

Conquest and Potential



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STRONG[®]

curriculum



A world weak on truth needs a strong, trustworthy message. STRONG Curriculum builds stronger churches by teaching all Scripture to produce spiritually mature believers who measure up to the stature of Christ.

A Plan You Can Trust

Regular Baptist Press firmly believes God's Word is living and powerful and more effective than any idea or philosophy man could ever dream up. The Bible is Spirit empowered, so it cannot fail to strengthen kids who interact with its truths. Believing this, we purposefully built Strong Kids on Bible bedrock. We know the curriculum's solid Biblical foundation will make it transformational.








Strong Kids provides each age group with the age-appropriate plan to prepare kids to successfully take the next step in their spiritual growth. The lessons for all five age groups form five steps for building spiritually strong kids.

Strong Kids for Middlers teaches students the Bible timeline. It is chronological from beginning to end so students understand how God's plan unfolded in the past, what His plan is for today, and how His plan will unfold in the future. Students will grasp the Bible's story and will confidently place themselves in the middle of God's plan.

The Strong Kids scope and sequence is built on the seven teaching aims Jesus had during His earthly ministry. Identifying Jesus' aims helps you teach the Bible with purpose and clear goals in sight. Every lesson in the Strong Kids scope and sequence addresses at least one of Jesus' teaching aims.

Look for the BuildUP icons in the table of contents and on the first page of each lesson.

JESUS' TEACHING AIMS

-  **Believe the gospel.** Jesus taught His students to understand, believe, and then share the gospel. This aim is obviously fundamental to all the rest.
-  **Understand Biblical ethics.** Jesus instructed His students to live according to moral values. These values provided them with the tools to make wise decisions.
-  **Internalize godliness.** Jesus taught His followers to be godly on the inside. He warned them not to become like Pharisees, with a mere outward appearance of godliness.
-  **Learn doctrine.** Jesus knew the importance of teaching His students the truth and identified doctrine as one of the means for spiritual growth. Wishy-washy doctrine leads to faulty practice.
-  **Develop life skills.** Jesus taught His followers to meet life's challenges in a way that honored and glorified God. He gave them the skills to navigate those challenges successfully.
-  **Uplift others.** Jesus' life was all about others. Leading by example, He taught His followers to be all about others too.
-  **Prepare to serve.** Jesus prepared His followers to serve in the context of local churches that were established soon after His ascension. He emphasized sacrifice and dedication.

STRONG[®] curriculum

Kit Contents

- Teacher Guide
- Student Book*
- Set of Take-Home Papers*
- One sheet of Recognition Stickers*
- Teaching Pictures
- Set of Time-line Cards
- Card with online download code
- Bible Story DVD
- Posters

*Order one book or set for each child.

Ordering Information

All materials are available from Regular Baptist Press.

- Web: www.StrongCurriculum.com
- E-mail: orders@rbpstore.org
- Toll-free orders in the United States: 1-800-727-4440
- Fax: 1-847-843-3757
- Canada: Contact your distributor.

In this quarter's Strong Kids for Middlers, students will continue the Bible timeline, covering the end of Moses' life through the conquest of the Promised Land. They will join the Israelites in learning that God is owner, honorable, merciful and gracious, unstoppable, and praiseworthy. The students will be challenged to put their faith in God.



Onetime Purchase (Sold Separately)

- Strong Kids Music, vol. 1



The Doctrinal Basis of Our Curriculum

A more detailed statement with references is available upon request.

- The verbal, plenary inspiration of the Scriptures
- Only one true God
- The Trinity of the Godhead
- The Holy Spirit and His ministry
- The personality of Satan
- The Genesis account of creation
- Original sin and the fall of man
- The virgin birth of Christ
- Salvation through faith in the shed blood of Christ
- The bodily resurrection and priesthood of Christ
- Grace and the new birth
- Justification by faith
- Sanctification of the believer
- The security of the believer
- The church
- The ordinances of the local church: baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper
- Biblical separation—ecclesiastical and personal
- Obedience to civil government
- The place of Israel
- The pretribulation rapture of the church
- The premillennial return of Christ
- The millennial reign of Christ
- Eternal glory in Heaven for the righteous
- Eternal torment in Hell for the wicked

Basic Classroom Supplies

Unit Bulletin Board Ideas

Paper Products

Construction paper
White copy paper
Butcher paper
Poster board
4" x 6" index cards
Self-adhesive labels
Sentence strips
Card stock

Markers

Pencils
Crayons
Colored pencils
Permanent markers
Washable markers

Office Supplies

Cellophane tape
Double-stick tape
Masking tape
Stapler
Scissors

Adhesives

Glue sticks
Craft glue
Plasti-Tak

Miscellaneous

Play-Doh
World map or globe
Craft sticks (regular and jumbo size)
Premoistened towels
Hand sanitizer
Plastic tablecloth for art projects
Paper towels
Ziploc bags
Yarn
Chenille wires
Cotton balls

Consider the following way to use your bulletin board.

Units 1 & 2—Israel Rejected God's Grace; Israel Accepted God's Grace

In the lessons for this quarter, Israel ended their wilderness wanderings and took a big step of faith by entering the Promised Land. The bulletin board for this quarter will challenge your students to take steps of faith for God.

Cover the bulletin board with light blue backing. Use Red Scalloped Border (RBP8538) around the edges. Using black EZ Letters (RBP8512), put the following title across the top of the bulletin board: STEPPING OUT BY FAITH.

Print one copy of resource 94-R12 (shoe) for each student. Students use crayons, markers, or colored pencils to color the shoe to their liking. Have them add their name to the shoe. Cut around the shoes and add them to the left side of the bulletin board.

Print several copies of resource 94-R12 (shoe) to keep on hand. When students take a step of faith this quarter, have them color another shoe and add it to the right of their initial shoe. Encourage the students to plan to take specific actions by faith. You may want to set a goal of five shoes by the end of the quarter. Reward those students who reach their goal.



94-R12

Knowing Your Middle Students

Description of Physical, Social, and Emotional Development

- I MAY be experiencing uneven growth in my bones and muscles, making me appear awkward.
- I AM developing new skills like riding a bike, climbing, and catching a ball.
- I MAY be developing faster or slower than my peers.
- I LIKE playing team games and I like to win. I may not lose cheerfully. I understand rules but may cheat or get upset and not want to play.
- I WANT to be liked by my peer group.
- I LIKE having a best friend with whom I enjoy sharing activities.
- I LIKE to tell jokes and riddles.
- I MAY have trouble thinking or concentrating if I have a negative opinion about myself.
- I UNDERSTAND what it means to respect others and help someone in need.
- I MAY talk back as a way to express frustration.

Cognitive (Learning) Development

- I MAY be reluctant to try new things for fear of failing. I don't want to look bad in front of my peers.
- I AM learning to think for myself, develop my own opinions, and explain what I think and feel.
- I CAN empathize with others and want to help those in need.
- I HAVE begun to accumulate knowledge and can use it to understand new concepts.
- I LIKE to learn new life skills, like cooking and fixing things.

Effective Responses

- Supervise activities with a goal of maintaining a positive experience for all.
- Model behavior that makes each student feel special.
- Inspire all students to encourage one another and build each other up.
- Support students with encouragement and assurance that God created and loves each of us and each is valuable to God.
- Be prepared to step in and offer counsel when people display poor attitudes.
- Respond calmly but firmly when students are disrespectful; do not treat their appearance of disrespect as a threat to you or your authority.

Effective Instructional Methods

- Use conversations about friendship as a way to teach students that God is our ultimate friend.
- Build on what students already know about God and the Bible. (This requires you to know your students.)
- Be ready to respond to spiritual questions with simple, concise answers.
- Use students' abilities to state opinions. Ask for their opinions and insights about matters related to the lesson.
- Encourage participation, but allow reluctant students to opt out.
- Invite volunteers to read aloud Bible verses, but don't embarrass students by calling on them to do something they are not comfortable doing.
- Use riddles about Bible characters and story content to stimulate interest and for review.
- Discuss how we can use our knowledge and skills to serve God by serving others. Talk together about people who need help and how helping them shows God's love.

SESSION 1 | UNIT 1

God Is Owner

Israel's failed invasion;
Sabbath violation

Scripture Focus

Num. 14:39–45; 15:32–41

BuildUP Theme



LEARN DOCTRINE

God helps believers remain loyal to Him, their owner.

Measurable Response

The students will develop ways to recognize God's ownership in their lives.

Memory Verse

"That you may remember and do all My commandments, and be holy for your God" (Numbers 15:40). NKJV

"So you shall remember and do all my commandments, and be holy to your God" (Numbers 15:40). ESV

Teacher Preparation

- How do you remind yourself of important tasks or truths? Have you ever tied a string around your finger as a reminder?
- Read Numbers 15:37–41. God told Israel to use tassels to remind themselves that He is their commander.
- Consider tying pieces of blue thread in noticeable places around your house or car as reminders that God is your commander too.

Recognition and Timeline

Give each student an attendance and verse chart from page 29 of their student books. The chart covers the first six lessons of the quarter. The chart on page 31 covers the last seven lessons. Note that the chart is a timeline of significant Bible events and people. As with the two previous quarters, the timeline runs from page 29 to page 31. Last quarter's timeline charts will fit next to the timeline chart from this quarter.

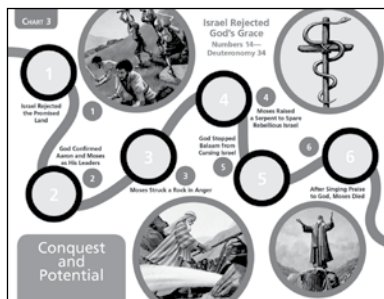
Give the students sticker 1 to put in place for attendance. Allow them an opportunity to earn the smaller Bible sticker for week 13 of the winter quarter by quoting Ephesians 2:8 and 9. Give the students their winter quarter charts. Post their spring charts.

Poster 94-P1 is also a timeline. Each quarter will add another poster to the timeline.

The timeline cards that came in your packet reflect the events on the timeline poster. There will be additional timeline cards added each quarter. Use the cards as instructed in the coming lessons. Note that you will need the timeline cards from the fall and winter quarters.



94-P1



Student book page 29



Stickers

Session Starters

Option 1—True-blue Friend

Gather

- Blue crayons (large crayons are preferred).
- Craft items (e.g., Chenille wire, adhesive googly eyes, felt, construction paper, tape, scissors, adhesive foam shapes, cotton batting, rubber bands).

Steps

1. Give each student a blue crayon and access to the craft items.
2. Students make a true-blue friend out of their blue crayons. See the following list for suggestions or allow the students to be creative.
 - Adhere a googly eye to the crayon.
 - Wrap a piece of chenille wire around the crayon for arms.
 - Add hair by attaching a small amount of cotton batting to the top of the crayon with a rubber band or chenille wire.
 - Add clothing by wrapping the crayon in felt or construction paper and securing it with an adhesive foam shape.
3. Students display their true-blue friends and give their friends a name.
4. Transition to the Bible lesson.

God used the color blue and a craft project as a way to remind Israel that they were to obey Him, their owner, with grateful hearts. We used blue crayons as a reminder that you have a friend with you all the time to empower you to obey God. We will learn more about that friend in our lesson.

Option 2—A String of Words

Gather

- Blue string or yarn.
- Scissors.

Steps

1. Organize the students in groups of three. Give each group about five feet of yarn and a pair of scissors. Designate one student in each group to operate the scissors.
2. Write the following words on the board one at a time. After writing

the word, each group races to spell the word with their yarn. They can either connect the letters using one piece of yarn or cut smaller pieces of yarn to make each individual letter. Award a point both to the first team done and the team with the neatest word. Keep track of points on the board.

- Owner.
 - Remind.
 - Obey.
 - Blue.
 - Thread.
3. Congratulate the team with the most points after five rounds.
 4. Transition to the Bible lesson.

All the words in our list are part of our Bible lesson today. Listen for them in our lesson as we examine three episodes in Israel's history that remind us of the importance of obeying God.

Bible Study

Gather

- Teaching picture 94-1.
- Poster 94-P2.
- Tassel.

Last quarter ended with Israel rejecting God's offer of the Promised Land while camping at Kadesh Barnea.

DISPLAY: Poster 94-P2. Point out Kadesh Barnea is located an inch or so below the southern border of the map.

ASK: Why did Israel vote no to go into the Promised Land? *The land was filled with giants living in strong, walled cities.*

God judged Israel for rejecting His gracious offer of the Promised Land. For each of the forty days they spent spying out the land, they had to spend one year wandering in the wilderness. And all adults twenty years old and older would die during the forty years of wandering. The only exceptions were Joshua and Caleb, the two spies who said yes to entering the land.

I. Israel's Battle Retreat (Num. 14:39–45)

READ: Numbers 14:39.

The people of Israel realized they had made a terrible decision. They mourned the loss of the Promised Land.



94-P2

ASK: What is the greatest disappointment you have ever had? Perhaps you had a vacation or a birthday party canceled.

Imagine having to live in tents in the wilderness with manna for every meal instead of living in homes with lots of delicious fruits, vegetables, and meats. That would be really disappointing! Israel, however, had no one to blame but themselves.

READ: Numbers 14:40.

ASK: What do you think God thought about Israel's decision?

It was too late for Israel to change their minds. God had rejected them and handed down their punishment. If they tried to go into the Promised Land, it would be without God's help.

READ: Numbers 14:41–43.

God was Israel's commander for life and for their battles with their enemies. Without their commander's leadership and direction, Israel was just a band of former slaves. They were no match for anyone. Moses told them that, but they didn't listen. They believed they could command their own lives and take the Promised Land without God's help. They overstepped God's command and assumed He wouldn't mind.

READ: Numbers 14:44.

The ark of the covenant was the altar in the holy of holies, the part of the tabernacle where God's presence dwelt. God and Moses stayed in camp while the Israelites went out to battle. They presumed that God would help them anyway. They were dead wrong!

READ: Numbers 14:45.

DISPLAY: Teaching picture 94-1.

The Amalekites and Canaanites immediately gained control of the battle and began to chase the Israelites.

READ: Deuteronomy 1:44.

ASK: Have you been chased by bees before? What was it like? *It is hard to get away from the bees. They keep attacking and don't give up.*



94-1

Israel overstepped her bounds and ignored God's command, so God didn't let His people defeat the Amalekites and Canaanites. Israel made the trek back to Kadesh Barnea defeated and discouraged. Israel had to accept they would wander in the wilderness for the next forty years.

II. An Israelite's Sabbath Rebellion (Num. 15:32–36)

While in the wilderness, the Children of Israel were to live under and obey God's law. God had never stopped being their commander.

READ: Numbers 15:32–34.

ASK: What was wrong with gathering sticks on the Sabbath day? *God commanded Israel to take a day of rest on the Sabbath. He wanted them to trust Him to provide for their needs and to reflect on His role as their creator.*

The man who broke God’s Sabbath command did it on purpose. Perhaps He thought God wouldn’t mind or even notice that he was breaking God’s law.

The Children of Israel didn’t know how to punish the rebellious Israelite, so they guarded him until they got word from the Lord. God told Moses what to do.

ASK: How would you punish the rebellious Israelite? *Maybe put him in jail for a week or make him pay a fine.*

READ: Numbers 15:35.

ASK: What’s your reaction to the punishment God handed down? *It seems really harsh.*

Remember that Israel was at the beginning of their life under God’s law. God wanted Israel to respect Him as their commander. He wanted them to understand that rebelling against His authority as their commander would lead to pain, suffering, and even death.

READ: Numbers 15:36.

ASK: If you were an Israelite, what do you think you would have done the very next Sabbath? *Obey God’s law by doing no work.*

God is not going to ask your parents or your pastor to take you outside and stone you to death for committing a sin. But don’t think that God no longer minds if you disobey Him. If you were to sass your parents, say hateful things to a sibling, or steal two dollars from your mom’s purse, God would notice and care. God wants us to obey Him because He loves us and knows that obedience to Him brings meaning, joy, and peace to our lives and that sin brings heartache and regret.

III. Israel’s Blue Reminder (Num. 15:37–41)

God gave Israel some special instructions to help them remember and obey His commands.

READ: Numbers 15:37, 38

DISPLAY: Show the students the tassel you brought to class. Point out the individual strings hanging down from the top of the tassel.

God told Israel to make tassels to attach to their clothing. The tassels

flipped around as they walked, worked, and played. The tassels grabbed their attention and served to remind them how important it was for them to know and obey God.

God directed the Israelites to include one blue thread in their tassels. Perhaps God included the blue thread to call Israel's attention to the specific commands in His law. That seems to be the case.

ASK: Are there reminders to obey God in your home? What are they? *Perhaps a picture with a Bible verse or a plaque with a saying.*

READ: Numbers 15:39.

The Children of Israel were God's people, but they were still sinners. Like everyone else, their hearts were inclined to be unfaithful to God and to serve other gods. The tassels on their garments reminded the Israelites not to follow their hearts' desires to rebel against God.

READ: Numbers 15:40.

God wanted Israel to be "holy" for Him, or set apart for Him. He owned Israel. The tassels on their garments were like tags that identified Israel with God.

ASK: Have you written your name on things you own? What are the items? Why did you write your name on them? *Because the items have value. The students don't want to lose them.*

God valued Israel. He had already done a lot for them, and He didn't want to lose their loyalty.

READ: Numbers 15:41.

For Israel, belonging to God was a distinct privilege. And obeying His commands was far better than having freedom to do whatever their hearts desired.

You belong to God too. He has not asked you to hang tassels from the corners of your clothes, but He has done something far better. God gave you the Holy Spirit to live in you as proof that you belong to Him.

READ: Ephesians 1:13, 14.

God purchased you with the blood of Christ and gave you the Holy Spirit as a guarantee that you will belong to Him forever. Now you have the opportunity to lovingly serve God for saving your soul from sin. The Holy Spirit will help you do that by reminding you what God's Word says and by empowering you to obey God. The Holy Spirit is far better than tassels hanging from your clothes. The Holy Spirit is alive and living in you!

Memory Builder

Gather

- Poster 94-P3.
- Blue markers (thin, permanent).

Steps

1. Display memory verse poster 94-P3. Read the verse together as a class.

The shawl on the poster is a Jewish prayer shawl. The tassels and blue threads reflect God's instructions to Israel in Numbers 15:38 and 39. The horn is a shofar, a Jewish musical instrument.

2. Students use blue permanent markers to write on the poster some of the commands God has given them (e.g., be kind; honor your parents; be generous).
3. Discuss remembering to obey God.

ASK: How does God help us remember to obey Him? *He gave us the Holy Spirit to help us recall His Word and obey Him.*

The Holy Spirit will prompt us when we are about to do something sinful. He will remind us that we belong to God and that obeying Him is always the best choice to make. God wants us to listen to the Holy Spirit's promptings and do what is right.

4. Students spend a few minutes practicing the verse.

Session Application

Gather

- Student book page 3.
- White and blue yarn.
- Scissors.

Steps

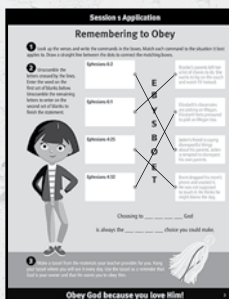
1. Before class, cut the white yarn into eight-inch lengths (11 per student). Cut the blue yarn into eight-inch lengths (1 per student).
2. Distribute a copy of student book page 3 to each student. Students complete sections 1 and 2. The answers to section 1 are indicated in the margin. The completed sentence for section two is as follows: Choosing to OBEY God is always the BEST choice you could make.



94-P3 NKJV



94-P3 ESV



Student book page 3



Teacher Tip

Consider locating a video from the Internet that gives directions on how to make a tassel. There are several available. Adjust your supplies accordingly to match the video. Also consider getting nicer supplies like cotton string for the tassel and embroidery floss for tying around the top of the tassel.

3. Give each student eleven lengths of white yarn and one length of blue yarn. Have them complete the following directions for making a tassel (section 3).
 - Lay one length of white yarn on the table.
 - Bundle nine lengths of white yarn with the single blue length of yarn and lay the bundle perpendicularly across the middle of the single length of white yarn.
 - Tie the bundle of white yarn together with the single length of white yarn.
 - Grab the two ends of the yarn that you used to tie up the bundle. Hold them together in one hand while gathering both ends of the bundle in the other hand. Hold the bundle tight while pulling up on the two ends of the yarn.
 - While holding the bundle in your fist, have a friend tie the remaining white length of yarn around the bundle about a half inch from the top of the bundle. Have your friend then wrap both ends of the yarn around the top of the bundle a few more times before tying the ends together in a knot and then trimming them back.
4. Challenge the students to hang their tassels somewhere in their homes as a reminder that they belong to God and that He wants them to obey Him.
5. Thank God for the privilege of belonging to Him. Pray the students would be faithful to obey Him in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Session Takeaways

PERSONAL FOCUS

Before dismissing the students, draw their attention to the My Time in God's Word activity on page 4 of their student books. Instruct them to complete the activity at home as a guide for interacting with God's Word in the coming week. The activity will encourage them to know God's Word better.

PARENT CONNECT

Distribute the Strong Kids at Home sheet for lesson 1. Point out the Measuring Growth section on the back of the take-home paper. This is an opportunity for the students' parents to get a snapshot of the lesson and to consider what applying the lesson should look like in their child's life.



Student book page 4



Quarter Overview



Take-home paper week 1

Plan to give the Quarter Overview page included at the front of the Strong Kids at Home sheets to a parent of each student in your class. This page informs the parents of what their students are learning and guides the parents to have meaningful spiritual interaction with their children. For your convenience, the summary page is also available to download. Feel free to deliver it to your students' parents electronically.

If you have not ordered the Strong Kids at Home sheets for this quarter, we encourage you to do so yet. They provide a valuable connection between your classroom and the home.