



The Big Picture of the Bible

Session 1: The History of the Bible

The Goal of Our Three Weeks Together...

Session 1 - Overview of the whole Bible.

Session 2 - Main characters we find in the 11 movements.

Session 3 - Central events in the 11 movements.

Movement #1- Creation and the Fall

- Story Line: The eternal God created everything beautiful and good, including people. God's children rebelled, sinned, and ran away. God's plan of salvation was launched already in the garden.
- Where it is found in the Bible: Genesis 1-4
- A Spiritual Lesson and/or Truth: Our good God gives us what is really good but our sin makes things bad...really bad!

Movement #2- The Flood

- Story Line: As human sinfulness increased on the earth, God's holiness and love both went into action. The world is cleansed but Noah and his family are saved.
- Where it is found in the Bible: Genesis 5-10
- A Spiritual Lesson and/or Truth: God can't look the other way and ignore perpetual sin and rebellion, so He brings holy and just judgment to clean things up.

Movement #3- The Patriarchs

- Story Line: A family of faith (with wonder and warts) is raised up to bring God's hope and grace to the world. God is building a people to be a conduit for His Savior...
- Where it is found in the Bible: Genesis 11-50, 1 Chronicles 1-9
- A Spiritual Lesson and/or Truth: God uses ordinary and broken people to do extraordinary and amazing things.

Movement #4- Freedom and Faith

- Story Line: God sets his people free through signs and wonders (spiritual battle), they are meant to enter the promised land... but a lack of faith keeps them in the wilderness!
- Where it is found in the Bible: Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, and Ruth (and Job).
- A Spiritual Lesson and/or Truth: No matter how much spiritual bondage and slavery we get ourselves into, God's will is still freedom and faith and He offers it to us all.

Movement #5- The United Kingdom

- Story Line: For a time, in the promised land, the twelve tribes of God's people stood united as one nation under a series of kings: Saul, David, Solomon. Though there was tension, the kingdom expanded.
- Where it is found in the Bible: 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 Kings 1-11, 1 Chronicles 10-29, 2 Chronicles 1-9, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon
- A Spiritual Lesson and/or Truth: Used by God in different ways to further His plan for His people, Kings Saul, David and Solomon also struggled with pride and power.

Movement #6- The Divided Kingdom

- Story Line: After Solomon, a civil war begins that divides God's people in sad and painful ways. Eventually, each kingdom is exiled due to rebellion and sin.
- Where it is found in the Bible: 1 Kings 12-22, 2 Kings, 2 Chronicles 10-36, Jonah, Amos, Hosea, Micah, Isaiah, Nahum, Jeremiah, Obadiah, Ezekiel, Daniel
- A Spiritual Lesson and/or Truth: The life of a leader (or any person) can be summarized in one word or statement... let your life be "Good" in the sight of God.

Movement #7- A Remnant, Return, and Restoration

- Story Line: After 70 years in captivity, the remnant (a faithful few) are released back to Jerusalem under leadership to rebuild a way of life/faith and a place to live and worship! There are prophets who lead the way!
- Where it is found in the Bible: Daniel, Esther, Ezra, Nehemiah, Ezekiel, Zechariah, Malachi, Haggai
- A Spiritual Lesson and/or Truth: God is in the restoration business and He delights to surprise us with His healing power and plan.

Movement #8- The Story of Jesus

- Story Line: God entered human history, lived a perfect life of love, grace, miracles, friendship, and so much more. Then, He died in our place on the cross. Three days later he rose and then he ascended to heaven.
- Where it is found in the Bible: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
- A Spiritual Lesson and/or Truth: God came in love, lived with love, died to show His love, and rose to prove the power of His love.

Movement #9- The Church Is Born

- Story Line: The disciples were afraid and in hiding...until the Holy Spirit came in power. Then, the church was unleashed...God started a new movement on the earth...his plan to bring the gospel to the world! Peter, Paul, and many others became part of that plan...including you and me!
- Where it is found in the Bible: Acts
- A Spiritual Lesson and/or Truth: God's plan to bring His love, grace, truth, and message to the world is the building of a vibrant and Spirit filled people called the Church.

Movement #10- The Church Grows

- Story Line: God grows the church through mission, communication, and vision...through great trial and pain!
- Where it is found in the Bible: Romans - Jude
- A Spiritual Lesson and/or Truth: No matter what the world and the forces of hell throw at the Church, God's people will continue to bring His message and love to the world.

Movement #11- Christ Is Better and Forever

- Story Line: Until Jesus comes again, He is still with us. He is better than all that came before and He will win the victory in the end.
- Where it is found in the Bible: Hebrews and Revelation
- A Spiritual Lesson and/or Truth: Jesus is better than the old ways, the old covenants, the best things we can imagine or dream.