

The Lesson Plan for *What We Believe*:

Lesson 1: "Introduction: A Biblical Understanding of Theology" – introduction to theology.

Your students will come to a biblical understanding of the importance and nature of the task of studying theology. Key passages are Prov. 1:7 and Psalm 131.

Lesson 2: "The Bible: The Book God Wrote—Part 1" – Revelation.

Your students will become familiar with God's work of revelation, categorizing that work into both special and general revelation. They will appreciate their Bibles as the most valuable form of special revelation, and they will count it an enormous privilege to read their Bible. Key passages are Psalm 19 and Rom. 1:18-25.

Lesson 3: "The Bible: The Book God Wrote—Part 2" – Bibliology: inspiration, canon, preservation, and hermeneutics.

Your students will learn the biblical truth that the Bible is God's Word, the book God wrote. They will become familiar with the many works of God that gave us Scripture, the divine nature of Scripture, and what is necessary to correctly use Scripture as a rule of faith and practice. Key passages are 2 Tim. 3:14-17 and 2 Pet. 1:16-21.

Lesson 4: "The Nature of God: Who He Is" – Theology proper.

Your students will learn the perfections of God as His greatness, His goodness, and His personhood. Understanding these attributes of God will help them avoid imagining God for themselves, which is the heart of idolatry. The key passage is Acts 17:16-34.

Lesson 5: "The Work of God: What He Has Done" – Theology proper, part 2.

Your students will come to understand the meaning of God's works of creation and providence and how to apply these works to their lives, as King Hezekiah learned. The key passage is 2 Kings 19.

Lesson 6: "Jesus Christ: Entire God" – Christology, part 1.

Your students will understand that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, the second Person of the Trinity. The key passage is Rom. 14:6-12.

Lesson 7: "Jesus Christ: Entire Man" – Christology, part 2.

Your students will come to love their Savior more as they understand better the importance of this truth to their lives, that He was as human as we ourselves are. The key passage is John 9:10-41.

Lesson 8: "What Is Man?" – Anthropology and Harmartiology.

Your students will have a biblical answer to a question that has become poorly answered in the world in which we live—"What Is Man?" in a study of the doctrines of man and sin. The key passage is Psalm 8.

Lesson 9: “God’s Gracious Salvation” – Soteriology.

Your students will come to understand God’s work of salvation that they might become more effective preachers of the gospel of Jesus Christ to the lost who need that salvation. Key passage is Rom. 1:1-17.

Lesson 10: “The Holy Spirit: Allied Helper” – Pneumatology.

Your students will learn of the deity and personhood of the third member of the Trinity and come to appreciate and depend on His ministry as the believer’s and the local church’s Helper. Key passages are John 14:16-31 and 16:5-15.

Lesson 11: “God’s Work Today: The Local Church” – Ecclesiology.

Your students will come to understand what the church is in both its universal/invisible and local/visible forms. The lesson follows a dispensational view of the uniqueness of the church to this age. Students will hear from Scripture their calling to be a part of God’s work today as faithful, baptized, local-church members. The ordinances and the Great Commission are stressed. Key passage is Rev. 1:17-20.

Lesson 12: “The Future” - Eschatology.

Your students will see the wonder of the nature of biblical prophecy and understand what its predictions about the future should mean for our lives.

In the pages of the teacher’s guide, sections also included in the students’ manual appear in gray.