a word about what’s ahead...

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 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.
January

4—An Undelivered Gift [p. 5]
God sends a message to Israel through the final words of Moses, expressing His anger at their refusal to be the blessing to all the nations that He called and empowered them to be.

11—Wise Beyond His Years [p. 9]
Solomon’s reign is remarkable not only for Israel’s peace with its neighbors, but also for its peace within.

18—A House for God [p. 13]
Solomon’s spiritual high point is the building and dedication of a permanent place for God’s presence among His people.

25—The Wise and Foolish King [p. 17]
Among the many lessons to be learned from the life of Solomon is the important one about the dangers of unfettered prosperity.

February

1—Confessions of a Foolish Wise Man [p. 21]
In the end of Solomon’s life he confesses that only God can fulfill the deepest desires of the soul.

8—Idol Threats [p. 25]
The story of Rehoboam is a sobering reminder that idolatry—in any form—will not be tolerated by God.

15—Jeroboam Sin-drome [p. 29]
The life of Jeroboam is a classic case study of what happens when someone refuses to follow God’s leading.

22—Crossroads [p. 33]
Although King Asa’s legacy is not free from failure, he nevertheless distinguished himself as a committed follower of God.

March

7—Faith on the Mountaintop [p. 41]
Elijah’s “extreme” faith seems far removed from everyday reality; however, his absolute trust in God is exactly what is needed in the days ahead.

14—Doubt in the Valley [p. 45]
God’s followers will face times of discouragement and despair; however, His Word is full of helpful guidance for these down times.

21—Who’s Counting? [p. 49]
Taking a stand for Christ is a challenge when it is a call to live differently from all those around. However, God finds ways to speak hope and clarity into our lives.

28—Life Sentence [p. 53]
King Jehoshaphat’s story is about someone who sought to do what was right in God’s eyes. That desire earned him a special sentence of affirmation in the Bible.