

# Syllabus for *Light* 2007–2008

*Scripture Union has created this Bible-based syllabus with the help of Bible scholars, education experts, and children's and youth leaders.*

## Syllabus and cycle

The *Light* syllabus is on a rolling cycle. If group members keep on learning with *Light* for five years, they will gain a good grasp of all the key events and teachings of the Bible. This is a syllabus outline for the last two issues of *Light* which concludes this cycle. You can download the whole syllabus in detail at [www.scriptureunion.org.uk/light](http://www.scriptureunion.org.uk/light).

## Aim of the syllabus

*Light* is very clearly Bible-focused. It enables children, young people and adults to develop a personal relationship with Christ as well as helping them to understand the Bible and the Christian faith, and to live for God as light in a dark world.

It also addresses contemporary issues from a strong biblical perspective so young people can see the Bible's relevance in today's world. It also enables churches of all denominations and traditions to integrate the programme with teaching of their own emphases, practices, history and mission.

## Selection of Bible passages

The Bible passages offer a balanced view of who God is, what he is like, what he has done, is doing and will do. Everyone will be able to follow the story of salvation that runs through the Bible with its focus clearly on Jesus.

At the beginning of each cycle *Light* begins with Genesis and starts going through the Old Testament. The New Testament, running concurrently, follows the church year, with Advent, Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost sessions coming at the appropriate times. Between Pentecost and October there are stories about the young church, and various gospel series are interspersed throughout the year. Each quarter has a balance of Old and New Testament passages.

Each year *Light* offers the *All-Age Service Annual* which includes all-age services for Harvest, Christmas, Mothering Sunday and Good Friday. Even though these events are not celebrated at the same time around the world, churches can use the services whenever appropriate.

## Series

Each series lasts between two and five weeks. Each series explores a big theme about God, so leaders are able to drop some sessions from a series if they need

to, and group members will still grasp the Bible's message. Scripture Union also recognises that attendance at groups or services may be sporadic, so this approach also helps with this kind of situation.

## Syllabus for different age groups

*Splash!* and *Xstream* follow the core *Light* syllabus.

Children aged 5 and under usually follow the same syllabus, but diverge from it occasionally to use a Bible passage more appropriate to the age group or when they need to spend more time on a particular subject, such as Christmas.

The syllabus for *theGRID* (11s to 14s) relates to the core *Light* syllabus, but has a strong link with young people's issues.

To help you plan ahead, a syllabus summary appears overleaf. A detailed syllabus for the last two issues of this cycle (centre spread) shows the similarities and variations between the age groups.

## *Light* for the Lectionary

*Light for the Lectionary* also provides all-age worship material for churches using the Revised Common (or Common Worship) Lectionary. This is a quarterly publication covering Sunday services and other special days.

## Bible versions

*Bubbles*, *Splash!*, *Xstream* and *theGRID* work with any Bible version. However, the writers have in mind the Contemporary English Version (CEV) and Good News Bible (GNB) as they write for *Bubbles*, *Splash!* and *Xstream*, the New Century Version (*Youth Bible*) for *theGRID*, and Today's New International Version (TNIV) for the *All-Age Service Annual*. *Bubbles* recommends using *The Big Bible Storybook* (published by SU) which has been created especially for use with *Bubbles*.

## Further copies

For further copies of this syllabus, contact us at:

Scripture Union Mail Order, PO Box 5148, Milton Keynes MLO, MK2 2YX

Telephone: 0845 07 06 006 (local rate)

Fax: 01908 856020

Email: [mailorder@scriptureunion.org.uk](mailto:mailorder@scriptureunion.org.uk)

# Year 4 October 2007 – March 2008

## Bubbles (5s and under)

October–December 2007

Session and date	Series title and description	Core Bible passage(s) and session title	Additional Bible passage(s)
1 October 7	<b>Stories Jesus told</b> Find out about the amazing love of God, through wonderful stories of Jesus	<b>Luke 14:15-24</b> The great feast	Matthew 22:1-10
2 October 14		<b>Luke 15:1-7</b> The lost sheep	Matthew 18:12-14
3 October 21		<b>Luke 15:8-10</b> The lost coin	
4 October 28		<b>Luke 15:11-24</b> The lost son	
5 November 4	<b>Jeremiah</b> God's messenger, Jeremiah speaks out faithfully for God, in difficult times	<b>Jeremiah 18:1-12</b> Jeremiah and the potter	2 Kings 22-25; 2 Chronicles 34-36
6 November 11		<b>Jeremiah 31:1-6; 32:1-15</b> Jeremiah buys a field	
7 November 18		<b>Jeremiah 36</b> Jeremiah writes God's words	
8 November 25		<b>Jeremiah 38:1-13</b> Jeremiah in the well	
9 December 2	<b>Good news for everyone</b> Hear the good news of Christmas and join in celebrating the birth of Jesus	<b>Luke 1:26-38</b> Good news for Mary	
10 December 9		<b>Matthew 1:18-25</b> Good news for Joseph	
11 December 16		<b>Luke 2:1-20</b> Good news for the shepherds	
12 December 23		<b>Matthew 2:1-15</b> Good news for the wise men	
13 December 31		<b>Revelation 22:12-21</b> Good news for ever	

## January–March 2008

Session and date	Series title and description	Core Bible passage(s) and session title	Core Bible passage(s) and session title
1 January 6	<b>Daniel</b> The example of Daniel reassures us that God will help us to know what to do.	<b>Daniel 1</b> Daniel's new life	
2 January 13		<b>Daniel 6</b> Daniel prays to God	
3 January 20	<b>Esther</b> The story of Esther helps us know that God will keep us safe.	<b>Esther 1-4</b> Beautiful Esther	
4 January 27		<b>Esther 5-10</b> Esther saves God's people	
5 February 3	<b>Nehemiah</b> Nehemiah finds that God is always with him, to help and guide.	<b>Nehemiah 1,2</b> Nehemiah builds for God	
6 February 10		<b>Nehemiah 6:15-16; 12:27-43</b> Nehemiah leads the way	Psalms 126
7 February 17	<b>Jesus cares</b> The way in which Jesus responds to people, gives us the assurance that he cares for everyone.	<b>Luke 7:11-17</b> Jesus helps a woman	
8 February 24		<b>Luke 18:15-17</b> Jesus welcomes children	
9 March 2		<b>Luke 18:18-30</b> Jesus meets a rich man	
10 March 9		<b>Luke 19:1-10</b> Jesus makes a friend	
11 March 16 Palm Sunday	<b>It's Easter!</b> Hear and discover what Easter is really all about.	<b>Luke 19:28-40; 22:7-23</b> Easter is coming	
12 March 23 Easter		<b>Luke 24:1-35</b> Easter is here	
13 March 30		<b>Luke 24:36-49</b> Easter evening	

## Splash! (5-8s), Xstream (8-11s)

October–December 2007

Session and date	Series title and description	Core Bible passage(s)	Session title and description	Additional all-age Bible passage(s)
1 October 7	<b>Lost and found</b> God's love for, and desire to rescue his people is illustrated by Jesus' stories.	<b>Luke 14:15-24</b>	<b>Invitations refused</b> Jesus uses a story about invitations to illustrate the importance of accepting him.	Matthew 22:1-10
2 October 14		<b>Luke 15:1-7</b>	<b>Lost sheep</b> Jesus justifies his association with 'sinners' by likening himself to a shepherd.	Matthew 18:12-14
3 October 21		<b>Luke 15:8-10</b>	<b>Lost coin</b> Jesus uses the story of a lost coin to explain why he spends time with 'sinners'.	
4 October 28		<b>Luke 15:11-32</b>	<b>Invitation given</b> Jesus uses a story of two brothers to challenge the Pharisees.	
5 November 4	<b>Jeremiah the prophet</b> The lordship and foreknowledge of God are explored through key experiences in the life of his prophet, Jeremiah.	<b>Jeremiah 18:1-12</b>	<b>In the potter's shop</b> God uses the work of a potter to illustrate to Jeremiah his lordship and his willingness to let his people turn back to him.	<b>Series background</b> 2 Kings 22 -25; 2 Chronicles 34 -36
6 November 11		<b>Jeremiah 31:1-6; 32:1-15</b>	<b>Buying a field</b> Jeremiah buys a field to illustrate the freedom that God will restore to his people.	
7 November 18		<b>Jeremiah 36</b>	<b>Burning a scroll</b> Jeremiah writes down God's warnings on a scroll. The king burns it, so he writes another.	
8 November 25		<b>Jeremiah 38:1-13</b>	<b>Down a well</b> Jeremiah's willingness to speak God's word causes him to be thrown down a dry well.	
9 December 2	<b>Good and faithful God</b> The goodness and faithfulness of God are explored through the lives of characters in the Christmas story.	<b>Luke 1:26-38</b>	<b>Trusting Mary</b> The angel's message to Mary is news of God faithfully keeping his promises. Mary, in turn, responds in faithful trust.	
10 December 9		<b>Matthew 1:18-25</b>	<b>Obedient Joseph</b> Though hurt and confused, Joseph faithfully obeys the angel's instruction to marry Mary.	
11 December 16		<b>Luke 2:1-20</b>	<b>The praising shepherds</b> The angel's message to the shepherds shows that God's goodness and faithfulness are for everyone.	
12 December 23		<b>Revelation 22:12-21</b>	<b>The worshipping wise men</b> A group of wise men find the young Jesus.	
13 December 31		<b>Luke 1:26 - 2:38</b>	<b>The best present</b> Verses from Revelation remind us that one day Jesus is coming back.	
<b>ALL AGE BONUS</b>	All-age nativity			<b>Matthew 1:18 - 2:12</b>

## January–March 2008

Session and date	Series title and description	Core Bible passage(s)	Session title and description	Additional all-age Bible passage(s)
1 January 6	<b>Daring Daniel</b> Daniel shows the uniqueness of God and his desire to rescue his people is illustrated in the life of Daniel.	<b>Daniel 1</b>	<b>Daniel is different</b> Out of faithfulness to God, Daniel chooses to live differently and is blessed by God.	
2 January 13		<b>Daniel 6</b>	<b>Daniel in the lions' den</b> Daniel's faithfulness to God puts him in danger, but God protects him.	
3 January 20	<b>Queen Esther</b> God's protects his people in the story of Esther.	<b>Esther 1-4</b>	<b>A challenge for Esther</b> Having been made queen, Esther finds herself in a position to help God's people.	
4 January 27		<b>Esther 5-10</b>	<b>Esther to the rescue</b> With courage and skill, Esther acts to save her people and give them cause for celebration.	
5 February 3	<b>Nehemiah the governor</b> Wall-building shows God's desire to restore his people.	<b>Nehemiah 1,2,4</b>	<b>At prayer, at work</b> Prayer and hard work combine to rebuild of the walls of Jerusalem.	
6 February 10		<b>Nehemiah 6:15-16; 12:27-43</b>	<b>Dedication and celebration</b> Nehemiah and the people recognise God's involvement in their work.	Psalms 126
7 February 17	<b>Things Jesus brings</b> The love and compassion of God are seen through Jesus' encounters with four different people.	<b>Luke 7:11-17</b>	<b>Jesus brings life</b> The pain of a grieving widow moves Jesus to restore her dead son to life.	
8 February 24		<b>Luke 8:26-39</b>	<b>Jesus brings freedom</b> Jesus acts to release a man from the demons that hold him.	
9 March 2		<b>Luke 18:18-30</b>	<b>Jesus brings challenge</b> In love and compassion Jesus challenges a man to trust in God.	
10 March 9		<b>Luke 19:1-10</b>	<b>Jesus brings salvation</b> Zacchaeus receives salvation from Jesus.	
11 March 16 Palm Sunday	<b>Jesus at Easter</b> Easter explored through the sayings of Jesus.	<b>Luke 19:28-40; 22:7-23</b>	<b>A welcome and a meal</b> Jesus is given a royal welcome in Jerusalem and shares a final meal with his disciples.	
12 March 23 Easter		<b>Luke 24:1-35</b>	<b>A walk with friends</b> The risen Jesus joins two travellers on the road to Emmaus.	
13 March 30		<b>Luke 24:36-49</b>	<b>Some work to do</b> The risen Jesus entrusts to his disciples the work of telling people about him.	

## theGRID (11-14s)

October–December 2007

Session and date	Series title and description	Core Bible passage(s)	Session title and description
1 October 7	<b>Rescue Mission Impossible?</b> A series exploring God's love and his desire to rescue people.	<b>Luke 14:15-24</b>	<b>Admit one</b> Through the parable of the banquet, we discover that Jesus' invitation is for all people.
2 October 14		<b>Luke 15:1-7</b>	<b>SOS</b> The parable of the lost sheep shows that Jesus' rescue mission is for us individually.
3 October 21		<b>Luke 15:8-10</b>	<b>Lost</b> Through the parable of the lost coin we can recognise the need to be rescued by Jesus.
4 October 28		<b>Luke 15:11-32</b>	<b>Whatever I've done?</b> Like the prodigal son we can all receive undeserved forgiveness.
5 November 4	<b>Prophet of doom</b> Jeremiah proclaims God's unpopular message.	<b>Jeremiah 18:1-12</b>	<b>Whatever</b> Grappling with the reality that some people will always reject God.
6 November 11		<b>Jeremiah 31:1-6; 32:1-15</b>	<b>Hope springs eternal</b> There is light at the end of the tunnel, however dark the tunnel may be.
7 November 18		<b>Jeremiah 36</b>	<b>I'm not listening!</b> How an out-of-sight-out-of-mind attitude changes nothing.
8 November 25		<b>Jeremiah 38:1-13</b>	<b>Well, fancy that</b> God's message is helped by unlikely means.
9 December 2	<b>Christmas time</b> Theme sessions drawn from the Christmas story	<b>Various including Luke 1:26-38</b>	<b>Angels</b> God uses angel's to deliver his message.
10 December 9		<b>Various including Matthew 1:18-25</b>	<b>Dreams</b> God uses dreams to deliver his message.
11 December 16		<b>Various including Matthew 2:1-15</b>	<b>Look at the stars</b> The only way to be sure about the future is to have faith in God.
12 December 23		<b>Luke 2:1-21</b>	<b>Jesus is born</b> God loved us and sent his son to save us.
13 December 31		<b>Revelation 22:12-21</b>	<b>Jesus will come again</b> We can look forward to Jesus' return.

## January–March 2008

Session and date	Series title and description	Core Bible passage(s)	Session title and description
1 January 6	<b>Set apart</b> How Daniel and his friends stayed holy and faithful to God in a godless society.	<b>Daniel 1</b>	<b>Just say 'no'</b> Daniel draws the line in order to stay holy as his God is holy.
2 January 13		<b>Daniel 6</b>	<b>Stick to the truth</b> Daniel refuses to abandon his worship of God.
3 January 20	<b>God the protector</b> Esther and Mordecai trusted in God's protection.	<b>Esther 1-4</b>	<b>Such a time as this</b> God is in control in Esther's life even in dangerous times.
4 January 27		<b>Esther 5-10</b>	<b>Happy ending!?</b> God rescues his people through the actions of Esther and Mordecai.
5 February 3	<b>Home again</b> God restores his people who had been in exile and helps them rebuild the city.	<b>Nehemiah 1,2,4</b>	<b>Homeward bound</b> God restores his honour through Nehemiah's dependence on him.
6 February 10		<b>Nehemiah 6:15-16; 12:27-43</b> <b>Psalms 126</b>	<b>Give it back to God</b> The people thank God for his protecting them and working in them.
7 February 17	<b>Jesus cares</b> In his words and actions, Jesus cares deeply for his people.	<b>Luke 7:11-17</b>	<b>Life</b> Jesus raises a woman's son.
8 February 24		<b>Luke 8:26-39</b>	<b>Freedom</b> Jesus frees a man from the most desperate of circumstances.
9 March 2		<b>Luke 18:18-30</b>	<b>Tough love</b> Jesus explains what it takes to enter the kingdom of God.
10 March 9		<b>Luke 19:1-10</b>	<b>Forgiveness</b> Jesus changes Zacchaeus' life.
11 March 16 Palm Sunday	<b>The greatest story ever told</b> Discover the reason why Jesus came to live on earth - God's great plan of salvation!	<b>Luke 19:28-40; 22:7-23</b>	<b>Broken for you</b> Jesus enters Jerusalem in triumph and celebrates Passover.
12 March 23 Easter		<b>Luke 24:1-35</b>	<b>'He is not here!'</b> Jesus rises, in triumph, from the dead.
13 March 30		<b>Luke 24:36-49</b>	<b>We are witnesses</b> Jesus encourages his disciples to tell others about him.

## Three-year syllabus summary

Note: These are the main Bible books used in each *Light* series; the syllabus draws on many others that are not noted here. The second cycle of the syllabus – years 2007–2010 – includes coverage of further Bible books and events.

	Year 1, 2004-2005	Year 2, 2005-2006	Year 3, 2006-2007
Quarter 1	<p>God's big story (<b>Bible overview</b>)</p> <p>Jesus' miracles (<b>Matthew</b>)</p> <p>Creation (<b>Genesis</b>)</p> <p>Jesus the Messiah (<b>Matthew, Luke</b>; adults <b>Micah</b>)</p>	<p>Jesus the healer (<b>Mark</b>; adults <b>Micah</b>)</p> <p>Not deserted (<b>Exodus, Psalms</b>)</p> <p>God's glory (<b>Exodus, Psalms, Isaiah, 1 Thessalonians, Revelation</b>)</p> <p>Jesus' birth (<b>Matthew, Romans</b>)</p>	<p>Jesus the healer (<b>Mark</b>; adults <b>Micah</b>)</p> <p>Kings and prophets (<b>1 Kings, Habakkuk</b>; adults <b>Micah, Amos</b>); Solomon (5s and under, <b>2 Chronicles, 1 Kings</b>); Elijah (5s and under, <b>1 Kings</b>)</p> <p>John the Baptist (<b>Luke</b>)</p> <p>Jesus' birth (<b>Matthew, Luke</b>)</p>
Quarter 2	<p>Fall and Noah (<b>Genesis</b>; adults <b>Romans, 1 John, Hebrews</b>)</p> <p>Prayer (<b>Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Hebrews</b>)</p> <p>Jesus, holy God (<b>Matthew</b>); sowing and growing God's way (for 5s and under, <b>Mark</b>)</p> <p>Jesus' death and resurrection Part 1 (<b>Luke</b>)</p>	<p>Joshua and Gideon (<b>Joshua, Judges</b>; adults <b>1 Corinthians</b>)</p> <p>Jesus' encounters with people (<b>Matthew, Luke</b>; adults <b>Psalms, Romans, 1 Corinthians, Hebrews</b>)</p> <p>God speaks (<b>Psalms, Ecclesiastes, Isaiah, Luke, 2 Timothy</b>)</p>	<p>Jeremiah (<b>Jeremiah</b>)</p> <p>Jesus the friend (<b>John</b>)</p> <p>Advice for living God's way (<b>James</b>); Jonah (5s and under, <b>Jonah</b>)</p> <p>Ruth (<b>Ruth</b>)</p>
Quarter 3	<p>Jesus' death and resurrection Part 2 (<b>Luke</b>)</p> <p>Abraham (<b>Genesis</b>)</p> <p>The Holy Spirit and the early church (<b>Acts</b>)</p> <p>Joseph (<b>Genesis</b>)</p>	<p>Jesus' death and resurrection (<b>Mark, Romans</b>)</p> <p>Samuel (<b>1 Samuel</b>)</p> <p>The Trinity (<b>John</b>; adults <b>Psalms</b>); meeting Jesus (5s and under, <b>Luke</b>)</p> <p>Spread of the gospel (<b>Acts</b>; adults <b>Colossians</b>)</p>	<p>Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, death and resurrection (<b>Matthew</b>)</p> <p>Daniel (<b>Daniel</b>)</p> <p>The gift of the Holy Spirit (<b>Acts, 1 Corinthians</b>); followers of Jesus (5s and under, <b>Acts, Philippians, Philemon</b>)</p> <p>Illustrated letters (<b>1 Corinthians, Ephesians, Hebrews, Philemon</b>)</p>
Quarter 4	<p>Jesus, truly God (<b>John</b>)</p> <p>Stephen, Paul and Barnabas (<b>Acts</b>; adults <b>Philippians</b>)</p> <p>Rescue from Egypt (<b>Exodus</b>)</p>	<p>Jesus' teaching (<b>Matthew</b>); what Jesus is like (5s and under, <b>Matthew, Mark, Luke</b>)</p> <p>David (<b>1 Samuel, Psalms</b>)</p> <p>God's big plan (<b>John</b>; adults <b>1 John</b>)</p>	<p>Nehemiah (<b>Nehemiah</b>)</p> <p>Following Jesus (<b>Matthew, Luke, John</b>); Peter (<b>Matthew, Mark, John</b>)</p> <p>Paul's journey to Rome (<b>Acts; 2 Corinthians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians</b>)</p>