

Lesson 1: Old Testament and How it Points to Christ

Objectives: Students will...

1) Learn why we study the Old Testament and look at the Scriptures that show it's important.

Supplies: Check with Coordinator to see if supplies will be ready for you.

Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Why Study the Old Testament Activity Sheet – one per student

Optional:

- First Five Books of the Old Testament Color Page– one per student

Snack:

- Your choice enough so every child gets some
- Napkins for snack one per child
- Juice or water and cup one per child

Lesson:

1) Introduction to lesson - Why We Study Activity Sheet

15-20 minutes

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). As it is the beginning of the quarter you will have to write the children's names on the attendance chart. Let each child put a sticker beside their name for this week. Once children are seated say, **"It is fall and this quarter we are going to learn about something important...the Old Testament! God says the Old Testament is important and was created to help us today with our lives. We are going to spend quite a bit of time studying the Old Testament and today we will start by learning why the Old Testament is important.**

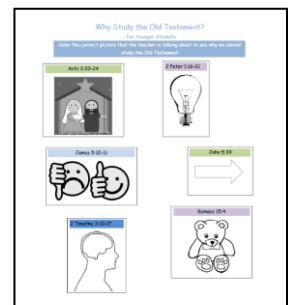
Lets sing a song to get us started: Pick a song or two from the Song Page

When done, hand out the Why Study the Old Testament to each child along with some crayons. Have the children write their name on the top of the page.

Did everyone bring their Bibles today? Good job if you did, for those who didn't raise your hand and I will pass one to you.

Let's all turn to the very beginning of the Bible, within the first few pages you will see the words written at the top that say "Old Testament". This is the first part of the Bible. The Bible has two parts – the Old Testament and the New Testament. We are going to focus on the Old Testament, which means the Old Promise from God

Listen along as I read the instructions. You will color the correct picture as we talk about it. You won't know what one to color until we have looked at verse, so you will have to listen carefully and when we read the verse and you know what picture the verse is



talking about – then you can color it! (Randomly choose the verses below to read so the students will not know which verse you are talking about so they won't be able to just color all the pictures in order.)

Let's start with the first verse listed – Read Acts 3:20-24. Ask students if there were any words they didn't understand and if so explain the meaning for them.

Say - **Acts 3:20-24 states a few things:**

You cannot understand the New Testament without understanding the Old Testament because the New Testament completes the Old.

The Old Testament is the background for understanding the coming of Jesus Christ.

What picture shows a picture of Jesus? The first one. **So please color the picture of Jesus.** Ask if there are any questions before moving on. Allow the students to color before moving onto the next verses

Next, read **2 Peter 1:16-21** ask if there are any words they do not understand, explain if needed.

2 Peter 1:16-21 states a few things:

The Old Testament prophets spoke only the words of God – so they are reliable and testify the truth about Jesus. Also we read that Peter and the apostles were first-hand witnesses to the life of Christ. But just as important as being an eyewitness it says in verse 19 – we today also have the words of the prophets and their prophecies that we see fulfilled – everything they said came true! Their fulfilled prophecy about Jesus is like a bright light on a dark day. It helps us understand Jesus and his life and that he was prophesied from long ago. It shows that everything the prophets wrote thanks to God is true.

So what will you color next? The light bulb – a bright light.

Any questions? Answer if needed before moving on.

Read **2 Timothy 3:10-17**

2 Timothy 3:10-17 states a few things:

Paul is talking to Timothy and giving words of encouragement to him. When Timothy studied the Holy Scriptures at that time meant studying the Old Testament. The New Testament hadn't been completed yet! So Paul is saying a knowledge of Jesus Christ along with the knowledge of the Old Testament makes us wise and gives us everything we need to do good works. Paul then goes on to say "All Scripture" both the Old and New Testament – is inspired by God. So all the Scriptures both from the Old and New Testament – help us to be wise and give us everything we need!

What picture shows a picture of being smart or wise – it is a tricky one? The picture of the brain in the person's head. **So color that picture.** Ask if there are questions before moving on.

Read **James 5:10-11**

James 5:10-11 states a few things:

James states that we can look to people like Job in the Old Testament to learn about good things like perseverance or patience. As well we can see God's mercy and compassion. This is a good example of someone we can learn from. But the Bible also gives us examples from the Old Testament of people who did bad things and the consequences they had for being bad.

What picture shows someone doing something good and someone doing something bad? The pictures of the smiley and sad faces giving thumbs up and thumbs down. Good! Color that picture. Any questions?

Read **Romans 15:4**

Romans 15:4 states a few things:

The Old Testament was written for us – to help us be patient, comforted, and hopeful. It does it by showing how God worked in the lives of the Old Testament people and works in our lives today – if we let Him!

What picture do you think shows comfort and hope? The teddy bear! Just like a teddy bear brings us comfort – so does God's Word the Bible!

Finally, read **John 5:39**

John is quoting Jesus when he states a few things:

Jesus states that the Old Testament Scriptures – which were the only ones available at that time - since the New Testament hadn't been completed then - spoke about Jesus! The Old Testament testifies or verifies Jesus and His right and authority to be the Son of God!

What picture shows something that is pointing? The picture of the arrow – pointing to Christ! Any questions? When we want to find Jesus – it is easy we can start at the Bible, the beginning right through to the end and all of it shows us all about Jesus!

So we can see that there are many reasons to study the Old Testament. (Repeat the reasons from their list) So now, because we know they are important, let's start looking at them closer and along the way we will find all the ways they point to Christ!

2) Optional - First Five Books of the Old Testament Color Page 15 minutes

Hand out one sheet to each child- read the names of the books and explain that **these are the first five books of the Old Testament – we are going to study Genesis for the next while – the first book.** Hand out crayons/pencil crayons and allow children to color. For older children – you can show them as a review the books of the Old Testament in the index of their Bibles. Remind them to study them and learn them by name and in order by singing the Old Testament Book song – that they should have learned over the summer – if not – no worries – they can learn it themselves as homework on their own. The song is just all the books of the Old Testament sung to the tune of the Alphabet song – A,B,C,D, etc. Instead they would sing Genesis, Exodus.... And sing the books with the tune. Another tune that is used is the Ladybug song – 1 little, 2 little 3 little lady bugs.....Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers.... Their choice. The idea is to get them to

learn the names and in what order the Old Testament books are so as they mature – it is easier to find them when needed.

Allow children to color – answer questions they may have about the Old Testament that they studied today and when finished help them clean up before moving on to the next activity.

Ask students:

What did we study today?

How many points can you remember about why studying the Old Testament is important?

3) Optional – Snack : Your Choice

5 minutes

Hand out a snack along with a glass of water or juice to each child. Explain that, **“The Old Testament is important for us and shows us all about God’s Son – Jesus Christ. As we study the Old Testament let’s remember to look for times when Jesus is mentioned (Not necessarily by name) but by the characteristics or ways He will help us that were prophesized about. Let’s remember to thank God this week for Jesus and for showing us that He is truly the Son of God!** Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss questions while snacking!

4) Optional – Song

5 minutes

Have children sing songs with you, you can choose the following and/or songs from Song Page:

Sing the Books of the Old Testament to the Alphabet Song: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers...etc.

5) Close in prayer

*If desired, ask the children if they have any prayer requests and write them down to help you remember. Then ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray. Start below if you need help and then add the other prayer requests of the children.

Thank you God that you have given us the chance to learn about the importance of the Old Testament. Help us to recognize the importance of Your Words and the events in the Old Testament that help us learn how we should live our lives and also to learn what things we should avoid in our lives.

We pray for those who could not come to worship today because of illness or weakness, help them to get better so they can return to us soon.

Thank you for our families that You created from the beginning. Thank you for Jesus, Your Son, and thank you for all the beauty You provide in Your Creation. It is in Jesus’ name, Amen.