

SECTION I:

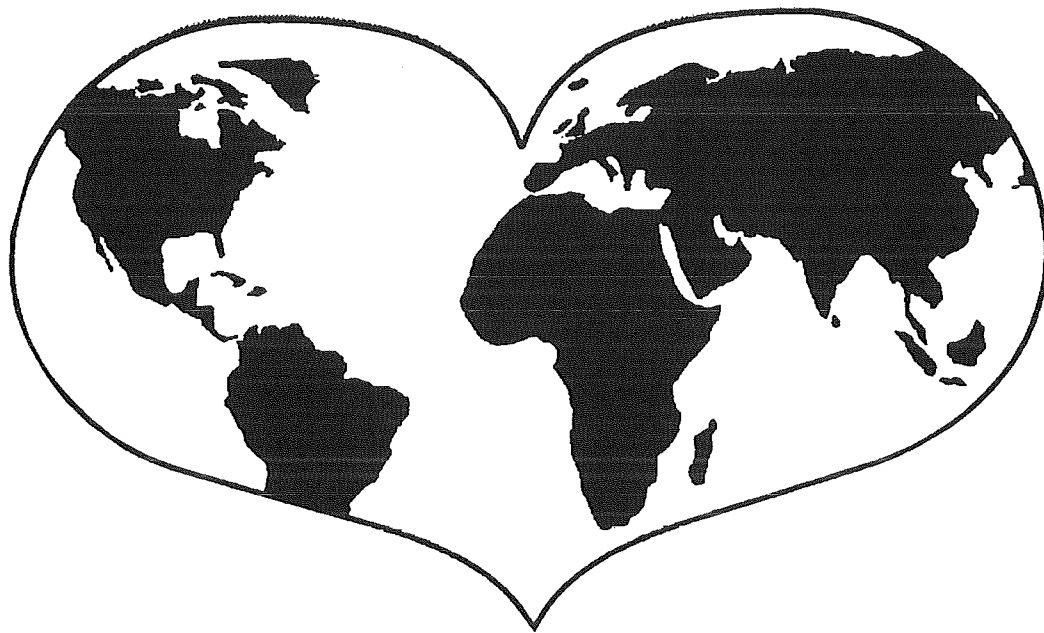
WELCOME!

INTRODUCTION

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

SUGGESTED WEEKLY SCHEDULE

USING THE LIBRARY AND MEDIA





INTRODUCTION

Welcome to *Teaching With God's Heart for the World!* The purpose of this guide is to provide a world missions resource appropriate for anyone with a heart for the Lord. If you are a homeschooler, Christian school teacher, Sunday school or VBS leader, or a mission-minded adult, then this curriculum is for you. My desire is to lead you into becoming an active and vital part of world missions...not just in the future but today!

There is also a tremendous need for people to learn and share about missions, to intercede in prayer for "unreached" people groups, to give financially to world-wide missions, and to go on the mission field.

What group of people would be better to target for world missions than the homeschooling community?

Christian homeschoolers are PERFECT candidates for world missions! Here in America, there are thousands of homeschool families, the majority of whom are Christians. We already have a strong desire to teach and train our children with a Christian world view. As homeschoolers, most of us are accustomed to making sacrifices for what we believe is best. We are often referred to as radicals just because we "go against the flow" of traditional education. In addition, we spend hours together every day as a family.

I have seen the need for missions first-hand in over twenty countries. This need is so great, that it is difficult to comprehend! Literally BILLIONS of people need Jesus Christ, yet the workers are so few!¹

Maybe one of YOUR children can help meet this need...or maybe the Lord will call YOUR WHOLE FAMILY to take an active part in world missions!

Most missionaries struggle over what to do with their children's education—dreading the thought of boarding school separation. But we homeschoolers are already prepared! We can just keep doing what we're already doing (and think of the potential for exciting field trips and hands-on geography lessons!).

I have been writing this guide in the midst of my everyday life: homeschooling my four children, changing dirty diapers, potty-training a toddler, doing mountains of laundry and dishes...with a few days off to conduct birthday parties and make chocolate chip cookies.

This has been an extremely busy time in my life. Some of my weekly to-do's include leading church worship and writing newsletters for our family's mission-evangelism ministry (*Harvest Ministry*).



I actually wrote a large portion of this guide in East Africa, while on my third missions outreach there. In the midst of children's crusades and ministry seminars, visiting remote village churches, and conducting city-wide evangelism crusades, I was thinking of YOU, and how to impart to you God's heart for the world.

I say all that to let you know where my heart is. I really believe in world missions, as well as in the importance of giving our children a quality education. At the

same time, I understand how busy (and often crazy) the life of a homeschooling parent can be!

As you teach your children, take time to enjoy the benefits and flexibility of homeschooling! Have fun with your kids, and make opportunities for field trips, special projects, and family travel. Most of all, take time for daily prayer and the Word of God and let the Lord direct and bless your school year and your lives!



How To Use THIS GUIDE

A “heart for world missions” is an attitude that can be incorporated into nearly every area of study, including: Bible, Reading, Writing, Language Arts, Foreign Language, Geography, History, Science, Math, Music and Art. This guide is specifically geared for the homeschooling family. However, there are many others who can also benefit from these ideas.

IF YOU DO NOT HOMESCHOOL

(But are a concerned Christian parent just the same!)

I am so glad you are reading this and want to emphasize that you too can share the missions vision with your family! Included throughout the daily lesson plans are ideas for family projects and international meals that would be fun for any family to do together, and could enlarge your family’s world view. Each daily lesson also includes a time of devotions (Bible reading, family discussion, prayer focus ideas and a weekly prayer project).

You may want to follow your children’s studies at school (I would highly recommend that you do) and share related mission ideas when appropriate. For example, if your child is already studying about India in school, you can flip over to the section on Asia and share with him or her about William Carey and his missionary work in India, or

about India’s Hindu religion. You can also pray together for the people of India.

You may also find the resource section (in the back of volume two) of missions-oriented materials helpful.

IF YOU ARE A CHURCH WORKER OR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER

Every church and Sunday school should be involved in training children and young people in the importance of world missions. In addition to the Bible studies and resource section, this guide also includes a history of world missions, a guide to missionary Bible verses, and a brief biography of many famous missionaries.

Volume two contains a section on planning a missions-oriented VBS.

IF YOU TEACH IN A CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

You have the potential of reaching MANY Christian families with a missions vision. This guide offers ideas on how you can incorporate the study of world missions into your already-established curriculum or yearly schedule. For example, you may want to consider researching an unreached people group as a class, or taking a class missions trip during

spring break. (There are many Christian schools that do this, sometimes in conjunction with a foreign language class or international study.)

If your school has a regular chapel service, you can prepare a special "missions chapel". By doing this, you help share a heart for missions with your entire school!

IF YOU ARE A MISSION-MINDED ADULT

Believe it or not, there's good material in here for you too! You can use this guide as a resource tool to help you with your own study of world missions. You probably will want to start with the section on *Building a Foundation for Missions*, and learn about why world missions is important.

Of special interest to you may be the section in Week 1 on personal prayer. I would also encourage you to browse through the resource section in the back of volume two, and begin reading some of the excellent mission books and biographies described there.

IF YOU ARE A HOME SCHOOLER

This guide is *especially* for you. It is a unit-study curriculum that can be modified for nearly all age levels. It is arranged in a 160-day year format with daily lesson guides. This will give you approximately 10-20 extra days throughout the year for special field trips, standardized testing, craft days, etc.

This first volume includes 80 days of specific lesson outlines which should take you halfway through the school year. There is also a special Thanksgiving week and a Latin American Christmas week. If followed according to the daily guide beginning after the Labor Day weekend, this first volume will be completed approximately three weeks past your Christmas vacation.

This curriculum is designed for easy use. Each daily

guide lists specific ideas for family devotions, reading, writing, and language arts, along with weekly ideas for geography, history, science, math, arts and crafts, music, and family activities including an international meal and family video ideas.

Many homeschool families have several children working at different grade levels. The unit-study method of teaching is perfect for this situation. The entire family can be studying along the same theme, although the difficulty of specific assignments will be adjusted for each child. Assignments under science, math, geography, crafts, and field trips are geared more for elementary students (along with other reading ideas for younger children). Ideas under family devotions, writing, art, music, international meals, and family video ideas are appropriate for most grade levels. Specific details for each of these subjects are listed in Chapter 7 under *General Teaching Helps*.

If you are already using a standardized homeschool curriculum, you can still use much of this guide as a supplement.

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

Before you begin, I recommend that you obtain a current "scope and sequence" schedule from a local school district. This will give you a current list of the topics of study and desired achievement levels toward which your children's public school peers will be working. At times, you may need to adapt the material in this guide to flow with that schedule.

This guide is not meant to limit you, but to equip you with new ideas to help make your school year a special one! Feel free to add to or subtract from the daily lesson plans what you feel is appropriate for your children. Throughout this guide are several blank "Note" pages which have been included for you to use for additional lesson plan ideas.



Chapter 1

SUGGESTED WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Every homeschool family usually develops their own weekly schedule over time, adjusting and emphasizing subjects as appropriate for their family's needs. To make this guide easier to follow, I have divided the weekly topics of study into the following daily schedule.

MONDAY:

Bible: Bible reading
 Family discussion
 Memory verse
 Family prayer and prayer project
 Reading/Writing/Language Arts:
 Vocabulary
 Math
 Foreign language
 Geography

TUESDAY:

Bible: Bible reading
 Family discussion
 Family prayer
 Reading/Writing/Language Arts:
 Punctuation/capitalization
 Math
 Foreign language
 History/world religion focus

WEDNESDAY:

Bible: Bible reading
 Family discussion,
 Family prayer
 Reading/Writing/Language Arts:

Grammar/parts of speech

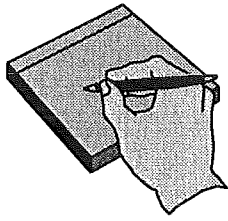
Math
 Foreign language
 Science

THURSDAY:

Bible: Bible reading
 Family discussion
 Family prayer
 Reading/Writing/Language Arts:
 Creative writing/style and form
 Math
 Foreign language
 Art (study of art, craft project)

FRIDAY:

Bible: Bible reading
 Family discussion,
 Family prayer
 Reading/Writing/Language Arts:
 Spelling test/letter writing
 Math
 Music (and foreign language songs)
 Family field trip
 International meal for dinner
 Evening videos



NOTES:



Chapter 2

USING THE LIBRARY AND MEDIA

LIBRARY HELPS

Every homeschool family should use their local library on a regular basis. There are so many good books and teaching tools available in most towns and cities. We need to take full advantage of this privilege.

At the beginning of each week of lesson plans is a box that lists topic and book ideas for a weekly "library and media search." There is no need to search through all the daily lesson plans to find what you will be studying that week.

If you plan ahead and check out appropriate materials, you can really make your school year interesting and full of variety.

USING THE TV AND VIDEO

Most of the time, our family television is disconnected. In fact, we usually only hook it up on Fridays to watch the evening news. However, you can use this media as a great teaching tool (just don't ever let it use YOU).

By glancing over a weekly television guide, you will know what shows (especially on the Public Broadcast-

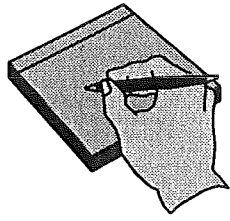
ing Station) are of international interest. If you plan ahead, you can even video-tape programs to use at a later time in the year.

For example, on the PBS program, *Kid's Song* there was a short Japanese folk dance complete with music and costumes, and a special feature with maps and music about how pasta is made in Italy. Other times there may be a feature on "Wildlife from Africa" or perhaps "Exploring the Himalayas."

There are also many good videos you can rent, including classic historical movies, family movies with an international theme, and *National Geographic* documentaries. Each week, I have suggested several different ideas you may want to consider.

CURRENT NEWS

Current news via television, radio, newspaper or magazine is excellent for study. You may want to save special international reports or year-end news summaries to incorporate into later lessons.



NOTES: