LESSON DEFINITIONS

Complete: Having all of the necessary parts.

Distribute: To give something out.

Inspired: Breathed by God.

Preserve: To maintain something in its original state.

Publish: To discover or make known to mankind or to people in general what before was private or unknown. To send a book into the world.

Tables: A tablet; a surface on which anything is written or engraved.

What is *National Bible Publishing Month*?

National Bible Publishing Month is a program designed to make it possible to get the Word of God to those who may never have another opportunity to receive the glorious message of our dear Saviour. It is a program that is a pattern of the New Testament churches found in the book of Romans. They took what they had received of the Word of God, copied it, and saw to it that others had the same opportunity to have the same Word that they had received. Quite simply, it was churches working together, doing the part that each could do to see that the Word went forward to those without.

NBPM is an attempt by *BPS* Milford to ask churches of like faith to partner with them to provide what they have received to those who have not. We have the ability to do the printing. We are asking churches to help by providing the funds necessary for the supplies. Every dime received through is used exclusively for the purchase of paper to produce Whole Bibles and New Testaments. Obviously, without paper, there is no printing. Without the printing, there is no Bible produced. Without a Bible being produced, there are souls that will pay the eternal consequence of not receiving the message in time (Romans 10:17).

TEACHER NOTES:

NATIONAL BIBLE PUBLISHING MONTH

TEEN TEACHER GUIDE 1

GOD'S PLAN

FOR PROVIDING HIS WORD
TO EVERY GENERATION

LESSON **ONE**

God's Plan For Providing His Word to Every Generation

TEACHER NOTE: The primary thought of this lesson is that God wanted to reveal information about Himself throughout every generation of mankind. This information needed to be accurate; after all, it was describing God Himself. Using man as the instrument to convey His thoughts, He accomplished the task in three steps: orally, inspirationally, and educationally.

DISCUSSION TIME

What is your most valuable possession? What do you treasure above all else? Do you think God values anything above all else? If so, what might that be? (Read Psalm 138:2)

THINK

"*Let all things be done decently and in order*" (I Corinthians 14:40). Our God is a God of order. At creation, not only was everything that exists created, but it was then inspected by God Himself. His opinion upon inspection was "*it was very good*" (Genesis 1:31). God's attention to every detail is unquestionable! God thought it important enough to even tell us that things which happen unorganized, chaotically, or with "confusion" are not authored by Him (I Corinthians 14:33). Just read the instructions for the tabernacle and its contents (Exodus 25-27). Everything from the materials to be used to even the exact dimensions of each item were exactly described by God.

God was going to involve mankind in the process of producing and keeping that which was to be holy and reverenced. With such a proven track record of His being meticulous and careful for details, doesn't it make sense that He would be the same way with His plans for handling His precious Word? These lessons will begin to reveal the foundation laid by God for His plan in handling and preserving His Word.

READ

I Peter 1:23; Matthew 5:18; 24:35

THINK

God promised that His Word would be preserved forever. Doesn't it make sense that He would have a plan in place in which to carry out this process? God's first step in His plan to provide His Word to every generation was to speak His Word. In the beginning, God's means (plan) of communicating His desires to and for man was given orally.

ANSWER

How did God create everything in Genesis 1? **HE SPOKE**.
(See 1:3, 6, 9, 14, 20, 24, 26, 29)

In the following passages, with whom did God communicate?

God commanded **ADAM** (Genesis 2:16).

God counseled **CAIN** (Genesis 4:6).

God instructed **NOAH** (Genesis 6:13).

God promised **ABRAHAM** (Genesis 12:1-3).

THINK

For a period of time, everything God intended mankind to know concerning their conduct was given orally by Him. Children had to rely upon their parents passing down what they remembered God had told them (Exodus 24:3). As time went on, God altered His chosen method of communication. He began to give man everything He desired them to know in writing. His written Word was then taken to the people in order for them to hear, read, and understand for themselves what God desired to communicate.

I'm sure you are familiar with the telephone game played by children. One child whispers something into the ear of a person at the front of the room and tells him to pass it on to the next person. By the time this message reaches the person at the other end of the room, it amazes everyone how much the message has been changed. Imagine how easy it would have been for people to get confused with the message God had conveyed to them. By the time it was passed from person to person, how accurate would it have been? Putting God's message in writing for people to read would eliminate this issue. They would no longer have to rely on remembering what they had *heard* God had said; the man of God could now read it to them time and time again.

READ

II Timothy 3:16; Exodus 34:27-28; II Peter 1:20-21

ANSWER

INSPIRATIONAL publishing — the beginning of the written Word of God. The next step in God's plan to provide His Word for every generation was to write His Word. According to II Timothy 3:16, all Scripture is given by what? **INSPIRATION OF GOD**

Inspiration means **BREATHED BY GOD**. When God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses, He gave them and also recorded them (Exodus. 24:12). Then man began to be involved in the process (Exodus 34:4 — Moses provided the stone tables, but God still did the writing). Finally, men provided all the materials and simply wrote what God told them to write (Deuteronomy 31:9, 24-26; II Peter 1:20-21).

The third step of God's provision of His Word is what we refer to as **EDUCATIONAL** publishing. Moses took the Scripture that God gave him to the people (Exodus 34:31-32). He taught them to obey the Scriptures (Exodus 35:1). Then he taught them how to copy the Scriptures (Deuteronomy 27:1-8).

READ

Philippians 2:9-10; Psalm 138:2; John 1:1

THINK

Psalm 19:1 states, "*The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork*." God's creation says much about Him. God spent just six days creating everything, and we stand amazed at what He did. God places such a preeminent value upon His Word that He took hundreds of years giving it to mankind. He gave such care and attention through the ages to see that it was written in a book for all to have. The Word of God must be extremely important to Him. What value do you place on the Bible? Is His Word important to you? Do you spend time in it? Do you memorize it? Do you study it? Do you appreciate what God has given you? God made a special effort to provide His Word to us. Have you made a special effort to provide His Word to others?