The purpose of these additional pages for the Good News Reader are to help with learning characters. I recommend the following books to help with stroke order. Chinese Character Dictionary with stroke order. A good example is the Cheng & Tsui Chinese Character Dictionary. This contains 2000 most frequently used works.
1. 上帝 Shàngdì  n. God [above-Emperor]

上【shàng】 upper; up; upward; higher; superior; better; first (part); preceding; previous; go up; mount; board; go to; leave for; submit; send in; present; forge ahead; go ahead; fill; supply; serve; set; fix; apply; paint; put on record; wind; screw; tighten.

帝【dì】 <religion> the Supreme Being; emperor.

2. 存在 Cúnzài  n. existence [to remain-to be there]

存【cún】 exist; live; survive; store; keep; accumulate; collect; deposit; leave with; check; reserve; retain; remain on balance; be in stock; cherish; harbor.

在【zài】 exist; be living; rest with; depend on.  In ; at or on; indicating action in progress.  (Adj)
3. 真的  Zhēnde  adv. really [true-de]
   真【zhēn】true; real; genuine; really; truly; indeed; clearly; unmistakably.

   的【de】<particle> (used after an attribute); (used to form a noun phases or nominal expression); (used after a verb or between a verb and its object to stress an element of the sentence); (used at the end of a declarative sentence for emphasis); (used to express the idea of 'of that kind').
   的【dí】true; really.

4. 中国  Zhōngguó  n. China [middle-country]
   中【zhòng】hit; fit exactly; be hit by; fall into; be affected by; suffer.
   中【zhōng】centre; middle; in; among; amidst; middle; mid; medium; intermediate; mean; halfway between two extremes; intermediary; in the process of; fit for; good for; <dialect> all right; O.K..
第一课

国【guó】country; state; nation; of the state; national; of our country; Chinese; a surname.

5. 对 dui adj. right

6. 信 xin v. to believe (in) [letter (=trust)]

7. 心 xīn n. heart

8. 里 lǐ in (the)…
9. 空虚 kōngxū  adj. empty [empty-void]
空【kòng】 leave empty or blank; unoccupied; vacant; empty space; free time; spare time.  

虚【xū】 void; emptiness; empty; unoccupied; different; in vain; false; nominal.

10. 因为yīnwèi conj. because [reason-for]
因【yīn】 <formal> follow; carry on; <formal> on the basis of; in accordance with; in light of; cause; reason; because of; as result of.

为【wèi】 <preposition> (for object); <preposition> (for cause); <preposition> (for purpose); <formal> stand for, support.
11. 知道 zhīdào v. to know [know-the way]
    知【zhī】 know; realize; be aware of; inform; notify; tell; knowledge; administer; be in charge of.

道【dào】 road, way, path; channel, course; way, path; doctrine, principle; Taoism, Taoist; superstitious sect; line; say, talk, speak; think, suppose.

12. 为什么 wèishénme why [for-what? (2)]
    什【shén】 what
    什【shí】 assorted; varied; miscellaneous; ten.
么【me】 interrogative particle.

13. 而 ér conj. here: connects a cause to the action it is the reason for

14. 生 shēng v. to be born n. life

15. 死 sǐ v. to die n. death

16. 爱 ài v. to love n. love
第一课

爱