

A man and two children are sitting on a bed, reading a book together. The man is holding the book, and the children are looking at it with interest. The background is a dark, starry sky with a large, bright comet streaking across it. The scene is illuminated by a warm, golden light, creating a cozy and intimate atmosphere. The overall theme is family time and learning.

LifeStone  
**ILLUMINATE**  
B I B L E   S E R I E S

**Product Catalog**

# About LifeStone Ministries

LifeStone Ministries’ roots go back to 1895, when Reverend William B. Musselman and seven women from his church began a home missionary ministry that would become the Gospel Worker Society. Together, they reached people who were not being reached by the churches in their communities and encouraged people to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior from sin. They expanded their ministry by starting Union Gospel Press, through which they produced their own literature to spread the gospel. The Gospel Workers have all passed on to glory, but the labors they began for the Lord over one hundred years ago continue today through LifeStone Ministries.

Our Spirit-led focus is to equip the church to make and be disciples, and we believe the best place to start is learning the Word of God in community with one another. Our curriculum lineup includes weekly Bible studies for ages four through adult, featuring a fresh, new topic of study every quarter. We also produce *Illuminate Bible Series*, a daily Bible curriculum for grades 1 through 12.



## Our Mission

Empowering Christian disciples to make disciples!

## Our Vision

We seek to glorify God by building Christian leaders’ conviction and confidence to help transform people into the image of Christ through biblical resources and real-life application training.

## Catalog Contents

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## Why Christian Education Is Important

The book of Proverbs encourages parents to train their children in the way they should go so that they are equipped to make wise choices and continue on a righteous path all their lives (22:6). In an increasingly post-Christian and morally relativistic culture, training children means discipling them to love and follow Christ despite worldly opposition. Our children need to know exactly what they believe and why they believe it, beyond just “it’s what my parents told me.” If they do not

develop a strong Christian worldview when they are younger, the world will be happy to supply them with plenty of alternatives. Every Christ follower should be intimately familiar with God’s Word and should grow in relationship with Christ. Our heart for your children is that they would take ownership of their faith and grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ so that when they are adults, they will be firmly rooted in truth, will continue to seek His face, and will make more disciples as they go.

## Why Discipleship Is Important

Numerous studies paint a painful picture of the state of biblical literacy and Christian conduct among “churched” teens and college students. “Good kids” who have attended church regularly all their lives are reaching college with minimal knowledge of Bible basics, having no serious interest in Bible study or prayer and lacking the spiritual discipline to live in accordance with biblical truth.

Discipleship requires regular Bible study and application. Application calls for contemplation, personal con-

nection, and conviction. If our children do not know how to utilize the information they have learned, it is useless to their lives. We want our kids to build their lives on God’s unchanging Word and follow the example of the Bereans, who “received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily” (Acts 17:11). If Scripture truly is the only source of authoritative truth, then our students need to study it and know it well. No other study or pursuit of knowledge can have the eternal impact that Bible study does.

### Discipling Your Children with *Illuminate Bible Series*

Do you envision your children gathered around you as you study the Bible together every day? We do too. That is why we have created a program that will hold your children’s interests with colorful graphics and eye-catching designs.

*Illuminate Bible Series* equips you to disciple your students. That means studying beyond the words on the page and drilling down to understand what was happening, why it was happening, who was involved, why it mattered then, and why it matters now.

*Illuminate* guides you and your student through a thorough examination of Scripture, creating the opportunity to cultivate a love for God’s Word and a dependence on Him. Nothing can surpass the value of consistent time devoted to learning God’s Word. We want all followers of Jesus, young and old, to develop a deeper understanding of Scripture and grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.





Our unique approach equips your students for a lifetime of discipleship by teaching them about God's character and how to draw near to Him. As they learn, they will build a Christian worldview that firmly anchors them in the Word of Truth, empowering them to stand firm against the currents of culture. Our goal is to spark a passion in them for the ageless truths of Scripture.

Each volume of *Illuminate Bible Series* (for grades 1 through 12) contains an easy-to-teach, thirty-two-week-long exploration of a major theme in Scripture and examines how that theme points to Jesus. Every week, we break down a featured Bible passage from five different angles, which will train your students to study God's Word for themselves. We have done all the preparation so you don't have to!



## How Does *Illuminate* Work?

### Not chronological

While some units will tell familiar Bible stories chronologically, the scope of the year is often not chronological. Our goal is to examine Scripture's themes and see how God's Word points to Jesus in a wonderful way!

### Not cumulative

Your students can start in any volume in their grade range, and they won't miss any content central to understanding the lessons.

### Designed to be done together

Do you have a 1st grader and a 5th grader? Or what about a 7th grader and a 10th grader? No problem! With just one Guide Book, you can teach all students within the book's grade range.

### Pair with a workbook

The three workbooks for elementary students are designed to engage them in thinking about God's Word at a level appropriate for their development, and the workbook for the upper grades will challenge your students to wrestle with what they are learning. Test comprehension, think deeply about Scripture, and apply it to life! Punctuate the week with fun and memorable activities that point toward God's truth.

### Six volumes, twelve years of study

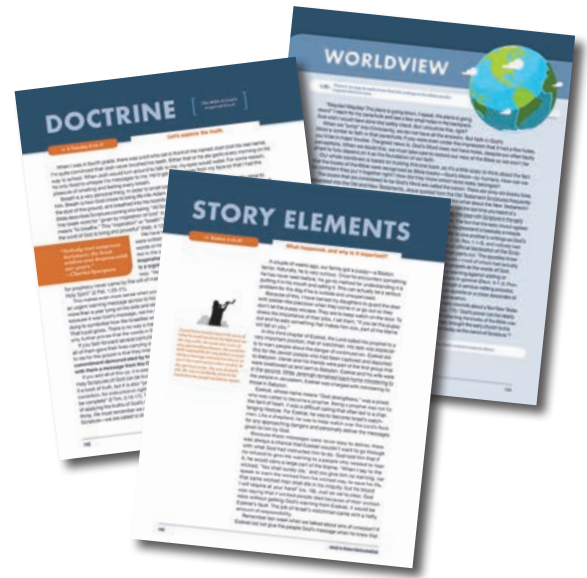
*Illuminate Bible Series* features six volumes: six for 1st through 6th grade and six for 7th through 12th grade. Each volume contains a different topic of study. That means you can use *Illuminate* as your discipleship plan all through your students' schooling!



# Suggested Daily Lesson Structure

1. Read the daily Scripture passage.
2. Read the lesson from the appropriate Guide Book.  
(Younger students may need the lesson read to them; older students may prefer a self-guided experience.)
3. Discuss the lesson and pray together.
4. Dive into workbook questions and any activities.

*For 1st- and 2nd-grade students, we recommend a more hands-on approach. In addition to the daily passage and lesson, read the Bible story in their workbook to them every day. Use the provided discussion questions to orally review and apply the lesson.*



# Weekly Schedule



## DAY 1 | DISCOVER:

Explore the story elements of a featured Bible passage.



## DAY 2 | INVESTIGATE:

Dive into the featured passage's context and background.



## DAY 3 | CONNECT:

Make connections between the featured Bible passage and related Scriptures.



## DAY 4 | FOCUS:

Engage in a discussion of doctrinal truth related to the featured Bible passage.



## DAY 5 | ILLUMINATE:

Review the week's lessons and apply the truths that were learned.

## A Great Reward!

Our lessons are fun and engaging, but they are not an average, warm, fuzzy devotional. We dig deep into the facts of Scripture and expose its riches to your students so that they might fall in love with our Lord and exalt His name.

The unchanging truth of God's Word illuminates our path (Ps. 119:105). Whether in the classroom or around the dining room table, *Illuminate Bible Series* can lead students from grades 1 through 12 into daily, in-depth discovery of God's truth. This approach will so equip students that at the end of these studies, they will possess invaluable skills to continue their lifelong study of the Bible and its great truths. But besides mastering academic content and historical facts, hopefully your child will also have a close relationship with our glorious God!

# 1st-6th Grade Guide Book

Weekly memory verses ensure children hide God's Word in their hearts.

Daily Scriptures relate to each week's theme

DAY

3

JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Isaiah 9:2-3; 42:5-7

  
CONNECT

Memory Verse: Matthew 5:16

**Scripture Connections:** Isaiah 9:2-3; 42:16; Matthew 4:12-16; Luke 2:25-38

**The dark of night.** In 2018, world news focused on a team of soccer players in Thailand who were trapped in a cave, some for over two weeks. Experts said it was dangerous for them to live so long without daylight. Such darkness can make people very confused and sad. The Bible speaks of the dangers of spiritual darkness, which is darker than any cave. Like the man blind from birth, people in this kind of darkness have no light. They are kept in darkness by Satan, who loves to make people feel sad and hopeless. It is as if they are in a deep, dark prison without even a glimmer of light. Satan is able to keep people in this dark prison because they have sinned. Sinners truly can do nothing to escape.

*The soccer team was in the dark for so long that bright lights could have easily harmed the boys' eyes. Before they came out of the cave, they were given special sunglasses to protect their eyes.*

Thankfully, God sent His Son to bring people out of Satan's dark and dreadful prison. Jesus is the Light. The gloom of spiritual darkness cannot withstand His light (John 1:5)! When sinners receive forgiveness from God because of Jesus' sacrifice, spiritual darkness melts away. Satan can do nothing against the light of God's truth!

Vocabulary words are highlighted.

**The glimmer of dawn.** Watching a sunrise can be glorious! The dark night first seems to brighten; then the stars disappear as the sky starts to glow; next, the sun's rays shoot out from the horizon. Soon the earth is bathed in the bright, beautiful light of day. The people of Israel had lived in spiritual darkness for many, many years. Their enemies had vexed them for so long that they felt hopeless and very sad. But Israel's **prophets** had foretold that a new and wonderful time was coming. God's people would see a great light (Isa. 9:2-3). The spiritual darkness would be chased away by the light of God. People who were spiritually blind would see the goodness of God's grace (42:5-7, 16).

Callout boxes highlight interesting facts and connections.

Jesus is the Light that the Old Testament prophets had spoken of. When He healed the blind, they went from total darkness to wonderful light. This was meant to remind people about the coming time of light. Wherever Jesus went, His preaching and gracious miracles gave joy and light, which fulfilled what the prophets had predicted (Matt. 4:12-16).

*Old Testament prophets were called "seers" because God let them see things as He sees them (1 Sam. 9:9). He gave them dreams and visions that others could not see or understand.*

**The Light of day.** Some insects can see light that humans cannot see. Honeybees can see polarized light, which helps them know their way back to the hive. It is like GPS for bees. Through God's Spirit, Simeon saw what others at the temple did not—a tiny child who was truly the Light of the World. When Joseph and Mary brought Jesus in, Simeon held Jesus up and proclaimed that He was the long-awaited Savior, who would give spiritual light not only to Israel but also to people all over the world (Luke 2:27-32; see Isa. 60:1-3).

## Prayer Point

Pray that God will help you to enjoy living in the light of His grace.

## Christ Focus

Jesus is the Light of the World; all who trust Him enjoy the light of God's goodness and peace (John 8:12).

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THE SAVIOR REVEALED :: JESUS' LIFE AND MINISTRY

Prayer Point and Christ Focus keep God and the gospel at the center.



# The Scope & Sequence

## The Plan

**Elementary Students - 1st-6th:** Each year of the curriculum highlights an important attribute of God, using the stories of Scripture to place Him at the center of all things while continually emphasizing the work and Person of Jesus.

**Upper-Grade Students - 7th-12th:** In the first three years, students will acquire the basics for understanding the message of the Bible. The final three years look at how God's kingdom is at work.

### Volume Titles and Descriptions

#### Elementary Grades 1st-6th

**Volume 1: *God Our Savior*** - an exploration of God's work of salvation

**Volume 2: *Our Faithful God*** - a focus on God as one who keeps His promises

**Volume 3: *Our God of Mercy and Grace*** - a study of the wonderful mercy and grace God shows His people

**Volume 4: *Prophets, Priests, and Kings*** - a discussion of how the Old Testament points to Jesus

**Volume 5: *Jesus, God's Son*** - a survey of how Jesus is fully God

**Volume 6: *God, Our Conquering King*** - an overview of how God prevails for all eternity

#### Upper Grades 7th-12th

**Volume 1: *God's Glory: The Reason for Everything*** - an exploration of the greatness of God

**Volume 2: *The Glory of Christ: The Center of History*** - a concentrated focus on Christ

**Volume 3: *Faith: The Response to God's Glory*** - a study of God's relationship with His people

**Volume 4: *God's Glory as He Builds His Kingdom*** - a discussion of how God's kingdom grows

**Volume 5: *Living for God's Glory*** - a survey of the ways in which we are to live for God's glory

**Volume 6: *The Triumph of God's Glory*** - a overview of how God prevails for all eternity

## The Purpose

God is at the center of the Bible. It was He who superintended and empowered the exciting lives of the people in Scripture. Each book of the Bible is tied to the great central theme of God's grace and glory, even though we seek to understand each book in its historical context. Seeing Jesus is essential. Instead of wading through nearly five years of chronological studies to finally get to Jesus, He is featured prominently in all six years of study.

## The Progression

Each week is designed to thoroughly explore Bible passages that exalt our great God. The individual units progress chronologically while connecting to the grand story of Scripture. For example, the first year of our elementary study, *God Our Savior*, shows how God has redeemed His people. God's work of salvation is traced from Genesis to Revelation as students see how He is carrying out His plan for creation.

## The Presentation

There are a couple of common pitfalls regarding God's Word that we wanted to avoid in creating our overall plan for *Illuminate Bible Series*:

**Pitfall #1:** seeing the Bible as merely a collection of heroic stories, miracles, and principles

**Pitfall #2:** treating the Bible primarily as a history book by using a strictly chronological approach

We believe the best way to study the Bible is through a careful presentation of its central message—the story of God's grace and glory, which is ultimately expressed in Jesus Christ.

## Illuminate - Video Series

The *Illuminate Bible Series* video lessons are an excellent companion to the 1st-6th Grade Guide Book. A one-year subscription comes with full access to 160 videos, each aligned with the daily lessons from the 1st-6th Grade Guide Book. Each five-minute video teaches important Bible lessons in a way that is sure to engage and disciple your children!

The *Illuminate Bible Series* video lessons provide strong reinforcement of the truths taught in the lesson and a way to instruct visual learners. Videos are taught by an engaging instructor and mix a clear presentation of the truth of Scripture with exciting visuals to capture the minds of children. Each video ends with a Christ focus from Scripture and a Prayer point to guide children in their relationship with the Lord.



## Testimonials

"The *Illuminate Bible Series* offers homeschooling families a resource for in-depth Bible study. Both courses that I reviewed have strong theological content that is often deeper than what you find in other Bible study courses for these levels. You can teach all your children in the elementary grades together. The entire series will be focused primarily on Jesus Christ, drawing from the entire Bible for each course. The courses show how both the Old and New Testaments point toward Jesus."

- Cathy Duffy, [cathyduffyreviews.com](http://cathyduffyreviews.com)

"My daughter, also my oldest child, has thoroughly enjoyed it [*Illuminate Bible Series*]! It is the first 'subject' she completes every day in her homeschool. She has learned so much and is very diligent and independent. The projects are also very fun and further enhance her learning."

- Denise Braswell, homeschool mom

"I've reviewed this program personally and can recommend it. This curriculum not only teaches the students many scriptures but also exposit's God's Word in a way that leads students to praise God and exalt Jesus as they discover the riches of His grace and glory throughout Scripture. It is designed to be an interactive experience that your students will enjoy, not just a dry textbook. It's a great way to foster an appreciation for God's truth and is something you can do together as a group. The *Illuminate Bible Series* is divided into two studies that cater to different age groups and can be used by multiple ages in one book."

- Rebecca Devitt, [howdoihomeschool.com](http://howdoihomeschool.com)

"I want my kids to have a relationship with the Lord. I want them to know the depth of His love for them and to be rooted in His love and in His Word. I want them not only to be seekers of the Lord but also to be students of His Word."

- Lauren, homeschool mom



# Available Materials in Each Volume

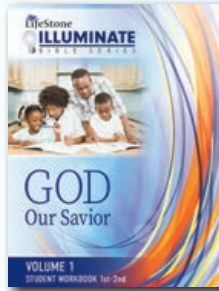
## Elementary (1st to 6th Grade)



1st-6th Grade

### Guide Book

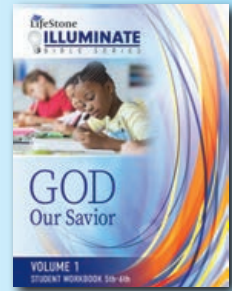
Use this Guide Book to teach your students from 1st to 6th grade all at the same time.



1st-2nd Grade



3rd-4th Grade



5th-6th Grade

### Student Workbooks

Use the Student Workbooks along with the 1st-6th Grade Guide Book to challenge your students to understand and apply God's truth through questions and activities.

## Upper Grades (7th to 12th Grade)



7th-12th Grade

### Guide Book

Use this Guide Book to teach your students from 7th to 12th grade all at the same time.



7th-12th Grade

### Student Workbooks

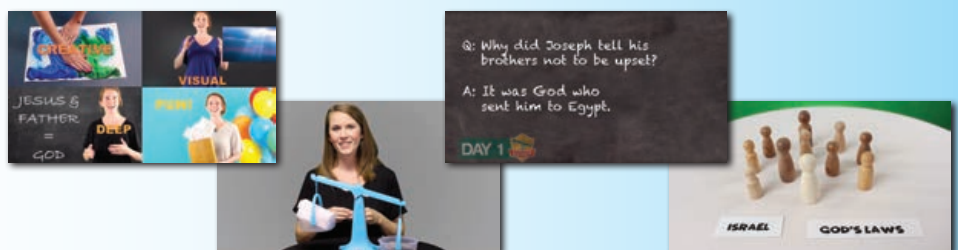
Use the Student Workbook along with the 7th-12th Grade Guide Book to challenge your students to understand and apply God's truth through questions and activities.

## Video Lessons (1st to 6th Grade)

Volume 1: Grades 1-6

Volume 2: Grades 1-6

Volume 3: Grades 1-6



# Frequently Asked Questions

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*Illuminate Bible Series* is not a light overview of the Bible, nor does it offer mere devotional thoughts for daily inspiration. Instead, our curriculum introduces students to serious biblical teaching and important theology that engages both their hearts and their minds.



## Who should use this material?

Children of all ages! *Illuminate Bible Series* is a great resource for a Bible class at home, in a homeschool co-op, or in a Christian school setting. It can even be adapted to a church situation and makes for a great family devotional. Parents and teachers will find that they also benefit from the in-depth studies.

## If I have students in different grades, can I teach them all together?

Yes! *Illuminate Bible Series* is adaptable and can be used with a group of students from different grades. It is divided into two age groups: 1st through 6th grade and 7th through 12th grade. If all your children are in the same range, you will be able to do the lesson together. If you have students in both groups, we suggest doing one (or both) of the Bible readings together. Then the older children can continue with their lesson independently while you continue with the younger ones.

## Will this curriculum hold my young students' attention?

Yes! The elementary side of the curriculum excites your little ones' imaginations with dynamic Bible stories and the discovery of Jesus within them. Colorful graphics, eye-catching designs, and fun activities are sure to keep your children engaged. We also have a delightful and engaging video series available to reinforce the 1st-6th Grade Guide Book lessons.

## Will this curriculum challenge my advanced high school students?

Absolutely! *Illuminate Bible Series* for grades 7 through 12 encourages deeper learning and personal application for even the most knowledgeable students. Our study will lead the students far beyond the simple facts of the passages to the deep spiritual truths and connections underlying them. Students who allow the Holy Spirit to work in them as they internalize scriptural truths and challenge themselves to wrestle with and apply what they've learned will experience true heart transformation.

## What translation of the Bible does the curriculum use?

*Illuminate* can be used with whatever translation you desire. The lessons in the Guide Books begin with the reading of a Bible passage, which you can do from your personal Bible. While Bible passages are referenced throughout the curriculum, they are not often quoted at length. When passages are directly quoted, the New King James Version is cited.



# Statement of Faith

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## What We Believe

We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are verbally inspired by God, are inerrant in the original writings, are the Word of God, and the final authority in faith and conduct.

We believe in one God, the Creator of man and all things, eternally existing in three Persons in a threefold relationship, that of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is God incarnate, the God-Man.

We believe that man was created in the image of God; that he sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God; that Adam's sin is imputed to the whole race of mankind; that all human beings are born with a sinful nature and are sinners before God in thought, word, and deed.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures as a substitutionary sacrifice, and that all who believe on Him are freely justified before God and stand before Him accepted in the character and merit of Jesus Christ.

We believe in the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ, in His ascension into heaven, and that in His present glorified body He is the Head of the church, the Lord of the individual believer, the High Priest over the house of God, and the Advocate in the family of God.

We believe in the personal, imminent, pretribulational, and premillennial second coming of Christ; first to receive His own to Himself, and later to set up His earthly kingdom and to reign over redeemed Israel and all nations; that is, to bring peace and blessing to the whole world.

We believe that all who by faith receive the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior are born again of the Holy Spirit and Word of God, receive the Holy Spirit and a new nature, and also are baptized by the Holy Spirit into the body of Christ.

We believe that God is the spiritual Father of only those who trust His Son, Jesus Christ, as Savior, and that only those saved through faith in Christ are spiritual brothers.

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust; the everlasting blessedness of the saved and the everlasting punishment of the unsaved.

## Contact Information



**Monday-Friday 7:45 AM- 4:25 PM EST**  
**Customer Service: (800) 638-9988**



**customerservice@uniongospelpress.com**



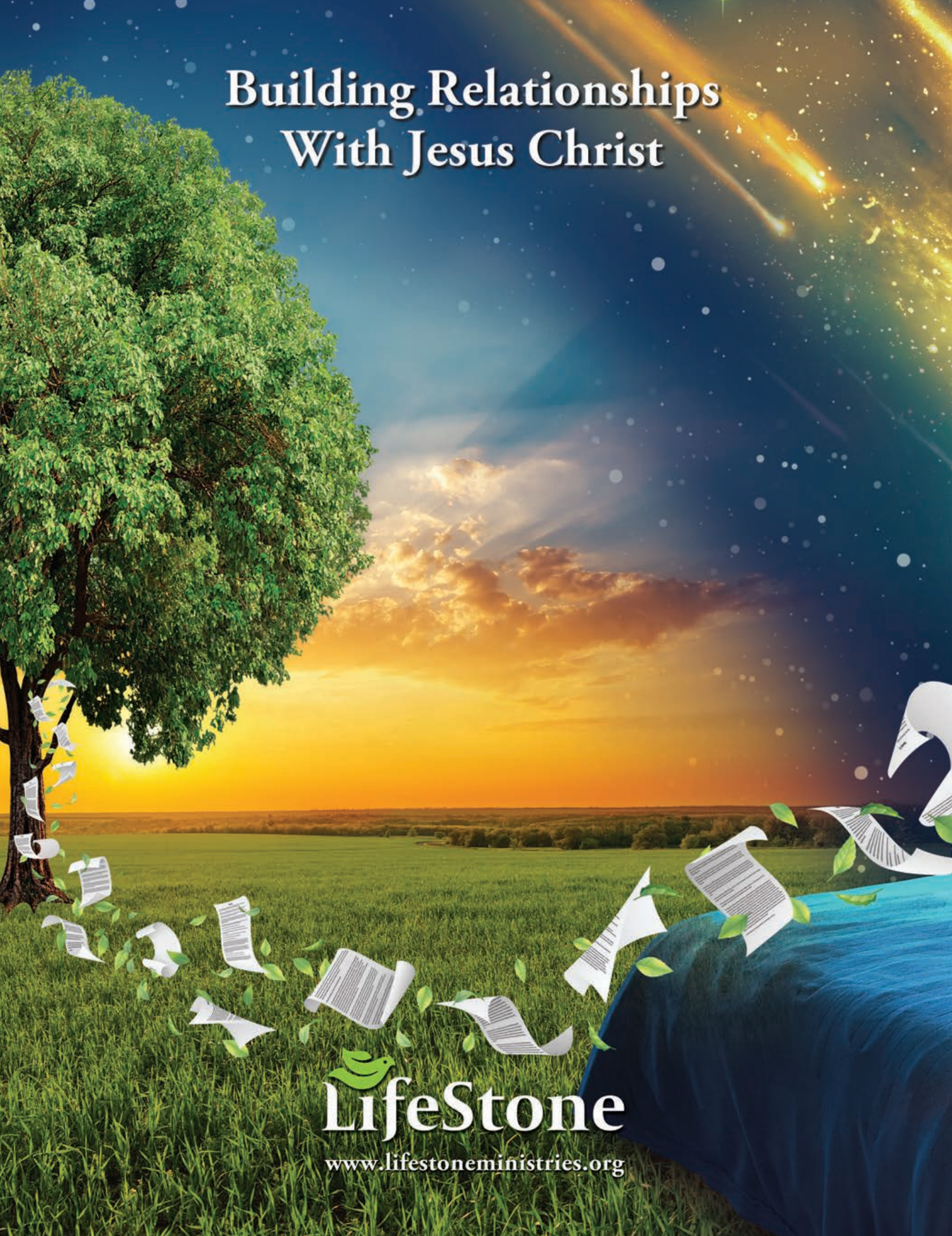
**www.lifestoneministries.org**



**LifeStone Ministries**  
**Union Gospel Press Division**  
**19695 Commerce Parkway**  
**Cleveland, Ohio 44130**



# Building Relationships With Jesus Christ



**LifeStone**

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