

Discover The Treasure

A Twelve Week Overview of the Bible

—By Rick Ellison—



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DISCOVER THE TREASURE

A TWELVE WEEK OVERVIEW OF THE BIBLE

INTRODUCTION

Suppose that you traveled to an ancient land. In this exotic land of former kings there are all kinds of treasures. This ancient land has survived wars and was the place of prophets who actually had words directly from God. Imagine that you have heard of precious treasures that have been hidden in this land of mystery.

While a traveler through this foreign land suppose you searched for the most valuable of all treasures. Imagine that to your amazement that you personally found the greatest treasure of all. This treasure however, was more than just an ancient relic. This treasure holds the key to eternal life. This treasure holds all wisdom about life and death.

You can hardly believe your good fortune in finding this treasure. You can't wait to study every word of a treasure that actually came from God. If only you had a guide to help you understand the structure and the meaning of the book held before you.

There is no more exciting book to study than the Bible. You can study it from cover to cover, over and over and never learn it all. Yet, God has a personal message for you about the purpose of your life related to what is found in ancient scriptures.

During the next twelve weeks you will be led by a teacher/guide who will lead you through the fill-in-the-blanks study. This study will help you build a foundational understanding of the structure, people, places and message of the Bible. This foundation will be of help as you become a life long learner and student of the Bible. The answers for the fill-in-the blanks are located at the end of each session should you miss one.

**THE DAILEY BIBLE READING SECTION WILL GIVE YOU
SCRIPTURE TO READ FROM YOUR BIBLE EACH DAY DURING THE
STUDY. READING THIS SCRIPTURE EACH DAY WILL ENHANCE
YOUR UNDERSTANDING.**

DISCOVER THE TREASURE

DURING THE NEXT TWELVE WEEKS YOU WILL LEARN ...

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
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Page 4 | Introduction to the Bible
The First Five Books |
| SESSION 2
Page 11 | The Historical Books |
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Page 17 | The Five Poetical Books |
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Page 23 | The Major Prophets |
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(The life and Ministry of Jesus Christ.) |
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(The Early Church) |
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SESSION 1
INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE
THE FIRST FIVE BOOKS

The Bible is God's written Word about his (1) _____ to mankind.

Read II TIMOTHY 3:16-17

Number of books in the Bible (2) _____.

Number of authors (3) _____.

Time period covered in the Bible (4) _____ years.

Central Person (5) _____.

Central Theme (6) _____.

The Old Testament and New Testament are the two main divisions. Testament means (7) _____.

OLD TESTAMENT – God's agreement with mankind about his relationship with them before Jesus came to Earth. (The Law)

NEW TESTAMENT – God's agreement with individuals about his relationship with them through Jesus Christ. (Grace)

The Old Testament was written primarily in the (8) _____ language.

The New Testament was written primarily in the (9) _____ language.

Our Bible is an English translation from Hebrew and Greek.

**GOD'S WORKS THROUGH THE HISTORY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT IN HIS
RELATIONSHIP TO MANKIND**

The central place of the Old Testament is Sinai – the central person is (10) _____.
God gives them the Law.

This led to the coming of a Savior for the world in the New Testament. The central place here is Calvary where Jesus was crucified. The central person of the New Testament is Jesus.

READ GALATIANS 3:21-25

CENTRAL MESSAGE: ETERNAL LIFE

(Being accepted into God's family and knowing for certain that some day you will go to Heaven.)

CENTRAL MESSAGE OF THE BIBLE

- 1) God loves every person.
 READ JOHN 3:16-18
- 2) Every person is sinful and is separated from God until they receive Jesus Christ. READ ROMANS 3:23
- 3) Jesus Christ was fully God. He lived fully as a man in the flesh but never sinned. He was crucified on the cross to provide for us a place in Heaven.
 READ JOHN 14:6
- 4) Each person must receive Christ and the gift of eternal life that He offers.
 READ JOHN 1:12

HOW TO RECEIVE CHRIST

Pray a simple prayer like this and mean it in your heart:

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are God and died on the cross for my sins.
Please forgive me of my sins and take control of my life.

I receive you as my Lord and Savior by faith.
Thank you for your gift of eternal life.

WRITERS OF THE BIBLE

Many different kinds of men inspired by God wrote the books of the Bible. What types of men did God use to write the books of the Bible?

(11) _____

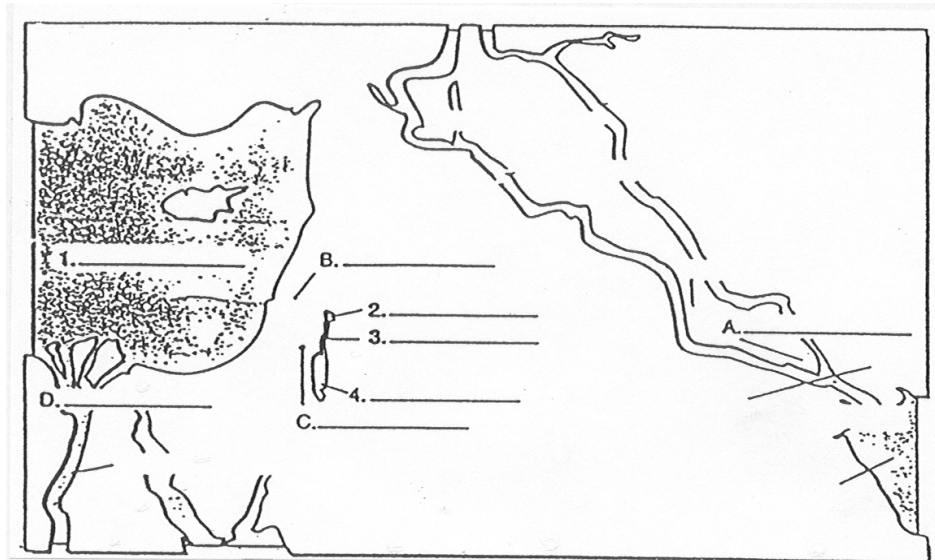
THREE DIVISIONS OF THE BIBLE

- 1) Adam to Abraham – How the human race began.
- 2) Abraham to Christ – God’s chosen people – Israel. They were to be a witness of God to the other nations.
- 3) Christ – on – history of the church.

GOD IN THE BIBLE

God is a triune being. He is God the Father, God the Son – Jesus, and God the Holy Spirit. While He is a triune being, He is one God. It is difficult for our human minds to comprehend all about God.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE



DIVISIONS OF THE BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT – 39 BOOKS

HISTORY		5 PERSONAL	17 PROPHETS
5 – LAW MOSES (Pentateuch)	12 HISTORICAL	POETRY	5 MAJOR 12 MINOR

NEW TESTAMENT – 27 BOOKS

5 BASIC	21 EPISTLES		1 PROPHEIC
GOSPELS MATTHEW – MARK – LUKE – JOHN	14 ARE BY PAUL – (9 TO THE CHURCH, 5 ARE PASTORAL OR PERSONAL)	7 ARE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS	THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST
ACTS OF HOLY SPIRIT			

THE FIRST FIVE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

THE PENTATEUCH OR “THE LAW”

*GENESIS *EXODUS *LEVITICUS *NUMBERS *DEUTERONOMY

GENESIS MEANS ORIGIN OR BEGINNINGS.

READ GENESIS 1:1-2

Genesis tells the beginning of . . .

- 1) The (12) _____.
- 2) Man and (13) _____.
- 3) (14) _____.

READ Genesis 3:1-8.

- 4) The (15) _____.
- 5) (16) _____.
- 6) God's chosen (17) _____ (Israel).

In the book of Genesis, the people became so corrupt upon the earth that God destroyed the earth with a great flood. One man and his family were saved by going into a boat called the ark. This man's name was (18) _____.

God said to Noah

READ GENESIS 9:12-17

After the flood, God commanded the people to spread out over the earth and populate the land. The people rebelled against God and built the tower of Babel to defy Him. God caused a confusion of tongues and people spread out over earth.

READ GENESIS 11:1-9.

OTHER IMPORTANT PEOPLE IN GENESIS

- 1) ABEL AND CAIN – Sons of Adam. Cain murdered Abel.
- 2) ABRAHAM – Father of the nation of Israel and a great man of faith. Begins a great line of leaders – Patriarches.
- 3) ISAAC – Son of Abraham and Sarah. His birth was a miracle and promise of God. He was born 25 years after God promised a child. Abraham was 100 and Sarah was 90 years old when he was born. God keeps His promises!
- 4) JACOB – son of Isaac. His name became Israel. His twelve sons became the 12 tribes of Israel. Christ was born from the line of Judah.

Jacob and his sons went down to Egypt because there was a famine in the land. Jacob's sons had sold their brother Joseph into slavery. Joseph forgave his brothers and they were allowed to settle in Egypt. There were 70 in his family. While in Egypt they grew in power, wealth and influence.

THE BOOK OF EXODUS

400 YEARS AFTER Jacob's family of 70 moved to Egypt, their numbers had grown dramatically. 600,000 men, plus women and children became slaves in Egypt.

God chose (19) _____ to be their deliverer.

READ EXODUS 2:1-10

Moses grew up in the house of pharaoh. Moses asked Pharaoh to let the people go free out of Egypt. When Pharaoh refused, God sent plagues. Finally, Pharaoh allowed Moses to lead the people out. Later, Pharaoh changed his mind and sent his armies after Moses. God parted the Red Sea and allowed his people to pass through.

READ GENESIS 14:21-31.

Moses led Israel for 40 years through the wilderness toward a promised land. The people rebelled against God many times while in the wilderness.

AS WE LOOK AT THE BOOK OF EXODUS, LEVITICUS, NUMBERS AND DEUTERONOMY, WE NOTICE THAT GOD GAVE THE PEOPLE TWO THINGS . . .

FIRST: THE LAW

Two types of laws:

- 1) Laws about man's attitude toward (20) _____.
- 2) Laws about man's attitude toward his fellow (21) _____.

*The law reveals the sinfulness of mankind.

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 1

ANSWERS

- 1) Will
- 2) 66
- 3) 40
- 4) 1600
- 5) Jesus Christ
- 6) Salvation through Christ
- 7) An agreement
- 8) Hebrew
- 9) Greek
- 10) Moses
- 11) Rich – Poor – Kings – Prophets – Educated – Unschooled – Fisherman – Poets – Philosophers – Statesmen

PLACES IN THE BIBLE

- 1) Mediterranean Sea
- 2) Sea of Galilee
- 3) Jordan River
- 4) Dead Sea

- A. Eden
- B. Israel
- C. Jerusalem
- D. Egypt

- 12) World
- 13) Man and Woman
- 14) Sin
- 15) Family
- 16) Civilization
- 17) God's chosen people (Israel)
- 18) Noah
- 19) Moses
- 20) God
- 21) Man

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 1

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY	Psalm 118:9-18, Genesis 1 Luke 24:36-45, Genesis 3 Genesis 6:9-22; 7:1-24; 9:1 Genesis 11:1-9
MONDAY	Genesis 12:1-7 Genesis 22:1-19 Genesis 37:12-28; Genesis 45:1-7
TUESDAY	Exodus 1:6-22 Exodus 2:1-10
WEDNESDAY	Exodus 2:11-25
THURSDAY	Exodus 3:1-15
FRIDAY	Exodus 12:1-14; 29-31 Exodus 13:17-22; 14:10-11; 21-28
SATURDAY	Exodus 34:1-8; 27, 28; Deuteronomy 5:6-22

SESSION 2

THE HISTORICAL BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

Today we will overview the 12 Historical Books of the Old Testament . . .

Joshua	II Samuel	II Chronicles
Judges	I Kings	Ezra
Ruth	II Kings	Nehemiah
I Samuel	I Chronicles	Esther

These books tell of the history of God's nation Israel before the birth of Jesus Christ.

Moses had led the people of Israel out of slavery in Egypt to the edge of the land that God had promised them. When Moses died, their march toward the promised land stopped. The people were sad and depressed, without direction. Behind them was the desert. Ahead of them was the promised land with walled cities of enemies and giants.

THE PEOPLE NEEDED FOR GOD TO GIVE THEM A LEADER.

THE LEADER THAT GOD CALL OUT WAS (1) _____.

God had promised the Israelite's ancestor Abraham that He would give them the land that was before them in order to establish them as a nation. Israel was then to be a witness of God to the other nations of the world.

READ THE PROMISES THAT GOD MADE TO ABRAHAM ABOUT THIS LAND.

READ GENESIS 12:2-3

In the book of Joshua, its God's timing to possess this land . . .

READ JOSHUA 1:10-11

(2) _____ is considered to be the author of the first five books of the Bible. He probably had many (3) _____ to record the details of the period of time studied last week.

**REMEMBER THAT GOD USED HUMAN MEN IN WRITING
THE BIBLE.
GOD, HOWEVER, INSPIRED WHAT WAS WRITTEN.**

The author of the Book of Joshua is (4) _____. This book tells how Joshua (5) _____ the land, (6) _____ in taking the land, (7) _____ the land.

God was faithful in giving Joshua and the Israelites success. The land was conquered.

READ JOSHUA 6:1-7

PRIESTS – Ministers of religious duties in the Old Testament.

ARK OF THE COVENANT – A chest made of wood, overlaid with pure gold, which contained the tables of the law. It symbolized God's presence.

THE BOOK OF JUDGES

The Book of Judges covers the period between the death of Joshua to the time periods of the Kings of Israel. This was a time period of about (8) _____ years. The book of Judges is sometimes called the (9) _____ of Israel's history.

ISRAEL'S PATTERN OF BEHAVIOR DURING THIS PERIOD . . .

- 1) SIN – READ JUDGES 3:7
- 2) SUFFERING – READ JUDGES 3:8
- 3) CRIED – READ JUDGES 3:9
- 4) JUDGES – God raised up a leader to lead them to defeat their enemies.

THERE WERE 14 JUDGES

*Othniel	*Shamgar	*(10) _____	*Jair
*Ehud	*(11) _____	*Tola	*Jehpthah
*Ibzan	*Elon	*Abdon	*(12) _____
*Eli	*(13) _____		

THE BOOK OF RUTH

The book of Ruth is a (14) _____.

- *BOAZ and RUTH became married.
- *RUTH was the great-grandmother of King David.
- *From the line of King David – Jesus Christ was born.

THE RISE AND FALL OF ISRAEL'S JEWISH KINGS ARE FOUND IN THE FOLLOWING BOOKS . . .

I SAMUEL – The people choose a king – Saul...

READ I SAMUAL 8:4-9

(Samuel explained to them that they would become slaves to the king.)

READ I SAMUEL 8:19-22

*Saul failed as king . . . (committed suicide).

II SAMUEL – God choose a king – David

David had times of great (15) _____ in his life:

- He defeated the lion and the bear who came after his father’s flock
- He killed the giant Goliath in battle.
- He was a great military leader and won his battles.
- He was chosen by God to be king over Israel.

David had times of (16) _____ in his life.

- His son Absalom rebelled and tried to defeat David in battle for his throne.
- He committed adultery with Bathsheba and put her husband in battle to be killed.

*David repented and God forgave him, but his sins caused tragedy in the lives of many people.

I KINGS – The History of King Solomon and Israel.

Solomon was the son of David. God gave Solomon great wisdom. Solomon’s kingdom was the wealthiest ever seen. His wealth even greatly impressed the Queen of Sheba.

READ I KINGS 10:1-5

Solomon’s life work was the building of the (17) _____. He spent millions of dollars in its building. This was a central place of worship – a place where animals were sacrificed and people repented of their sins. It replaced the more mobile place call the tabernacle.

— ALSO IN THE BOOK OF I KINGS —

There was a civil war and Israel became divided into two kingdoms. This occurred after Solomon’s death. The Northern Kingdom was called (18) _____. The Southern Kingdom was called (19) _____. During this 80 year period, Israel had (20) _____ kings and Judah had 20 kings.

During this time there lived a great prophet named (21) _____ who told the people of God’s will.

II KINGS – The history of the kings of Israel and Judah.

Israel lasted (22) _____ years. They were conquered by a group called the Assyrians.

Judah lasted (23) _____ years before being conquered.

I CHRONICLES – A history about Solomon and the temple.

II CHRONICLES – A history of the kings and the temple.

THE BOOKS OF EZRA AND NEHEMIAH

Time after time the Jewish kingdoms turned their backs on God and worshipped pagan false gods. As a result of their unfaithfulness, God allowed them to be conquered by foreign empires and be taken away into captivity.

ASSYRIA – A world power that captured the Northern Kingdom of Israel (722 B.C.). The people were taken from Israel and scattered throughout the Assyrian empire.

BABYLONIANS – Became the world power. They captured Judah and deported the people to their kingdom (587 B.C.).

THE BOOK OF EZRA – A history of faithful Jews called the (24) _____ who were allowed to return from exile to Jerusalem (the main city in Judah).

THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH – Nehemiah was a spiritual leader of those who returned to Jerusalem. His special task was to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem. He was a great spiritual leader of the people during the rebuilding process. Ezra and Nehemiah lived under Persian rule. (400's BC)

THE BOOK OF ESTHER – the true story of a Jewish orphan who remained in captivity. She was protected by God and became a Persian Queen. (Persia was the major world power – 480 B.C.)

PUTTING ISRAEL'S HISTORY ALL TOGETHER

REVIEW

- 1) JOSHUA – Led the people of Israel to conquer their promised land.
- 2) JUDGES – After they became a nation, Israel sinned. God allowed Israel's enemies to have victory over them. When the people repented, God sent Judges to lead the people to victory over their enemies.
- 3) KINGS
 - Saul – Chosen by the people to be king.
 - David – God's chosen king.
 - Solomon – The wisest and wealthiest king. A high point in Israel's history.
 - Kings – There was a civil war. There were kings in the Northern Kingdom Israel and in the Southern Kingdom, Judah.
- 4) EXILE – The people in Israel and Judah worshipped false gods. God allowed those kingdoms to be destroyed and the people were taken away in exile.
- 5) RETURN – A "remnant" of people faithful to God returned to Jerusalem, the major city in Judah and rebuilt the nation.

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 2

ANSWERS

- 1) Joshua
- 2) Moses
- 3) Scribes
- 4) Joshua
- 5) entered
- 6) had victory
- 7) occupied
- 8) 350
- 9) Dark Ages
- 10) Deborah
- 11) Samuel
- 12) Samson
- 13) Gideon
- 14) Love Story
- 15) victories
- 16) tragedy
- 17) Temple
- 18) Israel
- 19) Judah
- 20) 19
- 21) Elijah
- 22) 250
- 23) 390
- 24) Remnant

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 2
DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY:	Joshua 1:1-11
MONDAY	Judges 2:16-23
TUESDAY	Ruth, Chapters 1-4
WEDNESDAY	I Samuel 8:1-22, 10-:1
THURSDAY	I Samuel 17:1-58
FRIDAY	I Samuel 18:5-9; 19:1-2 II Samuel 1:1-4; 2:1-5; 11:1-17; 23-27
SATURDAY	I Kings 9:1-9; II Chronicles 36:15-23

SESSION 3

THE FIVE POETICAL BOOKS

REVIEW

DIVISIONS OF THE BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT – 39 BOOKS

HISTORY		5 PERSONAL	17 PROPHETS
5 – LAW MOSES (Pentateuch)	12 HISTORICAL	POETRY	5 MAJOR 12 MINOR

NEW TESTAMENT – 27 BOOKS

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GOSPELS MATTHEW – MARK – LUKE – JOHN ----- ACTS OF HOLY SPIRIT	14 ARE BY PAUL – (9 TO THE CHURCH, 5 ARE PASTORAL OR PERSONAL)	7 ARE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS	THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

THE FIRST FIVE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

THE PENTATEUCH OR “THE LAW”

*GENESIS *EXODUS *LEVITICUS *NUMBERS *DEUTERONOMY

The 12 Historical Books of the Old Testament

Joshua	2 Samuel	2 Chronicles
Judges	1 Kings	Ezra
Ruth	2 Kings	Nehemiah
1 Samuel	1 Chronicles	Esther

These books tell of the history of God's nation Israel before the birth of Jesus Christ.

TODAY WE WILL OVERVIEW THE FIVE BOOKS OF POETRY IN THE OLD TESTAMENT . . .

*Job	*Proverbs	*Song of Solomon
*Psalms	*Ecclesiastes	

**These five books are about the experiences of (1) _____.
They deal with human (2) _____ and feelings in relation to God.**

THE BOOK OF JOB

The book of Job is one of the (3) _____ books in the Bible. While it is poetry, Job was a real person. The story takes place in the days of the patriarchs (before the time of Moses).

THE KEY QUESTION IN THE BOOK IS . . .

WHY DO THE GODLY SUFFER?

(Why does God allow good people to suffer?)

Perhaps you have heard of the (4) _____ of Job. He lived in the real world and faced real problems.

Note the following about Job . . .

- 1) He lived in the ancient land of (5) _____.
- 2) The Bible tells of his character.
READ JOB 1:1
- 3) He had a wonderful family.
READ JOB 12
- 4) He was very wealthy.
READ JOB 1:3
- 5) He had friends.
READ JOB 2:11
- 6) God allowed Satan to bring great problems into Job's life. God did this to show that Job would not abandon him in time of crisis. God also allowed Job to go through this suffering so that his faith and trust in Him would grow.

JOB'S CRISIS

READ JOB 1:13-19

READ JOB 2:3-10

READ JOB 42:10-12

THE BOOK OF PSALM

The Psalms are a collection of . . .

- 1) Inspired (6) _____.
- 2) Praise (7) _____.

READ PSALM 9:1-2

These were used as the nation of Israel worshipped. They are about what people experience in life and tell of how God has the answers.

WHO ARE THE WRITERS OF THE PSALMS?

King (8) _____

Asaph (David's choir leader)

Descendants of Koralt

King (9) _____ (David's son)

Ethan and Heman (10) _____

Anonymous Writers

The Psalms were used to (11) _____ God. There are (12) _____ of these psalms. Many of these psalms tell of (13) _____, who would later be born.

PERHAPS THE MOST FAMOUS IS THE 23RD PSALM.

READ PSALM 23

THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

The book of Proverbs contains (14) _____ for every day living. The writer of the proverbs was (15) _____. There are (16) _____ of these short sayings about great wisdom.

READ PROVERBS 1:1-7

READ PROVERBS 22:1-6

THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES

Solomon was not only the author of Proverbs, but also Ecclesiastes. This book is about one's life when out of (17) _____. The book teaches that life apart from God is (18) _____. The word that is used to describe this in the book is (19) _____.

READ ECCLESIASTES 1:2-9

READ ECCLESIASTES 3:1-11

THE BOOK OF SONG OF SOLOMON

King Solomon wrote Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon. This book is a (20) _____. It is made up of (21) _____ songs.

This book speaks of love between a (22) _____ and (23) _____.

READ SONG OF SOLOMON 2:4-6

This is more than a love song between husband and wife. It is a picture that reminds us that God loves his people. The church in the New Testament is sometimes called a bride, and Christ the Groom.

REVIEW – 5 POETRY BOOKS

JOB – Why good people suffer.

PSALM – Praise songs to God. (at times accompanied by instruments)

PROVERBS – Practical wisdom.

ECCLESIASTES – Picture of being out of fellowship with God.

SONG OF SOLOMON – Love song between a husband and wife. God loves His people.

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 3

ANSWERS

- 1) people
- 2) problems
- 3) oldest
- 4) patience
- 5) UZ
- 6) prayers
- 7) songs
- 8) David
- 9) Solomon
- 10) Moses
- 11) praise
- 12) 150
- 13) Jesus Christ
- 14) practical wisdom
- 15) King Solomon
- 16) 917
- 17) fellowship with God
- 18) empty
- 19) meaningless
- 20) love poem
- 21) 1,005
- 22) husband
- 23) wife

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 3

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY:	JOB 1:1-22
MONDAY	JOB 42:1-6, 10-17
TUESDAY	PSALM 8
WEDNESDAY	PSALM 10
THURSDAY	PROVERBS 3
FRIDAY	PROVERBS 6:16-19; 16:1-9
SATURDAY	ECCLESIASTES 5:10-20

SESSION 4
THE MAJOR PROPHETS

REVIEW

DIVISIONS OF THE BIBLE
OLD TESTAMENT – 39 BOOKS

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I Samuel	I Chronicles	Esther

These books tell of the history of God's nation Israel before the birth of Jesus Christ.

TODAY WE WILL BEGIN A STUDY OF THE LAST (1) _____ BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT – PROPHETICAL BOOKS

Isaiah	Joel	Habakkuk
Jeremiah	Amos	Zephaniah
Lamentations	Obadiah	Haggai
Ezekiel	Jonah	Zechariah
Daniel	Micah	Malachi
Hosea	Nahum	

The first (2) _____ of these books are called the Major Prophets. These books are called major because they are longer in length. There are also (3) _____ books called the Minor Prophets.

God raised up prophets during dark and evil days in Israel's history.

God spoke His will to the people of Israel through the prophets. The prophetic period covered about (4) _____ years (10th – 5th century B.C.). These men spoke boldly to the (5) _____ and (6) _____ about their sins.

THERE WERE TWO TYPES OF PROPHECY DURING THIS TIME:

*Declaring God's truth to the people

*Declaring what would happen in the future.

READ DEUTERONOMY 18:14-15, 18.

Also in the book of Deuteronomy, there is a test to determine a true prophet.

READ DEUTERONOMY 18:22.

Remember that the Northern Kingdom of Israel and the Southern Kingdom of Judah were taken into captivity by foreign kingdoms because of their sinfulness.

The prophets spoke . . .

*Some prophets served while the people were in exile. Examples are Ezekiel and Daniel.

*Some prophets served after the people returned from exile. Examples are Zechariah, Haggai and Malachi.

The ministry of the prophets was to deal with the (7) _____ and spiritual life of the people. There was never a prophet when the nation was living in obedience to God.

SOME FUTURE PROPHECIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

- 1) The fall and captivity of the Israelite nation. That the (8) _____ would be scattered among the nations of the earth.
- 2) The birth of the (9) _____, Jesus Christ.
- 3) That Jews would (10) _____ to Israel after the coming of the Messiah.
- 4) That the Messiah would (11) _____ over the entire earth. At the end of history Jesus Christ will reign over the earth.

The New Testament is full of prophecies that have been (12) _____.

PROPHECY:

Jesus would be born of a virgin.

READ ISSAIAH 7:14.

FULFILLMENT:

READ MATTHEW 1:22-23.

PROPHECY:

Judgment on God's people.

READ JEREMIAH 31:15.

FULFILLMENT:

READ MATTHEW 2:17-18.

PROPHECY:

Jesus would be born in Bethlehem.

READ MICAH 5:2.

FULFILLMENT:

READ MATTHEW 2:5-6.

The prophets were men of great (13) _____. They spoke against the (14) _____ of their day. They spoke against worshipping (15) _____ and called the people to return to the one true God. They challenged the people to (16) _____ God, truly in their hearts.

THE MAJOR PROPHETS

ISAIAH

The message of the book of Isaiah is God's (17) _____ because the people had turned from him. The second part of the book is God's (18) _____ because He loves His people.

Isaiah not only saw the birth of Jesus Christ in the future, but much more. He saw a (19) _____
Who would bear our (20) _____ and carry our (21) _____. He saw the suffering and
death of Christ on the cross in their future.

PROPHECY: Who Jesus would be.

READ ISAIAH 53:2.

FULFILLMENT: READ Romans 15:12.

PROPHECY: Jesus would be rejected.

READ ISAIAH 53:3.

FULFILLMENT: READ Matthew 27:30-31.

PROPHECY: Jesus would die on a cross.

READ ISAIAH 53:5.

FULFILLMENT: READ I Peter 2:24.

PROPHECY: Jesus would take our sins upon the cross.

READ ISAIAH 53:6.

FULFILLMENT: READ MATTHEW 8:17.

PROPHECY: Jesus would suffer for us in his death.

READ ISAIAH 53:7.

FULFILLMENT: READ ACTS 8:32-33.

PROPHECY: Jesus would be killed by evil men.

READ ISAIAH 53:8.

FULFILLMENT: READ ACTS 4:27-28.

PROPHECY: Jesus would be without sin

READ ISAIAH 53:9.

FULFILLMENT: READ I PETER 2:22.

PROPHECY: Through one man (Jesus) mankind would find God's forgiveness.

READ ISAIAH 53:11.

FULFILLMENT: READ ROMANS 5:15.

PROPHECY: Jesus would be crucified with others.

READ ISAIAH 53:12.

FULFILLMENT: READ MATTHEW 27:38.

The book of Isaiah is quoted (22) _____ times in the New Testament.

JEREMIAH

Jeremiah is called the (23) “_____”, because he had a broken heart over the sins of the people. He was chosen to be a prophet even before he was (24) _____.

READ JEREMIAH 1:5.

This tells us that God knows us even before we are born. God has a plan for our lives and we discern this when we are obedient to God.

LAMENTATIONS

This book was written by the prophet (25) _____. This is a book of (26) _____ and sadness. Jeremiah looks back to the fall of (27) _____. Jeremiah grieved as this holy city fell to foreign captors and was destroyed because of the people’s sin.

EZEKIEL

Ezekiel lived among the Jews who had been taken into captivity in Babylon. He was a prophet to these captives. Ezekiel’s prophecies reminded people that God was working in history for a purpose. (28) _____ times we see God’s purpose in all that was happening to the people.

READ EZEKIEL 1:1-3.

DANIEL

While Ezekiel was a prophet to the Jews who were in exile in Babylon, Daniel was a prophet who served as an ambassador to the court of the (29) _____.

NOTICE THAT DANIEL WAS A MAN OF GREAT FAITH EVEN IN EXILE.

READ DANIEL 1:6-17.

THERE ARE ALSO THREE OTHER MEN OF GREAT FAITH IN THIS BOOK.

READ DANIEL 3:4-5; 19-25.

The Son of God was with them in the furnace.

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 4

ANSWERS

- 1) 17
- 2) 5
- 3) 12
- 4) 500
- 5) Kings
- 6) People
- 7) moral
- 8) Jews
- 9) Messiah
- 10) return
- 11) reign
- 12) fulfilled
- 13) courage
- 14) sins
- 15) idols
- 16) worship
- 17) judgment
- 18) comfort
- 19) Savior
- 20) griefs
- 21) sorrows
- 22) 66
- 23) Weeping Prophet
- 24) born
- 25) Jeremiah
- 26) mourning
- 27) Jerusalem
- 28) 70
- 29) King

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 4

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY: Isaiah 9:6-7; Isaiah 40:21-31

MONDAY Jeremiah 18:1-6

TUESDAY Ezekiel 2

WEDNESDAY Ezekiel 6:1-10

THURSDAY Daniel 1

FRIDAY Daniel 3

SATURDAY Daniel 6:1-24

SESSION 5

THE MINOR PROPHETS

REVIEW

DIVISIONS OF THE BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT – 39 BOOKS

HISTORY		5 PERSONAL	17 PROPHETS
5 – LAW MOSES (Pentateuch)	12 HISTORICAL	POETRY	5 MAJOR 12 MINOR

NEW TESTAMENT – 27 BOOKS

5 BASIC	21 EPISTLES		1 PROPHETIC
GOSPELS MATTHEW – MARK – LUKE – JOHN ----- ACTS OF HOLY SPIRIT	14 ARE BY PAUL – (9 TO THE CHURCH, 5 ARE PASTORAL OR PERSONAL)	7 ARE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS	THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

THE FIRST FIVE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

THE PENTATEUCH OR “THE LAW”

***GENESIS *EXODUS *LEVITICUS *NUMBERS *DEUTERONOMY**

THE 12 HISTORICAL BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

Joshua	2 Samuel	2 Chronicles
Judges	1 Kings	Ezra
Ruth	2 Kings	Nehemiah
1 Samuel	1 Chronicles	Esther

These books tell of the history of God's nation Israel before the birth of Jesus Christ.

THE FIVE BOOKS OF POETRY IN THE OLD TESTAMENT . . .

***JOB**

***PROVERBS**

***PSALM**

***ECCLESIASTES**

***SONG OF SOLOMON**

TODAY WE WILL STUDY THE LAST 12 BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT – OF THE MINOR PROPHETS

Isaiah	Joel	Habakkuk
Jeremiah	Amos	Zephaniah
Lamentations	Obadiah	Haggai
Ezekiel	Jonah	Zechariah
Daniel	Micah	Malachi
Hosea	Nahum	

The first FIVE of these books are called the Major Prophets. These books are called major because they are longer in length. There are also twelve books called the Minor Prophets. God raised up prophets during dark and evil days in Israel's history.

God spoke His will to the people of Israel through the prophets. The prophetic period covered about 500 years (10th – 5th century B.C.). These men spoke boldly to the kings and people about their sins.

THERE WERE TWO TYPES OF PROPHECY DURING THIS TIME:

*Declaring God's truth to the people

*Declaring what would happen in the future.

READ Deuteronomy 18:14-15, 18.

Also in the book of Deuteronomy, there is a test to determine a true prophet.

READ Deuteronomy 18:22.

Remember that the Northern Kingdom of Israel and the Southern Kingdom of Judah were taken into captivity by foreign kingdoms because of their sinfulness.

The prophets spoke . . .

*Some prophets served before the exile. They warned that unless the evil nation repented, they would be destroyed. Eventually they were destroyed. Examples are Ezekiel and Daniel.

*Some prophets served after the people returned from exile. Examples are Zechariah, Haggai and Malachi.

The ministry of the prophets was to deal with the moral and spiritual life of the people. There was never a prophet when the nation was living in obedience to God.

SOME FUTURE PROPHECIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

- 1) The fall and captivity of the Israelite nation. That the Jews would be scattered among the nations of the earth.
- 2) The birth of the Messiah, Jesus Christ.
- 3) That Jews would return to Israel after the coming of the Messiah.
- 4) That the Messiah would reign over the entire earth. At the end of history Jesus Christ will reign over the earth.

THE NEW TESTAMENT IS FULL OF PROPHECIES THAT HAVE BEEN FULFILLED.

The prophets were men of great courage. They spoke against the sins of their day. They spoke against worshipping idols and called the people to return to the one true God. They challenged the people to worship God, truly in their hearts.

THE MAJOR PROPHETS

ISAIAH

The message of the book of Isaiah is God's judgment. Because the people had turned from Him. The second part of the book is God's comfort because He loves His people.

The book of Isaiah is quoted 66 times in the New Testament.

JEREMIAH

Jeremiah is called the "weeping prophet", because he had a broken heart over the sins of the people. He was chosen to be a prophet even before he was born.

This tells us that God knows us even before we are born. God has a plan for our lives and we discern this when we are obedient to God.

LAMENTIONS

This book was written by the prophet Jeremiah. This is a book of mourning and sadness. Jeremiah looks back to the fall of (1) _____. Jeremiah grieved as this holy city fell to foreign captors and was destroyed because of the people's sin.

EZEKIEL

Ezekiel lived among the Jews who had been taken into captivity in Babylon. He was a prophet to these captives. Ezekiel's prophecies reminded people that God was working in history for a purpose. 70 times we see God's purpose in all that was happening to the people.

DANIEL

While Ezekiel was a prophet to the Jews who were in exile in Babylon, Daniel was a prophet who served as an ambassador to the court of the king.

THERE ARE ALSO THREE OTHER MEN OF GREAT FAITH IN THIS BOOK.

THE MINOR PROPHETS

HOSEA

His (2) _____ was compared to God and Israel. His wife, Gomer, was unfaithful and he sought to restore her. Israel was unfaithful to God and He sought to restore the nation. Hosea lived (3) _____ years before Jesus.

READ HOSEA 4:7-10.

JOEL

He gave many prophecies of future events. Some of these prophecies are yet to be fulfilled. Joel probably also lived about (4) _____ before Jesus. He prophecies during a severe (5) _____ attack on crops.

READ JOEL 1:1-4; 2:28-32.

AMOS

A herdsman who called upon every generation to walk in harmony with God. He warned the people of his day to walk with God. He was from Tekoa. He lived about (6) _____ before Jesus.

READ JOEL 7:7-9

READ AMOS 5:18-27

**THE MINOR PROPHETS
(Continued)**

OBADIAH

(7) _____ book of the Old Testament. Pride deceives a person or nation and keeps us from being all God wants us to be. Obadiah probably lived about (8) _____ years before Jesus. He spoke of judgment against (9) _____ for being hostile to Israel.

READ OBADIAH 1:10-14

JONAH

God told Jonah to go to a city called Ninevah and preach to them. Jonah did not want to go to this capital city of the civilized world, and he ran from God.

But the Lord provided a great fish to swallow Jonah, and he was inside the fish three days and three nights . . . And the Lord commanded the fish and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

JONAH 1:17, 2:10

Jonah went to Ninevah and preached a great revival. Everyone in the city repented and turned to God. Jonah was angry because God did not destroy Ninevah. God had to teach him about his attitude. He lived about (10) _____ years before Jesus.

READ JONAH 1; JONAH 2.

MICAH

This book is often quoted at Christmas for prophesying the birth of Christ. Micah lived about (11) _____ years before Jesus. He spoke of the sins and punishment of God's people.

READ MICAH 5:2-4.

NAHUM

A prophet who preached that God is slow to anger, but will hold the wicked accountable. He lived about (12) _____ before Jesus.

HABAKKUK

His message is that the righteous will live by (13) _____ even if they don't understand what is happening in the world. He lived about (14) _____ years before Jesus.

READ HABAKKUK 2:2-4.

ZEPHANIAH

A prophet of God's judgment and deliverance to a sinful nation. He lived about (15) _____ years before Jesus.

READ ZEPHANIAH 3:20.

HAGGAI

A prophet when Israel returned from exile and captivity. The people began to neglect the things of God. They were more concerned with building their own homes than God's temple (place of worship). This prophet reminded the people not to neglect God. He lived (16) _____ years before Jesus.

ZECHARIAH

Lived at the same time of Haggai after returning from exile and captivity. Gave more prophecies about Jesus Christ than any other prophet, except for Isaiah.

READ ZECHARIAH 9:9.

MALACHI

This is the last book of the Old Testament. Malachi also lived after the return from exile and captivity and spoke about the nation's lack of love for God. The people rejected and scorned God's love.

READ MALACHI 3:7-10.

**THERE IS 400 YEARS OF SILENCE BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW
TESTAMENTS**

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 5

ANSWERS

- 1) Jerusalem
- 2) Marriage
- 3) 750
- 4) 800
- 5) Locust
- 6) 750
- 7) Shortest
- 8) 750
- 9) Edom
- 10) 750
- 11) 750
- 12) 700
- 13) Faith
- 14) 600
- 15) 600
- 16) 500

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 5
DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY:	Hosea 13:4-6; Joel 2:12-17
MONDAY	Amos 7:7; Obadiah 1:15-17; Jonah 1-2
TUESDAY	Jonah 3-4
WEDNESDAY	Micah 6:3-8, Nahum 1:1-6
THURSDAY	Habakkuk 3:18-19; Zephaniah 3:11-14
FRIDAY	Haggai 1:2-14; Zephaniah 1:1-6
SATURDAY	Malachi 3:13-18

SESSION 6

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE FOR LIFE IMPACT

The Bible was written to mankind. However, the Bible was also written (1) _____ to you. God speaks to us individually when reading the truth of His word from the Bible. God helps us understand the (2) _____ of life and why we are on this planet as we read the Bible. God gives us (3) _____ and (4) _____ as we study His word. God desires that the Bible be your companion each day.

Matthew 14 gives us a beautiful illustration from Jesus on how to study the Bible for life impact. READ MATTHEW 14:22-33.

There are several insights that we can gain about how to study the Bible for life impact.

PERSONAL STUDY

1) Jesus (5) _____ the disciples get into a boat headed for a storm. We are in God's classroom 24 hours a day. Through prayer and Bible study God gives us direction and guidance as we deal with the stresses and storms of life. During times of Bible study and prayer God teaches us how to live.

READ PSALM 25:4-5.

2) Jesus went up on the mountain alone to pray. He prayed to God the Father. Each of us should have a specific (6) _____ and (7) _____ to read our Bible and pray each day.

READ PSALM 139:1-5.

3) The disciples were being beaten to death by a storm. They were afraid. They needed to (8) _____ a word from God. We deal with life issues every day. When we read the word of God we discover His answers.

READ PSALM 112:1.

4) Jesus spoke to those disciples about three in the (9) _____. We may not wake up that early but the early morning is a good time to study your Bible and spend time alone with God. Spending time in the morning with God gives us spiritual insight for the rest of the day.

READ PSALM 5:3.

5) Jesus walked to the disciples on the water and came through the storm to them. God is (10) _____ with us as we study the Bible and pray and will meet our needs.

READ PSALM 27:1.

6) When Peter (one of Jesus disciples) saw Jesus he walked on the water as well. As we read the Bible we must be willing to (11) _____ God and walk by faith.

READ PSALM 119:34-35.

7) When Jesus calmed the storm those in the boat worshipped him. Come into the presence of God in Bible study with praise and (12) _____ for what He is doing for you. Confess any sins to Him for forgiveness.

READ PSALM 150:1-2

REMEMBER THAT DAILY BIBLE READING AND PRAYER IS NOT JUST ABOUT LEARNING BIBLE FACTS. IT IS ABOUT SPENDING TIME WITH GOD.

STUDY WITH OTHERS

Spiritual (13) _____ takes place as we study God's word in community with others. The teaching of God's word in (14) _____ or small group (15) _____ is absolutely necessary if we are to grow spiritually. God has made us to study His word both alone and with others. We are to teach study, encourage and bear one another's burdens together.

READ PSALMS 46:1-3

Please review the Bible study guide on the next page. It is entitled, "What God Wants Me to Learn Today". Make as many copies as you like and use it in your time alone with God. If you miss a day don't get discouraged. Pick up where you left off.

Plan to read the Bible one chapter a day in the following order . . .

- THE GOSPELS (Read the books of MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, JOHN.)
- ACTS through JUDE
- PSALM, PROVERBS, ECCLESIASTES, SONG OF SONGS
- The books of GENESIS through JOB
- The books of ISAIAH through MALACHI
- REVELATION

This is an in-depth and aggressive reading plan. This is not the only method. Daily devotional guides should be available through your church and is an excellent way to receive God's Word. Whatever method you choose the next page, "WHAT GOD WANTS ME TO LEARN TODAY" WILL BE VALUABLE TO YOU.

WHAT GOD WANTS ME TO LEARN TODAY
A DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

1) Today's Scripture _____

2) What the scripture meant back then. _____

(You may want to use a Bible commentary recommended by your church.)

3) Some truths that God taught me today.

4) Questions for today.

- 1) Is there any sin that I need to confess?
- 2) Have I told God how much I love Him today?
- 3) What do I need to thank God for today?
- 4) Who do I need to pray for today?
- 5) Is the scripture warning me about anything in my life?
- 6) Do I need to forgive anyone today?
- 7) Do I need to be comforted today?
- 8) What has the Bible taught me about myself today?
- 9) What has God commanded me to do today? Will I obey Him?

PRAY FROM YOUR HEART TO GOD.

Make copies of this page and place these sheets in a notebook for use.

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THIS RESOURCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY YOUR GIFTS THROUGH THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM.

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 6

ANSWERS

- 1) personally
- 2) meaning
- 3) direction
- 4) encouragement
- 5) made
- 6) time
- 7) place
- 8) hear
- 9) morning
- 10) present
- 11) obey
- 12) thanks
- 13) maturity
- 14) worship services
- 15) Bible studies

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 6
DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY: Matthew 1:18-25; 2

MONDAY Matthew 3

TUESDAY Matthew 4

WEDNESDAY Matthew 5

THURSDAY John 13

FRIDAY John 14

SATURDAY John 15

SESSION 7

THE GOSPELS

(THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST)

REVIEW

DIVISIONS OF THE BIBLE

NEW TESTAMENT – 27 BOOKS

5 BASIC	21 EPISTLES		1 PROPHETIC
GOSPELS MATTHEW – MARK – LUKE – JOHN ----- ACTS OF HOLY SPIRIT	14 ARE BY PAUL – (9 TO THE CHURCH, 5 ARE PASTORAL OR PERSONAL)	7 ARE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS	THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

There are (1) _____ years of silence between the Old and New Testaments. This time of silence is called the “Inter-Testament period.”

THE “INTER-TESTAMENT PERIOD” WORLD POWERS

***JEWS RETURN BACK TO THE PROMISED LAND.**

THE “INTER-TESTAMENT PERIOD”

WORLD POWER	DATE	MAJOR EVENTS
Assyrians	722 B.C.	Destroyed Northern Kingdom – Israel – and took the people into captivity.
Babylonians	587 B.C.	Jerusalem destroyed. Southern Kingdom – Judah taken into captivity.
Persians	538 B.C.	Jews were under Persian rule at the end of the last Old Testament book, Malachi, and for the next 60 years.
Greeks	333 B.C.	Alexander the Great was leader and changed the world.
Egyptians	323 B.C.	Took over rule of the Jews from the Greeks
Syrians	204 B.C.	Took over rule of the Jews from the Egyptians. A man named Antiochus Epiphanes brought a reign of terror on the Jews. He destroyed Jerusalem and killed the Jews. False Idols were brought into Jerusalem. The temple was desecrated by a pig being sacrificed on the altar.
Maccabeans	165 B.C.	Mattathias and his son Judas Maccabeus started a revolt against the Syrians and this family line reigned until the Romans became the world power.
Romans	63 B.C.	The Roman ruler Julius Caesar appointed Anipater to rule for the Romans over Judea. His son Herod the Great became king of the Jews. He was a very cruel man who murdered his wife and sons. He was king when Christ was born.

Because of the Jew’s unfaithfulness, God allowed them to be captives to these world powers.

During the “Inter-Testament Period” there were many changes in Jewish life. The development of

1) PHARISEES AND SADDUSEES

These were two groups of (2) _____ who opposed each other. The Pharisees believed in angels and the spirit world. They believed in the resurrection of the dead and that there was life after death for God’s people. The Sadducees didn’t believe in any of the teachings of the Pharisees. They only believed in the law of Moses. They were concerned with living each day according to the laws of Moses (first five books of the Bible). They opposed Jesus.

2) THE SCRIBES

(3) _____ of the Old Testament Scriptures. Jesus spoke against them, because of their hypocrisy and corruption.

3) THE SYNOGOGUE

A place to worship and study the (4) _____.

4) THE SANHEDRIN

A government and religious council of Jews. Their only power was given by the Romans. They were responsible for Jesus being crucified.

THE NEW TESTAMENT GOSPELS

The word “gospel” means (5) _____. It is the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ. The New Testament gospels are an account of how Jesus Christ has (6) _____ the Old Testament.

READ MATTHEW 5:17. (Jesus speaking.)

READ LUKE 4:14-21.

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are four unique presentations about the life, ministry and purpose of Jesus Christ. While there is only one gospel message, there are four writers who give this account.

THE FOUR GOSPELS

BOOK	JESUS PRESENTED AS	CHARACTERISTICS
Matthew	King	Shows Jesus as the Messiah or long awaited King.
Mark	Servant	Full of actions. Focus is on the actions or activities of Jesus Christ, such as His miracles.
Luke	Son of Man	Shows that Jesus was fully God and fully man. Shows that Jesus never sinned and tells of His parents, birth and boyhood. Shows His humanity.
John	Son of God	Shows Jesus as God in the flesh.

*Matthew, Mark and Luke are called the (7) _____. They are much alike, revealing events from the life of Jesus Christ. John shows more of the divine aspects of Jesus’ life.

THE BOOK OF MATTHEW

The author of this book is Matthew. He was a Jewish (8) _____ for the Romans. The tax collectors were considered immoral in Jewish society. He became a disciple (learner) and follower of Jesus.

READ MATTHEW 9:9.

Matthew writes to the (9) _____ mind. He uses references from the Old Testament and shows the Jews and us today, that Jesus is the awaited Messiah. In the first chapter is a genealogy tracing the line of Jesus back to Abraham, father of the Jewish nation.

THE BOOK OF MARK

The author of this book is (10) _____. He was a Jew. He accompanied the apostle Paul on some of his missionary journeys. He also was a worker with the apostle (11) _____. Mark writes down the preaching of the apostle Peter about Jesus in this book. Mark presents Jesus at work. It is an account of what Jesus (12) _____.
READ MARK 10:45 (Jesus speaking.).

THE BOOK OF LUKE

The author of this book is Luke, a (13) _____. He also wrote the book of (14) _____, which tells about the early church. He was an educated man who wrote to the (15) _____ mind. This allowed the gospel to be understood in much of the civilized world.
Luke traveled with the apostle Paul on his missionary journeys to tell others about Jesus. He deals with the humanity of Jesus and refers to Him as the (16) _____.
READ LUKE 19:10 (Jesus speaking).

THE BOOK OF JOHN

This author of this book is the apostle John. He was a disciple of Jesus during his earthly ministry. He saw first-hand what Jesus did. He heard first-hand what Jesus said.
John shows who Jesus was. He deals with what Jesus said and felt privately. He shows Jesus as the divine God. Matthew, Mark and Luke deal more with what Jesus did publicly.
READ JOHN 1:12.

THE LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST IN THE GOSPEL ACCOUNTS . . .

- 1) Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary.
READ LUKE 1:26-35.
- 2) Jesus grew up as a child in Nazareth.
READ LUKE 2:41-52.
- 3) John the Baptist was a prophet who prepared the way for the ministry of Jesus Christ. John preached to the people about the repentance of sin and the coming of the Messiah – Jesus.
READ LUKE 3:15-16.
- 4) Jesus worked as a carpenter in Nazareth. He left to spend a three year ministry before his death on the cross. He later called 12 (17) _____ to be his primary followers. Jesus taught them about his death, resurrection and ascension into Heaven.

THE TWELVE DISCIPLES

READ MATTHEW 10:2-4.

Judas would eventually betray Jesus and lead those to him who sought to crucify Jesus. The other eleven became apostles or leaders in the early church who had responsibility to take the gospel message to the world. They had the opportunity to see Jesus after he was resurrected from the grave and before he ascended into Heaven.

5) Jesus began His ministry by being baptized by John the Baptist. While Jesus was without sin He set an example for us. God the Father confirmed at his baptism that Jesus was the Christ – Savior of the world. Jesus then went into the desert to be tempted by Satan, but never sinned. He had victory over Satan.

READ MARK 1:9-13.

6) During Jesus' public ministry, He taught about the kingdom of God. Sometimes he spoke in (18) _____ (earthly stories with heavenly meaning).

READ MATTHEW 18:1-5, 10-14.

7) Jesus also did many (19) _____.

READ MARK 10:49-52.

8) Jesus died on the cross. He was resurrected from the dead and appeared to His disciples.

READ JOHN 20:19-20.

9) Jesus ascended into heaven.

READ LUKE 24:50-53.

THE HEART OF THE MESSAGE OF THE GOSPELS

The writer John shows us that Jesus existed from the very beginning of (20) _____. He also shows that Jesus was involved in creation.

READ JOHN 1:1-3.

Each of us has the opportunity to pray and ask Jesus Christ to be our Lord and Savior. When we pray and ask God to forgive our sins, give us the gift of eternal life as a result of Christ's death on the cross, and receive Jesus as Lord and Savior, two things happen:

- 1) We are adopted into God's family.
- 2) We will go to heaven when we die.

READ JOHN 3:16-18.

John also points out about Jesus' ministry . . .

READ JOHN 21:25.

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 7

ANSWERS

- 1) 400
- 2) religious leaders
- 3) Teachers
- 4) Scriptures
- 5) Good News
- 6) fulfilled
- 7) synoptic Gospels
- 8) Tax Collector
- 9) Hebrew
- 10) John Mark
- 11) Peter
- 12) did
- 13) physician
- 14) Acts
- 15) Greek
- 16) Son of man
- 17) disciples
- 18) parables
- 19) miracles
- 20) time

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 7

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY:	Matthew 6:19-34; 7
MONDAY	Mark 1:21-45; Mark 2:1-17
TUESDAY	Mark 3:31-35; Mark 4:1-41
WEDNESDAY	Mark 5:1-20; Mark 6
THURSDAY	Luke 10-11
FRIDAY	John 1-3
SATURDAY	John 19-20

SESSION 8

THE EARLY CHURCH

The author of Acts is (1) _____. It is a continuation of the book of Luke. This book deals with the (2) _____ after the ascension of Jesus into heaven. It deals with the Acts of the Apostles and the (3) _____. The Holy Spirit is a person. God is a triune being. He is God the Father, God the Son Jesus and God the Holy Spirit. While they are three distinct persons, they are one God. It is difficult for our human minds to understand this. We believe this by faith.

After Jesus' death and resurrection, He appeared to His disciples and gave them this command . . .
READ ACTS 1:3-8.

GOD WORKS IN ESTABLISHING HIS CHURCH . . .

1) The disciples were gathered together. The Holy Spirit came upon them and gave them the ability to speak in a foreign tongue so that people from other nations could understand the gospel. People had gathered from many places in Jerusalem at an event called (4) _____ (a Jewish celebration).

2) The apostle Peter preached to a great crowd after this.

READ ACTS 2:41-44.

3) The early Christians were (5) _____ for their faith. A Christian named Stephen is an example.

READ ACTS 7:54-58.

4) CHAPTERS 1-12

Main City – Jerusalem

Main Person – Peter

Gospel taken – Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria

Peter imprisoned for his faith

Early Christians – Jewish

CHAPTERS 13-28

Main City – Antioch

Main Person – Paul

Gospel taken – the Roman Empire

Paul imprisoned for his faith

Early Christians – Jews and Gentiles

5) Saul was one of the main leaders in persecuting the early church. He met Jesus.

READ ACTS 9:1-6.

Saul became a Christian and changed his name to (6) _____ (the Apostle). He became the greatest (7) _____ the world has ever known. He took the gospel to the civilized world on his missionary journeys. He also established (8) _____. He was thrown in prison many times because he preached the gospel.

God did many (9) _____ through the early Christians as they took the gospel message to the world.

The first Christians were Jewish. Those who were not Jewish and became Christians as the gospel was shared to the world are called (10) _____.

**YOUR TEACHER WILL REVIEW THESE MIRACULOUS EVENTS IN THE
EARLY CHURCH.**

READ ACTS 3:1-10

READ ACTS 4:32-37

READ ACTS 5:12-16

READ ACTS 9:32-35

READ ACTS 9:36-43

READ ACTS 12:1-19

READ ACTS 16:16-34

NOTES:

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 8
ANSWERS

- 1) Luke
- 2) Early church
- 3) Holy Spirit
- 4) Pentecost
- 5) persecuted
- 6) Paul
- 7) Missionary
- 8) churches
- 9) miracles
- 10) Gentiles

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 8

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY:	Acts 1
MONDAY	Acts 2
TUESDAY	Acts 5
WEDNESDAY	Acts 6-8
THURSDAY	Acts 9
FRIDAY	Acts 17-18
SATURDAY	Acts 26-27-28

SESSION 9

PAUL'S LETTERS TO THE CHURCHES

NEW TESTAMENT REVIEW

27 BOOKS

5 BASIC	21 LETTERS		1 PROPHETIC
GOSPELS MATTHEW – MARK – LUKE – JOHN ----- ACTS OF HOLY SPIRIT	14 ARE BY PAUL – (9 TO THE CHURCH, 5 ARE PASTORAL OR PERSONAL)	7 ARE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS	THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

PAUL'S LETTERS TO THE CHURCHES ARE ...

- *Romans
- *1 Corinthians
- *2 Corinthians
- *Galatians
- *Ephesians
- *Philippians
- *Colossians
- *1 Thessalonians
- *2 Thessalonians

The Apostle Paul was the greatest missionary that the world has ever known. He went on (1) _____ major missionary journeys, establishing early churches.

THE FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY

READ ACTS 13:2-3.

These churches were in the ancient Roman province – Galatia.

THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Paul and Barnabas disagreed as to whether (2) _____ should go with them on this journey.

READ ACTS 15:36-41.

When they visited the churches in Galatia they met a young man named (3) _____. He joined Paul and Silas in this journey. Paul wanted to travel (4) _____, but the Holy Spirit would not allow him.

READ ACTS 16:6-10.

THE THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Paul visited the churches that were established on the first two journeys. After Paul's first missionary journey, he traveled back to Jerusalem. He met with a group of Christians. This was called the (5) _____.

READ ACTS 15:1-2; 6-11.

Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary. After Jesus' birth, Mary and Joseph had other children. One of these children was (6) _____. He was leader of the early church of Jerusalem. He spoke at this conference.

READ ACTS 15:13-21.

After Paul's three missionary journeys, he returned to Jerusalem.

NOTICE THE EVENTS OF THE LATER PART OF PAUL'S LIFE . . .

1) Paul was (7) _____ in Jerusalem. Paul was mobbed and beaten by the people at the temple.

READ ACTS 21:30-33.

Peter, James and John would preach to the Jews. Paul and Barnabas would go to the Gentiles. After Paul's arrest, he went before various government officials. Although Paul was Jew, he was also a citizen of (8) _____. He had been born in the city of Tarsus, considered a Roman city. Paul appealed to Rome and was sent to this capital of the civilized world.

On the way to Rome, Paul was (9) _____.

READ ACTS 28:1-6.

Paul was under house arrest and guarded by a Roman soldier. For two years he shared the gospel to everyone who came to see him. According to Christian history, Paul was beheaded in Rome about (10) _____. Before his death he wrote letters to some of the early churches that are a part of the New Testament. These letters or books teach us basic Christian (11) _____ (what we believe as Christians).

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

This book was written by Paul to the early church at Rome. Paul wrote this letter while at Corinth, during his (12) _____ missionary journey. Paul had not been to Rome when he wrote this letter.

The gospel had been shared for a (13) _____ of a century in the Roman world. There were many groups of Christians who made up the church who had questions in regard to the Christian faith.

THERE ARE (14) _____ BASIC PARTS TO THIS BOOK.

FIRST: WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CHRISTIAN.

READ ROMANS 3:23.

READ ROMANS 6:23.

SECOND: GOD HAD A SPECIAL PLAN FOR ISRAEL (CHRIST WOULD BE BORN). THE GOSPEL IS FOR EVERYONE WHO WILL RECEIVE IT.

READ ROMANS 10:1.

THIRD: OUR CONDUCT AS CHRISTIANS

READ ROMANS 12:1-2.

THE BOOK OF 1 CORINTHIANS

The city of Corinth was called the (15) _____ of the world. It was in the Roman Empire and was near Athens, Greece. It was a major trading and commercial center.

Paul wrote this letter to the Corinthians from Ephesus. Paul was writing to the church of Corinth to answer questions that had been sent to him. Paul also wrote to those Christians to address (16) _____ that they were facing.

SOME SPIRITUAL ADVICE FROM PAUL TO THE EARLY CHURCH AND US TODAY . . .

- There are not to be divisions in the church. Christians should be in unity.
- There should not be division by following certain leaders in the church. All of our loyalty should be to our leader Jesus Christ.
- Rewards are given to God's people who serve Him on earth.

READ I CORINTHIANS 3:9.

- Paul speaks against scandals in the church.
- Paul warns about the problem of Christians taking other Christians to court, to be judged by unbelievers.
- He tells Christians who are married to unbelievers that they should stay with their mate and should share Christ with them.
- Paul gives us direction from God about how we are to receive the Lord's Supper.

READ I CORINTHIANS 11:23-27.

- Paul teaches us that God gives (17) _____ to every believer. These are supernatural gifts that help us serve God (EXAMPLES: Administration and teaching in the church).
- Paul points out to us that God's greatest gift is (18) _____.

READ I CORINTHIANS 13:1-7; 13

- Paul teaches that Jesus Christ was resurrected from the dead. He also teaches that Jesus will return to the earth at the end of history. After Christians die they will have a resurrected body, made for heaven.

THE BOOK OF 2 CORINTHIANS

Paul writes his second letter to the Christians at Corinth from Ephesus (Asia). Paul was facing (19) _____ for his faith.

READ 2 CORINTHIANS 1:9.

Paul points out that God comforts us in our suffering.

Paul also teaches us how we are to give of our money to God's work through the church.

READ 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-7.

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS

The Apostle Paul writes to warn the people of (20) _____, men who did not teach the truth about God or the true gospel. This was written to the churches in the province of Galatia.

READ GALATIANS 1:6-9.

THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS

This letter was written while Paul was in (21) _____ in Rome. This letter was probably sent to many churches in the region around Ephesus. The city of Ephesus was a large important city.

In this letter Paul writes about the (22) _____. He does not speak of a building, but of all the Christians who would ever live. Paul challenges Christians to live in unity under God.

READ EPHESIANS 2:8-10.

THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

Philippians was also written while Paul was in prison in Rome. Even though Paul was in prison, his attitude there was (23) _____. He challenged us to rejoice in our faith.

READ PHILIPPIANS 2:1-3.

Paul challenged the early Christians and us to live our entire lives for Christ.

READ PHILIPPIANS 3:12-14.

THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS

Paul also wrote this book while in prison. Paul wrote to the Colossians to oppose (24) _____. These false teachers said that one must worship angels and follow special ceremonies and rules to be a Christian.

READ COLOSSIANS 2:6-9.

THE BOOK OF I THESSALONIANS

Paul started this church at Thessalonica on his (25) _____ missionary journey. Paul taught there for about (26) _____, but had to leave because the (27) _____ opposed him.

Paul encouraged the people to live to please God despite persecution. Paul also teaches that Jesus will (28) _____ at the end of history. He teaches that we are to live to please God as we await Christ's return.

READ I THESSALONIANS 4:16-18.

THE BOOK OF 2 THESSALONIANS

Paul sent this letter from Corinth a few months after the first one. After receiving Paul's first letter, the people had more questions about Jesus' return at the end of history. Paul encourages the people to continue to (29) _____ and serve God. He teaches that Christians shouldn't stop serving because the return of Jesus could be soon.

READ 2 THESSALONIANS 3:6.

**NEXT WEEK WE WILL STUDY THE LETTERS PAUL
SENT TO INDIVIDUALS.**

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 9

ANSWERS

- 1) three
- 2) John Mark
- 3) Timothy
- 4) east
- 5) Jerusalem Council
- 6) James
- 7) arrested
- 8) Rome
- 9) shipwrecked
- 10) 66 A.D.
- 11) doctrine
- 12) third
- 13) quarter
- 14) three
- 15) sin center
- 16) problems
- 17) spiritual gifts
- 18) love
- 19) persecution
- 20) false teachers
- 21) prison
- 22) church
- 23) joy
- 24) false teachers
- 25) second
- 26) three weeks
- 27) Jews
- 28) return
- 29) work

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 9
DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY:	Romans 1:1-23
MONDAY	I Corinthians 1; 2 Corinthians 1:1-22
TUESDAY	Galatians 1
WEDNESDAY	Ephesians 1
THURSDAY	Philippians 1
FRIDAY	Colossians 1
SATURDAY	I Thessalonians 1, 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

SESSION 10

PAUL'S PERSONAL LETTERS (AND HEBREWS)

NEW TESTAMENT REVIEW

27 BOOKS

5 BASIC	21 LETTERS		1 PROPHETIC
GOSPELS MATTHEW – MARK – LUKE – JOHN ----- ACTS OF HOLY SPIRIT	14 ARE BY PAUL – (9 TO THE CHURCH, 5 ARE PASTORAL OR PERSONAL)	7 ARE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS	THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

PAUL'S LETTERS TO INDIVIDUALS FOUND IN THE BIBLE ARE . . .

- * 1 TIMOTHY
- * 2 TIMOTHY
- * TITUS
- * PHILEMON

* HEBREWS – The authorship by Paul is debated by Bible scholars. God did intend for this book to be in the Bible. A close study of this book gives strong evidence that Paul is the author.

The books of 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus were written to (1) _____ in charge of important churches. Timothy and Titus were given important instructions for taking care of the church (2) _____ (Shepherding the flock).

Timothy was spiritual leader to the church at Ephesus. Titus was spiritual leader to the church at Crete. These both were (3) _____ men and needed guidance.

TIMOTHY

Timothy was Paul's (4) _____ to the very end. Paul refers to him as a "man of God."

Timothy's father was a (5) _____. His mother was a (6) _____. Timothy was taught the (7) _____ Scripture as a child, by his mother. He later received Christ as his Lord and Savior and was set apart for the ministry.

Timothy traveled with Paul doing missionary work. He was about (8) _____ the age of the apostle Paul. Paul spoke of Timothy in this way.

READ I CORINTHIANS 4:17.

Timothy traveled with Paul on his missionary journey. Paul left him in charge of the important church at Ephesus. Timothy was young and needed Paul's advice. While Timothy was serving as pastor of Ephesus, Paul wrote him two (9) _____ of advice and guidance.

There were no church buildings at this time. Small groups of Christians met in (10) _____. Timothy was responsible for hundred of congregations. Each of these had its own (11) _____.

These pastors were called (12) _____.

READ ACTS 20:17.

In these letters to Timothy, these pastors are called (13) _____ or overseers.

READ I TIMOTHY 3:1.

Timothy worked with these pastors, as the church grew rapidly.

THE BOOK OF I TIMOTHY

*** PAUL INSTRUCTED TIMOTHY ON HOW TO DEAL WITH FALSE TEACHERS IN THE CHURCH.**

READ I TIMOTHY 1:3-7.

*** PAUL INSTRUCTED TIMOTHY THAT THINGS SHOULD BE DONE IN AN ORDERLY MANNER IN THE CHURCH.**

READ I TIMOTHY 2:1-5, 8-9.

Paul also teaches that women should not be over men in spiritual matters. Paul is not speaking against women. He is encouraging the men to fulfill their spiritual responsibility.

*** PAUL INSTRUCTED TIMOTHY ON THE QUALIFICATIONS OF PASTORS AND DEACONS IN THE CHURCH. PASTORS ARE OVERSEERS, AND DEACONS ARE MINISTERS TO THE CHURCH MEMBERS.**

READ I TIMOTHY 3:8-10.

*** PAUL INSTRUCTED TIMOTHY ON WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A GOOD PASTOR OR ELDER IN THE CHURCH.**

READ I TIMOTHY 4:1-8.

*** PAUL INSTRUCTED TIMOTHY ON THE DUTIES OF OFFICERS IN THE CHURCH. (Chapters 5-6)**

- Pastors are to be honest and fair to each member of the flock.
- Widows in the church are to be cared for.
- Slaves are to be treated fairly (slavery existed in that part of the world at the time).

Paul gave Timothy this closing word of encouragement.

READ I TIMOTHY 6:20-21.

THE BOOK OF 2 TIMOTHY

The book of 2 Timothy is one of Paul's most (14) _____ letters. Paul was in (15) _____ in Rome when he wrote this letter. In this letter we see Paul's (16) _____ and (17) _____. Paul was facing (18) _____. Paul had a lot to say and a short period of time. Paul said to Timothy. . .

READ 1 TIMOTHY 1:10-14.

Paul points out that in the last days of history (Chapter 4)

- People will not listen to the truths of the Bible.
- People will satisfy their own lusts.
- There will be false teachers about spiritual matters.
- People will believe fables instead of the Bible.

Paul gives Timothy some of his final words from prison.

READ 2 TIMOTHY 4:4-18.

THE BOOK OF TITUS

Titus was a (19) _____ and (20) _____ of Paul. He traveled with Paul on some of his missionary journeys. Paul had led Titus to become a Christian. Titus was a (21) _____. He was not Jewish but Greek.

Titus was in charge of the church at Crete. Paul had left him there to work with the pastors and churches.

READ TITUS 1:5.

Paul challenged Titus to encourage the people to maintain doing good works.

READ TITUS 3:8.

THE BOOK OF PHILEMON

Paul also wrote this letter while in (22) _____ at Rome. Onesimus was a slave of Philemon. He had stolen from his master and had gone to Rome. Philemon lived in Colosse. While in Rome, Onesimus met Paul. Onesimus became a (23) _____ while in Rome. Philemon was a Christian and had a (24) _____. The church met in Philemon's (25) _____. Paul wrote a (26) _____ for forgiveness for Onesimus. He wrote Philemon and told him that Onesimus was now more than a slave. He was his (27) _____ in Christ. Paul pledged to pay his entire debt.

READ PHILEMON vv. 10-21.

This book also reminds us that, while we were slaves to sin, Jesus Christ died for us so that we could have spiritual freedom.

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

The writer of the book of Hebrews does not attach his name to the book. There have been different views by Bible scholars as to the author.

Many Bible scholars believe that Paul was the author. God intended that the book of Hebrews be in the Bible. This book has rich spiritual teaching for us today.

The book of Hebrews was written in the late A.D. (28) _____. It was written to (29) _____ either in (30) _____ or back in Palestine. Both groups of Christians were facing (31) _____.

This book was written to show Jewish Christians that the Christian faith is better in every way than the Jewish faith. Why? Because Jesus Christ is at the center of the Christian faith and fulfilled (32) _____ Scriptures.

STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK

* **Chapters 1-8 Jesus Christ is better than**

- 1) The (33) _____
- 2) The (34) _____
- 3) (35) _____
- 4) (36) _____
- 5) Aaron as (37) _____

* **Chapters 8-10** The (38) _____, or Covenant, is better than the Old. The New Testament settles forever what it means to have (39) _____ and go to heaven.

* **Chapters 10-13** Our new life in Christ is better because

- 1) We have (40) _____ of salvation.
- 2) We have a (41) _____ faith. (A person is not a Christian by works.)
- 3) We have (42) _____ and (43) _____ because of our faith.
- 4) We have instruction as to our (44) _____ with God.
- 5) We have instruction as how to (45) _____ God.

READ HEBREWS 4:14-16; 12:1-3.

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 10

ANSWERS

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1) ministers | 29) Jewish Christians |
| 2) membership | 30) Rome |
| 3) young | 31) persecution |
| 4) closest friend | 32) Old Testament |
| 5) Gentile | 33) prophets |
| 6) Jew | 34) angels |
| 7) Old Testament | 35) Moses |
| 8) half | 36) Joshua |
| 9) letters | 37) Priest |
| 10) homes | 38) New Testament |
| 11) pastor | 39) salvation |
| 12) elders | 40) assurance |
| 13) bishops | 41) working |
| 14) personal | 42) patience |
| 15) prison | 43) direction |
| 16) thoughts | 44) walk |
| 17) feelings | 45) worship |
| 18) death | |
| 19) friend | |
| 20) helper | |
| 21) gentile | |
| 22) prison | |
| 23) Christian | |
| 24) good reputation | |
| 25) home | |
| 26) plea | |
| 27) brother | |
| 28) 60's | |

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 10
DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY	I Timothy 1
MONDAY	I Timothy 2
TUESDAY	2 Timothy 1
WEDNESDAY	2 Timothy 2
THURSDAY	Titus 1-2
FRIDAY	Titus 3
SATURDAY	Philemon (one chapter)

SESSION 11

THE BOOKS OF JAMES AND PETER

NEW TESTAMENT REVIEW

27 BOOKS

5 BASIC	21 LETTERS		1 PROPHETIC
GOSPELS MATTHEW – MARK – LUKE – JOHN ----- ACTS OF HOLY SPIRIT	14 ARE BY PAUL – (9 TO THE CHURCH, 5 ARE PASTORAL OR PERSONAL)	7 ARE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS	THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

THE BOOK OF JAMES

James wrote this letter to (1) _____ Christians. He wrote to the “twelve tribes scattered among the nations.” (James 1:1) This letter was read to Jewish Christians living in various places.

This book is one of the (2) _____ letters written in the New Testament. It was written about (3) _____. It is a very (4) _____ book. It is sometimes called the (5) _____ of the New Testament. It contains practical learning for Christians.

Jesus Christ was born of the virgin Mary. After Jesus’ birth, Mary and Joseph had children. James did not believe that Jesus was the Son of God until after the resurrection of Jesus from the grave.

Jesus appeared to James after His death.

READ I CORINTHIANS 15:7.

After Paul became a Christian, he went to (6) _____ to talk with James. James became the (7) _____ of the church of Jerusalem. He was one of the great heroes of the early church. Paul reminds us that we have salvation because of God’s grace. James reminds us that when we become a Christian we will demonstrate good works in our lives.

READ JAMES 1:22.

JAMES POINTS OUT AT LEAST FIVE MAJOR TRUTHS . . .

- 1) At times our faith will be tested. READ JAMES 1:2-8.
- 2) There is a relationship between our faith in God and doing good works. READ JAMES 2:14-17.
- 3) As Christians, we are to control what we say. READ JAMES 3:9-10.
- 4) Christians are to be submissive to God. READ JAMES 4:7-8.

THE BOOK OF I PETER

This book was written by Peter, one of Jesus' twelve disciples. It was written to Christians who were being (8) _____ for their faith. Peter wrote to Christians in northern Asia Minor to (9) _____ them.

He reminded them of how much Jesus had (10) _____ for them. Peter told them to live (11) _____ in an evil world. He also encouraged them to have (12) _____ in the future.

THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN CALLED

- **Paul – the apostle of Faith**
- **John – The apostle of Love**
- **Peter – The apostle of (13) _____.**

THE APOSTLE PETER ADDRESSES THREE MAJOR SUBJECTS IN THIS BOOK.

1) No matter what we face, Christ has given us a living hope.

READ I PETER 1:3.

2) Christians are to live to please God.

READ I PETER 1:13-16.

3) As Christians we may face persecution.

READ I PETER 4:12-16, 19.

THE BOOK OF 2 PETER

This letter was written to the (14) _____ group of Christians as I Peter. These Christians were being confused by (15) _____.

Peter reveals that the best way to resist false teachers is to (16) _____ in the Christian faith. Peter reminds the people those God will (17) _____ false teachers.

READ 2 PETER 2:1-3.

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 11
ANSWERS

- 1) Jewish
- 2) earliest
- 3) 45-48 A.D.
- 4) practical
- 5) Proverbs
- 6) Jerusalem
- 7) pastor
- 8) persecuted
- 9) encourage
- 10) suffered
- 11) Holy lives
- 12) hope
- 13) hope
- 14) same
- 15) false teachers
- 16) grow
- 17) destroy

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 11
DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY	James 1-2
MONDAY	James 3-4
TUESDAY	James 5
WEDNESDAY	I Peter 1
THURSDAY	I Peter 2:1-17; 3:8-12
FRIDAY	2 Peter 1
SATURDAY	2 Peter 3:14-18

SESSION 12

REVIEW THE BOOKS OF JUDE AND JOHN (INCLUDING REVELATION)

THE BOOK OF I JOHN

The Apostle John wrote 1, 2, and 3 John and Revelation. John wrote the later four books at about (1) _____ . John was also dealing with false teachers that had come into the church.

I John teaches us that Christians are to have (2) _____ of their salvation.

READ I JOHN 5:6-13.

THE BOOK OF 2 JOHN

John writes this letter to a (3) _____ or (4) _____ in the church. He encourages the readers of this letter to protect the truth of the message of the Bible.

READ 2 JOHN 4-10.

THE BOOK OF 3 JOHN

John wrote this letter to Gaius. He was a (5) _____ of John's. He was also a (6) _____ in the church. There was a man who lived in this area called Diotrephes. This man refused to welcome God's messengers.

John wrote to Gaius asking for help in dealing with this man, until his arrival.

READ 3 JOHN.

THE BOOK OF JUDE

As previously noted, after the virgin birth of Jesus, Mary and Joseph had children. One of these children was James. Another son and author of this book was Jude. Like James, Jude did not believe that Jesus was God until he was resurrected from the dead.

Jude is the only book that deals (7) _____ with false teachers. These false teachers were saying that Jesus was not the Son of God, and were encouraging people to live sinful lives. Jude shows that these false teachers will be destroyed.

READ JUDE 1-4.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

The book of Revelation was written by the Apostle John while in (8) _____ on the island of Patmos. He wrote to other Christians who were facing persecution. John uses imagery and symbols to teach some very important truths

- Jesus Christ is ruler over everything.
- Jesus Christ is more powerful than the governments on earth.
- Jesus Christ is in control and will punish evil, including Satan.
- Jesus Christ will return at the end of earth's history and establish His kingdom.

Jesus Christ actually (9) _____ himself to John and told him what to write in this book.
READ REVELATION 1:7-11.

John wrote down what he saw and gave the message to those seven churches. He warned those churches of things that were wrong and (10) _____ them to live for Christ. John was allowed to look into heaven and see what will happen in the (11) _____. He saw the throne of God.

READ REVELATION 4:1-2.

In Chapters 4 and 5, there is great praising of God around His (12) _____. The book of Revelation is filled with (13) _____ of praise.

READ REVELATION 5:11-13.

This leads up to the time at the end of history when Christ establishes His eternal kingdom. Bible scholars and students have not always agreed on the order of events which will lead to this time. Some information about this time comes from other books in the Bible, such as Daniel.

**THE FOLLOWING IS AN OVERVIEW OF THESE EVENTS AS DESCRIBED BY
MANY RESPECTED CONSERVATIVE BIBLE TEACHERS . . .**

THE RAPTURE

Christ returns in the air and takes the church to be with Him. Revelation 3:10-11 indicates that the church will not be present during the next period of time – THE TRIBULATION.

READ REVELATION 3:10-11.

THE TRIBULATION

(7 years) – A time when God pours out His judgment on the earth.

* Rise of an Antichrist, a future world dictator who begins by promising peace and makes a covenant with Israel to protect her from enemies. He will have many victories and finally control the world.

* There will be famine – a severe lack of food. Food will be expensive, because of these wars. The Antichrist will eventually be able to control the economy and promise to feed the hungry people.

* God will pour out His wrath upon the earth through world-wide catastrophes, such as earthquakes. There will be a great desolation.

* God will destroy a man-made world government. He will eventually destroy Satan and his leaders.

READ REVELATION 20:10.

THE MILLENNIUM

Christ's glorious return at the end of the tribulation where He reigns with His people for a thousand years on earth (a thousand years of peace).

TWO JUDGMENTS DURING THE LAST DAYS

JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST – Only Christians are at this judgment. Christians receive rewards for their service on earth.

GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGEMENT – Final judgment of those who did not receive Christ as Lord and Savior.

God's people will live forever with Him in heaven.

READ REVELATION 21:1-4.

THE BIBLE CLOSES WITH THESE WORDS...

READ REVELATION 22:12, 20-21.

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 12

ANSWERS

- 1) A.D. 90
- 2) assurance
- 3) lady
- 4) family
- 5) friend
- 6) leader
- 7) entirely
- 8) exile
- 9) revealed
- 10) challenges
- 11) future
- 12) throne
- 13) hymns

DISCOVER THE TREASURE SESSION 12
DAILY BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY	I John 1
MONDAY	2 John
TUESDAY	3 John
WEDNESDAY	Jude
THURSDAY	Revelation 1
FRIDAY	Revelation 2-3
SATURDAY	Revelation 22