

Aim of lesson

To make a timeline which can be used for throughout these lessons.

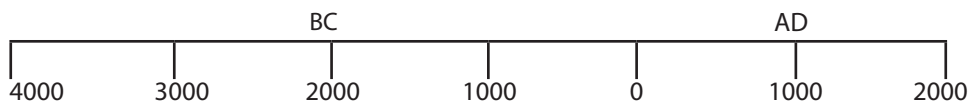
Preparation required

As many of the lessons in these notes are based on a timeline, and many of the others refer to one, this lesson will form the basis for them. It is fairly important that you decide, before you begin these lessons in earnest, how you are going to compare and record the different aspects of the syllabus.

A simple version of a timeline appears on each page of the students' books, but it would be useful to either have a large, wall version or for each student to have their own fold-out copy. They can then record their discoveries each lesson. If the class will be taught by several different teachers, you may need to discuss it together before you start.

Decide what sort of timeline you are going to make and assemble sheets of paper, scissors, Sellotape, coloured pens, etc. Ceiling paper is useful if you can make a wall timeline. It may be an idea to keep something like a box with some of these things in so they are handy whenever they are needed.

Outline of lesson



The first thing you will have to decide is what period of time you want to cover. A simple timeline like the one above can be used to represent the time from Adam and Eve to the present day. If you have wall (or floor) space it would be good to use the whole thing. However, if space is limited or the students are going to make their own timelines, you may like to concentrate on the last 4000 years, from 2000 BC to the present. This may avoid a lot of unused space, or someone with large handwriting taking up 1000 years to write 'David'.

You could show them the one above if you need to put it in context.

Decide what you are going to fill in as the weeks progress. Possibilities are:

- Major Bible events
- important people
- Books of the Bible
- Bible themes - the 'threads' that these lessons will be covering.

Don't mark these things yet. It can be an ongoing project.

It would be sensible to divide the timeline up, horizontally, to avoid it getting too muddled and it may be sensible to leave marking Bible themes to the pages in the student's books for the same reason.

Involve the class in decisions like whether you are going to write vertically to save space, whether stickers produced on a computer would be a good idea for neatness. They may want a colour scheme. The more they can decide for themselves the more pride they will take in it.

Mark on the timeline, maybe above the dates, some interesting historical events

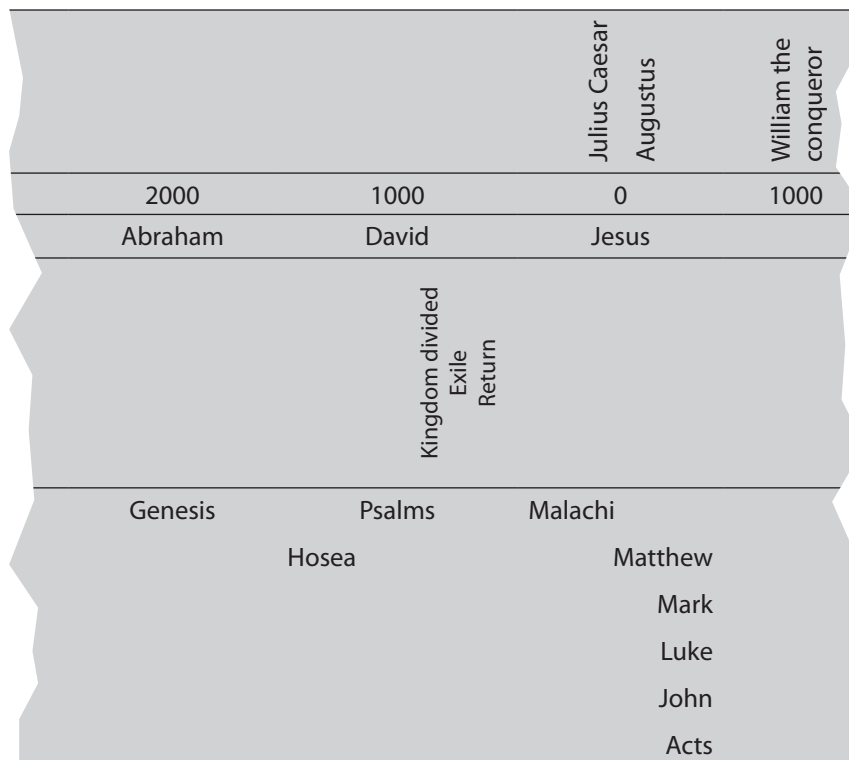
The students might like to mark events they are covering in history at school and/or find out some interesting dates for homework and mark these on next week.

Some suggestions are:

- Stonehenge – c 2000
- Pyramids built – c 2000 BC
- First Olympic Games – 776 BC
- Julius Caesar came to Britain - 44 AD
- William the Conqueror - 1066
- Two world wars - 1914-18, 1939-45

or whatever dates are most significant where you live.

Sample of a simple timeline



Relevance to our lives

The Bible contains real history which can be proved as reliable by external sources.

Extension ideas

- Make a timeline with a washing line and peg incidents onto it. This has the advantage that things can be moved around and could be used as a revision game.
- If the class need an exercise to understand how timelines work, you could make one covering the last 100 years and mark on it the birth dates of everyone in the ecclesia.