

GENESIS AND EXODUS

MBC Course #2



Leader's Guide

Dear Teacher,

The Apostle Paul told Timothy, his son in the faith: “You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus” (2 Timothy 2:1-3).

I want to give you this same word of encouragement and let you know how grateful we are to God for your partnership as together we nurture and help the church grow. As we move through the study I want you to be asking yourself and your group the following questions:

- What does the Word of God say?
- What does this passage mean?
- What does this passage mean to me? How can I apply God’s eternal principles to my life today?

If you have these three questions in mind and search for their answers, then this course will be truly fruitful and profitable in your life. I trust that as we study Genesis and Exodus and then as you teach it, you will grow in the knowledge of God and in your relationship with His Son, Christ Jesus, as you come to better understand His plan for the world and you. The thoughts and ideas given in this introduction are to help you be more effective in your study and teaching.

It is my prayer that the experience of this study will be a defining moment in your spiritual life and will lay a strong foundation for continued growth in your life and in the lives of those you will be teaching.

Praying for His blessing upon you,

Dick Woodward
Pastor and author of the Mini Bible College

Leading the Bible Study Group

The Mini Bible College has prepared this devotionally practical survey of the foundational books of the Bible. Your role as teacher is to guide your group through the study sessions and exercises, helping them to understand the concepts, discover the eternal principles and, most importantly, apply them to their lives. This is a survey study that will take almost four months and is designed to be more than just a course. This study is part of a strategic plan to provide you with the tools to nurture and grow your church both spiritually and numerically.

To help you we have provided the following tools:

- The Leader's Guide
- A Targeted Media Approach (TMA) manual
- Report forms
- Audio of Genesis and Exodus
- A study booklet on Genesis and Exodus
- A Set of 10 workbooks

This Leader's Guide is designed to equip you for this task.

GETTING STARTED

Before Class

- “ ‘Go to the street corners and **invite to the banquet anyone you find.**’ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.” (Matthew 22:9-10). Start now to personally invite people to come to this spiritual banquet.
- Prepare yourself in prayer for those who will attend. If possible, pray for them by name. Only God can change the hearts of people, and prayer is the most powerful tool. “Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that **they should always pray and not give up**” (Luke 18:1).
- Ask for help. Do not try to do everything yourself. Invite one or two individuals to help with music, singing, greeting, and keeping records for the class.
- Review the lesson and understand the lesson objective.
- Become familiar with the material; listen, read and study each lesson and memorize the Bible verse before class time.
- Be sure all materials are ready for each class.
- Make sure the meeting area is adequate and comfortable for the class.

During Class

- Greet everyone as they arrive. (Remember how nice it is when you are welcomed? Extend God's welcome to all.) It is important to have someone to serve as the greeter.
- Introduce people to one another if they are not already acquainted.
- Open with a time of worship and prayer, asking God to help you and each one understand and apply the lesson to your lives.

- Listen to the audio lesson.
- Work through the workbook, inviting discussion with a focus on application. We trust the questions will raise interesting discussion and understanding that will lead to application. If the group is too large, consider dividing it into smaller groups of three to five people to encourage discussion. Be sure to monitor the time and be careful that the conversation does not detract from the focus of the lesson and the study of God's Word.
- Thank all for coming and encourage attendance to the next class.
- Challenge the students to invite others to join the Bible study.
- Encourage the students to memorize the biblical passages of the lessons each week.

After Class

- Gather up all materials.
- Restore the meeting room to the proper order. Leave things more orderly than you found them.
- Fill out and file report forms.
- If you are meeting in someone's home, be sure to thank them for their hospitality.

Special Instructions for Teaching the Auditory Learners

It is important to remember that those who cannot read and write learn and retain information differently than those of us who are literate. The auditory learners learn from listening and telling what they have heard. Illiteracy was not an obstacle in Jesus' day. It is helpful to remember and even tell those in your class that most of the disciples and the majority of the people who first shared and spread the Gospel were not literate.

In many ways, auditory learners have a greater capacity to learn what they hear than we who must write something down to remember it. Thus, take the time to allow your students to hear the Scripture and the lessons, pausing the message and even going back to listen again to a portion if it was not understood, and then allow them to respond to questions. When auditory learners can "story back" – tell in their own words what they have heard and learned – it indicates that they have properly grasped the principle. Therefore, use the study questions to guide the study time as it will help in the learning process. Ask the questions out loud and encourage all to participate and this will lead them into a deeper understanding of God's Word and a stronger relationship with His Son, Jesus the Christ.

A Word about Old Testament Survey Lessons 0-1 to 0-3

As you prepare to lead a small group through the study of the Old Testament, you will need to be aware of the following: First, the OTS lessons 0-1 through 0-3 are descriptive and foundational in nature, and the systematic study of the Old Testament actually begins with lesson OTS-04. As you guide your group(s) through OTS-01 through 0-3, you will find that the focus is heavily on the reasons that God provided us with the Old Testament Scriptures – mainly, to communicate with us and to point us toward the coming of His son and His plan for our salvation. In addition, the author of MBC focuses on describing and acquainting us with the Bible's content, its context, its organization, and its historical perspective, as well as on presenting recommendations to

enhance our understanding of the Scriptures. Finally, he provides guidelines on how we should study the Bible. For each of these reasons you should not omit the study of OTS lessons 01 through 0-3. There is a richness of information found in these lessons that you will not want to miss.

You will also find in lesson OTS-01 that other, supplementary tools are recommend for use, such as additional translations of the Bible, a Bible Dictionary, a Concordance (helpful in doing topical studies of the Bible), and perhaps a Bible handbook to help guide your study. Although these additional resources are helpful, they are in no way essential to your study of the Mini Bible College, so you should not be dismayed if you do not have them, nor should you feel pressured to try to obtain them. In many locations throughout the world, such materials can be very difficult to obtain. Nevertheless, the success of your MBC study groups will not be hampered in any way if you do not have these materials.

What is the Bible?

Chapter 1

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson one



Objective: To understand what the Bible is and how it is organized.



The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us to do what is right. It is God's way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone.

—2 Timothy 3:16-17

The Holy Bible is actually a collection of books – sixty-six of them. The word “Bible” comes from the Latin word for “books,” and the word “holy” means “that which belongs to God” or “that which comes from God.” So the Holy Bible is literally a collection of books coming from God.

About forty men wrote the books of the Bible over a period of 1,500 years. They assure us that these are the words of God Himself, inspired by His Spirit and penned by human beings. The writers were “carried” by the Spirit as a boat is carried by the tide or the wind in its sails.

The sixty-six books of the Bible are arranged by type and message. The two main divisions are Old Testament and New Testament. The message of the Old Testament is Jesus is coming; will you believe in Him? The message of the New Testament is Jesus came; will you trust Him? The Old Testament tells how, through the coming of the redeemer, God will reconcile the “divorce” – the spiritual separation - between God and His creatures. The New Testament tells us how God reconciled the divorce: Jesus came and we must believe in Him and trust Him for our sins to be eternally forgiven and our relationship with a Holy God to be reconciled.

The Old Testament has five kinds of books: five books of Law, twelve books of History, five books of Poetry, four Major Prophets (one of them wrote two books), and twelve Minor Prophets.

The New Testament also has five kinds of books: four biographies of Jesus (the Gospels), one history book (Acts), thirteen epistles of Paul, eight general epistles, and one book of prophecy (Revelation).



The Bible

Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. What do we mean when we call the Bible “holy”?
 - a. Only holy people should read it.
 - b. It comes from God.**
 - c. It is too hard to understand.
 - d. Everyone who wrote it was perfect.
2. What does 2 Timothy 3:16-17 say about the Bible?
 - a. It is inspired by God.
 - b. It is useful for correction.
 - c. It teaches us righteousness.
 - d. It equips us for good works.
 - e. All of the above.**
3. When people wrote the books of the Bible, where did their thoughts come from?
 - a. Their own creativity and understanding.
 - b. Tradition.
 - c. They did a lot of study research.
 - d. They were “carried” by the Holy Spirit of God. He breathed His thoughts into them.**

4. **True** or false? Jesus is the living Word of God, and the Bible is the written Word of God.

The Old Testament

The Old Testament tells us how human beings rebelled (sinned) and why there is separation between God and us – all mankind. The divorce between God and men is the fundamental problem with which all of Scripture deals. The primary message of the Old Testament is Jesus is coming to reconcile us to God.

Law	History	Poetry	Prophecy
Genesis	Joshua	Job	<i>Major Prophets</i>
Exodus	Judges	Psalms	Isaiah
Leviticus	Ruth	Proverbs	Jeremiah
Numbers	1 Samuel	Ecclesiastes	Lamentations
Deuteronomy	2 Samuel	Song of Solomon	Ezekiel
	1 King		Daniel
	2 King		<i>Minor Prophets</i>
	1 Chronicles		Hosea
	2 Chronicles		Joel
	Ezra		Amos
	Nehemiah		Obadiah
	Esther		Jonah
			Micah
			Nahum
			Habakkuk
			Zephaniah
			Haggai
			Zechariah
			Malachi

5. True or **false**? The Old Testament is arranged chronologically – arranged in the order they were written.

6. **True** or false? The Old Testament books are divided into five different categories.

7. **True** or false? The main difference between the Major Prophets and the Minor Prophets is the length of their writings.

8. Draw a line from each of the following categories to the corresponding number of books it has:

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|--------|
| a. Law | → | i. 5 |
| b. History | → | ii. 5 |
| c. Poetry | → | iii. 5 |
| d. Major Prophets | → | iv. 12 |
| e. Minor Prophets | → | v. 12 |

9. In which type of book did God first tell His people the difference between right and wrong?

LAW

(**L**aw, History, Poetry, Major Prophets, Minor Prophets)

10. The primary message of the Old Testament is

- a. Man needs to obey God's laws and live a perfect life to be acceptable to a perfect God.
- b. God is love and will bless all men.
- c. Jesus is coming, and He is going to reconcile the separation between God and His creatures.**
- d. Not important. Only the New Testament is important.

The New Testament

The New Testament tells us of the life of Jesus – His miracles, His teachings, and His crucifixion and resurrection. It also tells us how the Holy Spirit came into the lives of believers and what the early church was like. More than half of the New Testament consists of letters written to churches established after the Resurrection. Most of these letters were written by Paul.

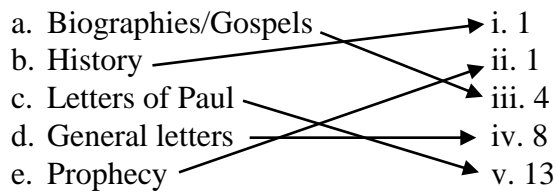
<u>History</u>	<u>Pauline Letters</u>	<u>General Letters</u>	<u>Prophecy</u>
Matthew	Romans	Hebrews	Revelation
Mark	1 Corinthians	James	
Luke	2 Corinthians	1 Peter	
John	Galatians	2 Peter	
Acts	Ephesians	1 John	
	Philippians	2 John	
	Colossians	3 John	
	1 Thessalonians	Jude	
	2 Thessalonians		
	1 Timothy		
	2 Timothy		
	Titus		
	Philemon		

11. **True** or false? The primary message of the New Testament is that Jesus came.

12. True or **false**? The New Testament is the only part of the Bible about Jesus.

13. **True** or false? Biographies of Jesus in the Bible are called “Gospels.”

14. Draw a line from each of the following categories to the corresponding number of books it has:



15. In which type of book is the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection found? **Gospels**
(Gospels, History, Letters of Paul, General letters, Prophecy)



In the message we heard, what story do the Old and New Testaments have in common?
What does this tell you about the importance of this subject? Why is the study of this subject important to you?



Praise God for His Word and ask Him how to know and love Him more by studying His Word. Ask Him to help you understand what it says, what it means, and how to apply His Word to your life each day.



Going Deeper

1. Based on what Paul wrote to Timothy, what are some of the objectives of the Word of God?

2. How should the objectives in question #1 impact the way we value applying what we find in the Bible? _____

3. What kind of truth should we expect to find in the Bible? (Discuss John 17:17; 7:17) _____

4. When we find truth in the Bible, how important is it that we should know what to do with it? Why? _____

5. What is your own personal definition of inspiration as it applies to the Word of God? _____

6. How should you expect the Word of God be changing your life as you read it? _____

7. Is the purpose of God's Word to bless us or to make us a blessing? Explain. _____

8. What is the fundamental problem addressed by the Old Testament? _____

9. What is the Old Testament really all about? (Can you answer in three words?) _____

10. How should we approach the five different kinds of books in the Old Testament? _____

11. Why should we study Hebrew history? (Discuss 1 Corinthians 10:11) _____

12. Is there any history in the Law Books? Explain. _____

13. Imagine a nation with no laws at all. Describe what it would be like. _____

14. When you go to church, would you rather hear a Major or a Minor prophet? Why? Explain how they differ and how they are alike. _____

15. In two words, what is the New Testament really all about? _____

16. Why are the first four books of the New Testament called “Gospels”? In what ways are they more than biographies? _____

17. In what ways are the Letters of Paul different from the General Letters? _____

18. How does the book of Acts prepare us for our study of the New Testament letters? _____

19. Just as there is history in the Law Books, you will find history in the Gospels, the letters, and in Revelation. Should we approach these historical passages as we are instructed to approach history in the Old Testament? (1 Corinthians 10:11) Why or why not? _____

20. What is a key that Jesus gave us to all of the Scriptures? (Discuss John 5:39, 40) _____

21. What are the five kinds of books that are found in the New Testament? _____

The Purpose of the Bible

Chapter 2

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson two



Objective: To understand how the Bible came to be and why God gave it to us.



No prophecy recorded in the Scripture was ever thought up by the prophet himself, for the prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

—2 Peter 1:21

From beginning to end, the Bible is mainly about Jesus Christ. In support of this theme, the Bible has four main purposes: (1) to present Jesus Christ as the Savior and Redeemer of the world; (2) to provide for us the historical context in which Jesus came; (3) to lead the unbeliever into faith in Jesus; and (4) to show believers how God wants us to live.

The Bible was written by God. It is a special kind of revelation that is now complete. It is no longer being written and added to. God used some 40 different men to write the Bible. There were all kinds: kings, fishermen, priests, shepherds, generals, and even a fig picker.

The Old Testament was officially compiled in about the year AD 100, although it had already been used for several centuries. The books were included based on the reliability of their human authors and their reputation as prophets or scribes. They were written in Hebrew.

The New Testament books were selected and compiled in about AD 692, although they had already been used for centuries too. They were selected on three criteria: if an apostle or close associate of an apostle wrote it; if it had spiritual content that ministered grace to believers; and if it agreed with the other inspired books and if Church leaders unanimously agreed that it was inspired. The New Testament was written in Greek.



Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. True or **false**? The Bible is a handbook on how to live a good moral life.
2. **True** or false? The Bible narrows its story line after the first few chapters of Genesis to focus on Abraham and his descendants.
3. True or **false**? According to the Bible, Jesus Christ was sent to bless only Abraham and his descendants.
4. Which of the following best describes the Bible?
 - a. a history of civilization
 - b. a science textbook
 - c. a philosophy book
 - d. a history of redemption**
5. In Luke 24:25-27, Jesus told his disciples that the main character in all of Scripture was who?
 - a. Himself**
 - b. Moses
 - c. Adam
 - d. David

“Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.”
—Luke 24: 27
6. In the Gospels, the biographies of Jesus, which event is written about more than all others?
 - a. His birth
 - b. His first 30 years
 - c. His public ministry
 - d. His last week, including the cross and resurrection**
7. What kinds of men wrote the books of the Bible?

(Nobles, kings, farmers, fishermen, prophets, priests, government employees, physician, generals, tax collectors)
8. What records do we have of the Bible today?
 - a. the original manuscripts
 - b. very accurate copies carefully preserved**
 - c. copies that are similar to the originals, but not fully accurate
 - d. copies that have been changed many times over the centuries
9. When personal revelation (God’s word to an individual) contradicts special revelation (the Bible), which is right?
 - a. special revelation**
 - b. personal revelation
 - c. It depends on the situation.
 - d. We cannot really know.

10. How can we really know if the Bible is truly the Word of God?

- a. We cannot.
- b. We have to do a lot of research.
- c. Everyone who reads it will know right away.
- d. If we have the will to obey and to do what it says, it will change our life, and we will know it is the Word of God.**



Remember in the message when we talked about revelation? What is the difference between general revelation and the kind of inspiration called “special revelation”? How does God reveal His truth to us today?



Praise God for this Bible Study. Pray that God would teach you many things and how to apply His eternal truth to your life. Ask God to bring many to Himself who do not know Him as the One and only true God through this study, and ask Him who you should invite to be a part of this study.



Going Deeper

1. In Luke 24: 25-27; 44, 45, what was the truth Jesus shared with the apostles that opened their understanding of the Scriptures? How could that truth open your understanding of the Bible? (See also John 5: 39, 40) _____

2. How can you relate this to the observation that, when we reach chapter 12 of the book of Genesis, the rest of the Bible is all about Abraham and his progeny, through whom all the nations of the world were to be blessed? _____

3. How did Jesus challenge us to prove that His teaching is the teaching of God? (John 7:17) How should that influence the way you prove that not only His teaching but the entire Bible is the inspired Word of God? _____

4. In addition to looking for Christ all the way through the Bible, what else should we look for as we read the Bible? (Consider or discuss John 17:17) _____

5. Knowing what we know about how long paper lasts, what had to happen so that we could have the Bible today? _____

6. Give and explain four purposes of the Bible. _____

7. In the four Gospels, explain how we know what was the most important week in the life of Jesus Christ and why? _____

How to Study the Bible

Chapter 3

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson three



Objective: To learn how to study the Bible and to apply its truths to life.



Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

—James 1:22

How do we get the most out of the Bible? If we study the Bible carefully and with wisdom and obey it, God will use it to change our lives. However, if we simply learn what Scripture says and do not apply it, our study is meaningless. Information without application is worthless.

Effective Bible study is a three-part process: observation, interpretation, and application. In other words, when we come to God's Word we ask ourselves these three questions: "What does it say?" "What does it mean?" and "What does it mean to me?" As you take these three steps in your study, also apply the following principles:

1. Even when there is only one interpretation of a verse, there may be a thousand applications. Do not expect the Holy Spirit to apply the verse to someone else's life exactly as He applies it to your life.
2. The Bible is a book about Jesus, so look for Him all the way through Scripture as you study.
3. Always interpret puzzling verses in light of verses that have a clear meaning.
4. Never come to a passage of Scripture with your mind already made up as to what it means.
5. Always approach the Word of God prayerfully, asking Him to teach you.
6. Be willing to obey Scripture before you teach it to others.
7. Always consider the context of any passage, observing who wrote it and to whom, and the historical circumstances and events that help us understand the passage.
8. Be humble and willing to admit there are some passages you do not understand.



If you follow these principles, God will use the Bible powerfully to transform your life. The first book of the Bible helps us understand our world and ourselves as we were intended to be and as we are now. “Genesis” literally means “beginning.” In Genesis, we learn about the first sin, we see how God first communicated with man, we begin to understand how conflict came into this world, we learn of God’s judgment and also of His salvation for us. Story after story in Genesis shows us that God is in charge and that faith in Him reconciles us with Him.

Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. **True** or false? Observation is the first step in studying any passage of Scripture.
2. **True** or false? If we do not apply what we have learned, our study has not accomplished very much.
3. **True** or false? The first book of the Bible describes the beginning of the world.
4. True or **false**? Most of the book of Genesis describes how perfect life was for the first human beings before sin entered the world.
5. How can we prove that the Word of God is true?
 - a. by intellectual reason
 - b. by how we feel when we read it
 - c. by believing and doing it**
 - d. by reading it in the original languages
6. Why did God give us the Bible?
 - a. because He wants to communicate with us
 - b. because He wants us to have abundant life
 - c. because He loves us
 - d. all of the above**
7. What is the best reason to study the Bible?
 - a. It brings good luck.
 - b. to hear God’s voice**
 - c. to show how much we know
 - d. to learn about history
8. Draw a line from each step of Bible study to the question we ask in that step.

a. observation	→	i. What does it mean to me?
b. interpretation	→	ii. What does it say?
c. application	→	iii. What does it mean?

9. Which of the following questions are helpful to ask in the application part of our study?
- a. Are there any warnings to heed?
 - b. Are there any sins to forsake?
 - c. Are there any examples to follow?
 - d. Are there any truths about God or Jesus?
 - e. all of the above**
10. What is the best way to interpret difficult verses?
- a. Try to understand what new doctrine God wants us to explore.
 - b. Choose the easiest explanation over the most difficult.
 - c. Do not try to understand them at all. Only pastors can understand God's Word.
 - d. Pray and ask God to help you understand and allow the rest of Scripture guide your thinking.**
11. Which of the following is a safeguard against misinterpretation?
- a. Make up your own mind as to what a passage probably means.
 - b. Expect each verse to have only one application.
 - c. Try to understand the context of each passage.**
 - d. Let each book of the Bible speak for itself, rather than trying to understand how it relates to the other books.
12. Who is your best Bible teacher?
- a. the Holy Spirit**
 - b. your pastor
 - c. your family
 - d. the traditions of your culture



In light of what Genesis tells us about the origins of humanity and the first sin, how does this help us understand mankind's situation today?



Praise God for His Word and that you have this opportunity to study. Pray and ask God to teach you all He wants you to learn and how to apply the truths of His Word to your life. Ask God to help you to hear, understand, and obey. Ask God to help you know Him and His Word better, and be a strong witness to your family and friends who do not know Him.



Going Deeper

1. Explain precisely what we mean by observation. _____

2. Give several examples of principles we must follow as our observation leads to interpretation.

3. Discuss the importance of application and of how meaningful application depends upon accurate observation and interpretation. _____

4. Who should be your Teacher when you study the Word of God? (Consider 1 Corinthians 2: 9-16) _____

5. Explain how correlation and relating the passages we study to the rest of the Bible might help us better understand the Scripture we are studying. _____

6. What is the purpose of the book of Genesis? _____

7. In what way did Jesus show us how to interpret and apply the book of Genesis? (Consider Matthew 19: 3-6) _____

Is Creation Credible?

Chapter 4

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson four



Objective: To understand how the biblical story of creation and science relate to each other.



In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

—Genesis 1:1

There are two extreme views on the subject of creation. One extreme is the belief that the creation account in Genesis is not scientifically reliable, so the Bible cannot be accepted as true or be inspired by God. The other extreme is the belief that science is unreliable if it does not fit our interpretation of the Genesis story. But the real question is whether the Bible and science are compatible. The Bible is not a textbook of science; it is a textbook on salvation. It spends less than two chapters out of its 1,189 chapters telling us about how the world began.

We need to understand that God does not fit into a scientific study. He cannot be measured or proven. Science does not deal with issues of faith. Science cannot prove God does or does not exist.

There are many things the Bible and science agree on. For example, scientists believe the whole earth was under water at one time, and this is what Genesis says. Scientists believe animal life began in the water, and the Bible says it did.

The Hebrew word “bara” means “to create out of nothing.” This word is used only three times in the Genesis creation story. All the other times “create” or “make” is used, it comes from other Hebrew words that indicate taking something that exists and altering its form. The word “bara” is used to describe the creation in the very beginning (verse 1) when God created all matter and energy; when God created animal life (verse 21); and when God created human life (verse 27). These three times that God created something out of nothing are also the three missing links in science. Evolutionists cannot explain how it all began; they cannot explain how plant life became animal life; and they cannot explain how animal life became human life. Genesis explains all three with “bara” – “God created.”



Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. True or **false**? God owes us an explanation for how He created everything.
2. **True** or false? Science is the study of data or phenomena that can be observed and objectively measured or proven.
3. Is it possible to approach God through a scientific method? **No**
4. In the list below, circle each item that is a main focus of science. Put a check mark beside each item that is a main focus of the Bible.
 - a. data**
 - ✓b. faith
 - ✓c. revelation
 - d. observable evidence**
 - ✓e. theology
 - f. experiments**
 - ✓g. experience
 - ✓h. supernatural
 - i. natural**
5. How does God tell us to approach Him? **in faith** (see Hebrews 11:1)
6. According to Genesis chapters 1 and 2 which came first in creation? (match them by drawing a line and put them in order)

a. human life		i. First
b. animal life		ii. Second
c. plant life		iii. Third
7. **True** or False? The purpose of the Bible is not to give us scientific answers, but to tell mankind of God's redemptive plan.



What are some parallels between scientific and biblical explanations of creation?

Why do you think God did not explain everything about creation in detail in Genesis?

Why do you think modern man tries to explain the beginning of our earth and human life without a Creator?



Praise God for His wonderful creation, mercy, and grace. Ask Him to strengthen your faith and show you what His plan is for you during this study and for your life. Then ask Him for the courage to obey.



Going Deeper

1. Why has God only given us two chapters on the subject of creation, yet there are 1,189 chapters in the Bible? _____

2. What is the significance of the three places where evolution has missing links, and the creation account uses the word “bara” in these three places? _____

3. While considering how everything began and the “big bang” belief of science, is it easier to believe in a big God or to believe in a big bang? Explain. _____

4. What are several ways the Genesis account of creation agrees with science? _____

5. What is the primary conflict between science and the Genesis account of creation? _____

6. Explain why the subject of God and spiritual things does not fit under the discipline of science. (Consider John 4:24) _____

7. Why has God told us about creation? (Consider Psalm 51:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17) _____

The Birth of Mankind

Chapter 5

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson five



Objective: To understand God's purpose in creating human beings.



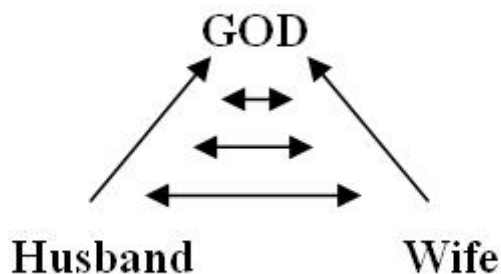
God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him. Male and female, created He them.

—Genesis 1:27

Human beings were created in the image and likeness of God. We have the capacity to be spiritual, creative, thinking, feeling, and able to communicate. The image of God in us was marred when Adam and Eve sinned, and the rest of Scripture deals with this problem: how to recreate God's image within man so that sinful man might have fellowship with a Holy God. Genesis 1 and 2 shows us man as he was intended to be. Genesis 3 shows us man as he is.

God created woman from man's side—not his head, for her to rule over him, and not his feet, for her to serve him. She comes from his side so that she would be close to his heart. Woman is a “completer” for man. Man and woman united in one flesh make one whole man.

Marriage is an exclusive relationship. A man is to leave his father and mother, and he forsakes all other women for his wife. The woman makes the same commitment. This is God's perfect plan—His blueprint—for marriage. The primary and most important relationship for both man and woman is their relationship with God. As they grow closer to God, they grow closer to each other.





Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. True or **false**? Being created in God's image means our bodies look like God.
2. **True** or false? Marriage (and family) is the most important social unit we have on earth today.
3. What do you think happened to the image of God when man sinned?
 - a. It was lost forever. We cannot get it back.
 - b. It was marred, but we can fix it if we try real hard to be good.
 - c. It is gone, but we can look like the image of God if we obey God's laws.
 - d. **It was marred, but it can be restored by God and a spiritual rebirth – a new creation—in man's heart.**
4. If a man and a woman do not have a relationship with the same God, what happens to their relationship?
 - a. Nothing. That does not make any difference.
 - b. It makes marriage harder, but they can still be one as God intended.
 - c. **They cannot grow closer to each other spiritually.**
5. According to God, man and woman joined together in marriage and sexual unity are:
 - a. **one united whole for life**
 - b. two separate individuals
 - c. a temporary union
 - d. asking for trouble

6. What happens to your relationship with your parents when you get married?
 - a. It is not important anymore.
 - b. It is important, but the marriage relationship is the priority.**
 - c. There is no change. Our first allegiance will always be to our parents.

7. What happens when a woman gets married?
 - a. God no longer considers her an individual person.
 - b. She should remain independent from her husband.
 - c. Though she completes her husband, she is still valued by God as an individual.**
 - d. Her only role is to have children.

8. What is the purpose of the family?
 - a. to be a place of companionship
 - b. to be a place of nurture
 - c. to increase the human family as a whole
 - d. all of the above**

9. What is the best way to have an adequate marriage?
 - a. Try to become an adequate partner.**
 - b. Try to make your wife or husband adequate.
 - c. Try to make your children adequate.
 - d. Try to earn a good living.

10. Which words describe God's plan for marriage? (choose all that apply)

a. providential	b. purposeful
c. temporary	d. permanent
e. unimportant	f. exclusive
g. faithful	h. divided
i. united	



How does it make you feel to know you are created in the image of God? How does it make you feel to know that sin has marred that image?

Read: Psalm 51:10 – “*Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.*” 2 Corinthians 5:17 – “*For if a man belongs to Christ, he is a new person. The old life is gone. New life has begun.*” How can you get the image of God back?

Answer: We cannot. God is the only One who can create life and a new life in us and give us His image in our lives.



Pray and thank God that He created you and desires to have a relationship with you. Ask God to help you to know Him better and to give you strength to follow Him every day. If you are married, ask Him to make you a godly spouse. If you are not married, pray that God will not only provide a godly spouse but will make you a godly spouse too.



Going Deeper

1. Precisely what does it mean when we read that man was created in the image of God? (Consider John 4:24) Does this apply to our bodies or to our capacity to be spiritual creatures?

2. What happened to that image potential as described in the third chapter of the book of Genesis? _____

3. How can that image potential be restored? (Consider Psalm 51:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17, 18)

4. How can we become an adequate marriage partner or parent? _____

5. Why must the marriage relationship be a permanent relationship, an exclusive, all-inclusive and providential relationship? _____

6. Why are marriage and the family the most important institution God created? (Consider Psalms 127, 128) _____

7. Which is more important – the family or the church? Why? _____

Where Are You?

Chapter 6

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson six



Objective: To understand how sin came into the world.



The Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?” He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.” And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

—Genesis 3:9-11

Adam and Eve faced the same decision we all face every day: Are we going to live God’s way or are we going to have it our way? God had put Adam and Eve in a perfect garden and given them every tree that was good for food and the tree of life. He also put the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden and told them not to eat of it.

When God put Adam and Eve in the garden, He provided everything they would ever need. He knew their needs because He had made them. And because He made us, He knows our needs as well and has every intention of providing for them.

Adam and Eve did not look to God alone to meet their needs. Genesis 3 is a picture of two people who sinned and how God dealt with them, but it is also the picture of all of us, who have sinned. It shows us how God deals with us when we hide from God when we sin. It is the picture of sin and its consequences. And it is the picture of God pursuing the sinner and opening the lines of communication.



1. **True** or false? We always have a choice of whether to do God's will or to do ours.
2. True or **false**? God did not give Adam and Eve enough to provide for their needs in the garden.

Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

3. How does Genesis explain life?
 - a. as it was
 - b. as it is
 - c. both**
 - d. neither
4. God provided trees to meet the needs of man's eye, then to meet his need for food, then to give him life. The tree of knowledge was declared off limits. Put that list of priorities into the order that Adam and Eve actually did them.
 - a. eyes
 - b. food
 - c. life
 - d. knowledge
 - i. **food**
 - ii. **eyes**
 - iii. **knowledge**
 - iv. **life**

5. Read or listen to Deuteronomy 8:3. According to this verse, where does our true life come from?

- a. the food we eat
- b. getting our desires gratified
- c. the word of God**
- d. following our own will

...He did it to teach you that people need more than bread for their life; real life comes by feeding on every word of the LORD.

—Deuteronomy 8: 3

6. Read or listen to Matthew 6:22-23. When the Bible uses the word "eye," what does it often really mean?

- a. our mindset and outlook on life**
- b. our own plans
- c. our actual, physical eyes
- d. the word of God

Your eye is a lamp for your body. A pure eye lets sunshine into your soul. But an evil eye shuts out the light and plunges you into darkness. If the light you think you have is really darkness, how deep that darkness will be!

—Matthew 6: 22-23

7. What does Adam and Eve eating the fruit from the tree of knowledge represent?
 - a. revelation from God
 - b. science
 - c. our attempt to meet our needs ourselves**
 - d. God's desire for us to remain ignorant

8. Why did God ask questions of Adam and Eve?
- a. He really wanted to know the answers.
 - b. He wanted them to confess what they had done.**
 - c. He wanted to punish whoever gave them information.
 - d. He wanted to see if they remembered their mistake.
9. What does it mean to confess our sin?
- a. to explain why we did it
 - b. to talk God out of punishing us
 - c. to admit that it offended someone else
 - d. to say we feel bad when we are caught doing something wrong
 - e. to agree with God about what we have done**
10. The Bible is the story of _____ .
- a. man seeking after God
 - b. God seeking after man**



Have you been “eating from the wrong tree”? How does it make you feel? Why? How do you think God wants you to respond? Why?



Pray and confess to God if you are not where you should be in your relationship with Him. Ask God to help you to look to Him to provide for your every need and to give you strength to say no to the temptations of our eyes, lusts of our bodies, and pride of life.



Going Deeper

1. What is the third chapter of the book of Genesis telling us that actually happened in the garden? _____

2. Explain the allegory of the trees in the garden. _____

3. Relate this allegory to the teaching of Jesus in Matthew 6: 22, 23. _____

4. Why did the Creator ask His creature questions? _____

5. What truth is being profiled by God's asking of these questions? _____

6. Relate this story to the great sermon of Moses in Deuteronomy 8:1-3 that we shall not live by bread alone, but by every word God has spoken. _____

7. How does this demonstrate the love of God? _____

Where Is Your Brother?

Chapter 7

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson seven



Objective: To learn some causes of conflict and how to resolve it.



“Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it.”

—Genesis 4:6-7

Reconciliation is a major theme in the Bible. We need to be reconciled to God, and we need to be reconciled to each other. But conflict is one of our biggest problems. Genesis 4 helps us discover some of the causes of conflict and some of the solutions.

Cain and Abel both brought sacrifices to God, but only Abel’s was acceptable. Cain’s heart toward God was not right. Cain’s rejection made him angry and depressed, and he later killed his brother in a moment of rage. Verse 7 is a key to understanding the conflict: if we do what is right and acceptable, we will be acceptable to God and to ourselves, and not have to go through life angry at those who are acceptable. Those who are judgmental toward others will be much happier if they look at themselves and judge themselves first. A person who deals with his own issues will not have to direct his anger at others.

Like a pilot who has lost his way, we should remember five steps to getting back on the right course:

1. Confess – Acknowledge that you have lost your way.
2. Climb – Move in God’s direction (He is already moving in your direction).
3. Conserve – Wait to make any big decisions.
4. Communicate – Talk to God about His direction for your life.
5. Comply – When God communicates, always follow His directions.





Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. **True** or false? The first prophecy in the Bible about Jesus is found in Genesis.
2. True or **false**? When Cain killed Abel, he solved all his problems.
3. **True** or false? Cain refused to acknowledge his sin until God made it clear that He already knew about it.
4. Why was Cain's sacrifice not acceptable?
 - a. It was not an animal sacrifice.
 - b. It was not enough for God.
 - c. It was too late.
 - d. Cain's heart was not acceptable.**
5. Why did Cain kill Abel?
 - a. Abel was too proud of his righteousness.
 - b. Abel was a threat to his brother.
 - c. Cain was jealous that Abel's sacrifice was accepted and became angry**
 - d. He still had anger in his heart.
6. Read or listen to Matthew 7:1-5. What does Jesus tell critical and judgmental people to do?
 - a. Look at their own lives and correct their own problems before judging others.**
 - b. Point out everyone's faults.
 - c. Use God's standards of judgment on others.
 - d. Relax and do not worry so much.

Stop judging others, and you will not be judged. ²For others will treat you as you treat them. Whatever measure you use in judging others, it will be used to measure how you are judged. ³And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye when you have a log in your own? ⁴How can you think of saying, 'Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye? ⁵Hypocrite! First get rid of the log from your own eye; then perhaps you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye.

—Matthew 7:1-5

7. Which question is most important to ask when you are angry?
- a. How can I get revenge?
 - b. What is the real object of my anger?**
 - c. How can I change the person who offends me?
 - d. How can I make myself feel better?
8. The story of Cain and Abel is about _____.
- a. conflict**
 - b. peace
 - c. communication
 - d. judgment
9. The story of the flood is about _____.
- a. conflict
 - b. peace
 - c. communication
 - d. judgment**
10. What relationships cause a lot of conflict for you? (circle all that apply)
- a. self
 - b. spouse
 - c. children
 - d. parents
 - e. extended family
 - f. friends
 - g. people in authority
 - h. coworkers
 - i. acquaintances

(Answers will vary)



What are the real roots of some of your conflicts with others? Is there something you need to confess to God?



Pray and ask God to help you in all your relationships to have the right heart attitude and do what is right.



Going Deeper

1. Relate the compass of the jet pilot to your own spiritual direction when you feel that you have lost your way. _____

2. What are five questions that God asked Cain? _____

3. Which question was the most important question? (Consider Genesis 4:7) Why? _____

4. What was the true source and object of Cain's anger? _____

5. What was most important – the men or the offerings? Why? _____

6. Compare this story to the teaching of Jesus in Matthew 7: 1-5. _____

7. Relate this story to your own anger and/or depression. _____

The Father of Faith

Chapter 8

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson eight



Objective: To understand the importance of faith through the example of Abraham.



Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

—Hebrews 11:6

Abraham is considered the father of faith, and he is mentioned more times in the New Testament than any other Old Testament character. When Abraham was 75, God told him to leave his home country and go into a barren wilderness. He also told him that he would be the father of many descendants. For a 75-year-old childless man to believe that promise required a lot of faith.

God initiated the relationship by appearing to Abraham eight times. Abraham responded by building four altars over many years, each one illustrating his level of commitment to God. The fourth altar, built at God's request to sacrifice Isaac, the promised son, was the most significant. There Abraham demonstrated his total trust in God and that God was entirely first in his life.





Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. True or **false**? Abraham always had faith and trusted God completely.
2. True or **false**? Sacrificing Isaac made perfect sense to Abraham.
3. **True** or false? In the story of Abraham we learn that when God and man have a relationship, it is because God initiated it.
4. Remember the four altars Abraham built showing his growing commitment and trust in God? Match the following altars with the message Abraham was giving in each one.

a. the plains of Moreh (teaching or seeking)	→	i. "Teach me"
b. between Hai and Bethel (between misery and the house of God)	→	ii. "I want to know you"
c. Hebron (communion)	→	iii. "God first"
d. a mountain in Moriah (God will provide)	→	iv. "I am not sure"
5. What did Abraham and Sarah do first when God told them He would give them a son?
 - a. They argued with God.
 - b. They laughed.**
 - c. They believed God completely.
 - d. They told God it was too late and impossible.
6. What is one thing Ishmael's story represents to us?
 - a. the fulfillment of God's promise
 - b. the evidence of Abraham's faith
 - c. Abraham's total dependence on God
 - d. the greatest enemy of God's best is something good**

7. What is one thing Lot represents to us?
- a. **the people we put in our lives that God does not want in our lives**
 - b. the people God uses to encourage us
 - c. people who are examples of faith
 - d. people who are examples of purity
8. What is one thing Sarah represents to us?
- a. people who try to make us stumble
 - b. **people we do not recognize as God's provision for us**
 - c. women who are more faithful than their husbands
 - d. the fact that God always does what is expected
9. When Abraham finally put God first in his life by offering Isaac to God, how did God respond?
- a. God provided a substitute sacrifice for Isaac.
 - b. God blessed Abraham.
 - c. God followed through on all His promises.
 - d. **all of the above**



The message of the Bible can be summarized as “God first.” Are there any areas in your life in which God is not first? What steps can you take to make Him your first priority?



Thank God for the example of faith of Abraham. Pray and ask God to strengthen your faith and for you to know and follow God like Abraham did. Ask God to help you to put Him first in your life and to trust Him completely in every area of your life.



Going Deeper

1. When God wants to communicate a great idea, He wraps it in a person. What idea did God wrap in the person of Abraham? (Consider Hebrews 11:6) _____

2. How did the two names of this man demonstrate the greatness of his faith? _____

3. How did the four altars of Abraham demonstrate the growth and development of Abraham's faith? _____

4. Relate each of these altars to the growth and development of your own faith. _____

5. By application, how many of these altars have you built in your journey of faith? Explain.

6. Discuss what Lot, Ishmael, Sarah and Isaac represented in the growth of Abraham's faith.

7. Name and explain two things that were provided or proven on Mount Moriah, when Abraham built the altar of "God first." _____

Who Are You?

Chapter 9

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson nine



Objective: To discover who God intends for us to be.



Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed. And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved."

—Genesis 32:28, 30

Jacob was grabbing the heel of his twin brother Esau when they were born. As they grew up, Jacob continued to grab, talking Esau into selling the birthright of the first-born son to him and deceiving their father into giving him a blessing intended for Esau. Because of Esau's anger, Jacob had to flee. On his way, he had a dream in which God promised to make Jacob part of the covenant promise God had with Abraham. Twenty years later, on his way back, he had a strange experience, wrestling all night with God. God gave Jacob a new name—Israel—because he wanted Jacob to see his true identity. But before Jacob received his new name, God had to partially cripple him so that Jacob would rely on God and not himself.

Now there is one more item of significance in Jacob's story that we do not want to miss. Because Jacob was such a rascal, God could not bless him until He broke him. Sometimes God cannot get through to us any other way, and so He has to break us - cripple us in some way - forcing us to rely on Him. That is how it was with Jacob. And finally, Jacob got the message. When he finally met up with his brother Esau, he testified and told his brother that all the blessings and children and flocks were because, "God has dealt graciously with me" (Gen. 33:11).

Jacob learned an important lesson that we also need to learn. Jacob learned he was blessed not because he had grabbed them, but because of God's grace and mercy. Grace is when God lavishes upon us blessings we do not deserve. Mercy is when God withholds from us what we do deserve.



Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. **True** or false? God promised to keep Jacob wherever he went and to bring him back to his land.
2. **True** or false? God blessed Jacob by teaching him his identity and giving him a new name.
3. True or **false**? If Jacob had not fought and deceived others for God's blessing, God would not have given it to him.
4. Which of the following descriptions is part of God's plan for each one of us?
 - a. who we are to be
 - b. what we are to do
 - c. where we are to be
 - d. all of the above**
5. Jacob's name means _____
 - a. faithful
 - b. holy
 - c. honest
 - d. grabber**
6. God gave Jacob the new name of "Israel." What does that name mean?
 - a. deceiver
 - b. fugitive
 - c. fighter**
 - d. holy
7. What did God have to do to Jacob before He could bless him?
 - a. teach him to be strong
 - b. give him his land back
 - c. break him of self-reliance**
 - d. punish him for lying

8. Which direction of life did God teach Jacob?
- a. to look up
 - b. to look in
 - c. to look around
 - d. all of the above**
9. What does Jacob's story teach us about God's grace and mercy? (choose all that apply)
- a. God lavishes blessings upon us that we do not deserve.**
 - b. God wants nothing to do with people who have sinned.
 - c. God withholds from us the punishment we truly deserve.**
 - d. God does not have much grace and mercy.
10. What lessons did God teach Jacob that He also wants to teach us? (choose all that apply)
- a. to rely on Him**
 - b. to confess to God who we really are**
 - c. to grab and deceive to get what we want
 - d. to submit to God**
 - e. to ask God who He wants us to be**
 - f. to be a part of God's plan for the world**



Perhaps your parents, family, or friends have named you or put a label on you that is contrary to the way God sees you. What do you think God says about your identity in Him? (If you do not know, ask God to show you who He thinks you are and wants you to be.)



Thank God for the story of Jacob and ask God to show you who He wants you to be. Thank God that His grace and mercy that He extended to Jacob is also available to you. Ask God to help you to trust Him, to submit to His will in all the areas of your life to become the person He wants you to be, and to stop trying to grab and manipulate to get your own way.



Going Deeper

1. What great idea did God wrap in the person of Jacob? _____

2. What three life perspectives did God teach Jacob when he wrestled with the angel? (Genesis 32) _____

3. Why did God change the name of Jacob to Israel? _____

4. Why did God have to cripple Jacob before He could crown him with His blessing? _____

5. What can we learn by comparing the way Jacob answered Isaac's chapter 27 question, "Who are you?" with the time when God asked the question, "What is your name?" in the wrestling match that is discussed in Genesis 32? _____

6. What did Jacob mean when he met Esau after 20 hard years with his Uncle Laban and said to his brother, "The Almighty has dealt graciously with me"? _____

7. What are the devotional and practical applications you can make to your own life from the study of the character of Jacob in the book of Genesis? _____

The God Who Is in Charge

Chapter 10

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson 10



Objective: To learn how God uses the circumstances of our lives to prepare us for the role He has for us.



"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."

—Genesis 50:20

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purposes."

—Romans 8:28

The story of Joseph is a wonderful story that teaches us about the providence of God. Though Joseph went through very difficult circumstances, he never lost his faith in God. Joseph was sold into slavery by his own brothers, falsely accused of a crime, thrown into prison, forgotten by those who promised to help him, and then years later raised to a position of high authority. God was in charge the whole time, and He used Joseph's hardships to carry out His plan. The story of Joseph shows us that there is no situation so bad that God cannot redeem it and bring good from it.



Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. True or **false**? Joseph's situation was too difficult for God to handle.
2. True or **false**? Joseph deserved all the trouble he had.
3. **True** or false? God blessed Joseph for remaining faithful to Him.

4. How did Joseph's brothers react to his dream?
- a. It did not bother them.
 - b. They understood God's plan.
 - c. They were angry at Joseph.**
 - d. They honored Joseph.
5. How did God react to Joseph's dream?
- a. God honored him. God was the one who gave him the dream.**
 - b. God was angry, but forgave Joseph.
 - c. God was angry and told the brothers to kill Joseph.
 - d. God changed His plan to fit Joseph's dream.
6. What does the story of Joseph illustrate? (circle all that apply)
- a. We do not need to manipulate circumstances to get God's grace.**
 - b. Sometimes God loses control of our lives.
 - c. God uses hard circumstances to put us in place to do His will.**
 - d. God is sovereign over all circumstances, even evil.**
7. How would you feel if you were betrayed by your family and spent years in slavery and in prison? (circle all that apply; answers will vary)
- a. angry
 - b. sad
 - c. forgiving
 - d. resentful
 - e. faithful
 - f. bitter
 - g. cheerful
 - h. content
 - i. vengeful
8. How would you describe Joseph's relationships with his family?
- a. ideal
 - b. easy
 - c. full of conflict**
 - d. very loving
9. Which of Joseph's relationships hindered God's plan for him?
- a. his father
 - b. his brothers
 - c. his master's wife in Egypt
 - d. his fellow prisoners
 - e. none of them**



How do you respond to the adversity in your life? Explain how God might be working in it to prepare you for His purposes?



Thank God for the example of Joseph and pray and ask God to teach you to be grateful for even the difficulties in your life. Ask God to show you what He wants you to learn from the hard time and His plan for your life. Like Joseph, God wants to use you to save your family and friends from spiritual starvation. Ask God to give you grace and mercy to forgive, and the courage to share the Good News.



Going Deeper

1. What great idea did God wrap in the life of Joseph? _____

2. If we believe in the Providence of God, should we use words like fortunately or coincidentally?

3. If Joseph did not deserve all the things that had happened to him, what was his own perspective on why all these things had happened, after he was reunited with his brothers? (See Gen 45:5; 50:20)

4. How does the story of Joseph illustrate Romans 8:28, which tells us that if we love God and are called according to His plan, He will take all the things that happen to us and fit them into a pattern for good? _____

5. How does this verse and the story of Joseph teach that everything happens to us for our good if we love God and are called according to His plan? _____

6. Since we cannot hug a Spirit, what does it mean to love God in the way Paul taught, and the way Joseph loved God? _____

7. Millions of people today have been born into dysfunctional families, and millions more have experienced traumatic happenings in their lives. Perhaps you are one of them. Be encouraged to read this story of a man whose circumstances were as bad as or possibly even worse than yours. Describe the way God gave him the grace to respond to the circumstances of his life. _____

Making Somebody Out of Nobody

Chapter 11

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson eleven



Objective: To understand how God used Moses and how He can also use us.



The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey."

—Exodus 3:7-8

The big problem in the book of Exodus is the problem of slavery. The solution is deliverance. God called Moses to be the deliverer that Israel needed. Just as the book of Exodus is an illustration of deliverance, or salvation, the life of Moses is one great big illustration of how to be a deliverer.

In the first forty years of Moses' life as he was raised in the palace of the Pharaoh, Moses learned that he was somebody special. Then God taught Moses that he was really a nobody by sending him to the other side of the desert. When God appeared to Moses again, He taught Moses that he really was somebody important when God was with him. God taught Moses humility in order to use him as a deliverer for His people.

An important truth we learn from God through Moses can be summarized; "It is the plan of God to use the power of God in the people of God to accomplish the purposes of God, according to the plan of God." God wants to use His people to accomplish His purposes.



Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. True or **false**? Moses gave the people of God both everything they wanted and what they needed.

2. **True** or false? Salvation is really deliverance from sin, not only of sin's penalty, present and future, but also of sin's power in our lives now.
3. **True** or false? Without God's Word we do not know how to worship God.
4. True or **false**? In the Bible we read that God only uses the man who is the most qualified.
5. True or **false**? God does not expect us to be the instrument through which other people are delivered from the bondage of sin.
6. Why did Moses kill an Egyptian?
- a. He hated Egyptians.
 - b. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew and had compassion for the Hebrew.**
 - c. God told him to deliver His people by killing Egyptians.
 - d. It was an accident.
7. Which characteristic of Moses was most important to God?
- a. his long record of leadership
 - b. his compassion for his fellow Hebrews
 - c. his desire to deliver
 - d. his humility**
8. Who delivered Israel?
- a. Moses alone
 - b. God alone
 - c. God using Moses**
 - d. God using Pharaoh
9. Who delivers people from their bondage of sin?
- a. Pastors and evangelists alone
 - b. Any believer alone
 - c. God alone
 - d. God using Jesus, His Son**
 - e. God using Pharaoh
10. How do you feel about the fact that God wants to free His people? (circle any that apply)
- a. thrilled – I need that.
 - b. apathetic – It does not really matter to me.
 - c. frustrated – I am glad He wants to, but I do not believe He will.
 - d. confident – God can and will deliver me.
 - e. suspicious – Just because He did that a long time ago does not mean He wants to free people now.
 - f. enthusiastic – I will do whatever He says to have freedom.



Does your attitude make you someone God can use? What one obstacle might be in your life that needs to be removed before God uses you as His instrument to deliver others?



Thank God that He sees and knows your needs and of those around you and for the miracle of salvation and deliverance. Ask God if you are in the wrong place spiritually. If you are, ask God to deliver you as He delivered the nation of Israel from the bondage in Egypt.



Going Deeper

1. What great ideas did God wrap in the life of Moses? _____

2. Moses lived 120 years, in three distinct periods of 40 years each. In the first 40 years God taught him that he was nobody; in the second period, that he was somebody. Then God showed Moses, and millions of us for thousands of years, what He can do with somebody who has learned he is nobody. Where was Moses in that process when he met God at the burning bush? _____

3. Concisely and precisely what did God say to Moses at the burning bush? (Exodus 3: 3-10) _____

4. Moses responded with the question “Who am I?” When you realize that some of the answers to that question were that he was a murderer, public enemy number one in Egypt, a Hebrew, an ungrateful adopted son and a shepherd, an occupation the Egyptians hated more than they hated Hebrews, why do you think that God chose Moses to be the deliverer of the children of Israel? _____

5. What are four spiritual secrets that God shared with Moses at the burning bush? _____

6. Relate and apply those spiritual insights to your life and to what God is calling you to be and do for His glory. _____

7. Summarize the greatness of Moses by describing four things he contributed to the work and the people of God. _____

Four Spiritual Secrets

Chapter 12

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson twelve



Objective: To learn the secrets God shared with Moses and how Moses responded to God's call and how we can apply them to our lives today.



Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.

—Exodus 3:11-12

God's secret for being the instrument of deliverance can be summed up in one statement: "You're not the deliverer – I am. On your own, you cannot deliver anybody. But I can, and I am with you." This secret is not only true of Moses; it is true for us as well.

Moses raised several objections when God called him to go to Egypt. God was remarkably patient, only getting angry when Moses asked Him to send someone else. What was important to God was not Moses' skills and talents, but his availability. In the work of God, the greatest ability is availability.



An important truth God taught Moses can be summarized in what we call "The Four Spiritual Secrets:"

I am not, but He is and He is with me.

I cannot, but He can and He is with me.

I do not want to, but He wants to and He is with me.

I did not, but He did because He was with me.

We need to learn to apply these four spiritual secrets to our lives like Moses did so that we might be instruments God can use to deliver others from the bondage of sin.



Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. **True** or false? The dynamics of your life are designed by God.
2. True or **false**? Moses' status and great speaking ability made him the right man for the job of deliverer.
3. **True** or false? God kept all of His promises to Moses.
4. How would you respond if God called you to go to a hostile nation and demand deliverance for its people? (choose one best answer)
 - a. I would tell God He chose the wrong person.
 - b. I would obey God, but I would be really afraid.
 - c. I would obey God and be very dependent on Him.**
 - d. I would obey God and thank Him for noticing my talents.
5. How did Moses respond when God called him to go to Egypt?
 - a. He was delighted.
 - b. He was afraid.**
 - c. He was angry.
 - d. He knew he was the best man for the job.
6. What made Moses an unlikely candidate to deliver the Hebrews? (check all that apply)
 - a. He was not eloquent.**
 - b. He was not charismatic.**
 - c. He had little confidence.**
 - d. He was a shepherd, which Egyptians hated.**
 - e. He was a murderer and wanted by the Egyptian law.**

7. How did God demonstrate to Moses that He would be with him? (check all that apply)
- a. **He told Moses to lay his rod down, and then turned it into a snake.**
 - b. He gave Moses the ability to speak eloquently.
 - c. He filled Moses with courage.
 - d. **He told Moses to put his hand inside his garment, turning it leprous and then healing it.**
8. When Moses successfully delivered the Israelites, who got most of the credit?
- a. Pharaoh
 - b. Moses
 - c. the Hebrew people
 - d. **God**
9. Read “The Four Spiritual Secrets” below. Then circle the one that you believe can help you the most today. (**Answers will vary**)
- a. I am not, but He is and He is with me.
 - b. I cannot, but He can and He is with me.
 - c. I do not want to, but He wants to and He is with me.
 - d. I did not, but He did because He was with me.



Has God ever led you to do something you did not want to do? Is He leading you to do something like that now? What do you think you should say to Him instead of resisting Him?



Praise God, for He is God and always keeps His Word. Ask God to teach you the “Four Spiritual Secrets” in your life. Thank God that He desires to use you as an instrument of deliverance as He used Moses. Ask God to show you if there is something in your life that needs to be removed, and then ask God to remove it so He can use you to deliver others from the bondage of sin.



Going Deeper

1. How can you relate your needs to these four spiritual secrets that Moses learned at the burning bush?

2. Relate the ways it should encourage you to know that whatever God is calling you to be and do for Him is not a matter of who or what you are, but of Who and what He is; not a matter of what you can or cannot do, but a matter of what He can do; and it is not a matter of what you want, but of what He wants. _____

3. Being consistent with this perspective, explain and apply what we mean when we say that the greatest ability we can possibly offer to God is our availability. _____

4. What was God saying to Moses when He healed his leprous hand and turned his rod into a snake, after He told him to lay it down? Why did he tell him to pick it up again? Why was the rod a symbol of the miracles of Moses, such as the parting of the Red Sea? _____

5. Did God know about the inadequacy of Moses as a speaker? What was God telling Moses when He asked him who had made his mouth? _____

6. Is God more or less glorified when the worker of His miracles is more or less gifted? _____

7. Does God delight in doing extraordinary things through ordinary people, or extraordinary things through extraordinary people, or both? Why? _____

The Principles of Deliverance

Chapter 13

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson thirteen



Objective: To understand that there is no such thing as salvation without the power of God.



"The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him... and I will exalt him."

— Exodus 15:2

"He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

—1 John 4:4

The power of God is displayed in a unique way in the book of Exodus. Every time Pharaoh rejected Moses and Aaron's plea to let the Israelites go, God sent a plague—ten in all. These plagues were ultimately very persuasive; Pharaoh began to yield to God's power. The dialogue between Moses and Pharaoh can be seen as an illustration of the dynamic between our deliverer Jesus and Satan, who holds people in bondage. Satan, like Pharaoh, does not mind people being religious as long as they do not leave "Egypt" (Exodus 8:25), or "go too far" (Exodus 8:28), or include their children (Exodus 10:8-10), or include their possessions (Exodus 10:24). In order to get out of this bondage, we need a miracle of God.

God did miraculous things for the Israelites. He devastated Pharaoh with plagues, He parted the Red Sea for them, and He provided manna in the desert. In the same way, Jesus defeated our enemy, He provided a way out of sin, and He gives us what we need to live.



Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. True or **false**? In order to get out of bondage to sin and addictions, we only need to try harder.
2. True or **false**? As soon as Pharaoh saw the first plague, he changed his mind and let the Israelites go.
3. The exodus is a good illustration of _____.
 - a. how God frees slaves today
 - b. how we are to resist to government authorities
 - c. how God has delivered us from sin and the power of Satan**
 - d. how we can escape from all of our problems
4. Why did God send ten plagues to Egypt?
 - a. because He does not love Egyptians
 - b. because He gets angry very easily
 - c. to punish Egypt for sin
 - d. to demonstrate His power to save**
5. What is the first principle of deliverance?
 - a. Do not get involved with bondage and sin in the first place.**
 - b. Ask God to send plagues on your enemies.
 - c. Work hard to get out of your troubles.
 - d. Negotiate with whoever or whatever enslaves you.
6. What is the best strategy for dealing with Satan?
 - a. Compromise so he will leave you alone.
 - b. Argue with him until he understands your point.
 - c. Attack him, and he will eventually give up.
 - d. Make no compromises and trust God to use His power.**
7. What strategies does Satan use to keep us from being fully delivered? (choose all that apply)
 - a. Satan fights with God until he wins.
 - b. Satan lets us be religious but tries to prevent us from worshiping God's way.**
 - c. Satan tries to get us to be somewhat committed, but not too serious.**
 - d. Satan allows us to be religious but tries to keep our children from worshiping God.**
 - e. Satan tries to get us to worship God without devoting our possessions to Him.**
8. From the story in Exodus what does the Passover illustrate?
 - a. the wrath of God passing over those who trust Him for salvation
 - b. Jesus' death on the cross
 - c. the ultimate judgment on those who reject God
 - d. total deliverance for those who trust in God's sacrifice
 - e. all of the above**

9. What does the Red Sea miracle illustrate?
- a. that Moses took the wrong route
 - b. our deliverance**
 - c. a lucky coincidence for the Israelites
 - d. Pharaoh's bad timing
10. What spiritual lesson can we learn from God providing manna for the Israelites?
- a. Always trust in the government and economy of your country to meet your needs.
 - b. Never wander through deserts without plenty of supplies.
 - c. Make sure you have a decent escape route when you flee from captivity.
 - d. Always trust God to provide what you need.**



Review the passage in Exodus chapter 12. In what ways does the Passover Lamb teach us about Jesus?



Thank God for His miraculous deliverance of His people that illustrates His salvation for us. Praise God for His gift of salvation for us. Praise God for His gift of salvation offered freely to you through His perfect sacrifice of His Son. Ask God to help you to worship Him completely; if and when you have a family, teach them to worship God, and confess to Him that all you have belongs to Him.



Going Deeper

1. How can you relate the dialogue between Moses and Pharaoh to the struggle we have while we are being delivered from the power of sin in our life? _____

2. How can you relate to Pharaoh's suggestion that the children of Israel stay in Egypt, not go very far, leave their children in Egypt, and leave their possessions in Egypt? _____

3. How can you apply the principles of deliverance that grow from the suggested compromises of Pharaoh? _____

4. What is the first principle of deliverance, and how do you apply it to your deliverance from the power of sin in your life? _____

5. How does the tenth plague of Passover apply to your deliverance from the power of sin? (Luke 22: 14-16) _____

6. How do you apply the supernatural ways God met the needs of the children of Israel in the wilderness, such as manna and quail, to your deliverance from the power of sin in your life? _____

7. Do you have the faith to believe that God can provide all you need while He is delivering you from the power of sin in your life? Explain. _____

The Spirit of the Ten Commandments

Chapter 14

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson fourteen



Objective: To understand the Ten Commandments.



God spoke all these words: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol . . .

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God . . .

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy . . .

Honor your father and your mother . . .

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet . . . anything that belongs to your neighbor.

—Exodus 20:1-4, 7-8, 12-17

The Ten Commandments were written on two tablets. Four of them govern our relationship with God, and six govern our relationships with people. As we obey all of the commandments, we must be careful to obey them in spirit as well as by the letter.



Further study: What is the purpose of the Law?

No one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.

Romans 3:20

I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "Do not covet."

Romans 7:7

We maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.

Romans 3:28

A man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.

Galatians 2:16

Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

Romans 10:4

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man, in order to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

Romans 8:1-4

Choose one best answer unless instructed otherwise.

1. True or **false**? The Ten Commandments were one of Moses' best ideas.
2. **True** or false? The Ten Commandments are a summary of hundreds of other rules God gave His people.
3. Beside each commandment, write "God" for those that govern our relationship with God, and "people" for those that govern our relationship with people.
 - a. Have no other gods. **God**
 - b. Do not commit adultery. **people**
 - c. Remember the Sabbath. **God**
 - d. Do not steal. **people**
 - e. Do not covet. **people**
 - f. Honor your father and mother. **people**
 - g. Do not worship idols. **God**
 - h. Do not murder. **people**
 - i. Do not lie. **people**
 - j. Do not take God's name in vain. **God**

4. This time, put these commandments in the order in which they are given. Write the correct number to the right of each commandment.

- a. Have no other gods. 1
- b. Do not commit adultery. 7
- c. Remember the Sabbath. 4
- d. Do not steal. 8
- e. Do not covet. 10
- f. Honor your father and mother. 5
- g. Do not worship idols. 2
- h. Do not murder. 6
- i. Do not lie. 9
- j. Do not take God's name in vain. 3

5. Which of the following is a good summary of the first four commandments?

- a. Acknowledge God.
- b. Believe in God.
- c. Put God first in your life.**
- d. Worship God however it feels best to you.

6. Why is it wrong to make an image of a god and worship it?

- a. God is Spirit and invisible, and we can only approach Him by faith.**
- b. God does not want people to see what He looks like.
- c. God is afraid we will not make Him look attractive.
- d. God is represented by all idols, and He does not want us just narrowing it down to one.

7. Which is the only commandment that also has a promise?

- a. Do not lie.
- b. Honor your father and your mother.**
- c. Do not commit adultery.
- d. Remember the Sabbath.

8. According to the teaching in the audio lesson that accompanies this chapter, which commandment can also be referred to as "children's rights"?

- a. Honor your father and your mother.
- b. Do not steal.
- c. Do not worship idols.
- d. Do not commit adultery.**

9. What is the spirit of "You shall not bear false witness" – the commandment not to lie?

- a. Learn how to give a false impression without actually speaking a lie.
- b. Avoid telling really big lies.
- c. Do not give any false impression, no matter how clever.**
- d. Tell at least part of the truth, even if it is out of context.

10. What do envy and covetousness reveal about us?

- a. God wants us to have more.
- b. God wants us to be just like other people.
- c. We are inferior to other people.
- d. We are dissatisfied with God's will for our lives.**

11. What is the purpose for the Law of God?

- a. God wants us to live perfect lives.
- b. God wants us to feel bad when we can not obey His Law.
- c. God wants to show us our sin and our need for a savior.**
- d. God is perfect but does not care if we break His Law.



Which commandment is the most difficult for you to obey completely, even in spirit? Why?



Praise God for His Word and His Law that protect and promote you. Ask God to help you obey His Law from your heart. Thank God for Jesus Christ who came to fulfill the Law and provide mercy and grace to all who will believe and follow Him.



Going Deeper

1. Explain the primary purpose of the law of God. _____

2. Demonstrate by illustration the difference between the letter and the spirit of the law. _____

3. Summarize below and commit to memorize the spirit of each of the Ten Commandments. _____

4. What is the spirit of the first four commandments that were on the first tablet? _____

5. What is the spirit of the six commandments on the second tablet? _____

6. How did Jesus summarize the spirit of the second tablet with His Golden Rule? (Matthew 7:12)

7. Do you live by the letter of the law or by the spirit of the law? How? Why? _____

