



Welcome to the final *Light of Life!*

In the over 40 years since Light Educational Ministries began and *Light of Life* was first published, a major part of our ministry has been keep our friends informed of the many changes we have seen in terms of Christian education and family matters. Now we reach another milestone and change in that this will be the last *Light of Life* in this format. We will, however, continue to produce an occasional newsletter to keep you informed of events and news from Light Educational Ministries.

LEM plans to continue providing resources and assistance to educators. In particular, John Garrard (who has taken up the

phonics mantle for his mother Evelyn) will continue to develop the LEM Phonics program. The third year's materials are now available with more materials to come in 2022.

Kaye and I will continue to serve in a somewhat reduced capacity with LEM as long as the Lord gives us the necessary strength. I have finally retired from pastoring the church and leading a small denomination. One significant discovery I have made is to unravel the mystery of why retired people say they are so busy they don't know how they found time to fit in work. I discovered it now takes 2–3 times as long to do anything. We may be busier, but certainly not as productive.

For us it has been a privilege to have been called of the Lord to serve Him in Christian education. It began in about 1972 when teaching one day the Lord posed the question, 'who do you suppose created the information you are teaching?' Fleshing out the answer to that question has led to

Light Educational Ministries. The privilege for us has been to serve educators both at school and at home and in a number of nations, and to discover Christ at the centre of all our endeavours – for our life's work is to glorify God.

In recent years we have found it a joy to serve many children and grandchildren of our original 1980s customers, and we look forward to their legacy being outworked in God's kingdom.

LEM Phonics 2020

Materials for the third year (year C) of LEM Phonics 2020 are now available.

One thing that seems to be a constant in our revisions is that things always take longer than you think they should!

Teacher Book C includes some excellent developments which have not been available in LEM Phonics before.

Up to speed

Up to speed is the first section of *Teacher Book C*, designed for students who have not studied phonics before. It swiftly takes them through all the stages of LEM Phonics – phonological awareness, handwriting,

the phonograms, base words and endings, grammar and sentences. Students also go through two review lists from *Teacher Books A* and *B* to cover all the rules learned so far.

This section is particularly helpful for schools, because it gets new students on board quickly whilst providing a good refresher for existing students.

Beginning/Developing/ Established

The third year revisions have added a third keyword *flexibility* to our original two of *simplicity* and *consistency*. The struggle of teaching multiple students at different levels was not really addressed in the original version of LEM Phonics. Hence each list of words in *Teacher Book C* contains instruction and exercises for three levels of study:

- 'Backup' exercises for *beginning* or struggling students, which provide review, focus and reference to previous books
- The main body of text, which is aimed at the *developing* (standard) student
- 'Extend' exercises, which build on the existing concepts and engage higher level thinking for *established* students who need more challenge.

Pronunciation guide

Many words have fallen victim to the laziness of speech, which means phonograms are not always distinctly heard (e.g. the schwa sound). LEM Phonics has always promoted a method of 'reading for spelling'

or 'reading for speaking' which addressed these issues but didn't always provide specifics for individual words. In *Teacher Book C* all words that require 'reading for spelling' now have a pronunciation guide included.

Rule updates

As *Teacher Book C* has been developed we have had opportunity to streamline and simplify many of the rules. As part of this we have incorporated new conventions for expressing letternames and also created cross-references to rules between teacher books.

Workbook 8: Read, Spell, Go!

The 2020 workbook that accompanies *Teacher Book C* is a composite of the original workbooks 7 (*Successive Seventeen*) and 8 (*Spelling and Grammar*), with significant new content also included. The title is *Read, Spell, Go!* which reflects the three main areas of content (reading, spelling and grammar). Workbook 8 is keyed to *Teacher Book C*, providing three pages of exercises for each double page of the word list.

Other resource updates

Many of the improvements in *Teacher Book C* have also been applied to the resources for earlier years, and we have released updated versions of the complete set of LEM Phonics resources.



As an example, the phonogram cards now include cross-references to the word list section that they first appear, using the 'black diamonds' that appear in the corner of the word list pages.

We realised the potential for issues with slightly different content between updates, so we have released a 'change log' on our website which outlines any updates that have been made to all resources. Everything we produce has a specific date in the front page, which corresponds with the change log data and should address any inconsistencies between versions.

Instructor updates

The disruptions of Covid-19 have made things somewhat difficult for our instructors, but that has not stopped them from passionately pursuing the training and development of LEM Phonics in their respective areas. We are most blessed to have such a fine group of people instructing

and providing input to the development of LEM Phonics.

But change is inevitable in our journey and we are sadly bidding farewell to **Anne Fries**, who has retired (escaped?) to the beautiful Victorian countryside. We thank Anne for her considerable efforts in the development of the 2020 version and wish her and her husband all the best for their retirement.

Carmel Houghton, our newest instructor, has established herself here in the nation's capital and has been a regular visitor to the LEM office to work through various aspects of the 2020 revisions. She has already taken on several sessions of local training and hopes to make more inroads into the Canberra market in the near future.

Our Queenslanders **Greg O'Keefe** and **Frances Prentice** are also seeing excellent progress and interest from schools and the 2020 revisions are being well received. Frances and her son have been doing some work in the video arena, which may find its way to a screen near you soon.

The ever-faithful **Barbara Soutter** continues to take things one year at a time at Donvale Christian College in Melbourne and we always appreciate her wise input into the program.

Next steps

Work is commencing on *Teacher Book D* with the current plan to model it on the *Teacher Book C* framework but with an extended vocabulary from the original *Word List Book 3*. The sheer volume of words in the original Word List 3 is likely to mean a *Teacher Book E* is on the cards too... but hopefully we can finish the revisions before we have to change the name to LEM Phonics 2030!

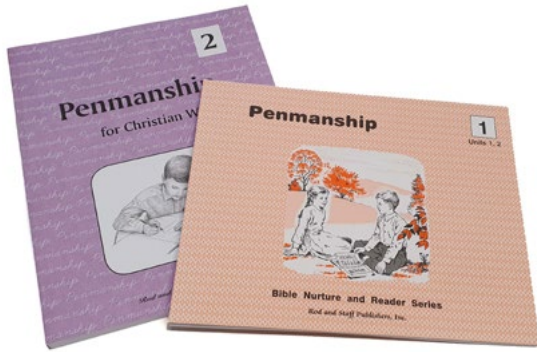
Visit www.lemphonics.com for ordering, online resources and more information on LEM Phonics. ■

Christmas Closure

Our last day of business for 2021 will be **Fri 17 December** and we will re-open for 2022 on **Mon 10 January**



Book Shop



Rod and Staff

Penmanship Grades 1 and 2: 2nd Edition

Rod and Staff have updated their early primary penmanship books for Grades 1 and 2. Grade 1 contains three wide format workbooks with tear-out sheets. The first book teaches basic strokes and letters with similar patterns of construction grouped together. The second book teaches capital letters with more practice. The third book concentrates on printing sentences, with attention to spacing and proper formation of letters and numerals.

Grade 2 uses mostly sentences to teach manuscript and introduce cursive writing. These books present an American style of penmanship.

Grade 1 Student Workbook Units 1-2	\$9.40
Grade 1 Student Workbook Units 3-4	\$11.50
Grade 1 Student Workbook Units 5-6	\$11.50
Grade 2 Student Workbook	\$13.60
Grade 2 Teacher Guide	\$16.65

Rod and Staff Penmanship
Click to order

New Secondary Bible from Bob Jones

Grades 6, 7 and 8

The *Bible Truths* systematic Bible course from Bob Jones University Press has enjoyed extended popularity over the years, and now BJUP is revising it grade by grade with a refreshed emphasis on a biblical worldview.

Grade 6 is a brand new book called *Basics for a Biblical Worldview*, a course that encourages students to engage with the ideas in the world around them. Students practice critical thinking on various ideological battlefields like self-identity, absolute truth and creation vs. evolution.

The Story of the Old Testament for Grade 7 studies the leading people in the Old Testament, connecting their stories to the holistic picture of scripture and showing that the Old Testament still holds relevance to the modern believer.

Grade 8 follows *The Life of Christ*. In a similar process to Grade 7 it links the Old and New Testaments and shows prophecies and promises fulfilled in the life of Christ. Biblical worldview concepts continue to be reinforced throughout the course.

BJUP Bible
Click to order



GRADE 6

Student Text	\$45.85
Teacher Edition	\$113.05
Student Activities	\$35.80
Answer Key to Student Act	\$30.15
Assessments	\$15.45
Answer Key to Assessments	\$18.35

GRADE 7

Student Text	\$43.65
Teacher Edition	\$70.25
Student Activities	\$35.80
Answer Key to Student Act	\$30.15
Assessments	\$16.60
Answer Key to Assessments	\$20.10

GRADE 8

Student Text	\$43.65
Teacher Edition	\$70.25
Student Activities	\$35.80
Answer Key to Student Act	\$30.15
Assessments	\$16.60
Answer Key to Assessments	\$20.10

Clearance

We have a large selection of damaged stock and old editions from Rod and Staff, Abeka, Bob Jones and others.

Grab a bargain while stocks last!



Clearance specials
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Turn their face toward a book this Christmas

LOWER PRIMARY Mice series

Children aged 6–7 years will love following the adventures of a group of nautical mice aboard their ships ‘The Herring Bone’, ‘The Nine Lives’, ‘The Seven Seas’ and ‘The Westing Wind’. Illustrated with black and white line drawings.

\$11.00 each

MIDDLE PRIMARY

Cousins All Around

What happens when nine cousins live in close proximity? 37 stories about nine children, their relationships, their pets and their walk with God.

\$20.65

UPPER PRIMARY Little Women

Louisa May Alcott’s timeless classic is retold with an accelerated pace, updated language and full-page illustrations suitable for 9–12 year olds.

\$15.70

UPPER PRIMARY

Hunting for Whales

Two young men from very different backgrounds experience the adventure, hardship and friendship of whaling during the mid-nineteenth century – learning about God’s redeeming grace on the way.

\$12.20

SECONDARY/YOUNG ADULT Avery series

These two books cover the story of Avery, a farm boy turned soldier turned doctor in the American Civil War. Avery and his dog Gunner must heal wounds of both the body and the soul as they walk their journey.

\$11.00 each

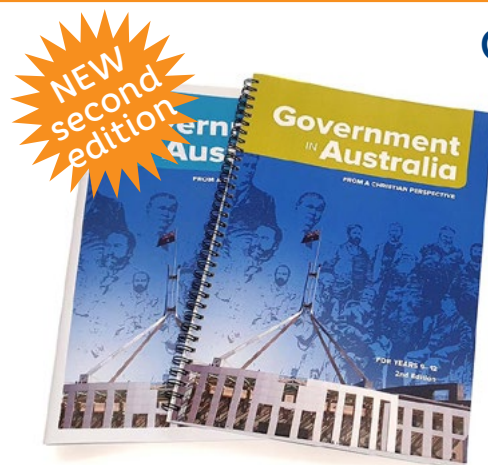
SECONDARY TO ADULT

Hidden in Plain Sight

Can young physicist Jenna Wilkes hold off the Pentagon, politicians and big-name scientists when they try to silence her major discovery? Fast-paced, science-based fiction from author Martin Selbrede.

\$23.60

Christmas gift ideas
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Government in Australia
Click to order

Government in Australia FROM A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

This senior level course from LEM has been updated from the previous 2005 version – with revised and edited text and a fresh full-colour layout.

In the process we have retained the emphasis on the biblical principles that undergird our civil government, which is particularly timely in our day as we find many of those principles of freedom and personal responsibility being eroded. We have inherited perhaps the best and most biblical system of government in the world in the Westminster system – proven over

several hundred years of stable, peaceful and prosperous government in the western nations. Our children need to have a good understanding of these principles to be able to defend them for their children.

This secondary level course is easily extended to upper secondary through the guidelines provided in the text.

The student text is wire bound, 114 pages and the teacher manual is a self-cover saddle booklet of 44 pages.

Student text	\$29.95
Teacher manual	\$14.95



No. 112: Final Hurrah

This is the 112th and final issue of *Exploring Christian Education*, which on the basis of being the 112th edition must have been going for around 30 years.

I am fully aware that I have written from an alternate view to that which seems popular in the modern world and church, but in my understanding it has been an endeavour to present a biblical view of education and life. Unsurprisingly, a biblical view will be at odds with prevailing pagan views and this has attracted some unhappy responses at times. Nevertheless, there have been many who have found these articles to be helpful in developing a more biblical approach not only to education but also to life in general.

The truth behind this contrasting response was perhaps best presented by the late Dr Glenn Martin who said in his presentations that 95% of evangelical leaders in America are Marxist philosophically. That is to say that the world views of a majority of Christian leaders are built upon Marxist (Humanist) principles. As I first heard him

make that comment in 1979 it is more than likely that the situation is no better today. Now it is not only leaders, but Christians in general, who have embraced a Marxist (Humanist/Socialist) world view. I recently heard a speaker in the USA quoting research indicating that 52% of evangelical Christians do not believe in an absolute truth. Without this certain foundation the church has little to say in representing God's truth and values. As a result, the church has little to say in addressing the issues of the day on God's behalf. As the church is to give direction to our nations and the world, there is little hope of a restoration of order and godliness in our fallen world. In the absence of some dramatic Divine intervention our civilisation will tend downwards toward collapse. It is worth noting that wise Christian thinkers have long said 'the end product of democracy is tyranny'.

But... that is not the end, as the world has been in similar circumstances on a number of occasions over the years. The important thing for us to fully grasp is that the world still belongs to God, He still loves His creation and His people, and, whilst it may well be bumpy for some time, there will be another Reformation. As the faith is in decline in Western (Christian) nations we find it difficult to believe that God will use the Church yet again for His restorative program. But it will be through the church that renewal comes. There is no alternative, as there is no other foundation for truth.

Paul writes in 1 Timothy 3:15:

... I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

It is obvious that we are being overwhelmed at this time with an antagonistic, pagan view of life that is, in the final analysis, an attack on the church of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Every passing day it becomes more important for Christian teachers and home educators to press on in the call of God to make Him known to our children. You may feel you are a part of a diminishing remnant and that we are all doomed, which is exactly what our enemy strives to make us think. But our hope is in the Lord and that hope brings assurance that all we do in service of our Lord is not in vain.

Heb 6:19 tells us:

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast.

And 1 Peter 1:3–5 assures us:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Amen.

Light of Life

Light Educational Ministries is a faith ministry, working in the area of Christian education.

Our Ministry is to spread the vision and concepts of Christian education. Light Educational Ministries staff are available to share with and assist groups interested in or involved with Christian education. Our staff prepare and distribute resources and develop curriculum and LEM training programmes.

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