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GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF ELEMENTARY
AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
CURRICULUM SERVICE

CURRICULUM FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT
MORAL AND RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION (PROTESTANT)

BIBLE STUDY
(For use in schools recognized as Protestant)

PREFACE

This course outline in Bible Study for elementary schools is a revised version of the course outline which appeared in the last edition of the Handbook for Teachers, 1965.

During the period from 1965 to the present, certain modifications have been introduced into the educational system of Quebec which have quite naturally necessitated changes in the structure, aims and content of Moral and Religious Instruction in schools recognized as Protestant. Consequently, the teacher planning to use this course outline should take careful note of the following points:

- (a) in 1968, the Protestant Committee of the Superior Council of Education modified the aims of Moral and Religious Instruction in schools recognized as Protestant to read as follows: "The aim of moral and religious instruction in the Protestant schools of Quebec shall be to give the pupils a general knowledge of the Bible and to foster the growth of a moral and spiritual interpretation of life." (Reg. 2 Sec. 1 of the Regulations of the Protestant Committee.)
- (b) as a result of the implementation of Regulation 1, the material originally intended for Grade VII has been removed from the course outline for elementary schools and has become, instead, the work allotted to level I of the secondary school.
- (c) the course in Moral and Religious Instruction for elementary schools issued in 1969, strongly recommends the use of versions of the Bible other than the King James version. For that reason, care should be taken in the use of this course outline, where all biblical references are to the King James version. The teacher is reminded that some of the more modern versions may have slightly different verse divisions, or verse divisions not as clearly defined. Moreover, certain modifications to the text of the Bible have been made, consistent with the findings of modern biblical scholarship (e.g. the ending of St. Mark's Gospel).

- (d) Teachers are reminded that useful reference material for Bible Study may be found in the Teacher's Resource Book and Guide for elementary schools (Document 762).
- (e) There is an ever-increasing number of audio-visual resources available in the area of Bible Study and school boards are urged to make a wide variety of such materials available in the schools under their jurisdiction.

Quebec, 1973.

MORAL AND RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION (PROTESTANT)

A. Introduction

"It is clear that there should be legislation about education and that it should be conducted as a public system. But consideration must be given to the question, what constitutes education and what is the proper way to be educated. At present there are differences of opinion as to the proper tasks to be set; for all peoples do not agree as to the things the young ought to learn, either with a view to virtue or with a view to the best life, nor is it clear whether their studies should be regulated more with regard to intellect or with regard to character. And confusing questions arise out of the education that actually prevails, and it is not at all clear whether the pupils should practise pursuits that are practically useful, or morally edifying, or higher accomplishments - for all these views have won the support of some judges; and nothing is agreed as regards the exercise conducive to virtue, for, to start with, all men do not honour the same virtue, so that they naturally hold different opinions in regard to training in virtue."

Aristotle, Politics, VIII, 2

Even today the problems that Aristotle sets forth above remain fundamental issues in the determination of educational policy. The measure of agreement on any of these issues will vary from community to community. The recurrence of these problems is in fact one of the chief reasons why the curriculum has to be continually studied and revised.

Of this we may be sure. Whatever the public sets as its values and fundamental assumptions will in the long run determine the character of the curriculum. A society, for example, that views education rather narrowly as a service to the purely intellectual interests of the pupils will not demand the same school programme as a society in which the stated objectives include moral and physical development.

In this province Protestant education has by long tradition been concerned with the total development of children. Though the schools may not be the principal agents for raising the moral standards of the community, it is generally accepted throughout our system that they have an important responsibility for the development of good character and responsible citizenship as well as for providing knowledge and skills. It means that every teacher has a responsibility to provide a stimulating environment not only for the child's intellectual growth but for his personal development as well.

The school, (therefore), is expected to share responsibility for developing the ethical behaviour of children. This is closely related to mental health. The young child's ideas of right and wrong, of honesty and fair play are important concerns of the school. Instruction in the basic rules of morality must be given in the classrooms. Each teacher must also take the opportunities which continually present themselves in the group life of the school to make explicit the rules that govern proper behaviour and to make the child aware of moral obligations and ethical standards.

(Thus) religious instruction is an essential part of the programme of our Protestant schools. In this the school shares with the home and the church the responsibility for fostering the growth of a spiritual interpretation of life by means of an understanding and appreciation of our religious heritage.

Moral and Religious Instruction

Aims:

1. To give pupils a general knowledge of the Bible as the book which forms the basis of Christian faith, worship and conduct.
2. To foster the growth of a moral and spiritual interpretation of life by means of an understanding and appreciation of the Christian religion. (see Preface)

B. Bible Study in Elementary Schools (Protestant)

In the early years of the elementary school the telling of Bible stories plays the greatest part. In order that they may be felt by the children to be relevant to themselves, the course outlined begins with Jesus as a small boy, and material from the Gospels and from the Old Testament is introduced from that angle. The teacher is not bound to use all the material and may, if he wishes, supplement it from other passages. Some of the references given are to stories which should be retold (not read) in the simple and imaginative way which all children's stories require. Other passages merely supply the teacher with the information he needs for building up a composite picture of, for example, the home of Jesus. Even here, for children of six, seven or eight, it is wise to throw the material so gathered into narrative form -- for example, to tell the story of a single imagined morning in Jesus' boyhood as He shared in domestic tasks, etc.

Some material is included to meet the needs of teachers who may feel that certain stories ought to be told but do not know how to introduce them; for example, the Transfiguration appears under Jesus' love for mountains as a boy in Galilee and later as a man. Others may wish to omit such stories for young children. All mothers tell their children stories, and in the first two years the Old Testament narratives are very naturally introduced in that way, but they may be brought into the syllabus from time to time and need not be treated as a solid block of material. Other Old Testament material is introduced through the experiences of the boy Jesus in God's House -- what He learned in the synagogue and what He saw and heard in the pilgrimages to the Temple. In these levels the approach should be made through the child's interest in his own home, his circle of friends and relations, his church, and his own enjoyment of the world of nature around him.

In Level III of the elementary school the stories of the Ministry are introduced as the work which His Father had given Jesus to do, and Old Testament material comes in Level IV as showing how the Father had prepared the world for His coming. By the time Level V is reached, the children will already have absorbed a good deal of knowledge about the life of Jesus and will be ready to have the story re-presented as a connected whole. Since St. Mark presents the story most simply, his Gospel has been chosen as the basis. The unity will be broken by the need to deal with festivals like Christmas or Harvest as they occur, but an attempt should be made to keep the continuity of the life of Jesus in the forefront of the teaching. In their last year in the elementary school the children study the Acts of the Apostles and are taught the unfolding story of the Church. The material for each year is divided into two or three parts to help in the planning of the work, but it is not intended that these divisions should be strictly adhered to.

In the earlier years a single story may provide material for a whole week's work, one period being used for the telling, others for creative activity such as drawing, acting the story, etc., or for telling a parallel story in a modern setting, care being taken to relate the Biblical and contemporary stories to one another very clearly. *Creative activity is of very great importance at all stages*, as are also such visual aids to teaching as flannel-graphs, pictures, models, maps and other illustrative material, such as tapes, films and film-strips. In the later years the approach should be varied to keep pace with the developing interests of the children. At about eight or nine years old they are interested in the way other people live and work; at ten and eleven they become aware of character development, and problems of behaviour and conduct can be introduced. It will be noted that a list of passages suggested as suitable for memory work is appended to the syllabus, and the teacher should encourage the children to learn these or similar passages.

There will certainly be many occasions on which moral principles may be inculcated as they arise naturally out of the lesson material, and this aspect of the course should receive careful attention. The whole school may meet for a daily act of worship, or simple devotions may be included in the religious instruction period.

ELEMENTARY LEVEL I

THE HOME IN BETHLEHEM AND NAZARETH

PART ONE

1. Jesus shared in family life and enjoyed it just as we do:
 - Brothers and Sisters Mark 6: 3.
 - The Mud-brick House with a Turf Roof ... Mark 2: 1-12;
Matthew 6: 19-21.
 - Home Life: Mending Mark 2: 21.
 - Sweeping Luke 15: 8-10.
 - Baking Matthew 13: 33.
 - Feeding the Children Matthew 7: 9-11.
 - Lighting the Lamp Luke 11: 33-36.
 - The Unexpected Visitor Luke 11: 5-8.
 - Children's Games Luke 7: 31-32.

 - Special Occasions:
 - The Feast Luke 14: 7-11,
15-24.
 - The Wedding Matthew 25: 1-13.

2. The Story of His Family:
 - The Angel's Message Luke 1: 26-35.
 - The Birth of Jesus Luke 2: 1-20.
 - The Visit to the Temple Luke 2: 21-40.
 - The Wise Men Matthew 2: 1-12.
 - The Flight to Egypt Matthew 2: 13-23.

PART TWO

3. He lived in this beautiful world and found it full of interest:
- The Country: Plants - Sycamore Tree Luke 19: 1-10.
Fig Tree Luke 13: 6-9.
Flowers Matthew 6: 28-30.
Mustard Matthew 13: 31-32.
Grain Mark 4: 1-10.
Weeds Matthew 13: 24-30.
Grapes Matthew 7: 16-20.
- Animals - Sheep Luke 15: 4-7.
Ox and Donkey Luke 14: 1-6.
Dogs and Pigs Matthew 7: 6.
Donkey Mark 11: 1-10.
Foxes Luke 9: 58.
Birds Luke 12: 6-7, 24.
4. He lived near great mountains and learned to love them:
- The Temptation Luke 4: 5-8.
The Great Sermon Matthew 5: 1.
The Call of the Twelve Mark 3: 13.
Private Prayer John 6: 14-16.
Transfiguration Mark 9: 2-8.
Ascension Matthew 28: 16-20.

PART THREE

5. Stories He heard from His mother:
- Generous Abraham Genesis 12: 1-7;
13: 2-12.
Isaac avoids a Quarrel Genesis 26: 17-22.
God promises to take care of Jacob Genesis 28: 10-19.
Birth of Moses Exodus 1: 8-14, 22;
2: 1-10.
Birth and Childhood of Samuel I Samuel 1: 1-28;
2: 18-19,
26;
3: 1-21.
A Shepherd Boy Becomes a King I Samuel 16: 1-13.
Elijah and the Poor Widow I Kings 17: 8-24.
A Little Girl helps a Great Soldier II Kings 5: 1-14.
A Whole Army runs away II Kings 7: 3-16.

ELEMENTARY LEVEL II

A BOY IN GALILEE

PART ONE

1. Watching men at their work and learning from them:

Shepherds	Luke 15: 4-7; John 10: 11-18.
Fishermen	Mark 1: 16-20; Luke 5: 1-11.
Labourers	Matthew 20: 1-16.
Ploughmen	Matthew 13: 44; Luke 9: 62.
Sowers	Mark 4: 1-10.
Builders	Matthew 7: 24-27; Luke 14: 28-30.
Merchants	Matthew 13: 45-46.
Travellers	Luke 10: 30-37.
Soldiers	Matthew 8: 5-13.
Servants	Matthew 25: 14-30.
Tax Collectors	Mark 2: 14; Luke 19: 1-10.

PART TWO

2. Jesus goes to God's House:

Jesus in the Temple	Luke 2: 41-51.
The Temple of Solomon	I Kings 5: 1-12; 6: 1-38; 8: 1-21, 62, 63 ^b , 65-66.
The Basket of Firstfruits	Deuteronomy 26: 1-11.
The People bring Gifts	Mark 12: 41-44.
The Three Festivals	Exodus 23: 14-17.
Passover	Deuteronomy 16: 1-8.
Pentecost	Deuteronomy 16: 9-12.
Tabernacles	Deuteronomy 16: 13-17.
Lessons He heard read at the Festivals	Song of Songs 2: 10-13; Ruth 1-2; 4: 13-17; Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8.
The Sabbath	Deuteronomy 5: 12-15.
The Synagogue	Luke 4: 16-22 ^a .
The Ruler of the Synagogue	Mark 5: 21-24; 35-43.

3. Learning to worship:
- The Law Exodus 20: 1-17.
 - 'Hear O Israel' (The Shema) Deuteronomy 6: 4-9.
 - Some Hymns He used to sing Psalms 23, 121, 15,
8, 100, 24; 95: 1-7.
 - Stories of Prayer Nehemiah 1: 1-2; 8;
Acts 16: 22, 34, 40;
Luke 17: 11-19;
I Samuel 1: 1-28;
Matthew 6: 9-13;
Luke 11: 5-13; 18: 1-8.
 - The Priests' Blessing Numbers 6: 24-26.

PART THREE

4. More stories His mother told Him:
- God takes care of Noah and the Animals Genesis 6: 5-8; 22.
 - Finding a Wife for Isaac Genesis 24.
 - Joseph and His Brothers Genesis 37: 2-36;
41: 1-57; 42: 1-6;
45: 1-11.
 - Moses and the Burning Bush Exodus 3: 1-13.
 - Food in the Wilderness Exodus 16: 2-15.
 - Saul loses his Asses and finds a Kingdom I Samuel 9: 1-10: 9.
 - David and Goliath I Samuel 17: 4-49.
 - David is kind to King Saul I Samuel 26: 1-25.
 - Elisha and the Sick Boy II Kings 4: 8-37.
 - Building the Walls of Jerusalem Nehemiah 2: 1-18;
4: 7-23; 6: 15.

ELEMENTARY LEVEL III

JESUS AND HIS WORK

PART ONE

1. Jesus as Teacher Matthew 5: 1-16;
Mark 4: 1-30;
Luke 10: 25-37;
Luke 15: 3-32;
Luke 12: 13-21.

2. Jesus as Healer:
 - The Blind Mark 10: 46-52;
8: 22-26.
 - The Deaf Mark 7: 31-37.
 - The Cripples Luke 13: 10-17;
Mark 2: 1-12;
John 5: 1-19.
 - The Maimed Mark 3: 1-6.

3. Jesus and the Twelve Mark 1: 16-20;
John 1: 35-42;
Mark 3: 13-19; 6: 7-13;
30-32.

PART TWO

4. Jesus and His other friends:
 - Nathaniel John 1: 43-51.
 - John the Baptist Matthew 3: 1-12;
11: 2-15.
 - Mary and Martha John 12: 1-8.

5. Jesus and children:
- Blessing the Children Mark 10: 13-16.
 - Jairus' Daughter Mark 5: 21-24, 35-43.
 - The Nobleman's Son John 4: 46-54.
 - The Epileptic Boy Mark 9: 14-29.
 - Children in the Market Place Luke 7: 31-32.
 - The Boy with the Loaves and Fishes John 6: 1-14.

6. Jesus and the outcast:
- Tax Collectors Mark 2: 13-17;
Luke 19: 1-10.
 - Sinners Luke 7: 36-50;
23: 39-43.
 - Lepers Mark 1: 40-45;
Luke 17: 11-19.
 - Foreigners Mark 7: 24-30;
John 4: 1-15; 27-30.

PART THREE

7. Jesus and the Cross:
- The Triumphal Entry Luke 19: 28-40.
 - Cleansing the Temple Luke 19: 41-48.
 - The Parable of the Husbandmen Luke 20: 9-16.
 - A Trap that failed Luke 20: 19-26.
 - The Last Supper Luke 22: 7-27.
 - Gethsemane Luke 22: 39-53.
 - Peter's Denial Luke 22: 54-62.
 - The Trial Luke 22: 66-23: 25.
 - The Crucifixion Luke 23: 32-48.
 - The Resurrection Luke 24: 1-53.

ELEMENTARY LEVEL IV

STORIES OF THE NATION TO WHICH JESUS BELONGED

PART ONE

1. Abraham, the man of faith:
 - His Obedience to God's CallGenesis 12: 1-5.
 - His Trust in God's PromiseGenesis 15: 1-18.
 - His Belief in God's JusticeGenesis 18: 17-33;
19: 27-28.

2. Jacob, the rogue who reformed:
 - Jacob and EsauGenesis 25: 21, 24,
27-34; 27: 1-45.
 - Jacob's DreamGenesis 28: 10-17.
 - Jacob and RachelGenesis 29: 1-13^a.
 - Jacob's WrestlingGenesis 31: 3; 32: 3-13,
22-31; 33: 1^a, 4.

3. Moses, the Leader of God's People:
 - The Birth of MosesExodus 1: 6-12, 22;
2: 1-10.
 - The Burning BushExodus 2: 11-21;
3: 1-20; 4: 10-20, 27-31.
 - The PassoverExodus 5: 1-6: 1;
12: 21-34.
 - The DeliveranceExodus 12: 37^a;
13: 20-22;
14: 5-31.
 - Mount SinaiExodus 19: 1-20;
20: 1-21.
 - The Golden CalfExodus 24: 18;
32: 1-24, 30-35.
 - The Friend of GodExodus 33: 11-19;
34: 1-9, 29-35.
 - The Report of the SpiesNumbers 13: 1-2,
21-33; 14: 1-24.
 - The Death of MosesDeuteronomy 34: 1-12.

PART TWO

4. David, the man after God's own heart:

The Anointing of David	I Samuel 16: 1-13.
David and Saul	I Samuel 16: 14-23.
David and Goliath	I Samuel 17: 1-54.
David and Jonathan	I Samuel 18: 1-9; 19: 8-10; 20: 1-42.
David spares Saul's life	I Samuel 26: 1-25.
The Death of Saul	I Samuel 31: 1-6; II Samuel 1: 17-27.
King David	II Samuel 5: 1-5; 6: 2, 14-17; 8: 14 ^b -15
The Well of Bethlehem	II Samuel 23: 13-17.

5. Elijah, the prophet of utter loyalty:

Elijah and Ahab	I Kings 16: 29 ^b -32; 17: 1-16.
Mount Carmel	I Kings 18: 1-2, 17-46.
Elijah at Mount Horeb	I Kings 19: 1-18.
Naboth's Vineyard	I Kings 21: 1-20.

6. Prophets who preached God's Word:

The Teaching of Isaiah	Isaiah 1: 2-3, 10-17, 18-20.
The Teaching of Micah	Micah 4: 1-5; 5: 2; 6: 8.
The Teaching of Jeremiah	Jeremiah 32: 6-15; 36: 4-32.

PART THREE

7. The Psalmists, who wrote Israel's hymnbook:
- God the Creator Psalms 8; 104: 1-5,
10-31.
 - God the Redeemer Psalms 103; 126.
 - The Sanctuary Psalms 24; 84; 122.
 - The Law Psalms 15; 19.
 - Penitence Psalms 130.
 - Trust in God Psalms 23; 27; 46;
121.
 - Missionary Psalms Psalms 67; 96.
8. The Wise Men who taught the rules of daily life:
- Trusting God Proverbs 3: 3-8.
 - In Praise of Wisdom Proverbs 3: 13-18.
 - Sensible Advice Proverbs 6: 6-11;
12: 9-11.

ELEMENTARY LEVEL V

THE LIFE OF JESUS ACCORDING TO ST. MARK

PART ONE

The Preparation:

The Forerunner, Baptism and Temptation Mark 1:1-13.

Beginning the Work:

Preaching and Healing 1: 14-45.
Forgiving Sin - Eating with Sinners 2: 1-17.
The Questions of Fasting and the Sabbath 2: 18-3: 6.

Choosing His Helpers:

The Choice of the Twelve 3: 7-19.
Those who refused to help 3: 20-27.
The Helpers are the new Family of Jesus 3: 28-35.

Teaching by Parables:

The Sower 4: 1-25.
The Growing Grain, the Mustard Seed 4: 26-34.

Teaching by Miracles:

Stilling of the Storm 4: 35-41.
The Madman of Gadara 5: 1-20.
The Daughter of Jairus 5: 21-43.
Where Jesus did no Miracles 6: 1-6.

PART TWO

The Growth of the Work:

The Mission of the Twelve	6: 7-13.
The Danger of Serving God	6: 14-29.
Feeding the Five Thousand	6: 30-44.
Walking on the Water	6: 45-52.
How to keep God's Commandments	7: 1-23.
The Syro-Phoenician Woman	7: 24-30.
The Deaf and Dumb Man	7: 31-37.
The Blind Man of Bethsaida	8: 22-26.

The Shadow of the Cross:

Peter's Confession	8: 27-33.
Taking up the Cross	8: 34-9: 1.
The Transfiguration	9: 2-13.
The Epileptic Boy	9: 14-29.
Final Teaching in Galilee	9: 30-50.

The Journey to Jerusalem:

Blessing the Children	10: 13-16.
The Rich Young Ruler	10: 17-31.
The Road to True Greatness	10: 32-45.
Blind Bartimaeus	10: 46-52.

PART THREE

The Events of Holy Week:

The Triumphal Entry	11: 1-11.
Cleansing the Temple	11: 15-19, 27-33.
The Wicked Husbandmen	12: 1-12.
The Tribute Money	12: 13-17.
The Great Commandment	12: 28-34.
Rich Hypocrites and a Poor Worshipper	12: 38-44.
Conspiracy, Devotion and Treachery	14: 1-11.
The Last Supper	14: 12-26.
The Garden of Gethsemane	14: 27-52.
The First Trial; Peter's Denial	14: 53-72.
Jesus Before Pilate	15: 1-15.
The Crucifixion	15: 16-41.

The Resurrection and Ascension:

The Resurrection Morning	16: 1-8.
(Note: St. Mark's Gospel breaks off here: cf. Revised Standard Version. We complete the story from the other Gospels.)	
The Same Evening	Luke 24: 13-25; John 20: 19-31.
The Ascension	Matthew 28: 16-20.

ELEMENTARY LEVEL VI

PART ONE

THE FIRST CHRISTIANS

The Church in Jerusalem:

The Ascension	Acts 1: 1-11.
Completing the Twelve	1: 12-16.
The Gift of the Spirit	2: 1-18.
The Growing Church	2: 37-47.
A Lame Man Healed	3: 1-16.
Peter and John Arrested	4: 1-22.

Persecution Spreads the Church:

The Stoning of Stephen	6: 8-7: 2 ^a ; 7: 5 ¹ -8: 1 ^a .
Scattered to Samaria	8: 2 ^b -14.
An Ethiopian hears the Good News	8: 26-40.
Even Saul is converted	9: 1-22.
Saul escapes twice	9: 23-31.
The Good News is for Gentiles also	11: 1-18.
The Gentile Mission begins	11: 19-30.

A Journey by Paul:

Paul's Vision	15: 36-41; 16: 6-10.
Luke joins Paul, who heals a Slave-girl .	16: 11-18.
Paul and Silas in Prison	16: 19-34.
The Magistrates apologize	16: 35-40.
Paul preaches at Athens	17: 14-32.
Paul in Corinth	18: 1-17.
Paul returns to Jerusalem	18: 18-22.

Paul the Prisoner:

Paul rescued from the Mob	21: 17-36.
Paul's Speech to the People	21: 37-22: 29.
Paul before the Council	22: 30-23: 1.
Plot against Paul's life	23: 12-35.
Paul appeals to Caesar	24: 24-25: 12.
The Journey to Rome	27: 1-28: 1.
Paul in Rome	28: 11-31.
Paul Writes to the Church	Ephesians 6: 10-20

PART TWO

EXAMPLES OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

The story of the Church should be continued by brief studies in Christian biography: e.g., St. Francis of Assisi, John Wycliffe, Martin Luther, Jeanne Mance, John Wesley, Elizabeth Fry, General Booth, James Evans (missionary to the Cree Indians), David Livingstone, Kagawa, Grenfell of Labrador and Albert Schweitzer to provide a fitting conclusion to the elementary school course.

PASSAGES WHICH MIGHT BE LEARNED BY HEART:

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| Level I | The Lord's Prayer; Mark 10: 14; I John 4: 8;
Deuteronomy 6: 4; Psalm 92: 1. |
| Level II | Psalm 23; Luke 2: 8-14; Ephesians 4: 32;
Psalm 95: 1-2. |
| Level III | Psalm 121; Matthew 5: 3-10; 22: 35-40;
Micah 6: 8; John 15: 12-14. |
| Level IV | Exodus 20: 1-17; Psalms 103: 8, 11-13;
Matthew 5: 43-45; 6: 19-21. |
| Level V | Psalm 8; 139: 1-12; Matthew 7: 24-27;
I Corinthians 13: 1-13. |
| Level VI | Psalm 104: 1-8, 24; Isaiah 55: 6-11;
John 15: 1-5; I Corinthians 11: 23-26. |