WEEK 7
World Missions Through History
Emphasis: The Age of Exploration and Colonization

Introduction: Along with the increased Renaissance desire for knowledge came a quest to explore and discover. Beginning in the fifteenth century and continuing to the eighteenth century, men such as Christopher Columbus and Sir Francis Drake began to discover more of our world. We will look at this period of history and how the Gospel of Jesus Christ began to spread through political exploration and colonization. We will focus on the country of Spain and the Christian and religious motivations of these early explorers.

LIBRARY AND MEDIA SEARCH

CHILDREN'S BIBLE STORYBOOK
Rahab meets the spies sent to Jericho
Israel crosses the Jordon River
Joshua and the Battle of Jericho

BOOK TITLES
Any encyclopedia
Any missionary biography
Bruchko by Bruce Olsen
Peace Child by Don Richardson
Is That Really You, God? by Loren Cunningham
Revolution in World Missions by K.P. Yohannan

BOOK TOPICS
The Age of Exploration
Colonization
Christopher Columbus
The Niña, Pinta, and the Santa Maria
Sir Francis Drake
King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella
Gehardus Mercator, Mercator Projection, the Bahamas, Cuba
The Mayflower
Indian tribal religion
Using a compass
Magnetism

MUSIC
Music from Spain or Mexico

FAMILY VIDEOS
Columbus, 1492
DAY 31
WEEK 7 - MONDAY
World Missions Through History
Emphasis: The Age of Exploration and Colonization

FAMILY DEVOTIONS
- OPENING EXERCISES/PRAYER
BIBLE READING: JOSHUA 1-2
- FAMILY DISCUSSION
  Why do you think Joshua was chosen to take Moses' place as the leader of Israel? How does God view faithfulness? Read Joshua 1:9. How can this verse be an encouragement for those who are in missionary work? In Joshua 2:17-19, how does the story of Rahab and the scarlet cord give us an example of God's compassion for all (even Gentiles) who are willing to call on the name of Jesus?
- PRAYER FOCUS
  Pray God would help you and your family to be faithful in the little things He shows you to do, just as Joshua was faithful to Moses. Pray for your home church, that the workers and volunteers would be faithful.
- BIBLE MEMORY: JOSHUA 6:1-2
  "Now Jericho was securely shut up because of the children of Israel; none went out, and none came in. And the Lord said to Joshua: 'See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king, and the mighty men of valor.'"
- LEARNING IDEA: POSTERBOARD PUZZLE
- PRAYER PROJECT: PRAY OVER YOUR CITY
  Think about the Bible verse and your city. Is your city shut up spiritually, where none go out to share the Gospel or to do missionary work and none come in to your area to be saved? In faith, you can say, "See! God has given (your city's name) into my hand, its king (or the principality over your city) and all the mighty men of valor (Christians in your city that will be mighty for the Lord)!

  For this project, drive to a place where you can look out over your city (or perhaps your city government offices). Pray over your city and believe for the spiritual walls over your city to be broken down and for the mighty men, women and children of God to be raised up to proclaim the Good News of Jesus! Pray for your city leaders and for all of the Christian churches in your community.

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS
- READING
  1. Have younger children read about the story of the two spies going into Jericho.
  2. Read about Christopher Columbus and his explorations to the Americas that began in 1492. Look at the story of Columbus from several different points of view.
  3. I Heard Good News Today, page 110, "Apostle to the West Indies".
- WRITING
  Pretend you are a newspaper reporter from Spain during the time of Christopher Columbus. Write an article about his discoveries and opposition. Include facts such as his funding from King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella from Spain, or the names of his ships, the Niña, Pinta, and the Santa María. Think of a headline for your article and a name for your newspaper.
- LANGUAGE ARTS
  1. Carefully write the memory verse. Check for neatness.
  2. Select spelling words. Write these in your spelling notebook using each in a sentence.

GEOGRAPHY
  1. Look at old maps made before Columbus’ voyages to the Americas. In what ways were these maps inaccurate? What areas were fairly correct?
  2. Look at maps of Columbus’ journeys. He thought he had discovered a western route to Asia and called the native Americans “Indians” because he thought he had reached India. What countries did he actually reach? How far was this area from India and Asia?
  3. It was not until 1596, that Gerhardus Mercator published a world map with his projection of a round earth portrayed on a flat map. Look at Mercator lines and study their importance. Gerhardus Mercator was German. Notice where he placed the country of Germany in his world projection.
  4. Think about the importance of accurate maps and how maps can help us take the Gospel to unreached people. Did Columbus’ discoveries help in the spreading of the Gospel of Jesus Christ?
DAY 32
WEEK 7 - TUESDAY
World Missions Through History

FAMILY DEVOTIONS
- OPENING EXERCISES/PRAYER
- BIBLE READING: JOSHUA 3:4
- FAMILY DISCUSSION
  What special object did Joshua have carried before the people of Israel as they crossed over the Jordan River? No matter where we go or what we do, what should our priorities be? Read Joshua 4:24 and notice why the people of Israel made a monument of stones by the Jordan River. Notice the words, "that ALL the peoples of the earth may know the hand of the Lord..."
- PRAYER FOCUS
  Pray we would always keep the Lord first-place in our life, just as the people of Israel kept the ark of the covenant before them. Ask the Lord to show you if there is anything in your lives that is out of His plan or right priorities.
- BIBLE MEMORY

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS
- READING
  1. Have younger children read about Israel crossing over the Jordan.
  2. Do a study on several aspects of the Age of Exploration from any encyclopedia. Look up topics such as "Christopher Columbus," "The Santa Maria," "The Bahamas," "Cuba," "The Mayflower," "Age of Exploration," "Sir Francis Drake," "King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella," or "Gehardus Mercator," and read highlights. Look for references to religion or Christianity.

- WRITING
  After you have picked one or two aspects of the Age of Exploration, write any facts or statistics about your topic that you find interesting. Prepare an outline about your topic and organize your facts under appropriate categories. Include references to heathen Indian religions and the spread of Christianity. Tomorrow you will organize these facts into an essay about "Christianity and the Age of Exploration."

HISTORY
  During this time of Exploration and early Colonizations to the New World, there were many negative things that took place in the name of Christianity; however, we can still be thankful the Gospel of Jesus Christ began to spread around the world.

  In these early days, the purpose for exploration and discovery was to colonize or take power over the natives they found. Many times, this take-over included brutally killing the people or stripping them of their cultures and traditions. Often the religion of Christianity was forced on these people without any knowledge of salvation or heartfelt individual conversion.

  We must remember that the native people were not always "peaceful little societies of love." They were heathen people and often filled with traditions of witchcraft, idolatry, demonic influence, hatred and fear. These were people who needed Jesus Christ.

  We need to realize that world missions is so much more than discovery and colonization. We must reach out to other people groups with an attitude of love and acceptance. We must be willing to share the Gospel in a way that is culturally appropriate and be willing to let the nationals respond. Our purpose should not be to take control but allow THE LORD to take control! Our goal should be to work together with these nationals to equip and train THEM to reach their own people with the Gospel.

  - MARK YOUR TIMELINE
    A.D. 1492  Columbus sails to the Americas
    A.D. 1580  Sir Francis Drake completes circumnavigation of the globe
    A.D. 1596  Mercator publishes world map
    A.D. 1597  Japanese expel western missionaries
    A.D. 1611  King James Version published

RELIGION FOCUS
- INDIAN TRIBAL RELIGIONS
  Look at the religions of the Native American people. Notice their ancestor worship, witchcraft, witch doctors, demonic influence, and their attitude toward death and the after-life.

  Why do you think there is such a move today toward "bashing" anything having to do with white colonization of the past. History books often portray men such as Columbus and early missionaries as out to destroy the cultures of the native people. Are there bad examples of these explorers that justify this attitude? Are there good examples that portray another image? Think about what America would be like today if there had not been ANY exploration.
DAY 33

WEEK 7 - WEDNESDAY
World Missions Through History

FAMILY DEVOTIONS
• OPENING EXERCISES/PRAYER
BIBLE READING: JOSHUA 5-6
• FAMILY DISCUSSION
  Who was the Commander of the Lord’s Army? Notice that Joshua worshiped Him. Note the answer to the question “Are you for us, or for our adversaries?” in verse 5:14. God is for all people!
  Discuss the Battle of Jericho and how God had given Joshua commands to take the city. Do you think God has spiritual battle plans to reach this world for Jesus Christ?
• PRAYER FOCUS
  Pray God would give you His plan for your life and you would be as bold as Joshua in fulfilling it, despite what others may say.
  Pray for people who are still influenced by Indian tribal religions. Pray their eyes would be opened and they would see the love of Jesus—despite the negative things that have been done at times throughout history to their people—in the name of Christianity.
• BIBLE MEMORY
  Review Joshua 6:1-2 and speak this over your city.

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS
• READING
  1. Have younger children read the story of Joshua and the battle of Jericho.
  2. Read a picture book about the life of Christopher Columbus or another famous explorer.
  3. Continue encyclopedia research on the Age of Exploration.
• WRITING
  Write an essay about “Christianity and the Age of Exploration.” Include facts, statistics and interesting details you have found in your research. Follow the outline you put together yesterday.
• LANGUAGE ARTS
  1. Watch for correct sentence structure, grammar, punctuation and capitalization. Circle and explain mistakes.

Let your children know that they will rewrite the essay tomorrow to correct any errors.
  2. Review spelling words.

MATH AND SCIENCE
• MATH
  Discuss how math is used in direction and finding degrees of latitude or longitude. Learn how math was very important to the early discoverers and explorers to find their direction and to chart their maps. Study different degrees of a circle.
• SCIENCE
  As you are learning about the early explorations, talk about the importance of the compass and finding direction.
  Teach how a compass works and how this relates to magnetism.
  Look at a science experiment book on magnetism and try one of the hands-on experiments.

FAMILY FIELD TRIP
• USING A COMPASS TO FIND YOUR DIRECTION
  Get a compass and teach your children how to use it. If you don’t know how, check out a library book on the subject and follow the directions.
  Go out in your backyard, to a nearby park or wooded area, and use the compass to find your direction. One idea is to divide your family into two groups, and have each group make a simple map with compass directions. (Example: Go 100 ft. north, turn east and go 200 paces. Look southwest and then walk 50 feet, etc.)
  Discuss the importance of the compass to early explorers.
DAY 34

WEEK 7 - THURSDAY

World Missions Through History

FAMILY DEVOTIONS
- OPENING EXERCISES/PRAYER

BIBLE READING: JOSHUA 7
- FAMILY DISCUSSION

After a great victory in Jericho, why was there a defeat in the next city of Ai? What does this story tell us about the importance of staying away from sin and not assuming anything of God?

Read Joshua 7:9, how Joshua was concerned about God's great name and how the people of Canaan and all the inhabitants of the land would respond to a defeat of the people of Israel. Is God concerned about His reputation? Is He also concerned about His people and righteousness?
- PRAYER FOCUS

Come against any spirit of confusion or deception in your home, church, or city, and pray you would clearly see God's direction. If you or someone you know is facing a time of defeat, allow the Lord to show you His direction in your life. Also seek the Lord and see if you are living in any known sin. If so, repent, and come to the Lord in humility.

- BIBLE MEMORY

Review Joshua 6:1-2. Write or recite this verse in practice for tomorrow's test.

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS
- READING

1. Read a missionary biography that you find interesting. Excellent examples are Bruchko, Peace Child, Is That Really You, God?, Revolution in World Missions, or any of the Trailblazers series. (See resource section for descriptions.)

- WRITING

Rewrite your essay on "Christianity and the Age of Exploration." Correct any spelling and punctuation errors. Rewrite neatly or type the essay.

Include a bibliography to quote your sources of information.

- LANGUAGE ARTS

Focus on how to make a correct bibliography. Include the sources you used to write your paper. Arrange your sources by author's last name. If there is no author, alphabetize by the first word of the title (excluding A, An, or The.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY ENTRY EXAMPLES FOR A BOOK:

Include author or editor (if possible), Title of book (publisher's city, publisher's name, date of publication), page numbers.

FOR AN ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLE:


- FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Talk about how challenging it would be to learn a foreign language if you did not have anyone to teach you or if the language was not written or recorded. How would you learn? How do you think these people learn their own language?

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Look at different examples of old maps made during the time of the Age of Exploration.

- CRAFT: OLD EXPLORER’S MAP

Draw or trace a copy of an old map drawn during the early years of exploration. Include small sketches of sea monsters, ships, or imaginary native people. Decorate the edges. Possibly tear the edges slightly or burn the corners (with parental help) to give the appearance of age.
DAY 35

WEEK 7 - FRIDAY
World Missions Through History

FAMILY DEVOTIONS
• OPENING EXERCISES/PRAYER
BIBLE READING: JOSHUA 8:30-35, 9
• FAMILY DISCUSSION
  In Joshua 8:35, who listened to the reading of the book of the law? Was it only the people of Israel or were there Gentiles present also?
  In Joshua 9:24, notice how the Gibeonite people knew that God had given the land to Israel. What did these people do to trick the Israelite people?
  Think about Joshua and the conquering of the promised land. In what ways were the people of Israel similar to the early explorers? Think about the battles, the direction and leading from God, the entering of an unknown land, and the confrontation of heathen people.
• BIBLE MEMORY

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS
• READING
  1. Read a children’s picture storybook about the early Spanish colonization.
  2. Continue reading a missionary biography.
• WRITING
  Take some quiet time to update your prayer diary and to write in your personal prayer journal. What is the Lord doing in your life? What has the Lord been speaking to you lately concerning the need for world missions? What has the Lord been speaking to you through the Bible or through your pastor, parents, or teachers at church? Take time to share your thoughts and feelings.
• LANGUAGE ARTS
  1. Spelling test. Write misspelled words five times and include in next week’s spelling lesson.
  2. Ask children to give an oral or written definition of each spelling/vocabulary word.

• FOREIGN LANGUAGE
  Look in Section III, “Music and Missionary Songs.” Practice singing several songs in Spanish such as “Cristo Me Ama” (Jesus Loves Me), “Dios Bueno Es” (God is so Good), or “Hallelu, Hallelu...Gloria a Dios” (Hallelu, Hallelu...Praise Ye the Lord).
• MUSIC
  Listen to some classical Spanish music or a tape of Christian Spanish music. Listen for different types of musical instruments and try to pick them out.

INTERNATIONAL MEAL
• AREA EMPHASIS: SPAIN

Spanish Rice
Sauté until crisp:
  6 slices bacon/minced:
Remove the bacon. Stir and cook in the drippings until browned:
  1 cup rice
Add and cook until golden:
  1 cup thinly sliced onions
Add the bacon and:
  2 1/2 cups canned tomatoes
  1 teaspoon salt
  2 teaspoons paprika
  2 seeded and minced green peppers
  2 pressed garlic, optional
Steam the rice in a double boiler about 1 hour. Stir frequently. Add water or stock if the rice becomes too dry. (Serves 6-8)

FAMILY VIDEO NIGHT
Columbus (old version), 1492