

Scripture Memory

Features weekly verses that build up to longer passages

For The Teacher

Previews the scope and themes of the lesson

Content Objectives

Divide each lesson into three clear sessions

Learning Objectives

Clarify student outcomes for each lesson

Vocabulary

Lists potentially unfamiliar terms with their definitions

LESSON 2

The Promised Messiah

Scripture Memory – John 1:2

For the Teacher

In this lesson, students will briefly review the Old Testament themes that set up the arrival of Christ. In the Fall (Gen. 3), humanity showed its need for a Messiah. God promised this Savior and remained faithful to His people while preparing for Jesus' earthly ministry. Old Testament prophecies can therefore build our trust in God, who is just as faithful to us as He has been to the people of Israel.

Content Objectives

- 2-A** The fall of humanity stems from the decision of Adam and Eve to disbelieve and disobey God.
- 2-B** The Old Testament includes many prophecies fulfilled in the life and ministry of Jesus.
- 2-C** God has the will and power to remain faithful.

Learning Objectives

- Distinguish the Old and New Testaments
- Summarize key points in the narrative of Genesis 3:1–6
- Explain the meaning of the terms *prophecy* and *messiah* as they relate to Jesus
- Recognize at several events in Jesus' life as fulfillments of prophecy

Vocabulary

- **Testament** – A promise or covenant; the name for the two major divisions of books in the Bible
- **Inspiration** – The way God worked through human writers to record Scripture; "God-breathed"
- **Messiah / Christ** – A person chosen for a special role; the promised Savior Jesus
- **Prophecy** – A message of truth from God; often about events in the future
- **Exile** – To drive out someone from their home country; to banish or separate

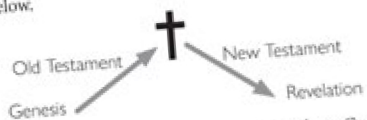
Session 2-A The Fall of Humanity

Discuss: How do we know anything about Jesus? Where do we learn about Him?

Explain: Before going further into the life of Jesus, we need look at the story of the Bible as a whole.

Introduction to Scripture

Illustrate: Draw or display a graphic like the one below.



- The Bible is a collection of Scripture from God. It's the story of God reaching out to humanity through Jesus.
- God gave us Scripture by inspiring people to write down His Word over many years.
- The Bible is a library of books—39 in the *Old Testament* and 27 in the *New Testament*.
- The Old Testament prepared God's people for the coming of Jesus. The New Testament tells us about the life of Jesus and why His work is so important.

Testament

A promise or covenant; the name for the two major divisions of books in the Bible

The First Sin

Prompt: So why did Jesus need to come to Earth? Where did all our problems begin? Complete the exercises in section 2-A of your Student Manual.

Discuss: What did you think was the biggest lie the serpent told Eve (SM p. 11)?

Look again in **Genesis 3** at what the serpent says about God (vv. 1–4). What does the serpent make God seem like? If you believed the serpent, what would you think of God?

Explain: Adam and Eve both doubted God and His Word. They didn't believe His warning, and they disobeyed His one command. And so their lives ended that day. They had to leave the garden; they had to work hard to survive; and they had to endure pain and suffering for the rest of their time on Earth. And one day, their physical lives ended, as well (cf. Gen. 5:3–5).

There are many terrible results of sin—pain, suffering, death—but we find the worst consequence in Genesis 3:8, when Adam and Eve try to hide from God. They had ruined their relationship with God. Every bad thing in the world ties back to this one big problem.

Note **Psalms 14:1–3**. People do not seek God on their own. We are all naturally drawn to sin, which has corrupted everything good that God created.

Discuss: But look at **Genesis 3:15**. What did God promise the serpent—that is, Satan? This is perhaps the first and most important *prophecy* in the Bible. It's a promise that one day, someone born from Eve's descendants would defeat Satan.

Prophecy

A message of truth from God; often about events in the future

This marks the start of the Old Testament, in which God would prepare people for the coming of Jesus. God already planned to rebuild the relationship with His people.

Target Truth

Without God, we are lost in our sin.

Teacher Prompts

Suggest teaching strategies within each session

Vocabulary Boxes

Highlight unfamiliar terms for class discussion

Target Truths

Express devotional thoughts in one simple takeaway