



WEEK 2

The Beginning of World Missions

Emphasis: The Old Testament/Israel/Creation

Introduction: The main goal for this week is to begin understanding WHY world missions is so important. Ask yourselves, "What does GOD really think about missions?" We will begin by looking at the Old Testament, including a study of Israel, and discover how God's love for all people was revealed from the beginning.

LIBRARY AND MEDIA SEARCH

CHILDREN'S BIBLE STORYBOOK

Creation
 Adam and Eve's sin
 The Tower of Babel
 God's Covenant with Abraham
 Jonah and the Big Fish

BOOK TITLES

Unveiled at Last by Bob Sjogren
World Mission Manual - Part 1
Operation World by Patrick Johnstone
People by Peter Spier
Jonah by Peter Spier
So What's the Difference? by Fritz Ridenour

BOOK TOPICS

Children's atlas—how to use maps
 Astronomy/Study of planets
 Israel/Jerusalem/Middle East
 Religion/Judaism
 Pottery making

MUSIC

Songs from Israel/Christian Jewish songs

VIDEO IDEAS

The Ten Commandments
The Story of Ruth
Fiddler on the Roof

OTHER MEDIA

Tourist video on Israel (from local travel agency)
 Current news (TV, radio, newspaper or magazines on Israel or the Middle East)

DAY 6

WEEK 2 - MONDAY

The Beginning of World Missions

Emphasis: The Old Testament/Israel/Creation

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

• OPENING EXERCISES

BIBLE READING: GENESIS 1:1-2:15

• FAMILY DISCUSSION

What was the world like when God created it? What do you think was God's plan for mankind? How is the world different today (i.e.: population, cultural diversity, sin)? How do you think God views human suffering, poverty, war and disease around the world?

• PRAYER FOCUS

Thank God for His creation. Pray for the Lord to continue to prepare your hearts as you begin this study of world missions.

• BIBLE MEMORY: GENESIS 12:1-3

"Now the Lord had said to Abram: 'Get out of your country, from your family, and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. I will make your name great: and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'"

• PRAYER PROJECT: MISSIONARY PHOTOS



Place photographs of any missionaries you would like to remember around your world map. Write their names under their pictures and use string or yarn to make a line to their location. Use these pictures as a reminder to keep these missionaries in your prayers.

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS

• READING

1. Younger children may read about creation from the *Early Reader's Bible*, *The Beginner's Bible*, the *Picture Bible*, or any other children's Bible storybook at their own reading level.

2. *Unveiled at Last*, chapters 1-2 (younger children could listen to this read by a parent or older sibling).

3. *World Mission Manual - PART 1*: pp 1-1 to 1-10. (I. Mission, the Basis for the Bible).

• WRITING

As mentioned in *Unveiled at Last*, make a list of ways God has blessed you (spiritually, physically, socially, and financially) and ideas for ways you can use these top-line blessings to bless others. Rewrite these lists as an open prayer letter to God or as an essay on "God's Blessings and My Responsibilities."

• LANGUAGE ARTS

1. Carefully write this week's memory verse. Check for neatness and penmanship.

2. Select spelling words that would be appropriate for each child. Have each child write these words in their spelling notebook, their definitions, or use each word in a sentence.

GEOGRAPHY

Begin your study of geography by reviewing the world map on your schoolroom wall. You may want to have a globe nearby (to compare the different projections of the earth) and perhaps a good atlas or children's book on how to use maps.

1. Start by locating where you live and mark this with a push pin or flag. Then give an introduction to the world as a whole.

2. **FIND THE MAJOR CONTINENTS:** North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia and Antarctica. Compare these divisions with the major areas highlighted in *Operation World*. **FIND THE MAJOR OCEANS AND SEAS;** **LOCATE MAJOR LINES:** the Equator, Tropic of Capricorn, Tropic of Cancer, International Date Line, lines of longitude, and lines of latitude. **LOCATE MAJOR HEMISPHERES:** Northern, Southern, Eastern, and Western.

DAY 7

WEEK 2 - TUESDAY

The Beginning of World Missions

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

- OPENING EXERCISES/PRAYER

BIBLE READING: GENESIS 2:16–3:24

- FAMILY DISCUSSION

What happened when Adam and Eve sinned? What was so terrible about simply eating a fruit? How has this event impacted every person on the earth, including you and me? How did the animal-skin clothes point the way to the coming Messiah?

- PRAYER FOCUS

Ask God to give you His compassion for those who are spiritually lost and still separated from Him by their sins. Pray for those people who have never had an opportunity to hear the Gospel message...NOT EVEN ONCE!!!

- BIBLE MEMORY

Review Genesis 12:1-3.

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS

- READING

1. Have younger children read about Adam and Eve's sin from any children's Bible storybook.

2. *Unveiled at Last*, chapters 3-4.

3. *World Missions Manual - Part 1*:

read pp. 1-10 to 1-15. (II. God's Purpose)

- WRITING

Imagine what it would have been like if you were born in an area of the world where you were isolated from the message of Jesus. Write a creative story about one of your experiences growing up. You may want to start with: *If I was born in a remote village in India... (or China, Russia, Bhutan, etc.)...*

- LANGUAGE ARTS

Check your child's creative story for correct punctuation and capitalization.

HISTORY

1. As described in the introduction, a great start for this year's study of history is to set up a time line. This week set up your time line and begin to mark the events you are learning about such as Creation and the Tower of Babel.

2. Focus on the history of ancient Israel and God's plan for this nation throughout time. Look at the life and customs of the people of Israel and surrounding nations such as Egypt or the people of Ninevah, and compare their lifestyle to ours. You may want to look at a book on Bible archeology or at pictures of ancient Israel.

3. Look at a Bible map on the life of Abraham or Jonah and their travels, then compare these locations with a modern man. Talk about how and why political boundaries may change through time (i.e.: war, conquest, uniting or dividing of countries, death of leaders, natural disasters, etc.)

RELIGION FOCUS

- JUDAISM

From the Bible and perhaps another book such as *So What's the Difference?* by Fritz Ridenour, take a look at the Jewish religion. How did the ancient Jewish practices point the way to the coming of Jesus Christ? Look at the sacrifices, the tabernacle, the mercy seat, the feast days, and prophecies such as Isaiah 53.

Note how God gave the Old Testament law and the prophets to point the way to the coming Messiah. Study how Jesus fulfilled these prophecies, and discuss WHY the Jewish people, as a whole, did not receive Him.

FAMILY FIELD TRIP

- VISIT A JEWISH SYNAGOGUE IN YOUR AREA

Look in your phone book to find out if there are any Jewish synagogues in your area. Call ahead of time to see if there are special regulations, restrictions, or proper dress requirements to visit their synagogue.

Another idea is to find out if there is a group of Messianic Jews (Christian Jews) in your area. Check the religion section of your newspaper, ask your pastor, or call an evangelistic ministry such as Jews for Jesus to see if they know of any. Ask if they could tell you about their customs, religious traditions, and how these relate to their faith in Jesus Christ.

DAY 8

WEEK 2 - WEDNESDAY

The Beginning of World Missions

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

- OPENING EXERCISES/PRAYER

BIBLE READING: GENESIS 11:1-9

- FAMILY DISCUSSION

How did the events at the Tower of Babel change the future of the entire world? How has this impacted the job of world missions? If the world today was all one language, nationality and culture, with one leader and government, how could it be harder or even impossible to spread the Gospel around the world?

- PRAYER FOCUS

Pray for missionaries and Bible translators who are working hard to learn new languages. Pray God would give them wisdom, patience, endurance, and renewed vision to complete the work God has called them to do.

- BIBLE MEMORY

Review Genesis 12:1-3.

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS

- READING

1. Have younger children read about the Tower of Babel from any children's Bible storybook.
2. *People* (This excellent picture book would be great to read aloud to your elementary-age children. It is a great tool to teach about the variety of cultures on the earth.)
3. *Unveiled at Last*, chapters 5-6.
4. *World Mission Manual - Part 1*: pp. 1-16 to 1-26. (III. God's Plan)

- WRITING

Write a poem about the many kinds of people in the world. You may want to make it a rhyming poem or a poem in which the first letters of each line spell out a missions message such as GOD SO LOVES THE WORLD or MISSIONS.

- LANGUAGE ARTS

1. Emphasize grammar and parts of speech. You could have your poem emphasize verbs, adjectives, or adverbs.
2. Review spelling words.

MATH AND SCIENCE

- MATH

Look at the statistics, percentages and charts on the nation of Israel from *Operation World*, page 312. Notice the percentage of Evangelical Christians in this country, only 0.16 percent.

Help your children to realize this means that only 1.6 people of every 1,000 people are born-again Christians. This is very low—when we realize that Christianity began in this very place. Israel needs our prayers!

- SCIENCE

Nehemiah 9:6

"You alone are the Lord; you have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and everything on it, the seas and all that is in them, and you preserve them all. The host of heaven worships you."

As you are studying how God views the subject of world missions, it would be a perfect time to look at our physical earth from God's viewpoint.

See where our earth is located in relation to the other planets in our solar system, the sun, and the stars.

FAMILY FIELD TRIP

- STAR GAZING

Go outside at night and look at the stars. It is a great experience to marvel at the greatness of our universe and to realize that we serve the God who created it all!

Many times, just looking at the stars will encourage your children to ask questions about astronomy and about the Lord.

DAY 9

WEEK 2 - THURSDAY

The Beginning of World Missions

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

- OPENING EXERCISES/PRAYER

BIBLE READING: GENESIS 12, 14:13-24, 15:1-21

- FAMILY DISCUSSION

How can we see God's heart for the whole world in the story of Abraham and God's covenant with him? How have all nations been blessed through Abraham's descendants?

- PRAYER FOCUS

Thank the Lord for sending Jesus to be a blessing to the whole earth. Pray for the Lord to begin showing you ways your family can be a blessing to the nations.

- BIBLE MEMORY

Review Genesis 12:1-3. Discuss how this verse relates to the family discussion questions.

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS

- READING

1. Have younger children read about God's covenant with Abraham from any children's Bible storybook.

2. *Unveiled at Last*, chapters 7-8.

3. *World Missions Manual - Part 1*, pp. 2-1 to 2-10. (The Abrahamic Covenant)

- WRITING

Write a speech about how God can use your family to be a blessing to others. Include:

- I. Introduction
- II. How our family has been blessed
 - A. Example 1
 - B. Example 2
 - C. Example 3
- III. Look at the world's need
 - A. Example 1
 - B. Example 2
 - C. Example 3
- IV. How we can be a blessing
 - A. Example 1
 - B. Example 2
 - C. Example 3
- V. Conclusion

- LANGUAGE ARTS

Emphasize writing style and using an outline. Take a practice spelling test.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

- ART

Look through Bible reference books or children's illustrated Bible storybooks to see what kinds of art the Jewish people enjoyed. Look at pictures of the tabernacle and the temple, and notice the craftsmanship.

The people of Israel did not make statues or graven images of any kind because of God's second commandment. The only exception was when the people of Israel made false idols in times of rebellion against God.

- CRAFT

Using the recipe for play dough (chapter 5) knead it until smooth and make a piece of pottery. There is no need to cook or heat this dough it will harden as it dries. Later it can be painted and used for a decoration. It is not recommended for holding water.

FAMILY FIELD TRIP

- VISIT A POTTERY SHOP

Look in your phone book for pottery shops. You should phone ahead and ask if you could take a homeschool field trip to their shop and to make an appointment if necessary.

Watch how pottery is made. Notice the various stages: mixing the clay, forming the pottery, baking, painting and glazing. As you observe, ask these questions: Why was the art and skill of pottery important in early civilizations such as Israel? Look at Isaiah 45:9, and think about how God is referred to as the potter and we are the clay. What does this mean to you?



DAY 10

WEEK 2 - FRIDAY

The Beginning of World Missions

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

- OPENING EXERCISES/PRAYER

BIBLE READING: JONAH 1-4

- FAMILY DISCUSSION

Why did Jonah run away from God's calling to go to Nineveh? In what ways was Jonah a missionary? What happened when Jonah finally went to Nineveh? How does this story demonstrate God's love for all people?

- PRAYER FOCUS

Pray God would grant your family the boldness to obey God no matter WHERE He would have you to go or WHAT He would have you to do.

- BIBLE MEMORY

Test: Write or say this week's memory verse, Genesis 12:1-3.

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS

- READING

1. Have younger children read about Jonah and the big fish from any children's Bible storybook.

2. Look at Peter Spier's wordless picture book, *Jonah*. Have the children describe the pictures or tell you the story in their own words.

3. *Unveiled at Last*, chapters 9-10.

4. *World Missions Manual - Part 1*, pp. 2-11 to 2-30. (The Covenant is Established)

- WRITING

Pretend that you are a newspaper reporter in the city of Nineveh (perhaps for a paper called the *Ninevah News*) during the time of Jonah's preaching. Write an article reporting your city's changes, including a front page headline, and comments from various people in the city, such as the king. Have older children type the article with a typewriter or a computer.

- LANGUAGE ARTS

1. Spelling test. Write misspelled words five times each.

2. Check article for correct punctuation, spelling, capitalization, etc.

MUSIC

Listen to a tape of traditional music from Israel and notice the musical style. What types of instruments were

used? Notice the basic timing, rhythm and minor chords.

Sing together some common Christian choruses with a Jewish music theme (i.e. *King of Kings and Lord of Lords*, or *Awake O Israel*.)

Try learning a simple Jewish dance or watch Jewish dancing on a video such as *Fiddler on the Roof*.

INTERNATIONAL MEAL

- AREA EMPHASIS: ISRAEL

To help set the mood, put a white tablecloth on the table and light a special menorah candlestick. (If you can't find one of these, just light 8 regular candles.) You may want to play Jewish music in the background, or read an Old Testament passage such as Isaiah 53 or a Psalm, then recite this week's Bible memory verses.

In your prayer time, remember the people of Israel, and pray their spiritual eyes would be opened. Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to be the Messiah and Savior of the entire world.

DINNER MENU

Grape Juice

Fruit (such as grapes, olives, figs)

Lamb

Livivot (Potato Pancakes)

Pita pocket bread

Salad

ISRAEL

LIVIVOT (Potato Pancakes)

4-5 medium potatoes peeled and grated

1 small onion, grated

1/4 cup fresh parsley—cut up

1 tsp. salt and pepper (to taste)

dash garlic powder (to taste)

1 tsp. cumin (optional)

2 eggs

1 Tbs. flour

Mix ingredients together, then fry in enough oil to cover the bottom. Cook on medium to high heat. Spoon batter in pan and flatten with a spoon. Fry pancakes on each side until golden brown and crispy.

(Note: Livivot is a typical Jewish meal served for Hanukkah—Special thanks to my friend, Luanne Uriel.)

FAMILY VIDEO NIGHT

The Ten Commandments, *The Story of Ruth*, *Fiddler on the Roof*