

JUNIOR BIBLE TEACHER **+**

For Teachers of Children
Ages 9 Through 11



WINTER | December
2024-25 | January
February

Junior Bible Teacher⁺

WINTER QUARTER

December 2024, January, February 2025

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Rev. W. B. Musselman, Founder

Dear Junior Teacher,

Welcome to *Junior 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 Approaching the Lesson).
 - **Explaining the Memory Verse** explains the Scripture in language familiar to juniors (replacing Talking about the Golden Text).
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PURPOSE



Big Idea: God wants us to remember His blessings.

APPROACHING THE LESSON



Prepare Your Mind

Prepare Your Heart

TALKING ABOUT THE GOLDEN TEXT



Explaining the Memory Verse

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.
- The **Conversation Starter** helps you kick off your class and get your students invested 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.
- **Teacher Tips** in the lesson will give you short ways 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 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.
- The **Activity** helps juniors get their energy out while thinking about the lesson.
- The **Big Question** addresses common doubts or fears junior 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 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



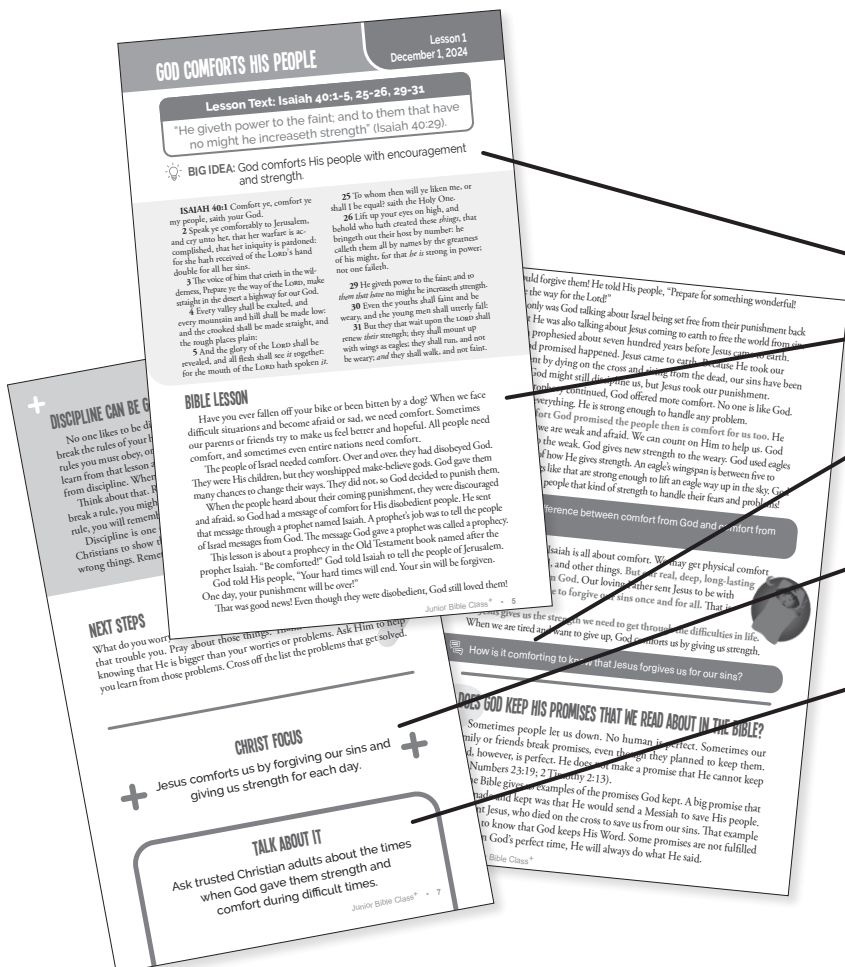
Prop Prompts



Actions



Discussion Questions



Here's a peek at the new Junior 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.
- The **Big Question** addresses common doubts or fears junior students might have about God and His Word from a biblical worldview.
- 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:

Love of the Father

Lesson 1: Isaiah 40:1-5, 25-26, 29-31

God Comforts His People

Lesson 2: Isaiah 53:4-6, 10-12

God Sends His Servant to Save Us

Lesson 3: Luke 1:39-56

Mary Is Blessed by God

Lesson 4: Matthew 1:18-25

Jesus Is Born (Christmas)

Lesson 5: Luke 2:25-38

Jesus Is Brought to the Temple

God the Father loves you and your students more than anyone on this earth does. No matter what you have experienced in this sinful world or how terrible an earthly dad may be, this unit will remind you that God the Father has showered such extraordinarily rich love on us all through His perfect plan of salvation. With loving-kindness, the Father leads those who are dead in their sins to full salvation through the birth, death, and resurrection of the Messiah, Jesus Christ.





He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might
he increaseth strength (Isaiah 40:29).



Big Idea: God comforts His people with encouragement and strength.

ISAIAH 40:1 Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.

2 Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

3 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

4 Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain:

5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see *it* together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken *it*.

25 To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One.

26 Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these *things*, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that *he is* strong in power; not one faileth.

29 He giveth power to the faint; and to *them that have* no might he increaseth strength.

30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew *their* strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *and* they shall walk, and not faint.

Prepare Your Mind

We follow the wavering pattern of the Israelites' walk with God throughout the Old Testament. They repeatedly yielded to sin and false gods. The prophecies in Isaiah 1 through 39 set the background. The Israelites' continued rebellion resulted in judgment.

The difficult period of punishment would not last forever, however. The words of Isaiah 40 offer hope. God judges righteously, but He is full of compassion. Today's passage begins with a call to be comforted with the assurance that God's glory (Jesus) will be revealed. He will be a source of strength for those who put their trust in Him.

Prepare Your Heart

Have you noticed a difference in the students' ability to pay attention when they or their families are experiencing conflict or struggles? They may be distracted, moody, or anxious and in need of encouragement, comfort, and strength. Pray for your students and their families.

What about you? Life's challenges can wear anyone out. Children of God have hope to rise above those hardships. Meditate on Isaiah 40:29-31. Thank God for the comfort we have in knowing Jesus. Wait on Him expectantly through prayer. He will give you what you need for each day's circumstances and provide hope for the future.



Supplies

- blanket
- map of Israel with Jerusalem
- comfort item (blanket or pillow)



Conversation Starter

Winter is a good time to build a snowman, if there is snow.

Raise your hand if you have ever built a snowman.

That reminds me of a joke—What do you get when you wrap a snowman in a blanket?

A brrrrrito!