# Contents

## Overview

**About The Great Adventure** ......................................................... 1  
Introduction ................................................................................. 1  
Overview ...................................................................................... 1  
Purpose and Approach ................................................................. 2  
What Makes The Great Adventure Different from Other Bible Study Programs? ......................................................................................... 2  
The "Big Picture" of God's Plan for Life: GET IT – LEARN IT – LIVE IT! ......................................................................................... 2  
GET IT – with the *Bible Timeline* learning system ......................... 2  
Understanding *The Bible Timeline* Chart ....................................... 3  
An Introduction to *The Bible Timeline* .......................................... 4  
LEARN IT – with *The Great Adventure* Bible Study program .......... 4  
Study Materials ............................................................................. 4  
Four Steps to Success ...................................................................... 4  
Bible Studies in *The Great Adventure* Series ................................. 5  
LIVE IT – with the help of other resources from *The Great Adventure* ......................................................................................... 7  
From Head to Heart: Moving from Study to Reading and Meditation ......................................................................................... 8

## Getting Started

**Planning and Running A Great Adventure Bible Study** ................. 9  
Presenting *The Great Adventure* to Your Pastor, Parish Leaders, or DRE.... 9  
Costs and Funding Options ............................................................. 10  
Planning Your Study ...................................................................... 11  
Where Do I Begin? ......................................................................... 12  

*Bible Timeline* Program Comparison: “Getting the Big Picture” .......... 13  

Schedule (or Promote Attendance at) a Great Adventure Seminar if: ........ 13
Start with *A Quick Journey Through the Bible* (eight-week study) if: .......................... 14
Start with *The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation* (24-week study) if: ............... 14
Organizing Your Session Agendas ................................................................. 14
Sample Agendas ............................................................................................ 14
Week One: Leading and Facilitating the Orientation Meeting ......................... 14
Week Two through End of Study: Leading and Facilitating the Study Sessions ... 15
Why Four Steps, Done in Order = Success ................................................... 16
1. Home preparation ................................................................. 16
2. Small group discussion ............................................................. 16
3. DVD Lecture .............................................................................. 16
4. Review of Responses ............................................................... 16
Wrap-Up Week (Optional): Planning a Closing Session .................................. 17
Planning for the Future .............................................................................. 17
Sample Five-Year Plan .............................................................................. 18
Promoting Your Study ............................................................................... 18
Sample Promotional Schedule .................................................................. 19
Preparing Facilitators: The Facilitator Orientation and Training Meeting ......... 21
Materials needed ....................................................................................... 21
Agenda ....................................................................................................... 21

**Small Group Facilitation Guide**

**Understanding the Parts of the Lesson: How to Do the Home Study Questions** ............................................ 23
Preparing to Facilitate .............................................................................. 24
Facilitating the Lesson in a Small Group .................................................... 24
Staying on Time and on Topic ................................................................. 25
Fostering Discussion .............................................................................. 25

**In Closing**

**A Word of Encouragement** .................................................................. 27
Prayer by St. Ephraim ................................................................................ 27
Help Us Help You ................................................................................... 27
Introduction

There are seventy-three books in the Bible, and many stories. Together, these stories contribute to a single Story. It has been called “the greatest story ever told”—the story of God’s plan for us, His people. It has been given to us through the Church and written in Sacred Scripture—not only so we can read the story, but so we can meet God there, hear Him speak, and be changed by the encounter.

This grand narrative, the “Story,” tells us who we are, why we are here, and what we were made for. It tells us that God is, that He loves us, and how He has acted through the ages so we can get from here to Him.

This guide contains everything you need to introduce your parish to the Scriptural narrative through The Great Adventure Catholic Bible Study Program:

- An overview of the program, its purpose and its approach
- An explanation of what the program involves
- Materials you will need to run the program in your parish
- Instructions for planning and promoting the studies
- Tips for preparing facilitators

(For more information or to download materials, visit BibleStudyforCatholics.com or call 1-800-376-0520.)

Overview

The Great Adventure: A Journey Through the Bible is a Catholic Bible study program that seeks to draw people into a transforming relationship with Christ through Scripture as it is read from within the heart of the Catholic Church. Through parish Bible studies and resources, seminars, and conferences, The Great Adventure helps people read “the big picture” of God’s plan in Scripture; find their place in that story; and live it out in their lives.*

“I have seen real change in many of my parishioners. They have not only learned about the ‘big picture’ that contextualizes salvation history, but they’ve gained practical insights into walking with the Lord and learning to trust Him. If every parish did this program, we’d see a true revolution in the Church.”

– Fr. Tomi Thomas,  
St. Matthew Catholic Church, Norwalk, CT

* The Study Sets for all Great Adventure Bible studies have been granted the Imprimatur.
Purpose and Approach

The primary purpose of *The Great Adventure* is to provide a simple, Catholic approach to Scripture study that invites people into a transformative encounter with Jesus Christ. *The Great Adventure* is catechetical in nature. As such, its focus is on the Bible as the living word of God rather than as an object of academic study. It strives to foster a greater love for Scripture and for meditating on and living its truths through our sacramental way of life.

*The Great Adventure* takes as its starting point the final, canonical text of the Scriptures as received by the Catholic Church and handed on to her people. In doing so, it focuses on the story that runs through the Bible, provides context, and ties it together. The program seeks to understand Scripture in light of its historical, cultural, and literary context and to interpret it from within the heart of the Church and its living Tradition. Rather than concentrating primarily on questions of authorship, form, and historicity, this program has a different aim: it seeks to discover what the story conveys to us regarding God’s plan and our place within it.

The authors of *The Great Adventure* program follow the criteria for interpreting Scripture put forth by the Second Vatican Council in *Dei Verbum*, which are described in *Catechism* Nos. 112-114:

- Be especially attentive “to the content and unity of the whole Scripture.”
- Read the Scripture within “the living Tradition of the whole Church.”
- Be attentive to the *analogy of faith* (the coherence of the truths of faith among themselves and within the whole plan of Revelation).

*The Great Adventure* rejects a “fundamentalist” approach to Scripture that sees the Bible as a literalistic telling of science and history. For example, the language used to describe Creation in Genesis is poetic and figurative; its intent is to convey deep truths about our existence, not scientific processes. The account of the Fall “affirms a primeval event, a deed that took place at the beginning of the history of man” (see *Gaudium et Spes* 13§1 and *Catechism* No. 390). *The Great Adventure* begins from within the perspective of this inspired account, seeking to uncover what it teaches about God and the nature of His creation; about what went wrong in the Fall and the hope present even then for redemption.

What Makes *The Great Adventure* Different from Other Bible Study Programs?

*The Great Adventure* recognizes that while the Bible is made up of many different books, it is tied together by the single Story of God’s plan. All study in *The Great Adventure* springs from a foundation of knowing first that plan as it is told in the Scripture narrative. The Old Testament is read in light of the New, and vice versa, and all is read from within the context of the overall plan of God’s revelation. Knowing the whole story helps us understand the smaller pieces that we hear and read, and it helps makes sense of our faith as well.

The “Big Picture” of God’s Plan for Life: GET IT – LEARN IT – LIVE IT!

**GET IT – with the Bible Timeline learning system**

The first step in *The Great Adventure* is to get familiar with the narrative that ties all the books of the Bible together, using *The Bible Timeline*. This unique learning system is based on *The Bible Timeline* Chart: a simple, color-coded timeline of Bible history. It breaks the entire narrative down into easily remembered time periods, then walks people through the story as it unfolds in fourteen books from Genesis to the Acts of the Apostles. The remaining books of the Bible are read in light of that overall context and in light of Catholic teaching.
Understanding *The Bible Timeline* Chart

Each period of *The Bible Timeline* is assigned a unique color to help you remember the narrative. For example, in the Early World, during which the world was created, turquoise is used to represent the color of the earth seen from space.

The reigning world power in the Middle East is indicated for each time period.

The genealogy of Jesus, beginning with Adam, is traced throughout the biblical narrative.

The growth of God’s family is traced through history from “One Holy Couple” (Adam and Eve) in Genesis through “One Holy Catholic Church.”

Fourteen of the Bible’s “narrative” books tell the biblical story from beginning to end.

The fifty-nine remaining or “supplemental” books are put into their historical context.

Sixty-eight key events provide an outline to the biblical story.

Events in world history place the biblical events in “real time.”

Significant movement in and out of the Promised Land (Canaan) is indicated by vertical movement of the line of genealogy and by large arrows.

Key people and events in Bible history are arranged in chronological order across the timeline. This section is divided into three horizontal bands representing different parts of the Middle East. The central gray area represents the land of Canaan, where most of the events take place. When the action moves out of Canaan—to the northern countries like Babylon, for example, or to the south and Egypt—they appear above or below the gray area.
An Introduction to The Bible Timeline

The simplest way to get the “big picture” is with *A Quick Journey Through the Bible: An Introduction to the Bible Timeline*. This eight-part, video-based program combines half-hour talks with group discussion questions and light homework geared to help people remember the key points. Instructions for running the program are included in the *Quick Journey Leader’s Guide*. A longer Bible study called *The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation* also presents the “big picture.” Rather than simply introducing the biblical narrative, this 24-week study involves participants in reading and studying it for themselves. (Additional details to follow.)

LEARN IT – with The Great Adventure Bible Study program

The next step is to learn more about the “big picture” with three Bible studies that dig deeper into the biblical narrative:

- *The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation*
- *Matthew: The King and His Kingdom*
- *Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom*

This in-depth “foundation series” not only helps people learn the story of God’s plan as it unfolds in Scripture, it also shows how the Catholic faith springs from that story. Participants discover first hand the relationship between the Old and New Testaments. They learn to read parts of the Bible within the overall context of Scripture and in light of Catholic teaching. In the process, they gain familiarity with and practice in reading the Bible and consulting the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. The foundation series is followed by a number of other Bible studies. See the following pages for a complete list and descriptions. All studies are available at AscensionPress.com.

Study Materials

For every *Great Adventure* Bible study, leaders and facilitators receive a binder containing an introduction to the course, questions for each study session, and a set of detailed responses to the questions. Participants receive the same materials, but the Responses are withheld by the leaders and handed out at the close of each session. A set of lectures on DVD or CD completes the materials for each study.

Also included with the study set for *The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation* are the full-color *Bible Timeline* chart, bookmark, and memory bead wristband.

A Catholic Bible and a *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (or online access to this resource) are needed to complete the study questions. All *Great Adventure* studies use the Revised Standard Version–Catholic Edition (or Second Catholic Edition) of the Bible for direct quotations.

Four Steps to Success

Every *Great Adventure* Bible study (with the exception of *A Quick Journey Through the Bible*) is made up of four distinct and equally important components. Each step covers the same study material, but in a slightly different way that builds on the previous step:

1. *A Quick Journey Through the Bible* is published in a simpler format, with separate workbooks for leaders/facilitators and participants. Responses are included in the leader/facilitator workbook.
2. *A Quick Journey Through the Bible* focuses more on teaching than on personal study. A DVD lesson is followed by a group discussion that reinforces the main teaching points. Home preparation is limited to a brief reading selection and questions based on the *Bible Timeline* chart.
1. **Home preparation** involves reading Scripture and answering a series of thought-provoking Study Questions (about twenty minutes a day, which helps to build a habit of daily reading and meditation).

2. **Small group discussion** of the questions is guided each week by trained facilitators.

3. The **DVD/CD lecture** reviews and explains the material, then goes deeper into the meaning as it applies to everyday life. Most of the lectures are fifty minutes in length.

4. **Review of Responses**: Participants receive detailed printed Responses to the Study Questions, for review before moving on to the next lesson and to keep for later reference. These Responses are provided in advance to facilitators to aid in their preparation for each week's session.

**Bible Studies in The Great Adventure Series**

**Foundation Series**: A three-part program that integrates personal reading with studying the “big picture” of the Scriptural narrative in light of the Catholic faith.

**Step 1**

*The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation*, by Jeff Cavins (Presenter) and Sarah Christmyer (Introduction + 23 study sessions)

This guided tour through the twelve periods of Bible history focuses on key biblical people and events. It acquaints participants with the “big picture” so they can understand what they read and hear in the context of the whole Bible story and God’s plan of salvation. Questions for this and other *Great Adventure* Bible studies are based on readings from the Bible and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Due to the scope of this program, a significant amount of reading and preparation is required. Strategies and alternate plans for handling the reading are included in the study materials.

**Step 2**

*Matthew: The King and His Kingdom*, by Jeff Cavins (Presenter) and Sarah Christmyer (Introduction + 23 study sessions)

This in-depth study of Matthew’s gospel shows how Jesus builds on the foundation laid in the Old Testament to inaugurate the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. Matthew was written to Jews who knew the Old Testament well. Countless references tie the reader back into the Story and show Jesus to be the fulfillment of all that the Hebrew Scriptures pointed to. For this reason, it is an ideal follow-up study to the basic narrative of Scripture taught in *The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation*.

**Step 3**

*Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom*, by Jeff Cavins (Presenter) and Sarah Christmyer (Introduction + 19 study sessions)

A detailed study of the Acts of the Apostles rounds out the *Great Adventure* Foundation Series by showing how Christ’s kingdom began to spread in the earliest days of the Church. It also shows how Christ’s work continues through each of us in the Church today. Here is where participants “find themselves in the Story” that they learned in *The Bible Timeline*.
“I am impressed with the methodology and growth of The Great Adventure: A Journey Through the Bible. The canonical approach that The Great Adventure employs is a marvelous way to introduce the faithful to salvation history. When Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition, and the Magisterium are all brought together in study the result is a clearer picture of God’s will, resulting in a road map for living. The Great Adventure, being faithful to Dei Verbum (the Second Vatican Council’s Constitution on Divine Revelation), is bearing much fruit in the Church today and contributing to a stronger, more informed laity.”

– Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago

Continuing Studies: Old Testament

Exodus: Called to Freedom, by Dr. Tim Gray (Presenter) and Thomas Powell
(10 study sessions including Introduction)

The Exodus can be viewed as the defining moment in Israel’s history, for it was then that God called Israel out of slavery in Egypt and to a life of freedom as His people. Exodus: Called to Freedom looks through the lens of Christ and the Church to show that more than just seeking to free His people from the domination of Pharaoh, God desired to free His people from the far more sinister tyranny of sin so they could live the authentic freedom that belongs to children of God. Because of this, the Exodus story is not just Israel’s story, it is our story as well; it tells us who God is and what He calls us to be.

Psalms: The School of Prayer, by Jeff Cavins, Sarah Christmyer, and Dr. Tim Gray (Authors and Presenters)
(Introduction + 10 study sessions)

While the historical books of the Bible recount God’s creative and redemptive acts in history, the psalms reveal Israel’s response to God’s covenant offer and serve as a model for our response to Him. This introduction to the book of Psalms teaches how to read the psalms, explains the background and role of various types of psalms, and helps participants discover how to pray with the psalms both individually and corporately. Lessons are included on praying with the psalms using lectio divina and on using the Responsorial Psalm to better enter into the Mass readings.

Continuing Studies: New Testament

1 Corinthians: the Church and the Christian Community, by Dr. Tim Gray (Author and Presenter)
(Introduction + 10 study sessions)

St. Paul’s message to the church at Corinth regarding its divisions, immorality, persecution, and other trials is a much-needed message for our own times. First Corinthians: The Church and the Christian Community explores the key issues covered in the letter, including the nature of grace, the Church as the Body of Christ, and the gift of the Eucharist.
James: Pearls for Wise Living, by Jeff Cavins (Presenter) and Sarah Christmyer  
(Introduction + 10 study sessions)

James is a book of wisdom, a collection of teachings on issues faced by ordinary Christians in everyday life. These teachings speak loudly to all those who feel torn between the competing demands of this world and their faith. This study offers “pearls for wise living” by applying the wisdom of James to the present day. For anyone who has struggled to live a truly Christian life, James offers a wealth of practical solutions for handling and even sanctifying everyday circumstances.

Revelation: the Kingdom Yet to Come by Jeff Cavins (Presenter) and Thomas Smith  
(Introduction + 10 study sessions)

This study of the book of Revelation looks at the way the Kingdom established by Christ in his Church is intimately connected with the Kingdom of Heaven, especially through the celebration of the Mass. It uncovers the meaning of the mysterious figures and images of Revelation and offers a practical application of this intriguing book.

Galatians: Set Free to Live, by Jeff Cavins (Presenter) and Gayle Somers  
(Eight sessions)

Paul’s letter to the Galatians speaks directly to the heart of Christians and addresses the most important question we can ask: “What must we do to be saved?” This fascinating letter reveals the merciful love that God the Father has for us, his children.

LIVE IT – with the help of other resources from The Great Adventure

The Great Adventure provides additional studies and resources that strengthen and build upon the foundation of getting the “big picture” of God’s plan in Scripture and help Catholics live what they learn in their lives and within the Church.

Topical Study

A Biblical Walk Through the Mass by Dr. Edward Sri  
(Introduction + four study sessions)

With A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, based on Dr. Sri’s book of the same name, The Great Adventure moves from studying the Bible itself to studying the Scriptural roots of the Liturgies of the Word and Eucharist at Mass. This study takes participants through the main parts of the Mass, from the opening Sign of the Cross to the final sending forth, and helps them explore their background in the Bible with the aim of entering into the Liturgy and meeting the Lord there in a deeper, more meaningful way.
Other Resources

- 90-day *Bible Timeline* Reading Plan (a free, downloadable checklist of readings that covers the basic Bible narrative)
- *The Bible Timeline Guided Journal* by Sarah Christmyer
- *Walking with God* by Dr. Tim Gray and Jeff Cavins
- *Praying Scripture for a Change: An Introduction to Lectio Divina* by Dr. Tim Gray
- *The Bible Compass: A Catholic’s Guide to Navigating the Scriptures* by Dr. Edward Sri
- *Then & Now Bible Maps*
- *Bible Timeline* color-coded Bible Index Tabs
- *Bible Timeline Chart* Wall Banner (2’ x 8.3’), in English or Spanish

From Head to Heart: Moving from Study to Reading and Meditation

Ultimately, the Bible does not offer us a subject to master as much as a place to meet God, to get to know Him and hear Him speak. To really hear Him, to know the Word in the words He gave us, we must spend time in quiet, prayerful meditation.

The summer is an ideal time to start reading the Bible or to follow your formal study with prayer and reading of the same book using *lectio divina*. An introduction to this ancient practice can be found in Dr. Tim Gray’s book *Praying Scripture for a Change*. Those who attend a *Bible Timeline* seminar or Bible study are always encouraged to go on and read the biblical narrative on their own using *The Great Adventure’s* 90-day Reading Plan. Parish reading groups are effective ways to support this practice and build community.
Getting Started
Planning and Running
A Great Adventure Bible Study

This section presents simple instructions for planning and running a Great Adventure Bible study in your parish.

Here, we will consider the following:

- Presenting The Great Adventure program to your parish leaders, priest, or DRE
- Cost and funding options
- Planning your study
- Organizing your session agendas
- Planning for the future
- Promoting your study
- Preparing facilitators

Presenting The Great Adventure to Your Pastor, Parish Leaders, or DRE

It is very important to get the support of key people in your parish for the program to be a success. Following are some suggestions.

1. Begin your efforts with prayer—and continue praying for God’s blessing on your study.

2. Set a date and time for an informational meeting. Who you invite depends on whether you are presenting the program for approval or are presenting it to people who you’re asking to assist in organizing and running the program.

3. Place an order to review the Quick Journey or Bible Timeline Bible study. You can review any study risk-free for forty-five days, free of charge.

4. Register your study at BibleStudyforCatholics.com to access free, downloadable resources, and to put your study on the map.

5. Be prepared before you meet. Get familiar with The Great Adventure program by reading this booklet carefully. Make sure you understand how the program works, what are the different elements of the study and how they are used, etc. If you have done a Great Adventure study, think of how you might describe what the program is and what it has done for you. If you have not done a study, read a sample lesson and watch a video clip.

6. Gather information resources to help you explain the program. Along with this booklet, these might include:

   a. A Review Pack for the study (or studies) you are interested in. (You can order this trial set risk-free by calling 1-800-376-0520.)
   b. A copy of this leader’s guide (“Getting Started on The Great Adventure”)
c. The Great Adventure Catholic Bible Study Informational DVD
d. Theological Statement and listing of Advisory Board members
e. The Great Adventure Catholic Bible Study Resource Guide

7. Explain The Great Adventure program and what you believe it can do for your parish. (For example: “It will introduce people to the narrative that runs through the Bible and helps us understand God’s plan and our Catholic faith.” “It will help people enter into and understand better the Scripture readings at Mass.” “It will encourage interest in Scripture and Bible study.” Etc.). Use the resources you gathered to help you.

8. Describe what a Great Adventure Bible study looks like (show sample materials) and the promotional support that is available.

9. Explain the preparation that will be needed, including prayer, gathering a core team, and training facilitators.

10. Answer questions regarding logistics and support.

11. If you are presenting to a group of parish leaders from whom you hope to gather your core team, ask for a commitment of prayer, participation on the core team, assistance in organizing/promoting the study, etc.

**Costs and Funding Options**

Use the following checklist to determine the cost of running a Great Adventure Bible study in your parish. Visit AscensionPress.com for current fees. Quantity discounts are available. For billing and shipping questions, please call 1-800-376-0520.

**Cost to the Parish:**

- One DVD Set for the study you are running
- Promotional materials
- Optional:
  - A DVD (or CD) “loaner” set for those who miss a session
  - Coffee/tea, snacks, refreshments
  - Babysitter(s)

**Cost to Each Participant:**

- A Study Set or Study Kit, depending on the study (divide total by number of weeks to determine cost per week)

**Funding Options:**

1. Participants are charged a registration fee that covers all costs, including DVDs, student materials, and hospitality.

2. Parish bears the cost and purchases all materials on behalf of participants.
3. Parish and participants share the cost. The parish might purchase the DVDs and/or subsidize
the cost of participant materials.

4. Subsidize costs with donations.

Planning Your Study

(Note: Planning instructions for *A Quick Journey Through the Bible* are simpler and can be found in the *Quick Journey* Leader’s Guide.)

Ideally—and particularly if you are planning a multi-year program and/or anticipate having a very large attendance—begin planning between six to twelve months prior to the start of your study. Smaller groups require less planning and organization.

1. Gather a core team of leaders to help pray, plan, and implement the program. You also will
need one facilitator (plus at least one substitute or facilitator-in-training) for every eight to
twelve people.

The size of your core team will depend upon the size of your group. We recommend that your
core team includes three to six people to share the work needed in these areas:

- Choosing and training facilitators
- Promotion
- Hospitality
- Registration and materials
- Logistics
- Prayer

2. Introduce the program to your Core Team (the materials listed under “Presenting *The
Great Adventure* to Your Pastor, Parish Leaders, or DRE” on page 9 will be helpful). Divide
responsibilities, create a plan, and assign deadlines to the various tasks.

3. Determine how many weeks your study will run. Each *Great Adventure* study has an
introductory session, a number of study sessions, and an optional “wrap-up” session. Conclude whether (and how much) you will charge participants for the program. (See “Costs
and Funding Options” above.)

4. Schedule a weekly two-hour meeting for your program, allowing breaks for major holidays
and holy days. If desired, offer multiple times each week to suit the needs of more people.
Allow advance time to promote the study, order materials, and prepare facilitators.

5. Work with your parish to reserve the facility and necessary media equipment, and to get your
program on the parish calendar. You will need one large room where everyone can gather
together to view the DVD and room to break into discussion groups of eight to twelve people.

6. Schedule one or more facilitator training meetings. See agenda on page 21. The amount of
time will vary according to your needs and the number of people involved.

7. Consider setting a weekly or monthly meeting for facilitators to gather in advance of
each session (or group of sessions) to discuss the lessons and/or view the DVDs. Find a

---

3 The studies on Exodus and 1 Corinthians have no introductory session video. You still may want to schedule an orientation
meeting to distribute materials, explain the study, and divide into small groups.
knowledgeable person to lead this discussion group and help facilitators prepare to handle difficult questions or challenging topics that may arise. If your facilitators are new to Bible study, these advance meetings will contribute greatly to the success of the program. They also will provide a place for facilitators to receive and be “fed,” as during the regular meetings their primary concern will be to make a good discussion possible for others.

8. Plan registration details.

9. Plan your promotion strategy in advance. Assign a core team member the responsibility for carrying out this strategy (see pages 18 through 20 for more details).

10. If you haven’t done so already, order the following materials (*Note: allow two weeks for shipping, especially in August-September, and plan to have them delivered at least several days before your study begins):

   - One DVD (or CD) Set. (*Option: order an additional set to “loan out” to participants who miss a particular session.)
   - One Study Set per participant, including facilitators. Each Study Set includes a binder, home study material (“Questions”), and Responses to the Questions. Order several additional copies for walk-in and last minute registrations. Any unused materials can be returned.

   For billing and shipping questions, please call 1-800-376-0520.

11. When you receive your materials, assemble a complete Study Set (Binder + Questions + Responses) for each facilitator. Take the remaining Responses and put one set for each participant in a separate file folder marked with his or her name so they can be handed out after every class. Test the DVDs and equipment to make sure everything works and is in order.

12. Prepare name tags, small group assignments, schedules, and other logistical materials as needed. Blank forms are available on the Leader’s Portal of the website.

Where Do I Begin?

*The Bible Timeline*, which presents the “big picture” of the Scriptural narrative and God’s plan, is offered in several ways that can be used individually or in combination depending on the needs of your parish:

- *The Bible Timeline* one-day seminar is held in many parishes throughout the country each year (see BibleStudyforCatholics.com for dates and locations) and is a good way to build interest in a Bible study program.
- *A Quick Journey Through the Bible* provides a simple, eight-part introduction to *The Bible Timeline*.
- *The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation* is an in-depth, 24-part study based on *The Bible Timeline*.

---

4 Participants for whom *The Bible Timeline* study is their first exposure to the program will need a Study Kit instead of a Study Set. This includes the *Bible Timeline* four-color chart; bookmark; and memory bead wristband.
### Bible Timeline Program Comparison: “Getting the Big Picture”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Teaching Goal</th>
<th>Recommended Lead Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Bible Timeline Seminar</td>
<td>An exciting, fast-paced seminar in which <em>The Bible Timeline</em> learning system is introduced and the story of salvation history is told as it unfolds in the Bible.</td>
<td>One day</td>
<td>Live Presentation</td>
<td>Get familiar with the story of God’s plan, learn a simple way to remember it, and discover how to start reading the Bible on your own.</td>
<td>Seminars should be scheduled at least six months ahead of time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Quick Journey Through the Bible: An Introduction to the Bible Timeline</td>
<td>A simple program that breaks the introductory material taught in the Seminar into eight parts, combining it with group discussion to reinforce each lesson.</td>
<td>Eight sessions</td>
<td>Twenty-eight-minute video; group discussion of video; light home preparation</td>
<td>Get familiar with the story of God’s plan while learning a Catholic approach to Scripture study using <em>The Bible Timeline</em>.</td>
<td>Two months to plan, promote, orient facilitators, and order/receive materials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation</td>
<td>An in-depth study of the twelve Bible periods that involves reading the biblical story and answering thought-provoking questions while learning to read the Bible through the Church’s living Tradition.</td>
<td>Orientation + 23 study sessions</td>
<td>Home reading and study; group discussion; fifty-minute video; review</td>
<td>Read the biblical story for one’s self; gain a greater knowledge and understanding of key events and concepts and how they apply to faith and life; learn to study the Bible as a Catholic; gain familiarity with the Bible and Catechism</td>
<td>Six to twelve months to plan, promote, build a core team, train facilitators, and order/receive materials.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Schedule (or Promote Attendance at) a Great Adventure Seminar if:
- You want a single event to introduce your parishioners to the “big picture” of salvation history.
- You want to build interest in Bible study specifically or the Bible in general.
- One-day Seminars are also offered on several of the books of the Bible covered in the Bible study program (*Matthew in a Day, Acts in a Day, Revelation in a Day*, etc.). Call (484) 875-4550, ext. 204 for more information.

#### Start with A Quick Journey Through the Bible (eight-week study) if:
- Your parish is new to Bible study.
- You want to build interest for the longer program.
• You want to use it to prepare people to facilitate the longer program.
• Eight weeks fits your schedule.

Start with *The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation (24-week study)* if:
• Your parish is experienced in running Bible studies with a small group component.
• Many of the participants have some familiarity with the Bible and Bible study.
• You are looking for an ongoing study program.

**Organizing Your Session Agendas**

The basic agenda for each Bible study session follows (the agenda for *Quick Journey* sessions is different and is included in that program’s Leader’s Guide):

• Welcome and prayer
• Small group discussion (forty minutes)
• DVD lesson (fifty minutes)
• Closing

A two-hour timeframe is recommended. Allow sufficient time to move to and from the small group discussion area(s) if you have a large group or facility. Some groups have coffee or refreshments before or after the class, particularly on the opening day. Other leaders add extra time for opening music or for additional questions in the large group at the end (if you do this, make sure you have someone knowledgeable about the topic to answer questions).

**Sample Agendas**

Here are suggested agendas and instructions for the Orientation Meeting, the Study Sessions, and an optional Closing Session:

**Week One: Leading and Facilitating the Orientation Meeting**

**Overview**

The first week, participants receive their materials, get to know others in their small groups, and (with the exception of Exodus and 1 Corinthians) watch the Introduction video. Your entire Core Team will be involved the opening week as you welcome people, check registrations, collect money, and distribute materials, name tags, and group assignments. At a predetermined time, ask all to be seated in the main meeting area.

**Greeting and Registration**

Welcome each person as they arrive. Take on-site registrations, distribute name tags and study materials, and offer hospitality if desired.

**Large Group Gathering (ten to twenty minutes)**

The leader should welcome everyone and open in prayer, then introduce the study and provide any logistical instructions. Explain the “Four Steps to Success” outlined on page 16 before dismissing people to their small groups for an orientation.
Small Group Orientation (thirty to forty minutes)

Group facilitators lead this orientation for individual groups of eight to twelve people.

- Welcome and introductions. Ask participants: "Why are you here?"
- Make sure everyone has the Study Set Questions and Binder for your study. (If the participants’ sets include Responses, collect them to place in folders for weekly distribution.)
- Explain that everyone will need a Bible and a *Catechism of the Catholic Church* to complete the questions (*Note: The Catechism* can be accessed online). The Bible translation used in this study is the Revised Standard Version–Catholic Edition (RSV–CE), which is also used in the *Catechism*.
- Review the “Ten Commandments of a Small Group,” which can be found with your leader downloads.
- Explain the first home study assignment, which will normally be to review the Introduction to the study and do the reading and questions for the first study session. (See your study materials for specifics.)
- Walk participants through the parts of a lesson in their workbook, explaining what they will do each week.
- Point out the outlines that follow the Introduction and each session in the Study Set questions. These can be used to take notes during the DVD. (*Note: Previous versions of the student materials do not include outlines.*)
- Return to the main meeting room for the DVD lesson.

Large Group Gathering for DVD (time varies)

Show DVD #1 – *Introduction* (*Note: Small group time in The Bible Timeline will be longer than the small group time for the other classes, and the introductory DVD for it is consequently shorter. There is no separate Introduction to Exodus or 1 Corinthians.*)

Closing Prayer and Dismissal

Week Two through End of Study: Leading and Facilitating the Study Sessions

Overview

The Introductory meeting is followed by the study sessions, the number of which varies depending on the study. During each session, there is small group discussion of the week’s reading and the Questions, followed by a DVD presentation. To complete the lesson, Responses to the Questions are distributed at the end of the discussion for review.

Large Group Gathering (five to ten minutes)

After the welcome and opening prayer, the leader may introduce the lesson or take care of any logistical matters before dismissing everyone to their small groups.

Small Group Discussion (forty minutes)

Group facilitators lead their small groups in discussion of the week’s assigned questions.

- Make your group feel welcome. Wait until everyone is seated but don't allow late-comers to cause a delay that will cramp the discussion.
Why Four Steps, Done in Order = Success

1. Home preparation
   Our goal is to not simply to inform with these studies but to enable the kind of time spent in God’s word that transforms people’s lives. This is why we put the homework first. Groups occasionally want to hear the lecture first or have the Responses ahead of time so they can be sure of their answers. But the homework questions in the Study Set are not a test; they are a way to learn. They are carefully written to draw people into Scripture and help them “chew” on it so it sinks in and takes root. We follow the guidelines laid out in the Catechism for interpreting Scripture to help participants learn to read and understand the Bible as it is intended to be read—from within the heart of the Church. Some questions are easy; others are not. Not everyone will find every answer. But greater growth often comes from wrestling with the difficult ones. The following three steps review the same material in different ways that build on the others—to help people understand it and take it to heart.

2. Small group discussion
   Small group discussion begins each class session. This is where participants can share what they have learned and glean from others’ insights to get a fuller understanding of the passages they have read. Done properly, this can be the richest part of the study. It is here that people often start to see how what they have learned applies to everyday life. The faith sharing that is a natural part of such groups builds community, and strong relationships often result.

3. DVD Lecture
   The DVD lecture is like the “crown” of the lesson. It is planned specifically to follow the homework and group discussion, which prepare people with a basic level of understanding of the Scripture being studied. The presenter reviews and explains the material and then uses it as a jumping-off point to take people deeper into the meaning, particularly as it applies to everyday life. Yes, a lot can be gleaned from the lecture alone—just as much can be gleaned from the study alone—but the fullness of what can be learned will be missed.

4. Review of Responses
   Thorough Responses are provided to the Study Set questions. These are meant first as an aid to help group facilitators guide the discussion. Copies are provided for participants as well, but these should be handed out after the discussion so people can review them before starting a new lesson or fill in questions they missed.

   Please do not hand out the Responses early. In our experience, this is the chief cause of dissatisfaction in groups. It short circuits the learning process by predetermining how people read the Scripture and the Questions. It encourages them to focus on getting the “right answers” rather than listening to the Word and meditating. And it makes the group discussion much less fruitful, reducing it to an exercise where participants seek to be the first to call out the “correct” answer.
• Open in prayer, asking that God will open your hearts and minds to understand His Word.
• Discuss questions answered for the day’s lesson (see “Facilitating the Lesson in a Small Group,” pp. 24-25 for details).
• Distribute Responses after the discussion is finished.
• Return to the main meeting room for the DVD lesson.

Large Group Gathering for DVD (time varies)

Show the DVD presentation that corresponds to the lesson just discussed. It is important that you show the DVD after the discussion. The program is designed to be done in a particular way, with each successive step building on the last.

Closing Prayer and Dismissal

Wrap-Up Week (Optional): Planning a Closing Session

Many groups schedule a final week to wrap-up a study. The often includes refreshments or a meal and can be used to build community, provide additional instruction, and promote and offer pre-registration for future programs. A panel might be held to answer any questions that remain after the study. You might want to schedule a Mass or Stations of the Cross, and/or invite a guest speaker. Participants can be asked to share with the large group what they have learned or otherwise gotten out of the study.

Distribute “Certificates of Completion,” which can be found with your leader downloads.

Planning for the Future

If your goal is to establish an ongoing Bible study program in your parish, take time at the start to plan several years ahead so you can maximize your efforts and build momentum over time. In addition to raising awareness, an ongoing program gives you a structure in which to raise up and train new facilitators and leaders.

Your plan may be as simple as offering *The Bible Timeline* one year, followed by *Matthew* and then *Acts*. Some parishes continue to offer other books of the Bible to that group, at the same time as they start the series again with *The Bible Timeline* for a new group of people. Others offer the *Quick Journey* once or twice a year on an ongoing basis to build interest in Bible study, and host reading groups in the summer months (see page 8).

> “Wondering whether a twenty-four week course would work, I started *The Bible Timeline* in the parish … I myself got a great deal from it; for the first time I have a grasp of the chronological aspect of the story of salvation. The same group followed through with *Matthew*. This was a more in-depth, probing study that touched everyone’s heart. We are looking forward to the study of *Acts* and *Revelation* next year. I consider *The Great Adventure* to be one of the most important contributions I have made to the parish, a legacy I leave my successor after my upcoming retirement.”

> – Monsignor Charles Quinn,
> St. Stanislaus Church, Pleasant Valley, NY
Sample Five-Year Plan

YEAR 1  Sept - Dec  The “Three P’s: Pray, Plan, Promote
   Jan – May  Lenten *Quick Journey* groups and Facilitator Preparation
   Jun – Aug  *Bible Timeline* Facilitator Training
   Reading groups: *Praying Scripture for a Change: An Introduction to Lectio Divina*

YEAR 2  Sept – May  *The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation* Bible study
   Apr – Aug  Pray, plan, promote next study
   Jun – Aug  Train new facilitators
   Reading Groups: 90-day “Big Picture” reading plan or *Walking with God*

YEAR 3  Sept – May  *Matthew: the King and His Kingdom*
   Apr – Aug  Pray, plan, promote next study
   Jun – Aug  Train new facilitators
   Personal prayerful reading of Matthew (using *lectio divina*)

YEAR 4  Sept – May  *Acts: the Spread of the Kingdom*
   Apr – Aug  Pray, plan, promote next study year
   Jun – Aug  Train new facilitators
   Personal prayerful reading of Acts (using *lectio divina*)

YEAR 5  Sept – Dec  Continuing study #1
   Jan – Mar  Continuing study #2
   Apr – Aug  Pray, plan, promote next study year
   Jun – Aug  Train new facilitators
   Personal reading, reading groups

Individual assistance is available to help plan and support a multi-year *Great Adventure* study program. For information, call 1-800-376-0520.

**Promoting Your Study**

We recommend that early in the process, you put together a promotional plan and assign someone to carry it out. All of your work in planning the study will not mean much if you don’t tell people about it or if you wait until right before the start date.

The single most effective way to promote your study is to have your pastor announce it and invite participation at weekend Masses. Other tried and true methods and a sample schedule follow.
Sample Promotional Schedule

Six Months to a Year Before Your Study

1. Create your promotion plan. Enter the dates of the study(s) on your parish calendar. Then register your studies online at BibleStudyforCatholics.com to put your study on the map and to access free, downloadable, high-quality promotion materials. This will allow people in your area to find your study.

2. Determine your promotional budget.

3. Look through the parish calendar to see whether there are any already-scheduled events you can take advantage of in promoting your program (Is there a ministry fair? Is anything else scheduled that relates to Scripture or Scripture study?)

Three to Four Months Before Your Study

1. Hang posters in your church vestibule, Knights of Columbus halls, and surrounding parishes. You may download, customize, and print full-color posters and flyers free of charge from BibleStudyforCatholics.com. A large Bible Timeline wall chart (8.3’ x 2’) is also available for purchase.

2. Announce the study on your parish website.

3. Involve other ministry leaders (e.g., Altar Society, Women’s Guild, Knights of Columbus, school parents, etc.) Let them know about your study, and invite them to encourage their groups to attend it or to run the same study for their group at a different time so you can share the DVDs.
Four to Six Weeks Before Your Study

1. Begin announcing the study in your parish bulletin. This should be done for several weeks leading up to your registration deadline and continue until the study begins.

2. Send an email to your parishioners promoting the study. Ask other ministry leaders and parishes to do the same.

3. Ask your pastor to announce the study at weekend Masses and encourage participation. If possible, have someone share a brief personal testimonial about the study to help generate interest, and invite people to your Information Session (see #7).

4. Take advantage of the Bible Timeline Chart Loaner Program by calling us at 1-800-376-0520. This gives you an opportunity to borrow several hundred Bible Timeline charts to help you promote the study after Mass and at an Information Session (see #7). Having the chart in their hands will give parishioners a better understanding how unique and effective Great Adventure studies are.

5. The same week, insert flyers in your parish bulletin or stack them on registration tables at the back of church. Have people available at the tables to answer questions.

6. Show the Great Adventure Promotional video (the two-minute minute segment featuring A Quick Journey or The Bible Timeline) after Masses to generate enthusiasm.

7. Schedule one or more Information Sessions after Masses or on an evening when parishioners can hear about the studies, ask questions, preview the materials, and register. Show the promotional DVD (see #6 above) and have someone who has gone through the study share what they learned from it and what it has done for them personally.

8. Nothing beats a personal invitation. Ask five or ten people to spread the word.

After Your Study Has Begun

1. Continue to take registrations even after your study has started. (This is not recommended for A Quick Journey or The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation, which impart crucial information in the opening weeks and in which each session builds on the previous one. If you do accept late registrations for these studies, be sure to offer a catch-up day to show the earlier DVD presentations.)

2. Introduce your upcoming study before your current study ends, and offer an incentive for early registration or for bringing a friend.
Preparing Facilitators: The Facilitator Orientation and Training Meeting

Materials needed

- One complete Study Set or Study Kit per facilitator, including Responses
- *The Great Adventure* Bible Study Small Group Facilitation Guide (See below. Copies may be made for your orientation meeting.)
- Handouts relevant to your class: schedule, contact list, site map, procedures, small group assignments, etc.
- The “Introduction” DVD for the study you are offering

Agenda

1. Welcome and open with prayer
2. Orientation
   a. Introduce the program and tell everyone what to expect from this meeting.
   b. Review handouts and procedures relevant to your group.
   c. Explain how the study sessions will work (see “Four Steps to Success” on pgs. 4-5 and “Why Four Steps, Done in Order = Success” on p. 16).
   d. Explain what will happen during the first class meeting (see Orientation agenda starting on pg. 14).
   e. Preview the “Introduction” DVD (which will also be shown during the first meeting). Some of the “Introduction” DVDs are a full fifty minutes; others are shorter. See your set for information.
3. Break
4. Training
   a. Explain the role and responsibilities of the facilitator.
      As is noted in the Small Group Facilitation Guide, the job of the facilitator is not to teach, or even to answer questions, but rather to welcome group members and guide them through the lesson, aiming to give everyone a chance to participate. *The facilitator does not make a discussion good; he or she makes a good discussion possible.*

   Responsibilities:

   - Attend all facilitator meetings
   - Carefully prepare each lesson in advance
   - Attend every study session or arranging for a substitute
   - Arrive on time and help to set a welcoming tone for the group
   - Facilitate discussion of the study questions according to guidelines provided
   - Distribute Responses every week to group members after the discussion time.

   b. Review and explain the student materials. Review the guidelines in the handout that follows (i.e., *The Great Adventure* Bible Study Small Group Facilitation Guide).
c. If you did not do so in 4b, explain how you want facilitators to handle difficult questions that are beyond the scope of those in the workbook. Often they’ll be answered in the talk or in a later lesson, but not always.

Decide on a plan ahead of time, in consultation with your pastor or DRE. Will you simply ask people to stick to the topic at hand? Will hard questions be referred to a particular person? Will you allot time at the end of each class for questions related to the lesson that came up in the small groups? If your facilitators know the plan, they’ll be less likely to be thrown off by hard questions.

5. Answer questions.

In order to be an effective facilitator, you must understand the aim of the lesson and its parts; you must prepare ahead of time; and you must keep the goal in mind:

The job of the facilitator is not to teach or even answer questions, but rather to welcome group members and guide them through the lesson, aiming to give everyone a chance to participate. The facilitator does not make a discussion good; he or she makes a good discussion possible.

**Understanding the Parts of the Lesson: How to Do the Home Study Questions**

Make sure you understand the goal of each section of the study questions so you can explain them to your group as follows:

Each lesson is best done in parts over several days rather than all at once. On average, it will take sixty to ninety minutes to complete each lesson, including the reading. (Reading for the Bible Timeline study will take additional time.) Group members should each find a pace that suits them. Each set of questions is divided into the following parts. Have group members look at a set of questions in their binders as you explain the sections:

**A. Establish (or Review) the Context**

A brief introduction and a question will help you read the new chapter in its proper context.

**B. Read the Story**

The second step is to read the assigned Scripture. For long readings, aim just to get the gist of the action, not to understand everything. The goal here is to get an overview of the whole; the questions will zero in on specific sections to study more at length. Suggestions for handling the reading in The Bible Timeline 24-week course, which at times is long, are included in the first week’s lesson.

**C. Take a Deeper Look**

Next comes a series of questions. Some help you establish the main themes and events of the chapter. Others refer to the Catechism of the Catholic Church or take you from one Testament to the other so you can get vital background or see how Old Testament themes are fulfilled in the New. Some questions begin with “Think about it.” These generally take you in deeper and require extra thought.

**D. Application**

There is one question at the end of each lesson that asks you to think about how what you have read applies to today—either to our society or to you personally. After meditating on the question, respond to God with a brief written prayer if you choose.
E. Wrap-Up

In *The Bible Timeline* 24-week course only, the final lesson of each period concludes with a “wrap-up” section to help you fix the period in your mind and remember it.

Preparing to Facilitate

- Do your homework in advance and give yourself plenty of time to do it in.
- After you answer the questions on your own, review the appropriate Responses. Make notes in your lesson of points you missed.
- Highlight in your notes the most important things to bring out for each question. If you found a question confusing or difficult, think of a way to clarify it for your group without answering the question for them.
- Decide which questions are most important in each section and mark them. Also mark questions that can be answered quickly if time is short.

Facilitating the Lesson in a Small Group

Here is how to approach each section of the completed lesson in the discussion group. Suggested times are based on a forty- to fifty-minute discussion period and may be changed to fit the needs of your group:

A. Establish the Context (two minutes)

Summarize this introduction, which appears at the start of each lesson (or ask someone in your group to summarize it for you).

B. Read (two minutes)

Nothing needs to be said here unless you are studying *The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation*. Due to the amount of reading required for that course, you may want to take a few minutes to see how everyone is doing with the reading and reiterate some of the tips for managing the reading that are given at the start of the study.

C. Take a Deeper Look (thirty to forty minutes)

Go through the questions with your group, encouraging discussion. Have someone read out loud individual passages that are brought up in the questions. Students who are new to Bible study may find some of the questions tough going. Encourage them simply to do their best. What is important is reading and engaging with the Word of God, not understanding everything right away. There will be further clarification during the group discussion and then again when the DVD is played.

Strategies follow for staying on time and on topic in the discussion.

D. Application (three minutes [optional])

Use your discretion as to whether or not to include this section in the discussion. It is primarily a private exercise but can be a valuable part of the discussion if there is time.
E. Wrap-Up (three to five minutes)

This section comes only at the ends of the final lessons for each period in the Bible Timeline Bible study. Review the colors on the memory wristbands if you didn’t do so earlier, then ask group members to come up with a single phrase or brief sentence that summarizes the period and its importance to the big picture. Take all the phrases people came up with and ask them to select one or combine several into the sentence they like best. This can be written down at the top of the workbook “notes” pages for later reference to help people remember what the period is all about.

In the Bible Timeline study, a prayer is included to help people fix the significance of each period in their minds and take its message to heart. Use the memory beads to follow your progress through the periods as you say the prayer, and continue only as far as you are in the study. Have one person read the intercessions and have the group respond. Close with the Glory Be.

Staying on Time and on Topic

- Start on time, every time.
- Set the tone. Be welcoming and enthusiastic. Explain that the group discussion will help fill in gaps they missed in the lesson, allow them to share what they have learned, and prepare them for the talk. Your goal will be to spend sufficient time on each question to do those things.
- Take control. You are the leader; the group will expect you to move them along.
- Assign someone in your group to watch the clock. Mark the half-way point and the question you would like to be at five or ten minutes before the end, and have the person tell you when both points are reached.
- Use the markings you made in your lesson to help you pace the discussion. If time is tight, move through basic questions quickly so you can spend time on meatier ones.

Fostering Discussion

- Watch for clues that a timid person has something to say, and encourage them without putting them on the spot.
- Don’t be afraid of silence. (Try praying an Our Father or Hail Mary while you wait.) If the silence continues too long, you might ask someone to read the appropriate Scripture verse and then ask how that helps answer the question. Or you may find it helpful to answer the first part of a long question yourself, and then re-phrase the question to draw out the rest. Try not to answer the whole thing for them.
- Prepare ways to kindly curb someone who dominates the group, to give others a chance to speak. If they continue, ask privately if they will help you get others to participate.
- Gently redirect tangents (“That’s an interesting point, John, thank you for sharing. Now to get back to Genesis—did anyone have anything else to add before we move on?).
- Establish a “parking lot.” Ask someone to write down big questions that won’t go away or that threaten to take up too much time. After all the workbook questions are answered, go back to them, beginning with those that are most closely related to the lesson (or handle these in the way your group leader has instructed you).
Prayer by St. Ephraim

As facilitators, you may have people in your group who are discouraged by the wealth of Bible knowledge they have missed out on or cannot grasp. These words of advice from St. Ephraim (d. c. 373 AD) for struggling Bible readers may provide some encouragement:

“Lord who can grasp all the wealth of just one of your words? What we understand is much less than we leave behind; like thirsty people who drink from a fountain. […] Be glad that you are overcome and do not be sad that it overcame you. The thirsty man rejoices when he drinks and he is not downcast because he cannot empty the fountain. Rather let the fountain quench your thirst than have your thirst quench the fountain. Because if your thirst is quenched and the fountain is not exhausted, you can drink from it again whenever you are thirsty. But if when your thirst is quenched and the fountain is also dried up, your victory will bode evil for you.

So be grateful for what you have received and don’t grumble about the abundance left behind. What you have received and what you have reached is your share. What remains is your heritage. What at one time you were unable to receive because of your weakness, you will be able to receive at other times if you persevere. Do not have the presumption to try to take in one draft what cannot be taken in one draft and do not abandon out of laziness what can only be taken little by little.”

Help Us Help You

Please let us know how we can improve our studies or the support we provide. The following questions are particularly helpful to us:

- What did you hope to get out of your Bible study?
- How well did this study (name) meet your expectations?
- What did you like most about it?
- What did you like least?
- If you could improve something about this study or the program in general, what would it be?
- What studies would you like to see offered in the future?
- What was your experience with the Great Adventure website or support materials? How might these be improved?

Please send your comments to info@biblestudyforcatholics.com. You can also mail them to The Great Adventure, P.O. Box 1990, West Chester, PA 19380.
What you need to run a Bible Study:
- Each **participant/small group facilitator** should have a Bible Study Set/Kit. They may also want to have CDs for review or home study.
- Each **Study leader** should have the Bible Study DVD Set, a Bible Study Kit/Set and a Leader’s Resource Binder.

### The Great Adventure Bible Study Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Bible Timeline 2.0: The Story of Salvation</td>
<td>12 DVDs</td>
<td>$399.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(24-Part Study)</td>
<td>24 CDs</td>
<td>$149.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Kit</td>
<td>$44.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Bible Timeline Items</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color Memory Beads</td>
<td>$13.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookmark (Spanish)</td>
<td>$11.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timeline Chart (Spanish)</td>
<td>$14.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader’s Binder</td>
<td>$14.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core Team Binder</td>
<td>$59.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$19.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starter Pack</td>
<td>$399.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Quick Journey Through the Bible</td>
<td>4 DVDs</td>
<td>$99.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Bible Timeline 8-Part Study)</td>
<td>4 CDs</td>
<td>$139.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader’s Pack</td>
<td>$24.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Pack</td>
<td>$19.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$19.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starter Pack</td>
<td>$399.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bible Timeline Guided Journal</td>
<td>Hardcover</td>
<td>$14.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew: The King and His Kingdom</td>
<td>12 DVDs</td>
<td>$399.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(24-Part Study)</td>
<td>24 CDs</td>
<td>$149.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Set with Binder</td>
<td>$29.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$399.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom</td>
<td>10 DVDs</td>
<td>$29.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(20-Part Study)</td>
<td>20 CDs</td>
<td>$139.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Set with Binder</td>
<td>$29.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$399.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revelation</td>
<td>11 CDs</td>
<td>$179.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10-Part Study)</td>
<td>6 DVDs</td>
<td>$179.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Set with Binder</td>
<td>$22.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$179.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>11 CDs</td>
<td>$179.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10-Part Study)</td>
<td>6 DVDs</td>
<td>$179.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Set with Binder</td>
<td>$22.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$179.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psalms</td>
<td>11 CDs</td>
<td>$179.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10-Part Study)</td>
<td>6 DVDs</td>
<td>$179.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Set with Binder</td>
<td>$22.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$179.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Corinthians</td>
<td>6 CDs</td>
<td>$199.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10-Part Study)</td>
<td>4 DVDs</td>
<td>$199.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Set with Binder</td>
<td>$22.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$199.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exodus: Called to Freedom</td>
<td>5 CDs</td>
<td>$199.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10-Part Study)</td>
<td>3 DVDs</td>
<td>$199.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Set with Binder</td>
<td>$22.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$199.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galatians</td>
<td>8 CDs</td>
<td>$299.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8-Part Study)</td>
<td>4 DVDs</td>
<td>$299.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Set with Binder</td>
<td>$24.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$139.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Teen/Kids Bible Study Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Encounter</td>
<td>4 DVDs</td>
<td>$99.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8-Part Study)</td>
<td>Leader’s Guide</td>
<td>$149.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Notebook</td>
<td>$9.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$119.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starter Pack</td>
<td>$129.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3: The Teen Timeline</td>
<td>5 CDs</td>
<td>$139.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8-Part Study)</td>
<td>Leader’s Guide</td>
<td>$199.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Study Kit</td>
<td>$149.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$114.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starter Pack</td>
<td>$110.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3 Matthew: Thy Kingdom Come</td>
<td>5 CDs</td>
<td>$139.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8-Part Study)</td>
<td>Leader’s Guide</td>
<td>$189.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$129.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starter Pack</td>
<td>$119.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3 Acts: The Keys and the Sword</td>
<td>2 CDs</td>
<td>$149.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$129.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starter Pack</td>
<td>$129.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3 Revelation: The Lion and the Lamb</td>
<td>2 CDs</td>
<td>$149.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$129.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starter Pack</td>
<td>$129.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Adventure Kids Card Games</td>
<td></td>
<td>$11.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timeline Chart</td>
<td>$14.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coloring book</td>
<td>$13.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookmark</td>
<td>$9.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prayer Beads</td>
<td>$3.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA Kids Pack: (Bookmark, Beads, Coloring book, Chart, Card Games)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$24.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Walking Toward Eternity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daring to Walk the Walk</td>
<td>8 CDs</td>
<td>$199.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8-Part Study)</td>
<td>Journal &amp; Bookmark</td>
<td>$15.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$109.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engaging the Struggles of the Heart</td>
<td>8 CDs</td>
<td>$199.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8-Part Study)</td>
<td>Journal &amp; Bookmark</td>
<td>$15.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Pack</td>
<td>$109.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Popular Catholic Books

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bible Compass, The Biblical Walk Through the Mass, A</td>
<td>$12.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I’m Not Being Fed! Book</td>
<td>$12.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Life on the Rock</td>
<td>$13.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Praying Scripture for a Change Study Guide</td>
<td>$12.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking with God Hardcover</td>
<td>$12.99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Order 20 or more Study Sets/Study Kits and Receive 15% Off! Please verify current pricing before planning your Bible Study. Call us at 1-800-376-0520.

Visit BibleStudyforCatholics.com for free Bible Study Leader Resources!