Welcome to the experience of teaching from Cornerstone Connections: Real. Solid. Stories.
The following are provided for your assistance:
• A Word About What’s Ahead . . . (student introduction) [p. 2]
• Why the Bible Story Approach? (teacher introduction) [p. 3]
• What Tools Are Provided for Teaching the Stories? [p. 4]
• Complete Scope and Sequence [p. 5]
• Current Year Overview [p. 6]
• Current Quarter Overview [p. 9]

A WORD ABOUT WHAT’S AHEAD . . . (student introduction)
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 to 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 either to 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 also will 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 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.

### WHY THE BIBLE STORY APPROACH? (teacher introduction)

There is a tendency to neglect God’s Word because the Bible seems so old and the issues of life today don’t seem to automatically connect with the ancient, inspired text. But the Bible was never meant to be just read. It was meant to be studied, reflected on, and integrated into life. It wasn’t written to be analyzed as much as it was to be obeyed. It takes effort. If you simply want a story to entertain you, then the Bible isn’t for you.

The Bible is not a novel that grips you, but if you get a firm hold on the message of the Bible with a teachable heart and an eye that seeks God, you will find something more than entertaining. You will discover a message just for you. “And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart” (Jeremiah 29:13, NKJV). Jesus said, “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock” (Matthew 7:24, NKJV).

The Bible is the tool used by the promised Teacher—the Holy Spirit. We, the earthly teachers, will be effective as we first let the Spirit teach us. Each of these lessons is built around a specific Bible story. You will lead the students *Into the Story* and help them mine truth for their lives *Out of the Story*. The gems of truth are not already mined for you. You and your students will have an opportunity to dig for yourselves.

“In daily study the verse-by-verse method is often most helpful. Let the student take one verse, and concentrate the mind on ascertaining the thought that God has put into that verse for him, and then dwell upon the thought until it becomes his own. One passage thus studied until its significance is clear is of more value than the perusal of many chapters with no definite purpose in view and no positive instruction gained” (*Education*, p. 189).

Welcome to *Cornerstone Connections*.

—The Editors

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

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*A special modern 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.*
what tools are provided for teaching the stories?

(Bolded text helps you review the suggested steps at a glance.)

1️⃣ With each lesson in this Teacher’s Guide you will find an Explore section with topics listed that relate to each week’s story. We have provided a variety of resources for exploring the topic you choose—from discussion questions to illustrations, from reader’s theater scripts to learning activities. Use the resources at www.cornerstoneconnections.net to create a “program” that is relevant to your group.

2️⃣ Begin the actual “lesson” time with the What Do You Think? activity (and the Did You Know? information) in the student lesson. The activities are designed to get your students to think, respond, and share with one another. The rich discussion that can grow out of this exercise is a great entry point. The key question to ask at the end is “Why did you respond the way you did?”

3️⃣ Your Teacher’s Guide provides an illustration, along with a short “bridge” thought that will help you lead your students into the Bible passage itself.

4️⃣ The heart of the lesson experience is to read the Bible passage, Into the Story, together and to discuss it with the help of your Out of the Story for Teachers questions. Other passages to compare to this one for further study of the Word are sometimes provided as well.

5️⃣ Then share the information about context and background that will make the story become more understandable for you and your students.

6️⃣ You are provided with a short guide to help you unpack the other sections of the student lesson with your class. (Your students are also directed to work through one section of their lesson on their own each day by following the instructions in Making It Real. Encourage students to study the Bible lesson during the week in preparation for Sabbath School. On Sabbath you will review the lesson and will help them elaborate on it. This process will strengthen in students a sense of accountability and will facilitate a deeper spiritual understanding of the content under study in Sabbath School.

7️⃣ Each week’s Teacher’s Guide includes a teaching tip in Rabbi 101 that will be helpful for you to keep for future reference. You are also provided an activity and a summary that helps to draw the lesson together and close.

8️⃣ In each lesson students are provided with a reference to the volume from the Conflict of the Ages Series, by Ellen White, that corresponds with the week’s story. Students who follow the reading plan included in these Sabbath School Bible study guides will be able to read the entire series in four years. The audio and e-book versions of the Conflict of the Ages Series in Today’s Language are now available online at www.cornerstoneconnections.net. The prayerful study of God’s Word along with the reading of these books promise to help students grow in their relationship with God!

9️⃣ Teachers, in your role as a discipler of youth, the GC Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department wants to help you in every way possible to be equipped for this important work. You are encouraged to go to www.growingfruitfuldisciples.com. There you will find resources to help you be more intentional and fruitful in the discipling of your students.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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| 2016 | 1st Quarter | 1. God's People  
2. Solomon  
3. Temple Builder  
4. Proud Potentate  
5. Repentant Author  
6. Rehoboam  
7. Jeroboam  
8. Asa, Ahab, Jezebel  
9. Elijah  
10. Evangelist  
11. Coward  
12. The Sabbath  
13. Jehoshaphat |
| 2017 | 1st Quarter | 1. Jesus  
2. It's Time  
3. Mary  
4. Simon/Anna  
5. The Wise Men  
6. The Child Jesus  
7. The Voice  
8. Victory  
9. Messiah Found  
10. Marriage Feast  
11. The Temple  
12. Nicodemus  
13. John the Baptist |
| 2018 | 1st Quarter | 1. The Mission  
2. The Holy Spirit  
3. The Lame Man  
4. Ananias/Saphira  
5. God's People  
6. Stephen  
7. Paul  
8. Peter  
9. Paul/Barnabas  
10. Gentiles Included  
11. Spreading Good News  
12. The Thessalonians  
13. The Ephesians |
| 2019 | 1st Quarter | 1. Adam and Eve  
2. The Serpent  
3. Cain and Abel  
4. Seth and Abel  
5. Noah  
6. Tower People  
7. Abraham  
8. Isaac  
9. Lot  
10. Rebekah  
11. Jacob and Esau  
12. Jacob  
13. Israel |
| 2016 | 2nd Quarter | 1. Ahab  
2. Elisha  
3. Prophet  
4. Naaman  
5. Jonah  
6. Hosea  
7. Isaiah  
8. Jehovah  
9. Ahaz  
10. Hezekiah  
11. Assyria  
12. Manasseh  
13. Josiah |
| 2017 | 2nd Quarter | 1. Samaritan Woman  
2. The Nobleman  
3. The Lame Man  
4. John the Baptist  
5. The Anointed One  
6. Peter  
7. Capernaum  
8. The Leper  
9. Levi-Matthew  
10. The Sabbath  
11. The Disciples  
12. The Centurion  
13. The Demonic |
| 2018 | 2nd Quarter | 1. The Corinthians  
2. Workers for Christ  
3. Romans/Galatians  
4. Last Journey  
5. Adventures and Trials  
6. Philemon  
7. Colossians/Philippians  
8. Final Arrest  
9. Before Nero  
10. John the Beloved  
11. Patmos  
12. The Revelation  
13. Church Triumphant |
| 2019 | 2nd Quarter | 1. Joseph  
2. The Brothers  
3. Moses  
4. Egyptians  
5. Fleeing Slaves  
6. Unhappy Campers  
7. Chosen Nation  
8. Aaron  
9. The Tabernacle  
10. Miriam and Zipporah  
11. Twelve Spies  
12. Korah  
13. The Bronze Serpent |
| 2016 | 3rd Quarter | 1. Jeremiah  
2. Approaching Doom  
3. Last King  
4. Captives  
5. Daniel  
6. The Dream  
7. Three Hebrews  
8. Nebuchadnezzar  
9. Belshazzar  
10. Daniel  
11. Daniel 7  
12. Daniel 8, 9  
13. Daniel 10–12 |
| 2017 | 3rd Quarter | 1. Woman/Jairus  
2. The Seventy  
3. The Disciples  
4. Misunderstandings  
5. Broken Barriers  
6. Jesus' Ministry  
7. Who Is Jesus?  
8. Lawyer/Ruler  
9. The Children  
10. Lazarus' Family  
11. Zacchaeus  
12. Mary  
13. James and John |
| 2018 | 3rd Quarter | 1. First Believers  
2. Seekers  
3. Wycliffe  
4. Luther  
5. Zwingli  
6. French Reformation  
7. English Reformers  
8. French Revolution  
9. American Reformers  
10. William Miller  
11. Prophecy Fulfilled  
12. The Sanctuary  
13. God’s Law |
| 2019 | 3rd Quarter | 1. The Borders Revisited  
2. Balaam  
3. Questionable Neighbors  
4. Law Review  
5. Moses’ Death  
6. Crossing Jordan  
7. Rahab  
8. Blessings and Curses  
9. Gibeonites  
10. Canaan Divided  
11. Last Words of Joshua  
12. Annual Feasts  
13. Early Judges |
| 2016 | 4th Quarter | 1. Haggai/Zerubbabel  
2. Zechariah  
3. Temple Two  
4. Esther  
5. Queen  
6. Ezra  
7. Nehemiah  
8. Builders  
9. Plotters  
10. Reformers  
11. Jesus  
12. Deliverer  
13. Future Glory |
| 2017 | 4th Quarter | 1. The King Comes  
2. The Pharisées  
3. The End of Time  
4. Servanthood  
5. The Last Supper  
6. Gethsemane  
7. The Trial  
8. Calvary  
9. Resurrection  
10. Mary Magdalene  
11. The Emmaus Road  
12. By the Sea  
13. Jesus’ Ascension |
| 2018 | 4th Quarter | 1. Renewal  
2. Investigative Judgment  
3. Origin of Evil  
4. Snares  
5. Great Deception  
6. The Papacy  
7. Spiritual Challenge  
8. The Bible  
9. Last Chance  
10. Time of Trouble  
11. Deliverance  
12. The End  
13. The Beginning |
| 2019 | 4th Quarter | 1. Samson  
2. Samuel  
3. Eli  
4. Philistines  
5. First King  
6. Saul’s Death  
7. Anointed  
8. Fugitive  
9. Lunatic  
10. Crowned King  
11. Incumbent  
12. Sinner  
13. Fathers |
## 1st Quarter

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## 2nd Quarter

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1. The Trust Test
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2. Greed: The Bottomless Pit
   Scripture Story: Numbers 22–24.
   Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapter 40.

3. Roads to the Soul
   Scripture Story: Numbers 25.
   Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapter 41.

4. Law and Love Revisited
   Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapter 42.

5. Last Longing Look
   Scripture Story: Deuteronomy 31–34.
   Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapter 43.

6. Promises Don’t Die
   Scripture Story: Joshua 1–5:12.
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7. Behind the Walls
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8. First Things First
   Scripture Story: Joshua 8.
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10. Real Estate Section
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11. Line in the Sand
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12. Famines and Feasts
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    Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapters 50–52.

13. Knowing God’s Will
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1. Consequences
   Scripture Story: Judges 13–16.
   Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapter 54.

2. Prayer Power
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   Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapters 55 and 58.

3. Eli’s Bad, Bad Boys
   Scripture Story: 1 Samuel 2:12-36.
   Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapter 56.

4. Turn It Around
   Scripture Story: 1 Samuel 3–7.
   Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapter 57.

5. Trading Leaders
   Scripture Story: 1 Samuel 8–14.
   Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapters 59 and 60.

6. So Long, Saul
   Scripture Story: 1 Samuel 15; 28; 31.
   Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapters 61, 66, and 67.

7. Giant Faith
   Scripture Story: 1 Samuel 16, 17.
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8. Running
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9. A Sad End
   Scripture Story: 1 Samuel 29, 30; 2 Samuel 1.
   Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapter 66.

10. When Will I Be King?
    Scripture Story: 2 Samuel 2–5.
    Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapter 68.

11. The Golden Age of Israel
    Scripture Story: 2 Samuel 5:6-25; 6; 7; 9; 10.
    Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapter 70.

12. The Fall and Rise of David
    Scripture Story: 2 Samuel 11, 12.
    Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapter 71.

13. The Fathers God Chose for His Son
    Commentary: Patriarchs and Prophets, chapter 70.
    The Desire of Ages, chapters 1–4.
October

5—Consequences [p. 11]
Many young people struggle with depression, anxiety, and fear. Suicide is more common now than ever before. Samson’s life offers an opportunity to explore this topic with care and humility.

12—Prayer Power [p. 19]
Hannah is faithful to fulfill the vow she makes to God in anguish.

19—Eli’s Bad, Bad Boys [p. 27]
Poor parenting ends in national trouble and family tragedy.

26—Turn It Around [p. 35]
The story of the ark shows God as holy, just, yet full of mercy.

November

2—Trading Leaders [p. 43]
God gives Israel the king they beg for, against His better judgment.

9—So Long, Saul [p. 51]
Outer appearances can’t be trusted; unchecked power almost always corrupts.

16—Giant Faith [p. 59]
Reckless and childlike trust in God turns human reality upside down.

23—Running [p. 67]
Saul is out to destroy the very person who wins his battles for him.

December

7—When Will I Be King? [p. 83]
David hangs on to God, even though his path is long and difficult.

14—The Golden Age of Israel [p. 91]
After the long struggle to the throne, David finally unites Israel in prosperity.

21—The Fall and Rise of David [p. 99]
Even after years of complete trust in God, David succumbs to self-sufficiency.

28—The Fathers God Chose for His Son [p. 107]
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.