



Curriculum Overview

1. God's Providence ... Christopher Columbus This is the first lesson in this curriculum series. It highlights God's providential plan for Christopher Columbus' life in terms of discovering and evangelizing the New World. It shows how God directed Columbus' fleet to the New World through extreme difficulty and no navigational tools. The lesson stresses that God has a plan for the lives of His children that will be accomplished through His divine providence. The selected Scriptures for this lesson are Proverbs 15:3, 16:3-4, 16:9, 19:21 and 27:1.
2. Respecting Authority ... the Pilgrims This lesson highlights the importance of respect for authority in the formation of our great nation. It points out that the root of respecting authority begins with the exercise of self-control. The Pilgrims displayed self-control and submitted to the authority established by their leaders in the formative years of this country, and we also are responsible before the Lord to respect and submit to the leaders He has established in our homes, schools, churches, and government. The selected Scriptures for this lesson are Proverbs 10:8, 12:15, 13:13, 16:20, 19:20, and 19:27.
3. Peer Influence ... Thomas Jefferson This lesson asserts that Christians have a remarkable example of positive peer pressure. This principle is exemplified by the life and writings of Thomas Jefferson who was not a Christian. However, Jefferson was so influenced by the Christian thinking and lifestyle of those around him that his major writing, the Declaration of Independence, is full of Christian principles. The gospel message is given in this lesson, and the children are taught that to stand up for righteousness is a powerful statement which affects the society around us. The selected Scriptures for this lesson are Proverbs 4:18-19, 11:11, 13:9, 13:20, 14:34, and 27:17.

4. Seeking Wisdom ... George Washington This lesson highlights the life of George Washington, a great man of prayer. As the commanding general of the Continental Army and as this nation's first President, Washington was burdened with making major decisions that would affect the outcome of this nation for generations to come. Under the weight of this burden he sought the Lord's wisdom through regular times of prayer and intense Bible study, recognizing that the source of wisdom was the Lord. The children are taught that God is their source of wisdom also, and that prayer and knowing His Word are crucial to seeking His will. The selected Scriptures for this lesson are Proverbs 2:6, 2:12, 3:1-2, 3:5-6, 5:21, and 8:33.

5. Trusting God ... Abigail Adams How do you handle trials and uncertainties in your life? This lesson highlights Abigail Adams and shows that her source of strength was God's Holy Word and the promises contained therein. This lesson teaches that God's Word and His promises are applicable to all areas of life, even in our day and age. However, in order to claim God's promise, one must be His child, having received Him by faith. God's promises are written for His children, and can be an incredible source of strength and comfort. The selected Scriptures for this lesson are Proverbs 1:33, 3:5-6, 3:25-26, 8:14, and 16:3.

6. Accepting Advice ... James Madison This lesson provides the viewpoint that Christians need to seek and accept the advice and counsel of others who are wise. No person is self-reliant because the Lord designed us to be inter-dependent parts of His body. It is never a sign of weakness to ask for good advice, but is rather a sign of strength and maturity. For children, it is best to listen to the advice of the people who love and cherish them more than anyone else on this earth -- their parents. Our constitution was written by James Madison by accepting and incorporating the advice and counsel of varied wise patriots. The selected Scriptures for this lesson are Proverbs 11:14, 12:15, 13:10, 15:12, and 19:20.

7. Appropriate Attitude ... John Jay Developing a proper attitude is a willful and conscious choice. The Bible teaches that the attitude of Christians should be joyful. This lesson teaches children how to cultivate the proper attitude despite circumstances that would tempt us to live contrary to the joy that Christ gives. The life of John Jay, the first U.S. Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, illustrates how one may live a life that is pleasing to the Lord, despite difficult circumstances. The selected Scriptures for this lesson are Proverbs 15:13, 15:15, 15:30, 16:24, and 18:14.

8. Loyal Friendship ... Frances Scott Key Frances Scott Key, the author of the Star Spangled Banner exemplifies personal sacrifice towards friends. This lesson introduces the concept of loyalty towards friends and country, and explains the rituals of patriotism, such as the Pledge of Allegiance. The following scriptures are discussed: Proverbs 12:26, 13:20, 14:7, 22:24-25, 17:17, and 27:10.

9. Upright Speech ... Daniel Webster This lesson addresses the skills needed for children to speak truthfully, kindly, and in a manner that is pleasing to the Lord. Two areas of speech are the focus: gossip and lying. Daniel Webster, a famous orator of the 19th century provides an excellent example of one who used his speech and his gift of speaking to the glory of God. When others slandered him, he did not respond in kind, but was true to his convictions about keeping his speech upright. The selected Scriptures for this lesson are Proverbs 11:13, 16:28, 20:19, 4:24, 16:24, 21:23, 19:5, 26:18-19, 12:22, and 24:26. This lesson introduces the Biblical concept of taking off the old nature and replacing it with the new nature.

10. Pride and Humility ... Robert E. Lee This lesson teaches that we are to be humble about the gifts and abilities the Lord has given us, not boastful. Robert E. Lee, the great Confederate general, is an excellent example of humility. Though he was an outstanding militiaman and commander, he was not boastful, and pride did not seep into his position. He simply performed the tasks at hand with the gifts the Lord gave him, and as a result was a man greatly admired and loved by those on both sides of the Civil War. This lesson teaches that we are to be thankful for the personality and gifts that God has given, and to use these gifts to bring Him glory. These Scriptures are discussed: Proverbs 16:5, 16:18-19, 18:12, 29:23, and 27:2.

11. Diligence ... Abraham Lincoln This lesson contrasts the qualities of the diligent with those of the sluggard (a term in Proverbs which illustrates laziness). We are instructed in Scripture to be diligent in our work. For children, their work is their school work, which they should approach with diligence. The primary thrust for children at this point in their life is their education. Abraham Lincoln is an excellent model of diligence. He had only one year of formal education, yet his desire for learning led him to advanced self-studies of law, which eventually led him to become one of our nation's greatest Presidents who shaped world history. These Scriptures are discussed: Proverbs 10:4-5, 12:11, 14:23, 21:5, and 21:17.

12. Service and Sacrifice ... Our Leaders and Our Lord This final lesson is a summary of our American patriots and the role their Christian faith played in the founding and early years of our nation, and focuses on the principle of self-sacrifice. Their greatest example was Jesus Himself, who sacrificed His life for His children. The following Scriptures are discussed: Proverbs 15:8, 21:27, 22:29, 24:10, and 27:18.