

Steps to Studying Each Story

1. Pray for the Guidance of the Holy Spirit
2. a. Read or tell the story. b. Have the group review it. C. Re-read or re-tell it.
3. Ask: “What does this story show/teach us about God?”
4. Ask: “What does this story show/teach us about people? About ourselves? About choices people make?”
5. Ask: “What can I learn from this story to follow or obey?”
6. Ask: “Who can I share this story with?”

Old Testament Stories

Lesson 1: **Creation**

Genesis 1:1-2:3 (Summary Story)

Lesson 2: The fall of **Adam** and **Eve**

Genesis 3:1-15

Lesson 3: **Cain** and **Abel**--Sin and shame fill the earth

Genesis 4: 1-12

Lesson 4: God warns **Noah**

Genesis 6:5-11

Lesson 5: **Noah** obeys God

Genesis 7:5-22

Lesson 6: God’s covenant with **Noah**

Genesis 8:20-22; 9:12-17

Lesson 7: The Tower of Babel

Genesis 11:1-9

Lesson 8: God speaks to **Abraham**

Genesis 12:1-7

Lesson 9: **Sarah** and **Abraham** Promised a Son

Genesis 18:1-15

Lesson 10: **Abraham** and **Isaac** and the Sacrificial Lamb

Genesis 22:1-18

Lesson 11: **Isaac**’s family

Genesis 24-36 (Summary Story)

Lesson 12: **Jacob** and **Joseph** and his brothers

Genesis 37:1-11

Lesson 13: **Job**

Job 1, 2 (Summary Story)

Lesson 14: Birth and early life of **Moses**

Exodus 2:1-15 (Exodus 1 is the background)

Lesson 15: God calls **Moses** (the burning bush)

Exodus 3:1-12

Lesson 16: The First Nine Plagues

Exodus 7-10 (Summary Story)

- Lesson 17: The Passover Instituted
Exodus 12:21-30
- Lesson 18: Crossing the Red Sea
Exodus 14:21-31 (Exodus 14:5-14 is background)
- Lesson 19: God provides water and food
Exodus 17:1-7 (Exodus 16 is background)
- Lesson 20: God gives the Law on Mount Sinai
Exodus 20:1-17
- Lesson 21: Building the Tabernacle
Exodus 25-27 (Summary Story)
- Lesson 22: The Day of Atonement
Leviticus 16:29-34 (Lev. 16:1-28 is background)
- Lesson 23: **Gideon** and the 300
Judges 6-8 (Summary Story)
- Lesson 24: **David** and **Goliath**
1 Samuel 17
- Lesson 25: **David** and his Descendants
2 Samuel 7:8-17; Isaiah 9:6-7
- Lesson 26: **Solomon's** Wisdom
1 Kings 3:7-9, 16-27 (Summary Story)
- Lesson 27: Jonah
Jonah 1-4 (Summary Story)
- Lesson 28: **Daniel** and his friends face captivity
Daniel 1:1-20
- Lesson 29: **Daniel** Obeys God
Daniel 6 (Summary Story)
- Lesson 30: Queen Esther is Faithful
Esther 2:1-18, 3, 4, 7-9 (Summary Story)
- New Testament Stories
- Lesson 1: Prophecy of the Suffering Servant
Isaiah 53:1-10
- Lesson 2: The Angel Appears to **Mary**
Luke 1:26-38
- Lesson 3: The Birth of **Jesus**
Luke 2:1-14
- Lesson 4: The Visit of the Wise Men
Matthew 2:1-12
- Lesson 5: John Announces the Straight Path
John 1:19-28
- Lesson 6: Jesus' Baptism
John 1:29-35
- Lesson 7: Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man

- Mark 2:1-12
Lesson 8: Jesus Meets Nicodemus
John 3:1-8
- Lesson 9: Jesus and the Sabbath
Mark 2:23-3:6
- Lesson 10: Jesus Heals Lame, Blind, Lepers, Mute
Matthew 15:29-31
- Lesson 11: Jesus with His Friends, Mary, Martha and Lazarus
Luke 10:38-42
- Lesson 12: Jesus Teaches about God's Kingdom
Matthew 13:31-34, 44-52
- Lesson 13: Death and Resurrection of Lazarus
John 11:1-43—Summary Story
- Lesson 14: Jesus is the Path, the Truth, the Life
John 14:1-11
- Lesson 15: The Last Supper
Luke 22:7-22
- Lesson 16: Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane
Matt. 26:36-46
- Lesson 17: Jesus Arrested and Tried
Luke 22:47-23:11—Summary Story
- Lesson 18: The Death of Jesus
John 19:16-35—Summary Story
- Lesson 19: The Resurrection of Jesus
Luke 24:1-9
- Lesson 20: Jesus is Alive and Appears to the Disciples
Matthew 28:1-20
- Lesson 21: Jesus' last words
Acts 1:4-11
- Lesson 22: A Lame Man Healed by Peter and John
Acts 3:1-10
- Lesson 23: Conversion of Paul
Acts 9:1-19
- Lesson 24: Paul Shipwrecked
Acts 27:13-44 (Summary Story)
- Lesson 25: New Heavens and New Earth
Revelation 21:1-8

SECTION 4: EXPERIENCING JESUS DAY BY DAY

INTRODUCTION: Day by day, throughout our lives, it is important to continue experiencing Jesus' power to heal and transform us. There

are six things we can do daily that will help keep us connected to Jesus and His power. *They are not magic or rituals that we have to do to please God.* No! Just as we eat good food, drink clean water, breathe fresh air and exercise to grow and be healthy and strong physically, so also we follow these basic practices to grow and be strong spiritually.

Note to teachers: In addition to a story for each lesson, there is a text to memorize as part of our meditation each day. At the end of each lesson, ask for a decision/commitment to follow this practice daily. Review and encourage accountability each week. Continue to use the Steps for Sharing a Story on p. 8.

Lesson 1: Confession and Repentance. As someone becomes a believer, it is important to repent and confess sin. Sin is like poison. The only cure is Jesus. Only as we admit our shame and sin and ask Jesus to take it away can we become strong believers. Daily we need to confess our sins to God so that he can forgive us.

Stories: Repentance: Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)
 Confession: David (2 Samuel 12:13, 14)
 Forgiveness: The Lost Son (Luke 15:17-21).

Memory text: Mark 1:15; James 1:5

Lesson 2: Prayer and Meditation Pray and meditate on God's Word two or three times a day.

Stories: Jesus (Mark 1:35-37)
 Daniel (Daniel 6:3-10).

Memory text: Psalm 119:15.

Lesson 3: Worship and Praise. A spirit of thankfulness and praise to God is a part of the growing process.

Story: A grateful leper (Luke 17:11-19).

Memory text: Psalm 9:1, 2.

Lesson 4: Fellowship. Be part of a regular group on Sabbath and other selected days. Fellowship with other believers is important if we are to be strong.

Story: Early Church (Acts 2:41-47).

Memory text: Hebrews 10:24, 25.

Lesson 5: Love one Another. Live out Jesus' command to "love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:35-39). Be willing to learn to love others, even your enemies. This opens your hearts to receive more of God's love.

Story: The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37).

Memory text: John 15:12, 13.

Lesson 6: Live out the Great Commission. Share what you are experiencing. Sharing is like exercise: It helps you grow strong.

Story: The man with demons (Mark 5:1-20).

Memory text: Matthew 28:19, 20.

SECTION 5: BECOMING A BELIEVER

INTRODUCTION: After people begin to experience Jesus' power in their lives, and as they get to know God through His Story, they may be ready to become believers. Believers are people who choose to trust Jesus and to follow Him. They know that He will be with them always—to care for them, guide them, remove their shame, and save them from eternal death. The next Bible stories are about people who became believers.

Note to Teachers: As the Holy Spirit leads, share these stories of how people made a choice to become a believer/follower of Jesus. Lesson 6 contains three different ways to ask for a decision. Prayerfully choose the one that seems the best, or create one of your own. It is important for people to make a choice and then pray a prayer of acceptance and commitment. Continue to follow the Steps for Sharing a Story on p. 8.

Lesson 1: Man at the Foot of the Mount of Transfiguration (Mark 9:14-25). This man wanted to believe, but it was difficult. He needed Jesus' help to become a believer. We can pray his prayer too.

- Memory text: Mark 9:24.

Lesson 2: The Jailer of Philippi (Acts 16:25- 34). This man observed the lives of Paul and Silas and heard their witness. He and his whole family believed, and they were saved.

- Memory text: Acts 16:31.

Lesson 3: Doubting Thomas (John 20:24-29). Thomas wouldn't believe until he saw and touched Jesus. Jesus praised people who can believe even if they don't see and touch Jesus.

- Memory text: John 20:29.

Lesson 4: The Widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:10-16). This woman worshipped another god, but she became a believer after she saw God's power working in her life and the life of Elijah.

- Memory text: 1 Kings 17:24.

Lesson 5: Naaman (2 Kings 5:1-10, 14-16). Naaman worshipped other gods, but he chose to become a believer when he experienced the true God's power to heal him.

- Memory text: 2 Kings 5:15.

Lesson 6: Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4:4-37—Summary Story).

Nebuchadnezzar was a proud heathen king. He became a believer when he saw God work miracles.

Invitation to Become a Believer.

As the Holy Spirit leads, invite people to become believers and accept Jesus into their lives.

“You may decide to believe in Jesus now, as some do, and I will lead you through a prayer to accept Jesus. If you are not ready today, you can learn more and make your decision as you understand more of Jesus’ story.”

Choose one of the three decision appeals below or create your own.

- **Decision Appeal 1:** Ask, “Do you ever feel discouraged because there is sin and shame in your life? Would you like a way to escape and be saved from shame and sin?” Review the story of “The Lost Son” (Luke 15:11-24). Then say, “You can decide like the lost son to return to God. Pray this prayer, and God will accept you.”

Prayer: “I am not worthy to be Your son/ daughter. I believe You saved me from my sin and shame when You died and arose from the dead. Now I believe You will restore me to the honor of being Your child. Amen.”

- **Decision Appeal 2:** “Many people have difficulty feeling certain of salvation. Ask, “Do you ever feel unsure that God loves you and will save you? Do you worry about Judgment Day? Let me tell you a story of how you can know you are saved by accepting Jesus.” Use this story of Paul (based on 1 Corinthians 15:1-9 and Romans 10:9, 10).

“Paul was a teacher and leader of many people who were new believers in Jesus. They wanted to have lives of honor. But they were not sure how to be saved from their shame and sin. Paul wanted to help them live lives that would honor God. Mostly, Paul wanted them to know that Jesus loved them and had already saved them from their shame and sin.

“Paul said, “I want to remind you of the Good News which I preached to you before. Jesus died for our sins; He was buried and He was raised to life three days later, as it is written in the Scriptures. Then He appeared to Peter and then to all 12 apostles and then to more than 500 of His followers all at once. Last of all He appeared to me.”

“This is the good news: “If you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, and confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, you will be saved. Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.”

Prayer: “Jesus I believe in my heart that you arose from the dead. I want to confess with my mouth that you are Lord! I know I am now

accepted into your family. Amen.”

- **Decision Appeal 3:** This appeal story may be especially appropriate for Muslims—the first and last sacrifice story.

“God created a perfect world for the first man, Adam, and the first woman, Eve. God gave them honor as rulers of this earth. They lived in a beautiful garden—Eden. Their lives were free of fear and shame and guilt. They lived in complete harmony with each other and God, with nature and themselves. As long as they were loyal to God, they would live forever.

“But Satan, who had started a rebellion against God in Heaven, came to Adam and Eve and tempted them to doubt God and obey Satan instead. Sadly, Adam and Eve listened to Satan and disobeyed God. As a result, the beautiful world was no longer perfect. Adam and Eve were disconnected from God and lost the honor He had given them. Now they were naked and ashamed, so they covered their nakedness and shame with fig leaves.

“God could have destroyed them immediately, but instead He gave them a second chance. He killed an animal to make them clothes of skin to replace the fig leaves. Then He made a wonderful promise, “Someday, my only Son will come to this earth and destroy the power of Satan. He will die as a sacrifice for you, and by dying He will take your shame and sin, and restore your honor and innocence.”

“For many years Adam and Eve’s descendants waited for the promised Savior to come. Finally He was born to Mary and her husband, Joseph. They named the baby Jesus.

“Amazing things happened at the time of His birth. Many people believed that the promised Savior had been born. Jesus lived on earth for more than 30 years, helping people, and restoring them to health and honor.

“One day the leaders arrested Him, mistreated Him and killed Him. When He died, His followers were confused. Why did such a good man die such a shameful death? They forgot the promise that the Savior would be sacrificed for their sins.

“After three days, Jesus came back to life, and then He ascended to Heaven. Before He left, He promised He would return some day and take them to Heaven. He also told them to tell people everywhere about His sacrifice. To accept Jesus’ sacrifice for you, I invite you to believe and accept Jesus right now.T

Prayer: “Jesus, I believe in my heart that You died as the sacrifice for my sin and arose from the dead. I want to confess with my mouth

that You are Lord! I believe You have saved me from my sin and shame and will restore me to the high honor of being your son (or daughter). I believe I am now accepted into my honored position in Your family. Amen.”

SECTION 6: PREPARING FOR BAPTISM

INTRODUCTION: At this point, people will have had time to get to know the God of the Bible.

- They have seen God’s love and power in your ministry
- They have tasted and experienced God’s power and healing in their own lives.
- They have been encouraged to share what they are learning and experiencing with others
- They have been building a foundation on which to base their faith by experiencing God through His Story
- They have begun building a biblical worldview by learning God’s Story
- They have begun experiencing a close relationship with Jesus every day.
- They have made a choice to begin trusting Jesus and accept his forgiveness.

Note to Teachers:

Now we will focus on stories and texts that are the foundation of the doctrines of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, leading to baptism.

Each doctrine is taught by telling or reviewing relevant Bible stories or passages. *It may take more than one session for each lesson.*

Continue to follow the “Steps to Studying a Story” on p 11. To the original questions, add one more question for each lesson. “What do these stories teach/tell us about... (whatever the doctrine is. i.e. “God” “Jesus” “The Holy Spirit” “Heaven,” etc.)

In addition, each lesson has at least one key text. Lead people to memorize the key text for each lesson to remember and meditate on in the future.

Each lesson ends with a “So what?” question, which helps the believer apply the teaching to his/her life. “What difference does this belief make in my life?” Why is important to know?

Section 1: Focus on the Supernatural

Lesson 1. There is one God, the Creator, who is powerful and merciful.
Stories: God is the Creator (Genesis 1)

There is only one God (Exodus 20:2, 3, the first and second commandments)

God is the provider and deliverer of His people (Deuteronomy 4:32-35);

Hezekiah's prayer (Isaiah 37:14-16).

Review stories from previous lessons that show God's provision, protection and mercy for Noah, Abraham, Joseph, Job, Moses, David and Daniel, etc.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 136:2, 4, 6, etc. The leader says (or reads) the first part of each verse, and the audience chants, "For His steadfast love endures forever."

Key Text: Psalm 136:26

So what?

Lesson 2: Jesus: Who is Jesus?

a. Stories: The Angel's Words to Mary (Luke 1:26-35);
Peter's Statement about Jesus (Matthew 16:13-17);
Summary (Hebrews 1:1-4; Colossians 1:15-20).

b. Key text: Matthew 16:16.

c. So what?

Lesson 3: The Holy Spirit—What does He do?

a. Stories: At Creation (Genesis 1:1, 2)
Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit's work (John 14:16-17, 25-27);

The promise to Jesus' disciples at His ascension (Acts 1:4-8);
He transforms lives (Galatians 5:22-25).

b. Key text: Acts 1:8.

c. So what?

Lesson 4: Angels—Good Spirits.

a. Stories: Hagar (Genesis 21:14-21);
Jacob (Genesis 28:10-17);
They led Israel (Exodus 33:1, 2);
One spoke to Joseph (Matthew 1:18-25);
One visited Peter in prison and released him (Acts 12:1-11);
They surround God's throne (Revelation 5:11-13).

b. Key text: Psalm 34:7.

c. So what?

Lesson 5. The Holy Scriptures—God's Supernatural Word.

a. Stories: The Example of the Believers in Thessalonica (1 Thessalonians 2:11-13);

Timothy (2 Timothy 3:14-17);

Peter's teaching (2 Peter 1:16-21).

- b. Key text: Psalm 119:105.
- c. So what?

Lesson 6: The Origin of Evil

- a. Stories: Lucifer (Satan/Devil) in Heaven (Revelation 12:7- 9; Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:12-17; Satan in Eden, Tempting Adam and Eve: (Genesis 3:1-5, 14-15).
- b. Key text: Genesis 3:15.
- c. So what?

Lesson 7: The Great Controversy Worldview (War Between God and Satan).

- a. Stories: Job (Job 1:6-12; 2:1-7); War in Heaven (Revelation 12:7-12).
- b. Key text: Revelation 12:7, 8.
- c. So what?

Section 2: Understanding Salvation

Lesson 8: Power over Evil Spirits/Powers.

- a. Stories: Jesus sends out His disciples with Power (Luke 10:17-20); Philip in Samaria (Acts 8:4-8); Spiritual warfare (Ephesians 6:10-18).
- b. Key text: Ephesians 6:10, 11.
- c. So what?

Lesson 9: The Consequence of Disobedience— Guilt, Shame and Fear;

- a. Story: Adam and Eve (Genesis 3). Review other stories we have learned that show the consequences of sin
- b. Key texts: Romans 3:10-12
Memorize: Romans 3:23.
- c. So what?

Lesson 10: The Way of Salvation #1— Through Sacrifice.

- a. Stories: Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:21);

Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-5);
Abraham and Isaac (Genesis 22:1-14);
Israel and the Passover (Exodus 12:1-13).

- b. Key text: Hebrews 9:22.
- c. So what?

Lesson 11: The Way of Salvation #2—Through Jesus' Sacrifice

- a. Story: The crucifixion of Jesus (Mark 25:33-39).
- b. Key text: John 1:29.
- c. So what?

Lesson 12: The Way of Salvation #3—What Must I do to be Saved?

- a. Stories: Ezekiel's message (Ezekiel 36:25-28);
Paul's Message to King Agrippa (Acts 16:19, 20);
Paul's Message to the Believers in Romans (Romans 10:8-13);
Paul's Message to the Believers in Ephesians (Ephesians 2:4-10);
Paul's Message to the Believers in Galatia (Galatians 4:4-7).
- b. Key texts: John 3:16 or Ephesians 2:8, 9.
- c. So what?

Lesson 13: The Sabbath #1—Celebrating Creation and Deliverance in the Old Testament.

- a. Stories: Creation (Genesis 1:27-2:3)
God sends manna (Exodus 16:1-8, 22-30)
The fourth commandment (Exodus 20:8-11)
Advice to Israel (Nehemiah 13:15-19)
- b. Key texts: Deuteronomy 5:12-14 and Ezekiel 20:12
- c. So what?

Lesson 14: The Sabbath #2—Celebrating the Sabbath with Jesus

- a. Stories: Jesus' Activities on the Sabbath (Mark 1:21-32)
Jesus and his Disciples on the Sabbath (Mark 2:23-27, Luke 6:1-5)
Jesus Heals in the Synagogue on the Sabbath (Mark 3:1-6, Luke 6:6-10)
- b. Key text: Mark 2:27, 28.
- c. So what?

Lesson 15: The Sanctuary—What was it and why was it Important?

- a. Stories: Building the tabernacle (Review Exodus 25-27 with visual aids)

The priest made atonement for sins (Leviticus 16:32-34).

- b. Key text: Exodus 25:8, 40.
- c. So what?

Lesson 16: The Sanctuary in Heaven and Jesus the High Priest.

- a. Story: Jesus the High Priest in Heaven (Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-16).
- b. Key text: Hebrews 4:16.
- c. So what?

Section 3--Understanding the Future

Lesson 17: Death—What Happens when People Die?

- a. Stories: Jairus' daughter (Matthew 9:8-19; 23-25);
Lazarus (John 11:1-15);
Paul's message of hope to the Believers in Thessalonica (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).
- b. Key text: 1 Thessalonians 4:16.
- c. So what?

Lesson 18: The Second Coming of Jesus and the Signs of the End of the World.

- a. Story: Jesus talking to His disciples (Matthew 24:3-14, 30, 31)
Jesus' Message Before his Ascension (Acts 1:6-11)
- b. Key text: Matthew 25:31.
- c. So what?

Lesson 19: Day of Judgment

- a. Stories: Parable of the 10 virgins (Matthew 25:1-12);
Parable of the sheep and goats (Matthew 25:31-46);
Parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30).
- b. Key text: Revelation 14:7.
- c. So what?

Lesson 20: Prophecy—Knowing the Future

- a. Stories: Pharaoh's dreams (Genesis 41:1-36, summarized);
Nebuchadnezzar's dream (Daniel 2:1-45, summarized);
God's promise (Joel 2:28, 29).
- b. Key texts: Amos 3:7 and 2 Chronicles 20:20.
- c. So what?

Lesson 21: Heaven and the New Earth.

- a. Stories: Isaiah's vision (Isaiah 65:17-25);
John's visions (Revelation 21:1-4; 22:1-5).
- b. Key text: Revelation 21:1.

c. So what?

Section 4—Being Part of the Church

Lesson 22: Baptism—Joining the Family of God.

a. Stories: Jesus' Example with John the Baptist (Matthew 3:13-17);

The Ethiopian (Acts 8:26-38).

b. Key text: Acts 2:38.

c. So what?

Lesson 23: Communion service—Remembering what Jesus did for Us.

a. Story: The Last Supper (Luke 22:14- 20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

b. Key text: 1 Corinthians 1:26.

c. So what?

Lesson 24: Returning Tithes and Offerings to God.

a. Stories: Abraham (Genesis 14:14- 20);

Jacob's vow (Genesis 28:20-22);

The Widow's Mite (Mark 12:41-44);

The Believers in Corinth (2 Corinthians 8:1-15).

b. Key texts: Malachi 3:10 and Psalm 56:12, 13.

c. So what?

Section 5—Living the Life of a Believer

Lesson 25: Biblical Lifestyle and Healthy Eating

a. Stories: The Original diet (Genesis 1:29)

The Food laws given to Israel (Leviticus 11)

Paul's advice to believers on principles for living (Ephesians 5:15-21)

b. Key text: 1 Corinthians 10:31.

c. So what?

Lesson 26: Worshipping/meeting/ fellowshiping together

a. Stories: Tabernacle worship (Exodus 25:8)

Jesus' example (Luke 4:16-21)

Paul's example in Philippi (Acts 16:11-13;

Paul's example in Thessalonica (Acts 17:1-4)

- b. Key text: Hebrews 10:24, 25
- c. So what?

Lesson 27: Sharing the message of hope.

- a. Stories: Abraham's call from God (Genesis 12:1-3)
Jonah (the book of Jonah, summarized);
Andrew (John 1:35-42)
Jesus' Disciples (Acts 1:1-8)
- b. Key texts: Matthew 24:14 and Matthew 28:19, 20.
- c. So what?

Lesson 28: The Power and Importance of Prayer and Meditation.

- a. Stories: David meditated (Psalm 77:11-15);
Daniel prayed three times a day (Daniel 6:4-10);
Jesus' example--Praying in the early morning, (Mark 1:35)
Jesus in Gethsemane (Mark 14:32-38).
- b. Key texts: 1 Thessalonians 5:17
Psalm 1:1, 2.
- c. So what?

Lesson 29: Trust in God during adversity, even when prayer is not answered.

- a. Stories: Job (Job 1-2, Summary Story);
Joseph (Genesis 37:12-36; 39-41, Summary Story);
Paul (2 Corinthians 1:7-10);
Faith "Hall of Fame" (Hebrews 11:32-39).
- b. Key texts: 2 Corinthians 12:9
Job 13:15.
- c. So what?

Conclusion of the Matter

In these lessons we have looked at essential beliefs that are important to make disciples and bring people to an active faith in Jesus as Seventh-day Adventist Christians. They are especially for those who come from non-Christian backgrounds.

The first goal is to bring people to a living relationship and experience with Jesus and an understanding of the basic teachings of Christianity and Adventism. We have therefore focused especially on 1) an understanding about God, 2) a biblical understanding of sin and

salvation, 3) the future, 4) being a part of the Church, and 5) living as a Christian. Our goal is to cover the topics especially relevant to the assurance of salvation and living the Christian life. Other topics can be added over time, as appropriate.

Summary List of SDA Beliefs/Doctrines/Teachings

1. The Holy Scriptures are inspired by God to teach about God and guide us through life
2. The Trinity: The One God is manifested in three forms
3. God the Father is the ultimate source of everything
4. God the Son is Jesus who came to this world and lived as a man and died to save us.
5. God the Holy Spirit is the Comforter and guide given to be always with us
6. Creation: The world and all the universes were created by God
7. Human beings were created in God's image, but after sin they and their children were "infected" by sin.
8. There is a Great Controversy in the universe between God and Satan, a created being who rebelled.
9. Jesus came to this earth and lived and died and was resurrected to provide eternal life to us
10. Salvation from sin is available to anyone who believes and accepts Jesus' free gift of salvation.
11. Through the Holy Spirit, God has given people power over all the forces of evil.
12. The church is a fellowship of believers who worship together and share each others burdens
13. At the end of time God will have a remnant people with a special mission
14. God's people will be united in Christ, despite cultural, racial, gender and other differences.
15. God's people will show their commitment to Him by being immersed in baptism.
16. God's people remember Jesus' death when they celebrate the Lords' Supper.
17. God provides different spiritual gifts to believers which they use to build up the work of God
18. God has revealed special truths to his people through prophecy. He sent Ellen White as his messenger.
19. God revealed his law of love for all people through the ten commandments which he wants us to follow.
20. God has given us a special gift each week in the Sabbath—a day

- for rest, worship, and fellowship
21. God expects his followers to be faithful stewards of time, talents, money to support his work.
 22. Followers of God will live in harmony with his guidelines for health and morals to bring glory to God
 23. Marriage is a sacred institution that is a life-long commitment for the safeguarding of society.
 24. Christ is ministering for us in the heavenly sanctuary.
 25. Jesus will return to earth to receive his followers and take them to heaven.
 26. Death is a “sleep.”
 27. For 1,000 years after Jesus comes, the saved will be in heaven.
At the end of that time sin will be destroyed
 28. God has prepared a new heaven and a new earth which will be the eternal home of the saved.

APPENDIX A: EXPANDED LIST OF CHRONOLOGICAL OLD TESTAMENT STORIES

Stories of God and the Patriarchs

- Creation (Genesis 1)
- Adam and Eve (Genesis 1, 2)
- Entry of Sin (Genesis 3)
- Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-16)
- Enoch (Genesis 5:21-24)
- Increase of Sin (Genesis 6:1-12)
- Noah and the Flood (Genesis 6:13-7:24)
- God’s Promise to Noah (Genesis 8)
- The Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9)
- The Call of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-9)
- Abraham and Sarah in Egypt (Genesis 12:10-20)
- Abraham and Lot (Genesis 13)
- Abraham Rescues Lot (Genesis 14)
- The Birth of Ishmael (Genesis 16)
- Abraham, the Covenant of Circumcision and Promise of Isaac’s Birth (Genesis 17:1-18:15)
- Abraham intercedes for Sodom (Genesis 18:1-33)
- Abraham Rescues Lot (Genesis 19:1-29)

- The Birth of Isaac (Genesis 21:1-7)
- God Protects Hagar and Ishmael (Genesis 21:8-21)
- The Sacrifice of Isaac (Genesis 22)
- The marriage of Isaac and Rebekah (Genesis 24)
- Birth of Esau and Jacob (Genesis 25:19-28)
- Jacob cheats Esau twice (Genesis 25:29-34, 27)
- Jacob and the angel ladder (Genesis 28:10-22)
- Jacob's sojourn in Padan Aram (Genesis 29-31)
- Joseph the dreamer (Genesis 37:1-23)
- Joseph sold into slavery in Egypt (Genesis 37: 24-36; 29:1-6)
- Joseph and Potiphar's wife (Genesis 39:6-19)
- Joseph the righteous prisoner (Genesis 40:1-22)
- Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dreams (Genesis 41:1-36)
- Joseph becomes governor (Genesis 41:37-57)
- Joseph's brothers return (Genesis 42)
- Joseph's brother Benjamin returns (Genesis 43)
- Joseph's brothers and the missing cup (Genesis 44)
- Joseph reveals himself and forgives his brothers (Genesis 45, 46)
- Children of Israel become Slaves in Egypt (Exodus 1)
- Moses' birth (Exodus 1-2:10)
- Moses' Flees Egypt and is exiled (Exodus 2:11-25)
- Moses and the burning bush (Exodus 3, 4)
- Moses and the 9 plagues (Exodus 7-10)
- The Passover (Exodus 12)
- Israel crosses the Red Sea (Exodus 14, 15)
- God sends water and manna (Exodus 16:1 – 17:7)
- Wise Jethro (Exodus 18)
- God gives the Ten Commandments (Exodus 19, 20)
- Building a tent home for God (Exodus 25-27)
- The Twelve Spies (Numbers 13, 14)
- The bronze serpent (Numbers 21)
- The second set of spies and Rahab (Joshua 2)
- Israel crosses the Jordan with Joshua (Joshua 3, 4)
- The city of Jericho is taken (Joshua 5:13-15 and 26:1-27)

Stories of God and the Judges

- Israel forgets God (Judges 2:6-19)
- Deborah and Barak deliver God's people (Judges 4)

- God calls Gideon (Judges 6:11-24)
- Gideon defeats Israel's enemies (Judges 6:33 – 7:22)
- God calls Samson (Judges 13, 14)
- Samson is destroyed (Judges 15, 16)
- Ruth and Naomi (The Book of Ruth)
- Hannah and Samuel and Eli (1 Samuel 1, 3)

Stories of God and the Kings and Prophets

- The people of Israel ask for a king (1 Samuel 8)
- Saul is anointed king (1 Samuel 9, 10)
- Saul disobeys God and fails (1 Samuel 13)
- God chooses David (1 Samuel 16)
- David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17)
- David spares Saul's life (1 Samuel 24)
- David becomes king (2 Samuel 5:1-4)
- David is kind to Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9)
- David sins with Bathsheba and Uriah (2 Samuel 11)
- Nathan the prophet and King David (2 Samuel 12)
- David dies and Solomon becomes king (1 Kings 2:1-12)
- The wisdom of King Solomon (1 Kings 3)
- Solomon Builds and Dedicates the Temple (1 Kings 8:14-30)
- The Queen of Sheba visits Solomon (1 Kings 10:1-13)
- Solomon fails (1 Kings 11:1-13)
- Israel divided into—Judah (Southern Kingdom) and Israel (Northern Kingdom)—1 Kings 12:1-24
- Israel (Northern Kingdom) turns to Idols (1 Kings 12:25-33)
- Elijah the prophet and the drought (1 Kings 17:1-5)
- Elijah the prophet and the widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:8-24)
- Elijah the prophet and Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18)
- Elijah the prophet and Queen Jezebel (1 Kings 19:1-18)
- Elijah goes to Heaven in a fiery chariot (2 Kings 2:1-18)
- Elisha the prophet helps a poor widow (2 Kings 4:1-7)
- Elisha the prophet raises a rich woman's son from death (2 Kings 4:8-37)
- Elisha the prophet makes the stew taste better (2 Kings 4:38-41)
- Elisha the prophet feeds 100 people (2 Kings 4:42-44)
- Elisha the prophet heals Naaman (2 Kings 5:1-19)
- Elisha the prophet finds a lost ax head (2 Kings 6:1-7)

- Elisha the prophet defeats a huge army (2 Kings 6:8-23)
- Jonah runs away from God (Book of Jonah)
- Enemies destroy Israel and take God's people captive (2 Chronicles 36:1-21).

Stories of God with Israel During and After the Exile

- Daniel and his friends are faithful to God (Daniel 1)
- Daniel interprets the king's dream (Daniel 2)
- Daniel's friends are faithful (Daniel 3)
- The king of Babylon believes God (Daniel 4)
- Babylon is destroyed (Daniel 5)
- Daniel is protected from lions (Daniel 6)
- Daniel's Vision of the Ram and the He-goat (Daniel 8)
- Ezra leads God's people back to rebuild the temple (2 Chronicles 36:22, 23; Ezra 1)
- Nehemiah returns to build the wall of Jerusalem (Nehemiah 2, 4, 6).
- Esther becomes Queen of Persia (Esther 1, 2)
- Esther saves her people (Esther 4, 5:1-8, 8).

APPENDIX B: BIBLE STORIES BY TOPIC

Stories of honor and Shame

From Shame to Honor

- The creation of Adam—From dirt to ruler of the earth (Genesis 1, 2)
- Abraham—From nomad to a great name (Genesis 12:1-9, 15:1-6)
- Leah—From unloved wife to mother of six sons (Genesis 29)
- Joseph—From prisoner to prime minister (Genesis 37, 39, 41)
- Nation of Israel—From slaves to covenant people (Exodus 1, 6, 12, 19)
- Naomi and Ruth—From shamed widows to grandmother and mother of a noble family (Ruth)
- Hannah—From barren woman to mother of the prophet Samuel (1 Samuel 2)
- David—From unknown son to most famous king of Israel (1 Samuel 17 – 2 Samuel 7)
- Mephibosheth—From crippled outcast to a ward of King David (2 Samuel 9)
- Job—From a sick “reject” restored to wholeness and community (Job 1, 2, 42)
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego—From condemned men to government officials (Daniel 3)
- Nebuchadnezzar—From insane man to king of Babylon (Daniel 4)
- Esther and Mordecai—From hated Jews to royal officials in Persia (Esther 2:19-23, 6:1-12)
- Nehemiah and the Disgraced Nation of Israel—reversed Israel’s shame by rebuilding Jerusalem’s walls (Nehemiah 1:1 – 7:3)
- Mary and Joseph—(Matthew 1:18-25)
- Lost son—From outcast to beloved son (Luke 15:11-32)
- The woman caught in adultery—From shamed sinner to honor (John 8:1-11)
- Jesus and the crucifixion—from accused criminal to resurrected Lord (Matthew 21:1-11; Luke 24:36-53)

From Honor to Shame

- Adam and Eve—From glory to shame (Genesis 1-3)
- Saul—From honored king to disgraceful death (1 Samuel 10, 15,

31)

- David—From honored king to shamed adulterer and murderer (2 Samuel 11, 12)
- Israel—From chosen nation of God to captive exiles (2 Chronicles 36)
- Nebuchadnezzar—From king of Babylon to insane man (Daniel 4)
- Haman—from honored prime minister to shamed criminal (Esther 3:1-6, 5:9-14, 6:1-12)

Stories of Power Encounters

Power over Evil Spirits/Demons

- Jesus' encounter with Satan in the wilderness (Luke 4:1-13)
- Jesus drives out an evil spirit (Mark 1:21-28)
- Jesus heals a demon-possessed man (Mark 5:1-20)
- Jesus heals a demon-possessed man (Matthew 8:28-34).
- Jesus and Beelzebub (Matthew 12:22-29)
- Jesus and the Canaanite's daughter (Matthew 15:21-28, Mark 7:24-30)
- Jesus heals a woman with a spirit (Luke 13:10-17)
- Jesus heals a boy with a demon (Matthew 17:14-21)
- Simon the sorcerer (Acts 8:9-25)
- The sorcerer Elymas meets Paul (Acts 13:1-12).
- A slave girl is delivered in Phillipi (Acts 16:16-18)

Power over Death

- The Shunammite's son is raised (2 Kings 4:8-37).
- Jesus raises a widow's son (Luke 7:11-17)
- Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-43)
- Jesus' death and the temple curtain (Matthew 27:45-56)
- Resurrection of Jesus (Matthew 28:1-20)
- Eutychus raised from the dead (Acts 20:7-12).

Power over the Forces or Nature

- Jesus calms the storm (Mark 4:35-41)
- Jesus curses the fig tree (Mark 11:12-25)
- Paul in Malta (Acts 28:1-10)

Stories of Healing

- Abraham and Abimelech (Genesis 20:1-18)
- The bronze snake (Numbers 21:4-9)
- The man of God heals (1 Kings 13)

- The widow's son is healed (1 Kings 17:7-24)
- Naaman is healed of leprosy (2 Kings 5)
- King Hezekiah is healed (2 Kings 20:1-11)
- King Nebuchadnezzar's dream and healing (Daniel 4)
- Jesus heals the sick (Matthew 4:23-25; 8:14-17)
- Jesus heals a man with leprosy (Matthew 8:1-4)
- The centurion's servant healed (Matthew 8:5-13)
- Jesus heals a paralyzed man (Matthew 9:1-8)
- Jesus heals blind and mute man (Matthew 9:27-34).
- Jesus heals the woman with the flow of God (

Stories of Witchcraft and Sorcery

- Pharaoh's sorcerers and Moses (Exodus 7:1-13)
- God's command (Deuteronomy 4:15-20; 18:1-14)
- Saul and the witch of Endor (1 Samuel 28)
- Jezebel and King Jehu (2 Kings 9:1-37, 10:36)
- King Manasseh and idols (2 Chronicles 33:1-20)
- Prophets of Balak and Balaam (Numbers 23)
- Reasons of Israel's exile ((2 Kings 17:1-17)
- The king's sorcerers (Daniel 2:1-23)
- Simon the sorcerer (Acts 8:4-25)
- The Jewish sorcerer (Acts 13:1-7)
- Elymas the sorcerer (Acts 13:8-12)
- Sorcerers burn their scrolls (Acts 19:8-22)

Stories of Dreams and Visions

In the Old Testament

- Abraham's dream (Genesis 15:1-21)
- Abimelech's dream (Genesis 20:3)
- Jacob's dream of a stairway to heaven (Genesis 28:10-22)
- Jacob's dream of goats (Genesis 31:1-21)
- Joseph's dreams (Genesis 37:5 – 41:40)
- Dream about Gideon (Judges 7:1-25)
- Solomon's dream (1 Kings 3:5-15)
- Nebuchadnezzar's dream (Daniel 2:1-49)
- Daniel interprets dreams (Daniel 4:1-37)
- Daniel's dream of four beasts (Daniel 7:1-28)
- Prophecy on dreams (Joel 2:28)

In the New Testament

- Joseph's dream (Matthew 1:18-25)
- Magi's dreams (Matthew 2:1-12)
- Escape to Egypt (Matthew 2:13-23)
- Pilate's wife (Matthew 27:11-19)
- Paul's vision and conversion on the Damascus road (Acts 9:1-9)
- Ananias' vision (Acts 9:10-19)
- Peter's vision of food (Acts 11:1-18)
- Paul's vision of Macedonia (Acts 16:6-10)
- Paul's vision in Corinth (Acts 18:7-10)
- Paul's vision of Jesus (Acts 26:12-20)
- John's visions of Jesus (Revelation)

Stories of Women

In the Old Testament

- Eve, Wife of Adam, Mother of all living (Genesis 1, 2)
- Sarah, Abraham's wife, and Mother of Isaac, the promised son (Genesis 17, 21:1-7)
- Hagar, Abraham's second wife, Mother of Ishmael (Genesis 16; 17:20)
- Rebekah, a bride for Isaac (Genesis 24)
- Leah, First Wife of Jacob and Rachel, the Loved Wife of Jacob (Genesis 24:1-30)
- Tamar, a Mistreated Widow (Genesis 38)
- Potiphar's wife (Genesis 39)
- Jochebed, Mother of Moses (Exodus 2:1-20i)
- Miriam, Sister of Moses (Exodus 2:1-20)
- Miriam, Leader of Women (Exodus 12:31-40; 13:17-22; 14:1-31; 15:19-21)
- Rahab, Brave Woman in Jericho (Joshua 2:1-24)
- Deborah, Brave Judge of Israel (Judges 4, 5)
- Naomi, Widow and Mother-in-Law (Book of Ruth)
- Ruth, Moabite Woman who Followed God (Book of Ruth)
- Hannah, Mother of Samuel (1 Samuel 1; 2:1-10)
- Abigail, Wise and Gentle Woman (1 Samuel 25)
- Bathsheba, Mother of Solomon (2 Samuel 5:1-5, 11, 12)
- Two women with a baby (1 Kings 3:16-28)
- Queen of Sheba visits Jerusalem (1 Kings 10:1-13)
- Wicked Queen Jezebel (1 Kings 21:1-28)
- Widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:7-24)

- Widow of a son of the prophets (2 Kings 4:1-7)
- The Shunammite Woman (2 Kings 4:8-37; 8:1-6)
- Naaman's wife and the Israeli maid (2 Kings 5:1-19)
- Evil Queen Athaliah (2 Kings 11:1-16)
- Queen Vashti (Esther 1)
- Queen Esther/Hadassah (Esther 2:8-23; 4)

In the New Testament

- Elizabeth, Mother of John the Baptist (Luke 1:5-25)
- Mary, mother of Jesus (Luke 1:26-45; 2:1-7)
- The prophetess Anna (Luke 2:36-38)
- The Samaritan woman at the well (John 4)
- Jairus' daughter (Luke 8:40-56)
- Widow of Nain (Luke 7:11-17)
- Woman at Simon's feast (Luke 7:36-50)
- Syrophenician woman (Mark 7:24-30)
- Mother of James and John (Matthew 20:20-28)
- The 10 virgins—a parable (Matthew 25:1-13)
- Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-42; John 11:1-44)
- Women at Jesus' crucifixion (Mark 15:33-47)
- The women at the empty tomb (Luke 24:1-12)
- Sapphira, She Lied to God (Acts 5:1-11)
- Dorcas (Acts 9:36-43)
- Mary and Rhoda (Acts 12:1-5, 12-19)
- Lydia (Acts 16:11-15)
- Priscilla (Acts 18:2-26)
- Daughters of Philip (Acts 21:7-9)

Parables (stories) Jesus told about the Kingdom of God

- The sower (Mark 4:10-20)
- The weeds (Matthew 13:36-43)
- The mustard seed (Mark 4:30-34)
- The yeast (Matthew 13:33)
- The hidden treasure and the pearl of great price (Matthew 13:44, 45)
- The net (Matthew 13:47-50)
- Being born again into the Kingdom (John 3:1-8)
- The coming of the Kingdom (Luke 17:20-37)

- The unmerciful servant (Matthew 18:23-35)
- Laborers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16).
- The two sons (Matthew 21:28-32)
- The tenants (Matthew 21:33-44)
- The wedding feast (Matthew 22:1-14)
- The 10 virgins (Matthew 25:1-13)

Stories of Angel Encounters

- Angel at the gates of Eden (Genesis 3:22-24)
- Hagar in the desert (Genesis 16:1-15)
- The sacrifice of Isaac (Genesis 22:9-19)
- Lot and the angels (Genesis 19)
- Jacob and the angel (Genesis 32:22-32)
- Balaam and the angel (Numbers 22:21-39)
- David and the angel (1 Chronicles 21:18-30)
- Daniel in the den of lions (Daniel 6:16-27)
- The Angel and Zacharias (Luke 1:5-25)
- The angel and Joseph (Matthew 1:18-25)
- The angel Gabriel and Mary (Luke 1:26-38)
- The shepherds and the angels (Luke 2:8-21)
- The temptation of Jesus (Mark 1:2-15)
- The coming of the Son of Man (Mark 13:24-27)
- The final judgment (Matthew 25:31-40)
- The betrayal of Jesus (Matthew 26:47-56)
- Angel at the tomb (Matthew 26:47-56)
- An Angel Opens the doors of the prison (Acts 5:17-32)
- Philip and the angel (Acts 8:26-40)
- Angels in the book of Revelation (Revelation)

Stories of Forgiveness

- Jacob and Esau (Genesis 32:1-21; 33:1-20)
- Joseph and his brothers (Genesis 50:15-22)
- Moses and the Israelites (Numbers 14:1-25)
- David and Saul (1 Samuel 26:1-25)
- The Israelites confess their sins (Nehemiah 9:1-5)
- God with King Manasseh (2 Chronicles 33)
- Hezekiah's confession and Isaiah (Isaiah 38:1-8, 21)
- Jeremiah buys a field (Jeremiah 32:1-16)

- The Lord and Nineveh (Jonah 4)
- Jesus forgives a woman (Luke 7:36-50)
- Jesus and the paralytic (Matthew 9:1-7)
- The calling of Matthew (Matthew 9:9-13)
- Jesus forgives Peter (Luke 22:54-62; John 21:15-19)
- Jesus on the cross (Luke 23:26-35)
- Parable of the lost son and loving father (Luke 15:11-32)
- Parable of the unmerciful servant (Matthew 18:26-35)
- Paul and Ananias (Acts 9:11-19)
- God to Saul/Paul (1 Timothy 1:12-16).

Stories of Persecution

- Israel in Egypt (Exodus 2:1-12; 5 to 6:12)
- Elijah and Queen Jezebel (
- Jeremiah threatened with death (Jeremiah 26:1-12).
- Jeremiah thrown in prison (Jeremiah 37:1-21).
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Daniel 3:1-30).
- Daniel in the lions' den (Daniel 6:1-28).
- Oppression rebuilding the temple (Ezra 4:1-24)
- Nehemiah rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem (Nehemiah 4-6)
- Queen Esther and the Jewish People (Esther 3)
- The apostles (Acts 5:12-42)
- Stoning of Stephen (Acts 6:8-15; 7:51-59; 8:3)
- Saul/Paul after his conversion (Acts 9:19-40)
- Peter and James (Acts 12:1-19)
- Paul is stoned (Acts 14:1-19)
- Paul arrested in Jerusalem in the temple (Acts 21:27-36)
- Paul's story summarized (Galatians 1:11-24)
- Heroes of the faith (Hebrews 11)

Stories of the Sabbath

- Creation (Genesis 1:1 – 2:3)
- Manna (Exodus 16)
- Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:8-11; Deuteronomy 5:12-15)
- Teaching about the Sabbath (Exodus 31:12-18)
- Sabbath regulations (Exodus 35:1-3)
- Rules for Sabbath (Leviticus 23:1-3)
- Man stoned for picking up sticks on Sabbath (Numbers 15:32-36)

- Psalm 23 The Shepherd's Psalm
- Psalm 24 Praise to the King of Glory
- Psalm 27 The Lord is my Light and Salvation
- Psalm 32 Prayer of Repentance and Confession
- Psalm 34:1-10 Taste and See that the Lord is Good
- Psalm 46 God is our Fortress and Help in Trouble
- Psalm 51:1-12 Prayer of Confession for Forgiveness
- Psalm 56 In God I Trust
- Psalm 67 Make God's name known to all people on earth
- Psalm 70 Prayer for help! (Lord, do not delay to deliver me!)
- Psalm 86:1-13 Great is God's Love
- Psalm 91:1-16 God is a refuge and fortress (God, the protector)
- Psalm 95:1-7 Let us sing songs of praise to God
- Psalm 103:1-22 Bless the Lord, O My Soul
- Psalm 121:1-8 My Help Comes from the Lord
- Psalm 127:1-5 The Lord Builds the House
- Psalm 130:1-8 My Soul Waits for the Lord
- Psalm 139:1-16 Search Me, and Know Me
- Psalm 146:1-10 Trust in God! Praise God!
- Psalm 147:1-11 God Heals the Brokenhearted
- Psalm 148:1-14 Praise the Name of the Lord!
- Psalm 150:1-6 Let Everything Praise the Lord
- Isaiah 11:6-9 Description of the New Earth
- Isaiah 43:1-3 I will be with you through fire and water
- Isaiah 49:13-16 I cannot forget you
- Isaiah 53:3-9 The Suffering Servant (Prophecy of Jesus)
- Isaiah 55:6-11 Seek the Lord
- Isaiah 58:6-11 True Fasting
- 1 Cor. 13:1-13 The Love Chapter
- Galatians 5:19-25 Works of the Flesh, Fruits of the Spirit
- Ephesians 3:14-21 Prayer for Spiritual Strength
- Ephesians 6:10-18 The Armor of God
- Philippians 2:3-11 Christ's Example of Humility
- Philippians 4:4-9 Rejoice in the Lord Always
- 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Our Calling