

real.solid.stories

CORNERSTONE CONNECTIONS

2ND QUARTER 2023



DesertDrama

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Youth Sabbath School Bible Study Guide

cornerstone connections

REAL. SOLID. STORIES.

2nd Quarter 2023

Desert Drama

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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 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 apply to you personally.

Welcome to *Cornerstone Connections*.

—The General Conference Sabbath School Department

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.

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April

1—Life Is Hard—Work! [p. 5]

Joseph works faithfully, trusting God's control of his life, no matter in what circumstances he finds himself.

8—Could You Do It? [p. 9]

Joseph reconnects with his family, but it takes a willingness to forgive big offenses and trust that God was in control all along.

15—I See, I Hear, I Know [p. 13]

God's call to Moses reveals to us the compassion of God, His methods of salvation, and the humility required to be a servant of His.

22—Apply the Blood! [p. 17]

The story of the Passover is a revelation of the plan of salvation acted out in symbols. It ties forever the concepts of the blood of the Lamb and righteousness by faith.

29—Faith First? [p. 21]

God delivers His people from bondage, but they are not sure they want to trust Him. God continues to try to get through to them.

May

6—Unhappy Campers [p. 25]

The Israelites, like modern-day Christians, complain of discontent and boredom even in the face of supernatural outpourings of God's grace.

13—The Covenant of Love [p. 29]

The foundation of God's relationship with Israel begins with the reality of their deliverance. They enter into another chapter of humanity's covenant with God.

20—God Thinks Twice [p. 33]

Instead of reflecting on the way God has led them, the Israelites allow their minds to idle and become subject to disbelief. God tells Moses He's giving up on them.

27—Making Rooms for God [p. 37]

God asks for a sanctuary so that He can move into the neighborhood with His people. The people respond to the opportunity to build it.

June

3—What About Me? [p. 41]

There are unique challenges to the role of leadership. There are also guidelines about how we are to respond to those in positions of leadership.

10—Get Over Yourself! [p. 45]

The 12 spies report that the land of Canaan is good and filled with abundance, but all of them, doubt God can deliver it to them.

17—The "Wannabes" [p. 49]

In spite of God's miraculous interventions on behalf of the Israelites under the leadership of Moses, an undercurrent of jealousy proves disastrous.

24—Drama in the Desert [p. 53]

God's ultimate act of grace at the cross is foreshadowed by the serpent of bronze to which the Israelites are to look for healing.