

*Everyday Life In Bible Times*

*Working with Animals:  
Hunting, Fishing, Shepherding*

**Introduction:**

In this series of lessons, we will look at the way the people worked and the way they lived in the Bible, so we can better understand what the Bible means.

**HUNTING**

Read Genesis 27:1-5

1. Who was the famous hunter of the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_

2. How did he hunt? \_\_\_\_\_

Read 1 Samuel 17:33-49

3. David, a shepherd, killed what kind of animals? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why? \_\_\_\_\_

5. David used what kind of weapon? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Proverbs 7:22-23

6. What are the names of other hunting weapons? \_\_\_\_\_

**FISHING**

Read Matthew 4:18-22

7. Who are the five fishermen named here? \_\_\_\_\_

8. They caught fish how? \_\_\_\_\_

9. They caught fish where? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Jesus asked four of the fishermen to change their jobs to do what?

Read Matthew 13:47-50

11. Jesus said fishing with a net is the same as what spiritual truth?

**CARING FOR SHEEP**

Read Psalm 23

12. Who wrote this Psalm? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Who is the shepherd? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Who are the sheep? \_\_\_\_\_

15. Sheep eat where? \_\_\_\_\_

16. Sheep drink where? \_\_\_\_\_

17. What protects the sheep? (v.4) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Read Isaiah 53:6-7

18. We do something the same as sheep... what? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

19. Jesus did something the same as sheep... what? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Read John 10:7-18

20. Jesus says that He is our Good Shepherd. Each of these verses explains what Jesus does for us:

Verse 9 \_\_\_\_\_

Verse 11 \_\_\_\_\_

Verse 14 \_\_\_\_\_

Verse 16 \_\_\_\_\_

## *Everyday Life In Bible Times*

### *Lesson One*

**Working with Animals:  
Hunting, Fishing, Shepherding**

*Everyday Life In Bible Times*  
*Farming*

**TWO SEASONS in Bible lands:**

Read Genesis 8:22 (see also Song of Solomon 2:11)

1. The two seasons of every year are:

winter: \_\_\_\_\_ season (October - April)

summer: \_\_\_\_\_ season (May - Sept)

✓ The Bible often uses “rain” as a symbol of God’s love and blessing (Matthew 5:45).

**WORKING THE SOIL**

Read Isaiah 28:24

2. Two tools for working the soil: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Season for working the soil: \_\_\_\_\_

✓ The Bible often uses “plowing” as a symbol of our working for God (Luke 9:62).

**PLANTING**

Read Isaiah 28:25

4. What kinds of seed did farmers plant? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. How did farmers plant the seed? \_\_\_\_\_

✓ The Bible often uses “planting” as a symbol of telling people the Good News about Jesus (Luke 8:4-15).

**HARVESTING**

6. The words “harvest” and “reap” means: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. The time of harvest:  
Barley \_\_\_\_\_ Wheat \_\_\_\_\_

Read Mark 4:26-29

8. The farmer cut the grain with what tool? \_\_\_\_\_

✓ The Bible uses “harvesting/reaping” as a symbol meaning:  
(1) people coming to faith in Jesus (Matthew 9:37-38)  
(2) the end of the world (Matthew 13:24-30)  
(3) the consequences of our action (Galatians 6:7-8)

**THRESHING**

Read Isaiah 28:27-28

**Purpose:** Get the seed head off the straw, and get the chaff (husks) off of the seed.

**Place:** Threshing floor; flat, hard ground (rock is best).

**Methods:** Spread grain over the threshing floor, then...

- Cows or donkeys walk on grain, or

- Hit the grain with a wood paddle on a stick (flail),
  - Cows or donkeys pull a wagon with many wheels over the grain.
  - Cows pull a threshing sled over grain.
- ✓ The Bible uses “threshing” as a symbol of suffering, and God’s judgement & punishment (Isaiah 21:10; Jeremiah 51:33).

## **WINNOWER**

- Read Matthew 3:12

**Purpose:** Separate grain seeds from the chaff (straw and husks).

**Place:** Threshing floor.

**Method:** Throw the grain up in the air. The wind blows away chaff, but the heavy grain seeds drop back to the threshing floor.

- Read Psalm 1:4

- ✓ The Bible uses “winnowing” as a symbol of God’s judgement. (Matthew 3:12).

## **SIFTING**

- Read Amos 9:9

**Purpose:** Clean dirt and chaff from wheat seeds.

**Tool:** Sieve -- a wood box with a cloth screen at the bottom, or a metal bowl with holes.

- ✓ The Bible uses “sifting” as a symbol of testing to see who is a true believer and who is false. (Luke 22:31).

# *Everyday Life In Bible Times*

## *Lesson Two*

### Farming

*Everyday Life In Bible Times*  
*Growing Fruit*

**GRAPE VINES**

Read Matthew 21:33

1. List some of the things in a vineyard: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read Matthew 21:33-41.

2. The owner of the vineyard means who? \_\_\_\_\_

3. The people renting the vineyard mean who? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. The son means who? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Joel 3:13

5. How did people in Bible lands get the juice out of the grapes?  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. The last line of this verse means what? (Hint: see verse 12.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read Amos 9:13-14

7. People in used the grape juice to make what? \_\_\_\_\_

8. These verses mean what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read Ephesians 5:18

9. We should not do what? \_\_\_\_\_

10. We should do what? \_\_\_\_\_

**OLIVE TREES**

Read Deuteronomy 24:20-22

11. People got the ripe olives off the trees how? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. God told the people to leave some olives on the tree and to leave some grapes on the vine. Why?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read Leviticus 24:2

13. People made olive oil how? \_\_\_\_\_

14. People used the olive oil for what? \_\_\_\_\_

15. People used olive oil in other ways:

(a) Exodus 30:30-31 \_\_\_\_\_

(b) 1 Kings 1:39 \_\_\_\_\_

(c) 1 Kings 17:15 \_\_\_\_\_

(d) Luke 10:33-34 \_\_\_\_\_

**OTHER FRUIT**

Read Genesis 43:11

16. This verse names what fruit and plant products?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read Numbers 13:23

17. This verse names what kind of fruit? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Read Galatians 5:22-23

18. What kind of “fruit” is important for Christian people?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read John 15:1-6

19. How do we get this “fruit”?

\_\_\_\_\_

*Everyday Life In Bible Times*

*Lesson Three*

Growing Fruit

*Everyday Life In Bible Times*  
*Food and Drink*

**INTRODUCTION**

Read Deuteronomy 8:7-14

1. Where did the people get *water* to drink (verse 7)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What kind of *grain* did the people of Israel grow for bread (verse 8)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What kind of *fruit* did they grow for food? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What kind of animals did they have for *meat* (verse 13)?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**BREAD**

- ✓ How did people in Bible times make wheat and barley bread? What were the steps?
- ✓ The mill: How they made the mill. How they used it to grind the wheat to make flour.
- ✓ The bread dough
- Read Luke 13:21

5. What was the important ingredient in bread dough?  
\_\_\_\_\_

✓ Ovens for baking bread

**MEAT**

- ✓ In addition to cows, sheep, and goats, the Bible tells about other animals Israelites used for meat.
6. What foods are listed in Luke 11:11-12? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  7. What kinds of *birds* were used for meat?
    - (a) Matthew 10:29 \_\_\_\_\_
    - (b) Matthew 23:37 \_\_\_\_\_
    - (c) Luke 2:23-24 \_\_\_\_\_

✓ God did **not** permitted Israelites to eat some animals. They are listed in Leviticus 11.

**MILK**

7. What foods are listed in Genesis 18:8? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. What foods are listed in 1 Samuel 17:17-18? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Read 1 Peter 2:2.

9. Milk is like what? \_\_\_\_\_

### **OTHER FOODS**

✓ *The Bible lists other foods: beans, lentils, onions, cucumbers, spices, honey, and more. The people often cooked these with their meat in a stew. They used a piece of bread to scoop up the stew and eat it.*

Read Genesis 25:29-34

10. What price did Esau pay for a pot of bean (lentil) stew?

\_\_\_\_\_

Read John 13:26

11. Who dipped his bread in the stew? \_\_\_\_\_

12. He gave the bread to a friend. Who? \_\_\_\_\_

### **IMPORTANT TEACHING ABOUT FOOD**

Psalm 104:27-28 \_\_\_\_\_

2 Thessalonians 3:10 \_\_\_\_\_

## *Everyday Life In Bible Times*

### *Lesson Four*

### Food and Drink



*Everyday Life In Bible Times*  
*Houses*

Read Genesis 18:1

1. Abraham had what kind of home? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read Mark 2:2-4

2. The men carried their friend to Jesus how? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. The house had what kind of roof? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. How did the men get up on the roof? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read 2 Kings 4:9-11

5. A man and woman made what on their roof? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read Mark 14:12-16

7. Jesus used a large upstairs room for what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read Ephesians 2:20-22 and 1 Peter 2:5-7

8. These verses talk about stones of a walls in what kind of building? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. God used who to made the foundation of the building? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. The cornerstone is who? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. The stones in the walls of building are who? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Everyday Life In Bible Times*

*Lesson Five*

Houses

***Everyday Life In Bible Times***  
***Work at Home and in a Shop***

Read Exodus 5:10-11

1. As slaves in Egypt, the Israelites made what? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Exodus 35:32-35

2. Two men (Bezalel and Oholiab) had skills in what kind of work?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read Exodus 36:8

3. These two men and their helpers made what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read Jeremiah 18:1-4

4. God told Jeremiah to visit where? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Jeremiah 18:5-6 and Isaiah 64:8

5. The potter is the same as who? \_\_\_\_\_

6. The clay is the same as who? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Matthew 13:55 and Mark 6:3

7. Joseph and Jesus did what kind of work? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Acts 9:36-43

8. What was Tabitha's work? (see verse 39) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. What was Simon's work? (see verse 43) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Who stayed at Simon's house? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Acts 16:14-15

11. What was Lydia's work? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Who stayed at Lydia's house? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Acts 18:1-3

13. What was Paul's work to earn money? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

14. Who worked with Paul in the same business? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Read Acts 19:24-26.

15. What was Demetrius' work? \_\_\_\_\_

16. Demetrius and his friends earned a lot of money making what?

\_\_\_\_\_

17 Demetrius was against Paul. Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Read 2 Thessalonians 3:10.

18. *Why* must we work? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Read Proverbs 13:4 .

19. *How* must we work? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## *Everyday Life In Bible Times*

### *Lesson Six*

#### Work at Home and in a Shop

*Everyday Life In Bible Times*  
*Business, Art, and Medicine*

**BUSINESS**

*Real Estate*

Read Genesis 23. This describes a contract to buy land.

1. Who bought (buy) the land? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Why did he buy the land? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. How much did he pay (verse 16)? \_\_\_\_\_

4. How much did he buy (verse 17)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*International Trade (import & export)*

Read Genesis 37:25-28

5. The Ishmaelite traders came from what country?  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. The Ishmaelite traders had what to sell? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. The traders were going to where? \_\_\_\_\_

8. What did the traders buy from Judah and his brothers?  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. What price did the Ishmaelites pay? \_\_\_\_\_

**ART** (*Sculpture*)

Jews in Old Testament times made sculptures and statues for the Tabernacle and Temple.

10. The Jews in the OT made what kind of statues?

(a) Exodus 37:8-9 \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Exodus 37:17-19 \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Numbers 21:4-9 \_\_\_\_\_

(d) 1 Kings 6:29 \_\_\_\_\_

(e) 2 Chronicles 4:4 \_\_\_\_\_

Read Exodus 20:4-5

11. God told the Jews to not make what kind of statues?  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. God told the Jews they must not do what with their statues?  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. Israel broke that law. They worship what idols?

(a) Exodus 32:4\_\_\_\_\_

(b) 1 Kings 12:28-30\_\_\_\_\_

(c) 1 Kings 16:30-33\_\_\_\_\_

(d) 2 Kings 18:4\_\_\_\_\_

Read 2 Chronicles 36:14-21 800 years God warned the people to stop worshipping idols, and stop following false gods.

14. God punished the people by sending them to live a slaves, where?

\_\_\_\_\_

15 For how long?\_\_\_\_\_

### **MEDICINE**

Read Luke 10:29-37

16. How did the Good Samaritan medically help the injured man?

\_\_\_\_\_

Read Colossians 4:14

17. A doctor wrote part of the Bible. What was the doctor's name?

\_\_\_\_\_

## *Everyday Life In Bible Times*

### *Lesson Seven*

### **Business, Art, and Medicine**

*Everyday Life In Bible Times*  
*Family*

**MARRIAGE**

Read Matthew 1:18-19

1. What was Joseph's problem? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What did Joseph plan to do about his problem? \_\_\_\_\_

Read John 2:1-10

3. Who went to the wedding in Cana? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What was the problem at the wedding? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Jesus helped them how? \_\_\_\_\_

✓ *The Bible often uses the picture of engagement, wedding, and marriage to describe the way God feels about us. At home you can study more in these verses:*

*Isaiah 62:4-5*

*Matthew 22:1-14*

*Jeremiah 3*

*Matthew 25:1-13*

*Hosea 2:16, 19-20*

*Ephesians 5:25-33*

*Revelation 21:2, 9*

**CHILDREN**

Read Luke 2:21-24

6. What happened to Jesus one week after He was born?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. One month later, Joseph and Mary took Jesus to the temple. Why?

\_\_\_\_\_

Read Ephesians 6:1-4

8. Children must do what? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Fathers must do what? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Deuteronomy 6:4-7

10. Parents must teach their children what? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

11. Parents must teach their children when? \_\_\_\_\_

...and where? \_\_\_\_\_

**OLD AGE**

Read Leviticus 19:32 and Proverbs 23:22-25

12. What is the Bible's attitude about old people? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Read 1 Timothy 5:3-4

13. Who is responsible for caring for the old people? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## **DEATH**

Read Genesis 23:19

14. Abraham buried Sarah's body where? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Genesis 49:29-33 (and 50:12-13)

15. Later, other bodies were buried in the same cave.  
Who?

\_\_\_\_\_

Read Matthew 27:57-61 and John 19:38-41

16. Joseph buried Jesus' body, how? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

17. Three days later, what happened to Jesus' body? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Read John 11:23-27

18. Jesus promised what will happen for all people that  
believe in Him?

\_\_\_\_\_

✓ *For more study at home: 1 Corinthians 15*

# *Everyday Life In Bible Times*

## *Lesson Eight*

### Family