

### Pictorial Timeline

Following are the main events of the Bible as summarized in Believe in Me – Year 7 (CCCB). For each section, research more specifics using the website <https://biblehub.com/timeline/> or your actual Bible. Create an image that summarizes the event and place this on a timeline.

DATE	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	CONNECTION TO OUR LIVES
1800 BCE	Abraham	Our faith journey begins with the call and response of Abraham and his wife Sarah.	We are a people who have had to go many new places and begin many new things. We trust that God is with us because God was with Abraham and Sarah.
1600-1250 BCE	Settlement in Egypt	Abraham and Sarah's descendants leave Canaan and follow Joseph into Egypt. When Jacob went to Egypt, God reassured him: "I am God, the God of your Father. Do not be afraid." God reminds Jacob that just as God was faithful to Abraham and Sarah, God will always be faithful.	Even though we are a people of faith, we are often afraid. When we must make choices that affect many others, we turn to God as Jacob did. Because we know the story of the Israelites' move to Egypt, we know that God is with us even when everything in our lives is changing.
1250 BCE	Moses/Exodus	God calls Moses to lead his people out of slavery in Egypt. God makes a covenant with the Israelites in the desert at Mount Sinai.	This is our story when we feel that life is without hope. God will free us from all that oppresses us but we must make a commitment to avoid everything that oppresses others.
1250-1050 BCE	Entry into Canaan	The Hebrew people struggle to settle the land of Canaan. Even though this is the "promised land," even though it is part of God's plan for the Israelites to live in Canaan, the people must work to make God's plan a reality.	The entry in Canaan, the story told in Joshua and Judges and Ruth, is our story when we struggle to make our hopes and dreams a reality. If we want our dreams to come true, we must give God an important place in our lives.
1030-930 BCE	Kings of Israel	Saul becomes the first king. David creates a nation. Solomon builds the Temple. Some people worship idols instead of God; others reject God.	The stories of the kings are the stories of our struggle with power, control and responsibility. We must take responsibility for our lives. It is up to us to turn from things that pull us away from God and destroy us.

*Note:* We have replaced the terms B.C. (before Christ) and A.D. (Anno Domini) with BCE (before the Common Era) and CE (the Common Era). BCE and CE are used by many history and scripture scholars. BCE covers the same time period as B.C.; CE covers the same time period as A.D.

DATE	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	CONNECTION TO OUR LIVES
Beginning in 800 BCE	The Prophets	God speaks through the prophets and calls the people to see the destructive power of their sins. The prophets warn the people that there will be suffering if people keep ignoring God and ignoring the needs of God's children.	These words are for all of us when we turn our back on God and God's plan for us. We are the people to whom the prophets speak. We have seen the effects of sin and injustice, yet we ignore the injustice around us. This is our warning.
587-538 BCE	Exile in Babylon	The kingdom of Judah is brought down by the Babylonians. The Temple in Jerusalem is destroyed. All of the leading Jewish citizens are sent to Babylon. The Hebrew people no longer have a nation of their own.  During the Exile, faithful Jews such as Judith helped keep the Hebrew faith alive.	This is our story when we just face the results of our actions. When we do not live as God calls us to live, the world suffers. Our communities can only survive if we live in justice and love (See Amos 5.24). This is our story when we see others in need and do nothing.  The story of Judith, like the later story of Esther, reminds us that even during the bad times in our lives, there are things we can do to help others and stay faithful to God.
538-400 BCE	Return to Jerusalem	The Jews (from the word "Judah") return home. The Temple in Jerusalem is rebuilt, Judaism becomes a religion of Law (Torah).	This is our story as we develop a plan for becoming better people. Our plans are good as long as they draw us closer to God and one another. They become harmful when they become ends in themselves, when systems and structures are more important than God.

DATE	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	CONNECTION TO OUR LIVES
4 BCE (approx..)	Jesus' birth	Jesus is born to the Virgin Mary. God becomes human and lives among us so that we may come to understand God's love in a whole new way.	This is the promise to each of us – of hope in the midst of every darkness It is the promise that God will always reach out to us in love.
27-30 CE (approx..)	Jesus' public ministry	Jesus teacher in Galilee and Jerusalem. He teacher people about the reign of God and he helps people to understand what it means to love God and to love our neighbours.	The Gospel stories give us guidance. The struggles of the apostles and of the women who stayed with Jesus until the end give us courage to keep going when we are afraid or when we have failed.
30 CE (approx..)	Jesus' death and resurrection	Jesus is crucified. Three days later he rises from the dead and appears first to Mary Magdalene and then to the apostles.	This is our story of hope. This is our promise that love is stronger than hate and violence. This is our reason to care.

30 CE (approx..)	The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost	God sent the Holy Spirit who gave the disciples the courage and the gifts they needed to share the good news of Jesus.	This is our reminder that God always gives us the gifts we need to do the work God calls us to do.
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30-110 CE	Spread of Christianity and the writing of the New Testament books	After the death and resurrection of Jesus, his followers begin to spread the good news that God calls all of us to new life and wholeness in Christ.	This is our call and our purpose in life. We are to share God's love with all those we meet. When we live in love as Jesus taught us, our lives will have meaning and joy.
49-62 CE	Paul's ministry	Paul writes to and visits newly formed Christian communities to advise them on many issues. Even in the early church there were many struggles and disagreements about what it meant to follow Jesus.	Sometimes we get frustrated because people in the Church do not agree on issues of faith, or because people do not seem to be practicing what they preach. Paul's letters help us remember that this is not a new problem, and that with faith, love and perseverance we can work things out.

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