

Beginning with God

Scope and sequence

Unit 1	God and his world
Duration	4 lessons
Outcomes	See Appendix 1

Unit 2	A troubled world and God's remedy
Duration	5 lessons
Outcomes	See Appendix 2

Unit 3	Jesus is God's Son and is always with us
Duration	3 lessons
Outcomes	See Appendix 3

Unit 4	Jesus cares for people
Duration	6 lessons
Outcomes	See Appendix 4

Unit 5	Responding to Jesus and God
Duration	5 lessons
Outcomes	See Appendix 5

Unit 6	People in God's unfolding plan
Duration	12 lessons
Outcomes	See Appendix 6

Unit 7	God's plan fulfilled
Duration	5 lessons
Outcomes	See Appendix 7

Appendix 1

Aims and outcomes for *Beginning with God*—Unit 1

Lesson	Aim	Outcomes—Students will:	Bible reference
1	To introduce the students to their teacher, the Bible and God.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• know their teacher's name• understand that they can learn about God from the Bible• begin to appreciate that they can know God, and that God loves each one of us.	Psalm 57:8–10a
2	To explore what the Bible says about how God made the world and God's description of his world as good.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• hear from the Bible that God made the world and everything in it• be able to list some of the good things God made• reflect on the magnitude of God's creation.	Genesis 1:1–25
3	To help students to understand from the Bible that God made people to be his friends.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• state that the Bible tells us that God made people• understand that God created people to be friends with him• learn to see that people today can become friends with God.	Genesis 1:26— 2:25
4	To help students appreciate from the Bible that God loves and cares for everything he has made.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• learn how the Bible explains that the good things we see, eat and have in our lives come from God• think about ways in which God shows his love and care for the things he has made• begin to appreciate that God's love for people is much greater than anyone can understand.	Psalm 145:3, 8b–9

Appendix 2

Aims and outcomes for *Beginning with God*—Unit 2

Lesson	Aim	Outcomes—Students will:	Bible reference
5	To help students understand from the Bible how friendship with God is spoiled by wrong choices and how God responds by making peace with people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be reminded from the Bible that Adam and Eve were created to live as God's friends • understand how Adam and Eve's wrong choice spoiled their friendship with God • begin to recognise that people today also do wrong, but God still works to make peace with them. 	Genesis 3
6	To help students to appreciate God's reason for sending his Son, Jesus: to make peace between himself and people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recall from the Bible that Adam and Eve had to leave the Garden of Eden because they made a wrong choice and disobeyed God • appreciate that God sent his Son, Jesus, to make peace with people • grow in their understanding of God's love for all people and that he invites them to be his friend. 	Luke 1:26–33; 2:1–20, 40, 52
7	To help students understand from the Bible that Jesus told people about God.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be able to state that Jesus taught people many things about God • be able to say one thing that Jesus taught about God • begin to grasp what Jesus' teachings about God mean for people today. 	Matthew 9:35–38; Mark 1:14–20; 4:1–2
8	To show students from the Bible that Jesus' death and resurrection was the central part of God's plan to make peace with people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn that Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem, then later died • understand that while Jesus' death was surprising and sad for his friends, the Bible shows that it was part of God's plan to make peace with people • learn that Jesus was made alive again by God. 	Luke 23; John 12:12–19; 18
9	To help students understand from the Bible that God made Jesus alive again.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recall the story of Jesus' death • learn that God made Jesus alive again • understand from the Bible that God has power over all things, including death • appreciate that Jesus died so people can be friends with God, and that he is the powerful Son of God. 	Luke 24:1–12

Appendix 3

Aims and outcomes for *Beginning with God*—Unit 3

Lesson	Aim	Outcomes—Students will:	Bible reference
10	To develop students' understanding from the Bible of Jesus' resurrection as real and physical.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• understand from the Bible that the risen Jesus was really alive• recognise how Jesus met and spoke with people after he had risen• begin to grasp the truth of these extraordinary events.	Luke 24:13–35
11	To help students to understand from the Bible that Jesus' friends are never alone because God, the Holy Spirit, is with them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• hear from the Bible how Jesus returned to heaven and then sent his Holy Spirit to be with his people• learn about what it was like for Jesus' friends to have the Holy Spirit• appreciate that when people today trust Jesus, his Holy Spirit also lives with them.	Acts 1:7–11; 2:1–13
12	To help students appreciate that the Bible teaches that Jesus' friends will live with him forever.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• learn how God will make everything new• imagine being together with God and Jesus forever with no sadness• be encouraged to look forward to God's new heaven and earth.	Revelation 21:1–7, 23–27

Appendix 4

Aims and outcomes for *Beginning with God*—Unit 4

Lesson	Aim	Outcomes—Students will:	Bible reference
13	To help students develop an understanding from the Bible that Jesus is God's Son and has God's power.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand from the Bible that Jesus has God's power because he is God's Son • learn how Peter became a follower of Jesus • understand what it's like for Christians today to follow Jesus. 	Luke 5:1–11
14	To help students appreciate from the Bible that Jesus' love for people shows us God's love.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know about Jesus' visit to the synagogue and Peter's house • recognise that Jesus cares about people more than anything else • begin to grasp from the Bible that they are deeply loved by Jesus and God. 	Mark 1:21–22, 29–31
15	To help students appreciate from the Bible that Jesus was able to help people because he is the powerful Son of God and has God's power.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recall how Jesus fed a huge crowd of people • understand that Jesus wanted to help people • reflect on what this Bible story tells them about Jesus. 	John 6:1–14
16	To help students understand that Jesus, God's Son, has the power to give life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn how Jesus raised Lazarus from death • be amazed that Jesus can give life • begin to grasp that Jesus has all of God's power. 	John 11:1–44
17	To help students understand how the Bible shows that Jesus cares for and values children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be able to retell the story of Jesus welcoming the children • understand how much Jesus values children • begin to appreciate their own worth in God's eyes. 	Mark 10:13–16
18	To explore further how the Bible shows that Jesus cares for people, even those who others see as 'outcasts'.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • act out the story of how Jesus healed Bartimaeus of his blindness • understand how the Bible shows that Jesus' love reaches out to everyone • appreciate how different Jesus is to anyone else. 	Mark 10:46–52

Appendix 5

Aims and outcomes for *Beginning with God*—Unit 5

Lesson	Aim	Outcomes—Students will:	Bible reference
19	To help students appreciate how the Bible shows that Jesus wants people to get to know him.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • compare Mary and Martha’s responses to Jesus • say what Jesus thought about Mary and Martha’s responses • discuss ways they could get to know Jesus more. 	Luke 10:38–42
20	To show students from the Bible how Jesus helps people to change when they know him.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand why people did not like Zacchaeus • be able to say what Zacchaeus did when he met Jesus • appreciate that Jesus can change lives. 	Luke 19:1–10
21	To encourage students to think more about God’s love and how people can respond to it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know the story of the loving father and son who returned • make the connection between God and the father in the story • consider how people can respond to God’s love. 	Luke 15:11–24
22	To explore how and why people pray to God.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn how Jesus taught his friends to pray • understand that God wants people to pray to him • begin to value prayer as a response to God’s love. 	Luke 11:1–13
23	To help students understand from the Bible that loving God means we must love others even when it is hard to do so.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participate dramatically in the story of the good Samaritan • discuss ways to show love to the people they know • grasp why Christians believe that if we love God, we must also love others even when it is hard to do so. 	Luke 10:25–37

Appendix 6

Aims and outcomes for *Beginning with God*—Unit 6

Lesson	Aim	Outcomes—Students will:	Bible reference
24	To foster an understanding from the Bible that God promised to help his people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn about the promises God made to Abraham • recall how God promised to help his people and understand that it took time for God to fulfil his promises • appreciate that God’s promises are special and important. 	Genesis 12–15
25	To encourage students to appreciate how the Bible shows that God keeps every promise he makes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recall the promises God made to Abraham • discuss how they feel when a promise is kept or broken • confidently know from the Bible that God always keeps his promises. 	Genesis 17:17–22; 18; 21:1–7
26	To explore Joseph’s role in God’s unchanging plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be introduced to Joseph and some of Abraham’s other descendants • understand Joseph’s important role in saving Abraham’s family • begin to grasp how people like Abraham and Joseph are part of God’s greater plan to make peace with people. 	Genesis 37; 45
27	To help students to appreciate from the Bible that God saved baby Moses for a great purpose.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hear about Moses and Abraham’s descendants in Egypt • understand that God saved Moses in order to save ‘Israel’ • appreciate how the Bible shows that God is true to his plans and promises. 	Exodus 2:1–10
28	To introduce students to the concept that God is good, all-powerful and in charge of the world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hear how God showed his power to Pharaoh, the Egyptians and the Israelites • understand from the Bible that God is in charge of the world • engage in a variety of dramatic experiences. 	Exodus 2:23; 6:6–8; 7–12
29	To help students appreciate how the Bible shows that God always keeps his promise to be with those who trust him.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn from the Bible that God was with his people, the Israelites, as they travelled to the Promised Land • understand from the Bible that God always keeps his promises • appreciate that God is with those who trust in him. 	Joshua 3
30	To learn about Hannah’s great faith and God’s even greater faithfulness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hear how Hannah’s prayers for a son were answered by God • appreciate Samuel’s importance in God’s greater plan to bring salvation to all people through Jesus • understand that people today can trust Jesus and become God’s friends. 	1 Samuel 1
31	To help students grasp that God chose David as his people’s king because David loved and trusted him.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know that God chose David to be the future king of his people • understand that David loved and trusted God • appreciate that the Bible teaches that God cares about what is inside us and how we respond to him, rather than how we look. 	1 Samuel 16:1–13
32	To appreciate how God prepared David to be a warrior and king.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know from the Bible that God looked after David • understand that God was preparing David for his future role as a warrior and king • appreciate that God looks after people in different ways when they trust him. 	1 Samuel 17:34–38
33	To discover God’s great promise that someone from David’s family would always be king.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recall and retell the story of King David through song • know that there would always be a king from David’s family, and that one day this King would be Jesus • begin to see the connection between the Old Testament stories of this unit and how they lead to Jesus. 	2 Samuel 7
34	To help the students to understand that Daniel knew God was the greatest King of all.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn about the people, places and events surrounding Israel’s exile to Babylon • compare and contrast earthly kings with God the heavenly King • appreciate that the Bible says that anyone can have God as their King. 	2 Chronicles 36:11–23; Daniel 1–2; 6
35	To help students to recognise from the Bible that God wants people to remember him.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • re-enact the rebuilding of Jerusalem’s wall and how the exiles remembered God • understand that remembering God causes people to act in certain ways • consider ways that people today can remember God. 	Nehemiah 1–2; 8–9

Appendix 7

Aims and outcomes for *Beginning with God*—Unit 7

Lesson	Aim	Outcomes—Students will:	Bible reference
36	To help students to understand from the Bible that God promised to send his Son long before Jesus was born.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be able to recall how the relationship between people and God was broken, and how the problem of sin persisted among God's people • hear from the Bible how God promised to send his Son, long before Jesus was born • sense God's love for people in spite of their wrongdoing. 	Isaiah 9:6–7
37	To help students to reflect on Mary's joy regarding the fulfilment of God's promise.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hear from the Bible how Mary's baby would be the Son promised by God • sing a song based on Mary's song of praise • begin to appreciate the joy that Jesus brings to Christians' lives. 	Luke 1:29–33, 46–55
38	To help the students to understand that Christians celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas because he is the child God promised who would make peace between God and people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interact with the story of Jesus' birth and the shepherds' visit • understand from the Bible that Jesus was the baby God sent to make peace with God for people • see why Jesus is central to Christians' celebrations at Christmas. 	Luke 2:1–20
39	To help students understand how the Bible shows that baby Jesus was the one God's people had been waiting for.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn of Simeon's encounter with Jesus • understand the significance of the birth of baby Jesus • appreciate that the Bible teaches that God keeps his promises. 	Luke 2:21–35
40	To help students to recognise from the Bible that God invites all people to make Jesus their King and to trust him.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • follow the journey of the wise men from the East to Bethlehem • compare the responses of the wise men and King Herod to Jesus • be prompted to think about different responses to Jesus. 	Matthew 2:1–12