Throughout my education, history was my most dreaded subject. For me, it was merely an endless memorization of dry facts, names without characters, senseless lists of dates, and unending wars. *What was the purpose?* I thought.

Now, I find myself becoming fascinated with books and historical movies that almost "transport me" into a different time period. I realize now that history is simply the study of real people, their lives and their cultures—people very much like me, with similar feelings and emotions.

As you are teaching history to your children, the most important thing is to make it come alive! *What was it like to live in ancient Egypt, or in the time of Christ, or during the Dark Ages of Medieval Europe?* How did the people dress? *What did they eat?* What were their homes and families like? *What was important in their culture?* How—or what—*did they worship?*

It is also exciting to learn about the past in relation to Jesus Christ and God’s missions heart for the whole world. This year as you study history, teach your lessons in light of the Gospel. Consider how God prepared the way for Christ to come, and how the world responded to his message.

Included in this chapter is a History Research Worksheet. This can be used for any period of history. Simply copy the worksheet page and instruct your children to fill in the blanks. The questions will encourage your children to think about everyday life in other times. The earlier chapters, *Our Heritage* and *Our Examples* from this guide can help you, along with resources like *Operation World* and *From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya*.

You may want to have your children start a history research project. Have them expound on extended questions from the worksheet (using separate paper), or combine history-oriented writing assignments, such as daily assignments, maps, or art projects.
HISTORY RESEARCH WORKSHEET

Name: ___________________________ Date: __________________

Period of History: ____________________________
Approximate Historical Dates: __________ B.C. or A.D.

Indicate where this period would fit on this mini timeline:

4000 3000 2000 1000 B.C. A.D. 1000 2000

During what time frame of biblical history did this occur?
Are there other names for this period of history?
What were the major world empires during this time?
List important political or military events of this period:

What types of governmental systems were in effect?
Who were some of the famous leaders of this period?

List and describe key Bible characters, Christian leaders, or missionaries who lived during this time, and their country of influence:
Name: ____________________________ Description: ____________________________ Country of Influence: ____________________________

Describe the average person’s physical living conditions during this time period?
Describe a typical home:

What kinds of food did the average person eat?
Describe the music of this period:
List any famous artists or works of art:
What were the major languages spoken during this time?
How did people earn their living?
What were the major religions of this period?
What is this period most remembered for?

What was God doing throughout this period of history to help spread the Gospel throughout the world? (Look especially at people movements, major governmental changes, religious events, Scripture translation, trade routes, etc.)

__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________

TEACHING WITH GOD’S HEART FOR THE WORLD: VOLUME I
EXAMPLE OF A PERSONAL FAMILY TIME LINE:

1940
- Grandpa comes home from WWII
1945
- Grandma and Grandpa D. married

1950

1960
- Grandma and Grandpa M. married
1965
- Dad born/Mom born

1970

1980
- Dad and Mom married
1986
- first child born
1987
- family moves to Oregon
1988
- second child born
1990
- third child born
1992
- fourth child born

MAKING A HISTORY TIMELINE

One of the most important tools for teaching history is a timeline. It provides a way to connect the things you learn. Just as a world map helps you to relate geographical areas (using location as a standard), a time line helps you relate events in history (using time as a standard).

To make a time line begin with a solid, vertical line. Make small horizontal lines for marking specific time periods (such as every 500 years). Begin filling in spaces with exact dates of important events. Encourage your children to compare different events in history, and take notice of how these events relate to each other.

You may want to put your timeline on a wall in your school room. If you're like me, you don't have any empty 15-foot place in your house, and don't really want to clutter your family room walls. A great idea in this case is to make it on a roll of butcher paper and simply roll it up for safekeeping and unroll it when you want to refer to it.
History of World Missions

A Sample Timeline

4000 B.C.

THE BEGINNING
4000  Creation
4000  Fall of man
2948  Noah born

3000 B.C.

THE FLOOD AND DISPERSION
2348-2347  Noah and the Great Flood
2257  Seventh ruler of China dies
2247  The Tower of Babel (some say earlier)

2000 B.C.

THE PATRIARCHS
1996  Abraham born
1910  Ishmael born
1896  Isaac born
1837  Jacob and Esau born
1739  Jacob’s name changed to Israel

ISRAEL IN EGYPT
1718  Joseph sold as a slave into Egypt
1706  Jacob goes to Goshen, Egypt
1573  Captivity in Egypt begins
1491  Moses and the Exodus
(some say as late as 1300-1200 B.C.)

1500 B.C.

GOD GIVES HIS LAW AND PROPHETS
1491  God gives His law to Moses
1491-1451  Wandering in the wilderness
1451  Entering the Promised Land
1441-1095  Time of the judges and prophets

TIME OF THE KINGS
1123-255  Chow Dynasty in China
1056  David anointed as King
1015  King Solomon appointed
982  Kingdom of Israel divided
753  Rome established
700  Fall of Israel to Assyria

500 B.C.

THE GREAT EMPIRES
625  Babylonian Empire begins
600  Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar
594  Buddah begins public work in July
539  End of Babylonian Empire
539  Beginning of Persian Empire
586  Fall of Judah to Chaldeans
330  End of Persian Empire
History of World Missions

A Sample Time line (continued)

300 B.C.

330-323 Alexander the Great, Grecian Empire
250 Rise of Rome as world power

THE MESSIAH COMES
4-6 Birth of Jesus Christ
26-28 Jesus enters the ministry
29-31 Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ
29-31 Ascension of Christ, The Great Commission

B.C./A.D.

A.D. 50

64 Persecution from Nero begins
67 Martyrdom of Peter and Paul
by 100 New Testament written
117 Height of Roman Empire
313 Constantine's Edict of Milan (Christianity now legal)
375 Christianity official and only religion of Rome
379-395 Emperor Theodosius I begins to persecute all other religions, forcing all to become "Christian"

A.D. 100

THE DARK AGES
395 Rome divided
400-1300 Attack of Vikings and German barbarians
432 St. Patrick arrives in Ireland
476 First German (Odavacer) to rule Rome openly
500 Fall of Western Roman Empire
600 Beginning of the Middle Ages
600 Mohammed/Islam begins
716 St. Boniface leaves on first mission
725 Emperor Leo III forbids veneration to images
843 Council of Constantinople restores image veneration
1095 Holy War Crusades begin

A.D. 500

RENAISSANCE/REFORMATION
1212 St. Francis of Assisi
1320-1384 John Wycliffe
1415 John Huss burned at stake
1431 Joan of Arc burned at stake
1450 First printing press with moveable type invented
1454 Johann Gutenberg prints first Bible
1478 Spanish Inquisition begins
1495 Leonardo Da Vinci paints The Last Supper
1492 Christopher Columbus sails to the Americas
1508 Michelangelo begins work on Sistine Chapel
1542 Xavier in India
1521 Martin Luther breaks away from papacy
1522 Ulrich Zwingli makes an open break with Rome
1536 John Calvin writes Institutes of Christian Religion

A.D. 1500
History of World Missions

A Sample Time line (continued)

AGE OF EXPLORATION/colonization

A.D. 1500
- 1540 Jesus founded/revitalizing Catholicism
- 1580 Sir Francis Drake completes circumnavigation of the world
- 1596 Gerhardus Mercator publishes world map
- 1597 Japanese expel western missionaries
- 1611 The King James Version of the Bible is published
- 1620 Pilgrims arrive at Plymouth Bay
- 1646 John Eliot to American Indians
- 1732 Moravians send missionaries to Virgin Islands
- 1743 David Brainerd begins work
- 1776 United States of America makes its Declaration of Independence
- 1793 William Carey arrives in India
- 1812 First American Missionaries: Adoniram and Nancy Judson set sail for India
- 1816 Moffat begins missionary work
- 1835 Whitmans leave for Oregon
- 1841 David Livingstone arrives in Africa
- 1861 Telegraph wire stretches from east to west coast of the U.S.
- 1865 Founding of China Inland Mission
- 1876 Alexander Graham Bell displays the first telephone
- 1890 Founding of The Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM)
- 1893 Founding of Sudan Interior Mission (SIM)
- 1895 Founding of Africa Inland Missions

A.D. 1900
- 1903 The Wright brothers make first successful airplane flight
- 1903 Ford Motor Company begins making the automobile affordable
- 1910 C.T. Studd arrives in Africa
- 1914 U.S. opens the Panama Canal
- 1914 World War I begins
- 1917 Collapse of the Russian Czarist Empire
- 1922 Founding of the U.S.S.R.
- 1927 Charles Lindberg makes first solo flight across Atlantic Ocean
- 1930s The Great Depression
- 1936 First regular television broadcasts begin
- 1939 World War II begins
- 1945 Founding of Missionary Aviation Fellowship (MAF)
- 1950 Founding of World Vision
- 1954 Founding of Trans World Radio
- 1956 Auca massacre of Jim Elliot, Nate Saint and others in Ecuador
- 1960 Founding of Youth With A Mission (YWAM)
- 1969 American Neil Armstrong is first man to walk on the moon
- 1974 First version of Operation World published
- 1976 Founding of U.S. Center for World Missions
- 1991 Break-up of the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe now open for Christian evangelism
- Shift towards use of "nationals" in missions
- 2000 Today GOD CAN USE YOU!

Teaching with God's Heart for the World: Volume I