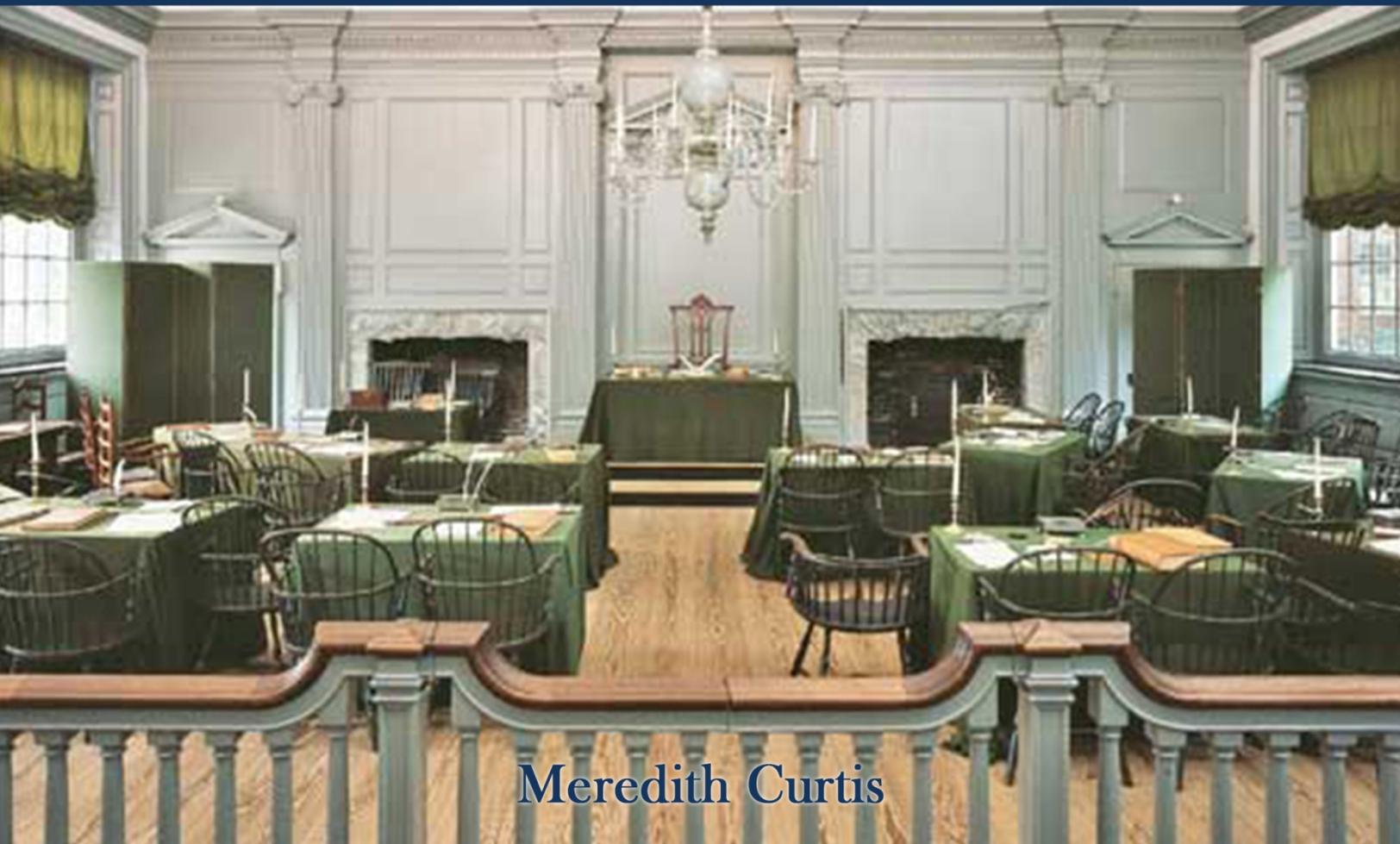




AMERICAN Literature and Research



1 Credit High School English Course



Meredith Curtis

MEREDITH CURTIS

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Humor	Error! Bookmark not defined.
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The Day of Doom.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
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Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson**Error! Bookmark not
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Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
6 of the Federalist Papers.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
6 of the Anti-Federalist Papers.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
The Tell-Tell Heart.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
“Diary of Adam & Eve”.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
“Bartleby the Scrivener”.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
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American Literature & Research Course Requirements

Class/Book Club Books to Read

Plimoth Plantation by William Bradford (History)
Narrative of the Captivity & Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson by Mrs. Mary Rowlandson (Biographical Adventure)
Diary of David Brainerd by David Brainerd (Journal)
“Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God” by Jonathan Edwards (Sermon)
Autobiography of Ben Franklin by Benjamin Franklin (Autobiography)
Federalist Papers by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, John Jay, & Others (Letters/Editorials)
“Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death” by Patrick Henry
Anti-Federalist Papers by Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, & Others (Letters/Editorials)
The Deer Slayer by James Fenimore Cooper (Historical Fiction/Novel)
The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne (Historical Fiction/Novel)
“The Tell-Tale Heart” by Edgar Allan Poe (Suspense/Short Story)
A Narrative of the Life of David Crockett by Davy Crockett
Uncle Tom’s Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (Novel)
“Diary of Adam” by Mark Twain (Humor/Short Story)
Ben Hur by Lew Wallace (Historical Fiction/Novel)
“Bartleby the Scrivener: A Story of Wall Street” by Herman Melville (Short Story)
In His Steps by Charles Sheldon (Novel)
“Should America Intercede for the Jews” by William E. Blackstone (Letter of Appeal)
Up From Slavery by Booker T. Washington (Autobiography)
“Booze Sermon” by Billy Sunday (Sermon)
Old Man and the Sea by Earnest Hemmingway (Historical Fiction/Novel)
Our Town by Thornton Wilder (Play)
To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee (Historical Fiction/Novel)
Tilly by Frank Peretti (Novel)
Snoopy & Peanuts Comic Strips by Charles Schwartz (Humor, Comics)
The Giver by Lois Lowry (Fantasy)

Poetry of Phillis Wheatley, Michael Wigglesworth, Anne Bradstreet, Walt Whitman, John Greenleaf Whittier, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Emily Dickenson, Robert Frost, Carl Sanburg, ee Cummings, Katharine Bates, Emily Dickenson, and more.

Books to Read (optional to read in addition or instead)

Legend of Sleepy Hollow by Washington Irving (you could substitute this for *Deer Slayer*)
Common Sense by Thomas Paine
Last of the Mohicans by James Fenimore Cooper
Poor Richard's Almanack by Ben Franklin
Billy Budd Foretopman by Herman Melville
Moby Dick by Herman Melville
Pudd'nhead Wilson by Mark Twain

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Prince and the Pauper by Mark Twain
Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain
Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane (you could substitute this for *Scarlet Letter*—symbolism)
The House of Seven Gables by Nathaniel Hawthorne
Gone with the Wind by Margaret Mitchell
Abraham Lincoln by Carl Sandburg
The Complete Tales and Poems of Edgar Allan Poe by Edgar Allan Poe
For Whom the Bell Tolls by Ernest Hemmingway
The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck
Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
“The Turn of the Screw” and other short fiction by Henry James
“The Lottery” (short story) by Shirley Jackson
The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
Miracle Worker by William Gibson
Call of the Wild by Jack London
Profiles of Courage by John F. Kennedy
Martian Chronicles by Ray Bradbury
The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck
A Separate Peace by John Knowles
Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams

HYMNS: Fanny Crosby

Philip Bliss

ESSAYS: William F. Buckley

Cal Thomas

Ruth Beechick

SERMONS: Jonathan Edwards

John Winslow

Increase Mather

Cotton Mather

Francis Asbury

Billy Sunday

Dwight L Moody

Peter Marshall

WRITINGS:

God and Man at Yale by William F. Buckley (1951)

Complete Works by Increase Mather

Complete Works by Cotton Mather

Complete Works by Jonathan Edwards

Complete Works by Charles Finney

Complete Works by Dwight L Moody

Complete Works by Francis & Edith Schaeffer

Complete Works by Josh McDowell

Complete Works by Henry Morris (about Creationism)

Complete Works by Charles Swindoll

Children's Classic Fiction (choose one)

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott (and more by same author)

Elsie by Martha Finley (and more by same author)

Little House in the Big Woods by Laura Ingalls Wilder (and more by same author)

Charlotte's Web by E. B. White (and more by same author)

The Bronze Bow by Elizabeth George Speare (and more by same author)

Christy by Catherine Marshall (and more by same author)

Writing Assignments:

Make Timeline & Add Figures each month

Paraphrase (several)

Précis (several)

Newspaper Article

Letter to the Editor

Thesis Statement

Essay

Tall Tale

Research Paper Step by Step

Grading:

To get a C grade, you must read all books and complete all writing assignment, and participate in class, or co-op.

To get a B grade, you must read all books and complete all writing assignments neatly with proper grammar and punctuation; and participate in ALL class, or co-op discussions.

To get an A grade, you must read all books, complete all writing assignments showing excellence and creativity; and show leadership and insight in class discussions.

American Literature & Research Assignment Check-Off

Assignments Completed Time took

September

- Listen to or Read Exploration & Settlement of New World with Important Works
- Read *Plimoth Plantation*
- Book Club Discussion on *Plimoth Plantation*
- Read Library: Sources of Information
- Visit Library & Find Sources of Information
- Listen to or Read How to Write a Paraphrase & Précis
- Read *Narration of the Captivity & Restoration of Mary Rowlandson*
- Book Club Discussion of *Captivity & Restoration*
- Do *Wealth of the Nations* Précis Assignment
- Do *Wealth of the Nations* Paraphrase Assignment
- Make American Literature Timeline
- Evaluate Paraphrase & Précis
- Do *Magnalia Christi Americana* Précis Assignment
- Do *Magnalia Christi Americana* Paraphrase Assignment
- Read David Brainerd's Diary

October

- Listen to or Read History & Literature of Colonial America & Great Awakening
- Read *David Brainerd's Diary*
- Book Club Discussion on *David Brainerd's Diary*
- Evaluate Paraphrase & Précis
- Do *Bill of Rights* Précis Assignment
- Do *Bill of Rights* Paraphrase Assignment
- Listen to or Read Phillis Wheatley & Jonathan Edwards
- Read Phillis Wheatley Poetry Aloud
- Read Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God Aloud
- Evaluate Paraphrase & Précis
- Do *Duties of Children to their Parents* Précis Assignment
- Do *Duties of Children to their Parents* Paraphrase Assignment
- Listen to or Read Ben Franklin
- Read *Autobiography of Ben Franklin*
- Book Club Discussion of *Autobiography of Ben Franklin*
- Evaluate Paraphrase & Précis
- Do Way to Wealth Précis Assignment
- Do Way to Wealth Paraphrase Assignment
- Work on American Literature Timeline
- Evaluate Paraphrase & Précis

Assignments

Completed Time took

November

Listen to or Read History of American Revolution & Making of A Constitution

Listen to or Read American Works during Revolutionary Period

Listen to or Read Newspaper Articles & Letters to the Editor

Read *Federalist Papers*

Book Club Discussion on *Federalist Papers*

Evaluate Newspaper Articles & Letters

Write a Letter to the Editor

Listen to or Read Patrick Henry & Liberty Speech

Read Liberty or Death Speech Aloud

Listen to or Read The Men Who Wrote the Letters

Read *Anti-Federalist Papers*

Book Club Discussion on *Anti-Federalist Papers*

Compare Federalist & Anti-Federalist Letters

Work on American Literature Timeline

December

Listen to or Read A Brand New Nation and Its Stories

Listen to or Read American Folk Tales & Tall Tales

Listen to or Read How to Write a Thesis & Write Your Own Tall Tale

Book Club Discussion on Tall Tales

Write Your Own Tall Tale

Write a Thesis

Read *The Deer Slayer*

Listen to or Read James Fenimore Cooper & *The Deer Slayer* & Plot

Book Club Discussion on *The Deer Slayer*

Evaluate Thesis

Listen to or Read How to Write an Essay

Evaluate Thesis

Evaluate Tall Tale

Write an Essay

Read *The Scarlett Letter*

January

Listen to or Read Nineteenth Century American History & Important Works

Listen to or Read War of 1812 & National Anthem

Sing National Anthem

Listen to or Read Nathaniel Hawthorne & *The Scarlett Letter* & Symbolism

Book Club Discussion on *The Scarlett Letter*

Evaluate Essays

Read "The Tell-Tale Heart"

Listen to or Read Edgar Allan Poe & "The Tell-Tale Heart"

Book Club Discussion on "The Tell-Tale Heart"

Listen to or Read How to Write a Research Paper & My Topic & Question

Choose Your Topic

Narrow Down Your Topic

Write Down Your Question

Narrow Down Your Question

Assignments

Completed Time took

- Read *A Narrative on the Life of Davy Crockett*
- Listen to or Read Davy Crockett & *A Narrative of His Life*
- Book Club Discussion on *Narrative on the Life of Davy Crockett*
- Read Poetry Aloud: Whitman, Whittier, Longfellow
- Listen to or Read Primary & Secondary Sources & Document Your Sources
- Evaluate Topic & Question
- Gather & List Primary & Secondary Sources
- Work on American Literature Timeline
- Read How to Use Note Cards
- Make Note Cards in American Literature Book
- Read *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- Research & Write Info on Note Cards

February

- Listen to or Read Conflict, Succession, War Between the States, Reconstruction & Works
- Listen to or Read Harriet Beecher Stowe & *Uncle Tom's Cabin* & Characterization
- Book Club Discussion on *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- Read "Diary of Adam"
- Research & Write Info on Note Cards
- Listen to or Read Mark Twain & "Diary of Adam"
- Book Club Discussion on "Diary of Adam"
- Evaluate Research: Note Cards
- Research & Write Info on Note Cards
- Read *Ben Hur*
- Listen to or Read Lew Wallace & *Ben Hur* & Theme & Apologetics
- Book Club Discussion on *Ben Hur*
- Listen to Read Write My Thesis Statement & My Working Outline
- Research & Write Info on Note Cards
- Write Your Thesis Statement
- Narrow Down Your Thesis Statement
- Read "Bartleby, the Scrivener"
- Listen to or Read Herman Melville & "Bartleby, the Scrivener"
- Book Club Discussion on *Bartleby, the Scrivener*
- Listen to or Read How to Compile & Sort through Research
- Work on Research Paper
- Work on American Literature Timeline
- Read *In His Steps*

March

- Listen to or Read Late 1800's 'til Turn of the Century & Works
- Listen to or Read Charles Sheldon & *In His Steps* & Plot
- Book Club Discussion on *In His Steps*
- Listen to or Read Using a Working Outline & Revision
- Read *The Blackstone Memorial*
- Work on Your Research Paper/Revise Outline & Thesis if Needed
- Listen to or Read American Poets: Frost, Milay, Sandburg, Cummings, Bates
- Read Poems Aloud
- Listen to or Read Zionism or *The Blackstone Memorial*
- Book Club Discussion on *The Blackstone Memorial*

Assignments

Completed Time took

- Listen to or Read Evaluate Research: Sources & Note Cards
- Read *Up From Slavery*
- Listen to or Read Booker T. Washington & *Up From Slavery*
- Book Club Discussion on *Up From Slavery*
- Listen to or Read Billy Sunday & “Booze Sermon”
- Read “Booze Sermon” Aloud
- Book Club Discussion on “Booze Sermon”
- Listen to or Read How to Write an Introduction
- Read *A Farewell to Arms*
- Write Your Research Paper Introduction
- Work on American Literature Timeline
- Listen to or Tips for Writing a Research Paper
- Read *A Farewell to Arms*

April

- Listen to or Read America in the Twentieth Century
- Listen to or Read American Works in the Twentieth Century
- Listen to or Read Earnest Hemmingway & *Old Man and the Sea* & Point of View
- Book Club Discussion on *Old Man and the Sea*
- Evaluate Research Paper Introduction
- Finish Research Paper Body/Revise
- Listen to or Read Thorton Wilder & “Our Town”
- Read Our Town Aloud/Assigning Parts
- Book Club Discussion on “Our Town”
- Evaluate Research Body
- Work on Your Research Paper Conclusion
- Read *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- Finish Your Research Paper
- Listen to or Read Harper Lee & *To Kill a Mockingbird* & Setting
- Book Club Discussion on *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- Listen to or Read Evaluate Research: Sources & Note Cards
- Evaluate Research Paper Conclusions
- Work on American Literature Timeline
- Listen to or Read How to Edit a Research Paper
- Edit Your Research Paper
- Read *Tilly*

May

- Listen to or Read Frank Peretti & *Tilly* & Apologetics
- Book Club Discussion on *Tilly*
- Edit One Another’s Research Paper
- Listen to or Read Sunday Funnies & Humor
- Book Club Discussion on Peanuts
- Edit One Another’s Research Paper
- Read The Giver
- Listen to or Read Lois Lowry & *The Giver* & Mood & Tone
- Book Club Discussion on *The Giver*
- Publish Research Paper

American Literature Research

September Week One

Exploration & Settlement of the New World

Important Works from the Settlement Period

Book Club Discussion: *Plimoth Plantation* by William Bradford

Library: Sources of Information

September Week Two

Poetry Read Aloud: Anne Bradstreet & Michael Wigglesworth

Paraphrase & Precis

September Week Three

Book Club Discussion of *Captivity & Restoration of Mary Rowlandson*

Evaluate Paraphrase & Precis in Small Groups

September Week Four

American Literature Timeline

Evaluate Paraphrase & Precis in Small Groups

September Week One

Exploration & Settlement of the New World

While men were studying the Bible and re-discovering the truths of the Gospel, adventurers explored the New World on the other side of the big Atlantic Ocean. Going where no one had dared go in a long time, men like Columbus, Magellan, and Cabot blazed a trail that many would follow.

Columbus

Cristobal Colon, or Christopher Columbus (1451-1507), was born in Genoa Italy and sailed under the Spanish flag to the New World. Convinced that it would be quicker to sail west to get to the Far East, Columbus finally persuaded Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand to finance his trip. After 36 days on the high seas, the Pinta, the Nina, and the Santa Maria landed on a small island in the Bahamas. The natives were friendly and eager to trade with the sailors. Their next stops were Cuba and Hispaniola (now Haiti and the Dominican Republic). When the Santa Maria wrecked off the coast on a coral reef, the sailors, with the natives' help, build a settlement called Villa de la Navidad (Christmas Town). Thirty-nine men stayed in Christmas Town, Dominican Republic and the rest joined Columbus on the voyage home. Columbus, one of the greatest sailors that ever lived, not only made it home, but back again to the same place.

Columbus set sail again, returning to Hispaniola (Dominican Republic) to find that all of the Navidad settlers had been murdered. He rebuilt the town on the other side of the island and called it Isabella. He left his brothers, Bartholomew and Diego to oversee the settlement. Columbus still thought he was near China as he sailed around some of the larger islands of the West Indies.

On his third voyage, Columbus reached Venezuela in South America and explored the Orinoco River. Meanwhile the colony on Hispaniola wasn't going so well and news got back to Spain. Columbus was arrested and returned to Spain in chains to face trial. Charges were dropped in Spain and he managed to make one last trip in 1502 where he faced some problems in Cuba.

Columbus was very serious about bringing the Gospel to the Native Americans who had never heard of Christ. He wrote down a list of prophecies from the Bible that he thought God had showed him about His voyage. During his four voyages, he faced storms, mutinies, battles, and discouragement. Columbus bridged the gap between the Old World and the New World. He was a great man and his log is available to read. He was a deeply devoted Christian who wanted the entire world to come to know Jesus Christ.

Log of Christopher Columbus by Christopher Columbus

John Cabot

John Cabot (1450-1498) was born in Italy, but living in England when he heard the news of the discovery of Columbus. He convinced Henry VII to let him explore the New World too. He and his

son, Sebastian (1477-1557) sailed across the Atlantic Ocean and claimed part of Canada for England. This journey gave England a claim in the New World.

Let's talk about some earth-shaking things that were going on in Europe.

Renaissance

The Renaissance began in the Italian states with the “rebirth” or “rediscovery” of the classic literature and art of Ancient Greece and Rome. This “rediscovery” led to painting, sculpture, writing, play writing, inventions, scientific discoveries, and a shift in philosophy. Originally, church-centered, life began to be man-centered very slowly over time. Humanism, embraced by the Ancient Greek, was born again with Renaissance men falling in love with themselves and mankind.

Devout Catholics tried to incorporate Greek and Roman philosophy with Roman Catholic doctrine. At the same time, many of the popes during this time were wicked men who enjoyed political power, but did not shepherd the flock under their care. **Pope Sixtus IV** (1414-1484), wanting to raise money for his pet project, the painting of the Sistine Chapel, intensified and expanded a practice begun a few centuries before: the **Selling of Indulgences**. This practice outraged many, including a German Monk named Martin Luther.

Martin Luther

Martin Luther (1483-1546) was born in Elseben, Germany to Hans and Margaret Luther, German peasants. Martin became a monk, but felt miserable and sinful. He did all kinds of strange things, popular at the time, to make the guilt of sin go away. Finally, his mentor showed him this Bible verse: “The just shall live by faith!” After that, Martin Luther trusted Jesus by faith to forgive his sins and bring him to Heaven because of the grace of God, not his own good works. We can thank Martin Luther for reminding the church that the punishment for sins was poured out on Jesus while he hung and died on the cross.

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed a paper to the Wittenburg door that had a set of 95 ideas (or theses), straight from the Bible, against bad things that the Roman Catholic Church and the Pope were doing (like selling indulgences). The pope was furious. Luther had to appear at a meeting of powerful men called the Diet of Worms. They asked him to recant his books and convictions, but he refused.

He said, “I cannot, and I will not retract....Here I stand; I can do no other; may God help me! Amen!”

His friends kidnapped him and hid me in a castle for ten months for protection, during which time he translated the Bible into German. Later, he went back to Whittenburg and helped bring about the ‘Reformation,’ turning the church back to the Bible and to salvation through faith in Jesus Christ alone.

Here are some of his books.

Ninety-Five Theses by Martin Luther

The German Mass and Order of Divine Service by Martin Luther

A Treatise of Good Works by Martin Luther

Luther's Larger Catechism by Martin Luther

Luther's Smaller Catechism by Martin Luther

Bible Commentaries by Martin Luther

Reformation

The ideas of the Reformation quickly spread across Northern Europe and into England. Men began to want to read the Bible in their own language. There was a growing hunger for God and His Word.

Of course, there have always been men who stood firm on God's Word. Back in the fourteenth century, the 1300's, **John Wycliffe** (1320-1384), an English pastor, preached and lived the truths of the Reformation. He translated the Word of God into English and his followers were called Lollards. They spread his teaching into Bohemia. **Jan Hus** (1369-1415), or **John Huss**, as we call him, preached the truths of the Reformation as well. Martin Luther studied his writings just as Jan had studied John Wycliffe's writings. Jan Hus was burned at the stake because he did not adhere to the Roman Catholic theology of the time.

William Tyndale

William Tyndale (1494-1536) was a theologian, preacher, and scholar who adhered to the Reformation doctrines and ideals. A gifted linguist (he spoke Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Spanish, French, Italian, German, and English fluently!), he had a dream to translate the Bible from the original Greek and Hebrew into the English spoken by the common people of his day and use Gutenberg's new invention (the moveable-type printing press) to print copies.

This was illegal activity in those days (during the reign of Henry VIII) because the state religion was Roman Catholic, so in 1524 William set out for Germany where he visited Hamburg and Whittenberg. It is believed that he received help from Martin Luther. The next year, his English New Testament was printed in Cologne and Worms. Then he went to work on the Old Testament. In secret hiding places, for 12 years he translated and composed many important works. What a great man of God!

Tyndale was betrayed, arrested, and tried for treason. He was strangled and burnt at the stake in 1536. His last words were, **"Lord, open the king of England's eyes!"** This prayer was answered three years later, with the publication of Henry VIII's *Great English Bible*. If only William Tyndale could have enjoyed the reign of Edward VI, a devoted Christian.

The New Testament translated by William Tyndale

The Supper of the Lord by William Tyndale

A Brief Declaration of the Sacraments translated by William Tyndale

Tyndale's Letters from Prison by William Tyndale

John Calvin

John Calvin (1509-1564) was born in France, the son of a lawyer. John studied both law and theology, so he was a lawyer and a pastor. You can see the methodical lawyer side of him in his writings. Because Protestants, those who believed in the teachings of the Reformation, were persecuted in France, John had to flee to Switzerland. He pastored many years in Geneva where he was influential in the governing of the city as well.

Calvin's writings and teachings influenced many of the settlers who came to America. He taught that the church and state, though both subject to the Word of God, were to be separate. John believed that there was no distinction between the spiritual and the secular, but rather everything should be done for the glory of God. This idea of working hard for the glory of God in all things was the birth of the Protestant Work Ethic.

Institutes of the Christian Religion by John Calvin (1536)

Calvin's Commentaries by John Calvin

Tracks and Letters by John Calvin

Treatise on Relics by John Calvin

Haven In Geneva

Years later, many persecuted Christians fled to Geneva from England during the reign of Queen Mary and translated the Bible into English. This Bible, *The Geneva Bible*, is the one the Puritans and Pilgrims brought to the New World.

The Geneva Bible

John Knox

John Knox (1514-1572) was born in Scotland and ordained as a Roman Catholic priest. He embraced the new Reformation teachings and left his position in the Catholic Church to become a Protestant pastor. For a time, he was exiled. While in exile, he served as a chaplain to the English king, Edward VI. After Edward VI died, he had to flee to Switzerland. For a time, he pastored English refugees while Mary I was ruling England. John returned to Scotland in time for Protestantism to become the official religion of Scotland. John is considered the founder of Presbyterianism in Scotland.

Scottish Confession of Faith by John Knox (1550)

Two Comfortable Epistles to His Afflicted Brethren in England by John Knox (1554)

The First Blast of the Trumpet Against the Monstrous Regiment of Women by John Knox (1559)

History of the Reformation by John Knox (1566)

Santo Domingo

Well, let's go back to the New World and fast forward to 2013. We were standing next to a beautiful building made of coral, the Navigation House. I was in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (formerly known as Hispaniola) with my daughter, Katie Beth.

"Look over there," our guide said. "That is the home of Ponce de Leon. And that house there. That is the home of Hernan Cortez. Both men came to this place to get permission, documents, and maps to complete their travels.

Santo Domingo is the oldest continuously inhabited city in the New World. The first two settlements on the island were not in good locations, so Bartholomew, brother of Christopher, built a little settlement and called it Santo Domingo. In 1508, Diego Columbus, son of Christopher, was named governor and headed right to Santo Domingo. He built a beautiful home that I got to see on my visit to Santo Domingo. The oldest church in America is in Santo Domingo too. Columbus was originally buried in that church, but his remains were later moved.

Juan Ponce de Leon

Juan Ponce de Leon (1460-1521) sailed with Columbus on his second journey, but he settled down in Santo Domingo. Eventually he became governor of Santo Domingo, and later, Puerto Rico. He got permission from the officials at the House of Navigation to search for the Fountain of Youth on the island of Bimini. Instead of landing in Bimini he arrived at a beautiful peninsula filled with lovely flowers. He named the new land Florida which means flowers in Spanish. His next expedition to Bimini brought him to the west coast of Florida. Native Americans greeted them with arrows. Juan was hit and brought to Cuba to recover where he died instead of getting better.

Hernan Cortes

Hernan Cortes de Monroy y Pizarro (1485-1547) was born in Spain, traveled to Hispaniola, but settled in Cuba. He eventually became a mayor in the capital of Cuba, Havana. As a conquistador, he led an expedition to Mexico where he encountered the Aztec Indians. Their idolatrous worship that included sacrificing young teenagers and pulling the hearts out of living people and eating them horrified Cortez and his men. After unsuccessfully sharing the Gospel with them, they destroyed the tribe and city with the help of nearby tribes who were tired of the Aztec's brutal behavior.

Hernando de Soto

Hernando de Soto (1496-1542) was born in Spain, but traveled to the New World with the first governor of Panama, Pedrarias Davila. Hernando joined Francisco Pizarro in the exploration of Peru and conquest of Cuzco, the capital of the Incan Empire. Cuzco was filled with gold and silver. Hernando's share made him a wealthy man. He returned to Spain and married Isabel de Bobadilla, a relative of Queen Isabella. He was granted the governorship of Cuba and a mandate to settle the continent of North America for Spain.

He planned to explore most of North America. He was unable to fulfill his plan, but he did explore a vast amount of land after he landed on the west coast of Florida. After rescuing Juan Ortiz from captivity (Juan was delivered from being roasted alive by the chief's daughter), Hernando's men explored present day Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi. After meeting supply ships in the Gulf of Mexico and wintering in Alabama, Hernando explored present day Mississippi, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and Louisiana. Hernando was the first European to cross the Mississippi.

Though no settlements were made, large portions of land were claimed by Spain. Hernando and his men discovered and recorded a wealth of information about geography and biology during the expedition.

Sir Francis Drake

Sir Francis Drake (1540-1596) was born in Devonshire, England. He was known as a hero to the English and a pirate to the Spanish. Francis went to sea as a young man and was soon commanding ships. He raided Spanish ships for gold, silver, and other treasure. Queen Elizabeth was delighted to sock it to the Spanish who ruled the seas. With all his adventures, Francis' life would make a great movie!

Sir Walter Raleigh

Sir Walter Raleigh (1552-1618) was born in England and became one of Queen Elizabeth's favorites. He made plans to colonize Virginia in the New World.

After hearing about El Dorado, the City of Gold, Raleigh headed to South America in 1594 to find it without success. After Elizabeth I died, James I imprisoned Walter for several years. When he was released, he went on a second expedition to South America to look for the City of Gold, El Dorado.

Sir Walter Raleigh wrote lots of poetry and books. Here are some of the books he wrote.

The Discovery of Guiana by Sir Walter Raleigh (1595)

A Discourse Touching a War with Spain by Sir Walter Raleigh (1603)

The History of the World by Sir Walter Raleigh (1614)

Sir Walter Raleigh's Apology for His Voyage to Guiana by Sir Walter Raleigh (1617)

Causes of the Magnificency and Opulence of Cities by Sir Walter Raleigh (published 1651)

The Mystery of the Lost Colony

During the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, Sir Walter Raleigh made plans to start an English colony in North America. In 1584, Sir Walter Raleigh sent men to scout out Roanoke Island. They loved the island and came back with two Native Americans from the island, thrilling Queen Elizabeth. The first settlers arrived too late in the year to plant crops so they hitched a ride home with Sir Frances Drake. Fifteen men from Drake's ship stayed behind.

In 1587, a new group of settlers, 150 people, arrived. They looked for the fifteen men who were left behind. All they found was human bones. Nonetheless, the colonists got busy and planted crops. The first baby born in the new world, Virginia Dare, was born in this settlement. Soon they realized they needed more supplies so they sent the John White with the ships back to England. It took a few years for John White to get back to the little colony because of the Spanish Armada and war with Spain. When he got back to Roanoke Island, there were no signs of human settlement anywhere. To this day, no one knows what happened to the Lost Colony of Roanoke.

English Defeat of the Spanish Armada

In 1585, war broke out between Spain and England. Sir Francis Drake got busy. He sacked Santo Domingo, captured a city in Columbia, and raided the fort at Saint Augustine, Florida. He was a one-ship wrecking crew! He was vice admiral when the Spanish Armada (a fleet of Spanish ships) attacked English ships. You see, the Spanish were tired of English piracy. The invincible Spanish fleet attacked England. There was an intense battle in the English Channel. The English won and things changed! England's sea power became greater and greater, while Spain's wealth and power decreased.

Settlement at Jamestown

England, the new superpower of the seas, decided to try again to plant a colony. 104 men and boys landed at Jamestown in April, 1607. 105 colonists had departed from England on the Susan Constant, Godspeed, and Discovery, but unfortunately one of them died on the way. Sponsored by the Virginia Company of London and chartered by King James I, the colonists hoped to start a colony, find a northwest passage to the Orient, and share the Gospel with the Virginia Indians.

After two weeks of exploring, the boats found a place along the deep James River. Their spot was chosen because of its good defensive location. A council of seven governed the colony with one of the council acting as president.

The English gentlemen arrived to the brand new land of Virginia with high hopes to find gold and make a fortune. However they were met with mosquitoes and challenging swampy ground that needed to be worked. A fort with buildings and a church inside needed to be built too. All that hard work! Some men just wanted to sit back and do nothing while others labored. Finally their leader, John Smith enforced this biblical principle: "If a man will not work, he will not eat." Grudgingly the lazy men began to labor. Gradually the colony of Virginia that began in Jamestown became prosperous.

Because of their heart to lead people to Christ, many of the Indians later gave their lives to Christ, including Pocahontas, a Native American Princess. At her baptism, she changed her name to Rebekah.

Captain John Smith

Captain John Smith (1579-1631) was born in Lincolnshire, England and joined the English Army when he grew up. While fighting the Turks, he was captured and sold as a slave. When the harsh treatment became unendurable, he killed his master and escaped back to England. He joined a group heading to Virginia to start a colony. While in Virginia, he proved to be a strong leader and helped the colonists survive. John traveled around the area making maps and discovering the fauna and flora of the region. What a pioneering spirit he had, traveling throughout the wilderness exploring and enjoying the beauty of God's creation in North America. His book was entitled *A Description of New England*, because all of colonial area was known as New England then.

Here are some of John's books.

A True Relation of Such Occurrences and Accidents of Note as Hath Happened in Virginia by John Smith (1608)

A Description of New England by John Smith (1616)

A General History of Virginia, New England, and the Summer Isles by John Smith (1624)

Pocahontas, Rebekah Rolfe

At one point, John Smith and some men were searching for food. Native Americans killed the other men and John was taken to nearby chief, Powhatan, who wanted to take John Smith's life. At the last minute, his young daughter, Pocahontas (1596-1617), rushed to intervene, begging her father to spare his life. A few years afterward, Pocahontas warned the settlers about an impending attack from the Native Americans. The settlers trusted her and she spent a lot of time in Jamestown. Later, Pocahontas brought corn to the starving colonists at Jamestown during a bad winter. When she was 18, Pocahontas asked Jesus to rescue her from sin and was baptized. She took the name of Rebekah.

When Pocahontas grew up, she married John Rolfe (1585-1622), the man who was instrumental in making tobacco a cash crop for Virginia. It became so lucrative that people paid their taxes and their pastors in tobacco. John and Rebekah had a son named Thomas. She was the first Native American in Virginia to accept Christ as her Lord and Savior.

Puritans

Let's head on over to England where the Puritans wanted to purify the Anglican Church. They believed that the Bible was true and should be obeyed wholeheartedly. There were many great works of literature during this time period from the puritans. John Milton was a Puritan, as well as John Bunyan, John Owen, and Oliver Cromwell. Their poetry was lovely and Christ-centered. Isaac Watts and John Newton wrote hymns, many of which we still sing today. This group of believers would impact the New World too!

Here are some famous Puritan works.

Duty of Pastors and People Distinguished by John Owen (1643)

Lex Rex by Samuel Rutherford (1645)

Mortification of Sin in Believers by John Owen (1656)

Paradise Lost by John Milton (1667)

Paradise Regained by John Milton (1671)

Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan (1675)

Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe (1719)

Separatists

The Puritans remained loyal to the Church of England, but wanted to “purify” the church from practices that were based on tradition rather than the Word of God. These English Puritans stayed in the Anglican Church, working from the inside to bring reform and revival. The Separatists wanted to separate from the Church of England. They formed their own congregations, meeting in secret to avoid capture.

Separatists in Scrooby

William Brewster (1560-1643), a graduate of Cambridge University, lived in the beautiful Scrooby Manor House in Scrooby, North Nottingham, where he hosted a Separatist congregation. William Brewster was an elder in the church. His wife, Mary, and their five children were all members too. The members of the Scrooby Separatist church were devout Christians who were committed to Jesus and putting His Word into practice. They were close like a family and had many adventures together.

You see, King James I, who was the king of England at the time, wanted everyone in England to go to the Anglican Church. Those who didn't (like our Separatist friends) were arrested. It was a scary time for these brave Christians.

Scrooby Church Moves to Holland (1608)

To avoid arrest and persecution, the pilgrims fled to Holland. First, they lived in Amsterdam, then later moved to Leiden. In Leiden, Elder William Brewster learned to use a printing press and printed pamphlets and Christian books that were smuggled into England. He also taught English at the University of Leiden. When authorities found out about his printing activities, they came after him, so William went into hiding for a few years before his trip to the New World.

I think it is exciting that William Brewster printed books in Leiden with his friends in the church from Scrooby. One day, he would become their pastor in the New World, but in the meantime, he and his friends printed books through his publishing company, Pilgrim Press. Books were important

in spreading Separatist ideas. Here are some of the titles. Notice that the first four are by their pastor, John Robinson, who stayed in Leiden when half of the congregation went on to the New World.

Defense of the Doctrine Propounded by the Synod at Dort by John Robinson

Observations Divine and Moral by John Robinson

A Justification of Separation by John Robinson

The People's Plea for the Exercise of Prophecy by John Robinson

A True, Modest and Just Defence of the Petition for Reformation

A Little Treatise upon the First Verse of the 22 Psalm by R. Harrison

Certain Reasons of a Private Christian against Conformitie to Kneelifig by T. Dighton

An Answer to the Ten Counter Demands by W. Euring

Do you notice how some of the spelling is funny? That's how they wrote back then.

Dutch Settle in New York

The Dutch decided to start a colony in the New World too. The Dutch East India Tea Company financed the voyages of Henry Hudson (1565-1611) who did not discover the Northwest Passage, but did discover the Hudson River. Henry described a beautiful land filled with harbors, fertile valleys, and fur-covered animals. Ah, hah! The Dutch knew that the American continent had riches of her own. Henry's first voyage was in 1607. The pilgrims certainly must have heard stories of his explorations in the New World.

In 1621, a new company, The Dutch West India Tea Company established outposts up and down the Hudson, Mohawk, Delaware, and Connecticut Rivers. The most successful trading post was the one at Fort Orange, later Albany. In 1626, Peter Minuit established a settlement called New Amsterdam. He purchased Manhattan Island from the Native Americans for sixty Dutch guilders.

Pilgrims Land at Plymouth Rock (1620)

The pilgrims decided to move to the New World because their children were adopting Dutch customs and speaking Dutch too. But, worst of all, their faith was being watered down.

After a long voyage on the *Mayflower*, the Pilgrims and the Strangers were so happy to see land again. This little ship carried two very different groups of people over from England to the New World. The Pilgrims were Calvinists (or Congregationalists or Separatists) who had actually left the Church of England to form their own group of churches. There were not enough Pilgrims who could make the trip, so other English families joined them on the *Mayflower* to make a new life in America. Many of these other English families were Puritans. (Remember the Puritans who stayed in the Church of England, but wanted to PURIFY it—hence, their name: Puritans!) These other Englishmen were called “Strangers” by the Pilgrims. The Pilgrims were always praying and singing on board, which often irritated the Strangers, who didn't understand the Pilgrims' exuberance for the Lord.

The Mayflower Compact

The Pilgrims and Strangers aboard the *Mayflower* did something very exciting before they embarked on their new life. You see, the Strangers wanted to be taken to Virginia and get away from the strange Pilgrims and the crew of the *Mayflower* wanted to hurry and get home before winter set in. So, all the men got together and wrote an agreement called *The Mayflower Compact*. This contract gave the free men, Stranger or Pilgrim, the right to vote for a governor and an assembly (like our

mayor and city councils of today!). These elected officials would be accountable to those who voted for them. This was an historic document, the first of its kind in the New World!

Mayflower Compact

Miles Standish

Miles Standish (1584-1656) was born in Lancashire, England. He grew up to be a brave soldier and leader, traveling to the Netherlands to help the Dutch fight against the Spaniards for freedom. Miles had to head to Leiden, Holland on business and connected with the Pilgrims of Scrooby. They had settled in Leiden too. He made the decision to travel to the New World with the Pilgrims and was appointed the military leader.

Though Miles and his wife were Anglicans, not Separatists, they were loved by the entire little church. When the Mayflower landed at Plymouth, Miles was among the writers and signers of the famous Mayflower Compact. After signing the important historical document, Miles gathered sixteen brave men together and set out to explore the new land before everyone could get off the ship. Miles was very busy the first few months.

Soon after they got settled in Plymouth, the whole settlement was struck with sickness. Many people died, including Miles' wife, Rose. Miles worked night and day to help the sick, washing clothes, caring for people, and burying the dead. Yes, almost half the people died. Only seven people did NOT get sick. One of them was Miles. In 1623, a lovely lady named Barbara arrived from England and Miles married her. God gave them seven children. Miles attended church every week, but never officially joined the church.

The Starving Time

Because they had lived on a diet of hard tack and dried, salted meat, many of the Pilgrims and Strangers suffered from **scurvy** when they arrived at their new home. In their weakened state from scurvy and malnutrition, many of the new settlers caught pneumonia. Half of the population died that first winter. It was very hard and discouraging for the first few months.

But, in the spring, God brought the Pilgrims two Native American friends: Samoset and Squanto.

Samoset

Samoset, a Native American, walked into Plymouth one day and introduced himself. The colonists were shocked that he spoke English. He had learned English from the English fisherman who fished off the coast. They quickly gave him a coat to wear because he was stark naked. He spent the night and the next morning the Pilgrims gave him gifts. A few days later, he brought his friends back to meet the Pilgrims too.

Squanto

Squanto, another Native American, had actually been to England! He taught the Pilgrims to plant corn, using fish as fertilizer. He helped the Pilgrims by negotiating with the Native American chief, Massasoit. Squanto was their interpreter in those early years. Eventually, a peace treaty was signed between the Native Americans and the Colonists which was kept for fifty years.

John Winthrop & Massachusetts Bay Colony

John Winthrop (1588-1649), a devoted Puritan, left England in 1630 to create a godly commonwealth in the New World. John had a beautiful vision of a colony completely centered around Jesus and His Word, a City on a Hill.

A wealthy Puritan lawyer, he was creative in his financing and founding of the colony. First of all, the New England Company was granted land between the Charles and Merrimack Rivers. A year later, this company received a royal charter and a name change: Massachusetts Bay Company. The group of Puritan stockholders bought up all the stock. You had to be going to the New World to own stock. So the Massachusetts Bay Colony was the only colony in the New World that was not subject to a board of trustees or governors back in England. Isn't that neat? In 1630, John led a group of settlers to the mouth of the Charles River—Boston was born!

John served twelve terms as governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony. His son, John was one of the founders of Connecticut. He was kind and diplomatic to the nearby Native American tribes.

Here are some of John Winthrop's works.

A Short Story of the Rise, Reign, and Ruin of the Antinomians, Familists, and Libertines by John Winthrop (1645)

History of New England from 1630 to 1649 by John Winthrop

Winthrop Papers, 5 Volumes by John Winthrop

Give the Question to the Answer

This pastor founded Presbyterianism in Scotland.

Who is _____?

He built a big, beautiful house when he was governor of Santo Domingo.

Who is _____?

This battle changed the shift in sea power from Spain to England. It was fought in the English Channel.

What is the _____?

William Bradford

William Bradford (1590-1657) was orphaned at the age of seven and sent to live with two uncles. For several years, he was very sick and spent his time reading the Bible and classic literature. At the age of twelve, William started walking with the Lord, becoming convinced of the Separatist teachings. Puritans wanted to purify the Church of England, but Separatists wanted to separate from the Church of England and hold their own church services. This was illegal, so they had to meet in secret. William became good friends with William Brewster, who lived in Scrooby Manor near Sherwood Forest. Yes, the Sherwood Forest of Robin Hood. William frequently visited the Brewster family and became part of the local church that met in their home. The pastors were Richard Clifton and John Robinson.

AMERICAN LITERATURE & RESEARCH

After James I took the throne of England, the government clamped down on unauthorized churches like the little Scrooby Church. Many of the men were arrested, fined, and lost their land. The men had to hide out in Sherwood Forest to avoid capture. The congregation decided to flee to Holland where there was freedom to worship. William Bradford, William Brewster, and John Robinson moved to Amsterdam and then to Leiden. During this time, William lived with the Brewster family. In Leiden, they lived in a poor neighborhood called “Stink Alley.” William married Dorothy May, an English woman living in the Dutch Republic.

After ten years, the children began to speak Dutch instead of English, but, even more upsetting for the Separatists, young people began to compromise in their way of life.

“Let’s move to the New World!” someone in the congregation suggested.

“There’s a colony in Virginia,” another added.

Soon, the congregation was considering a voyage to the New World.

Some of the congregation stayed in Leiden, including Pastor John Robinson, but half of the congregation made a deal with the Plymouth Company to make the voyage. Financially, they agreed to supply the company with raw materials from the New World in exchange for passage over. This business venture would cause them to experiment with socialism which failed miserably. Later, they would institute free-market economics.

You see, the Plymouth Company paid for their voyage over in exchange for hard work for the company. So, they decided to have everything in common and work together, give all surplus to the Plymouth Company to pay off the debt. However, no one was motivated to work hard because everyone got the same amount of food no matter how hard they worked. They realized that each man should have his own land and contribute a certain amount toward their corporate debt. As soon, as each man got to keep a percentage of his profits, input increased dramatically.

But, back to the pilgrims, who, joined by adventurers they called Strangers, set sail on the *Mayflower* and *Speedwell*. The *Speedwell* proved to be a leaky ship so everyone crowded aboard the *Mayflower*.

Before they disembarked on shore, an amazing thing happened. The men got together and signed the *Mayflower Compact*, a document pledging loyalty to the King, but agreeing to a representative form of government. Was this the Dutch influence? After all, they were living in the Dutch Republic. These people would experience government by the consent of the governed. This document paved the way for our “Declaration of Independence” and “The Constitution.”

Miles Standish led a group of men to explore the new land and while he was gone, William’s wife, Dorothy, fell overboard and died. So sad for William, but he plunged into helping the new colony get off the ground.

What a rocky start the poor settlers had. Bless their hearts! The weather was terrible and they landed further north than they had planned. They plunged right into winter and disease killed many of them that first winter. William got sick too and was taken care of by one of the only people who didn’t get sick, Mile Standish. This began a lifelong friendship.

John Carver was the colony's first governor, but when he collapsed the next spring while working in the fields, the settlers elected William Bradford, who served as governor most of his life. William remarried Alice Carpenter Southworth, a widow with two children. They had three more children together.

Here are William's works

Mort's Relation (with Edward Winslow 1622)

Of Plimoth Plantation (1651)

Dialogues between Some Young Men in New England and Several Ancients from Plimoth Plantation

Book Club Discussion on *Of Plimoth Plantation*

Plimoth Plantation is a history of the first settlement in New England written by William Bradford, a long-term governor of the colony of Plymouth. *Plimoth Plantation* is a detailed history of Plymouth Colony from 1621 to 1646. It contains information about key people in the colony too. William is considered the Father of American History.

Similar to other books you will read from the colonial period, William compares the events that occur in Plymouth with events from the Bible. You will see Mary Rowlandson do this too in her narrative.

What are the highlights of Plymouth Colony's history?

What are the hardest trials the new settlers endured?

What makes a good leader?

What makes a good Christian?

What makes a good writer?

Do you think that William Bradford is a good leader? A good Christian? A good writer?

William Bradford was influenced by the Brewster family. William Brewster lent him books and eventually he lived with the family. Can you see the Brewster family's influence in William's life and his leadership?

Describe the colony's experiment with socialism in order to pay the Plymouth Company back?

What happened when Free Market principles were instituted?

What were those Free Market activities that were instituted?

Imagine that you are living a comfortable life over in England and you hear stories of the New World. What will your thoughts be when you read *Of Plimoth Plantation*?

Library: Sources of Information

What a wonderful place a library is—filled with bestsellers to read, books to study, magazines to browse, foreign language tapes to learn from, DVDs to watch, music and books to listen to on CDs, computers and reference materials to use! If only they had a cappuccino machine, the library would be perfect!

Of course, you could do all your research online if you wanted to, but that would defeat the purpose of knowing how to use the library and use reference materials in the library. Not only can you check out all kinds of books, CDs, and DVDs, but you can request books from other libraries using inter-library loans.

College and universities will often let you check out books for a small fee to use their library. But you don't have to check out books, you can just use the college library for research! Bible colleges and seminaries have an amazing supply of Bible reference materials and books that can be used for research too.

You may already know your way around a library, but if not take a few hours and investigate the library right now and look for all the different resource materials available. Make friends with the reference librarian! They love their jobs, which include helping people, like you, do research. They will often know about sources that no one else has ever heard of!

What about those funny numbers and letters on the sides of the books in the library? They are call numbers. Call numbers are based on the author's last name and the Dewey Decimal Classification System.

Dewey Decimal What?

The Dewey Decimal Classification System is still used by libraries today. Albeit confusing, once you get the hang of it, it's easy to use. Nonfiction books are grouped into ten main subject categories, which are divided into ten more categories. These categories use the numbers 000-999 as the beginning of a decimal number. Individual books have the first three numbers of their subject based on this system. Children's nonfiction books are preceded by a "J" for "juvenile." For example, J641.59 might be a cookbook for children with recipes from other countries. The 600s are technology or applied sciences and 640s are Home Economics. Cookbooks would be placed under this subject heading.

Here is a rough summary of the Dewey Decimal numbering system used.

000-099 General Works

Bibliographies, catalogs, encyclopedias, newspapers, manuscripts, book rarities.

100-199 Philosophy & Related Disciplines

Metaphysics, knowledge, parapsychology, philosophy, psychology, logic, ethics.

200-299 Religion

Natural religion, Bible, Christian doctrine, Christian morality, religious orders, social theology, church history, Christian denominations, other religions.

300-399 Social Sciences

Statistics, political science, economics, law, public administration, social services, education, commerce, customs, folklore.

400-499 Language

Linguistics, English, German, French, Italian, Latin, Spanish, Greek, other languages.

500-599 Pure Science

Mathematics, astronomy, physics, chemistry, earth science, paleontology, life sciences, botany, zoology.

600-699 Technology (Applied Sciences)

Medical, engineering, agriculture, home economics, managerial services, chemical, manufacturing, buildings.

700-799 The Arts

Civil engineering, landscape design, architecture, sculpture, drawings, painting, graphic arts, photography, music, performing arts.

800-899 Literature

American, English, Germanic, French, Italian, Spanish, Latin, Greek, other cultures.

900-999 General Geography & History

Geography, travel, biography, genealogy, Ancient world, Europe, Asia, Africa, North American, South America, other areas.

Reference Materials in the Library

When we think of researching a subject our immediate reaction is to read a book or magazine articles, watch a video, or listen to tapes. There are other sources available in the library called reference books which are often good places to start our research. Encyclopedias are good places to start because they contain brief information in short articles that give a general overview or summary for all major topics of study. They will often lead us to other sources of information. An encyclopedia article will give us general information on a country while an atlas will give us precise geographical data.

Many homeschooling families build their own small reference libraries that include an atlas, dictionary, thesaurus, and Bible reference books. These are great, but cannot compare to the library's reference section, a treasure trove for researchers! Libraries update their encyclopedias every year, something homeschooling families cannot afford to do!

You cannot check out current reference materials, but you can make copies on the copy machine. Bring your change!

Encyclopedia

This huge collection of thick books contains comprehensive summaries of various subjects and fields of knowledge arranged alphabetically by subject. The articles range in size, depending on the subject. You can also use online encyclopedias. Beware of Wikipedia because it is a community endeavor; anyone can write, add to, or change an article. Use it as a springboard to other sites, but don't assume everything you read there, is true. You can't trust that something is true just because it is online. Also, keep in mind, that most encyclopedias are written from a humanist, evolutionist perspective and will contain information your family disagrees with.

Encyclopedia Britannica online

britannica.com/

Encyclopedia Smithsonian

si.edu/Encyclopedia_SI/

Dictionary

Here is the giver of concise definitions, origins, and pronunciations of words in alphabetical order. If you are confused about a word, look it up.

Merriam Webster online Dictionary & Thesaurus

merriam-webster.com/

Atlas

This collection of maps contains all kinds of geographical data. An atlas is lots of fun when planning a road trip for family vacations. I loved being the keeper of the AAA "trip tick" when I was a little girl on our vacation road trips.

Directory

A directory contains listings of people, services, events, or places in a specialized field of interest. The "Yellow Pages" is a directory that children can become familiar with as family needs arise to look up phone numbers.

Almanac & Yearbook

These books are annual compilations of data in a specialized field of study, group or subject.

The Old Farmer's Almanac

almanac.com/

Baseball Almanac

baseball-almanac.com/

Bibliographies & Indexes

These books contain lists of books, magazines, and booklets listed by author and subject.

Although the majority of research will be done with books and articles, reference books are often a good place to start and a good place to go for specific facts and information. If you are not familiar with these items, ask a reference librarian at your local library to help you find and use them.

September Week Two

Poetry of Anne Bradstreet

Anne Dudley Bradstreet (1612-1672) was born into a prosperous, educated family in England. She and her new husband, Simon Bradstreet joined John Winthrop in 1629 to sail to the new world in hopes of being part of a City on a Hill. Her life turned upside-down from a life of comfort to one of scratching out an existence in the New England wilderness. She was either converted during the first year in Massachusetts or the hardships of life shook off her complacency and stirred up a passion for her Savior. Either way, there was a big change in her life. The overflow of her new life in Christ was beautiful poetry that has been enjoyed for centuries.

Meditation July 8, 1656

I had a sore fit of fainting, which lasted 2 or 3 days, but not in that extremity which at first it took me, and so much the sorer it was to me because my dear husband was from home (who is my chiefest comforter on earth) but my God, who never failed me, was not absent but helped me and graciously manifested His love to me, which I dare not pass by without remembrance, that it may be a support to me when I shall have occasion to read this hereafter and to others that shall read it when I shall possess that I now hope for, that so they may be encouraged to trust in Him who is the only portion of His servants. O Lord, let me never forget Thy goodness, nor question Thy faithfulness to me, for Thou art my God, Thou hast said, and shall not I believe it? Thou hast given me a pledge of that inheritance Thou hast promised to bestow upon me. O never let Satan prevail against me, but strengthen my faith in Thee till I shall attain the end of my hopes, even the salvation of my soul. Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly.

What God is like to Him I serve?
What Saviour like to mine?
O never let me from Thee swerve,
For truly I am Thine.

My thankful mouth shall speak Thy praise,
My tongue shall talk of Thee;
On high my heart O do Thou raise
For what Thou'st done for me.

Go worldlings to your vanities,
And heathen to your gods;
Let them help in adversities
And sanctify their rods;

My God He is not like to yours
Yourselves shall judges be;
I find His love, I know His power—
A succorer of me

He is not man that He should lie,
Nor son of man to unsay;
His word He plighted hath on high,
And I shall live for aye.

And for His sake that faithful is,
That died but now doth live,
The first and last that lives for aye,
Me lasting life shall give.

Here Follows Some Verses Upon the Burning of Our House July 10, 1666

In silent night when rest I took,
For sorrow neer I did not look,
I waken'd was with thund'ring noise
And Piteous shrieks of dreadful voice.
That fearful sound of fire and fire,
Let no man know is my Desire.
I, starting up, the light did spy,
And to my God my heart did cry
To strengthen me in my Distress
And not to leave me succourless.
Then coming out beheld a space,
The flame consume my dwelling place.

And, when I could no longer look,
I blest his Name that gave and took,
That laid my goods now in the dust:
Yea so it was, and so 'twas just.
It was his own: it was not mine;
Far be it that I should repine.

He might of All justly bereft,
But yet sufficient for us left.
When by the Ruins oft I past,
My sorrowing eyes aside did cast,
And here and there the places spy
Where oft I sat, and long did lie.

Here stood that Trunk, and there that Chest;
There lay that store I counted best:
My pleasant things in ashes lie,
And them behold no more shall I.
Under thy roof no guest shall sit,
Nor at thy Table eat a bit.

No pleasant tale shall 'ere be told,
Nor things recounted done of old.
No Candle 'ere shall shine in Thee,

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Nor bridegroom's voice ere heard shall be.
In silence ever shalt thou lie;
Adieu, Adeiu; All's vanity.

Then straight I 'gin my heart to chide,
And didst thy wealth on earth abide?
Didst fix thy hope on mould'ring dust,
The arm of flesh didst make thy trust?
Raise up thy thoughts above the sky
That dunghill mists away may fly.

Thou hast a house on high erect
Fram'd by that mighty Architect,
With glory richly furnished,
Stands permanent tho' this be fled.
It's purchased, and paid for too
By him who hath enough to do.

A Prize so vast as is unknown,
Yet, by his Gift, is made thine own.
There's wealth enough, I need no more;
Farewell my Self, farewell my Store.
The world no longer let me Love,
My hope and Treasure lies Above.

***Day of Doom* by Michael Wigglesworth**

Michael Wigglesworth (1631-1705) was born in England in a large, bustling family. The entire family came over to New Haven when Michael was seven years old where he lived until he went to Harvard. He moved to Malden, Massachusetts where he pastored and wrote for the rest of his life with his family. He was frail and weak most of his life so that he went to Bermuda for a season in his thirties where he studied medicine. After that, he had a desire to help people experience spiritual and physical health.

Because he was sickly, Michael took to writing when he couldn't preach in the pulpit. *Day of Doom* was an instant bestseller and remained so for many years. It is full of biblical truth about mankind's struggle with sin, Jesus' provision, and His return. This is a long ballad. When I say long, I mean very long.

It was published during the time of the church membership controversy that was settled with the "Half-Way Covenant," a terrible compromise due to backsliding and compromise in the Puritan churches of New England. The "Half-Way Covenant" allowed non-Christians who attended church and adhered to a statement of faith to be treated as a partial church member. This allowed them to vote and baptize their children.

Get ready for a chronological tour of the Last Days and Judgment Day. You will read about Christ's return, Armageddon, and the Eternal Lake. Michael wrote this poem to encourage people to repent and flee from their lives of compromise. He is one of those voices calling in the wilderness, crying out for people to repent years before the Great Awakening. He affected many lives through this popular poem.

Let's read this poem aloud with the whole family or your co-op class. You will find this poem at the back of the book under the Resources section. What a great poem! After you read the poem together, answer these questions:

Did you like it?

Was it biblically sound?

Are you motivated to draw closer to the Lord?

Are you motivated to stop sinning?

How to Write a Paraphrase

Let's talk about writing a paraphrase. What is a paraphrase? A paraphrase is rewritten from another piece of writing. It is NOT a summary. The paraphrase is a rewording of author's message from the original work. Let me give you an example. The Message Bible is not a translation of the Holy Scriptures, rather it is a paraphrase. Every attempt was made to be faithful to God's original words, but still The Message Bible is in Eugene Peterson's words, not God's words. That, of course, makes a difference when you are doing serious Bible study.

Here is the American Standard Version (a Bible translation) from John chapter 15.

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you," (John 15:1-3 NASB).

Here is Eugene Peterson's paraphrase.

"I am the Real Vine and my Father is the Farmer. He cuts off every branch of me that doesn't bear grapes. And every branch that is grape-bearing he prunes back so it will bear even more. You are already pruned back by the message I have spoken," (John 15:1-3 from *The Message Bible*)

Please notice that the paraphrase is just as long as the original. Eugene has simply put God's words into his own words, trying to keep the meaning clear and true to the Author's intent. Of course, a paraphrase of the Bible will never have the authority and power of Scripture.

Now, let's look at another example. Here is the original paragraph from *Plimoth Plantation* by William Bradford.

“For these & some other reasons they removed to Leyden, a fair & bewtifull citie, and of a sweete situation, but made more famous by y^e universitie wherwith it is adorned, in which of late had been so many learned men. But wanting that traffike by sea which Amsterdam injoyes, it was not so beneficiall for their outward means of living & estats. But being now hear pitchet they fell to such trads & employments as they best could; valewing peace & their spirituall comferte above any other riches whatsoever. And at lenght they came to raise a competente & comferteable living, but with hard and continuall labor.” (From Chapter three of *Plimoth Plantation* by William Bradford)

Here is a paraphrase of that same paragraph.

The Pilgrims moved to Leiden for the reasons mentioned, as well as other reasons. Leiden was a beautiful city, famous for its university where many wise scholars were educated. However, Leiden was not a port city like Amsterdam so it was not as prosperous. But, the Pilgrims worked hard finding jobs and using their skills to earn a living because they valued spiritual riches above worldly wealth. Soon, they had a comfortable life, though it did require hard work.

Notice that everything is covered in the paraphrase from the original paragraph. Nothing is left out. It is NOT a summary, but rather, a rewording of the original paragraph.

You will use paraphrases in the research paper you will write later this year, as well as future writing projects in high school or college.

Tips to Write a Great Paraphrase

- Study the original writing carefully. Read and reread it several times.
- Don't begin the paraphrase until you have a complete understanding of the writer's ideas.
- Don't begin the paraphrase until you have a complete understanding of the writer's purpose.
- Look up words in the original that you don't know in the dictionary.
- Look up words in the original that are confusing in the dictionary.
- Use your own words unless there are no other words that will work to convey the author's meaning.
- Duplicate all ideas, meanings, and tone of the author in your paraphrase.
- Duplicate the author's purpose in your paraphrase.
- Avoid using the same sentence structure of the author so that you cannot be accused of plagiarism (you still give credit to an author when you paraphrase)
- Do not leave out any ideas.
- Do not add any ideas.
- Use the same tone as the original work.
- Write the first draft and read it aloud. Does it convey the meaning, tone, ideas, and purpose of the original work?
- Make any necessary changes.

Here is another example of a paraphrase. The original document is from *The Log of Christopher Columbus*.

“Monday, 6 August. The rudder of the caravel Pinta became loose, being broken or unshipped. It was believed that this happened by the contrivance of Gomez Rascon and Christopher Quintero, who were on board the caravel, because they disliked the voyage. The Admiral says he had found them in an unfavorable disposition before setting out. He was in much anxiety at not being able to afford any assistance in this case, but says that it somewhat quieted his apprehensions to know that Martin Alonzo Pinzon, Captain of the Pinta, was a man of courage and capacity. Made a progress, day and night, of twenty-nine leagues.” (from the Log of Christopher Columbus)

Here is the paraphrase.

Monday, August 6. The rudder of the ship, the Pinta, loosened and broke off. Rumor had it that Gomez Rascon and Christopher Quintero were the ones responsible because they did not like being on the voyage. Admiral Columbus said that they didn't want to go on the voyage in the first place. The Admiral was worried that he was not able to be on the Pinta to help out, but was thankful that the Captain Martin Alonzo Pinzon was courageous and able to solve problems. The entire fleet traveled twenty-nine leagues in a 24 hour period.

Are you ready to write your own paraphrase? Here is a passage to rewrite in your own words. This is from *The Log of Christopher Columbus*.

Thursday, 9 August. The Admiral did not succeed in reaching the island of Gomera till Sunday night. Martin Alonzo remained at Grand Canary by command of the Admiral, he being unable to keep the other vessels company. The Admiral afterwards returned to Grand Canary, and there with much labor repaired the Pinta, being assisted by Martin Alonzo and the others; finally they sailed to Gomera. They saw a great eruption from the Peak of Teneriffe, a lofty mountain. The Pinta, which before had carried latine sails, they altered and made her square-rigged. Returned to Gomera, Sunday, 2 September, with the Pinta repaired.

The Admiral says that he was assured by many respectable Spaniards, inhabitants of the island of Ferro, who were at Gomera with Dona Inez Peraza, mother of Guillen Peraza, afterwards first Count of Gomera, that every year they saw land to the west of the Canaries; and others of Gomera affirmed the same with the like assurances. The Admiral here says that he remembers, while he was in Portugal, in 1484, there came a person to the King from the island of Madeira, soliciting for a vessel to go in quest of land, which he affirmed he saw every year, and always of the same appearance. He also says that he remembers the same was said by the inhabitants of the Azores and described as in a similar direction, and of the same shape and size. Having taken in food, water, meat and other provisions, which had been provided by the men which he left ashore on departing for Grand Canary to repair the Pinta, the Admiral took his final departure from Gomera with the three vessels on Thursday, 6 September.

How to Write a Précis

A précis is a brief summary of a longer piece of writing. I underscore the word BRIEF. A précis should be no longer than 1/3 the length of the original piece, but much shorter than that if possible.

A précis restates the essential essence and meaning of the writing, rather than all the details. You will use this form of summarizing when you gather data for research papers and sometimes in the paper itself.

Tips to Write a Great Précis

- First, skim through the entire written work quickly to notice to notice any statements that are in bold or highlighted.
- Look for the main idea which is often stated at the beginning or the end of the paper.
- Write the main idea down in your own words.

- Now read through the entire work carefully paragraph by paragraph.
- In each paragraph, jot down thoughts about the main idea. Look for phrases such as “*a major reason...*” or “*the primary reason...*”.
- In each paragraph, look for the topic sentence.
- For each paragraph, look up any words that are unfamiliar.
- Write down a summary sentence for each paragraph.
- Be careful not to add anything; simply summarize.

- Put all the summarizing sentences together in a paragraph. Don’t just string them together. You will have to adjust and rewrite them to make the paragraph work.
- Do not start by saying, “This paper was about...”; instead write as if you are the original author.
- Keep your ideas in the original order of the author.

- After your paragraph is completed, you need to read it aloud and make sure it is a clear summary of the paper.
- Edit the flow of the paragraph, as well as each individual sentence.
- Edit and revise as necessary.

Let’s look at an example of a précis.

People Infected and Infested With Such Daemons

Cotton Mather, Magnalia Christi Americana (Vol. 1) (1702)

Reader, prepare to be entertained with as prodigious matters as can be put into any history! And let him that writes the next *Thaumatographia Pneumatica* allow to these prodigies the chief place among the wonders.

About the time of our blessed Lord's coming to reside on Earth, we read of so many "possessed with devils" that it is commonly thought the *number* of such miserable *energumens* was then increased above what has been usual in other ages; and the *reason* of that increase has been made a matter of some inquiry...

It is very certain there were hardly any people in the world grown more fond of soceries than [the Jewish] people: the Talmud tells us of the little parchments with words upon them which were their common amulets, and of the charms which they muttered over wounds, and of the various enchantments which they used against all sorts of disasters whatsoever. It is affirmed in the Talmud that no less than twenty-four scholars in one school were killed by *witchcraft*, and that no less than fourscore persons were hanged for witchcraft by one judge in one day. The gloss adds upon it "that the women of Israel had generally fallen to the practice of witchcrafts," therefore it was required that there should be still chosen into the council one skillful in the *arts of the sorcerers* and able thereby to discover who might be guilty of those black arts among such as were accused before them.

Now, the arrival of Sir William Phips to the government of New England was at a time when a governor would have occasion for all the skill in sorcery that was ever necessary to a Jewish counsellor; a time when scores of poor people had newly fallen under a prodigious possession of devils, which it was then generally thought had been by witchcraft induced. It is to be confessed and bewailed that many inhabitants of New England, and young people especially, had been led away with little sorceries, wherein they did "secretly those things that were not right against the Lord and their God." They would often cure hurts with spells and practice detestable conjurations with sieves and keys and pease and nails and horseshoes and other implements, to learn the things for which they had a forbidden and impious curiosity... Although this diabolical divinations are more ordinarily committed perhaps over the whole world than they are in the country of New England, yet, that being a country devoted unto the worship and service of the Lord Jesus Christ above the rest of the world, he signalized his vengeance against these wickednesses with such extraordinary dispensations as have not been seen in other places.

The devils which had been so played withal, and, it may be, by some few criminals more explicitly engaged and employed, now broke in upon the country after as astonishing a manner as was ever heard of... The people that were infected and infested with such daemons, in a few days' time, arrived unto such a refined alteration upon their eyes that they could see their tormentors: they saw a devil of a little stature and of a tawny color, attended still with spectres that appeared in more humane circumstances.

These tormentors tendered unto the afflicted a *book*, requiring them to sign it at least, in token of their consenting to be listed in the service of the devil, which, they refusing to do, the spectres under the command of that blackness, as they called him, would apply themselves to torture them with prodigious molestations.

The afflicted wretches were horribly distorted and convulsed; they were pinched black and blue; pins would be run everywhere in their flesh; they would be scalded until they had blisters raised on them; and a thousand other things, before hundreds of witnesses, were done unto them, evidently *preternatural*. For if it were preternatural to keep a rigid fast for nine -- yea, for fifteen -- days together; or if it were preternatural to have one's hands tied close together with a rope to be plainly seen, and then by unseen hands presently pulled up a great way from the earth before a crowd of people -- such preternatural things were endured by them.

But of all the preternatural things which befell these people, there were none more unaccountable than those wherein the prestigious daemons would ever now and then cover the most corporeal things in the world with a fascinating mist of invisibility... A person was haunted by a most abusive spectre which came to her, she said, with a sheet about her, though seen to none but herself..

Also, it is well known that these wicked spectres did proceed so far as to steal several quantities of money from divers people, part of which individual money was sometimes dropped out of the air... Yet more: the miserable have complained bitterly of burning rags run into their forceably distended mouths... Once more: the miserable exclaimed extremely of branding irons heating at the fire on the hearth to mark them...

Flashy people may burlesque these things, but when hundreds of the most sober people in a country where they have as much mother-wit certainly as the rest of mankind, know them to be true, nothing but the absurd and forward spirit of Sadducism can question them. I have not yet mentioned so much as one thing that will not be justified, if it be required, by the oaths of more considerate persons than any that can ridicule these odd phenomena.

Prep Work for the Précis

Here is the preparation work for the précis. You can analyze the writing first.

Overall Synopsis: People were killed by witchcraft; others were hanged for witchcraft. Sir William Phips arrived to New England. Some signed a book which enlisted them into the service of the devil.

Topic Sentence Paragraph Two: It is affirmed in the Talmud that no less than twenty-four scholars in one school were killed by *witchcraft*, and that no less than fourscore persons were hanged for witchcraft by one judge in one day

Synopsis Paragraph Two: Witchcraft had killed twenty-four scholars in a school, then a judge hanged fourscore persons.

Topic Sentence Paragraph Three: They would often cure hurts with spells and practice detestable conjurations with sieves and keys and pease and nails and horseshoes and other implements, to learn the things for which they had a forbidden and impious curiosity...

Synopsis Paragraph Three: People in New England used secret spells and detestable practices in order to cure injuries, though they were known to be against Scripture.

Topic Sentence Paragraph Four: The people that were infected and infested with such daemons, in a few days' time, arrived unto such a refined alteration upon their eyes that they could see their tormentors

Synopsis Paragraph Four: There were people who while infected with demons began to have altered physical traits from the demons which tormented them.

Topic Sentence Paragraph Five: These tormentors tendered unto the afflicted a *book*, requiring them to sign it.

Synopsis Paragraph Five: The people who were demonized were coerced to sign a book which automatically dedicated their lives to satan.

Topic Sentence Paragraph Six: The afflicted wretches were horribly distorted and convulsed; they were pinched black and blue; pins would be run everywhere in their flesh;

Synopsis Paragraph Six: Many of the people who had demons looked very different due to the torture of satan's minions.

Topic Sentence Paragraph Seven: there were none more unaccountable than those wherein the prestigious daemons would ever now and then cover the most corporeal things in the world with a fascinating mist of invisibility...

Synopsis Paragraph Seven: People could see the demons that abused them, but they were invisible to the people around them.

Topic Sentence Paragraph Eight: It is well known that these wicked spectres did proceed so far as to steal several quantities of money from divers people,

Synopsis Paragraph Eight: Demons stole monies from people and made them feel as though they were burning.

Topic Sentence Paragraph Nine: Flashy people may burlesque these things,
Synopsis Paragraph Nine: Certain people might make up these tales, but these things were witnessed by respectable New Englanders.

Words which need definitions

Talmud

Parchments

Fourscore

Black Arts

Jewish

Bewailed

Conjurations

Sieves

Pease

Impious

Diabolical

Divinations

Signalized

Dispensations

Withal

Spectres

Humane

Stature

Tawny

Prodigious

Molestations

Afflicted

Wretches

Convulsed

Scalded

Preternatural

Distended

Prestigious

Corporeal

Burlesque

Sadducism

Phenomena

Counsellor

Putting Sentences Together

Jesus encountered a number of demons in his ministry, but the practice of witchcraft was also common among the Jewish people. People in New England used secret spells and detestable practices in order to cure injuries, though they were known to be against Scripture. There were people who while infected with demons began to have altered physical traits from the demons which tormented them. The people who were demonized were coerced to sign a book which automatically dedicated their lives to satan. Many of the people who had demons looked very different due to the torture of satan's minions. People could see the demons that abused them, but they were invisible to the people around them. Demons stole monies from people and made them feel as though they were burning. Certain people might make up these tales, but these things were witnessed by respectable New Englanders.

Paragraph

Jesus encountered a number of demon-afflicted people in his ministry and the practice of witchcraft was common among the Jewish people. In a similar way, many New Englanders dabbled in secret

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spells and detestable practices to heal injuries. Soon, people began to show symptoms of demon-affliction through altered physical traits and reports of being forced to sign a book dedicating their lives to satan. These people were tortured, burned, stolen from, and abused by demons visible to only those being harmed. Though it sounds like a tall tale, these things were witnessed by many respectable New Englanders.



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Raising World Changers!**

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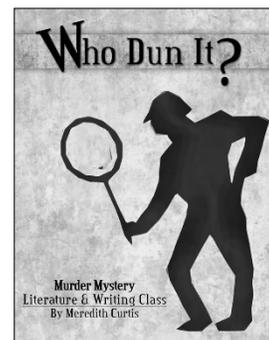
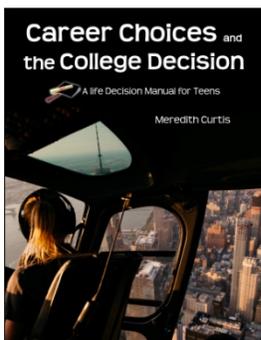
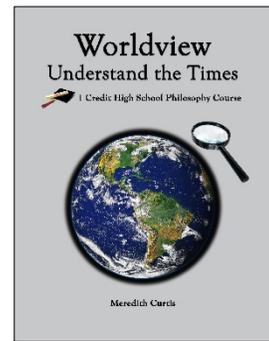
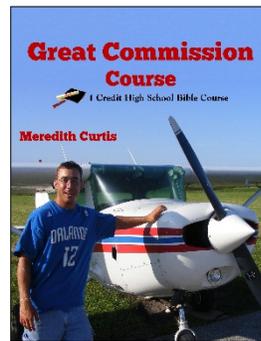
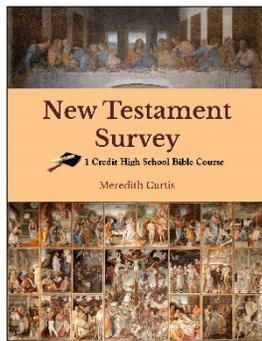
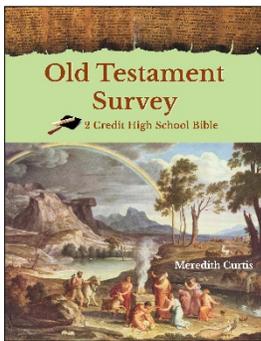
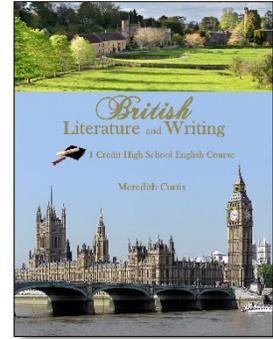
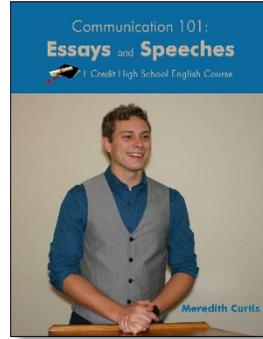
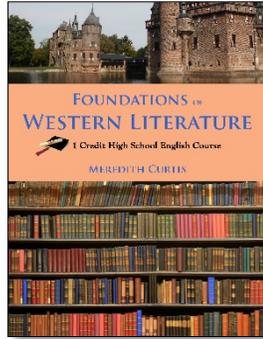
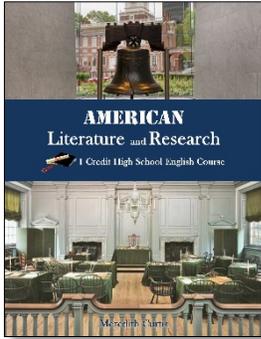
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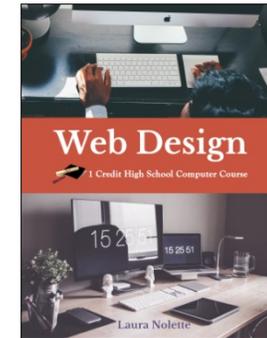
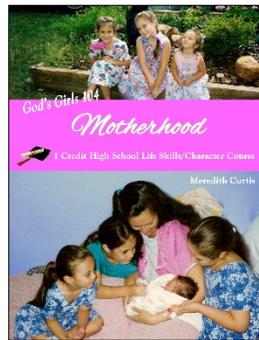
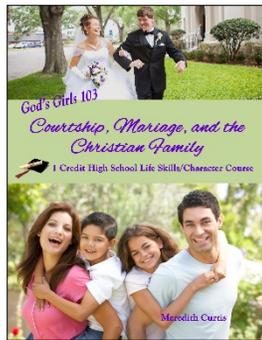
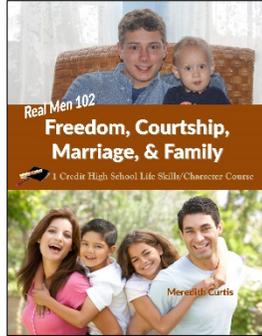
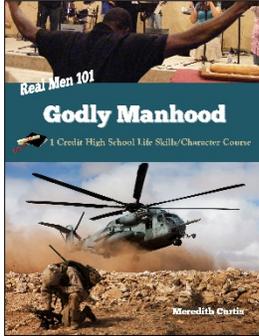
Powerline Productions
251 Brightview Drive Lake Mary, FL 32746

High School Classes

Who says high school has to be boring. Learning is an adventure! In our family, we learn with living books and prepare for real life. Each of our classes is a one credit high school class. We offer English courses, as well as Economics, history, life skills, and Bible. If you want to read great books, enjoy fun projects, and get an education that is excellent, it's time to avoid mediocrity and start to enjoy your education.

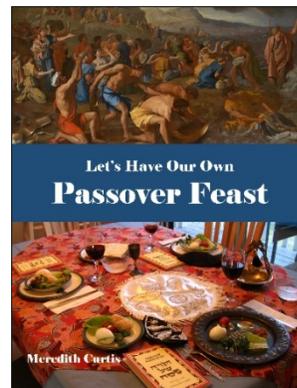
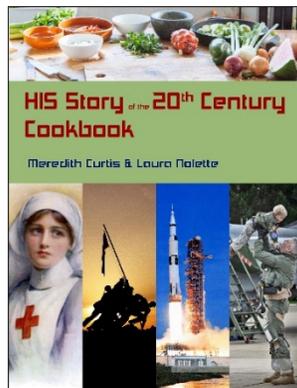
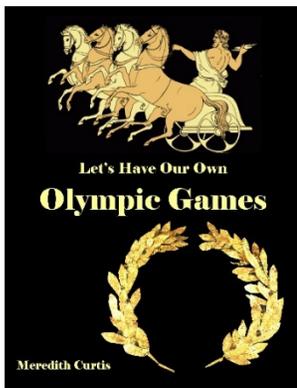
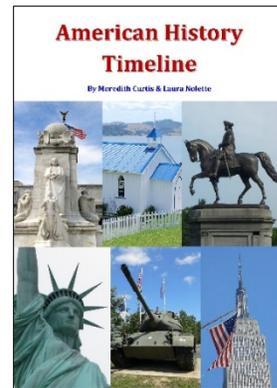
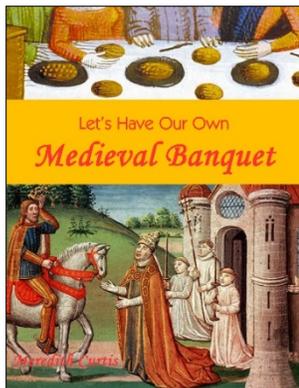
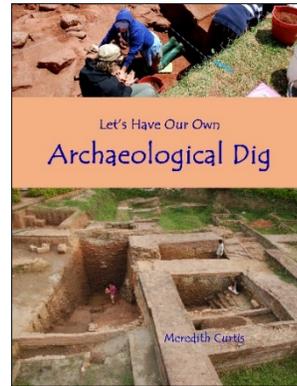
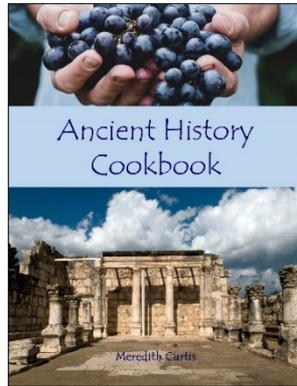
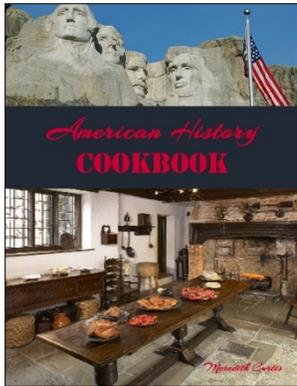


More High School Classes

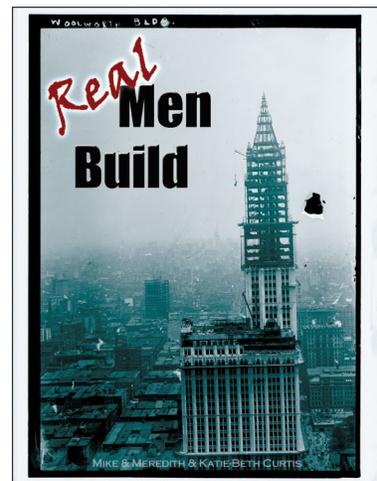
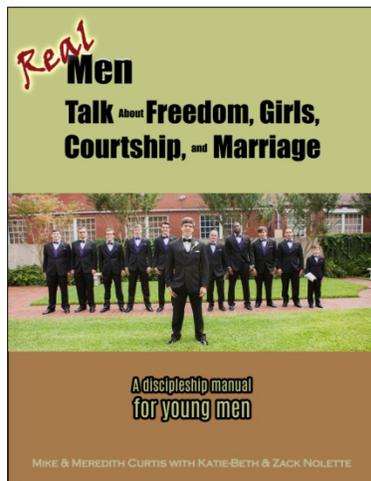
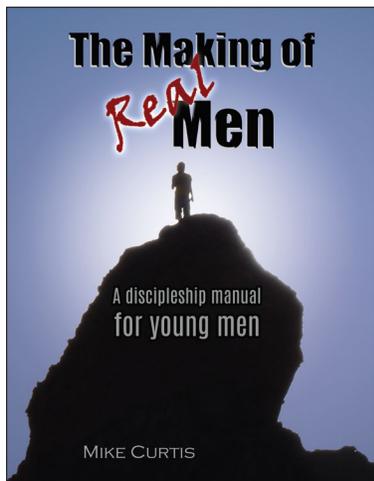
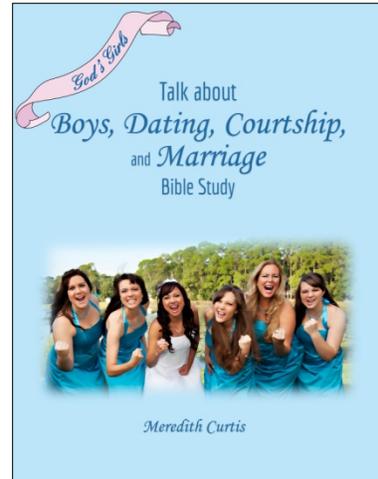
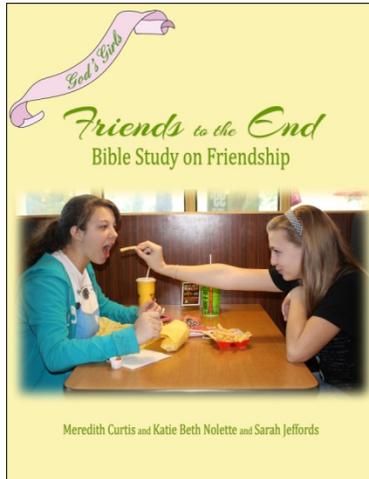


Teaching History the Fun Way

History shouldn't be dull and boring. HIS story is exciting! God is moving in the earth throughout time, preparing the way for his Son, and taking the Truth about Jesus to the end of the earth. You can see His Hand moving throughout the centuries. So, let's have fun with our kids as we introduce them the Grand Story, the battle between good and evil, the faithfulness of God. We have timelines, cookbooks, unit studies, lapbooks, and events for your family or homeschool co-op to enjoy.



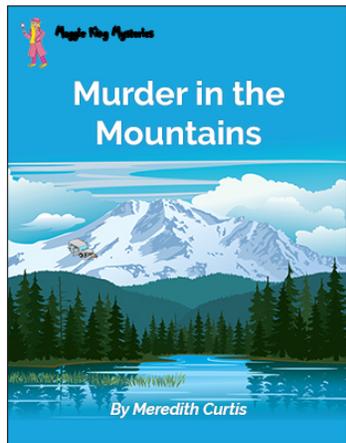
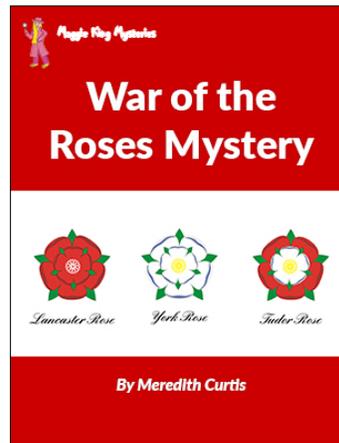
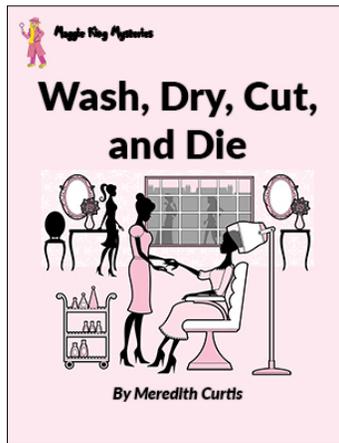
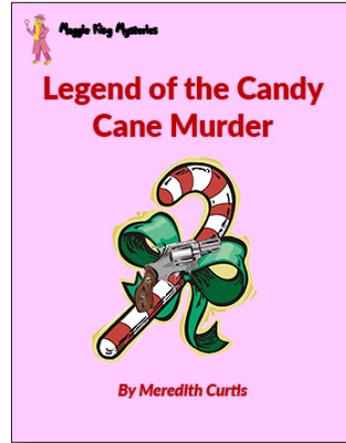
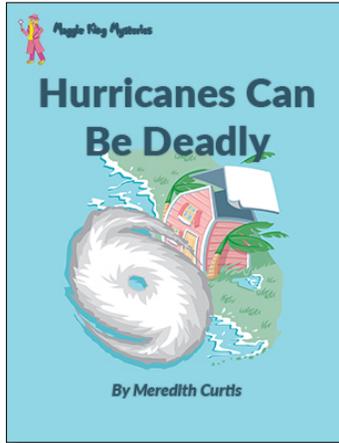
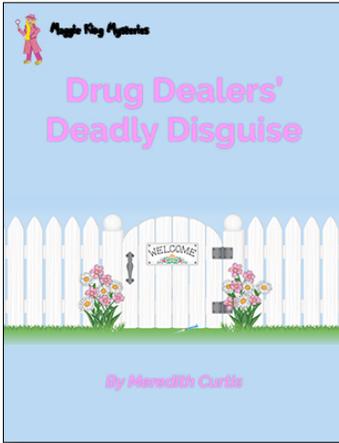
Real Men & God's Girls Bible Studies



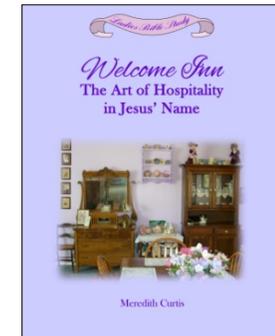
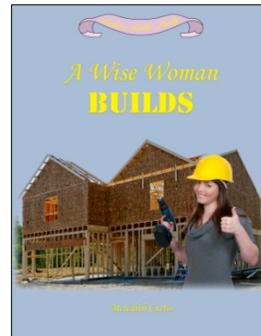
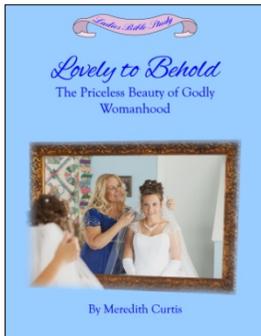
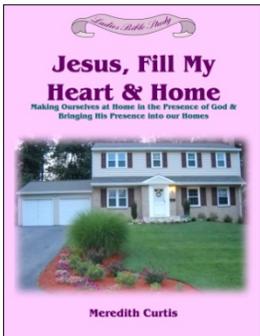
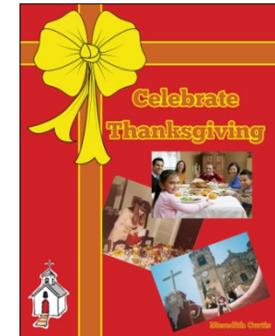
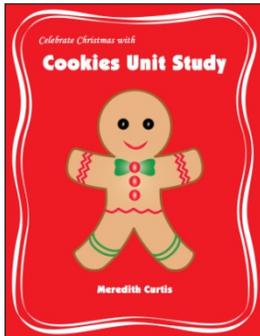
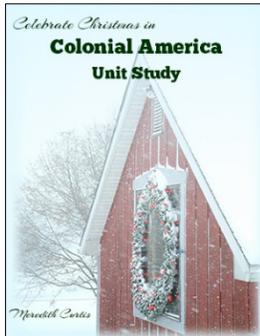
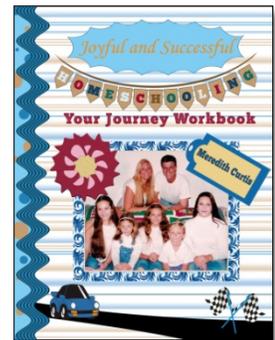
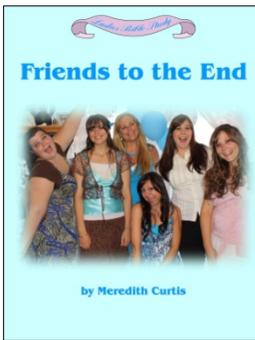
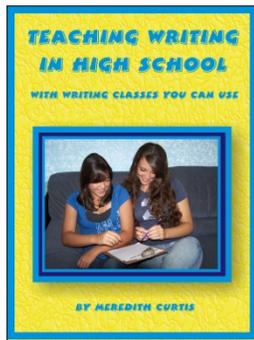
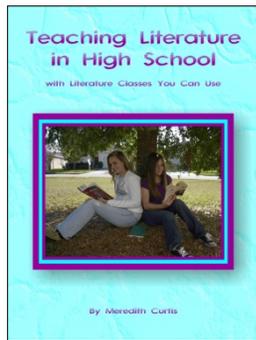
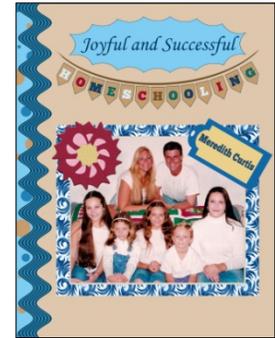
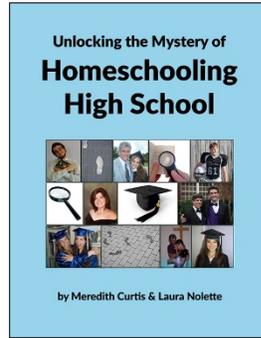
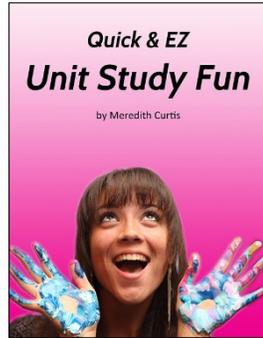
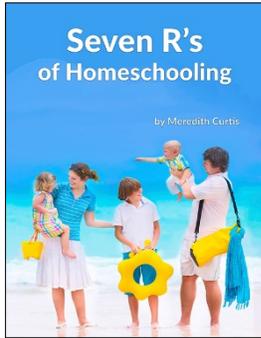


Maggie King Mysteries

If you like cozy mysteries, you will love this series! Meet Maggie King, a pastor's wife and homeschool mom who keeps stumbling across dead bodies. With her sidekicks, Sophia and Mary-Kate and her curious children, Maggie is on one adventure after another.



More Books by Powerline Productions



ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Meredith Curtis, a pastor's wife and homeschooling mom of five amazing children, leads worship, mentors ladies, and, sometimes, even cooks dinner. Her passion is to equip people to love Jesus, raise godly children, and change the world around them with the power of the Gospel. "Lives are changed in the context of relationships," Meredith often says, as well as, "Be a world changer! Raise world changers!" She enjoys speaking to small and large groups.

All inquiries can be made to the author, Meredith Curtis, through email: Meredith@powerlinecc.com or contact her through her websites: joyfulandsuccessfulhomeschooling.com/

meredithcurtis.com/
finishwellcon.com/
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Meredith is the author of several books.

Joyful and Successful Homeschooling

Seven R's of Homeschooling

Quick & EZ Unit Study Fun

Unlocking the Mysteries of Homeschooling High School (with Laura Nolette)

Celebrate Thanksgiving

Teaching Writing in High School with Classes You Can Use

Teaching Literature in High School with Classes You Can Use

HIS Story of the 20th Century

HIS Story of the 20th Century for Little Folks

Meredith is the author of several cozy mysteries: The Maggie King Mysteries series.

Drug Dealers Deadly Disguise

Hurricanes Can Be Deadly

Legend of the Candy Cane Murder

Wash, Dry, Cut, & Die

War of the Roses Mystery

Murder in the Mountains

Meredith is the author of several Bible studies.

Lovely to Behold

A Wise Woman Builds

Jesus, Fill My Heart & Home

Welcome Inn: Practicing the Art of Hospitality in Jesus' Name

Friends to the End

God's Girls Beauty Secrets (with Sarah Jeffords)

God's Girls Friends to the End (with Katie-Beth Nolette & Sarah Jeffords)

God's Girls Talk about Boys, Dating, Courtship, & Marriage

AMERICAN LITERATURE & RESEARCH

Meredith is the author of several unit studies, timelines, and cookbooks.

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Celebrate Christmas with Cookies

Travel to London Unit Study

Celebrate Thanksgiving with the Pilgrims Unit Study

American History Cookbook

Ancient History Cookbook

20th Century Cookbook (with Laura Nolette)

20th Century Timeline (with Laura Nolette)

American History Timeline (with Laura Nolette)

Ancient History Timeline (with Laura Nolette)

Meredith is the author of several high school classes.

American Literature and Research

British Literature and Writing

Who Dun It: Murder Mystery Literature & Writing

Communication 101: Essays and Speeches

Foundations of Western Literature

Economics, Finances, and Business

Worldview 101: Understand the Times

New Testament Survey

Old Testament Survey

Great Commission

And more...

Are you ready for fun and adventure from the good old USA? Welcome to American Literature & Research Class! We will have a blast reading, writing, and discussing American works, going all the way back to Colonial Times! Not only that, but we will learn to research and write a research paper step by step. Get ready to write a précis, a paraphrase, a thesis, and more. You will read beloved American authors such as Cotton Mather, Mary Rowlandson, Herman Melville, Mark Twain, Lew Wallace, Lois Lowry, Frank Peretti, Emily Dickenson, Alexander Hamilton, Jonathan Edwards, Booker T. Washington, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Charles Schultz. Use this class in a book club, family, or co-op setting.

The following writings are included in this American Literature & Research Class Book

Day of Doom by Michael Wigglesworth
Brief Narrative of the Progress of the Gospel by John Eliot
Narrative of the Captivity & Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson by Mrs. Mary Rowlandson (Biographical Adventure)
“Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God” by Jonathan Edwards (Sermon)
Six of the *Federalist Papers* by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, John Jay, & Others (Letters/Editorials)
“Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death” by Patrick Henry
Six of the *Anti-Federalist Papers* by Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, & Others (Letters/Editorial)
“The Tell-Tale Heart” by Edgar Allan Poe (Suspense/Short Story)
“Diary of Adam & Eve” by Mark Twain (Humor/Short Story)
“Bartleby the Scrivener: A Story of Wall Street” by Herman Melville (Short Story)
“Should America Intercede for the Jews” by William E. Blackstone (Letter of Appeal)
“Booze Sermon” by Billy Sunday (Sermon)

You will need to purchase the following books...

Plimoth Plantation by William Bradford (History)
Diary of David Brainerd by David Brainerd (Journal)
Autobiography of Ben Franklin by Benjamin Franklin (Autobiography)
The Deer Slayer by James Fenimore Cooper (Historical Fiction/Novel)
The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne (Historical Fiction/Novel)
A Narrative of the Life of David Crockett by Davy Crockett
Uncle Tom’s Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (Novel)
Ben Hur by Lew Wallace (Historical Fiction/Novel)
In His Steps by Charles Sheldon (Novel)
Up From Slavery by Booker T. Washington (Autobiography)
A Farewell to Arms by Earnest Hemmingway (Historical Fiction/Novel)
Our Town by Thornton Wilder (Play)
To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee (Historical Fiction/Novel)
Tilly by Frank Peretti (Novel)
Snoopy & Peanuts Comic Strips by Charles Schwartz (Humor, Comics)
The Giver by Lois Lowry (Fantasy)

You will...

Read and discuss great literature & works
Read original documents when you write your précis and paraphrases
Write a research paper step by step
Read sermons, speeches, & plays aloud
Learn about the Sunday funny papers & write your own cartoon
Learn some American history along the way

AMERICA



Meredith Curtis is a pastor’s wife, worship leader, and home schooling mother of five wonderful children. Her passion is to equip Christian families to honor Christ with joy and success. Meredith is the author *Joyful and Successful Homeschooling*, *God’s Girls Talk about Boys, Dating, Courtship, & Marriage*, *Economics, Personal Finance, & Business Class*, *Teaching Literature in High School with Classes You Can Use*, *Celebrate Christmas in Colonial America Unit Study* and several other articles, books, and Bible study workbooks. Currently serving as the Worship Leader and Overseer of Women’s ministries at Powerline Church, her delight is spending time in the Presence of her first love, Jesus!

Meredith’s websites:

joyfulandsuccessfulhomeschooling.com/
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finishwellcon.com/
powerlineprod.com/

