

LIVING
THE WORD

CARIBBEAN BIBLE LESSONS

Bible

SEEKERS

Younger Children • Age 7-9 • Teacher Guide

May • June • July • August • 2023



Younger Children • Age 7-9 • Teacher Guide

The *Younger Children Teacher Guide* provides an inspirational Teacher Bible Study, suggestions for planning the lesson and a step by step teaching plan for presenting the lesson. Each younger children teacher needs a copy of the *Younger Children Learner Guide* in addition to this *Teacher Guide*.

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The Writers Wall

Angela Braithwaite-Rose, writer of the **May** lessons, is a medical assistant. She is from Barbados and resides in Kentucky, USA. She has taught Sunday School for over 30 years. She has worked with the Children's Choir and the Junior Church ministry at her local church. Angela has been a volunteer writer for CCP since 1992. She has developed frameworks, written VBS lessons and served as team editor. She said of her writing experience: *It has deepened my biblical knowledge and understanding and has been instrumental in my growth as a Christian.*



Carleen Clother writer of the **June** lessons is from Belize and resides in the USA. Carleen served CCP for over 20 years in various ways - member of Board of Trustees, Editor of Children Publications and Senior Editor. Carleen has a passion for children and serves in several areas of ministry of her church. She has also trained Sunday School workers from several Caribbean countries.



Eloise Clother-Marage (now deceased) writer of the **July** lessons, was a Patient Care Associate/Medical Assistant. She was from Belize and lived in New York, USA. She was involved in the Hospitality and Missions ministries of her church. Eloise said: *Writing the unit on the church has helped me to understand that children, of any age group, can be taught the concept of being and living as children of God. I have learned that children can live by the word of God and that they can be witnesses for Christ and can make a difference in the life of others by the way they live.*



Jamie-Lee Roche, a teacher by profession and the writer of the **August** lessons, is from Belize. Jamie-Lee has been involved in Sunday School, Single Adult Ministry and the Music Ministry of her church. She shared: *Writing the lessons has made me more aware of how I present the material. I now understand how to use effectively the time given to make the biggest impact on the children. Personally, the experience has helped my devotional life; it has caused me to dig deeper into God's Word.*



Life in the Home

| Unit | Lesson | Topic | Scripture | Key Verse | Objectives | Activities | Materials | Assessment |
|------|--------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|---|------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1 | 1 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:1-8 | 1 Timothy 5:4 | Children should respect their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 2 | 2 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:9-15 | 1 Timothy 5:14 | Children should be obedient to the Lord. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 3 | 3 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:16-22 | 1 Timothy 5:22 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 4 | 4 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:23-24 | 1 Timothy 5:24 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 5 | 5 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:25-27 | 1 Timothy 5:27 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 6 | 6 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:28-32 | 1 Timothy 5:32 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 7 | 7 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:33-35 | 1 Timothy 5:35 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 8 | 8 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:36-40 | 1 Timothy 5:40 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 9 | 9 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:41-45 | 1 Timothy 5:45 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 10 | 10 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:46-50 | 1 Timothy 5:50 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 11 | 11 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:51-55 | 1 Timothy 5:55 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 12 | 12 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:56-60 | 1 Timothy 5:60 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 13 | 13 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:61-65 | 1 Timothy 5:65 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 14 | 14 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:66-70 | 1 Timothy 5:70 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 15 | 15 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:71-75 | 1 Timothy 5:75 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 16 | 16 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:76-80 | 1 Timothy 5:80 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 17 | 17 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:81-85 | 1 Timothy 5:85 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 18 | 18 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:86-90 | 1 Timothy 5:90 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 19 | 19 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:91-95 | 1 Timothy 5:95 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |
| 20 | 20 | Family Roles | 1 Timothy 5:96-100 | 1 Timothy 5:100 | Children should be obedient to their parents. | Role-play | None | Observation |

MAY 07, 2023

A Baby's Birth Brings Joy

Ruth 4:9-17

Children are a gift from the LORD; they are a reward from him. **Psalm 127:3 NLT**

Picture: A New Baby Brings Joy

MAY 14, 2023

A Loving Mother

Numbers 26:59; Exodus 2:1-10

A woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

Proverbs 31:30b NIV

Picture: A Mother Protects

MAY 21, 2023

A Worshipping Father

1 Samuel 1:1-28

Parents, don't be hard on your children...Teach them and instruct them about the LORD.

Ephesians 6:4 CEV

Picture: A Father Leads in Worship

MAY 28, 2023

Avoid Favouritism and Jealousy

Genesis 37:1-11

How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity. **Psalm 133:1**

Picture: A Coat with a Message

Writers:

**Angela, Braithwaite-Rose,
Barbados-USA**

Unit Description

Through key Bible stories and learning activities, younger children will become aware of the joys, responsibilities and, sometimes, heartaches which are a part of living with family members. They will be encouraged to do their part in helping to create a Christ-centred home.

Unit Aim

For boys and girls to discover ways in which they can help to make their home a better place in which to live, work and love.

Unit Main Truth

God places us in homes or family units and He wants us to work together to create a healthy home-life by setting good examples, forgiving each other when we do wrong and encouraging each other to serve God.



Teacher Bible Study

**May
07, 2023**

Unit Title
Life in the
Home

Lesson Title
**A Baby's
Birth Brings
Joy**

Main Text
Ruth 4:9-17

Main Truth
God intends for
the birth of a
baby to bring
happiness to
a family.

Memory Verse
*Children are a gift
from the LORD;
they are a reward
from him.*
Psalm 127:3
NLT

Personal Lifestyle Question

Why should I rejoice at a baby's birth?

The book of Ruth has many historical and theological features. It is the story of its main character, a Moabite woman who became the great-grandmother of King David (4:17). She thus became an ancestor of Jesus, being placed in the royal line of David. There is uncertainty about who wrote the book but it is believed it could have been written during the reign of King David, the time when the judges ruled (see verse 1). Ruth, a Gentile woman who married a Hebrew man, Boaz, was in God's sovereign plan to represent security and hope, and peace and rest during difficult times. She was also well placed as a part of the lineage of Messiah (Matthew 1:5). Ruth had been married to Naomi's Son, Mahlon, who had died. As Mahlon's relative, Boaz took responsibility for her as 'kinsman-redeemer'. He recognised her as a hardworking, godly woman. Her nearest relative should have married her as was customary but he refused to do that so Boaz married her.

God blessed Ruth and Boaz with a baby boy. Naomi, Ruth's mother-in-law shared in the blessing. She was probably happier than any other time since she had lost her husband and sons (Ruth 1: 3-4). Now, she had someone, a grandson for whom to love and care. The baby, Obed, would be nurtured by the love of his parents and grandmother. Ruth and Naomi had shared sorrow, destitution and friendship. Ruth had come to know Naomi's God. Now, through the gift of a child, they would enjoy the special blessing from God and experience a deep sense of love and happiness. Obed would be a symbol of the care, kindness, love and faithfulness between Ruth and Boaz and between Ruth and Naomi.

A baby comes with promise and expectation. Obed was received with thanksgiving (v. 14a) and joy. *May he become famous.... He will renew your life and sustain you...*(vv. 14b-15). While the gift of the baby was a great blessing to the family, God had a larger purpose for him. Obed was to become an ancestor of Jesus, — our Kinsman-Redeemer—who offers us membership into God's family.

Personal Lifestyle Application

I will rejoice when a baby is born because life is a gift from God.

Plan the Lesson



Plan for the Large Group

- ❑ Complete Planning Steps 1-7 on page 32.
- ❑ Make a **Unit Poster** by: Drawing a large picture of a house. Glue it to a sheet of poster board. On strips of coloured paper, write the words of the **Unit Title** and the **Lesson Titles**. Paste them on the poster.
- ❑ Plan to have the children read the parts of the **Bible Story** which are written in bold letters.
- ❑ Plan how you will use the **Teaching Picture**, “A New Baby Brings Joy”. Plan to ask: “*Why was Ruth happy about the baby? Why was Naomi...? Why was Boaz...?*” Emphasize that children are gifts from the Lord. Point out ways in which they can be a source of joy within the family by obeying their parents and helping with chores.
- ❑ Plan to sing “The Family” and “When I Was a Baby”, *CariSing*, page 66. Write the words on a poster board.
- ❑ Prepare to teach the **Memory Verse**. Write the first part of the verse on a strip of paper and the second part on another strip. Plan to divide the class into teams. Each team will memorise its section and then pass its part to the other team to memorise. Then, they will say the verse together.

Plan for the Small Groups

Small Group 1: My Family Tree Hanging

- ❑ Cut tree shapes from green construction paper, tree trunk from brown construction paper and apple shapes from red construction paper. Cut sheets of poster board into 8-by-10-inch rectangles.
- ❑ The children will glue the tree shape to the rectangle. They will draw pictures or write the names of their family members on to the apple shapes. They will glue the apple shapes to the tree in this order: At the top of the tree will be the children in the family; followed by their parents and, at the bottom, their grandparents.

Small Group 2: Happy Family Member

- ❑ Plan to complete the activity, *Happy Family Members*, on page 7 of the *Learner Guide*.
- ❑ Make copies of the activity for the children who do not have a *Learner Guide*.

Lesson Description

Ruth and Naomi were sad because they were widows and they had no heir. The lesson will show that the birth of baby Obed brought great joy to Ruth and Naomi. The fact that children are a gift from God will be emphasised. The uniqueness of family structures will be highlighted.

Aims



- 1) Boys and girls will realize that they are a gift from God to their parents and
- 2) desire to be a source of joy in their family by being obedient and considerate.

Materials For Small Group 1

- ❑ Pencils, crayons, scissors, glue, yarn, poster board, red, green, and brown construction paper

Small Group 2

- ❑ Page 7 of the *Learner Guide*, pencils



Present the Lesson

As you teach, seek to help YC:

- ▶ To feel special because they are gifts from God to their parents
- ▶ To feel that they are an important part of their family unit
- ▶ To know that they can contribute to happiness within the family by being obedient and considerate



Step 3 Personalising the Lesson

- ♥ Sing “When I Was a Baby”.
- ♥ Ask the **Question of the Week**.
- ♥ Close with group prayer. Suggest that each child say a prayer for the person on his or her left.
- ♥ Pray for those who want to make a decision for Christ.
- ♥ As you dismiss, encourage the children to be considerate of their family members.

Step 1—Learning in the Large Group

- ✓ Welcome the boys and girls as they arrive.
- ✓ Pray that they will understand that God planned for the family and intends for them to be happy.
- ✓ Direct the children’s attention to the **Unit Banner**. Explain that for the month of May, they will be learning about God’s expectations and plan for the family.
- ✓ Sing “The Family”.
- ✓ Read the **Bible Story** with the children. Have the children read the portions in bold print. Work through the fun activity, **Do you know the Bible Facts?**
- ✓ Sing “When I Was a Baby”.
- ✓ Teach the **Memory Verse**. Divide the class into teams as planned. Distribute the parts of the verse to the teams and proceed.
- ✓ Show the **Teaching Picture**, “A New Baby brings Joy”. Ask the questions as planned. Say: *God intended for children to be a source of happiness and joy within their family. You can be a source of joy by being obedient and considerate of your family members.*

Step 2—Learning in Small Groups

Small Group 1: My Family Tree Hanging

- ✎ Explain the activity. Distribute the materials and let the children proceed in making the wall hanging.
- ✎ Ask the children to share ways in which they will be considerate of their siblings. Lead them to declare their commitment to be obedient to their parents.

Small Group 2: Happy Family Members

- ✎ Direct the children’s attention to page 7 in their *Learner Guide* and, if necessary, distribute copies of the activity. Quote the **Memory Verse**.
- ✎ Guide the children through the activity.
- ✎ Seek to create awareness of ways in which they can be considerate of family members and thus help to foster happiness in the home. Seek to generate a desire to be obedient to their parents.

Teacher Bible Study



Personal Lifestyle Question

How can a mother show love to her children?

Jochebed had three children: Aaron, who became a high priest, Miriam, a prophetess and Moses, who led the children of Israel out of slavery in Egypt. Jochebed would be considered famous because her children were famous. Her own father, Levi and her grandfather, Jacob, could be considered well known. One could conclude that this Jewish woman came from good heritage.

At the time when Moses was born, the pharaoh had Jochebed's people, the Hebrews, under harsh enslavement. Pharaoh had done this because he feared them. They were too many as far as he was concerned; and if war broke out they might turn against him and "leave the country". The Israelites were hard workers but Pharaoh was ruthless in his treatment of them. Further, he had instructed the midwives to kill all the baby boys at birth. When the midwives refused the king's command, he ordered that every boy born be thrown in the River Nile. It was in this horrifying and fearful situation that a loving and caring mother gave birth to Moses.

Mother Jochebed could not bring herself to allow her son to be harmed. A mother's instinct told her she must protect her child at any cost. Defying the pharaoh's edict, she, with loving hands, carefully made a 'boat' in which she sadly but tenderly placed her baby. Under the watchful eye of the baby's concerned sibling, Miriam, the mother hid her son among the bulrushes on the bank of the River Nile. They hoped he would be safe. Miriam helpfully watched over him, probably setting the mother's mind a little at ease.

His mother's act of love and the desire to protect him saved Baby Moses' life. God had a special purpose for Moses. The princess came by and found the child and the sister helped by getting a caregiver, Mother Jochebed, who had the satisfaction of nursing and caring for her offspring. Later, she brought him to the princess who named him Moses. God used a mother's love to work His purpose out. Moses was right where God wanted him to be.

Personal Lifestyle Application

A mother can show love by disciplining her children and caring for their physical and spiritual needs.

May
14, 2023

Unit Title
Life in the Home

Lesson Title
A Loving
Mother

Main Text
Numbers 26:59;
Exodus 2:1-10

Main Truth
God intends that
mothers should
love, take care of
and protect their
children.

Memory Verse
A woman who
fears the LORD is
to be praised.
Proverbs
31:30b NIV



Plan the Lesson

Lesson Description

The story of Jochebed's care and protection of her baby will be used to show that most mothers will go to any lengths to protect and care for their children. Through the activities and illustrations, the children will be encouraged to show appreciation for their mothers' care.

Aim

For the children to find meaningful ways to show appreciation for their mothers' love and care.

Materials for Small Group 1

Collect all craft materials you have.

Materials for Small Group 2

Page 10 of the *Learner Guide*, pens, pencils, poster board

Plan for the Large Group

- Turn to page 32 and complete Steps 1-7.
- Focus on the title of today's lesson on the **Unit Chart**.
- Practise to tell the **Bible Story** in your own words.
- Colour the **Teaching Picture**, "A Mother Protects".
- Plan to highlight the ways in which Jochebed protected Moses: Hid him, made the basket and had Miriam watch over him. Have boys and girls think of the ways in which their mother takes care of them and protects them.
- Plan to Sing "God Planned for Families", page 65 in *CariSing* and "Thank you God for Mother", sung to the tune of "When We All Work Together". *Thank you God for my mother, my mother, my mother. Thank you God for my mother, she loves me very much. For she takes good care of me, and protects me every day. Thank you God for my mother, she loves me very much.* Write the words of the songs on the chalkboard or on a sheet of newspaper.
- Prepare to teach the **Memory Verse** singing it antiphonally (in rounds). Write the verse on poster board like this: *A woman who fears the Lord, Is to be praised. Proverbs chapter 31, verse 30.* Practice singing the verse to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat". Plan to have the children repeat the verse twice before leading them in singing it.

Plan for Small Groups

Small Group 1: Thank You Mother

- The children will be encouraged to celebrate *mother* with a craft of their choice. If necessary, make the following suggestions: Mother's Day cards, paper flowers, a poem or letter to be framed with construction paper.
- Collect a variety of craft materials.

Small Group 2: A Mother's Role

- Plan to complete the activity, *A Mother's Role*, page 10 of the *Learner Guide*.
- Make copies of the activity for the children who do not have a *Learner Guide*.
- From the poster board, cut a 3-by-5-inch card for each child. Each child will write a thank you note for something specific their mother or guardian has done for them.

Present the Lesson



Step 1—Learning in the Large Group

- ✓ Welcome the children with words of encouragement.
- ✓ Ask them to share stories of reactions to their being more considerate at home during that past week.
- ✓ Sing “God Planned for Families”.
- ✓ Tell the **Bible Story** in your own words. Then, ask for volunteers to share stories of ways in which their mother has protected them.
- ✓ Briefly explain the **Memory Verse**. Teach the verse by singing in rounds, as planned. Divide the class into two groups. Guide them in singing the verse in rounds.
- ✓ Show the **Teaching Picture**. Ask the children to share other ways in which mothers show love and protection.
- ✓ State: *Sometimes, children are neglected by their mothers but God provides other people to be a mother to them. Some children are being raised by grandparents or an auntie or a big sister or a big brother. God loves families and He provides persons to love and care for us.* *Share about a woman in the church who is like a mother to you.

Step 2—Learning in Small Groups

Small Group 1: Thank You Mother

- ☞ Display the craft materials.
- ☞ Explain that they get the chance to decide what they will do to say thanks to their mother/guardian. They can make cards, flowers, write poems or letters.
- ☞ The children must think of a specific way in which their mother has cared for or protected them and, then, they should write a thank you note to her on their craft.
- ☞ Assist the children as needed. Let them take home their work to present to their mother or guardian.

Small Group 2: A Mother’s Role

- ☞ Direct the children’s attention to page 10 in their *Learner Guide* and, if necessary, distribute copies of the activity. Give each child a card and a pen.
- ☞ Guide the children through the activity.
- ☞ Ask the children to tell something their mother has done for them and, then, write about it. Encourage them to present the card to their mother or guardian and be especially loving to her.

As you teach, seek to help YC:

- ▶ To feel loved by their mother
- ▶ To express appreciation for the many ways in which their mother meets their needs
- ▶ To find nurturing support in the church if they are neglected by their mother



Step 3 Personalising the Lesson

- ♥ Ask the **Question of the Week**.
- ♥ Sing “Thank you God for Mother”.
- ♥ Close with a sentence prayer chain. Sit in a circle. Have each child say a simple thank you prayer for something his or her mother or a mother figure has done for them.
- ♥ As you close, encourage them to express gratitude to their mother.



TRIBUTE

to the late

Reverend Samuel Vernon and Mrs. Maeve Vernon

We recall with great gratitude the contribution of Reverend Samuel Vernon and his precious wife Maeve for over 50 years. Mrs. Vernon passed in October 2021 and Rev Vernon a year later, both after a lifetime of stellar service to Christian ministry spanning Jamaica, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago, British Columbia and finally the USA.

In 1970, Caribbean churches formed the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship, which then became a regional grouping of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA). Reverend Vernon was elected chair of the Literature and Publications Committee of the CBF. The committee was tasked with producing, publishing and circulating the Caribbean Baptist News and Information Journal. This he did ably and effectively assisted by his wife Maeve.

The CBF came to recognise the need for culturally relevant Bible study materials for the region's Sunday Schools. The Literature Committee formed a sub-committee to spearhead this project. This sub-committee was also chaired by Reverend Vernon and was charged with publishing biblically grounded, educationally sound, and culturally relevant, age-graded Bible study material. These came to be known as Caribbean Bible Lessons (CBL), which were first published in 1976. By 1980 the work of the committee led to the foundation of a newly formed CBF agency called Caribbean Christian Publications (CCP). In 1989 CCP relocated from El Paso in Texas to Hollywood, Florida.

In lieu of the occupancy permit, Reverend Vernon, Pastor of Parkway Baptist Church, Florida graciously made available a section of the church's educational building to serve as a temporary literature production office. In addition, Mrs. Vernon joined the editorial staff and used her computer, literary and creative skills to the benefit of the literature ministry.

This ministry, which has produced Christian discipleship literature in the region for some 45 years, is a part of the legacy left by Reverend Samuel Vernon and Mrs. Maeve Vernon. Caribbean churches and people will forever be in their debt. To God be the Glory.

Adapted from a tribute by Reverend Arthur Edgar presented at a memorial service held at Parkway Baptist Church in October 2022.

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