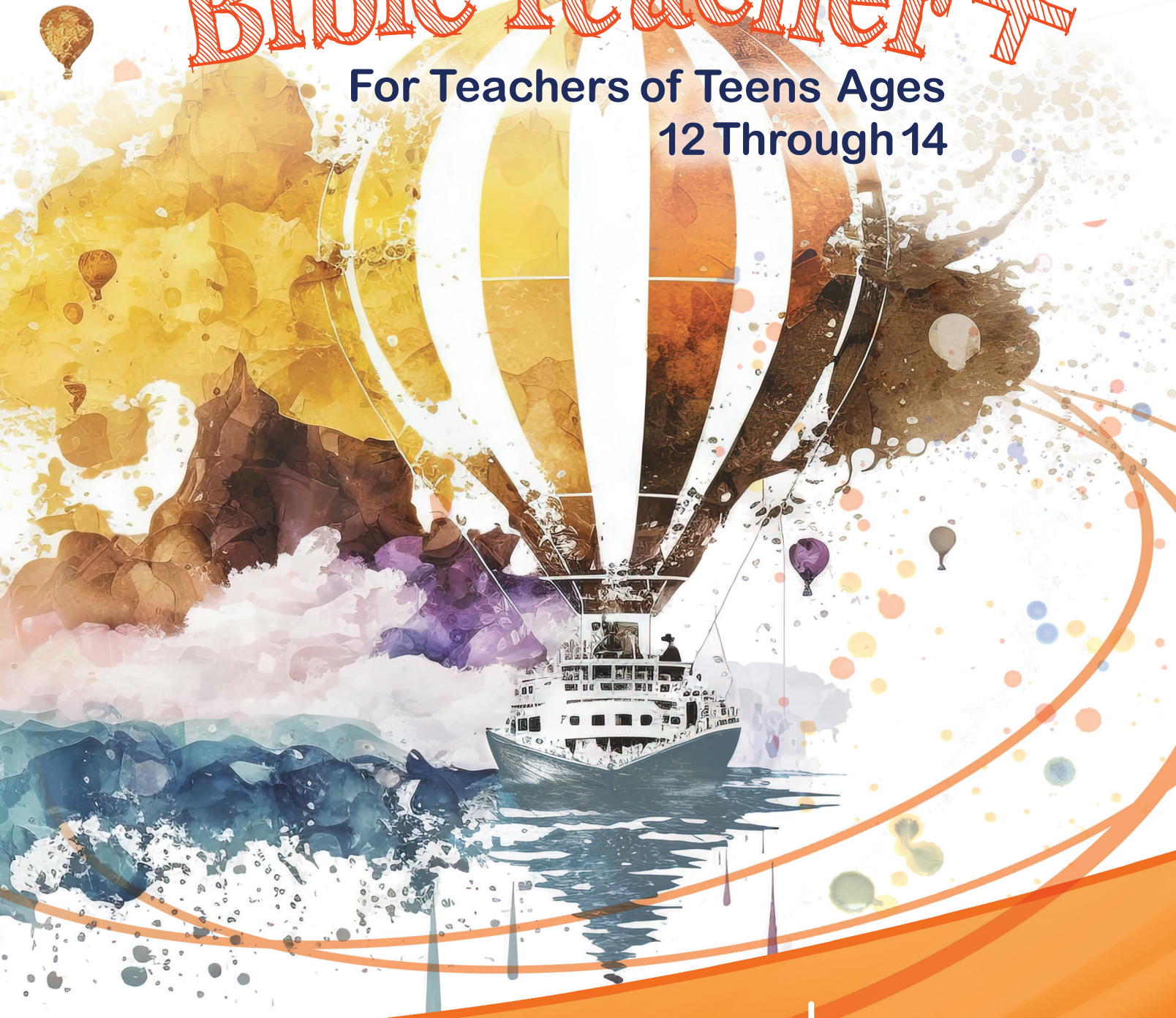


Intermediate Bible Teacher ✕

For Teachers of Teens Ages
12 Through 14



June
July
August

SUMMER
2025

Intermediate Bible Teacher⁺

SUMMER QUARTER

June, July, August 2025

How to Use *Intermediate Bible Teacher*⁺ 2

CHRISTLIKE LIVING

UNIT I: Biblical Thinking

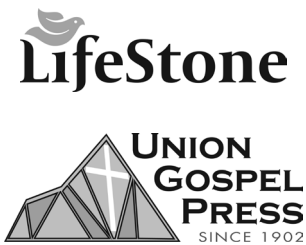
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Editor in Chief:
James M. Leonard, Ph.D.

Managing Editor:
Michelle Birtasevic

Writers:
Erin King, Melissa Main, 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 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.

KEY:

Teacher Tips



Just Curious



Prop Prompts



Actions



Discussion Questions



Here's a peek at the features of *Intermediate Bible Class*®:

Lesson 1
June 1, 2025

LEARN FROM GOOD EXAMPLES

Lesson Text: Hebrews 11:1-2, 4-13

"Without faith it is impossible to please him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6).

BIG IDEA: From godly examples in the Bible, we can learn what faith is and how to live by it.

HEB. 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.

4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise.

10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

11 Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

12 Therefore sprang there even of one man, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

BIBLE LESSON

Hebrews 11 is full of people who lived by faith in God, but they were real people with real flaws, virtues, sins and personalities. We can learn from each of them, while also being comforted that none of them were perfect. God uses imperfect people like us. More than anything, may we be amazed by our faithful God. Faith is essential to Christianity. As Christians, we hear from God, we follow His ways, and we believe we will live with Him one day, but we can't physically see Him.

Intermediate Bible Class® • 5

...perfect person that God used. Abraham led and Sarah, Sarah doubted God when He told her that she would have a son, but she is not in the strength of one's faith.

How much should Christians think about the strength of their faith?

Verse 13 says that all those men and women died without fully receiving what they would receive in the next. All the promises that what they didn't receive in this life, they looked forward to Him in faith. We don't always see the full picture of what God is doing or where we are heading. We don't always see the full picture of what God is working for our good and His glory. You can read the rest of the chapter for more examples of faith!

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WHAT IF?

You have a friend who doesn't believe in God. He says he only believes in things that can be proven by science. He thinks it is foolish to believe and follow a God you can't see or hear. You start to wonder whether you're being foolish. You start wondering whether your faith in God and His Word is just a waste of your time. How can you honestly explore your friend's questions without losing your faith in the process?

HOW CAN I HAVE FAITH IN GOD, EVEN THOUGH I CAN'T SEE HIM?

We can't see God. He asks us to live by faith instead of proving Himself. We can only know Him and experience Him through faith. The more we have faith in Him, the more we know Him and experience Him.

We don't have "blind faith" that just hopes for the best—we have lots of love for Him, the more we know Him and experience Him.

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We don't have "blind faith" that just hopes for the best—we have lots of love for Him, the more we know Him and experience Him.

NEXT STEPS

Look at the people listed in Hebrews 11. Whose example of life and faith can you learn from? Choose one and write down the verse or verses in Hebrews 11 about the person. Think about that this week in moments when you feel doubtful.

PRAYER POINT

CHRIST FOCUS

Jesus made a way through His death for us to come to God in faith.

TALK ABOUT IT

Ask a few trusted Christian adults about any Old Testament figures who have encouraged them in their faith.

Intermediate Bible Class® • 7

- 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:

Biblical Thinking

Lesson 1: Hebrews 11:1-2, 4-13

Learn From Good Examples

Lesson 2: 1 Corinthians 9:24—10:13

Learn From Bad Examples

Lesson 3: Proverbs 4:10-15, 20-27

Seek Godly Wisdom

Lesson 4: Galatians 2:15—3:5

Hold Fast to the Gospel

God cares about our thinking, feeling, and doing. In this first unit, we look at biblical thinking. Simply listing rules or abstract ideas would not engage students' imaginations or be memorable. Thankfully, God provides us with good examples to imitate and bad examples to learn from. The biblical accounts are memorable and helpful. God urges us to seek His wisdom and to cling to the good news that we are saved by grace through faith in Christ, not through our works. Even if there are things your students do not understand, make sure they understand the gospel!



Learn from Good Examples

Lesson Text: Hebrews 11:1-2, 4-13

Lesson 1
June 1, 2025



Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him (Hebrews 11:6).



Big Idea: From godly examples in the Bible, we can learn what faith is and how to live by it.

HEB. 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.

4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a

place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

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12 Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, *so many* as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of *them*, and embraced *them*, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

Prepare Your Mind

The biblical idea of faith is a lot stronger than we often realize. We sometimes think of faith as some kind of fool's hope that blindly assumes the best. If you're worried about how something will work out, you might hear "just have faith," as though hoping for the best will somehow magically transform the outcome.

But faith is an action. It is living in ways that back up the things we believe.



Supplies

- bandannas or blindfolds
- obstacles (can be anything—chairs, tables, couch cushions, pool noodles, etc.)

Prepare Your Heart

People often refer to Hebrews 11 as the Hall of Faith, which can feel a little intimidating. If you went to the baseball hall of fame, you might feel that you could never reach those same accomplishments.

But there was nothing innately faithful or superior about the individuals listed in Hebrews 11. God chose to use sinful people who were broken and failed sometimes. The key was not the level of their faith but in the One in whom they placed their faith. Verse 11 summarizes it nicely: Sarah doubted, but she believed that the One who had promised was faithful. In your walk with Jesus, you may stumble or doubt at times, but you can keep walking toward the One you know is faithful.



Conversation Starter

Is there a character from a book, movie, or TV show whom you think you relate to? Why? Do you identify more with the character's strengths or weaknesses?

Bible Lesson 🕒 10-15 min



Hebrews 11 is full of people we may identify with. They were people who lived by faith in God, but they were not heroes. They were real people with real flaws, virtues, sins, and personalities. Some of them were people who, if they went to your church today, might be gossiped about. We can learn from each of them, while also being comforted that they were not perfect. God uses imperfect people like them and like us. More than anything, may we be amazed by our faithful God!

Faith is essential to Christianity because we are putting our trust in something that we cannot see. As Christians, we hear from God, we follow His ways, we believe we will live with Him one day, but we can't physically see Him. We don't hear His audible voice. We cannot see our eternal home—the new heaven and earth—that we are moving toward.

The people who have gone before us, both in our lives and in Scripture, are examples of living out that faith. We can see how they trusted God and lived out their faith. 🗨️

Abel. Abel and his brother Cain both brought offerings to God, and Abel's was chosen as more acceptable. The Bible does not say how Abel knew what to present to God, except that he offered it by faith. Abel had faith to do what he knew God required. Abel was ultimately killed by his brother out of jealousy, but even in death, he is an example of obedience and offering our lives to God.

Enoch. We know very little about Enoch's life except that he pleased God. We sometimes overcomplicate the Christian life. Enoch shows us that what God requires is simply to do things that please Him. We follow what we hear Him say; we trust Him and spend time with Him as our Friend. At the end of his life, Enoch didn't die. God took Him, and he immediately went to heaven to be with God.



For the Old Testament accounts, see Genesis 4:1-10 (Abel), Genesis 5:21-24 (Enoch), Genesis 6 through 9 (Noah), Genesis 12 through 25 (Abraham), and Genesis 12, 16 through 18, 20 through 21, 23 (Sarah).



What would pleasing God look like in your life?

Noah. Noah is an example to us of believing, trusting, and acting, even when things don't make sense. God spoke to him, warned him, and told him what to do, and Noah obeyed. Because of this, Noah and his family were saved. Noah had some failures, but God only uses imperfect people.

Abraham. Abraham is another imperfect person that God used. Abraham lied and failed to protect his wife the way he should have. But he heard the call of God and moved his family without knowing where he was going. He believed God's promise even if he could not see it with his own eyes. Abraham is an example of moving forward in faith even when we don't see the whole picture.

Sarah. Sarah doubted God when He told her she would have a son, but she is still listed as an example of faith in Hebrews 11. It was not the strength of her faith, but the strength of the One she had faith in that mattered. She believed that the One who made the promise was faithful. Sarah is an example of putting trust in God and not in the strength of one's faith.



How much should Christians think about the strength of their faith?

Verse 13 says that all those men and women died without fully receiving what they were promised by God. They believed that what they didn't receive in this life, they would receive in the next. All the promises to them would be fulfilled in Jesus; they looked forward to Him in faith. 🗨️ We don't always see the full picture of what God is doing or where we are heading, but like those who have gone before us, we can trust that God is working for our good and His glory. You can read the rest of Hebrews 11 for more examples of faith!



We are saved by looking back to what Jesus did for us and by trusting in Him. Those who lived before Jesus came were saved by looking forward to the Savior in faith.

What If?

You have a friend who doesn't believe in God. He says he only believes in things that can be proven by science. He thinks it is foolish to believe and follow a God you can't see or hear. You start to wonder whether you're being foolish. You start wondering whether your faith in God is just a bunch of fairy tales and you're wasting your time following God's Word. How do you examine your faith? How can you honestly explore your friend's questions without losing your faith in the process?

Explaining the Memory Verse

Hebrews 11:6 says that it is impossible to please God without faith. Jesus has already done everything needed to please God on the cross. We can only come to Him by faith in what Jesus has done for us. We believe that He exists and that He has provided us with everything through Jesus.



Activity: Walking by Faith ⌚ 5–10 min

Choose two to three students to act as obstacle course guides and **blindfold** the rest of the students. The blindfolded students should navigate the obstacle courses, with the guides giving instructions (no touching). As students finish the course, have them cheer on those who come after them. Afterward, discuss with the class that in life, we don't always see where we're going; we walk by faith and follow God's voice. When we live by faith, we will all stumble and fall sometimes. The important thing is to

SUPPLIES:

- bandannas or blindfolds
- obstacles (can be anything—chairs, tables, couch cushions, pool noodles, etc.)

PREP: Set up two to three obstacle courses in the room with various **obstacles**.

finish the course. As we do, we have others who have gone before us to cheer us on.

Big Question: How can I have faith in God, even though I can't see Him?

We can't see God. He asks us to live by faith instead of proving Himself. We can only know Him and experience Him through faith. The more we have faith in Him, the more we know Him and experience Him.

We don't have "blind faith" that just hopes for the best—we have lots of evidence that God exists and that He is faithful. Hebrews 11 reminds us that we can look

to those who have gone before us to help us have faith in God. When we are struggling or doubtful, it can be helpful to remember what God has done in the past. Our faith is weak sometimes, but we can look to those around us and those who have gone before us to remind us of what God is doing and what He has done. Faith and encouragement from others can help carry us through.

Next Steps

Look at the people listed in Hebrews 11. Whose example of life and faith can you learn from? Choose one and write down the verse or verses in Hebrews 11 about the person. Think about that this week in moments when you feel weak or doubtful.

Prayer Points

- Thank God for making a way through faith in Jesus for us to come to know Him. •
 - Ask God to help you trust Him as faithful. •
- Ask God to help you continue walking with Him through faith. •

Christ Focus

Jesus made a way through His death for us to come to God in faith.