

UNIT ONE

Lesson Two: The Old Testament

OBJECTIVES:

- Convey the truth that the Bible is God's Word.
- Understand how the Bible came to be.
- Know why the Bible is important in our lives.
- The Bible points us to Jesus, from Genesis through Revelation.

LESSON SUMMARY:

- Know the Bible has two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament.
- Know the Old Testament was written before Jesus came to earth.
- Know the first five books of the Bible were written by Moses.
- Know the Old Testament has several authors.

Materials Needed:

- A Bible for every student
- Colored pencils or Bible highlighters
- Picture cards: Jesus in the manger, world, hand showing 5, Jesus on a donkey
- Follow-up worksheet: Moses

Notes:

- > Isaiah 7:14, Micah 5:2, Isaiah 9:6 and Zechariah 9:9-10 are used in this lesson.
- > There are memory-helpers listed at the end of this lesson that can be inserted throughout the lesson.
- > The closing prayer includes prayer requests from the group.

Possible Adaptations:

- Preprint Bible verse stickers (Isaiah 7:17, Micah 5:2, Isaiah 9:6, Zechariah 9:9-10).
- Preset location of verses in students' Bibles using sticky notes.

LESSON:

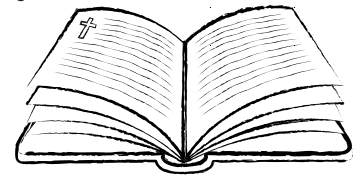
Have a Bible available for each student in your class. Encourage them to see it, feel it, write or draw in it, and make it their own during the lesson. The suggested version is NIV.

OPENING PRAYER:

Dear Heavenly Father, help us learn about Your Holy Word. Teach us that the Bible is Your true and only Word and there is nothing else that can take its place. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

NOTES FOR CLASS OR HOME

The Old Testament tells stories about God's people before Jesus came to earth.



The word

means something happened
in the past.



Name things that
happened in your past.

INTRODUCTION: *(Show Bible O/N picture card.)*

Today we will learn about the Old Testament and how it was written by many people before Jesus came to earth. (Show world and Jesus in manger picture cards and point in between to show "before Jesus was born.") The books of the Old Testament point to Jesus, our Savior. The Old Testament is part of the Bible, and we know "God's word is true!"

Open your Bible and look at the index. Look at the part that shows the Old Testament. Look at the first word on the list; it says Genesis. Genesis is a book in the Bible. Genesis is where we find the story of how God made the world.

How many books are in the Old Testament? Let's count!

The Old Testament has 39 books.

There is a lot of history in the Old Testament. Many of the books tell us about what happened to God's people before Jesus came to earth. The first five books of the Bible were written by Moses. *(Show the hand/five picture card.)* Look at the first five books of the Bible listed in the index of your Bible. Highlight the first five books in your index and label with the "Moses" sticker to help you remember.

Who wrote the first five books of the Old Testament?

Moses

There are many different people who wrote the books of the Old Testament, not just Moses. (If a review of Moses is needed, see the worksheet attached.)

Let's review. How many books are in the Bible?

- How many books did Moses write? There are 39 books in the Bible.
- Moses wrote the first five books.

In Lesson 1 we learned that many people wrote the books of the Bible, but each of those authors was chosen by God to write down God's words. We learned there are no mistakes in the Bible. We learned the Bible is the true Word of God. "God's Word is true!"

Even though Moses wrote the first five books of the Old Testament, who helped Moses write the correct words?

God inspired the writers, leading their thoughts.

Let's look in the Old Testament to find where God told us Jesus was coming to save us. God tells us in the Old Testament what will happen. The Old Testament points us to Jesus. Here are some examples:

- **Read & Highlight Isaiah 7:14.** Think about the Christmas story. In the Old Testament we hear about how Jesus will be born to Mary. We hear one of Jesus' names: Immanuel. *(Reread the verse.) (Show Jesus in the manger picture card.)*
- **Read & Highlight Micah 5:2.** In this verse God tells us Jesus was going to be born in Bethlehem.
- **Read & Highlight Isaiah 9:6.** God tells us Jesus will be born for us. This verse also tells us some names for Jesus.
- **Read & Highlight Zechariah 9:9-10.** God tells us about Palm Sunday. God tells us about Jesus riding into Jerusalem riding on a donkey. *(Show Jesus on the donkey picture card.)*

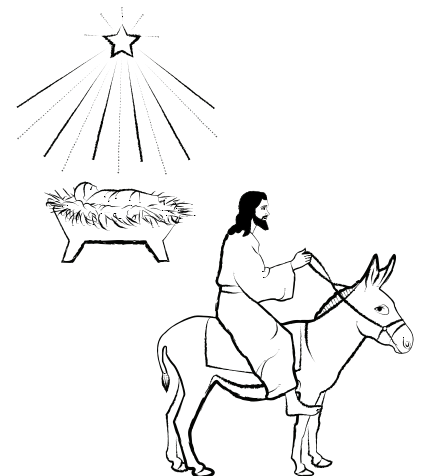
NOTES FOR CLASS OR HOME

Moses wrote 
books of the Bible.


inspired

the Bible. God led the
thoughts of the writers.

Jesus
= Immanuel
the name Immanuel means
"God with us."



God made sure everything we needed to know about Him is in the Bible.

The Bible has no mistakes and it is true. "God's Word is true!" The Old Testament tells us about God and His people before Jesus was born. Even though the Old Testament was written before Jesus was born on earth, it still points us to Jesus.

REVIEW

1. The Bible has two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament.
2. The Old Testament was written before Jesus came to earth.
3. The Old Testament was written by several people with God's help.
4. Moses wrote the first five books of the Old Testament.

(Before praying, take prayer requests from the group.)

CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God, thank You for the great gift of Your Bible. Help us to be like the writers of the Bible and share Your good news about Jesus with everyone we meet. Help us remember Your Gospel message. Thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross to save us from the punishment we deserve. Thank You for keeping Your promises to us. Today we'd like to pray for *[insert prayer requests here]*. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Tune of Thank You

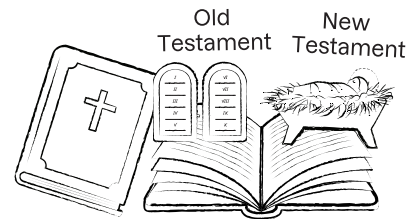
Thank You, for giving me the Bible
Thank You, because I know it's true.
Thank You, for giving me the Bible
I know that it's true.

-or-

John 17:17 Chant:

Your Word (clap, clap)
Is Truth (clap, clap)
John 17 (clap, clap)
17 (clap, clap)

NOTES FOR CLASS OR HOME



PRAYER REQUESTS

UNIT ONE

ALTERNATE LESSON

Lesson Two: The Old Testament

OBJECTIVES:

- Convey the truth that the Bible is God's Word.
- Understand that God's Word is true.

LESSON SUMMARY:

Know the Old Testament was written before Jesus came to earth.

Materials Needed:

- A Bible
- Picture cards: Jesus in manger, world, heaven

If applicable: consider having the original student worksheet available for staff or volunteers who may be assisting the group. It is a good source for background knowledge, especially if questions arise at a later time.

OPENING PRAYER:

Dear Heavenly Father, help us learn about Your Holy Word, the Bible. Teach us that the Bible is Your true and only Word and there is nothing else that can take its place. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LESSON

Today we will learn about the Old Testament and how it was written by many people before Jesus came to earth. The Old Testament is part of the Bible, and we know that "God's Word is true!"

LESSON:

(Use the picture card of Jesus in the manger to help with statements below.)

This is my Bible. If you look here you can see that everything at the front of the Bible is the Old Testament, and everything at the back of the Bible is the New Testament. The Old Testament tells us stories before Jesus was born. The New Testament tells us stories after Jesus was born.

(Use picture cards of world, Jesus in the manger and heaven as you talk about each one, put them in order and point each time.)

Here is a picture of the world. God created the world. Here is a picture of Jesus in the manger. Jesus was born on Christmas Day. Here is a picture of heaven. Some day we will live in heaven with Jesus. When you look at our pictures, you see the world, then the manger, then heaven – 1st, 2nd, 3rd.

Look at the three pictures. We have God creating the world, Jesus being born, us living in heaven someday with Jesus. Now look at Jesus in the manger. Which picture comes before Jesus was born? The world —yes, God made the world before Jesus was born.

Look at Jesus in the manger again. Which picture comes after Jesus was born? Heaven- yes, someday we will live in heaven. Heaven comes after our time on earth. *(Point to the space between the manger and the heaven picture.)* This is the place, after Jesus was born, where the New Testament was written. The New Testament is part of the Bible and we know "God's Word is true!"

Tune of Thank You

Thank You, for giving me the Bible
Thank You, because I know it's true.
Thank You, for giving me the Bible
I know that it's true.

-or-

John 17:17 Chant:

Your Word (clap, clap)
Is Truth (clap, clap)
John 17 (clap, clap)
17 (clap, clap)

CLOSING PRAYER: *(Before praying, take prayer requests from the group.)*

Dear God, thank You for the great gift of Your Bible. It helps us learn about You and how You want us to live our lives. We know the Bible is true; thank You! Today we'd like to pray for *[insert prayer requests here]*. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.