The goal of Cornerstone Connections is to lead you to the Bible to see the big story of God and people. This big story continues from the first generation in Eden to your generation today. It’s about the lives of people as the God of the universe interacts with them. If you are looking for a word from God that is real, Cornerstone Connections captures the message of Scripture and challenges you to make the connections to your real life.

God’s Word is not only real; it is rock-solid. For the first generation to hear God’s voice in the garden as well as the last group standing before Christ at the Second Coming, the Word of God has been and continues to be reliable. The word from God comes to us in the stories of people who encountered Him and made a decision to either follow Him or walk away.

Real. Solid. Stories. You will find one in Into the Story in each lesson. Out of the Story will provide you with ways to search for truth you can apply to your life. In each lesson you will also find:

- **What Do You Think?**—a mental activity to get your mind and heart in gear for the story to follow. Every time you approach a Bible story, you are coming to it in the context of the story in which you live every day.
- **Did You Know?**—a brief statistic or definition that digs a little deeper into the story or simply provides some helpful facts to bring to the lesson.
- **Key Text**—a verse that points out a key concept from the story. It is also a great place to find verses that you can memorize and store away for later use.
- **Punch Lines**—a few other verses from Scripture that punctuate key concepts of the lesson. You may see connections between them and the Bible story as well as your own life.
- **Flashlight**—a brief snapshot of Ellen White’s input on the story. These glimmers that shed light onto the biblical passage will also give you a glimpse of what awaits you in the suggested weekly reading from her inspired commentary on the stories—the Conflict of the Ages.*
- **Further Insight**—one or two quotes that will provide further insight into the central message of the lesson.
- **Connecting to Life**—the guide to making the truths about God in this story your very own. Study the Bible lesson during the week in preparation for Sabbath School. On Sabbath you will have the opportunity to review, discuss, and elaborate on what you learned with your teacher and other students in your Sabbath School class. Each day of the week you will be directed to explore one of the sections of the lesson, to relate it to the story you live, and to make the message from God’s Word apply to you personally.

Welcome to Cornerstone Connections

— The Editors

PS Don’t forget to check out the reading plan.

*A special adaptation has been created just for you by the Ellen G. White Estate and the Pacific Press® Publishing Association. Get more info about it at: www.cornerstoneconnections.net.
October

5 — Consequences [p. 5]
Both Samson and the people he is to deliver are not ready to trust God and obey.

12 — Prayer Power [p. 9]
Hannah is faithful to fulfill the vow she makes to God in anguish.

19 — Eli’s Bad, Bad Boys [p. 13]
Poor parenting ends in national trouble and family tragedy.

26 — Turn It Around [p. 17]
The story of the ark shows God as holy and just, yet full of mercy.

November

2 — Trading Leaders [p. 21]
God gives Israel the king they beg for, against His better judgment.

9 — So Long, Saul [p. 25]
Outer appearances can’t be trusted; unchecked power almost always corrupts.

16 — Giant Faith [p. 29]
Reckless and childlike trust in God turns human reality upside down.

23 — Running [p. 33]
Saul is out to destroy the very person who wins his battles for him.

30 — A Sad End [p. 37]
David’s victory celebration is stopped by word of Saul’s final defeat.

December

7 — When Will I Be King? [p. 41]
David hangs on to God, even though his path is long and difficult.

14 — The Golden Age of Israel [p. 45]
After the long struggle to the throne, David finally unites Israel in prosperity.

21 — The Fall and Rise of David [p. 49]
Even after years of complete trust in God, David succumbs to self-sufficiency.

28 — The Fathers God Chose for His Son [p. 53]
Usually when the Christmas story is shared, Jesus’ genealogy is completely ignored. However, the details of Jesus’ background are critical to understanding the full story of His life.