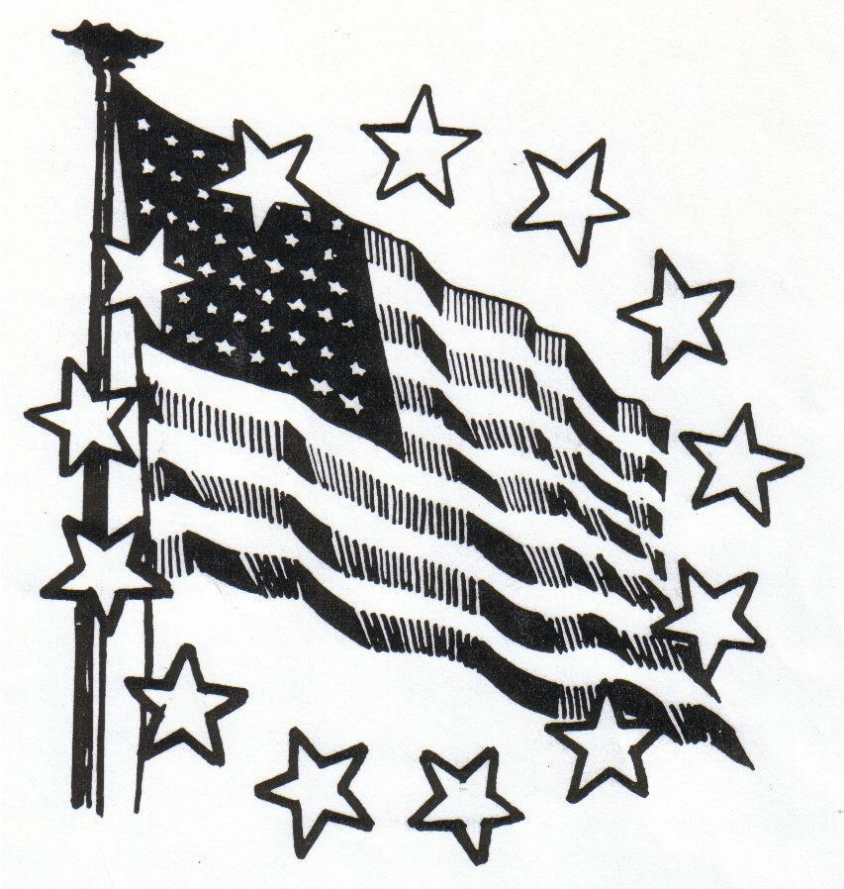
I Love America 1700s

September Lessons



Parent / Teacher Manual

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I Love America
1700s
SEPTEMBER LESSONS

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By
Julianne Kimber
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Dear Parents and Teachers,

Welcome to this I Love America series for young people ages 7 – 11, called "I Love America -- The 1700s!"

Included with this package are 9 teacher's manuals and 9 student activity packets, designed for use during the months of September through May. Most of the lessons in this series are intended for a classroom setting, however the material can be adjusted to fit your own particular circumstances.

The lessons in this series are based on a 3-day-a-week teaching schedule. Each manual contains 12 lessons for the month.

You will notice that in this manual there are "orientation" lessons that precede the September I Love America lessons. These orientation lessons are designed to prepare the students for the year's teachings and should be reinforced throughout the year. They are:

- Teaching good manners, and
- Teaching how to use the scriptures

It is the opinion of this author that the principles of good manners as well as the use of the scriptures are values which are no longer emphasized in our culture today. Past generations enjoyed discipline and Bible-reading as part of their normal curriculum. Today's almost out-of-control society is a result of abandoning those basic tenets of good behavior and religious teachings.

The lessons on "How to Use the Scriptures" should be taught the first hour of each day for two weeks (six lessons). The "Manners" lessons should be taught the last hour of class for the same two weeks (six lessons). All these lessons should be reinforced during the year.

You will note that there are numerous references to LDS material. Those of other faiths need not emphasize this portion of the lessons, of course. An Appendix has additional lesson material specifically for LDS students.

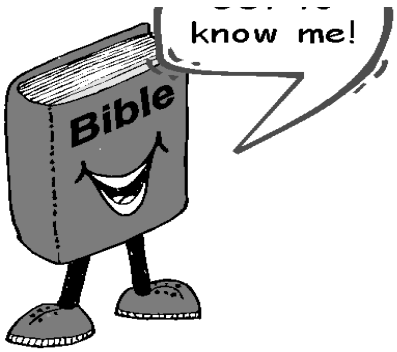
We hope that you will enjoy teaching your students this material about our American Heritage in this "I Love America—the 1700s" program!

Sincerely,



Julianne Kimber, *Author*

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Orientation Lessons – Weeks 1 and 2

How to Use the Bible

1. Why we should Learn to use the Scriptures *
2. How to Use and Research the Old Testament
3. How to Use and Research the New Testament
4. How to use the Topical Guide
5. How to use the Bible Dictionary
6. Bible Maps and Pictures

* (See Appendix for lessons on learning about the Latter-day Saint Scriptures)



Lesson #1
WHY WE SHOULD LEARN TO USE THE SCRIPTURES

NOTE: These lessons can be taught after the daily devotional – song, prayer, scripture pledge.

OBJECTIVE: To help the students learn how to get the most out of their scriptures as they do research projects and discover truths on various subjects, spiritual and secular.

ADVANCE PREPARATION: Remind the students to bring his or her Bible to class every day. You may also wish to prepare a poster with a short scripture from the Old Testament and later the New Testament to display each week. If there is time in class, have the students memorize the scripture, along with the reference. You will also need a picture or model of Jewish scrolls.

INTRODUCTION: Many young students have not had enough exposure to the scriptures, nor have they had much experience with them, to know how to use them for research, or to find answers to their spiritual questions. They may have been given new scripture sets as a gift, but now they need to know how to find references in the books, chapters and verses. This is especially true in an educational setting where religion is included in different subjects.

The information in these lessons is a suggested procedure for teaching students how their scriptures can be useful in their school work as well as in their lives.

Parents and teachers should be cautious to not rush through this suggested outline. The information will take all six days to present and absorb. When the students have an understanding of how to use the scriptures, their learning skills will excel, because they will be able to apply God's knowledge to their own understanding.

LESSON: Tell the students to get out their Bibles. Have them hold it in their hands. Tell them to hold it next to their hearts. Express your own love for the Bible and the Word of God that guides you in your life. Then have them put their Bibles on the table in front of them.

Explain to the class that it is a miracle that we have the Bible today. It has been printed and reprinted for thousands of years! No other book has survived that long.

Ask: How did we get the Bible? Where did it come from in the first place? (Allow the students to respond to this question.)

Tell the students that you are going to need some help in order for them understand the miracle of the Bible. (Choose 6 boys to come to the front of the class. Put the name cards around their necks. As you talk about each man, have that student stand up and step forward.)

Have the students take notes and write down the names of each person as you talk about him. They will need to know these names for an activity later on.
When the 6 boys are seated at their places in front of the class, begin the story:

#1. A Jewish scholar

Long ago, at the time of Jesus, the Jews would meet in their synagogues and read the writings of Moses and the prophets. (Have the "Jewish" boy stand.) The writings were sacred records to them. They would put a shawl over their head as they read these sacred writings. Every synagogue had a copy of these writings. They were kept tightly rolled up in scrolls. (Show a picture or model of Jewish scrolls.)

Tell the students that they must always remember that it is because of the Jews that we have so many of the records of the prophets.

Ask: Have you heard of Isaiah? Daniel? Esther? And Job? What do you remember about any of them? These writings were all carefully kept by the Jewish people for hundreds of years.

("Jewish" student sits down.)

After Jesus died on the cross, many of the scriptures became lost and scattered, because the Jews were persecuted and some scrolls were destroyed. But many of the scrolls and records were hidden to keep them safe by both the Jews and later the Christians.

#2. Constantine

After Jesus died, 300 years went by. A man came along by the name of Constantine (have the student stand, and have the class repeat the name). Constantine became ruler of an ancient religion called the Roman Catholic Church. This Christian church had been formed not many years after Jesus died. So now Constantine was the ruler. He was concerned about the many different records of scripture that were out there. He asked the people about their holy scriptures. Their scriptures were all organized differently, and in different languages too! So Constantine appointed a group of smart, brilliant men to work together and decide what books were going to be used for an official Bible for the Church to use. They collected many records and put them together into a collection that is almost the same as the Bible we now have.

#3. John Wycliffe

Many, many years passed. In fact, a thousand years passed! The Bible was used by the Popes of the Catholic Church, who appointed leaders called bishops and cardinals, and they read to the people the words from the Bible in Latin and Greek. Not many people could read or understand the languages of the old Bibles. And because they were written in Greek and Latin, only the leaders of the Church could read them.

In the year 1330, a man by the name of John Wycliffe was born (have student stand forward – and have the class repeat his name). Wycliffe grew up to be a professor at the University of Oxford. He taught the Bible to his students there.

But the Greek and Latin scriptures were difficult to read and understand.

Wycliffe decided to copy the whole Bible and change it into the Old English language. He penned it all out by hand. It was very difficult and time-consuming, but Wycliffe said, "it helpeth Christian men to study the Gospel in that tongue in which they know best Christ's sentence."

Many copies of Wycliffe's Bible were made. Today about 250 of them have survived. They are very valuable! The copies of his Bible are so valuable, in fact, that at one auction recently, one of those copies cost almost two million dollars! But because of John Wycliffe, the Bible as we know it was one step closer to being read by all.

#4. William Tyndale

Another hundred years passed by. Things were changing all over the world! Columbus was sailing his vessels to the New World. People were becoming unhappy with the kings in Europe, who were forcing people to believe in only one religion. They started to rebel. Different religions began to form.

It was during this time that a man by the name of William Tyndale was born. (Have the student stand and come forward. Class repeats his name.) William Tyndale was a Catholic priest. He thought people everywhere should have the words of Christ and know what was in the New Testament. He started translating this part of the Bible into English too. But the king of England was forcing people to believe his religion, and the king's religion (Church of England) did not allow the Bible to be read by the common people. Tyndale's translations outraged the king. He sent his powerful authorities to arrest Tyndale. Tyndale fled for his life! He escaped to Europe where he published the New Testament in English, and it spread like wildfire. He shipped hundreds of his translated books back to England. Before long, many English families had parts of Tyndale's new translations. They met in secret to read the beautiful words.
One day the king's soldiers caught up with William Tyndale. In the year 1536 Tyndale was burned at the Stake. He became a martyr for the Word of God. Today, it is believed that 90% of our New Testament was from William Tyndale's translations.

#5. Martin Luther

It was about this time, during the 1500s, that another man stood up for the Bible and freedom of religion. His name was Martin Luther. (Have the student stand; class repeat his name – NOT Martin Luther King.) Martin Luther lived about the same time as Tyndale, (over 500 years ago) but he was a German. He saw many things in the Roman Catholic Church that he did not agree with, and fought in favor of religious freedom for all people – to believe the way they wished without being punished. At this time authorities were torturing and killing people who were caught having secret church meetings.

Martin Luther felt strongly that all the German people should have the Bible. So he published the New Testament first, and the Old Testament a few years later. People were beginning to find joy in the Word of God! They began to break away from the main and form their own religions. They "protested" the king's Church, and became "protestants." Martin Luther joined them. His followers later formed the Lutheran Church.

#6. King James the First

While all this was going on in Europe, people were thinking about coming to America to settle the colonies. They would have religious freedom in the New World! One group of people would soon sail over and settle the famous village of Jamestown where Pocahontas saved the lives of the settlers. In a few more years, (1620) the Mayflower would set sail for the New

World. The Pilgrims came for freedom of religion and brought their new Bibles. How did they get them? Let's go back a few years.

The 1600s is the time when King James the First ruled England. (Have the student stand and come forward. Class repeats "King Kames the First.") In 1604, the king gathered a group of Bishops together. He wanted them to review and correct ALL the translations that had been done before. It was a tremendous task indeed! They set to work, and it took these devoted men seven years of painstaking research and writing to complete it. After that, many copies were printed for all to read.

And that is the Bible that we have today – the King James Version of the Bible! (Hold it up.) This is the miracle that you have in front of you. Just think of all the thousands of years it took for you to have this wonderful book of scripture! Think of the people who spent their lives and lost their lives so that we could have it. The Bible is really a miracle. (Boys return to their desks.)

Tell the class that tomorrow you will be reading part of what King James' bishops wrote to the king that is still part of the Bible.

(Note: If the subject comes up, you may wish to explain that there have been even more translations of the Bible. There are an estimated 224 translations or revisions of the original King James Version throughout the world! See the internet for more details if desired.)

ACTIVITY: Play "Hangman" by have the class guess each of the six different men you talked about today. When they guess the letter blanks, and figure out which name it is, ask them by raise of hand to share what they remember about that man. (Do them out of order.)