



As we draw toward the end of another school year I note that our society is convulsed in a way which most of us have never seen before.

The gulf between what we Christians have come to expect in education and what is being offered in our State system continues to widen. The positive in this is that we as Christians can present a program that is in increasingly stark contrast to the worldly programs of today. On the negative we will increasingly find ourselves at odds with authorities. The brief they seem to follow is that they see themselves as training children to be wards (or the property)

of the State and as such children need to think and behave according to the new set of standards which is the 'new Australian way'. Resisting those standards carries a significant risk for Christian educators.

I encourage you to carefully reflect on the source of the values you hold and seek to impart to your children. A major goal of Christian education is to raise a generation of children who think and act biblically. The coming Christmas holidays may present us with time to reflect and perhaps reconsider some of our teaching to better reflect what we believe and what we expect to impart to our children. During the school year it seems very difficult to find time to think about what we are doing and why.

We trust that as you find time for this exercise you will begin the new year with added zest and clarity of God's call on you and your family.

The staff at LEM wish you all a wonderful Christmas season with hearts filled with joy as we remember the advent of our Lord

amongst men and that the new year will see further fulfilment of the vision God has laid in your hearts.



LEM Phonics 2020

John Garrard continues the revision of the LEM Phonics program which (as is usually the case) is proving more time consuming than anticipated. We are now expecting to have the basic program ready for 2020.

With the upgrade we have been exploring the production of multiple editions of materials, which is ravenously consuming

time. As an example, we are not only upgrading the workbooks in design, illustrations and content, but we have produced separate editions of the workbooks to accommodate the specific writing/print/cursive styles of the various Australian states. Our new production machine (alias photocopier) is able to produce the differing versions 'on demand' in high quality, professional saddle-stitched format. We are very pleased with the products produced so far, but there is much more to do before we are ready to launch the new edition materials.

At the time of writing we have production-ready versions of the 2020 phonogram cards, charts, and the first two workbooks, with the Manual in the final revision stage. We have also produced two new sets of readers which have been available for sale for several months now. We will have more news and availability for you early in the new year.



Registered Instructors

Recent studies continue to affirm synthetic or intensive phonics programs (such as LEM Phonics) provide the most effective method for teaching English. LEM is committed to this program as it represents a major opportunity to set the children of our nation on a much more productive course in their lives.

It grieves us to see the decline in educational standards in our nation and the resulting negative impact on our children. They deserve much better than is currently being offered in so many of our schools.

We are keen to see other Registered Instructors come on board to help spread the message across every state in the nation. LEM Phonics Instructors are franchised to LEM Phonics and are thus able to develop their own business and do as much or as little as they can manage.

We have had a new potential instructor begin advanced training this year and we would love to have others on board.

Rationalisation

We have been advising recently that we are planning to remove some materials from our catalogues as they seem to have fallen from favour in some circles. Previously we have removed Canon Press Latin and Bob Jones Booklinks. Last edition we advised of a clearance of Wordsworth Classics, which will continue in this edition.

In addition, we will not be restocking

Christian Liberty Press titles and we are offering many of them at discount prices. These materials are great value to any educational program and at clearance rates you should not miss out on stocking up!

As Christmas approaches many of our books make great gifts too — check out all our specials online or in the ‘book news’ section.

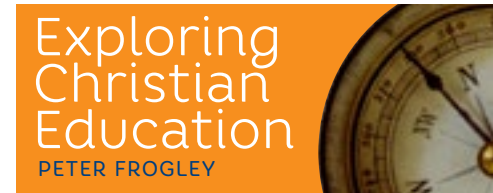
Orders for 2020

We encourage you to place orders for American curriculum early as we often run out of stock on certain items. We endeavour to hold adequate stock, but as you probably are aware in such matters Murphy’s Law commonly applies — people always order what we have just run out of!



Christmas
Closure

Our last day of
business for 2019
will be
Fri 20 December
and we will
re-open for
2020 on
Mon 13 January



No. 108: The Bright Hope for the Future

As we are confronted with so many challenges today, we have sought to identify the problems and point toward solutions.

But in the Christmas season this year, with what could seem to be quite a bleak outlook for the future, I would like to explore the positives of our situation.

Christianity stands in direct contrast to the world of sin in which we all live. As such it often seems impossible to separate ourselves from the unfortunate circumstances we face every day. But that is what believing faith is about — it is God’s way of lifting us above all that darkness to see that we live in the light of God. As days go by it seems our faith needs to increase in strength.

We can read and hear of the multitude of terrible things that are happening all around us; and that 80% of students lose their faith at university. Before we know it we have become doomsayers following Chicken Little with the certain expectation that the sky is about to fall. There are many Chicken Little followers and the number seems to be growing. If the chicken is

correct, we should all give up and wait patiently for the end — whatever that may be!

The promises of God, however, assure us of victory as a fruit of our obedience to the Lord. And if ever there was a time for us to Stand on the Promises (that we used to sing about), now is that time!

There was a time when Elijah thought he was the only faithful one left:

Then Elijah said to the people, ‘I alone am left a prophet of the LORD; but Baal’s prophets are four hundred and fifty men.’

1 Kings 18:22

As the story went on, Elijah was soon to discover he was not alone. So it is with us — we may feel alone, but rest assured the Lord has many servants who have not bowed the knee to foreign gods.

Elijah discovered he was but a few moments from momentous victory, and so too are we. The victory is not always what we expect, but that victory is the Lord’s and has nothing to do with our strength.

There may well be some tough days ahead, but our God is invincible. The Bible is replete with His enemies’ wicked activities, but none of them have ever bothered our God. And if He is not bothered, why should we be?

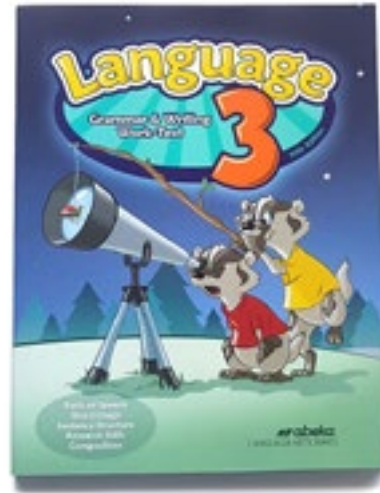
We can all look forward to a great year ahead. It may be difficult, it may present challenges beyond our capacity, but those are the times our God delights to show His mighty power in and through us. ■

Book Shop



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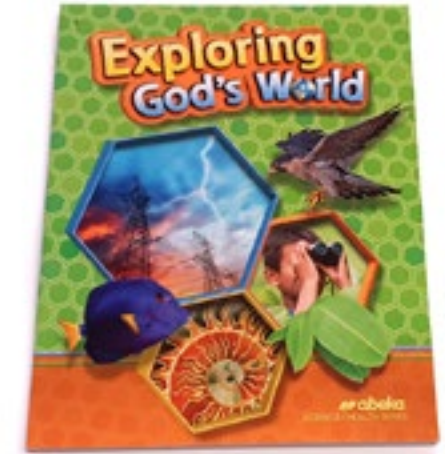
Student Text	\$42.75
Teacher Edition	\$64.15
Student Test Book	\$16.55
Teacher Key to Test Book	\$29.00



Arithmetic 3: 6th Edition

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LEM curriculum
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Did you know that you can search our online resources by supplier, subject, or grade level?

Those of you who remember that white thin stuff called ‘paper’ may recall the LEM *Curriculum Book*, which had a section at the front showing all the resources for each grade, sorted by subjects. This was particularly useful for curriculum planning because it answered the question ‘what’s available for my child’s age level?’

The ‘sort by grade’ function on our website answers the same question, allowing you to click through grades, then subjects, then see all the suppliers for those subjects. And, unlike the curriculum book, you can add them to your cart and order them straight away!

You can also ‘sort by subject’ which shows you an overview of all the suppliers of that particular subject, which you can click through to the various grade levels.

The sort button looks like this  and is located at the top of the menu in our web shop.

Happy browsing!

[Click here to visit
www.lem.com.au](http://www.lem.com.au)

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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