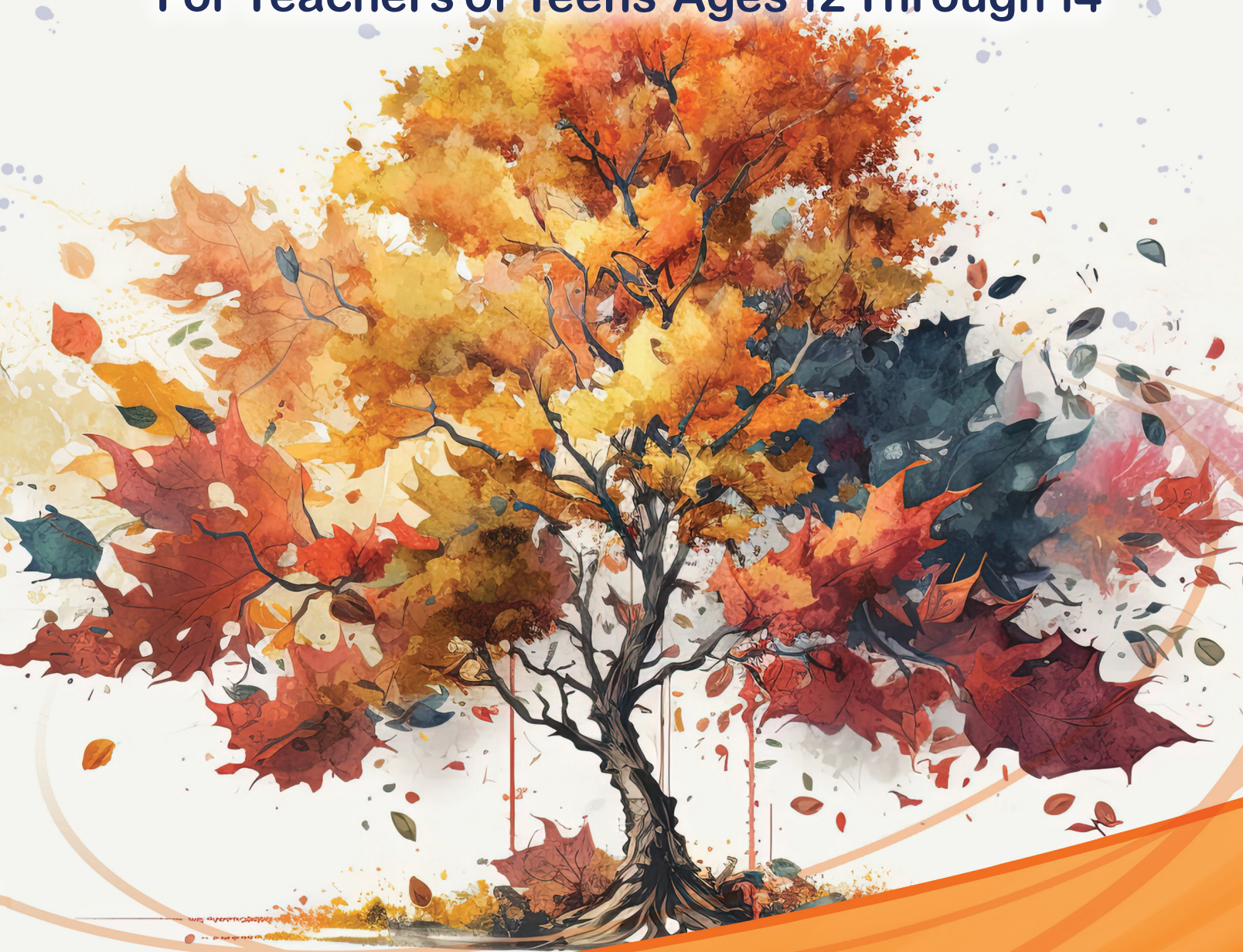


Intermediate Bible Teacher ✝

For Teachers of Teens Ages 12 Through 14



September
October
November

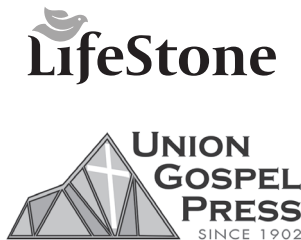
FALL
2024

Intermediate Bible Teacher⁺

FALL QUARTER

September, October, November 2024

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Editor in Chief:
James M. Leonard, Ph.D.

Managing Editor:
Michelle Birtasevic

Writers:
Melissa Main, Susan Birdseye Rodenberg,
Laura Thomas, Union Gospel Press
Editorial Staff

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Dear Intermediate Teacher,

Welcome to *Intermediate Bible Teacher*! As witnesses for Christ in a changing world, we have to think creatively about how we minister, while still holding firmly to the Word of Truth. Our Plus Series contains the same robust Bible lessons and background information that you love, but they have been carefully crafted to help you excite your students to learn God's Word.

Here are a few old favorites reimagined:

- The **Big Idea** is the main point of the lesson (replacing the Purpose).
 - **Prepare Your Mind** and **Prepare Your Heart** will prepare you to teach with background information and a short devotional (replacing and Preparing to Teach the Lesson).
 - The **Conversation Starter** helps you kick off your class and get your students invested in the lesson (replacing Presenting the Lesson).
 - **Discussion Questions** help students engage with the Scriptures intellectually and emotionally throughout the lesson (replacing Research and Discussion). These questions appear in both the class and teacher books.
-

Purpose



Big Idea: God wants us to remember His blessings.

PREPARING TO TEACH THE LESSON



Prepare Your Mind

Prepare Your Heart

Presenting the Lesson



Conversation Starter

RESEARCH AND DISCUSSION



Discussion Questions

Here are some new features:

- **Introductory pages** for each unit will point toward the quarter's major themes.
- **Supplies** and **Prepare the Room** give teachers all the practical information they need to prepare for class time.
- **Teacher Tips** in the lesson will give you quick tips on how to involve your students or deal with difficult subject matter.
- **Just Curious** prepares you to respond to questions students might ask about the lesson.
- **Prop Prompt** symbols notify you when to use a prop listed in the supply list at the beginning of the lesson. All props and supplies are in **bold** the first time they appear.
- **Action** symbols help you see opportunities to invite your class to take part in the lesson.
- **What If?** helps intermediates imagine how the Bible lesson might be applied to a hypothetical scenario that could occur in their everyday lives.
- **Explaining the memory Verse** explains the Scripture in language familiar to intermediates
- The **Activity** helps juniors get their energy out while thinking about the lesson.
- The **Big Question** addresses common doubts or fears intermediate students might have about God and His Word from a biblical worldview.
- **Next Steps** help your students apply the lesson to their lives.
- **Prayer Points** give teachers some prompts for ways to pray for the students.
- The **Christ Focus** encourages thought about how the Scripture passage and lesson point to our loving Savior.
- **Bonus activity pages** for your students will be included each quarter as supplements in the back of this book.

KEY:

Teacher Tips



Just Curious



Prop Prompts



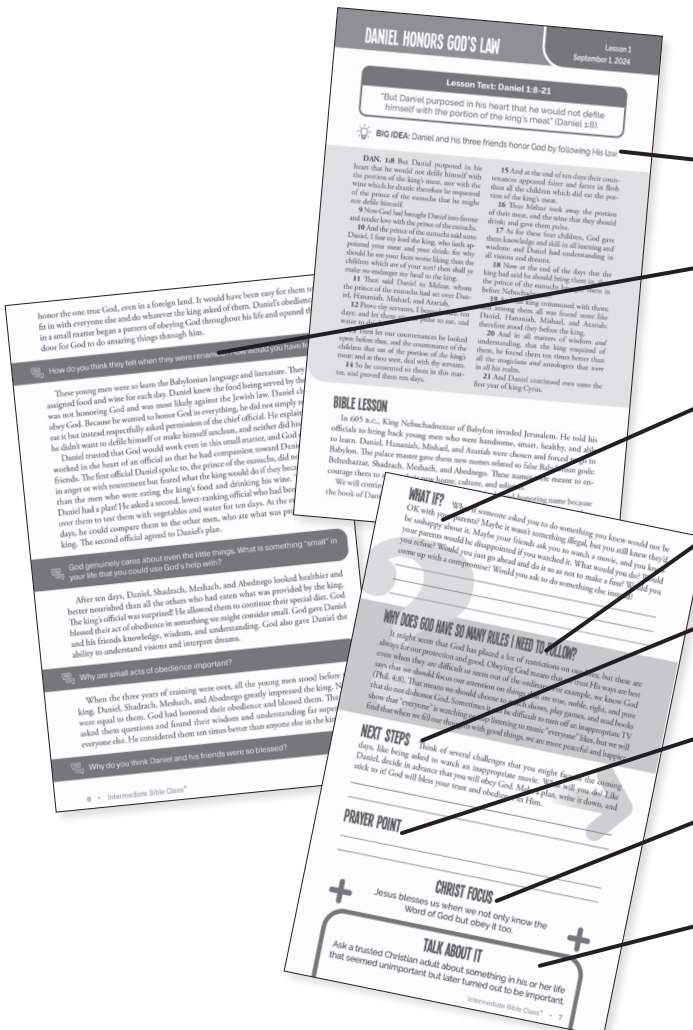
Actions



Discussion Questions



Here's a peek at the new *Intermediate Bible Class*⁺:



- The **Big Idea** helps the student focus on the main point of the lesson.
- **Discussion Questions** are interjected within the Bible lesson to help students engage with the Scriptures intellectually and emotionally.
- **What If?** helps intermediates imagine how the Bible lesson might be applied to a hypothetical scenario that could occur in their everyday lives.
- The **Big Question** addresses common doubts or fears intermediate students might have about God and His Word from a biblical worldview.
- **Next Steps** help your students apply the lesson to their lives with room to make notes for an action plan.
- The **Prayer Point** encourages to commit to pray for something in the coming week.
- The **Christ Focus** encourages thought about how the Scripture passage and lesson point to our loving Savior.
- **Talk About It** prompts students to engage Christian adults in their life in conversation about God's Word.

UNIT I:

Faithful Service of Daniel and Friends

Lesson 1: Daniel 1:8-21

Daniel Honors God's Law

Lesson 2: Daniel 3:1, 8-18

Daniel's Friends Refuse to Bow

Lesson 3: Daniel 3:19-28

Daniel's Friends Trust God

Standing for God's righteousness when surrounded by a culture that is hostile to one's faith has never been easy. Your students hear many voices from the culture that tell them to live counter to the way God would have them live. The battle against such voices is not new. Thank the Lord that He has provided examples like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. Even in the midst of a pagan culture, they remained faithful to God and His law. These young men trusted in God's promises to His covenant people and were not disappointed.



“ But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat (Daniel 1:8). ”



Big Idea: Daniel and his three friends honor God by following His law.

DAN. 1:8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

9 Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.

10 And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which *are* of your sort? then shall ye make *me* endanger my head to the king.

11 Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,

12 Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.

13 Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.

14 So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.

15 And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.

16 Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.

17 As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

18 Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.

19 And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king.

20 And in all matters of wisdom *and* understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians *and* astrologers that *were* in all his realm.

21 And Daniel continued *even* unto the first year of king Cyrus.

Prepare Your Mind

Daniel was most likely born during King Josiah's reign, and he knew God's ways. He quoted Jeremiah in Daniel 9:2, so he may have grown up listening to the prophet. In 605 B.C., Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, invaded Jerusalem and took many of the wisest and most handsome men and beautiful women back to Babylon. The king's orders were to capture young men who were intelligent, capable of every kind of learning, and qualified to serve in the king's palace (Dan. 1:4). For three years, these young men were to study Babylonian literature and language and be trained to enter the king's service. Daniel and three others, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, were some of these exceptional young men. They were given Babylonian names to align them more with the Babylonian gods rather than the one true God. Thankfully, they stayed true to the Lord.

Prepare Your Heart

Throughout life we will face difficulties that may cause us to question God's love and faithfulness. These struggles might cause us to doubt God's sovereignty or His goodness. Daniel and his friends give us a beautiful example of trusting God when things don't make sense. Daniel did not question God's faithfulness when the Babylonians invaded Jerusalem. His captors took him from all that he held dear and brought him to a foreign land to serve a pagan king. Daniel could have despaired and become bitter or angry with God. He and his three friends could have become just like their Babylonian captors. Instead, they trusted God's sovereignty because they knew God's promises. God's plan for our lives will not always look like we want, but we can trust that He is still in control and that His plan is good.



Conversation Starter

Have you ever had to go somewhere you did not want to go? What happened when you got there? Did it turn out better or worse than you thought it would?