

UNIT ONE

Lesson Three: The New 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 New Testament was written about Jesus and His people.
- Know the Easter story is in the New Testament.
- Know the New Testament has several authors.

Materials Needed:

- A Bible for every student
- Colored pencils or Bible highlighters
- Picture cards: Jesus in the manger, heaven, world, crown, Jesus on a donkey, Jesus on cross, empty tomb
- Follow-up worksheet: Old and New Testaments

Notes:

- > There are stickers for this lesson: The Gospels, Luke 2:5-7, Matthew 2:1, Matthew 21:7-9, John 3:16, Ephesians 2:8, Matthew 28:5-6.
- > 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 sticker: The Gospels.
- Preprint stickers: Luke 2:5-7, Matthew 2:1, Matthew 21:7-9, John 3:16, Ephesians 2:8, Matthew 28:5-6.
- Preset location of verses in students' Bibles using sticky notes.

LESSON:

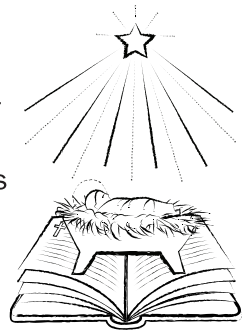
Have a Bible available for each student in your class. Encourage them to see it, feel it, write or draw in it, and make it their own during the lesson. The suggested version is NIV.

OPENING PRAYER:

Dear Heavenly Father, help us learn about Your Holy Word, 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.

NOTES FOR CLASS OR HOME

The New
Testament
is filled
with stories
about
JESUS



What is your favorite
story about Jesus?

The first
books of the

New Testament tell the

GOSPEL message



INTRODUCTION:

Today we will learn about the New Testament and how it was written by many people after Jesus was born. (Show world, Jesus in manger and the heaven picture cards and point in between the manger and heaven to show “after Jesus was born.”) The books of the New Testament point to Jesus, our Savior, and tell how He died on the cross to save us from our sins. The New Testament also tells about heaven. When we read the New Testament, we know that “God’s Word is true!”

Open your Bible and look at the index. Look at the part that shows the New Testament. Look at the first word on the list; it says Matthew. Matthew is a book in the New Testament. Matthew is the first place we hear about Baby Jesus.

(Show Jesus in the manger picture card.)

How many books are in the New Testament? Let’s count!

The New Testament has 27 books.

The Gospel message is in the New Testament. The Gospel message tells us Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins. Because of Jesus, we are forgiven. Because of Jesus, we can live in heaven someday. The first four books of the New Testament are called the Gospels because they tell us the Gospel message about Jesus, and we know “God’s Word is true!”

Look at the index in your Bible. What are the first four books of the New Testament?

The first books of the New Testament are Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Highlight then label these four books: The Gospel with the “The Gospels” sticker. In Lesson 1 we learned 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 Matthew, Mark, Luke and John wrote books in the Bible, others wrote books, too.

Who helped the authors write the correct words?

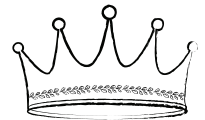
Let’s look in the New Testament to find what important things Jesus did for us. The New Testament points us to Jesus.

- **Read & Highlight Luke 2:5-7.** Jesus was born here on earth to save us. *(Show picture card of the world.)*
- **Read & Highlight Matthew 2:1.** In this verse God tells us Jesus is born in Bethlehem. *(Show picture card of Jesus in the manger.)*
- **Read & Highlight Matthew 21:7-9.** God tells us Jesus is our King. *(Show picture card of the crown.)* Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey just before He dies on a cross to save us from our sins. *(Show picture card of Jesus on the donkey.)*
- **Read & Highlight John 3:16:** Jesus died on the cross *(Show picture card of Jesus on the cross.)* and rose from death *(Show picture card of the empty tomb.)* so we can live in heaven with Him someday. *(Show picture card of heaven.)*
- **Read & Highlight Ephesians 2:8:** God forgives us because Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins. We can’t be forgiven in any other way. *(Show picture card of Jesus on the cross.)*
- **Read & Highlight Matthew 28:5-6.** Jesus has risen from the dead. *(Show picture card of the empty tomb.)* Here, in the New Testament, is where God tells us the Easter story.

NOTES FOR CLASS OR HOME

GOD inspired

the Bible. God led the
thoughts of the writers.



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 New Testament tells us about Jesus and how He died on the cross to save us from our sins. When we believe in Jesus, we are forgiven. When we believe in Jesus, we can live in heaven with Him someday. The New Testament points us to Jesus.

REVIEW

1. The Bible has two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament.
2. The New Testament was written after Jesus came to earth.
3. The New Testament was written by several people with God's help.
4. The first four books of the New Testament are called the Gospel.
5. The Easter story can be found in the New Testament.

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

CLOSING PRAYER:

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. Help us be like the writers of the Bible and share Your good news about Jesus with everyone we meet. Today we'd like to pray for [insert prayer requests here]. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Tune of Thank You

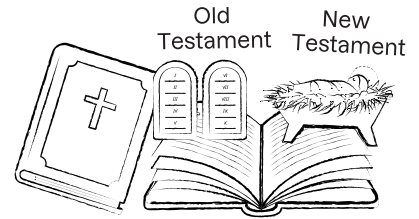
Thank You, for giving me the Bible
Thank You, because I know it's true.
Thank You, for giving me the Bible
I know that it's true.

-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 Three: The New Testament

OBJECTIVES:

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

LESSON SUMMARY:

Know the New Testament was written after 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 New Testament and how it was written by many people after Jesus was born on earth. The New 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 on earth.

(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.