

How to Use a Bible Timeline

The Benefits of Bible Timelines

Bible Timelines are a great resource to support your lessons in different ways. They can:

- Give students a sense of the order of events in your curriculum
- Help students to understand the Bible context of events according to where they are in the Bible (For example, before or after Jesus' death and resurrection)
- Be a way of revising what has been taught so far
- Be an avenue for putting all events within the overall context of the good news about Jesus.

The GodSpace Bible Timeline is a set of images to support the lessons covered in our curriculum. The images are separate so that they can be used in a variety of ways in your classroom.

Ideas for Using Bible Timelines

- Place the images in a **PowerPoint slide** to use at the start of lessons.
- Print and laminate the images on A4 or A5 pages so that you can have a class discussion as students hold the cards and **line up in order**.
- Peg A4 images in order onto **wool or string** to construct a timeline to discuss (or use blu tack in a suitable part of the room).
- Print in playing card size. Give small groups of students laminated sets of cards to **sequence independently**.
- Print multiple sets in playing card size for small groups to play **card games** (eg. Go Fish or Memory).
- Play a **pairs game** where timeline playing cards are shared between the pair. The first student randomly draws one card from their pile. The other student randomly draws a card from their pile and puts it before or after the first card in the timeline- depending on when they think the event took place. The card stays in place if it is right or goes back to the player if it is wrong. The first player to correctly use of all their cards wins.
- Tape the images end-to-end and roll them out like an **old-fashioned scroll**.
- Read out descriptions of the Bible events and have students **guess the correct image**.
- Stick the images on a **long butcher's paper roll** (or a picture of a road), to show how all the events pointed towards (or related back to) Jesus.
- Make a **paper chain** with playing card sized images (with extra paper on each end) to show that the stories of the Bible link together to make one big story
- If your students are familiar with the timeline, remove the images and create a **storyboard** (number of empty boxes corresponding to the events you have covered during the year). Ask students to describe to you what the events are and write/ draw them in the boxes.
- Copy the images onto a **jigsaw** proforma (in order) and ask students to put together the pieces and describe how the little stories make one big story.

Remember: It is not the timeline or images that will help the students, it is the words used to describe them. Aim to be brief. As students develop in their understanding, allow them to lead the discussion. Ask questions to deepen understanding of how the events link together.