

A Biblical Journey of Self Discovery: Hebrew Scriptures, Vol 1

Passport To Adventure

Age Group: Y.O.U. Ages 14 to 18

Editor & Layout: Reverend Diane Venzera

Main Writer: Rev. Eileen Patra, CSE, LUT

Contributing Writer: Rev. Diane Venzera, CSE, LUT

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# Welcome

## "There is meaning in every journey that is unknown to the traveler." Dietrich Bonhoeffer

## Introduction

- This curriculum is based on the Hebrew Scriptures, beginning with *The Creation Story* and ending with *Moses Parts the Red Sea.*
- It is divided into 12 units of study.
- There are 4 lessons within each of the 12 units, one for each of the groups listed below:
  - ♦ Preschool/Kindergarten, 3 to 5 years
  - ♦ Elementary, 1st to 3rd grade
  - ♦ Tweens, 4th & 5th grade & Uniteens, 6th to 8th grade
  - ♦ Y.O.U., 9th to 12th grade
- The lessons are designed to stand alone or to be offered in a series.
- All lessons are offered as a download only.
- The lessons are available for individual purchase so you can buy only those age groups you are currently serving in your ministry.

## **Program Overview**

#### Focus of this material:

This material invites our children and teens to step out in faith and to consciously undertake a Spiritual journey. As with an journey, we first have to get, "The Big Divine Idea." But we cannot stop there. We must know and understand the steps needed to bring an idea into manifestation. We must be willing to leave home or what we are familiar with in order to bring about Spiritual growth. Along the way we meet some interesting characters that invite us to look within and heal what needs to be healed. As with any new undertaking, our faith is sure to be tested. But, if we are willing to move forward with faith, strength and courage, our efforts will be rewarded with renewed Spiritual understanding. And, we just may discover something magnificent about ourselves!

#### Each week's lesson include:

- Lesson Objectives
  - ♦ Issue to Explore
  - ♦ Spiritual Principles to Explore
  - ♦ What Students Will Gain From the Lesson
- Complete Supply Lists
- Sacred Circle Connecting Activities
- Story
  - ♦ Bible Story or Storybook That Reflects the Bible Story
  - ♦ Story Focus & Interpretation
  - ♦ Discussion Questions
- 2 Age Appropriate Creative Activities
- Parent Letter: The parent letter is the same for each lesson in the unit.



## **Lesson Objectives**

#### **Issue to Explore**

When faced with choices sometimes we are unsure of which one to choose.

#### **Spiritual Principles to Explore**

- No matter what choice we make, we are still one with God.
- Every choice we make is designed to lead us to a greater understanding of this oneness.
- The Unity Principle #2 I am naturally good because God's Divinity is in me and in everyone.

#### The teens will:

- □ Explore the Garden of Eden story.
- □ Look at how their choices produce consequences.
- Investigate the idea that even though a choice might look like the wrong one, it always has the potential to bring us good.
- □ Understand that we always have the power to make another choice.

## What You Will Need...

#### Book

Bible

#### **Supplies**

- □ 4 Sheets of paper
- Markers



## **Music or Joy Songs**

Open with a Joy Song.

## Welcome/Check-in

(For new chapters with new members ask everyone to say their name before answering the questions.)

- What is your favorite animal and why?
- What was your best pet ever?

## Announcements

(Insert chapter announcements here or before closing)

## **Opening Prayer and/or Meditation**

Invite someone to lead an opening prayer, use The Daily Word or pray this one:

We are one with Divine Mind. We are one with the One. We are one heart, one mind, one soul. Every choice I make for myself affects the whole. I am conscious of this oneness and I hold it in my heart. I breath deeply and feel the connection that crosses all boundaries, all cultures and beliefs. I fill myself from within, from this never-ending source of love and connection. I am whole, I am at peace, I am love. As I focus my thoughts on this Truth, I feel it in every cell in my body. We are one with Divine Mind. We are one with the One. We are one heart, one mind, one soul. And so it is. Amen

## **Offering & Blessing**

Invite one of the teens to lead the love offering blessing. Share that we are blessing the world with whatever we would like to see more of in the world. They can share one word or money.

## Unity Principle #2

I am naturally good because God's Divinity is in me and in everyone.

## Quote

Invite the teens to share their thoughts about the following quote as it relates to taking the next step. "Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.



## "The Garden of Eden" Genesis 3:1-24

This is a story Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden.

## **Story Focus/Interpretation**

The story of Adam and Eve being cast out of the garden is a story about our need, as evolving humans, to step out from the protected place and discover what life means to us. It is about knowing that we have the power within us to create a thriving life and to know that no matter where we go or what we choose, Spirit is always with us providing what we need.

Spirit provides all we need and sometimes we are not able to fully grasp this Truth so we need to create experiences that help us to know our oneness with God.

## **Definition of Terms**

Adam--Man, our thinking nature.

**Eve--**Woman, our feeling nature.

Garden of Eden--Place of innocence, like a "baby" state where all our needs are provided for.

**Leaving the Garden--**Symbol of the beginning of the soul's growth (evolution) through human experience.

**Serpent--**Symbol of the desire for experience and sensations, gaining wisdom though the senses rather than through Spiritual wisdom

## **Discussion Questions**

- How does the story begin?
- What was the interaction between the snack and the woman?
- What choice did the woman make?
- What happened next?
- How is this story like your life?
- What might have happened if they had never left the garden?
- What did they gain by leaving the garden?
- Tell me about a time you were prompted to leave something that was safe and comfortable and move out into the unknown?
- What was that like for you?
- How did you receive the support you needed/wanted?
- What would you do differently next time?



## R.E.L.Y. On God

## **Preparation**

- Write one of each of the following words on a sheet of paper. Make the first letter a very large, bold capital letter so it stands out.
  - ♦ Realize
  - ♦ Establish
  - ♦ Let go
  - ♦ say Yes

#### Action

- Tell the group that as we move out into new experiences, whether we are moving to a new school, getting a new job or going to college, it is important that we remember that Spirit is our source.
- Divide the group into four groups and assign one word to each group.
- Invite each group to create a definition and/or a Unity tool that will help people utilize this step as they move into a new experience. Questions to consider in their deliberation:
  - What does the word mean metaphysically?
  - ♦ What action are required?
  - ♦ What is a Unity tool that can be used here?
  - $\diamond$  How would they define the step and put it into action.
- Once all groups are finished have them share with the large group and talk about the 4 steps that were created that will remind them to rely on God as they live their lives.

## **Discussion**

- · How willing are you to put the steps into use?
- How can they benefit you?
- How will they make a difference in your life?

#### <u>Supplies</u>

- 4 Sheets of paper
- Markers



# **Seeing It Differently**

## **Definition of Terms**

#### <u>Supplies</u>

None

Adam--Man, our thinking nature.

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## Action

- Invite the teens to each find a partner.
- Ask each pair to select one of the pairs listed below.
- They are to have a new conversation between 2 of the characters...looking at the action in the story from both perspectives.
- Encourage them to be creative. What might the conversation gone like if they both wanted their way? What might it have been if they were both acting from their Christ self. What might have happened if they had made other choices?
  - ♦ God & Adam/Eve when God is giving them instructions.
  - ♦ Snake & Eve when she is being tempted.
  - ♦ Adam & Eve after they are kicked out the garden

## **Discussion/Sharing**

- What new awareness did you have regarding the characters?
- What new understanding did you have regarding the story?
- What is something that you can apply to your life?



## Commit

Say what they might do differently this week as a result of what they learned today.

## Affirm

Share the Unity Principle of the day.

#### **Closing Prayer**

#### Invite someone to lead a closing prayer or read this one:

Indwelling Christ Presence, we are grateful for this time spent together in community. Being together is a sacred honor that we hold in our hearts. We know that we are one mind, one community, one people. Together we create an endless wisdom born from the Christ within. As we each contribute our part, we bless the world with peace and harmony. We are grateful for this opportunity. And so it is. Amen.

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## **Further Reading and Exploration:**

If this subject matter is interesting to you and you would like to explore more, check out the following links and publications:

#### **Mysteries of Genesis by Charles Fillmore**

Publisher: Unity Books (Unity School of Christianity) Access online at: http://www.newthoughtlibrary.com/fillmoreCharles/MysteryOfGenesis/

#### **Metaphysical Bible Dictionary.**

(Charles Fillmore Reference Library) Publisher: Unity Books (Unity School of Christianity) Access online at: http://www.truthunity.net/texts/mbd

#### **Revealing Word.**

(Charles Fillmore Reference Library) Publisher: Unity Books (Unity School of Christianity) Access online at: http://www.truthunity.net/texts/rw



## Lesson #2

# **Parent Letter**



# The intention of this lesson is to understand that Spirit is always guiding our choices.

## **Lesson Objectives**

#### **Issue to Explore**

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Spirit provides all we need and sometimes we are not able to fully grasp this Truth so we need to create experiences that help us to know our oneness with God.

#### Continue the exploration at home:

For Preschoolers:

- Ask them to share what kind of animal they cared for today.
- Invite them to talk about how they are big enough to be kind to someone else.
- Ask them how they would like to show their kindness and caring this week.

#### For Elementary Students:

- Ask them to tell you the result of a choice they made today.
- Have a conversation about the need to pause and think before we make choices.
- Invite them to tell you one new thing they learned today.

For Teens:

Ask them:

- What did this story mean to you?
- Which character did you most identify with?
- What does R.E.L.Y. stand for?

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