



History & Geography

In this session, we recommend using the Bible, particularly the book of Genesis, as history, and studying the area of the Fertile Crescent for geography.

We will link to a beautiful historical timeline inside the course area. Using this timeline, your family will learn what was happening around the world during various biblical events.

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

~Genesis 1:1

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The Fertile Crescent

The Fertile Crescent is a region of the Middle East located between the Mediterranean Sea, the Persian Gulf, and the Arabian Desert. It is known for its crescent shape and is considered to be the cradle of civilization. It has been home to many societies throughout history, including Sumerian, Babylonian, Assyrian, and Jewish cultures.

Many speculate that the Garden of Eden was located within the Fertile Crescent. Genesis 2:10-14 tells us that a river watering the garden flowed from Eden to four important areas: Pishon, which flows into the land of Havilah; Gihon, which flows into the land of Cush; Tigris, which flows into the eastern side of Assyria; and the fourth is Euphrates.

Although the Bible doesn't mention the Fertile Crescent as such, the region is referred to several times. In Genesis 11:2, it is referred to as "the land of Shinar," which is the southern region of Mesopotamia. Then it follows the journey of Abraham and his descendants from Ur in Sumer to Canaan, which includes much of the same area. It was during this migration that Abraham encountered God and received the covenant that would shape Israel as a nation.

The Fertile Crescent is also mentioned when Moses led the people of Israel out of Egyptian captivity to take possession of the Promised Land, as described in Deuteronomy 1:7-8. This journey took place throughout the region and included many significant events, such as the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai and Joshua's defeat of Jericho.

If your kids keep a Book of Centuries or a Geography notebook, be sure to put the Fertile Crescent "in the beginning!"

The Fertile Crescent Map

