rescue, forget again.

LEARN BY HEART (Judges 21:25 (part)):

every man did that which was right in his own eyes.

ASK:

1. What happened every time a judge died?
2. Why do you think the people forgot so fast?

3. What is something you have to be reminded about again and again?

DO: Draw a circle on a big piece of paper and write four words around it: forget, trouble, cry out, rescued. Keep this paper. You will point back at it all year.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: Everybody did what they wanted

1. What happened every time a judge died?
 - ☐ A The next judge was made king
 - ☐ B The enemies packed up, left the land, and never caused any trouble again
 - ☐ C The people forgot God again and the trouble started over
2. God sent someone to rescue the people when they cried out. What was that person called?
 - ☐ A A judge
 - ☐ B A soldier from another country
 - ☐ C A king
3. Your verse says every man did that which was right in whose eyes?
 - ☐ A The judge's eyes
 - ☐ B God's eyes
 - ☐ C His own eyes
4. Why did the children who grew up after Joshua go after other gods?
 - ☐ A Joshua himself commanded the people to follow other gods
 - ☐ B They did not know the stories of what God had done
 - ☐ C They had never even once heard God's name spoken in their whole lives

Deborah under the tree

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “Deborah under the tree” (Judges 4:1-16), and say Psalm 27:1 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: Deborah under the tree

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Judges 4:1-16, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

Deborah was a judge and a prophet. She sat under a palm tree and people came to her to settle their arguments.

An enemy army had nine hundred iron chariots, and Israel had been afraid of them for twenty years.

Deborah sent for a soldier named Barak and told him what God said: take ten thousand men and go.

Barak said he would only go if Deborah went with him. So she went.

The chariots got stuck, the army ran, and Israel was free.

LEARN BY HEART (Psalm 27:1 (part)):

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

ASK:

1. What was Deborah's job before the battle?
2. Barak would not go unless Deborah came. Was he brave or not brave? Could he be both?

3. Who is someone you are braver with than you are alone?

DO: Sit under a tree, or under a sheet if it is raining, and settle a real argument in your house the way Deborah did: both sides talk, one person decides. Let your child be the judge once.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: Deborah under the tree

1. What was Deborah's job before the battle?
 - ☐ A She was a judge and a prophet who settled arguments
 - ☐ B She cooked meals every day for Barak's ten thousand soldiers
 - ☐ C She drove one of the enemy's nine hundred iron chariots into battle against Israel

2. What did Barak say when Deborah told him to go?
 - ☐ A He would go only if Deborah came with him
 - ☐ B He went straight away without saying anything
 - ☐ C He would not go at all

3. Your verse says the LORD is my light and my what?
 - ☐ A My salvation
 - ☐ B My shady palm tree, the same one where Deborah used to sit and judge
 - ☐ C My chariot

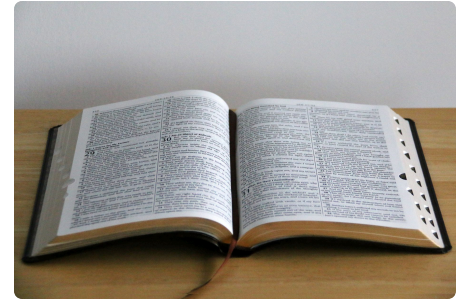
4. How many iron chariots did the enemy army have?
 - ☐ A Ten thousand
 - ☐ B Only nine, not nine hundred
 - ☐ C Nine hundred

BIBLE · UNIT 1 · LESSON 3

The smallest one in the family

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “The smallest one in the family” (Judges 6:11-16), and say Judges 6:12 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: The smallest one in the family

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Judges 6:11-16, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

Gideon was hiding in a winepress, beating out wheat where the enemy could not see him.

An angel came and said something that must have sounded like a joke: the LORD is with you, mighty man of valor.

Gideon argued. My family is the poorest, and I am the least in my father's house.

God did not tell him he was wrong about that. God said: go in this thy might, have not I sent thee?

Gideon asked for a sign, and then another one. God gave him both.

LEARN BY HEART (Judges 6:12 (part)):

The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.

ASK:

1. Where was Gideon when the angel found him?
2. God called him mighty before he had done one brave thing. Why do you think God did that?

3. What is something you feel too small to do?

DO: Copy the verse in your best handwriting and put your own name in it: the LORD is with (name), thou mighty man or woman of valor. Stick it on the mirror.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: The smallest one in the family

1. Where was Gideon when the angel found him?
☐ A Already leading an army out to fight the enemy that day
☐ B Asleep in the house of God ☐ C Hiding in a winepress, beating out wheat
2. What did the angel call Gideon?
☐ A A frightened farmer ☐ B A mighty man of valour ☐ C The least in his father's house
3. Finish your verse: the LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of ...
☐ A Wheat ☐ B War ☐ C Valour
4. What did Gideon say about himself and his family?
☐ A His brothers had already beaten the enemy once
☐ B His family was the richest in all of Israel and everyone respected them
☐ C His family was the poorest and he was the least in his father's house

Three hundred men

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “Three hundred men” (Judges 7:1-22), and say Zechariah 4:6 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: Three hundred men

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Judges 7:1-22, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

Gideon had thirty-two thousand men. God said that was too many.

Anyone who is afraid can go home, God said, and twenty-two thousand left.

Still too many. God watched how the men drank at the water and sent almost all the rest home. Three hundred were left.

That night the three hundred crept around the camp with trumpets, jars, and torches hidden inside the jars.

They smashed the jars, blew the trumpets, and the enemy army panicked in the dark and ran.

LEARN BY HEART (Zechariah 4:6 (part)):

Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

ASK:

1. Why did God keep sending soldiers home?
2. If the army had won with thirty-two thousand men, who would people say did it?

DO: Make a jar and a torch: a paper cup over a flashlight. Turn out the lights, crush the cup, and see how bright it is. Count to three hundred together and feel how small that is next to thirty-two thousand.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: Three hundred men

1. How many men did Gideon have at the start of this week?
☐ A Only about ten thousand men ☐ B Thirty-two thousand ☐ C Three hundred
2. What did the three hundred men carry that night?
☐ A Swords, shields, spears and all their usual weapons
☐ B Trumpets, and jars with torches inside ☐ C Iron chariots taken from the enemy
3. Your verse says: not by might, nor by power, but by ...
☐ A My sword and armor, saith the LORD of hosts ☐ B My army, saith the LORD of hosts
☐ C My spirit, saith the LORD of hosts
4. What happened when the three hundred smashed their jars and blew their trumpets?
☐ A The enemy army panicked in the dark and ran ☐ B The enemy army slept through it
☐ C Gideon's men charged in swinging their swords and shouting

BIBLE · UNIT 1 · LESSON 5

The strongest man

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “The strongest man” (Judges 13:1-5 and 13:24, then 16:4-21), and say Proverbs 16:32 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: The strongest man

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Judges 13:1-5 and 13:24, then 16:4-21, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

Samson was promised to God before he was born, and he was never to cut his hair. He grew up strong, stronger than anyone. He tore a lion apart with his hands. But Samson did whatever he felt like doing. He broke promises, he told lies, he paid people back when they hurt him.

A woman named Delilah kept asking where his strength came from, and kept selling him out, and he kept coming back.

In the end he told her, his hair was cut while he slept, and his enemies took him and blinded him.

LEARN BY HEART (Proverbs 16:32 (part)):

He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty.

ASK:

1. Samson was the strongest man alive. What was he weak at?
2. Delilah tricked him three times before the real one. Why do you think he stayed?
3. What is something you are good at? What is something you are still learning to

control?

DO: Arm wrestle, then try a harder test of strength: sit still and quiet for two full minutes, or do not answer back once all afternoon. Talk about which was harder.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: The strongest man

1. What was Samson never supposed to do?
☐ A Leave his own country ☐ B Fight a lion ☐ C Cut his hair
2. What happened while Samson was asleep?
☐ A He escaped out of a window ☐ B He grew even stronger ☐ C His hair was cut off
3. Your verse says he that is slow to anger is better than whom?
☐ A The quick ☐ B The rich ☐ C The mighty
4. Samson was the strongest man alive. What was he weak at?
☐ A Making friends and keeping them close ☐ B Lifting heavy things
☐ C Controlling what he did and said

The last prayer

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “The last prayer” (Judges 16:22-30), and say Judges 16:28 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: The last prayer

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Judges 16:22-30, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

Samson was in prison, blind, grinding grain like an animal. Everything he had was gone. Slowly, his hair began to grow again.

His enemies brought him out to laugh at him in front of a huge crowd inside their temple.

Samson asked a boy to put his hands on the two main pillars, and he prayed one short prayer: remember me.

He pushed, and the building came down, and that was the end of Samson.

LEARN BY HEART (Judges 16:28 (part)):

O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray thee.

ASK:

1. What did Samson pray?
2. God listened to a man who had wasted almost everything. What does that tell you about God?

DO: Push against a wall as hard as you can for ten seconds. Then say Samson's prayer out loud together, just those words: O Lord God, remember me.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: The last prayer

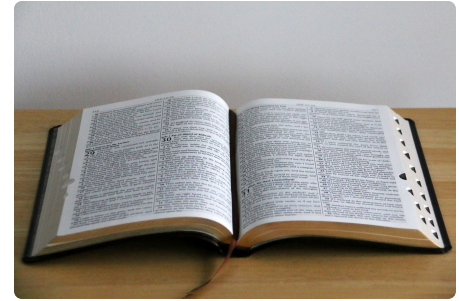
1. Where was Samson at the start of this week?
☐ A Back home safe and sound with his family ☐ B Leading Israel's army
☐ C In prison, blind, grinding grain
2. What began to happen slowly while Samson was in prison?
☐ A His enemies changed their minds and freed him ☐ B His sight came back
☐ C His hair began to grow again
3. Samson's last prayer was very short. What did he ask God to do?
☐ A Forgive Delilah ☐ B Remember him ☐ C Give him his sight back
4. What did Samson ask a boy to help him do?
☐ A Put his hands on the two main pillars ☐ B Bring him some water
☐ C Open the heavy prison door and let him go free

BIBLE · UNIT 1 · LESSON 7

Where you go, I will go

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “Where you go, I will go” (Ruth 1), and say Ruth 1:16 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: Where you go, I will go

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Ruth 1, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

A famine came, so a family left Bethlehem and went to live in Moab, a country next door.

There the father died. The two sons married Moabite women, Orpah and Ruth, and then both sons died too.

Naomi was left with no husband and no sons, and she decided to go home. She told the two young women to go back to their own mothers.

Orpah kissed her and went. Ruth would not let go.

Ruth said she would go wherever Naomi went, live where she lived, and worship her God. So two widows walked back to Bethlehem together.

LEARN BY HEART (Ruth 1:16 (part)):

thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.

ASK:

1. What did Naomi tell Ruth and Orpah to do?
2. Orpah did what she was told. Was she wrong?

3. Who is somebody you would walk a long way with?

DO: Learn Ruth's words by heart this week. Say them to each other at the door every time somebody leaves the house.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: Where you go, I will go

1. Why did the family leave Bethlehem and go to Moab?
☐ A A king sent them away ☐ B A war started and it was not safe to stay
☐ C A famine came, so there was no food
2. What did Naomi tell Ruth and Orpah to do?
☐ A Come to Bethlehem with her ☐ B Go back to their own mothers
☐ C Stay in Moab and farm her fields
3. Finish Ruth's words: thy people shall be my people, and ...
☐ A Thy house my house ☐ B Thy land my land ☐ C Thy God my God
4. What did Orpah do?
☐ A She stayed behind in Moab, and so did Ruth ☐ B She walked to Bethlehem with Naomi
☐ C She kissed Naomi and went back home

Picking up leftovers

Goal: Read, retell and talk about “Picking up leftovers” (Ruth 2), and say Proverbs 19:17 (part) by heart.

About 75 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: Picking up leftovers

Three sittings this week, about twenty-five minutes each: read together, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Ruth 2, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THE STORY IN SHORT:

There was a law in Israel: farmers had to leave the edges of a field uncut, and leave behind anything the workers dropped, so poor people could come and pick it up.

Ruth went out to gather leftovers in a field so she and Naomi could eat.

The field belonged to a man named Boaz. He came out and asked who she was.

He had already heard about her, how she had left her own country to look after Naomi.

Boaz told his workers to leave extra grain on purpose, and told Ruth to drink from his water jars and stay safe in his field.

LEARN BY HEART (Proverbs 19:17 (part)):

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD.

ASK:

1. What was the law about the edges of the field?
2. Boaz helped in a way that let Ruth still do the work herself. Why does that matter?
3. Who could our family leave something for this week?

DO: Do a gleaning walk: pick up litter along one street, or collect windfall fruit, or fill a bag for a food bank. Leave something at the edge of your own table for someone else.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: Picking up leftovers

1. What was the law about the edges of a field?
 - ☐ A Farmers had to give the edges to the king
 - ☐ B Farmers left the edges uncut so poor people could gather food there
 - ☐ C Farmers had to plant rows of flowers all along the edges of the field
2. Whose field did Ruth gather in?
 - ☐ A Orpah's family's field
 - ☐ B Naomi's own field
 - ☐ C A man named Boaz
3. Your verse says the person who has pity on the poor is lending to whom?
 - ☐ A The farmer
 - ☐ B The LORD
 - ☐ C The poor person
4. What did Boaz tell his workers to do?
 - ☐ A Leave extra grain behind on purpose
 - ☐ B Send Ruth to a different field
 - ☐ C Pick up every last piece so nothing was left behind

Answer key

Bible

Lesson 1	1. C 2. A 3. C 4. B
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Lesson 2	1. A 2. A 3. A 4. C
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Lesson 3	1. C 2. B 3. C 4. C
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Lesson 4	1. B 2. B 3. C 4. A
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Lesson 5	1. C 2. C 3. C 4. C
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Lesson 6	1. C 2. C 3. B 4. A
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Lesson 7	1. C 2. B 3. C 4. C
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Lesson 8	1. B 2. C 3. B 4. A
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Unit 1 check-up	1. B 2. C 3. A 4. A 5. C 6. B 7. C 8. B 9. A 10. C 11. A 12. C 13. B 14. A 15. A 16. C
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The same lessons, with a teacher who talks back

Every lesson in this book also lives at **lettersanddevotion.com**, where Clara, a built-in teacher, works through it with your child as a conversation: she explains a wrong answer instead of marking it, reads aloud for a child who cannot read yet, and keeps the hours and the transcript for you.

One price covers every grade and every child in the family. The first 30 days are free, nothing is charged before day 30, and you can cancel in one click.

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