

M A R T Y
M A C H O W S K I

HOME BIBLE SUPPLEMENT OLD TESTAMENT

Long Story Short Home Bible Supplement

Ten-Minute Devotions to Draw Your Family to God

Old Testament

Marty Machowski



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Home Supplement Introduction

Enrich your use of *Long Story Short*, the Old Testament family devotional, with this supplement. This supplement is divided into weeks that correspond to the weeks in *Long Story Short*. Each week consists of a parent/teacher page(s) followed by a student exercise page(s) and can be found after the week's devotionals from *Long Story Short*.

Each week's parent/teacher page contains a week number, Scripture passage, and Bible truth that correspond to the week in Long Story Short. This first page also contains teaching points that correspond to the first four days of each week in the devotional. The teaching points are labeled Day One through Day Four and, at times, the teaching points will cover more than one day. (Note: In Long Story Short the fifth day of each week is devoted to a Scripture passage unrelated to the week's story; therefore, no teaching points apply to Day Five.) The clearly labeled teaching points enable the parent/teacher to more fully and quickly grasp what to focus on in the Bible passage being considered. A familiarity with the teaching points will increase the richness of your own understanding and consequently enable you to more effectively teach your children.

The teaching points can be used to formulate simple questions to spur your child's interest or to help point out the important truths in the day's passage. They can also be used to generate discussion: Pretend the teaching point is the answer and ask your child the corresponding question. See if she

can tell you the answer based on the day's Scripture.

The "Where Is Jesus?" section, which most often applies to Day Three, will help you connect the Bible story of the week to God's larger plan of redemption. Sometimes the "Where Is Jesus?" section will give you a second related passage which helps to connect the passage of the day with the New Testament.

Each week in the supplement has a coloring page for younger students. It also has a Scripture-based exercise designed to be completed independently by your older elementary child (or young teen). The weekly exercise will help your child to think—really think—about what they have read. The student exercise appears on a page(s) by itself to facilitate printing it out as desired. Each of the seventy-eight exercises is designed to reinforce the biblical concepts and themes being taught. Completing the exercises will encourage your child to think carefully about what they have read in Scripture, and then help them to react to it and apply it to their own life and experience. Themes that are explored include: God's names, God's sovereignty, angels, miraculous births in the Bible, types of Christ, covenants, prayer, faith, suffering, prophecy, God's people, and God's promises. The exercises are varied and include writing journal entries, answering "thought" questions, reading and composing poetry, analyzing famous works of art, doing word studies, exploring biblical themes in related Scripture

passages, completing tables to summarize an aspect of the story, doing word puzzles, etc.

Where the student is asked to answer specific questions, an Answer Key appears on the parent/teacher page following the week's teaching points. There is no Answer Key for exercises that involve creative writing. Be aware that creative writing will be easier for

older, more mature students. Be certain to encourage all attempts in this area.

Be encouraged that the Holy Spirit is your child's ultimate teacher. Pray for the Spirit to be at work and, for your part, pray for faithfulness, consistency, patience, creativity, and wisdom as you nurture your child.

Week 1 Home Supplement

Scripture: Genesis 1

Bible Truth: God is the powerful and majestic maker

of all things.

TEACHING POINT—DAY ONE (Genesis 1:1-2)

God existed before all things—At the very beginning of the Bible, Genesis tells us that God existed before all things. It also tells us that he is the awesome Creator of everything—the whole universe and everything in it. Imagine what it would have been like to watch God form the universe by his mighty power! What amazing power God has that he can create the world and all of the heavens above!

TEACHING POINT—DAYS ONE AND TWO (Genesis 1:1-25)

God spoke creation into existence—God created all things and most of the time he did so simply by speaking. All God had to do to make the planets and stars, the oceans and the mountains, the trees and the animals, was speak them into existence. He made them from nothing.

TEACHING POINT—DAY THREE (Colossians 1:15-17)

Where Is Jesus?—How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption? In Colossians 1:15–16, we read that Jesus is the firstborn over all creation and that all things were created by him and for him. The creation was made by the Lord, for the Lord.

In the next verse, Colossians 1:17, we learn something very important. After Paul tells us that Jesus created all things in the beginning, he says Jesus is doing something else, even right now: Jesus is holding all things together. The stars continue to shine and plants continue to grow because Jesus holds everything together.

TEACHING POINTS—DAY FOUR (Genesis 1:26-31)

God made man in his image—After speaking everything else into existence, God made man in his own image. But this time, he didn't do it by speaking; instead, he formed man from the dust of the earth (see Genesis 2). Then, God put man in authority over everything on earth.

This makes man very different from the rest of creation, and shows God's intention to have a personal relationship with man. So, man was formed *by* God *into* God's image, and given some of God's authority and leadership over the earth.

Everything God made was good—When creation was complete, the Bible says it was very good. There was no death, no sin, and no imperfection in the creation.

WEEK 1 HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

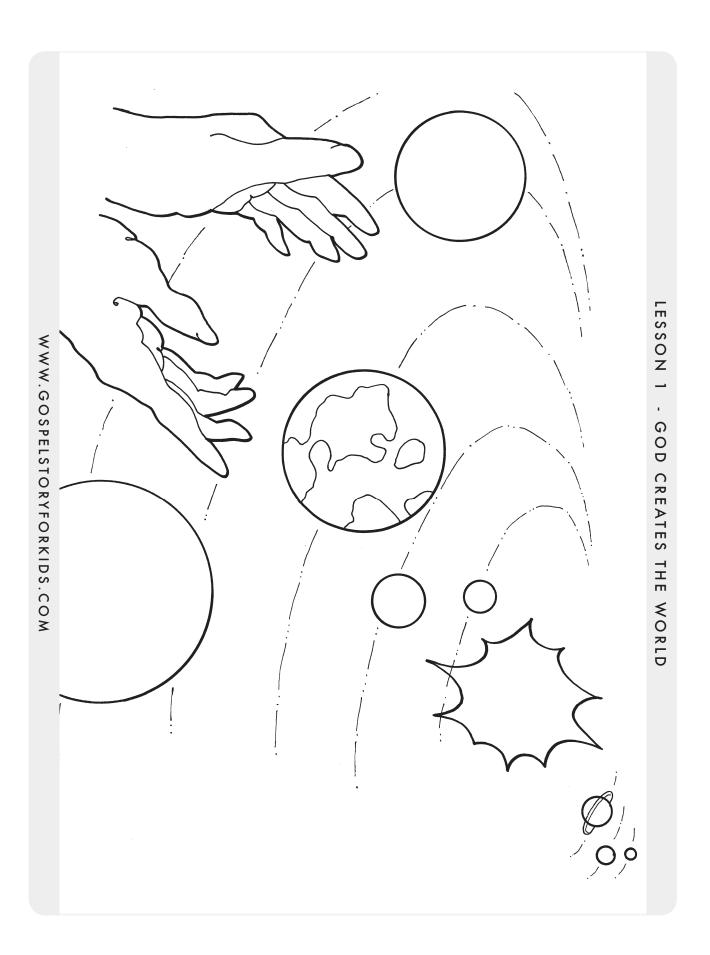
Definition of everlasting: lasting or enduring for all time; eternal.

WEEK 1 HOMEWORK

E-V-E-R-L-A-S-T-I-N-G

Psalm 90:2 says, "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God."

Write a definition for the word everlasting.
Write an acrostic poem about God's everlasting-ness. Next to each letter, write words of phrases that describe what you want to say about "everlasting." Try to do something different with the last line, to make an ending for the poem.
E
V
E
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Week 2 Home Supplement

Scripture: Genesis 1:26—2:25

Bible Truth: God created man without sin and placed

him in a garden.

TEACHING POINTS—DAY ONE (Genesis 2:4-14)

God creates all things for his purposes—God created all things to fulfill his own plan. Everything happened by the controlling hand of God ("the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground,""the LORD God planted,""the LORD God made," etc.). Everything that did not happen was God's doing as well ("God had not caused it to rain").

God was in charge of everything. He even created things that keep going, like flowing rivers, growing trees, and (as we saw in Genesis 1) the sun and orbiting planets. He had no help from nature, and no help from man, because he didn't need any.

God reaches out to man—God created man in his image and immediately reached out to man. God began to build a relationship with man by caring for him and talking with him. God didn't do this for plants or animals or anything else, because only man is made in God's image. Here in Genesis 2, God shows his tender love and care for man, first to Adam and then to Eve.

TEACHING POINT—DAY TWO (Genesis 2:15-23)

God prescribes order and authority in creation—Beginning with creation, we see throughout the Bible that God is master of all he creates. He makes all the rules, and he does everything with order, boundaries, and purpose. He didn't ask Adam's permission to use one of his ribs to create Eve.

God gave man authority and responsibility to work the garden and to name the animals. Woman was created to be a helper suitable for the man. Though both are made in the image of God and have equal worth, they have different roles. It was this way before the fall—and it was very good.

God is the one who gets to make these decisions because he has created everything and is Lord and Ruler of all.

TEACHING POINT—DAY THREE (1 Corinthians 15:45-49)

Where Is Jesus?—How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?

God created the first man and called him Adam. In the Bible, Jesus is called the second Adam, or the last Adam. As we will see in next week's lesson, the first Adam brought sin into the world by disobeying God. Because of him, now all people have sin.

Jesus, the second Adam, brought righteousness into the world by obeying God perfectly. Because of him, all people can have his righteousness (holiness in God's sight) by believing in him. When we read about the first Adam—whom we meet in the first book of the Old Testament—we remember the second Adam—whom we meet in the first book of the New Testament.

The Bible contains many different books by many different authors, but it is all one story the gospel story—from beginning to end. How do we see that in today's passage? In Jesus and Adam, we see how parts of the Bible that might seem unrelated actually come together to paint a much more complete and wonderful picture.

TEACHING POINT—DAY FOUR (Genesis 2:22-25)

Woman was created out of Adam, for Adam. In Genesis 2:18, we read that God made woman to be a "helper fit" for Adam. In Genesis 1:27 we see that God made both man and woman in his image.

As a result, both man and woman have equal worth in God's eyes, since both reflect his holy image. Though they are equally image bearers of the holy living God, they do not have the same jobs to do. Adam is called upon to name the animals, and in fact, he also names Woman. Eve is called upon to be a helper for Adam. God brings them together in Genesis 2:24 and creates the first marriage. Paul refers back to this passage in Ephesians 5 where he teaches that Christ is the head of the church and husbands are the head of their wives. This pattern of leadership has its beginnings in the creation record of Genesis 2.

WEEK 2 HOMEWORK

A Thank-You Note

God created Adam and then gave him a wonderful gift—a beautiful place to live.

And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. (Genesis 2:8–10)

Write a thank-you note from Adam to God. Describe your reaction to your new garden

home. Imagine looking around. What do you see? What's the first thing you do? What do you like the best? Dear God,

Week 3 Home Supplement

Scripture: Genesis 3:1–24

Bible Truth: Sin comes from man's disobedience.

TEACHING POINT—DAY ONE (Genesis 3:1-6)

Adam and Eve willingly turned away from God by eating the fruit—Adam and Eve willingly turned away from God by eating the forbidden fruit. But before either of them ever touched the fruit, they had already sinned in their hearts.

Eve had sinned by deciding to eat the fruit. Allowing herself to be influenced by the serpent (who was Satan), Eve began to doubt God and trust herself.

Adam had sinned by deciding to let Eve eat the fruit, even though God said it would bring death. Then, when Eve did not die right away, Adam ate also.

So, in the very first sin, we see people trusting themselves rather than God.

TEACHING POINT—DAY TWO (Genesis 3:7–19)

God's word proved true and death entered the garden—When Adam and Eve sinned, death entered the garden just as God had said it would. When the man and woman sinned, two things happened. First, they died spiritually, which means that something very important about their relationship with God died. This is why they had to leave the garden. Second, they were doomed to die physically, even though they did not die right away. If they had never sinned, they would never have died and never had to leave the garden, just as Christians in heaven will never die and will never have to leave the presence of God.

TEACHING POINT—DAY THREE (1 Corinthians 15:20-22)

Where Is Jesus?—How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?

When Adam and Eve sinned, God was not surprised. He had already appointed Jesus, the Creator of all things, to one day defeat sin and death. As it says in Colossians 1:19-20, "For in [Jesus] all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross."

TEACHING POINT—DAY FOUR (Genesis 3:20-24)

Mercy appears in the garden—Instead of killing Adam and Eve, God was merciful and gracious. He killed animals, then used their skins to cover Adam and Eve's shameful nakedness. This shedding of animal blood as a substitute punishment for sin was practiced throughout the Old Testament. Every time it happened, it was a picture of how one day Jesus would shed his blood to take our punishment for sin and permanently cover our shame.

One day, in heaven, we will rejoice with Adam and Eve and say with them, "Christ took our penalty."

WEEK 3 HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

Definitions

Shame: a painful feeling of humiliation or distress caused by the consciousness of wrong or foolish behavior

Guilt: an emotion that occurs when a person believes that they have violated a moral standard

Fear: an unpleasant emotion caused by the belief that someone or something is dangerous, likely to cause pain, or a threat

Alienation: isolation from a group or an activity to which one should belong or in which one should be involved

Self-justification: making excuses for actions

Blameshifting: the act of transferring responsibility for an error or problem to another

Verses 6-7: So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. (shame)

Verse 8: And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. (guilt, fear, alienation)

Verse 9: But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

Verse 10: And [Adam] said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." (fear, shame, guilt)

Verse 11: He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

Verse 12: The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." (self-justification, blameshifting, alienation)

Verse 13: Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." (self-justification, blameshifting)

WEEK 3 HOMEWORK

Adam and Eve Sin

Using a dictionary, write definitions for the following words: Shame: _____ Guilt: Alienation: Self-justification:_____ Blameshifting: Read Genesis 3:6–13 printed out below. Verse by verse, decide which of the words above apply to Adam and Eve after they sinned. Verses 6-7: So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. Verse 8: And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Verses 9-10: But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" And [Adam] said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself."

Verses 11-12: [God] said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate."

Verse 13: Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

Week 4 Home Supplement

Scripture: Genesis 4:1–16

Bible Truth: Our actions reveal the true motivation of

our hearts

TEACHING POINT—DAY ONE (Genesis 4:1-5)

True worship puts God first—Abel made an offering to God from sheep he personally owned, the firstborn sheep, the very best he had. That was definitely a sacrifice. But what Cain gave does not seem to have been very special, just "the fruit of the ground." Maybe he even found it growing wild! Cain's offering was not a celebration of God's goodness because Cain was not sacrificing the first or the best of what he owned.

When God approved of Abel's offering, but not Cain's, Cain got angry. If Cain really cared about God being glorified, then instead of being angry he would have been sad that God was not pleased. This shows Cain was more concerned with his own glory than with God's.

TEACHING POINT—DAY TWO (Genesis 4:1-8)

Unrepentant sin will bring destruction—In Genesis 4:6-7, God gave Cain a warning that was kind and loving but also very serious. God told Cain that if he did not turn from his sinful anger it would bring destruction. But Cain's anger burned so hot that not even God's warning could stop him from killing his brother.

Galatians 6:7–8 tells us that we reap what we sow. Here we see how true this is. Because of Cain's anger, Abel is dead and Cain is cursed by God. Unrepentant sin brings destruction.

TEACHING POINT—DAY THREE (Genesis 4:9-12)

Where Is Jesus?—How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?

When Adam sinned, he sinned as the representative of all future mankind. As a result, his sin is passed on to us. This sin is called original or inherited sin. In addition to the stain of Adam's sin on our record, we are also born as sinners (Romans 5:12). You do not need to teach little babies to disobey. They are sinners from the time that they are born (Psalm 51:5).

Ask the children whether they disobey people who love and care for them. Help them to see that they disobey their parents in the same way that Adam and Eve disobeyed God. Explain to them that we inherited sin. Sin was passed down to all men and women as a result of the fall, and we all need to be saved from sin.

TEACHING POINT—DAY FOUR (Genesis 4:13-16)

God's grace extends even to the disobedient—God could have judged Cain as soon as his offering was found to be unacceptable. Instead, God allowed Cain to live. Then, when Cain became angry, God could have judged Cain's anger right away. Instead, God warned him for his good. And when Cain rebelled against God's warning, killed his brother, and was driven away, God could have abandoned him immediately. Instead, God placed a mark on Cain to give him protection.

So we see that God's grace extends even to those who are disobedient. Psalm 103:10 describes God as not treating us as our sins deserve or repaying us according to our sinfulness.

WEEK 4 HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. Isaiah 59:2: "But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear."

Ephesians 2:1-3: "You were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked . . . and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind."

Colossians 1:21: "You . . . were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds."

2. 1 Corinthians 15:21-22: "For as by a man came death, by [Jesus] has come also the resurrection of the dead. . . . In Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive."

Hebrews 10:19-22: "We have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water."

WEEK 4 HOMEWORK

1. Like his parents, Adam and Eve, when Cain sins he doesn't immediately "drop dead," but he does die. How? Look up and read the following verses to find an answer:
Isaiah 59:2
Ephesians 2:1–3
Colossians 1:21
2. Just as God showed mercy to Adam and Eve, he showed mercy to Cain—and he shows mercy to us! Read the following verses and explain what God has done for us through Jesus to reverse the effects of sin.
1 Corinthians 15:21–22

Hebrews 10:19-22

LESSON 4 - CAIN & ABEL



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Week 5 Home Supplement

Scripture: Genesis 6—7

Bible Truth: God's grace and mercy provide salvation

for Noah and his family.

TEACHING POINT—DAY ONE (Genesis 6:5-8)

Apart from God's grace, sin controls our lives—At the end of Genesis 4, people began to trust in God. But by Genesis 6, which was ten generations later, no one trusted God anymore, because "every intention of the thoughts of [man's] heart was only evil continually (6:5)."

People are full of sin. Adam and Eve chose to eat fruit from the forbidden tree, and ever since people follow their own ways. Apart from the grace of God, sin will control everyone's life.

TEACHING POINT—DAY TWO (Genesis 6:9-22)

Even in God's judgment, he is merciful to sinful man—It was God's idea to reach out to Noah, give him instructions, and offer him the opportunity to be saved from the flood. This is one of many ways the Bible shows us that we do not choose God, but God chooses us.

Also, God did not have to save Noah—he could have destroyed the whole earth. It was because of God's mercy that he spared Noah and his family.

TEACHING POINT—DAY THREE (1 Peter 3:18-22)

Where Is Jesus?—How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?

In the flood, God did finally judge the world for its sin. Peter tells us that the floodwater is a symbol of our baptism in Christ, because the water of baptism covers our sin just as the floodwater covered the sinful world.

Also, Noah's ark was a symbol of God's salvation in Jesus. There was only one way to be saved from the floodwater. You had to go through the door and live in the ark. The Bible tells us that Jesus is the gate or door that we must enter for salvation.

God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water. This water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body, but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities, and powers in submission to him.

So reading about Noah and the flood should make us think of Jesus and his salvation.

TEACHING POINT—DAY FOUR (Genesis 7:1-10)

God's judgment is just—In Genesis 7, God was totally just in killing those who had turned away from him. At the same time, in his mercy God rescued Noah and the rest of his family. It was through Noah that mankind was preserved, and it was from Noah's offspring that Jesus was

God is gracious and patient about the sins of mankind. But he does eventually punish all sin. In his mercy, however, God provided a way for Noah to be saved. Later in the New

Testament Jesus warned that those who rebel against God will be judged and go to a fiery place called hell (Matthew 5:22).

WEEK 5 HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

Genesis 6:22; 7:5, 9, 16: Noah did all that the Lord had commanded him.

WEEK 5 HOMEWORK

Listen and Obey

When we read the story of Noah in Genesis we don't get details about how he actually builds the ark, or how long it takes to build it, or what Noah and his family do to amuse themselves during their stay in the ark. Also, we don't know anything that Noah said. However, we do know one very important thing that Noah is doing throughout the story. Read the following Bible verses to find out what this important thing is:

Genesis 6:22
Genesis 7:5
Genesis 7:9
Genesis 7:16
Write a short paragraph about why this thing is so important.

LESSON 5 - GOD CHOOSES NOAH

