

# Susan Creek

COMPREHENSION GUIDE



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# SUSAN CREEK

Comprehension Guide by  
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Designed by  
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# SUSAN CREEK

## *How to use this Guide*

This guide is intended to help you study, understand, and enjoy Susan Creek. You might ask if a guide is really necessary to read a book. Is the student not just working to improve reading skills while being taught to enjoy reading a book? Certainly, it is the case that the more a child reads, the more he should improve his skills, but quantity is not the only issue. Once a child has received adequate phonetic training he should learn how to read a book. Most educators using this guide will be teaching children in the grammar stage, generally understood to be during the elementary years in a classical education. (For a thorough understanding of classical Christian education we recommend reading *Recovering the Lost Tools of Learning* or *The Case for Classical Christian Education*, both by Douglas Wilson.) The basic goals of reading in the grammar stage are as follows:

The student should be able to:

1. Fluently read a given selection orally.
2. Show an increased desire for reading.
3. Show comprehension on a literal and inferential level.
4. Demonstrate an increased vocabulary.
5. Identify basic Biblical values in the literature being read.
6. Identify various styles (myths, poems, fantasy, fiction, nonfiction, etc.)

Answers to the questions are found in

the back of the guide. The students' answers should be in complete sentences, and they should restate the question in their answer.

Example:

**Question:** Why was Jim left without a father?

**Answer:** Jim was without a father because he was killed in the Korean War.

Such writing practice trains the student to answer thoroughly, completely, and with proper grammar. Another reason is to encourage integration. We want students to understand that how they write something is as important as what they write. After the grammar stage, students enter the dialectic stage, where they develop an interest in logic, analysis and critical thinking. Susan Creek is a good book to start transitioning students into this stage.

You may wonder how to grade the student's work in this guide. Keep it simple. Unless otherwise indicated you should assume that each question is worth ten points.

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# SUSAN CREEK

## *Chapter One—An Odd Meeting*

1. John became annoyed after the mother and daughter he “ran” into did not accept his apologies. What word of advice from his father did he suddenly remember?

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2. What wisdom did John’s father show by not just giving him a job in one of his warehouses?

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3. Who grabbed the woman that John ran into earlier in the day?

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4. How did John help the mother and daughter escape?

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5. Why did John help the mother and daughter?

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# SUSAN CREEK

## *Chapter One, Page 2*

6. Where did John see the girl for the second time?

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7. What did John find out about the mother when he finally found her?

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8. What advice did the proprietor of the inn give the young girl?

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9. When John offered to help the girl what did the proprietor say? How did John respond?

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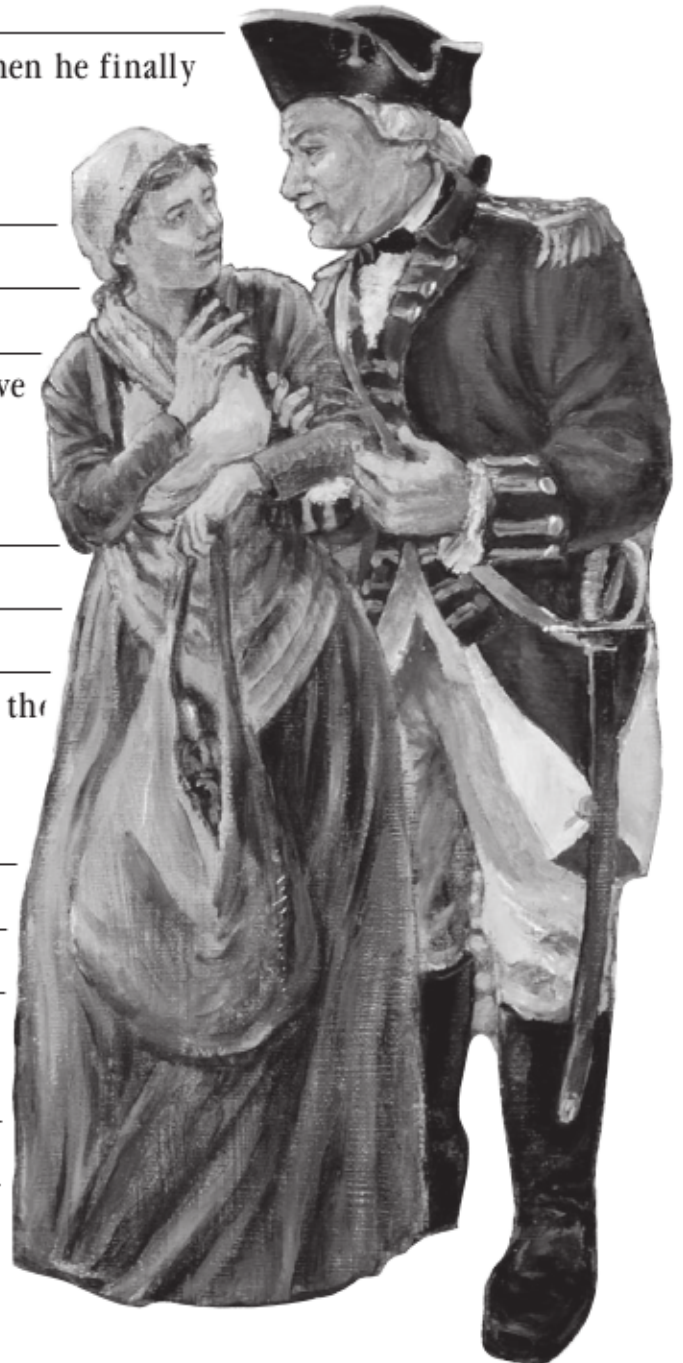
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10. What was the girl's name?

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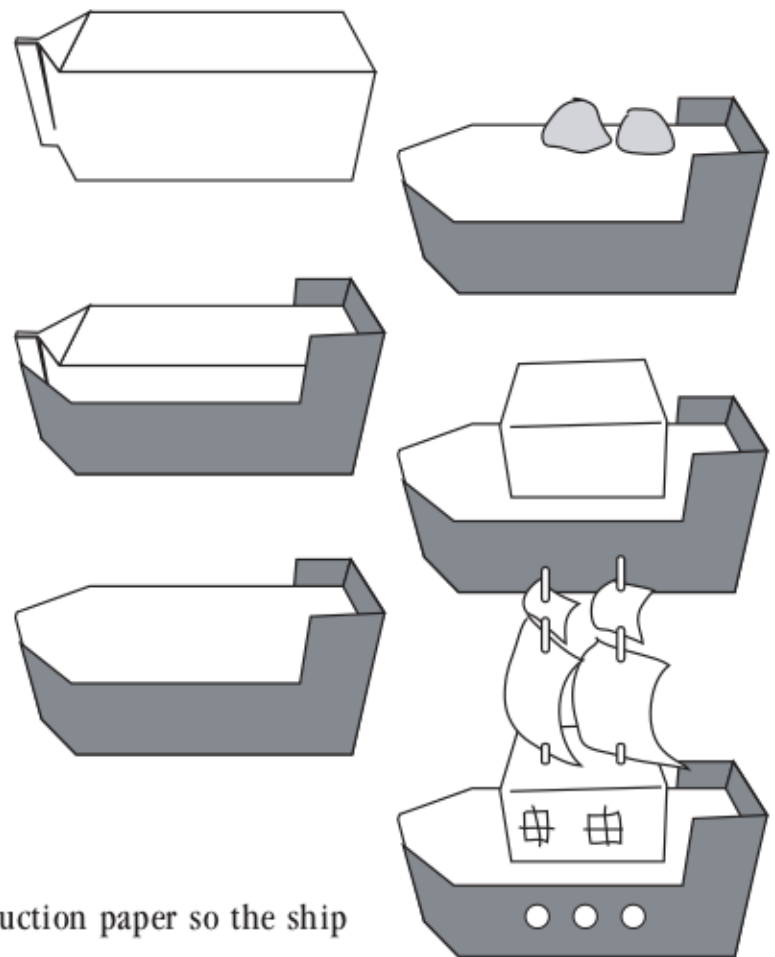
# SUSAN CREEK

## *Chapter One, Project—Merchant ships*

John had been apprenticed at the age of sixteen, to the captain of a tobacco merchant ship. There were a number of different kinds of ships that were used to carry cargo across the Atlantic to bring goods to the new world. One ship type was the Merchant Carrier. These vessels were 275 tons, 80-foot-long vessels that could cross the Atlantic in a month or less. These ships could carry cargo as well as passengers and required a crew of twenty or less.

The Chesapeake Bay in Maryland became an area for the development of ship building. The Chesapeake schooners were some of the mainstays of the area in the late 1700's. They had a fast sailing hull and were the predecessor of the Baltimore Clipper.

Using the basic directions below, do some research on merchant ships and then design one of your own.



### *Supplies*

2 milk cartons

2 straws

playdough

yellow, black and white  
construction paper

(or use craft foam instead of construction paper so the ship  
can float in water)

glue, scissors and tape

### *Instructions*

Tape a piece of construction paper about 1/2 way up the milk carton as shown in the photo to the right. Tape black construction paper all the way up the back of the milk carton, leaving about 1 inch sticking up over

# SUSAN CREEK

## *Chapter Two—Word Across the Water*

1. What was the name of the ship on which Jenny set sail?

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2. Why were there three ships bobbing about together on the water?

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3. What order did the captain give after finding out what was happening on the three ships?

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4. What did the preacher say about religion?

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5. In what church was John raised?

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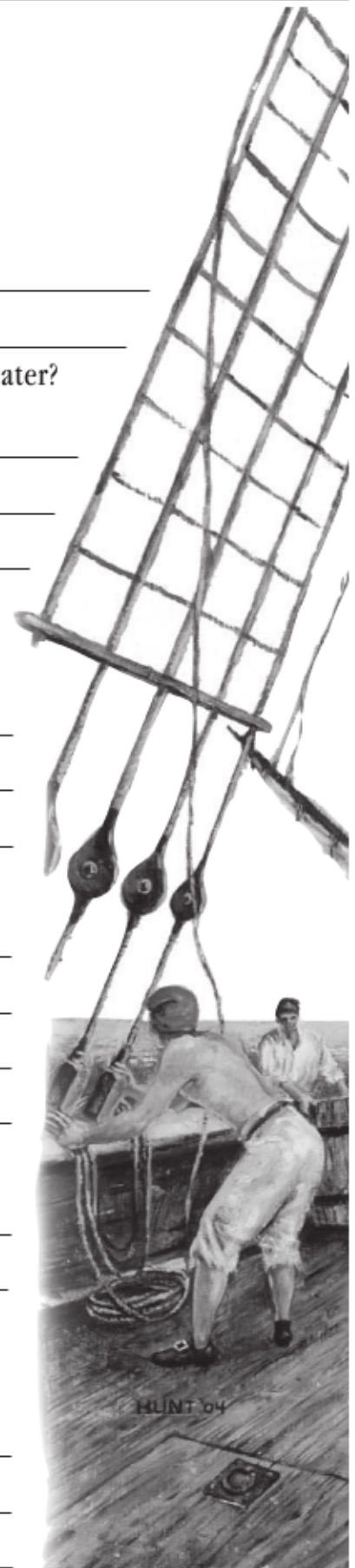
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6. Why did John think that he was not hearing anything new from the preacher, but rather hearing it in a fresh way?

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# SUSAN CREEK

## *Chapter Two, Page 2*

7. What was meant by “splendid sins?”

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8. What did John’s father tell him were two consolations in this sinful world?

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9. What did John know about the state of his soul?

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10. What was the name of the preacher?

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# SUSAN CREEK

## *Chapter Four—Explanations*

1. What was Henry's response to John when he said he probably should not see Jenny?

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2. What did John confess to Jenny?

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3. What did Jenny confess to John?

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4. Who did Jenny say was the only friend of her mother and her?

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5. Why didn't James Gunn deliver Major Hanson to the English?

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6. Why could Mr. Gunn not leave for America right away?

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7. Why did Mr. Gunn not want to take the papers from Jenny's mother?

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# SUSAN CREEK

## *Chapter Four, Page 2*

8. Why did John's heart start to rise?

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9. What did Jenny say caused her to trust John?

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10. What was Curtis's response when John apologized to him?

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# SUSAN CREEK

## Chapter Four, Project—Prince Charlie Report

Using resources available, either books or the internet, complete a report describing Bonnie Prince Charlie. Cut out each strip and glue into a manilla folder, completing the project with an illustration on the report cover.



*Date of birth:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Place of birth:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Died:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Father:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Date of birth:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Grandfather:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Name at birth:* \_\_\_\_\_

*In what church was he raised?* \_\_\_\_\_

*From whom did his grandfather flee?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



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