25 LESSON SKELETONS FOR 25 MINUTE LESSONS

Teaching Restored

Each skeleton below is a content free outline, no specific verses, characters, or quotes are attached. When you identify which category fits this week's scripture block, pull the matching skeleton, drop in your verses, quotes, and planned activity where indicated, and teach. Every skeleton is built to fit a twenty five minute class period.

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HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Skeleton: Walk in Their Sandals

Skill Focus: Storytelling + Character Study

Core skills this category draws on: Storytelling/dramatic retelling · Historical & cultural context · Character study · Cause-and-effect/plot arc analysis · Maps/timelines

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Esther (Esther's choice to approach the king) • Daniel 1–7 (Daniel and his friends' choice not to defile themselves) • Jeremiah 1–3; 7; 16–18; 20 (Jeremiah's personal struggle with his call)

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask a question tied to a universal experience the story explores (e.g., a hard choice, a moment of fear or courage).	
4 min	**Set the Scene**	Give brief historical/cultural context — who, where, what's at stake. Use a simple map or visual if available.	
8 min	**Read & Retell**	Read the key verses aloud, then have a volunteer retell the story in their own words, in first person, “as if you were there.”	
7 min	**Character Study**	Focus on one character's turning-point decision. Ask: What did they choose? What did it cost? What would you have done?	
3 min	**Application & Testimony**	Connect the character's choice to a choice class members face this week. Invite a brief commitment.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

As you study the character's turning-point choice, ask what it reveals about Christ's character or His Atonement. Look for a moment where the Savior faced a similar test, and let the character's story point forward to Him.

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HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Skeleton: Follow the Chain of Events

Skill Focus: Cause-and-Effect Analysis

Core skills this category draws on: Storytelling/dramatic retelling · Historical & cultural context · Character study · Cause-and-effect/plot arc analysis · Maps/timelines

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: 2 Chronicles 14–20; 26; 30 (Uzziah's pride and its consequence) • Amos; Obadiah; Jonah (Jonah's disobedience and its ripple effects) • Ezra 1; 3–7; Nehemiah 2; 4–6; 8 (opposition to the rebuilding and the response)

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Present a simple everyday “if this, then that” scenario.	
5 min	**Read the Passage**	Read the passage aloud, pausing briefly at key decision points.	
10 min	**Build the Chain**	As a group, chart the sequence of decisions and consequences on the board with arrows: cause → effect → cause → effect.	
5 min	**Discuss the Turning Point**	Identify where things could have gone differently. Discuss the principle the chain teaches.	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite each person to name one “cause” they want to change this week and its likely “effect.”	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

As you map the chain of cause and effect, highlight where Christ's grace interrupts a similar chain in our own lives. Close by asking how choosing Him changes the direction of our story.

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HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Skeleton: You Are the Reporter

Skill Focus: Immersive Role-Play

Core skills this category draws on: Storytelling/dramatic retelling · Historical & cultural context · Character study · Cause-and-effect/plot arc analysis · Maps/timelines

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Esther (court intrigue) • Daniel 1–7 (dramatic court confrontations) • 2 Chronicles 14–20; 26; 30 (Jehoshaphat's battle account)

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask the class to imagine they're journalists assigned to cover this event.	
4 min	**Context Briefing**	Give a quick historical/cultural "briefing" before reading.	
6 min	**Read as a Team**	Read the passage aloud in parts or voices (narrator, characters).	
8 min	**Interview Activity**	In pairs, one person role-plays a character while the other "interviews" them about their choices and feelings.	
5 min	**Debrief & Application**	Share interview insights. Discuss what the history teaches about God or faith; invite application.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Build in an interview question about where God or the Savior was present in the event, even if unseen. Close by discussing how Christ is present in our own 'headline' moments today.

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POETIC

Skeleton: Hear the Rhythm

Skill Focus: Reading Aloud + Parallelism

Core skills this category draws on: Reading aloud for rhythm · Imagery & metaphor exploration · Parallelism analysis · Emotional/reflective response · Comparative translation study

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Psalms 1–2; 8; 19–33; 40; 46 • Psalms 49–51; 61–66; 69–72; 77–78; 85–86 • Job 1–3; 12–14; 19; 21–24; 38–40; 42

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Reference a song or poem with strong rhythm; ask what makes it powerful.	
5 min	**Read Aloud Together**	Read the passage together, alternating by side of the room or verse by verse.	
8 min	**Parallelism Hunt**	Briefly explain parallelism; have the class find pairs of lines that repeat, contrast, or build on each other.	
7 min	**Imagery Reflection**	Choose one vivid image or metaphor; discuss its meaning and invite a personal reflection.	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite each person to choose one line that speaks to them and share why.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Choose a phrase from the passage that testifies of Christ and let its rhythm carry extra weight in your reading. Close by inviting the class to feel, not just understand, His reality.

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POETIC

Skeleton: Picture the Words

Skill Focus: Imagery & Metaphor

Core skills this category draws on: Reading aloud for rhythm · Imagery & metaphor exploration · Parallelism analysis · Emotional/reflective response · Comparative translation study

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Psalms 102–103; 110; 116–119; 127–128; 135–139; 146–150 • Job 1–3; 12–14; 19; 21–24; 38–40; 42 (God's answer from the whirlwind) • Jeremiah 31–33; 36–39; Lamentations 1; 3

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Show an object or image that represents a metaphor found in the passage (e.g., water, light, a shepherd's staff).	
5 min	**Read for Imagery**	Read the passage, asking the class to listen for the pictures the words create.	
10 min	**Metaphor Mapping**	List each metaphor on the board with its meaning; discuss why that image was chosen.	
5 min	**Personal Application**	Ask: “Which image best describes how you feel about God right now?”	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite brief silent reflection, then a few volunteers to share.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

As you map metaphors, ask which images point to the Savior (light, shepherd, rock, living water, etc.) and dwell there longest. Let the imagery become a window to Him.

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POETIC

Skeleton: From the Heart

Skill Focus: Emotional Response + Translation Comparison

Core skills this category draws on: Reading aloud for rhythm · Imagery & metaphor exploration · Parallelism analysis · Emotional/reflective response · Comparative translation study

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Lamentations 1; 3 • Psalms 49–51; 61–66; 69–72; 77–78; 85–86 (Psalm 51) • Job 1–3; 12–14; 19; 21–24; 38–40; 42

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask the class to recall a time they felt a strong emotion — joy, fear, gratitude.	
5 min	**Read Responsively**	Read the passage as a class using echo reading or split verses.	
8 min	**Map the Emotion**	Chart the emotional arc of the passage — where it starts, shifts, and resolves.	
5 min	**Compare Translations**	Read one key verse in two translations or wordings; discuss differences in feeling or meaning.	
5 min	**Closing Response**	Invite the class to share or write one sentence of prayer or thought inspired by the passage.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

As you chart the emotional arc, note where hope or rescue enters, and connect that turn to Christ's power to change our own emotional story.

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DOCTRINAL

Skeleton: Unpack the Word

Skill Focus: Term Breakdown + Cross-Reference

Core skills this category draws on: Systematic term breakdown · Cross-referencing · Logical argument mapping · Q&A / catechism method · Comparing interpretations

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Malachi (tithing, the refiner's fire, covenant terms) • Isaiah 50–57 (the Suffering Servant) • Ezra 1; 3–7; Nehemiah 2; 4–6; 8 (repentance and covenant renewal)

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask the class to define a key doctrinal term in their own words before reading.	
4 min	**Read the Passage**	Read the core verses together.	
8 min	**Term Breakdown**	Identify 2–3 key doctrinal words; look up definitions or footnotes and discuss nuances.	
6 min	**Cross-Reference Search**	Find one or two other scriptures that expand the doctrine; compare wording.	
5 min	**Application & Closing**	Ask how understanding this doctrine changes how we live this week; invite a one-sentence summary or testimony.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

As you define key terms, ask how each one connects to the Savior's role, His Atonement, or His character. Let the closing minutes settle specifically on Him.

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DOCTRINAL

Skeleton: Ask & Answer

Skill Focus: Q&A / Catechism Method

Core skills this category draws on: Systematic term breakdown · Cross-referencing · Logical argument mapping · Q&A / catechism method · Comparing interpretations

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Isaiah 40–49 (“Comfort ye my people”) • Malachi (why return to God?) • Haggai 1–2; Zechariah 1–4; 7–14 (why rebuild the temple?)

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Pose the “big question” the doctrine answers.	
5 min	**Read the Passage**	Read the core verses together.	
10 min	**Q&A Chain**	Ask a series of questions that build logically through the doctrine; class answers using the text.	
5 min	**Compare Interpretations**	Briefly note how different people understand this doctrine and why our understanding matters.	
3 min	**Closing**	Have the class state the doctrine in one sentence, then reflect on it personally.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Build your question chain toward a final question that only Christ can answer, and let the class sit with that.

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DOCTRINAL

Skeleton: Build the Case

Skill Focus: Logical Argument Mapping

Core skills this category draws on: Systematic term breakdown · Cross-referencing · Logical argument mapping · Q&A / catechism method · Comparing interpretations

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Isaiah 50–57 (the Servant Songs) • Malachi (the case for covenant faithfulness) • Haggai 1–2; Zechariah 1–4; 7–14 (the case for prioritizing God's house)

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Present a scenario or question that this doctrine resolves.	
5 min	**Read the Passage**	Read the core verses together.	
10 min	**Map the Argument**	On the board, outline the logical flow of the doctrine as presented (premise → premise → conclusion).	
5 min	**Test It**	Apply the “case” to a real-life dilemma class members might face.	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite a brief testimony of why this doctrine matters.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

As you map the logical argument, show how the case ultimately rests on Christ. If the doctrine doesn't lead there directly, ask what Christlike principle undergirds it.

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PROPHETIC

Skeleton: Then and Now

Skill Focus: Near vs. Far Fulfillment

Core skills this category draws on: Near vs. far fulfillment · Original audience/crisis context · Symbol & image interpretation · Comparing prophecy to fulfillment · Literary form analysis

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Isaiah 40–49 (Cyrus / the Messiah) • Isaiah 50–57 (the Suffering Servant) • Zechariah 1–4; 7–14

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask: “Have you ever made a prediction that came true in more ways than one?”	
5 min	**Context Setting**	Briefly explain to whom and when the prophecy was originally given, and the crisis it addressed.	
5 min	**Read the Prophecy**	Read the passage together.	
8 min	**Two Layers Chart**	Chart the prophecy's ‘near’ fulfillment (original audience) and ‘far’ fulfillment (later/eternal); discuss both.	
5 min	**Closing Application**	Discuss what hope this dual fulfillment offers today.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

For the 'far' fulfillment, look wherever possible to Christ's first or Second Coming — even prophecies with a historical fulfillment often also point to Him.

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PROPHETIC

Skeleton: Decode the Symbols

Skill Focus: Symbol & Image Interpretation

Core skills this category draws on: Near vs. far fulfillment · Original audience/crisis context · Symbol & image interpretation · Comparing prophecy to fulfillment · Literary form analysis

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Ezekiel 1–3; 33–34; 36–37; 47 • Daniel 1–7 • Zechariah 1–4; 7–14

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Show a modern symbol (flag, logo, sign) and ask what it represents.	
5 min	**Read the Passage**	Read the prophecy together.	
10 min	**Symbol Decoding**	List the symbols/images in the text; discuss possible meanings using footnotes or cross-references.	
5 min	**Discussion**	Ask why a prophet might use symbols instead of plain language.	
3 min	**Closing**	Apply one symbol's meaning to personal life this week.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Ask which symbol(s) might represent the Savior, His mission, or His attributes, and spend extra time there.

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PROPHETIC

Skeleton: Voice to a Broken World

Skill Focus: Original Audience & Crisis Context

Core skills this category draws on: Near vs. far fulfillment · Original audience/crisis context · Symbol & image interpretation · Comparing prophecy to fulfillment · Literary form analysis

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Jeremiah 1–3; 7; 16–18; 20 • Isaiah 1–12 • Micah; Nahum; Habakkuk; Zephaniah

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask about a hard or scary situation people face today that needs hope.	
6 min	**Context Briefing**	Describe the crisis facing the original audience (war, exile, injustice, etc.).	
5 min	**Read the Prophecy**	Read the passage together.	
7 min	**Discussion**	How does the prophet's message answer that specific crisis? What did the audience need to hear?	
5 min	**Closing**	Connect the ancient message of hope to a modern equivalent; invite application.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Discuss how the ultimate answer to the audience's crisis, then and now, is the hope of a Redeemer.

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PROPHETIC

Skeleton: Promise Fulfilled

Skill Focus: Comparing Prophecy to Fulfillment

Core skills this category draws on: Near vs. far fulfillment · Original audience/crisis context · Symbol & image interpretation · Comparing prophecy to fulfillment · Literary form analysis

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Isaiah 40–49 (Cyrus prophecy) • Micah; Nahum; Habakkuk; Zephaniah (Micah's Bethlehem prophecy) • Jeremiah 31–33; 36–39; Lamentations 1; 3 (the new covenant)

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask the class to recall a promise someone kept in their life.	
5 min	**Read the Prophecy**	Read the passage together.	
10 min	**Find the Fulfillment**	Using cross-references, locate where/how the prophecy was fulfilled; compare wording.	
5 min	**Discussion**	What does this teach about God keeping His promises?	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite the class to name a promise from God they are still waiting on.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Emphasize that God's pattern of keeping promises finds its fullest expression in Christ and His Atonement.

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PROPHETIC

Skeleton: What Kind of Message Is This?

Skill Focus: Literary Form Analysis

Core skills this category draws on: Near vs. far fulfillment · Original audience/crisis context · Symbol & image interpretation · Comparing prophecy to fulfillment · Literary form analysis

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Amos; Obadiah; Jonah • Hosea 1–6; 10–14; Joel • Haggai 1–2; Zechariah 1–4; 7–14

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Briefly describe how different forms of communication (letter, warning label, poem) shape meaning.	
5 min	**Read the Passage**	Read the prophecy together.	
8 min	**Identify the Form**	Discuss whether it's a warning, lament, vision, or oracle of hope, and how that shapes how to read it.	
7 min	**Discussion**	How does knowing the form change how we apply the message?	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite a personal application or brief testimony.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Whatever the form, ask how it ultimately testifies of Christ; even judgment oracles are often followed by a promise of restoration through Him.

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LEGAL/COVENANTAL

Skeleton: Why the Rule?

Skill Focus: Case Law + Modern Application

Core skills this category draws on: Comparative ancient law study · Case law application · Covenant structure breakdown · Modern application discussion · Categorizing law types

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Malachi (the purpose behind tithing) • Ezra 1; 3–7; Nehemiah 2; 4–6; 8 (the law read and renewed) • Micah; Nahum; Habakkuk; Zephaniah (“what doth the Lord require of thee”)

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask about a rule the class didn't understand until they realized its purpose.	
5 min	**Read the Law**	Read the commandment or law passage together.	
8 min	**Purpose Search**	Discuss the historical/cultural reason the law was given; what problem did it solve?	
7 min	**Modern Case Studies**	Present one or two modern scenarios; discuss how the principle behind the law applies today.	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite a commitment to apply the principle this week.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Discuss how the law points to and is fulfilled in Christ, and how His grace changes our relationship to rules and commandments.

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LEGAL/COVENANTAL

Skeleton: Covenant Blueprint

Skill Focus: Covenant Structure Breakdown

Core skills this category draws on: Comparative ancient law study · Case law application · Covenant structure breakdown · Modern application discussion · Categorizing law types

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Ezra 1; 3–7; Nehemiah 2; 4–6; 8 (covenant renewal after the exile) • Malachi (the covenant of the fathers) • Jeremiah 31–33; 36–39; Lamentations 1; 3 (the new covenant promise)

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask what makes a promise or agreement meaningful (trust, terms, a sign).	
5 min	**Read the Covenant**	Read the covenant passage together.	
10 min	**Map the Covenant**	Identify the parties, promises, conditions, and signs of the covenant on the board.	
5 min	**Discussion**	How is this covenant similar to covenants we make today?	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite reflection on personal covenant-keeping.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Compare the covenant's structure to the new covenant made possible through Christ's Atonement, and to covenants we make with Him today.

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WISDOM LITERATURE

Skeleton: Wisdom in Action

Skill Focus: Scenario Matching

Core skills this category draws on: Proverb unpacking via scenarios · Comparing contradictory proverbs · Discussion-based/Socratic teaching · Practical application exercises · Contrast with worldly wisdom

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Proverbs 1–4; 15–16; 22; 31; Ecclesiastes 1–3; 11–12 • Job 1–3; 12–14; 19; 21–24; 38–40; 42

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Present a real-life dilemma class members might face.	
4 min	**Read the Passage**	Read the proverb or wisdom passage together.	
10 min	**Scenario Matching**	In pairs or small groups, match sayings from the text to modern-day scenarios; discuss.	
6 min	**Class Discussion**	Share matches and reasoning as a group.	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite each person to choose one saying to apply this week.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Discuss how Christ is the source of true wisdom, and how a relationship with Him shapes the wise choice in each scenario.

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WISDOM LITERATURE

Skeleton: Wisdom's Tension

Skill Focus: Comparing Contradictory Proverbs

Core skills this category draws on: Proverb unpacking via scenarios · Comparing contradictory proverbs · Discussion-based/Socratic teaching · Practical application exercises · Contrast with worldly wisdom

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Proverbs 1–4; 15–16; 22; 31; Ecclesiastes 1–3; 11–12 (Proverbs vs. Ecclesiastes) • Job 1–3; 12–14; 19; 21–24; 38–40; 42 (Job vs. his friends)

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Present two pieces of common advice that seem to contradict each other.	
5 min	**Read Two Contrasting Passages**	Read two proverbs or wisdom sayings that appear to conflict.	
10 min	**Wrestle With It**	In groups, discuss when each saying applies and why wisdom requires discernment rather than a one-size-fits-all rule.	
5 min	**Discussion**	Share group conclusions as a class.	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite a brief story or testimony about a time discernment mattered.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Ask how looking to Christ, rather than a formula, helps us know which wisdom applies when.

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WISDOM LITERATURE

Skeleton: Debate the Wisdom

Skill Focus: Socratic Discussion

Core skills this category draws on: Proverb unpacking via scenarios · Comparing contradictory proverbs · Discussion-based/Socratic teaching · Practical application exercises · Contrast with worldly wisdom

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Proverbs 1–4; 15–16; 22; 31; Ecclesiastes 1–3; 11–12 (focus: Ecclesiastes) • Job 1–3; 12–14; 19; 21–24; 38–40; 42 (focus: God's answer)

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Pose a provocative question the wisdom text addresses (e.g., “Is life meaningless?”).	
5 min	**Read the Passage**	Read the wisdom passage together.	
12 min	**Socratic Discussion**	Ask a chain of open questions, letting the class wrestle with the text's answer versus common answers.	
3 min	**Synthesis**	Summarize the class's insights together.	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite a personal application or testimony.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Let the discussion arrive at Christ as the answer to the question the wisdom text raises.

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APOCALYPTIC

Skeleton: Behind the Code

Skill Focus: Symbol Decoding + Genre Caution

Core skills this category draws on: Symbol decoding · Cross-comparing imagery · Historical background of persecution/crisis · Caution against over-literalizing · Genre-sensitive reading

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Daniel 1–7 • Ezekiel 1–3; 33–34; 36–37; 47 • Zechariah 1–4; 7–14

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Show a coded message or simple riddle; ask the class to decode it.	
5 min	**Context Setting**	Briefly explain the crisis or persecution the original audience faced, and why symbolic language was used.	
5 min	**Read the Vision**	Read the passage together.	
8 min	**Symbol Decoding**	List symbols and discuss likely meanings using footnotes or cross-references; caution against over-literal reading.	
5 min	**Closing**	Discuss the message of hope or warning underneath the symbols and how it applies today.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Ask which symbols point toward Christ's ultimate victory, and make sure that hope is the last word of the lesson.

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APOCALYPTIC

Skeleton: Compare the Visions

Skill Focus: Cross-Comparing Imagery

Core skills this category draws on: Symbol decoding · Cross-comparing imagery · Historical background of persecution/crisis · Caution against over-literalizing · Genre-sensitive reading

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Ezekiel 1–3; 33–34; 36–37; 47 (dry bones, living water) • Daniel 1–7 (the statue, the beasts) • Isaiah 13–14; 22; 24–30; 35

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask if the class has seen similar symbols in movies or stories and what they represent.	
5 min	**Read the Vision**	Read the passage together.	
10 min	**Cross-Reference Hunt**	Compare this vision's imagery to similar imagery elsewhere in scripture; discuss common threads.	
5 min	**Discussion**	What core truth do these consistent symbols teach?	
3 min	**Closing**	Apply the underlying truth personally.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Look for a consistent thread pointing to Christ's presence and power across the visions being compared.

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APOCALYPTIC

Skeleton: Hope in the Storm

Skill Focus: Persecution Context + Genre-Sensitive Reading

Core skills this category draws on: Symbol decoding · Cross-comparing imagery · Historical background of persecution/crisis · Caution against over-literalizing · Genre-sensitive reading

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Daniel 1–7 (exile under Babylon) • Ezekiel 1–3; 33–34; 36–37; 47 (exile and restoration) • Isaiah 13–14; 22; 24–30; 35

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask about a time the class felt overwhelmed or afraid.	
6 min	**Context Briefing**	Explain the persecution or crisis behind the vision.	
5 min	**Read the Passage**	Read the passage together.	
7 min	**Discussion**	How does this genre of writing offer comfort differently than a direct promise would?	
5 min	**Closing**	Connect the ancient hope to a present fear; invite an application of faith.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

End by connecting the ancient hope directly to the hope we have through Christ today, regardless of our own 'storm.'

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LITURGICAL/HYMNIC

Skeleton: Sing the Words

Skill Focus: Communal Reading/Singing

Core skills this category draws on: Communal reading/singing · Structural/refrain analysis · Connecting worship posture to practice · Comparing hymnic forms

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Psalms 1–2; 8; 19–33; 40; 46 • Psalms 49–51; 61–66; 69–72; 77–78; 85–86 • Psalms 102–103; 110; 116–119; 127–128; 135–139; 146–150

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask what songs or hymns help class members feel close to God.	
6 min	**Read/Sing Responsively**	Read or sing the passage together, alternating verses or sections.	
8 min	**Structural Analysis**	Identify the refrain or repeated pattern; discuss its purpose and emphasis.	
6 min	**Discussion**	Why might this have been meant for group worship rather than private reading?	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite the class to share a one-line praise or prayer of their own.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Choose a line of praise directed at or about the Savior to close on, and invite the class to make it their own.

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LITURGICAL/HYMNIC

Skeleton: Find the Refrain

Skill Focus: Structural/Refrain Analysis

Core skills this category draws on: Communal reading/singing · Structural/refrain analysis · Connecting worship posture to practice · Comparing hymnic forms

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Psalms 102–103; 110; 116–119; 127–128; 135–139; 146–150 (Psalm 136's refrain) • Psalms 49–51; 61–66; 69–72; 77–78; 85–86 • Psalms 1–2; 8; 19–33; 40; 46

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask about a chorus from a favorite song and why it's repeated.	
5 min	**Read the Passage**	Read the passage together.	
10 min	**Structural Mapping**	Chart the passage's structure — refrain, verses, shifts in tone; discuss what each section emphasizes.	
5 min	**Discussion**	How does the structure guide worship or emotion?	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite personal reflection or a shared 'refrain' of gratitude.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

If the refrain doesn't already center on Christ, ask what refrain of praise for Him we might carry in our own hearts this week.

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LITURGICAL/HYMNIC

Skeleton: Worship Posture

Skill Focus: Connecting Worship to Practice

Core skills this category draws on: Communal reading/singing · Structural/refrain analysis · Connecting worship posture to practice · Comparing hymnic forms

Well-Suited Scripture Blocks: Psalms 1–2; 8; 19–33; 40; 46 • Psalms 102–103; 110; 116–119; 127–128; 135–139; 146–150 • Ezra 1; 3–7; Nehemiah 2; 4–6; 8 (the public reading of the law, Nehemiah 8)

Time	Step	Teacher Actions	Notes
2 min	**Hook**	Ask what physical or mental posture we take when we pray or worship.	
6 min	**Read/Recite Together**	Read the passage aloud together, perhaps standing or adopting another physical posture.	
8 min	**Compare Hymnic Forms**	Briefly compare this passage's form (lament, praise, thanksgiving) with another hymn type; discuss why form matters.	
6 min	**Discussion**	How can we bring this same posture of worship into daily life?	
3 min	**Closing**	Invite a commitment to a worship practice this week.	

Connecting to Jesus Christ

Discuss how our posture toward Christ specifically, not just God generally, shapes our worship this week.

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