

Intermediate Bible Teacher ✕

For Teachers of Teens Ages
12 Through 14

March
April
May

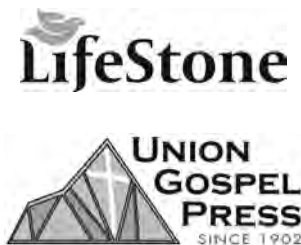
SPRING
2025

Intermediate Bible Teacher⁺

SPRING QUARTER

March, April, May 2025

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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 robust Bible lessons and background information that have been clearly crafted to help you excite your students to learn God's Word.

Intermediate Bible Teacher features:

- **Introductory pages** for each unit will connect the units to one another and point toward the quarter's major themes.
- The **Big Idea** is the main point of the lesson. This helps you focus your lesson on the one thing you want your students to take away about God and His Word.
- **Prepare Your Mind** and **Prepare Your Heart** will ready you to teach with background information and a short devotional.
- **Supplies** and **Prepare the Room** give you all the practical information you need to prepare for class time.
- The **Conversation Starter** is an interesting question or object lesson that helps you kick off your class and get your students invested in the lesson. It will always tie in with the first part of the Bible Lesson.
- **Teacher Tips** in the lesson will give you quick tips 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.
- **Discussion Questions** help students engage with the Scriptures intellectually and emotionally throughout the lesson. These questions appear in both the class and teacher books.
- **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 intermediates 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 pages** for you and 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 features of *Intermediate Bible Class*®:

Beware of False Teachers

Lesson 1
March 2, 2025

Lesson Text: Jude 1:1-13

"It was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 1:3b).

BIG IDEA: God will judge false teachers, as He has in the past.

JUDE 1:1 Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:

2 Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.

3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our Lord God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

5 I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.

6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

8 Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.

9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

10 But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.

11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

12 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots; **13** Bragging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

BIBLE LESSON

Have you ever trusted someone only to be let down? Maybe someone lied to you and led you to do something wrong. For example, someone older than you told you to take something from a grocery store. He taught you to steal and said no one would ever find out. He told you that he steals all the time. He promised that you could hang out with him and his friends if you are brave enough to take something. You went into the store, took some candy, got caught, and never saw your "new friend" again.

Today we are studying what the Bible teaches us about false teachers. First, the false teachers encouraged people to just relax, do whatever they wanted, and live ungodly lives.

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What are some situations in your life you do not handle, but God can?

Jude compared the false prophets to three other people in the Bible—Cain, Balaam, and Korah. Cain did not obey God, and he was so jealous of his brother Abel that he murdered him (see Gen. 4). Balaam was greedy, and Korah rebelled against Moses' and Aaron's leadership. Each of them was punished by God.

False teachers make big promises, but they do not help people. Jude compared false teachers to clouds without rain and trees without fruit. They might look promising, but they produce no real growth (see Matt. 7:15-20).

Christians today must be aware of false teachers. Only God and His Word can help us.

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WHAT IF? What if you are having a conversation with another teenager at the church you go to, and he tells you that he does not believe Jesus is God? He thinks Jesus was just a good teacher and that He is not the only way to heaven. He has decided that it does not matter if people obey the Bible because they should determine what is true for themselves. He thinks God's grace allows him to do whatever he wants. How would you respond to him? (See Rom. 6:1-2; Acts 4:1-12; Jude 1:5).

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT THAT JESUS IS GOD THE SON AND THE ONLY WAY TO HEAVEN? False teachers often tell others that they can get to heaven through any religion if they are sincere in what they believe. However, Jesus tells us that He is the only way to God the Father (see John 14:6).

Jesus is God the Son (see Mark 1:1). When Jesus was baptized by John, God spoke from heaven and confirmed that Jesus is God the Son. It matters because you might wonder why it is important that Jesus is God the Son. He died for our sins, meaning all the wrong things we have done. If Jesus were not the sinless Son of God, His death would not have made it possible for our sins to be forgiven.

NEXT STEPS To identify a false teacher, you must know what the Bible says. Start reading a book of the Bible from start to finish. You could start at the very beginning with Genesis. Another good place to start is with the Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

PRAYER POINT

CHRIST FOCUS

Jesus is God's Son, and He is the only way we can go to heaven.

TALK ABOUT IT

Ask a trusted Christian adult how to study the Bible so that you will not be led astray by false teachers.

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- 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 committing 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 trusted Christian adults in their life in conversation about God's Word.

UNIT I: Challenges to the Faith

Lesson 1: Jude 1:1-13

Beware of False Teachers

Lesson 2: Jude 1:17-25

Build Up Your Faith

During Jude's time, deceitful teachers with immoral behavior infiltrated the church and spread false teachings. Nowadays, false teachers who distort the message of God's Word are widespread, and our students need to discern what is the true gospel and what is not. They need the ability to remain steadfast in their beliefs, even when they are not widely accepted. Encourage your students to be strong in their faith and not waver when faced with challenges. Prayerful contemplation and a deep understanding of the Bible can provide strength and bravery for all believers to remain grounded in their convictions.



Beware of False Teachers

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March 2, 2025

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Prepare Your Mind

Many scholars believe that the author of Jude was one of Jesus' earthly brothers. He identified himself as a brother of James, who is listed as one of the siblings of Jesus in Mark 6:3. Jesus' brothers did not follow Him during His earthly ministry but converted to Christianity after Jesus' ascension (1 Cor. 15:7; Acts 1:14).



Supplies

- unsweetened baking chocolate wafers
- napkins
- tape
- small baskets
- small foam balls

Prepare Your Heart

If you spend time reading the Bible, you can begin to recognize false teachers because you will notice when people say things that contradict God's Word.

Choose a specific time of day to read the Bible. It might be easier to read in the mornings before the responsibilities of the day begin. Most people find that a scheduled time is best for getting into the wonderful habit of reading the Bible. You may want to find a good study Bible. As you read, ask God to open your mind and heart and teach you His truth. Do not be afraid to write notes in the margins and highlight repeated phrases, words, and themes. God will bless your time spent studying His living and active Word, which will never fade.



Prepare the Room

Be aware of any food allergies.



Conversation Starter

I have a treat for you this morning. (🍪 Give one **chocolate wafer** to each student.) These are chocolate wafers. Don't eat them until I tell you to.