History of the LEVELS OF BIBLICAL LEARNING®

The Levels of Biblical Learning concepts were formed from the input of many Christian educators who work with kids each week and help guide their spiritual development. The Levels of Biblical Learning statements were compiled to equip churches and families with age-appropriate language for each spiritual concept and to demonstrate how kids develop spiritually across the preschool and elementary years. Grade levels used in the Levels of Biblical Learning are equivalent to the following ages: Kindergarten (Ages 5-6), Grades 1-2 (Ages 6-8), Grades 3-4 (Ages 8-10), and Preteens (Ages 10-12).

What are the Levels of Biblical Learning®?
What are the Levels of Biblical Learning®, anyway? They are biblical concepts—truths—kids learn as they grow from infancy to the beginning of the teenage years. The concepts are organized by 10 major categories: God, Jesus, Bible, Creation, Family, Self, Church, Community and World, Holy Spirit, and Salvation. Within each of these categories are truths that kids can learn in a progressive manner. Kids first learn about these concepts at various life stages as they hear parents and church teachers talk about them (Romans 10:14,17). Hearing is only the beginning. The next step is for children to know what the biblical concepts mean as they understand and comprehend Bible truths. Knowing God’s Word includes internalizing Bible truths in both the mind and the heart (2 Timothy 3:14-15).

The Bible teaches that obedience is a third, necessary component (James 1:22). Kids who have a personal relationship with Jesus and are growing spiritually can apply Bible truths to their everyday lives. While we are not responsible for the choices children make, God may choose to use us to lay foundations for salvation and spiritual transformation. We want kids to learn about Jesus, come to know Jesus personally, and glorify God as they obey His Word. The Levels of Biblical Learning outline the biblical concepts that children need to hear, understand, and apply.
How to Use This Booklet

The following pages illustrate the 10 Levels of Biblical Learning concepts as well as the primary truths that kids learn in each concept area across his preschool and childhood years.

This is a great tool to distribute to both teachers and parents to help them better understand how to teach and guide children in their faith.

Specifically, these truths are reflected in many LifeWay Kids products, such as the Bible Studies for Life: Kids resources.

For more information about the Levels of Biblical Learning and free resources illustrating this concept, please visit lifeway.com/levelsofbiblicallearning.
Although children develop spiritually in similar ways, the rate of that development will vary. Some children may understand concepts at an earlier or later age than indicated on the chart.

Certain concepts are introduced later when that concept and content are more useful and meaningful to the child.

While God nor His attributes change, a child’s level of understanding and vocabulary does change. It is important to see that small nuances in words and slight changes in concepts are significant in the mind of a growing child. From an adult’s perspective, they may seem minor, but these small steps are important for the child’s understanding.

When teaching or developing resources for broad-age groupings of children, concepts may be combined or adapted to meet the needs of the group.

We hope you’ll find this ministry tool helpful. The Levels of Biblical Learning are another reason why you’ll find that year after year, LifeWay Kids is the choice you can trust.
GOD
God is unique—no one and nothing can be compared to Him.

JESUS
Jesus died to pay the penalty for sin.

BIBLE
The Bible tells me how to live the Christian life.

CREATION
God created the world from nothing.

FAMILY
The first responsibility of mothers and fathers to their children is to teach them about God.
God wants me to communicate with Him through praying and reading the Bible.

Being a church member involves responsibilities and privileges. Church members are called by God to do His work.

Missionaries tell people about God and Jesus in my country and in other countries.

God's Spirit has always existed.

Jesus willingly died to provide salvation. Jesus' death and resurrection make my forgiveness possible.

Other Levels of Biblical Learning provide basic concepts that lay the foundation for teaching preschoolers and kindergartners about salvation.

Kids are taught about salvation as they become aware of personal sin.
Want to see more?

These great products follow the Levels of Biblical Learning as they are developed and guide the learning of children within their products.

Check out a sample of any of these products at lifeway.com/kids.