

GREAT CHRISTIAN STORIES

For Children

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For Children

Edited by Kevin Swanson, Joshua Schwisow and Daniel Noor



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Course Introduction

This one-year course provides students with the opportunity to study four classic works written or translated into English: Johanna Spyri's *Heidi*, Brother Andrew's *God's Smuggler*, John Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress* (Part 1), and Florence Morse Kingsley's *Titus: A Comrade of the Cross*. Successful completion of this course provides the student 1 credit in English Literature for grades 6-8.

This Student Workbook includes:

1. Lesson Schedule
2. Chapter Assignments
3. Comprehension Exams
4. Essay Assignments
5. Life-Integration Projects
6. Answer Key

Course Objectives

Students completing this course will:

- Increase reading comprehension and vocabulary
- Examine biblical teaching by studying the books in light of Scripture
- Seek to apply and meditate on important truths from the various readings

Lesson Schedule

The lesson schedule included in this workbook is a suggested schedule. Teachers and students may adapt the schedule to suit their needs. The lesson schedule is based on a 36-week school year divided into two semesters.

Completing Chapter Assignments

Each chapter includes a section titled "Before You Read." The student should read the introduction to the chapter, read the Scripture passage out loud, and review special vocabulary for the chapter before reading the chapter itself. Then, after completing the chapter, the student should complete the assignments in the "After You Read" section.

Completing Exams

Each book in this course includes a final Comprehension Exam. Exams must be completed closed-book.

Grading Assignments

The Teacher/Parent may determine how to grade the assignments. We offer these suggested guidelines to grade assignments. For each assignment, divide total number of questions correct with the total number of questions possible to calculate the percentage.

For example, if 8 out of 11 questions were correct, then the percentage grade for that assignment will be 72%. $8 / 11 = 72\%$

The following may be used for grade values:

90 to 100 percent = A

80-89 percent = B

70 to 79 percent = C

60 to 69 percent = D

0 to 59 percent = F

Grading Exams

Each book ends with a Comprehension Exam consisting of multiple-choice questions and short-answer questions. The number of points to assign to each question is provided on the exam.

Grading Essays

For grading essays, we recommend using the following criteria:

Questions to Ask:

1. Point: What is the point of the essay? Is there a clear thesis?
2. Organization and Flow: Is the essay well organized?
3. Support of Ideas: Are the arguments well supported?
4. Quality of Insight: Is there interesting and helpful knowledge communicated?
5. Clarity: Is it clear? Is it too wordy?
6. Mechanics: Are there any spelling or grammatical issues?
7. Length: Does the word count of the essay meet the project requirements?

Grading Division for Essays:

- 70% - Topic covered in a clear and accurate manner
- 10% - Essay well organized
- 10% - Main thesis well supported
- 10% - Grammar and spelling

Grading Projects

Each book ends with a Life-Integration Project. The purpose of these projects is to apply what was learned in the reading to real-life growth in Christ, to dominion, and to serving others. These are suggested projects, but the parent/teacher may also supply additional projects that may be more relevant and helpful to their particular student's needs.

Grade Values

The following may be used for grade values when grading chapter assignments, exams, or projects:

- A = 90 to 100 percent
- B = 80 to 89 percent
- C = 70 to 79 percent
- D = 60 to 69 percent
- F = 0 to 59 percent

May the Lord bless the studies of these beautiful stories to the yielding of much fruit in the lives of your students!

The Generations Curriculum Team,
Kevin Swanson, Joshua Schwisow, and Daniel Noor
June 2026

Course Schedule

1st Semester Suggested Daily Schedule

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓	Grade
First Semester-First Quarter					
Week 1	1	Heidi - Introduction			
	2	Heidi - Begin Chapter 1			
	3	Heidi - Finish Chapter 1, Complete Assignments			
	4	Heidi - Begin Chapter 2			
	5	Heidi - Finish Chapter 2, Complete Assignments			
Week 2	6	Heidi - Begin Chapter 3			
	7	Heidi - Finish Chapter 3, Complete Assignments			
	8	Heidi - Begin Chapter 4			
	9	Heidi - Finish Chapter 4, Complete Assignments			
	10	Heidi - Begin Chapter 5			
Week 3	11	Heidi - Finish Chapter 5, Complete Assignments			
	12	Heidi - Begin Chapter 6			
	13	Heidi - Finish Chapter 6, Complete Assignments			
	14	Heidi - Begin Chapter 7			
	15	Heidi - Finish Chapter 7, Complete Assignments			
Week 4	16	Heidi - Begin Chapter 8			
	17	Heidi - Finish Chapter 8, Complete Assignments			
	18	Heidi - Begin Chapter 9			
	19	Heidi - Finish Chapter 9, Complete Assignments			
	20	Heidi - Begin Chapter 10			

Heidi

Heidi	Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓	Grade
	Week 5	21	Heidi - Finish Chapter 10, Complete Assignments			
		22	Heidi - Begin Chapter 11			
		23	Heidi - Finish Chapter 11, Complete Assignments			
		24	Heidi - Begin Chapter 12			
		25	Heidi - Finish Chapter 12, Complete Assignments			
	Week 6	26	Heidi - Begin Chapter 13			
		27	Heidi - Finish Chapter 13, Complete Assignments			
		28	Heidi - Begin Chapter 14			
		29	Heidi - Finish Chapter 14, Complete Assignments			
		30	Heidi - Begin Chapter 15			
	Week 7	31	Heidi - Finish Chapter 15, Complete Assignments			
		32	Heidi - Begin Chapter 16			
		33	Heidi - Finish Chapter 16, Complete Assignments			
		34	Heidi - Begin Chapter 17			
		35	Heidi - Finish Chapter 17, Complete Assignments			
	Week 8	36	Heidi - Begin Chapter 18			
		37	Heidi - Finish Chapter 18, Complete Assignments			
		38	Heidi - Begin Chapter 19			
		39	Heidi - Finish Chapter 19, Complete Assignments			
		40	Heidi - Begin Chapter 20			

	Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓	Grade
Heidi	Week 9	41	Heidi - Finish Chapter 20, Complete Assignments			
		42	Heidi - Begin Chapter 21			
		43	Heidi - Finish Chapter 21, Complete Assignments			
		44	Heidi - Begin Chapter 22			
		45	Heidi - Finish Chapter 22, Complete Assignments			
First Semester-Second Quarter						
God's Smuggler	Week 1	46	Heidi - Begin Chapter 23			
		47	Heidi - Finish Chapter 23, Complete Assignments			
		48	Flex Day			
		49	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 1			
		50	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 1, Complete Assignments			
	Week 2	51	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 2			
		52	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 2, Complete Assignments			
		53	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 3			
		54	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 3, Complete Assignments			
		55	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 4			
	Week 3	56	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 4, Complete Assignments			
		57	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 5			
		58	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 5, Complete Assignments			
		59	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 6			
		60	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 6, Complete Assignments			

God's Smuggler	Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓	Grade
	Week 4	61	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 7			
		62	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 7, Complete Assignments			
		63	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 8			
		64	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 8, Complete Assignments			
		65	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 9			
	Week 5	66	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 9, Complete Assignments			
		67	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 10			
		68	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 10, Complete Assignments			
		69	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 11			
		70	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 11, Complete Assignments			
	Week 6	71	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 12			
		72	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 12, Complete Assignments			
		73	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 13			
		74	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 13, Complete Assignments			
		75	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 14			
	Week 7	76	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 14, Complete Assignments			
		77	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 15			
		78	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 15, Complete Assignments			
		79	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 16			
		80	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 16, Complete Assignments			

	Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓	Grade
God's Smuggler	Week 8	81	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 17			
		82	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 17, Complete Assignments			
		83	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 18			
		84	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 18, Complete Assignments			
		85	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 19			
	Week 9	86	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 19, Complete Assignments			
		87	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 20			
		88	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 20, Complete Assignments			
		89	God's Smuggler - Begin Chapter 21			
		90	God's Smuggler - Finish Chapter 21, Complete Assignments			
	MIDTERM GRADE					
	Second Semester-Third Quarter					
The Pilgrim's Progress	Week 1	91	Flex Day			
		92	Pilgrim's Progress - Begin Chapter 1			
		93	Pilgrim's Progress- Finish Chapter 1, Complete Assignments			
		94	Pilgrim's Progress - Begin Chapter 2			
		95	Pilgrim's Progress - Finish Chapter 2, Complete Assignments			
	Week 2	96	Pilgrim's Progress - Begin Chapter 3			
		97	Pilgrim's Progress - Finish Chapter 3, Complete Assignments			
		98	Pilgrim's Progress - Begin Chapter 4			
		99	Pilgrim's Progress - Finish Chapter 4, Complete Assignments			
		100	Pilgrim's Progress - Begin Chapter 5			

The Pilgrim's Progress	Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓	Grade
	Week 3	101	Pilgrim's Progress - Finish Chapter 5, Complete Assignments			
		102	Pilgrim's Progress - Begin Chapter 6			
		103	Pilgrim's Progress - Finish Chapter 6, Complete Assignments			
		104	Pilgrim's Progress - Begin Chapter 7			
		105	Pilgrim's Progress - Finish Chapter 7, Complete Assignments			
	Week 4	106	Pilgrim's Progress - Begin Chapter 8			
		107	Pilgrim's Progress - Finish Chapter 8, Complete Assignments			
		108	Pilgrim's Progress - Begin Chapter 9			
		109	Pilgrim's Progress - Finish Chapter 9, Complete Assignments			
		110	Pilgrim's Progress - Begin Chapter 10			
	Week 5	111	Pilgrim's Progress - Finish Chapter 10, Complete Assignments			
		112	Pilgrim's Progress - Begin Chapter 11			
		113	Pilgrim's Progress - Finish Chapter 11, Complete Assignments			
		114	Pilgrim's Progress - Begin Chapter 12			
		115	Pilgrim's Progress - Finish Chapter 12, Complete Assignments			
	Week 6	116	Flex Day			
		117	Titus - Chapter 1, Complete Assignments			
		118	Titus - Begin Chapter 2			
		119	Titus - Finish Chapter 2, Complete Assignments			
		120	Titus - Begin Chapter 3			

	Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓	Grade
The Pilgrim's Progress	Week 7	121	Titus - Finish Chapter 3, Complete Assignments			
		122	Titus - Begin Chapter 4			
		123	Titus - Finish Chapter 4, Complete Assignments			
		124	Titus - Begin Chapter 5			
		125	Titus - Finish Chapter 5, Complete Assignments			
	Week 8	126	Titus - Begin Chapter 6			
		127	Titus - Finish Chapter 6, Complete Assignments			
		128	Titus - Begin Chapter 7			
		129	Titus - Finish Chapter 7, Complete Assignments			
		130	Titus - Begin Chapter 8			
	Week 9	131	Titus - Finish Chapter 8, Complete Assignments			
		132	Titus - Begin Chapter 9			
		133	Titus - Finish Chapter 9, Complete Assignments			
		134	Titus - Begin Chapter 10			
		135	Titus - Finish Chapter 10, Complete Assignments			
	Second Semester-Fourth Quarter					
Titus: Comrade of the Cross	Week 1	136	Titus - Begin Chapter 11			
		137	Titus - Finish Chapter 11, Complete Assignments			
		138	Titus - Begin Chapter 12			
		139	Titus - Finish Chapter 12, Complete Assignments			
		140	Titus - Begin Chapter 13			

Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓	Grade
Week 2	141	Titus - Finish Chapter 13, Complete Assignments			
	142	Titus - Begin Chapter 14			
	143	Titus - Finish Chapter 14, Complete Assignments			
	144	Titus - Begin Chapter 15			
	145	Titus - Finish Chapter 15, Complete Assignments			
Week 3	146	Titus - Begin Chapter 16			
	147	Titus - Finish Chapter 16, Complete Assignments			
	148	Titus - Begin Chapter 17			
	149	Titus - Finish Chapter 17, Complete Assignments			
	150	Titus - Begin Chapter 18			
Week 4	151	Titus - Finish Chapter 18, Complete Assignments			
	152	Titus - Begin Chapter 19			
	153	Titus - Begin Chapter 19			
	154	Titus - Begin Chapter 20			
	155	Titus - Finish Chapter 20, Complete Assignments			
Week 5	156	Titus - Begin Chapter 21			
	157	Titus - Finish Chapter 21, Complete Assignments			
	158	Titus - Begin Chapter 22			
	159	Titus - Finish Chapter 22, Complete Assignments			
	160	Titus - Begin Chapter 23			

Titus: Comrade of the Cross	Week	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓	Grade
	Week 6	161	Titus - Finish Chapter 23, Complete Assignments			
		162	Titus - Begin Chapter 24			
		163	Titus - Finish Chapter 24, Complete Assignments			
		164	Titus - Begin Chapter 25			
		165	Titus - Finish Chapter 25, Complete Assignments			
	Week 7	166	Titus - Begin Chapter 26			
		167	Titus - Finish Chapter 26, Complete Assignments			
		168	Titus - Begin Chapter 27			
		169	Titus - Finish Chapter 27, Complete Assignments			
		170	Titus - Begin Chapter 28			
	Week 8	171	Titus - Finish Chapter 28, Complete Assignments			
		172	Titus - Begin Chapter 29			
		173	Titus - Finish Chapter 29, Complete Assignments			
		174	Titus - Begin Chapter 30			
		175	Titus - Finish Chapter 30, Complete Assignments			
	Week 9	176	Titus - Begin Chapter 31			
		177	Titus - Finish Chapter 31, Complete Assignments			
		178	Titus - Chapter 32, Complete Assignments			
		179	Titus - Begin Chapter 33			
		180	Titus - Finish Chapter 33, Complete Assignments			
	FINAL GRADE					

HEIDI

by Johanna Spyri

Introduction

Heidi is one of the most popular children's books ever published, second only to *Pinnocchio*—with Wikipedia reporting over 50 million copies in print around the world.

Heidi is a delightful read. It is one of the most heart-warming Christian stories of all time for children. It is filled with joy, gratefulness, and praise to God. There are references to “the Lord” as well as references to God throughout. There are the vivid descriptions of sin, rebellion, mercy, forgiveness, reconciliation, and God's sovereignty. Faith in God and prayer are encouraged. The church plays a role in the life of Heidi and her grandfather, especially when grandfather is restored to the fellowship.

Don't miss the major theme of the book as *Heidi* learns that God's plan is better than her own. Her prayers are not answered at first, but she comes to realize that God's ways are higher than her ways, and better in the long run.

The original *Heidi* was written from a solid Christian worldview perspective, and this editor would include it in the list of Christian classics. The goal of this republication was to restore all of the original Christian content, often edited out of modern translations. In our research, we discovered that the lost condition of the grandfather was removed in later editions, as was the extended explanation of the story of the prodigal son and the hymn which explained God's sovereign grace. These essential parts of the Christian faith and the glory of the Gospel were removed in editions released after 1920.

Setting

Heidi is set in the late 19th century Swiss Alps and Germany. It was the beginning of the industrial age there, and families were gradually moving away from the towns into the larger cities. Many would have related to the feelings of nostalgia as they considered the quietness and beauty of the nature they had left for the noisy, dirty cities. At this time in history, there were no cars or airplanes—only trains and horse-drawn carriages were used for transportation.

The town of Maienfeld is located in the Swiss canton of Graubünden. To this day it is a popular tourist destination because of its association with the story of *Heidi*. When the story was first published, the population was about 1,200. Today the population is about 2,800. As of the census taken in the year 2000, about 58% of the town is associated with the Swiss Reformed Church, a Protestant denomination. This was most likely the church referenced in the story.

Heidi is sent off to Frankfurt, Germany in the story. This would be about 300 miles to the north, a four and a half hour journey by car. In 1875 the population would have been around 100,000—a very large city for the day.

About the Author

Johanna Spyri was born the fourth of six children. Her father was a doctor and her mother's father was a preacher—both characters of which are featured in her famous book. She was born on June 12, 1827 and raised in Hirzel, Switzerland in the canton of Zurich. She married a lawyer from Zurich named Johann Spyri, and no doubt there was some little confusion over their names. She moved to the big city of Zurich, but developed a homesickness for the country. Soon after the publication of *Heidi* (her second book), both her husband and only son died. She spent the rest of her life supporting charities until her death on July 7, 1901.

Before You Read

Chapter 1 Summary

Heidi's Aunt Deta takes her to stay with her grandfather in the Swiss Alps.

Words to Know

1. **Pungent** - Strong smelling
2. **Herbage** - Plants, vegetation
3. **Vigorous** - Strong
4. **Fierce** - Wild, threatening, hostile
5. **Livelihood** - A job or source of income to provide for one's needs.
6. **Hamlet** - A small town
7. **Apprentice** - One enrolled in a training program in a certain field of work.
8. **Enmity** - A state of opposition, acting and living as an enemy towards others.
9. **Hazardous** - Dangerous
10. **Luscious** - Tasty
11. **Exertion** - The application of a great effort in order to do something.
12. **Frolicked** - Played
13. **Reproachfully** - Looking upon a person or situation as though a wrongful thing occurred.
14. **Repentant** - A feeling of sorrow for something wrongful done.
15. **Vexation** - Irritation

Scripture Passage

Psalms 146

After You Read

Vocabulary Exercises

Use each word in a sentence of your own construction.

1. Pungent
2. Herbage

3. Vigorous
4. Fierce
5. Livelihood
6. Hamlet
7. Apprentice
8. Enmity
9. Hazardous
10. Luscious
11. Exertion
12. Frolicked
13. Reproachfully
14. Repentant
15. Vexation

Study Questions

1. Where is Maienfeld located?
2. What had happened to Heidi's mother and father?
3. Why was Deta anxious to find another person to take care of Heidi?
4. What was Grandfather's basic problem? What specific sins has Grandfather committed, as far as we know?
5. What was Heidi's full name?
6. How old was Peter? How old was Heidi at this time?
7. Who did Peter live with?
8. According to Psalm 146:9, who is God especially careful to watch over?

9. Where was Peter's house with reference to the town? Where was Grandfather's house with reference to Peter's house?

10. What was Heidi's father's name?

Meditation and Application

Walking in the Truth

1. Consider James 1:27. How might your family or your church help the orphans?