

# Sunday School Software's Outline and Teaching Tips for Bibleland.com

Your purchase of Bibleland.com and other software from our ministry allows us to produce essential reference and lesson planning resources like this one. The descriptions and ideas in this resource come not only from our own classroom experience with the software, but from other churches using the software as well. Thank you!

Questions? Comments? Need help?  
Call us at 1-800-678-1948



Bibleland.com is a popular program in C.E. computer labs for four reasons:

- 1) It's inexpensive and covers a lot of ground.
- 2) Teachers are impressed with the Bibleland.com's discussion-rich, creatively written content.
- 3) Teachers appreciate having one story reference tool that covers a lot of Bible territory.
- 4) Bibleland.com is a good content supplement to other software.

It is important to recognize what Bibleland.com is and is not. Bibleland.com is not a flashy piece of multimedia, —it's a REFERENCE TOOL —a STORY DATABASE. Bibleland.com retells many of the Bible's major and minor stories through a unique device: "first person homepages." One good example of this creative approach and concept is Esau's homepage, --he tells the story of Jacob and Esau from HIS point of view. This unique storytelling feature not only works for the kids, it helps teachers think about the story in a different perspective --and-- can stimulate a teacher's creative approach to studying a Bible story. It's biggest drawback is also its strength --it's text. You have to be able to READ to use this program. Hence: grades 3 and up.

Bibleland.com is a nice "software companion" to many other programs and learning activities. For example, if you are studying the missionary journeys of Paul, Bibleland.com can be used to "research" Barnabas and Timothy, two of Paul's traveling companions. Bibleland.com is a good tool to research subjects like the people surrounding Jesus at the last Supper, "Judges of Israel," or to create a who's who of the Esther story, Bible "Villains & Heroes," "Second Fiddles in the Exodus Story," "Being a Hero in God's Eyes," "Miracles," and "Promises." Take a look at some of the SEARCH CATEGORIES for lesson research ideas.

Many of the homepages contain topical discussions that make great lesson fodder. For example, Lot's homepage has a section on "making the right friends." Job's homepage discussion of "real friends" is another lesson waiting to happen.

The challenge to using Bibleland.com is getting the kids to slow down long enough to absorb what they are seeing and reading.

Left to their own choice, the kids will look for the "doo-dads" and bypass the content. Those of us who have been using Bibleland.com have come up with quite a few "tricks of the trade" to share with you. Here are some of the best:

- ☐ Have students do the research and then make a presentation on the people they studied. These can take the form of verbal discussions, art projects, posters, wall displays, dramatic re-enactments.
- ☐ Rather than have them read entire pages, zero them in on certain content. Most students won't want to read the entire page.
- ☐ Create worksheets with questions which can only be answered by exploring the homepages. See our free worksheet example at our website.
- ☐ Pass out 3 X 5 cards to a group of students using Bibleland.com. Put questions on the first couple of cards, but leave three or four cards blank for student's to come up with their own "stumper questions." Use these in a little quiz show after browsing the program.
- ☐ Have students create a "Family Tree" for those homepages with a lot of links to other characters. The trees can depict family relationships (as in the case of Abraham's family) or "who's who" in stories with numerous participants.
- ☐ Students can create "Rap Sheets" or "Wanted Posters" for homepage characters. Include information such as "my claim to fame," "my biggest mistake," etc.

( A sample worksheet using Bibleland.com to study Psalm 23 can be found linked at our Teaching Tips Page at our website. (

You probably won't have your students using Bibleland.com for more than 20 minutes at a time. Realizing this, you'll want to plan other computer lab activities or use other software that dovetail with the Bibleland content. For example, if you are studying King David, you could begin in Pathways Through Jerusalem, slip over into Life of David, and finish up in Bibleland.com. Programs that work well in combination with Bibleland.com include: Amazing Expedition, Footsteps of Jesus, and Life of Christ. Students can use these programs in rotation between multiple computers. Quiz programs like Grand Slam and Fall of Jericho (a.k.a. Journey) can reinforce Bibleland content. Our guide to Cooperative Learning with Computers gives you a number of lesson planning strategies for using various programs together. Kid Pix 3 or Writing Blaster can be used to with Bibleland.com for kids to make their own "webpages" about the story.

Be aware of Bibleland.com's effective age range. Second graders will not be able to effectively read the homepages.

Some Homepages have AUDIO READINGS of the scripture associated with the Bible character. These are nice, and even have some dramatic background to them.

Bibleland's Games are "ok." Your older students may find them a little too easy. Bibleland.com

## Sunday Software's Technical Tips for Bibleland.com

(the stuff the manufacturer doesn't tell you)

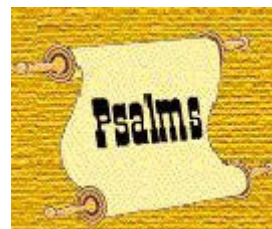
- 1) Bibleland.com performs best with a fast CD-drive and plenty of RAM. If you're running it on an older computer, caution your students to be patient with the program. Premature CLICKING can lock up the program.
- 2) Bibleland.com does work with Windows XP, but you must right click the program's start icon and select the "Windows 98" compatibility mode. (It's easy).
- 3) Be patient at the opening screen, it takes a bit to load up. If you click too soon, it will throw up a "script" error. Click past it and continue.
- 4) In order to close the program, do not click on the closing credits. Instead, press your ESC button.
- 5) There is a way to print out the homepages! ...though it is a bit unconventional. Many lesson planners find this Tips to be a godsend. We have even heard from one church that prints out the homepages as the lesson background for the teacher. Here's how to print the pages:
  1. Scroll to the section of homepage you want to print.
  2. Press your keyboard's PRINT SCREEN button. This "captures" the screen to the Windows clipboard.
  3. Immediately open Windows Wordpad or your wordprocessor and select EDIT, PASTE.  
This "pastes" the screen capture to a document page. Save it, then print it out. If you have a special screen capture utility, you can take multiple captures at a time and print them all out at once.

## The Bibleland Video List & Highlights

The video clips aren't anything to write home about but there are some decent ones -which we've \* marked here.

David	Sheep
Joseph's Shop	Nazareth
Abraham	Jordan River Video*
Absalom	View of Jerusalem
	Map of Holy Land
Goliath	View mountains & valley
Apostle James	Sea of Galilee
Apostle Matthew	Capernaum ruins
Nehemiah	View of Jerusalem walls*
Paul	Damascus Road
Abigail	Dead Sea*
Caleb	Wandering in Wilderness*
Mary Magdalene	Jesus' Tomb*
Naaman	Jordan River
Philip	Walk with Philip
Apostle Thomas	Fishing on Sea of Galilee
Zerubbabel	What Jerusalem looked like
Joshua	Ark of Covenant
	Ruins at Jericho
Mary	Shepherd and sheep,
Elijah	View from Mt. Carmel
Apostle John	Donkey on Palm Sunday
John Mark	Panorama of Nazareth *

Hidden Content: Here's something interesting and undocumented: Many of the hompages contain links to additional related material not accessible through the SEARCH function. For example, in John's homepage, readers can link to a second John page where he tells more of his story. Examples: In Peter's homepage you'll find a link to a complete page on PENTECOST. In David's homepage you can research about the PSALMS.



# Sunday Software's Alphabetic Listing of Bible Characters in Bibleland.com

Aaron:	Moses' right-hand man.	Lot:	Relative of Abraham. Thought evil world wouldn't affect him.
Abel:	Pleased God but angered his brother.	Luke:	"Dr. Luke," author of a gospel and the Book of Acts, missionary.
Abigail:	Saved her husband's life from David's wrath.	Mary:	Mother of Jesus.
Abner:	Commander of King Saul's army who was told to kill David.	Mary/Martha:	Friends of Jesus: a listener and a doer.
Abraham:	Asked by God to sacrifice his son.	Mary Magdalene:	Friend of Jesus saved from life of sin. Helped bury Jesus
Absalom:	Son of David who declared himself king, was killed in battle.	Melchizedek:	Obscure priest and one of the founders of Jewish priesthood.
Adam:	Tried to pretend he had not disobeyed God.	Miriam:	Older sister of Moses; saved him from death.
Ahab:	Evil king of Israel who attacked the prophet Elijah.	Mordecai:	Esther's cousin faced forces hostile to his faith.
Apostle John:	The story of his life.	Moses:	Led Israelites to the Promised Land.
Apostle Matthew:	Tax collector called by Jesus to become apostle.	Naaman:	Became a prophet of God while seeking cure for leprosy.
Apostle Peter:	The story of his life.	Nathan:	Prophet who confronted David about his sin.
Apostle Phillip:	Apostle of Jesus, evangelist.	Nebuchadnezzar:	King of Babylon confronted by Daniel. Refused to honor God.
Apostle Thomas:	Doubted Jesus had been resurrected.	Nehemiah:	Rebuilt walls of Jerusalem after Babylonian captivity.
Aquila/ Priscilla:	Tentmakers, friends of Paul who preached Jesus.	Nicodemus:	Pharisee who visited Jesus and discovered he must be born again.
Asa:	Worshiped God until he bribed another king. Died of disease.	Noah:	Obeded God and built an ark.
Barnabas:	Companion to Paul, Timothy, Silas on many journeys.	Paul:	Pharisee who met Spirit of Christ, was converted and preached.
Baruch:	Jeremiah's scribe: Wrote down God's messages.	Pilate:	Roman governor talked into crucifying Jesus by priests and mobs.
Bathsheba:	Mother of Solomon: David had her husband killed.	Rachel:	Second and beloved wife of Jacob. Was tricked on her wedding.
Boaz:	Husband to Ruth.	Rahab:	Protected Joshua and Caleb who were spying in Jericho.
Caiaphas:	Jewish High Priest who wanted Jesus to die.	Rebekah:	Married Isaac, deceived him to help son Jacob.
Cain:	Murdered Abel and tried to act innocent before God.	Ruth:	Moabite widow who was kind and helpful to mother-in-law.
Caleb:	Along with Joshua, he believed in God to conquer giants.	Salome:	Tricked Herod Antipas into beheading John theBapt.
Cornelius:	Roman captain who had a dream about Peter.	Samson:	A sinner and strong man whom God used.
Daniel:	Obeded God despite difficult circumstances.	Samuel:	Israel's last judge. He anointed Saul and David.
David:	Israel King. Fought Goliath. Man after God's own heart.	Sarah:	Promised a son in her old age.
Deborah:	Prophetess and warrior judge who led Israel into battle.	Saul:	First King of Israel.
Eli:	Judge over Israel for 40 years. Had wicked sons. Taught Samuel.	Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego:	Friends of Daniel thrown into fiery furnace.
Elijah:	Prophet who warned against false gods; hid from attackers.	Silas:	Traveling companion of Luke, Paul and Timothy.
Elisha:	Teen who was recruited and trained by Elijah.	Solomon:	Wise king of Israel known for his proverbs and wealth.
Elizabeth:	Mother of John the Baptist. Cousin to Mary.	Stephen:	Stoned to death for preaching about Jesus.
Esau:	Deceived by Jacob, Esau learned to forgive.	Timothy:	Young friend of Paul who received two letters from Paul.
Esther:	Saved people from death by speaking boldly to King	Zachaeus:	Climbed a tree to see Jesus and had dinner with him.
Eve:	Disobeyed God and tried to blame the serpent.	Zechariah:	Father of John the Baptist struck mute until birth of son.
Ezekiel:	Directed by God to do unusual acts to remind people not to sin.	Zerrubbabel:	From family of David. Led part of the return from Babylon.
Ezra:	One of the leaders of the return from Babylon.		
Herod Family:	Three kings who opposed Jesus.		
Gideon:	Judge who tested God to be sure of his message.		
Goliath:	Giant Philistine.		
Hagar:	Egyptian servant of Sarah and mother of Ishmael.		
Haman:	Wicked adviser to King Xerxes; opposed Mordecai.		
Hannah:	Wept and asked God for a son. Dedicated him to Temple		
Hezekiah:	King of Judah; faithfully obeyed God and prayed.		
Isaiah:	Prophet of God.		
Ishmael:	Rejected son of Abraham became a warrior.		
Jacob:	Tricked his father and brother to obtain blessing.		
Jehu:	King who destroyed family of wicked king Ahab		
Jephthah:	Led Israelites in victory over Ammonites		
Jeremiah:	Prophet for 40 years against sin; no one listened to him.		
Jethro:	Gave good advice to son-in-law Moses.		
Jezebel:	King Ahab's wife. Had Elijah hunted down.		
Job:	Suffered greatly but kept his faith.		
John Mark:	Young assistant to Apostle Paul. Wrote a Gospel.		
Jonah:	Reluctantly obeyed God; went to Nineveh		
Jonathan:	Son of King Saul. Best friend of David.		
Joseph OT:	Sold by brothers into slavery. Kept his faith.		
Joseph NT:	A carpenter who protected his wife and son.		
Joshua:	Led Israelites into Promised Land.		
Josiah:	Teenage king of Israel, remodeled Temple and reinstitutes law of Moses.		
Judas:	Collected fee for turning Jesus into authorities.		
Laban:	Tricked Jacob on wedding night. Father of Leah/Rachel.		
Lazarus:	Brought back to life by his friend Jesus.		
Leah:	Jacob's first wife. Older sister to Rachel.		

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