



This leader review is only to be used in conjunction with

***The Amazing Collection: The Bible, Book by Book
Set 3: The Post-Exilic Books***

The Amazing Collection: The Bible, Book by Book

Lesson Reviews for Facilitators

Set 3: The Post-Exilic Books

First Chronicles through Esther



Session Thirteen: First Chronicles Review: Preparing for the Temple

Homework for the book of Second Kings: Because this is the beginning of a new set, homework review may not be appropriate if time has passed since completion of the last set and students do not have their workbooks with them.

Page 180:	All questions
Pages 183-184:	All questions
Page 186:	Question at bottom of page
Page 187:	Question at top of page
Page 191:	Question at bottom of page

Oral Review:

The Story So Far:

Pentateuch:

- God had promised Abraham that his descendants would be many (a nation) and that He would give them the land of the Canaanites.
- The people did grow in number in the protective cocoon of Egypt.
- God then led them out of Egypt and over the next 40 years they were taught the ways of God, trained in social living and government and refined through discipline after they rebelled against God and thus wandered in the wilderness for forty years.
- At the end of the Pentateuch, the people were positioned on the shore of the Promised Land and Joshua became the leader.

Kingdom Books:

Joshua:

- God parted the Jordan River and Joshua led the children of Israel into the Promised Land.
- They set up camp at Gilgal, just a few miles away from Jericho.
- There the men were circumcised and the people celebrated Passover.
- At God's command they defeated Jericho in a most unusual manner.
- From there they divided and conquered the land over a period of seven years.
- Then for the next eighteen years they divided the land so that each one of the twelve tribes had their own land and there was peace and prosperity.

Judges:

- Covers the next 340 years.
- God was to be their king, but time and time again, the people would turn to other gods and live in disobedience to God's laws thus bringing about corrupt societies.
- Their enemies would conquer different areas of the land and when they did they would oppress the people.
- The people would cry out to God and repent and He sent judges, who acted more like generals as they would lead the people to victory over their enemies.
- So the people would return to God and they would once again know peace and prosperity.
- These "sin cycles" took place seven times and are recorded in Judges.
- Deborah, Gideon and Samson are three of the most well-known judges.

Ruth:

- Takes place during the time of the judges.
- In it God reveals the concept of the Kinsman Redeemer.
- Ruth, a Moabite, remains loyal to her mother-in-law after the death of her husband and father-in-law.
- They travel from Moab back to Bethlehem.
- There Ruth meets Boaz who becomes her kinsman redeemer, marries her and they have a son who becomes the grandfather of King David.

First Samuel:

- Samuel leads the people as a judge, priest and prophet.
- Toward the end of his life, the people demand a king.
- He warns them that this is not God's will for them but they insist.
- Saul becomes the first king of Israel but his heart is far from God.
- God then appoints Samuel to go to the home of a shepherd boy and anoint him with oil and pronounce that he would be the next king.
- The rest of 1 Samuel chronicles the ongoing conflict between Saul (who is filled with jealousy) and David who is a man after God's own heart.
- In the end, Saul is killed in war.

Second Samuel:

- David becomes king of Judah for seven years but is then crowned king of all the tribes uniting the monarchy.
- During his reign, Israel becomes politically and militarily secure.
- David sins committing adultery with Bathsheba and has her husband murdered.
- Nathan the prophet confronts David who repents immediately.
- The last years of David's life are marked by extreme family conflicts and troubles as he suffered the consequences of his sin.

First Kings:

- David dies and his son Solomon becomes king.
- During his reign, he builds the Temple from the materials David had collected and brings Israel to its Golden Era.
- As he ages, he turns his heart away from God to his wives' gods.
- After his death his son Rehoboam becomes king.
- He refuses to lower the taxes and the people rebel.
- The nation divides...Northern 10 tribes are called Israel, and the Southern two tribes are called Judah.
- Judah always had a king that was a descendent of David and worshiped in Jerusalem at the Temple Solomon built.
- The Levitical order remained temple servants and the descendants of Aaron were the priests as God ordained.
- Israel, however, disobeyed God and established two places of worship, Bethel and Dan.
- Golden calves were the center of that worship and the priesthood was perverted as that office could be bought.

Second Kings:

- Israel continues in its evil ways and is conquered and scattered by Assyria.
- About one hundred and fifty years later, Judah is conquered and exiled to Babylon as discipline for their unwillingness to follow God.

Written Review: Because a new set is beginning and will require more time for oral review, there will be no written review. If the class has not taken the previous books than use this time asking them what they hope to get out of the class. May also include what other Bible classes they have taken to give the facilitator an idea of the Biblical maturity of the class.

Introduction to this week's book: The book of First and Second Chronicles is in the Post Exilic Set because it is believed that these two books were written to the exiles living in Babylon to review their history, reveal the sins of the nation, and explain why they are in exile. They also review all God had done for them and all He would do for them. These books cover much of the same material found in Second Samuel (the life of David as King) and First and Second Kings (only the kings of Judah). Originally First and Second Chronicles were one book.

Watch the DVD for First Chronicles:

Teacher:	Eleanor Lewis
Testimony:	Black woman finds out she has white ancestry Eleanor Sams
Music:	God of Restoration
Vocalist:	Antonia Lawrence

Learning for Life: Take time to discuss the Learning for Life Questions at the end of the DVD workbook outline.

What to remember from First Chronicles:

Review: Preparing for the Temple

Who:	Author: Ezra according to Jewish tradition Main Character: David
What:	The exiles review the historical record of David's preparation to build a place of worship-the Temple.
When:	Covers the forty year reign of King David (1011-971 BC)
Where:	Israel
Why:	To prepare the remnant of Judah, returning after seventy years of exile, for the rebuilding of the Temple.

Wrap Up: Pray that participants would choose to remember all of the goodness of God in their lives, and that they would know that their bodies are the temple of God that Christ dwells permanently within them.

Session Fourteen: Second Chronicles Review: Judah's Spiritual Descent

Homework: Begin this session with a discussion of the workbook homework from the book of First Chronicles. Key questions are:

Page 33:	Question in center of page
Page 35:	Question at bottom of page
Page 39:	Question at top of page
Page 41:	Question at top of page

Oral Review:

The Story So Far:

First Chronicles:

- Reviews for the exiles living in Babylon the genealogy of the twelve tribes and then moves on to cover much of the reign of King David.
- There is great religious emphasis on David's reign including bringing the ark to Jerusalem, the Davidic covenant, collecting the materials to build the temple, the organization of the Levites, and his last instructions to the people.

Written Review: The written review is on the next page.

Introduction to this week's book: Second Chronicles takes up the history of Israel where First Chronicles leaves off. King David died and Solomon became king. Just a little less than half of the book tells of Solomon and the building of the temple. Then it moves on to tell of the twenty kings of Judah and the impact they had on the religious life of the people.

Show the DVD for Second Chronicles:

Teacher:	Pat Harley
Testimony:	Abortion/Letting go of control/Difficult marriage Robin Rosebrough
Music:	Second Wind
Vocalist:	Elise Norman

Learning for Life: Take time to discuss the Learning for Life Questions at the end of the DVD workbook outline.

What to remember from Second Chronicles:

Review: Judah's Spiritual Descent

Who:	Author: Ezra (according to Jewish tradition) Main characters: Solomon (chapters 1-9) and all the kings of Judah (chapters 10-36)
What:	Continues the historical review of Judah and the Davidic lineage.
When:	971 BC-538 BC
Where:	United Kingdom of Israel (1-10) only the Southern Kingdom of Judah (11-36)
Why:	Written to encourage those returning to Judah after the exile in Babylon to learn from the past and live in faithfulness to God.

Wrap Up: Pray that the class participants will have an undivided heart toward the things of God

Written Review for Session Fourteen: Second Chronicles

1. What are the first five books in the Bible and what is the name given to them?
2. What is the theme of First Chronicles?
3. After how many years in exile did God return the people to the land?
4. Was First Chronicles compiled and written before the exile or after?
5. What other book in the Bible contains much of the same information as First Chronicles?
6. Who led Israel into the Promised Land? In what book did that happen?
7. What were the three promises God gave to Abraham? What two of these promises were fulfilled before First Chronicles was written?
8. What king was promised by God that he would have a descendent on the throne forever?
9. What king built the temple?
10. Which king caused a division in the nation that lasted until the exile?
11. What leader took Moses' place?
12. What book was the land conquered and settled?
13. How many tribes of Israel were there?
14. Who could enter the Holy of Holies?
15. Who was the first king of Israel?
16. What king brought the ark to Jerusalem?
17. What country conquered Israel, the Northern Kingdom?
18. What country conquered and exiled Judah, the Southern Kingdom?
19. What prophet was taken to heaven in a whirlwind?

Written Review for Session Fourteen: Second Chronicles

Facilitator's Answers

1. What are the first five books in the Bible and what is the name given to them?
 - a. **Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, The Pentateuch**
2. What is the theme of First Chronicles?
 - a. **Preparing to rebuild the temple**
3. After how many years in exile did God return the people to the land?
 - a. **70 years**
4. Was First Chronicles compiled and written before the exile or after?
 - a. **after**
5. What other book in the Bible contains much of the same information as First Chronicles?
 - a. **Second Samuel**
6. Who led Israel into the Promised Land? In what book did that happen?
 - a. **Joshua/Joshua**
7. What were the three promises God gave to Abraham? What two of these promises were fulfilled before First Chronicles was written?
 - a. **People/Land/Blessing to all nations; People and Land**
8. What king was promised by God that he would have a descendent on the throne forever?
 - a. **King David**
9. What king built the temple?
 - a. **King Solomon**
10. Which king caused a division in the nation that lasted until the exile?
 - a. **King Rehoboam**
11. What leader took Moses' place?
 - a. **Joshua**
12. What book was the land conquered and settled?
 - a. **Joshua**
13. How many tribes of Israel were there?
 - a. **Twelve**
14. Who could enter the Holy of Holies?
 - a. **The High Priest**

Written Review for Session Fourteen: Second Chronicles
Facilitator's Answers

15. Who was the first king of Israel?

a. Saul

16. What king brought the ark to Jerusalem?

a. David

17. What country conquered Israel, the Northern Kingdom?

a. Assyria

18. What country conquered and exiled Judah, the Southern Kingdom?

a. Babylon

19. What prophet was taken to heaven in a whirlwind?

a. Elijah

Session Fifteen: Ezra Rebuilding the Temple

Homework: Begin this session with a discussion of the workbook homework from the book of Second Chronicles. Key questions are:

Page 53:	Question in middle of page
Page 54:	All questions
Page 57:	Question at top of page
Chart on pages 62-63:	Review the causes of revival
Page 65:	Question at bottom of page

Oral Review:

The Story So Far:

First Chronicles:

- Reviews for the exiles living in Babylon the genealogy of the twelve tribes and then moves on to cover much of the reign of King David.
- There is great religious emphasis on David's reign including bringing the ark to Jerusalem, the Davidic covenant, collecting the materials to build the temple, the organization of the Levites, and his last instructions to the people.

Second Chronicles:

- The story continued from First Chronicles.
- King David died and his son Solomon became king and built the Temple to David's specification.
- Nine chapters are devoted to the building of the Temple, the dedication of the Temple and Solomon's fame.
- Rehoboam's poor judgment divided the country into the Northern (Israel) and Southern Kingdoms (Judah).
- The reigns of the rest of the kings of Judah are then described from a priestly point of view.
- In the end the nation is conquered and exiled.
- However, the last two paragraphs describe Cyrus, king of Persia's proclamation allowing the exiles to return to Judah and Jerusalem.

Written Review: The written review is on the next page.

Introduction to this week's book: The book of Ezra begins the story where the book of Second Chronicles leaves off and tells of the fulfillment of God's promise to the people that they would return to the land after seventy years in exile. The King of Persia allowed those Jews living in Persia (that was called Babylon when the people were exiled and had since been conquered by Persia) to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple. Ezra relates the story of two returns, the trials the people faced, and how they overcame various road blocks put before them. It culminates with the completion and dedication of the temple and the revival of the spiritual lives of the people.

Watch the DVD for Ezra:

Teacher:	Linda Sweeney
Testimony:	Young husband had brain tumor Luann Richardson
Music:	A Mighty Fortress
Vocalist:	Antonia Lawrence and choir

Learning for Life: Take time to discuss the Learning for Life Questions at the end of the DVD workbook outline.

What to remember from Ezra:	
Rebuilding the Temple	
Who:	Author: Ezra according to Jewish tradition Main Characters: Zerubbabel, Ezra
What:	After 70 years in captivity, a remnant returned to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem.
When:	Covers 91 years (536-445 BC)
Where:	Persia, Jerusalem
Why:	Records the history of the returned remnant and the restoration of the Temple, as well as the spiritual revival of God's children. We see that God is faithful in keeping His promises.

Wrap Up: Pray that the participants will have the courage to rebuild that which is broken, the courage to do God's will and the patience and endurance to press on to a deeper relationship with Christ in spite of any road blocks that may be put in front of them.

Written Review for Session Fifteen: Ezra

Some of the ways God showed His greatness?

1. In Genesis God _____ Adam and Eve.
2. In Exodus He appeared to _____ in a burning bush to lead the people.
3. He brought about the _____ upon Egypt to convince them to let His people go.
4. He led the people to _____ and there He gave them the Ten Commandments.
5. In Numbers he disciplined them by making the wonder in the _____ for forty years yet He provided food for them every day and their clothes never wore out.
6. In Joshua the _____ of Jericho came tumbling down without any help from the Israelites but through the power of God.
7. In Judges, seven times He rescued them from oppression by appointing _____ to lead them.
8. In First Samuel, He anointed _____ to be king after Saul.
9. In Second Samuel, He promised _____ would have a descendent on the throne forever.
10. In First Kings, His _____ filled the temple at the temple dedication.
11. In Second Kings He disciplined Judah with exile to _____.
12. In First Chronicles David brings the Ark to _____ and worships God.
13. In Second Chronicles King Josiah brought about a great _____ in the land and Passover was celebrated with great joy!
14. God has shown His greatness to me through _____.

Written Review for Session Fifteen: Ezra

Facilitator's Answers

Some of the ways God showed His greatness?

1. In Genesis God _____ Adam and Eve.
a. created
2. In Exodus He appeared to _____ in a burning bush to lead the people.
a. Moses
3. He brought about the _____ upon Egypt to convince them to let His people go.
a. ten plagues
4. He led the people to _____ and there He gave them the Ten Commandments.
a. Mt. Sinai
5. In Numbers he disciplined them by making them wander in the _____ for forty years yet He provided food for them every day and their clothes never wore out.
a. wilderness
6. In Joshua the _____ of Jericho came tumbling down without any help from the Israelites but through the power of God.
a. walls
7. In Judges, seven times He rescued them from oppression by appointing _____ to lead them.
a. judges
8. In First Samuel, He anointed _____ to be king after Saul.
a. David
9. In Second Samuel, He promised _____ would have a descendent on the throne forever.
a. David
10. In First Kings, His _____ filled the temple at the temple dedication.
a. glory
11. In Second Kings He disciplined Judah with exile to _____.
a. Babylon
12. In First Chronicles David brought the Ark to _____ and worshiped God.
a. Jerusalem

Written Review for Session Fifteen: Ezra
Facilitator's Answers

13. In Second Chronicles King Josiah brought about a great _____ in the land and Passover was celebrated with great joy!
- a. **renewal**
14. God has shown His greatness to me through _____.
- a. **Varied answers**

Session Sixteen: Nehemiah Rebuilding the Wall

Homework: Begin this session with a discussion of the workbook homework from the book of Ezra.

Pages 77-78:	Review the chart
Page 80:	All questions
Page 81:	Question at top of page
Page 84:	Question in middle of page
Pages 87-88:	Review the role of the Word of God

Oral Review:

The Story So Far:

First Chronicles:

- Reviews for the exiles living in Babylon the genealogy of the twelve tribes and then moves on to cover much of the reign of King David.
- There is great religious emphasis on David's reign including bringing the ark to Jerusalem, the Davidic covenant, collecting the materials to build the temple, the organization of the Levites, and his last instructions to the people.

Second Chronicles:

- The story continued from First Chronicles.
- King David died and his son Solomon became king and built the temple to David's specification.
- Nine chapters are devoted to the building of the temple, the dedication of the temple and Solomon's fame. Rehoboam's poor judgment divided the country into the Northern and Southern Kingdoms.
- The reigns of the rest of the kings of Judah are then described from a priestly point of view.
- In the end the nation is conquered and exiled. However the last two paragraphs describe Cyrus, king of Persia's proclamation allowing the exiles to return to Judah and Jerusalem.

Ezra:

- God kept His promise and made a way for the people to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple under Zerubbabel.
- Almost fifty thousand people returned and began to rebuild the temple.
- But soon opposition stopped the work.
- But God sent Ezra to renew the spiritual lives of the people.

Review Activity: The review activity is on the next page.

Introduction to this week's book: Nehemiah, while serving in the court in Persia, received news that the wall of Jerusalem had not been rebuilt, leaving the Jews vulnerable to enemy attack. He receives permission to return and under his great leadership the wall is rebuilt and the people are encouraged.

Watch the DVD for Nehemiah:

Teacher:	Margi Ruether
Testimony:	Depression/Dissatisfaction with life Mary Cox
Music:	I Will Follow
Vocalist:	Mary Cox

Learning for Life: Take time to discuss the Learning for Life Questions at the end of the DVD workbook outline.

What to remember from Nehemiah: Rebuilding the Wall	
Who:	Either Nehemiah or Ezra
What:	The building of the walls in Jerusalem, led by Nehemiah
When:	Takes place during the third return of the exiles (445-425 BC)
Where:	Takes place in Susa, Persia and Jerusalem, Israel
Why:	Provides background information for the post –exilic period and the prophets and demonstrates the faithfulness of God.

Wrap Up: Pray that each participant would grow to have a prayer life like Nehemiah and be willing to follow through in obeying anything God would have them do, even if it is uncomfortable.

Review Activity for Session Sixteen: Nehemiah

Divide the group into two teams. Have a stack of cards available with one each of the following words on it. Have the teams take turns playing Charades. Give points to the team who has the lowest score (the one who guesses the answers the fastest). You may also want to add to the list.

Eve in the garden tempted by the apple

Noah and the ark

Jacob's twelve sons

Joseph in the pit because of the colored cloak

Moses and the burning bush

The 10 commandments

Wandering in the wilderness

Joshua leading the battle

Jericho walls coming down

David and Goliath

Building the temple

Session Seventeen: Esther Exiles Providential Protection

Homework: Begin this session with a discussion of the workbook homework from the book of Nehemiah.

Pages 105:	All questions
Page 107:	Question on middle of page
Page 110:	Review chart
Page 113:	Question on middle of page

Oral Review:

The Story So Far:

First Chronicles:

- Reviews for the exiles living in Babylon the genealogy of the twelve tribes and then moves on to cover much of the reign of King David.
- There is great religious emphasis on David's reign including bringing the ark to Jerusalem, the Davidic covenant, collecting the materials to build the temple, the organization of the Levites, and his last instructions to the people.

Second Chronicles:

- The story continued from First Chronicles.
- King David died and his son Solomon becomes king and built the temple to David's specification.
- Nine chapters are devoted to the building of the temple, the dedication of the temple and Solomon's fame.
- Rehoboam's poor judgment divided the country into the Northern and Southern Kingdoms.
- The reigns of the rest of the kings of Judah are then described from a priestly point of view.
- In the end the nation is conquered and exiled. However the last two paragraphs describe Cyrus, king of Persia's proclamation allowing the exiles to return to Judah and Jerusalem.

Ezra:

- God kept His promise and made a way for the people to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple.
- Almost fifty thousand people returned and began to rebuild the temple.
- But soon opposition stopped the work.
- But God sent Ezra to renew the spiritual lives of the people and rebuilding was begun again and soon completed.

Nehemiah:

- He is given permission by the king of Persia to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the wall.
- This book chronicles the progress on the wall, the opposition Nehemiah faced and the rebuilding of the people's spiritual lives through the renewing of the covenant with God.

Review Activity: The review activity is on the next page. Because this is the last book in this set do the written review after they have watched the DVD and done the Learning for Life questions.

Introduction to this week's book: While Ezra and Nehemiah take place mostly in Jerusalem; Esther takes place in Susa, the capital of Persia. This story tells of an attempt to totally annihilate the Jews living there but through the hand of Providence, the people are saved by a brave young woman, Queen Esther. This book fits into the historical book of Ezra between the 6th and 7th chapters.

Watch the DVD for Esther:

Teacher:	Eleanor Lewis
Testimony:	Rejection by father/Death of stepfather/ Unfaithful fiancé Marya Lewis
Music:	For Such a Time as This
Vocalist:	John and Annie Barbour

Learning for Life: Take time to discuss the Learning for Life Questions at the end of the DVD workbook outline.

What to remember from Esther: Exiles' Providential Protection	
Who:	Author is unknown Main characters: Esther, Mordecai, Haman and Ahasuerus, King of Persia
What:	The exiles are protected
When:	483-473 BC; during the 60 years between the Jews first return to Jerusalem led by Zerubbabel and the second return led by Ezra.
Where:	Persia
Why:	To show how God's hidden hand works behind the scenes to protect His people.

Wrap Up: Pray that the participants would have the courage of Esther to do the right thing no matter what the opposition is and also have the wisdom to do it in a right and effective manner.

Review Activity for Session Seventeen: Esther

Make cards of the following words. Then make larger cards with the name of each one of the books studied so far (Genesis through Esther). Give several cards to each person and working as one team, put the smaller cards under the larger card that has the name of the book. The larger cards can be put on the floor so enough space will be available. For the facilitator, the words are arranged under the book they are in:

Genesis:

Creation
Adam
Ark
Flood
Abraham
Jacob
12 sons
Joseph

Exodus:

Moses
Pharaoh's daughter
10 plagues
first born die
Red Sea
Mt. Sinai
10 commandments
tabernacle built

Leviticus:

sacrifices
feasts
priesthood
Levite instructions

Numbers:

12 spies
wilderness wandering
2 censuses
talking donkey

Deuteronomy

3 sermons
Moses dies
Joshua made leader

Joshua

Jericho walls
divide and conquer
tribes settled
camp at Gilgal

Judges

Gideon
Deborah
Samson
Theocracy

Ruth

Unhappy- mother- in- law
Gathering the sheaves
Boaz
Kinsman redeemer

1 Samuel

Hannah
Last judge
Eli
Saul King
David anointed
Saul Dies

2 Samuel

David
Mighty men
Jerusalem capital
Kingdom united
Davidic covenant
Bathsheba

1 Kings

Solomon
temple built
Rehoboam
Kingdom divided
Bethel and Dan

2 Kings

Elisha
Hezekiah
Manasseh
Josiah
Assyria conquers
Babylon exiles

Ezra

1 return
2 return
Temple rebuilt

Nehemiah

Cupbearer
walls rebuilt

Esther

Brave queen
Mordecai
Jews almost annihilated

(1 & 2 Chronicles not included because most of the material is covered in 1 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings)