

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?

New Testament Authors

This study is an adaptation of a small group Bible study I wrote for the Deaf Lay Led Bible Study series. We used lessons 2, 3, 4, 6, & 7 from that series. Then we added 5 more lessons for the remaining NT authors, giving 10 lessons total:

1. Why FOUR Gospels?
2. Matthew
3. Mark
4. Luke
5. John
6. Paul
7. Unknown Writer of "Hebrews"
8. James
9. Peter
10. Jude

Ron Friedrich

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE? New Testament Authors

Lesson 1 Why FOUR Gospels?

Theme verse: *"We told you about the power of our Lord Jesus Christ. We told you about His coming. Those things we told you were not smart stories that people invented. No! We saw the greatness of Jesus with our own eyes."*
2 Peter 1:16

SUMMARY:

Each of the Gospel writers share with us his personal experience with Jesus or his eye-witness research about Him. The Holy Spirit used all four Gospel writers to teach us what God wants us to learn about Jesus.

GOALS:

- UNDERSTAND that the four Gospel stories are eye witness reports of the life, ministry, and teachings of Jesus.
- SEE that Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John all *agree* about the life, ministry, and teachings of Jesus, while they report different events of His life.

Think About it...:

How does a policeman investigate a traffic accident?

...ask the witnesses!

How does a student do research to write a paper?

...read many different books and articles!

How do we learn about the life of Jesus?

...see what the eye witnesses said!

SAME & DIFFERENT:

We have not just one history book about Jesus. We have FOUR history books about Jesus!

#1. How many chapters are in each Gospel?

Matthew has _____ chapters.

Mark has _____ chapters.

Luke has _____ chapters.

John has _____ chapters.

#2. Which Gospel is shortest? _____

#3. Which Gospel is longest? _____

Look at the first two chapters of each Gospel.

Matthew 1 Mark 1 Luke 2-3 John 1

#4. Which Gospels show Jesus' "family tree?"

#5. Which Gospels tell about Baby Jesus birth?

#6. Jesus speaks from the Cross:

Matthew 27:35-50.

Mark 15:24-37.

Luke 23:33-46.

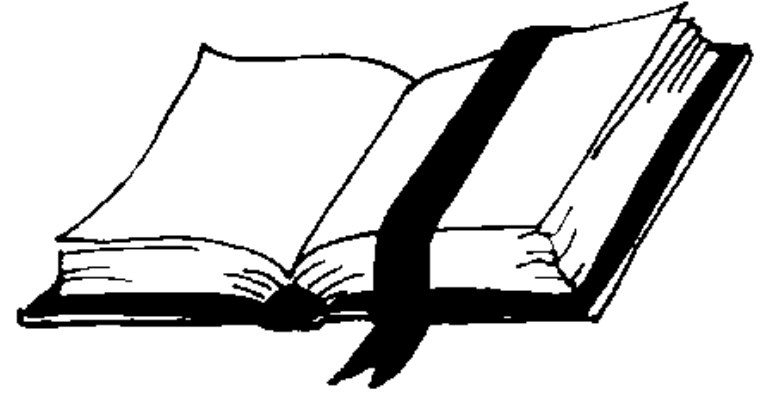
John 19:18-30.

Jesus said 7 different things from His Cross. But we must look at all four Gospels to find all 7 things that Jesus said. In the chart on the next page, write the verse number that reports Jesus' words. (The first one, Luke 23:34, is printed for you.)

	JESUS SAID...	Matt. 27: 35-50	Mark 15: 24-37	Luke 23: 33-46	John 19: 18-30
1	"Father, forgive these people. They don't know what they are doing."			verse 34	
2	"Today you will be with me in Paradise."				
3	"Woman, here is your son... Here is your mother."				
4	"My God, my God, why have you left me alone?"				
5	"I am thirsty."				
6	"It is finished."				
7	"Father, I give you my spirit."				

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Lesson 1
Why **FOUR** Gospels?

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Lesson 2 Matthew

Theme verse: *"All this happened to make clear the full meaning of the things the Lord said through the prophet..."*
Matthew 1:22

SUMMARY:

Matthew was one of Jesus' Twelve Disciples.
Matthew wrote the Gospel for the Jewish readers, to show them Jesus is Savior that God promised in the Old Testament.

WHO is Matthew?

Read *Matthew 9:9-10*

#1. Matthew worked where? _____

#2. What was Matthew's job? _____

History background:

Sometimes the tax collectors were called "Publicans."
Jewish people hated tax collectors, for two reasons:

- The taxes were not for the Jewish government. The taxes were for the Roman government.
- The tax collectors charged people too much. The extra money they took, they kept for themselves.

#3. Jesus told Matthew to do what? _____

#4. Matthew did what? _____

Read *Matthew 10:2-4*.

#5. Jesus chose Matthew to join what group? _____

Read *Mark 2:14* (Same story, but different writer)

#6. What was Matthew's *other* name? _____

Matthew wrote the Gospel about Jesus FOR WHOM?

Matthew was a Jew, same as other Bible writers. He wrote the Gospel for other Jews, who believed the Jewish Bible (the Old Testament).

Matthew's Message -- Matthew said what?

Read *Matthew 1:22*

(A) The Deaf Version:

"All this happened to make clear the full meaning of the things the Lord said through the prophet..."

(B) The Good News Bible:

"All this happened in order to make come true what the Lord had said through the prophet..."

(C) The New International Version (NIV):

"All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet..."

(D) God's Word to the Nations Version:

"All this happened so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet came true..."

#7. Read the next verse (*Matthew 1:23*) in your Bible. Here Matthew quotes from the Old Testament. Maybe your Bible has a note at the bottom of the page, or at the side of the page, a note that tells you where in the Old Testament God says first says this verse. *If your Bible has a note about this verse, tell the group, and write the Old Testament verse name and number here:*

Matthew does this same thing many times in his Gospel:

- Something happens to Jesus.
- Matthew says "This happened as the Lord said through the prophet..."
- Matthew quotes a verse in the Old Testament that tells what will happen to Jesus.

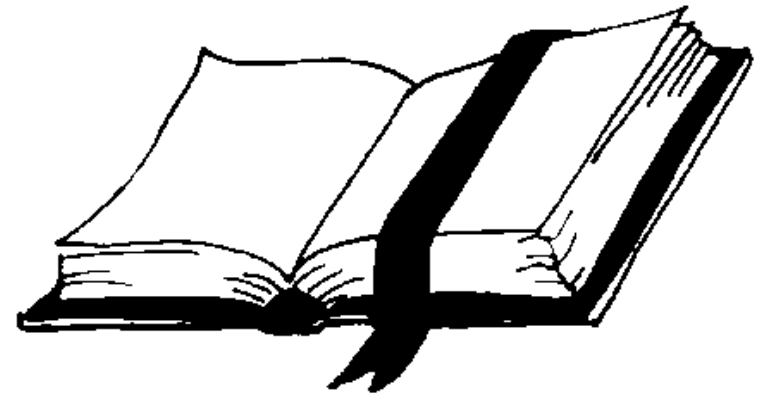
All through the Old Testament, God told the Jews that He will send a Savior, from the family of King David. Matthew shows us that everything God said about the Savior in the Old Testament happened as Jesus came to save us from sin and hell. Matthew's message to the Jews was: "*You are looking for the Savior that God promised? Well, here He is: JESUS!*"

MATTHEW'S SPECIAL INFORMATION ABOUT JESUS:

- #8. Matthew 1:18-24 _____
- #9. Matthew 2:1-23 _____
- #10. Matthew 5:1-7:28 *The Sermon on the Mount*
- #11. Matthew 25:31-46 _____
- #12. Matthew 28:18-20 *The Great Commission*

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Lesson 2
Matthew

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Lesson 3 Mark

Theme verse: *"The people there were amazed at his teaching... He taught like a person who had authority."* Mark 1:22

SUMMARY:

Mark was an eye witness.
Mark was a student of Paul and Peter.
Mark wrote for Roman readers, to show them that Jesus is Lord and Savior.

WHO is Mark?

- Mark was an EYE WITNESS.
- Mark was not one of Jesus' twelve disciples.
- Mark was a young man when he knew Jesus.
- Mark's name shows up in later New Testament history:

Read Acts 12:12

#1. What is Mark's *full name*? _____

#2. Who was Mark's mother? _____

#3. Who was at Mark's house? _____

#4. What were they doing? _____

Read Colossians 4:10

#5. Who was Mark's cousin? _____

Read Acts 12:25

#6. Mark moved from Jerusalem to what city? _____

#7. Mark moved help two men in their work. Those two men were who?

Read Acts 15:37-39

#8. Paul was upset about Mark. Why? _____

Read Philemon 23-24 and 2 Timothy 4:11

#9. Later in prison, how did Paul feel about Mark? _____

Read 1 Peter 5:13

#10. Peter says Mark is his _____ in Christ.

Mark's Message: WHO IS JESUS?

Read Mark 15:39

#11. Jesus is _____

Read Mark 1:3; 2:28; 12:36-37

#12. Jesus is _____

Read Mark 1:22

#13. Jesus has authority in the way He _____

Read Mark 1:27

#14. Jesus has authority over whom? _____

Read Mark 2:10

#15. Jesus has authority to do what? _____

Read Mark 4:39-41

#16. Jesus has authority over what? _____

Mark wrote the Gospel about Jesus FOR WHOM?

- Mark's Gospel looks as maybe he wrote it for Roman, non-Jewish (Gentile) people.

MARK'S SPECIAL INFORMATION ABOUT JESUS:

The following stories are found only in Mark's Gospel.

#17. Mark 7:31-37 _____

#18. Mark 14:51 _____

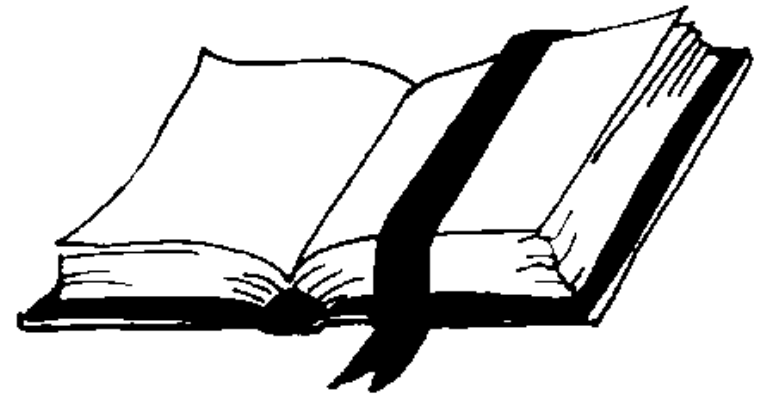
Discussion Questions:

#19 (See Question #18) *Was this young man maybe Mark himself? (Only Mark tells about it.)*

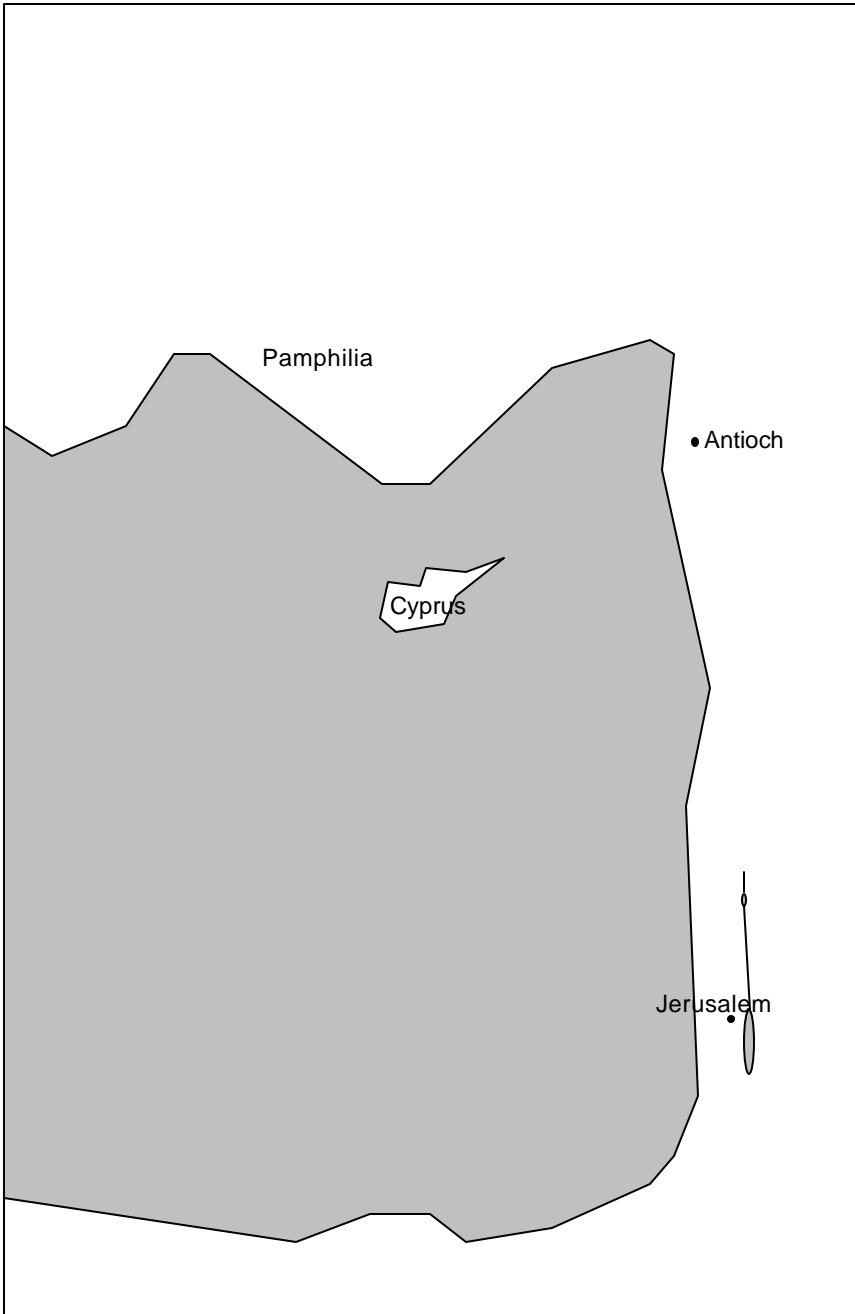
#20. (See Question #9) *Why did Paul change his mind about Mark?*

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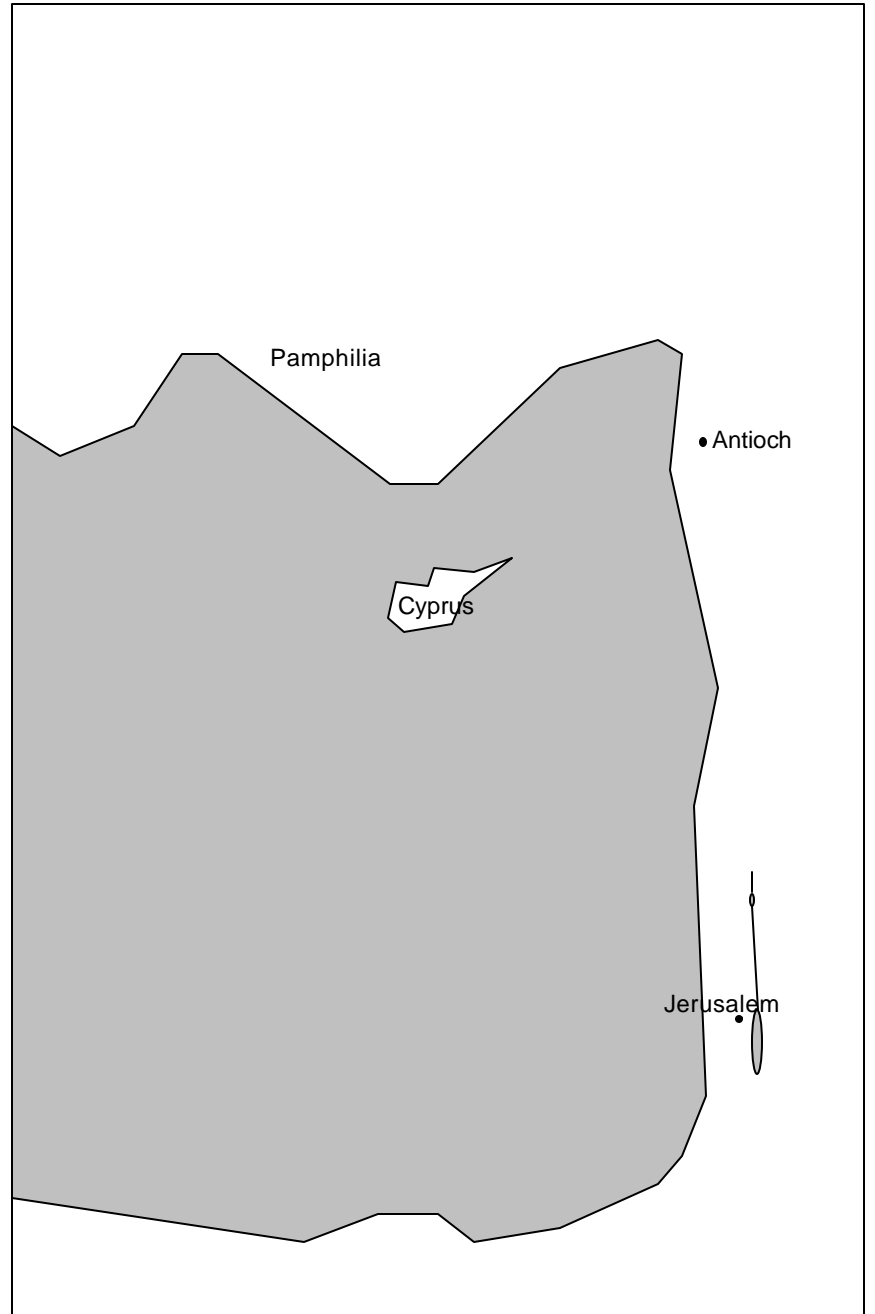
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Lesson 3
Mark



Map for Lesson 3, Questions 1-9



Map for Lesson 3, Questions 1-9

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Lesson 4
Luke

Theme verse: "Look! This man [Jesus] welcomes sinners and even eats with them!" Luke 15:3

SUMMARY:

Luke met and talked with eye witnesses.
Luke wrote to give an accurate history about Jesus' life and teaching.
Luke wrote to show that Jesus is the Savior and friend of sinning, broken hearted people.

WHO is Luke?

- Read Colossians 4:14
- #1. What was Luke's work? _____

- Read Colossians 1:1
- #2. The person writing the Letter to the Colossians was with Luke. Who was that person?

- Read Colossians 4:10
- #3 Who else was with them? _____

- Read Acts 21:17
- #4. Luke traveled with Paul to what city? _____

WHAT did Luke write?

- "The Gospel According to Luke" (or just "Luke")
- "The Acts of the Apostles" (or just "Acts")

The first five books of the New Testament are:
"Matthew" ...Life of Jesus, by Matthew
"Mark" Life of Jesus, by Mark
"LUKE" Life of Jesus, by Luke
"John" Life of Jesus, by John
"ACTS" History of the Church, by Luke

- Read Luke 1:1 and Acts 1:1
- #5. Luke wrote the history for whom? _____

- Read Luke 1:4
- #6. Why did Luke write the history? _____

LUKE'S SPECIAL INFORMATION ABOUT JESUS:

Luke has a lot of information about *Jesus' life*, that we don't find in the other Gospel books. Write the titles of these stories from your Bible:

- #7. Luke 1:26 _____
- #8. Luke 1:57 _____
- #9. Luke 2:1 _____
- #10. Luke 2:22 _____
- #11. Luke 2:41 _____
- #12. Luke 10:38 _____
- #13. Luke 24:13 _____

Luke tells about most of the *healing miracles* that Matthew reports, plus... (Write the story titles):

#14. Luke 7:11 _____

#15. Luke 13:10 _____

#16. Luke 14:1 _____

#17. Luke 17:11 _____

The next *teaching stories (parables)* are found only in Luke:

#18. Luke 14:15 _____

#19. Luke 15:3 _____

#20. Luke 15:8 _____

#21. Luke 15:11 _____

#22. Luke 16:19 _____

#23. Luke 18:1 _____

#24. Luke 18:9 _____

All these special stories in Luke show:

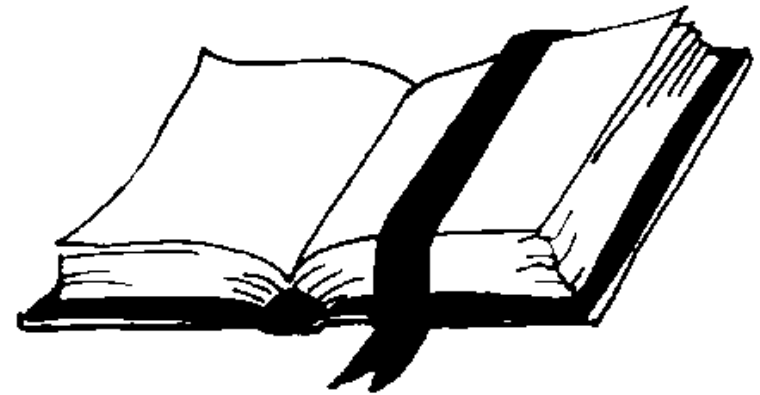
- Jesus forgives people who sin,
- Jesus heals sick people, and
- Jesus comforts people who feel sad.

Discussion Question:

#25. What has Jesus done to help you?

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Lesson 4
Luke

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Lesson 5 John

Theme verse: "Yes, God love the world so much that He gave His only son. God gave His Son so that every person that believes in Him would not be lost, but have life forever." (John 3:16)

SUMMARY:

John was one of Jesus' 12 disciples.
John also wrote four other books in the Bible.
Jesus is God.
Jesus gives life.
Jesus is the only way to heaven.

WHO is John?

Read **Matthew** 4:21-22

#1. Who was John's brother? _____

#2. Who was John's father? _____

#3. What was their work? _____

#4. Jesus asked John and his brother to do what? _____

Read John 13:23 (or John 19:26) *Sometimes John identified himself without saying his own name.*

#5. What words did John use to identify himself? _____

WHAT Bible books did John write?

Look at the *Table of Contents* page in front of your Bible.

#6. How many books in the New Testament have John's name? _____

John also wrote the last book of the Bible.

#7. The name of the last book of the Bible is: _____

WHY did John write the history about Jesus?

Read John 20: 31

#8. John wrote this history so we will **believe** what? _____

#9. John wrote this history so we will **have** what? _____

JOHN'S SPECIAL INFORMATION ABOUT JESUS:

John has a lot of special information about Jesus, not found in the other Gospel books. Write the titles of these stories from your Bible:

#10. John 2:1 _____

#11. John 3:1 _____

#12. John 4:1 _____

#13. John 5:1 _____

#14. John 9:1 _____

#15. John 11:38 (Some Bibles show the title at John 11:1)

#16. John 13:1 _____

#17. John 20:24 _____

#18. John 21:1 _____

JOHN'S MESSAGE: Who is Jesus?

Jesus uses many special names for Himself:

Read John 1:1

#19. "The Word" (Jesus) is Who? _____

Read John 4:10

#20. Jesus said, "I give you _____"

Read John 6:35

#21. Jesus said, "I AM _____"

Read John 8:12

#22. Jesus said, "I AM _____"

Read John 8:58

#23. Jesus said, "Before Abraham was born, _____"

Read John 10:9

#24. Jesus said, "I AM _____"

Read John 10:11

#25. Jesus said, "I AM _____"

Read John 14:6

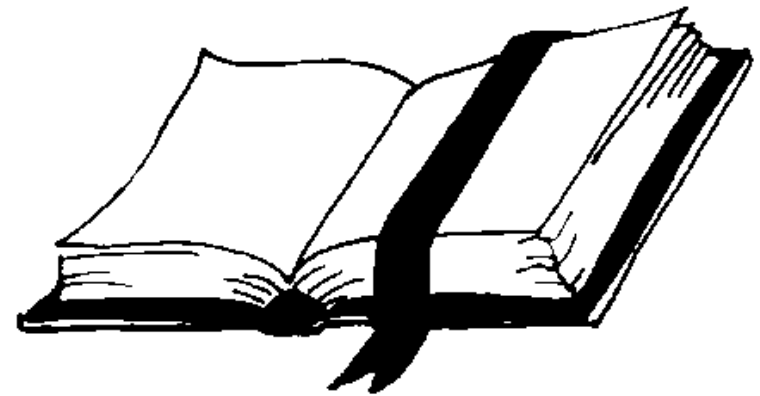
#26. Jesus answered, "I AM _____"

#27. Who is the only true way to God, our Father? _____

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Lesson 5

John

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Lesson 6 Paul

Theme verse: "Last of all, Christ showed Himself to me... All the other apostles are greater than I am. This is because I persecuted the church of God..." (1 Cor 15:8-9)

WHO is Paul

Read Acts 13:9

#1. Before Paul became a Christian, what was his name?

Read Acts 7:57 - 8:3

#2. Before Paul became a Christian, he *did what*? _____

Read Acts 9:1-2

#3. Saul(Paul) went to the city of Damascus. *Why*? _____

Read Acts 9:3-6

#4. *Who* did Saul(Paul) meet on his way to Damascus?

Read Acts 9:20

#5. *What* did Saul(Paul) *do* in Damascus? _____

• Starting at Acts 13, to the end of Acts, Luke tells us about Paul's travels.

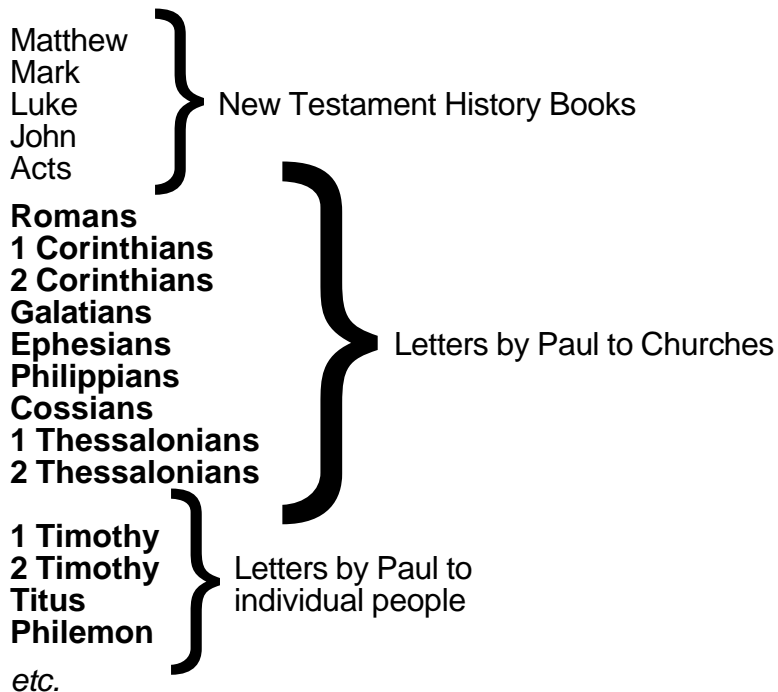
Find a Bible with maps in the back. Find the maps of Paul's travels.

#6. Paul went on *how many* mission trips (journeys)? _____

#7. Name some famous cities where Paul told the people about Jesus:

WHAT Bible books did Paul write?

Look at the *Table of Contents* page in front of your Bible.



#8. Paul wrote *how many* books of the Bible? _____

WHY did Paul write?

- Paul wrote letters to
- answer questions,
 - answer problems,
 - teach, and
 - encourage Christians

WHAT was Paul's message?

- Read Ephesians 2:8-9

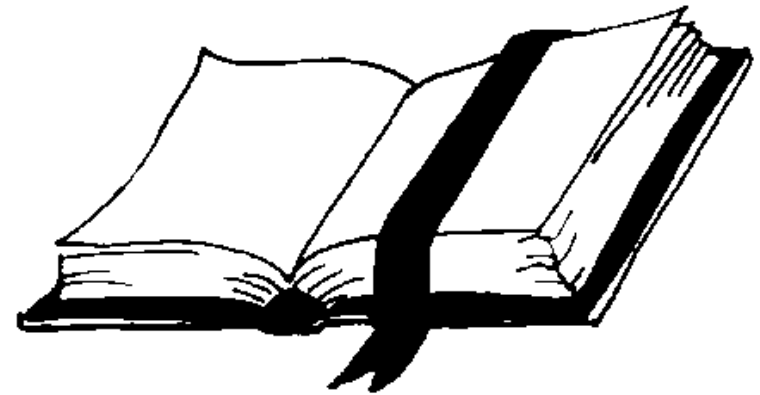
#9. What can we do to be sure we will go to heaven? _____

Discussion Question:

#10. Saul(Paul) first thought Christians were bad. He thought that the things Christians said about Jesus were wrong. But the God showed Saul that he was wrong. God changed his mind about Jesus. *Are there ideas that you once had, but the truth of the Bible made you realize that you were wrong? Did God's Word change your mind about anything?*

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Lesson 6
Paul

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE? New Testament Authors

Lesson 7 Unknown Writer of "Hebrews"

Theme verse: "So Christ can save those people who come to God through Him. Christ can do this forever, because He always lives, ready to help people when they come before God." Hebrews 7:25

WHO wrote Hebrews?... We don't know!

The writer of "Hebrews" does not identify himself. We can only guess who wrote Hebrews. Names some experts guess: Paul, or one of his friends: Barnabas, Luke, or Apollos (see Acts 18:24-28). Or the writer might be none of these men.

To whom is Hebrews written?

The people who were suppose to read "Hebrews" were Jews (Hebrew people). The book is full of Old Testament quotes, and many things about Jewish religion and history.

WHAT IS THE MESSAGE in Hebrews?

Read Hebrews 1:2

#1. The Book of Hebrews is about who? _____

Read Hebrews 1:4

#2. Jesus is greater (better) than who? _____

Read Hebrews 2:14

#3. Why did Jesus become human? _____

Read Hebrews 3:3

#4. Jesus should have more praise and honor than who?

Read Hebrews 4:14 (or read Hebrews 8:6)

#5. Jesus is greater than who? _____

Read Hebrews 7:23-24

#6. The Old Testament priests serve for how long? _____

#7. Jesus serves as priest how long? _____

Read Hebrews 7:26-27 (or read Hebrews 10:10-12)

#8. The Old Testament priests offer how many sacrifices?

#9. Jesus offers how many sacrifices? _____

#10. The Old Testament priests offer sacrifices how often?

#11. Jesus offers sacrifice how often? _____

Read Hebrews 8:13 (or read Hebrews 10:9)

#12. After Jesus finished his work, what happened to the work of the Old Testament priests?

Read Hebrews 9:11-12

#13. The Old Testament priests served where?

#14. Jesus serves as our priest where?

#15. The Old Testament priests sacrificed what?

Read Hebrews 10:4

#16. Did the Old Testament sacrifices take away sins? _____

Read Hebrews 10:10

#17. Jesus sacrificed what? _____

#18. Did Jesus' sacrifice take away our sin? _____

Read Hebrews 10:19-22

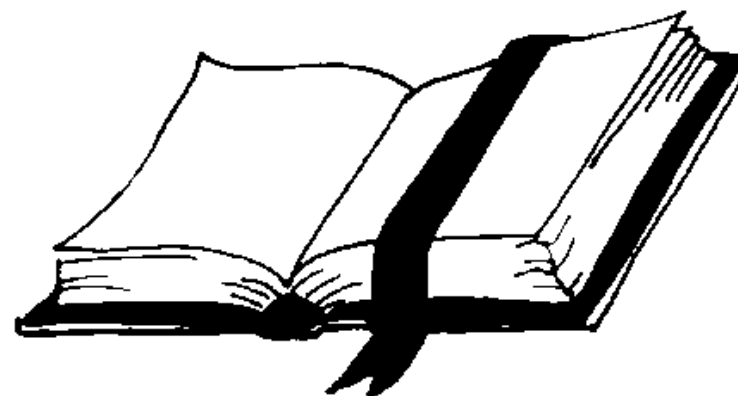
#19. Jesus' sacrifice makes us able to go where? _____

Read Hebrews 10:23

#20. Jesus' sacrifice gives us what? _____

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Lesson 7
Unknown Writer of "Hebrews"

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE? New Testament Authors

Lesson 8 JAMES

Theme Verse: *"One law rules over all other laws. This royal law is found in the Scriptures: 'Love other people as much as you love yourself.' If you obey this law, then you are doing right." James 2:8*

WHO is James?

Three different men in the Bible are named James. Which one wrote the Letter of James?

Read Matthew 10:1-4

#1. (Matthew 10:2) James the son of (who?) _____
and brother of (who?) _____
[Both brothers belonged to Jesus' 12 Disciples.]

#2. (Matthew 10:3) James the son of (who?) _____
[This James was another one of the 12 Disciples.]

#3. (Matthew 13:55) James the son of _____ and _____
the brother of _____,
_____, and _____

WHAT HAPPENED TO JAMES #1?

Read Acts 12:2

#4. What happened to James the brother of John? _____

WHAT HAPPENED TO JAMES #2?

- Sorry, the Bible tells us nothing more about James the son of Alphaeus.

WHAT HAPPENED TO JAMES #3?

Read John 7:5

#5. Did James and his brothers believe in Jesus? _____

Read Mark 3:20-21

#6. What did James and his family think about Jesus?

Read Acts 1:14

#7. Jesus died, came to life again, and went up to heaven. James and his family did what?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-7

#8. Why did James and his brothers change their mind about Jesus?

Read Acts 12:17, or Acts 15:13, or Acts 21:18

#9. The leader of the Christian Church in Jerusalem was who?

- So, now we think that the Letter of James in the Bible was written by the brother of Jesus.

TO WHOM did James write?

Read James 1:1

#10. James wrote his letter to whom? _____

WHAT IS JAMES' MESSAGE?

Look in your Bible for the titles above each of these verses.

#11. James 1:2 _____

#12. James 2:1 _____

#13. James 2:14 _____

#14. James 3:1 _____

#15. James 4:1 _____

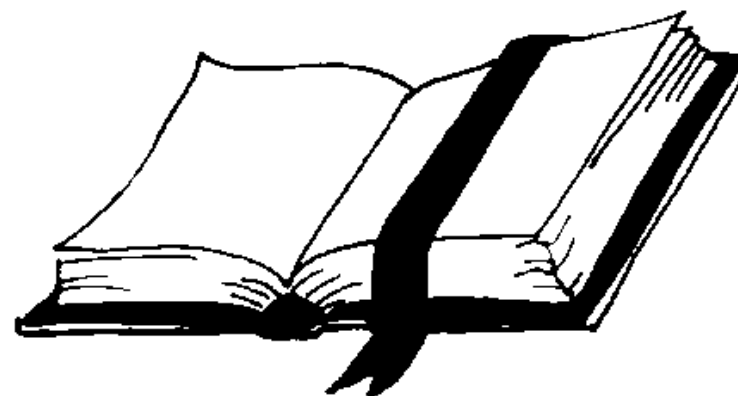
#16. James 4:13 _____

#17. James 5:1 _____

#18. James 5:13 _____

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Lesson 8
James

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Lesson 9
PETER

Theme Verse: *"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Glory be to Him now and forever! Amen." (2 Peter 3:18)*

WHO is Peter?

- Peter was one of Jesus' 12 Disciples

Read John 1:40-42

#1. Who first told Peter about Jesus? _____

#2. What were Peter's other name? _____

#3. What does Peter's name mean? _____

Read Matthew 4:18-20

#4. What as Peter's job? _____

Read Matthew 8:14-15

#5. Jesus healed a person in Peter's family. Who? _____

Read Matthew 16:17

#6. Peter said Jesus is who? _____

Read Matthew 26:69-75

#7. Before Jesus died, three times Peter said what about Jesus?

Read John 21:15-17

#8. After Jesus became alive again, three times Peter said what about Jesus?

Read John 21:19

#9. Jesus said what will happen to Peter? _____

[If you have time, read Acts 10]

#10. What important lesson did Peter learn in Acts 10?

Two Letters From Peter:

1 PETER

Read 1 Peter 1:3

#11. Why can Christians be happy? _____

Read 1Peter 1:6-7

#12. Should problems make us stop being happy? Why?

Read 1 Peter 2:13

#13. What is a Christian's responsibility toward people in authority?

Read 1 Peter 2:19-20

#14. If we suffer, what should be the reason we suffer?

#15. If we suffer, what should *not* be the reason we suffer?

2 PETER

Read 2 Peter 1:16-18

#16. What did Peter see and hear? _____

Read 2 Peter 2:1-3

#17. Peter tells us to be careful and watch out for who?

#18. What will happen to false teachers? _____

Read 2 Peter 3:10-13

#19. What will happen to the world? _____

#20. How should we live? _____

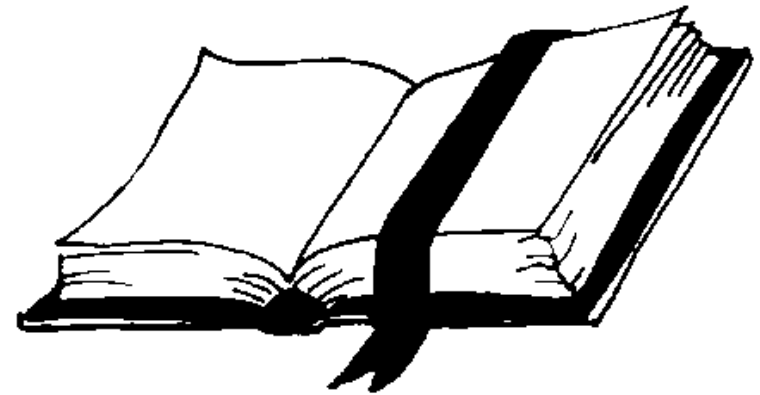
#21. How should we feel about Judgment Day? Afraid? _____

Discussion Question:

#22. What ways do Christians suffer persecution today?

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Lesson 9 Peter

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?
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Lesson 10
JUDE

#1. How many Chapters are in Jude's letter? _____

WHO IS JUDE?

- The English name "Jude" is really "Judas" in the Greek language. English Bible translators use the name "Jude" here, so we don't confuse him with the bad man also named Judas.

Read Jude 1

#2. Jude's brother is who? _____

Read Matthew 13:55

#3. Who are the other people in Jude's (Judas') family?

Read John 7:5

#4. Did Jude and his brothers believe in Jesus?

Read Mark 3:20-21

#5. What did Jude and his family think about Jesus?

Read Acts 1:14

#6. Jesus died, came to life again, and went up to heaven. Jude and his family did what?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-7

#7. Why did Jude and his brothers change their mind about Jesus?

Read James 1:1 and Jude 1

#8. James and Jude each call themselves "a _____ of Jesus Christ."

WHAT IS JUDE'S MESSAGE?

Read Jude 4

#9. Jude writes to warn us about whom? _____

Read Jude 5

#10. What happens to people who don't believe? _____

Read Jude 6

#11. What happens to angels who don't obey? _____

Read Jude 7

#12. Jude warns against what kinds of sins? _____

Read Jude 8

#13. What leads the false teachers? _____

Read Jude 9

#14. How does Michael, God's highest angel, fight the devil?

Read Jude 12

#15. The false teachers bring shame to what special thing in the church?

Read Jude 20

#16. We should do what with our faith? _____

#17. We should pray how? _____

Read Jude 21

#18. We wait for Jesus Christ to give us what? _____

Read Jude 22-23

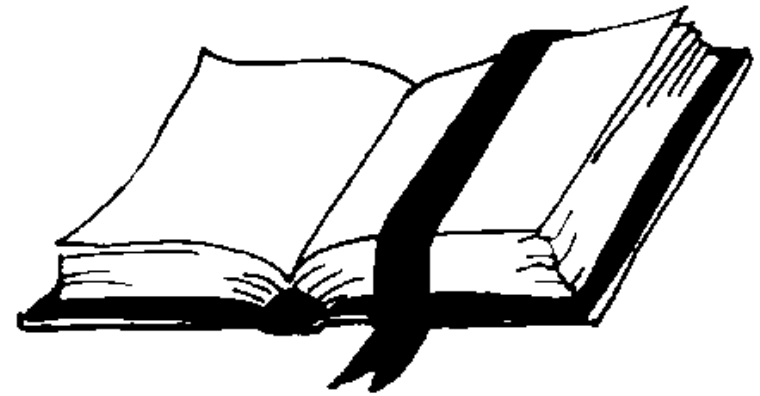
#19. What should we do to people that don't believe Jesus?

Read Jude 24

#20. God helps us do what? _____

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Lesson 10 Jude

LEADER'S GUIDE

**WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?
New Testament Authors**

**Lesson 1
Why FOUR Gospels?**

Theme verse: *"We told you about the power of our Lord Jesus Christ. We told you about His coming. Those things we told you were not smart stories that people invented. No! We saw the greatness of Jesus with our own eyes."*
2 Peter 1:16

Think About it...:

How does a policeman investigate a traffic accident? ...ask the witnesses!

How does a student do research to write a paper? ...read many different books and articles!

How do we learn about the life of Jesus? ...see what the eye witnesses said!

SAME & DIFFERENT:

We have not just one history book about Jesus.
We have FOUR history books about Jesus!

#1. How many chapters are in each Gospel?

Matthew has 28 chapters.
Mark has 16 chapters.
Luke has 24 chapters.
John has 21 chapters.

#2. Which Gospel is shortest? Mark

#3. Which Gospel is longest? Matthew

Look at the first two chapters of each Gospel.

- Matthew 1
- Mark 1
- Luke 2-3
- John 1

#4. Which Gospels show Jesus' "family tree?"

Matthew and Luke

#5. Which Gospels tell about Baby Jesus birth?

Matthew and Luke

#6. **Jesus speaks from the Cross:**

- Matthew 27:35-50.
- Mark 15:24-37.
- Luke 23:33-46.
- John 19:18-30.

Jesus said 7 different things from His Cross. But we must look at all four Gospels to find all 7 things that Jesus said. In the chart on the next page, write the verse number that reports Jesus' words. (The first one, Luke 23:34, is printed for you.)

	JESUS SAID...	Matt. 27: 35-50	Mark 15: 24:-37	Luke 23: 33-46	John 19: 18:30
1	"Father, forgive these people. They don't know what they are doing."			verse 34	
2	"Today you will be with me in Paradise."			verse 43	
3	"Woman, here is your son... Here is your mother."				verses 26-27
4	"My God, my God, why have you left me alone?"	verse 46	verse 34		
5	"I am thirsty."				verse 28
6	"It is finished."				verse 30
7	"Father, I give you my spirit."			verse 46	

LEADER'S GUIDE

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE? New Testament Authors

Lesson 2 MATTHEW

Theme verse: *"All this happened to make clear the full meaning of the things the Lord said through the prophet..." Matthew 1:22*

WHO is Matthew?

Read *Matthew 9:9-10*

#1. Matthew worked where? *at the tax office*

#2. What was Matthew's job? *tax collector*

History background:

Sometimes the tax collectors were called "Publicans." Jewish people hated tax collectors, for two reasons:

- The taxes were not for the Jewish government. The taxes were for the Roman government.
- The tax collectors charged people too much. The extra money they took, they kept for themselves.

#3. Jesus told Matthew to do what?

"Follow me."

#4. Matthew did what?

He left his job and followed Jesus

Read *Matthew 10:2-4*.

#5. Jesus chose Matthew to join what group?

12 Disciples

Read *Mark 2:14* (Same story, but different writer)

#6. What was Matthew's *other* name? *Levi*

Matthew wrote the Gospel about Jesus FOR WHOM?

Matthew was a Jew, same as other Bible writers. He wrote the Gospel for other Jews, who believed the Jewish Bible (the Old Testament).

Matthew's Message -- Matthew said what?

Read *Matthew 1:22*

(A) The Deaf Version:

"All this happened to make clear the full meaning of the things the Lord said through the prophet..."

(B) The Good News Bible:

"All this happened in order to make come true what the Lord had said through the prophet..."

(C) The New International Version (NIV):

"All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet..."

(D) God's Word to the Nations Version:

"All this happened so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet came true..."

#7. Read the next verse (*Matthew 1:23*) in your Bible. Here Matthew quotes from the Old Testament. Maybe your Bible has a note at the bottom of the page, or at the side of the page, a note that tells you where in the Old Testament God says first says this verse. *If your Bible has a note about this verse, tell the group, and write the Old Testament verse name and number here:*

Isaiah 7:14

Matthew does this same thing many times in his Gospel:

- Something happens to Jesus.
- Matthew says "This happened as the Lord said through the prophet..."
- Matthew quotes a verse in the Old Testament that tells what will happen to Jesus.

All through the Old Testament, God told the Jews that He will send a Savior, from the family of King David. Matthew shows us that everything God said about the Savior in the Old Testament happened as Jesus came to save us from sin and hell. Matthew's message to the Jews was: *"You are looking for the Savior that God promised? Well, here He is: JESUS!"*

MATTHEW'S SPECIAL INFORMATION ABOUT JESUS:

#8. *Matthew 1:18-24* *Jesus' birth*

#9. *Matthew 2:1-23* *The Wise Men visit*

#10. *Matthew 5:1-7:28* *The Sermon on the Mount*

#11. *Matthew 25:31-46* *Judgment Day*

#12. *Matthew 28:18-20* *The Great Commission*

LEADER'S GUIDE

**WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?
New Testament Authors**

**Lesson 3
MARK**

Theme verse: "The people there were amazed at his teaching... He taught like a person who had authority." Mark 1:22

WHO is Mark?

Read Acts 12:12

- #1. What is Mark's full name? John Mark
#2. Who was Mark's mother? Mary (not Jesus' mother)
#3. Who was at Mark's house? Peter & many people
#4. What were they doing? Praying

Read Colossians 4:10

#5. Who was Mark's cousin? Barnabas

Read Acts 12:25

#6. Mark moved from Jerusalem to what city?

Antioch

#7. Mark moved help two men in their work.
Those two men were who?

Barnabas & Saul

Read Acts 15:37-39

#8. Paul was upset about Mark. Why? _____

Mark quit on the first trip.

Read Philemon 23-24 and 2 Timothy 4:11

#9. Later in prison, how did Paul feel about Mark?

Paul wanted Mark to come help him.

Read 1 Peter 5:13

#10. Peter says Mark is his SON in Christ.

Mark's Message: WHO IS JESUS?

Read Mark 15:39

#11. Jesus is the Son of God

Read Mark 1:3; 2:28; 12:36-37

#12. Jesus is the Lord

Read Mark 1:22

#13. Jesus has authority in the way He teaches

Read Mark 1:27

#14. Jesus has authority over whom? evil spirits

Read Mark 2:10

#15. Jesus has authority to do what? forgive sins

Read Mark 4:39-41

#16. Jesus has authority over what? wind, waves, sea

Mark wrote the Gospel about Jesus FOR WHOM?

- Mark's Gospel looks as maybe he wrote it for Roman, non-Jewish (Gentile) people.

MARK'S SPECIAL INFORMATION ABOUT JESUS:

The following stories are found only in Mark's Gospel.

#17. Mark 7:31-37 Jesus gave a deaf man hearing and speech.

#18. Mark 14:51 A young man ran away naked.

Discussion Questions:

#19 (See Question #18) Was this young man

maybe Mark himself? (Only Mark tells about it.)

#20. (See Question #9) Why did Paul change his mind about Mark?

LEADER'S GUIDE

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE? New Testament Authors

Lesson 4 LUKE

Theme verse: "Look! This man [Jesus] welcomes sinners and even eats with them!"
Luke 15:3

WHO is Luke?

Read Colossians 4:14

#1. What was Luke's work? medical doctor, physician

Read Colossians 1:1

#2. The person writing the Letter to the Colossians was with Luke. Who was that person?

Paul (with Timothy)

Read Colossians 4:10

#3. Who else was with them? Mark (and others)

Read Acts 21:17

#4. Luke traveled with Paul to what city?
Jerusalem

Read Luke 1:1 and Acts 1:1

#5. Luke wrote the history for whom?
Theophilus

Read Luke 1:4

#6. Why did Luke write the history? "...so you can know that what you have been taught is true."

LUKE'S SPECIAL INFORMATION ABOUT JESUS:

Luke has a lot of information about Jesus' life, that we don't find in the other Gospel books. Write the titles of these stories from your Bible:

#7. Luke 1:26 angel appears to Mary

#8. Luke 1:57 birth of John the Baptizer

#9. Luke 2:1 birth of Jesus

#10. Luke 2:22 Jesus presented in the temple

#11. Luke 2:41 Boy Jesus goes to the temple

#12. Luke 10:38 Mary and Martha

#13. Luke 24:13 on the road to Emmaus

Luke tells about most of the healing miracles that Matthew reports, plus... (Write the story titles):

#14. Luke 7:11 Jesus raises the widows son at Nain

#15. Luke 13:10 Jesus heals a woman the Sabbath

#16. Luke 14:1 Jesus at Pharisee's house; "Is it right to heal on the Sabbath day?"

#17. Luke 17:11 Jesus heals Ten Lepers

The next teaching stories (parables) are found only in Luke:

#18. Luke 14:15 Parable about the banquet

#19. Luke 15:3 Parable about the lost sheep

#20. Luke 15:8 Parable about the lost coin

#21. Luke 15:11 Parable about the lost son

#22. Luke 16:19 The rich man and Lazarus

#23. Luke 18:1 The unjust judge & The persistent widow

#24. Luke 18:9 The Pharisee and the tax collector

All these special stories in Luke show:

- Jesus forgives people who sin,
- Jesus heals sick people, and

- Jesus comforts people who feel sad.

Discussion Question:

#25. What has Jesus done to help you?

LEADER'S GUIDE

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?
New Testament Authors

Lesson 5
JOHN

Theme verse: "Yes, God love the world so much that He gave His only son. God gave His Son so that every person that believes in Him would not be lost, but have life forever." (John 3:16)

WHO is John?

Read **Matthew** 4:21-22

#1. Who was John's brother? James

#2. Who was John's father? Zebedee

#3. What was their work? fishing

#4. Jesus asked John and his brother to do what? follow Jesus

Read John 13:23 (or John 19:26) *Sometimes John identified himself without saying his own name.*

#5. What words did John use to identify himself? "The Disciple whom Jesus loved"

WHAT Bible books did John write?

Look at the Table of Contents page in front of your Bible.

#6. How many books in the New Testament have John's name? 4

John also wrote the last book of the Bible.

#7. The name of the last book of the Bible is: Revelation

WHY did John write the history about Jesus?

Read John 20: 31

#8. John wrote this history so we will **believe** what? "...that Jesus is the Christ."

#9. John wrote this history so we will have what? "...life through his name."

JOHN'S SPECIAL INFORMATION ABOUT JESUS:

John has a lot of special information about Jesus, not found in the other Gospel books. Write the titles of these stories from your Bible:

#10. John 2:1 The wedding at Cana

#11. John 3:1 Jesus and Nicodemus

#12. John 4:1 The Samaritan woman at the well

#13. John 5:1 Healing at the pool of Bethesda

#14. John 9:1 Healing a man born blind

#15. John 11:38 (Some Bibles show the title at John 11:1) Raising Lazarus from the dead

#16. John 13:1 Washing Disciples' feet

#17. John 20:24 Jesus appears to Thomas

#18. John 21:1 Jesus appears at Sea of Galilee

JOHN'S MESSAGE: Who is Jesus?

Jesus uses many special names for Himself:

Read John 1:1

#19. "The Word" (Jesus) is Who? God

Read John 4:10

#20. Jesus said, "I give you Living Water"

Read John 6:35

#21. Jesus said, "I AM the Bread of Life"

Read John 8:12

#22. Jesus said, "I AM the Light of the world"

Read John 8:58

#23. Jesus said, "Before Abraham was born, "I AM"

Read John 10:9

#24. Jesus said, "I AM the gate (door) for the sheep"

Read John 10:11

#25. Jesus said, "I AM the Good Shepherd"

Read John 14:6

#26. Jesus answered, "I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life..."

#27. Who is the only true way to God, our Father? Jesus

LEADER'S GUIDE

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE? New Testament Authors

Lesson 6 Paul

Theme verse: "Last of all, Christ showed Himself to me... All the other apostles are greater than I am. This is because I persecuted the church of God..." (1 Cor. 15:8-9)

WHO is Paul

Read Acts 13:9

#1. Before Paul became a Christian, what was his name? Saul

Read Acts 7:57 - 8:3

#2. Before Paul became a Christian, he *did what?*
Persecute Christians (arrest, beat, and kill them)

Read Acts 9:1-2

#3. Saul(Paul) went to the city of Damascus.
Why? arrest Christians, and take them back to Jerusalem for trial

Read Acts 9:3-6

#4. Who did Saul(Paul) meet on his way to Damascus? Jesus

Read Acts 9:20

#5. What did Saul(Paul) do in Damascus? Tell people about Jesus

• Starting at Acts 13, to the end of Acts, Luke tells us about Paul's travels.

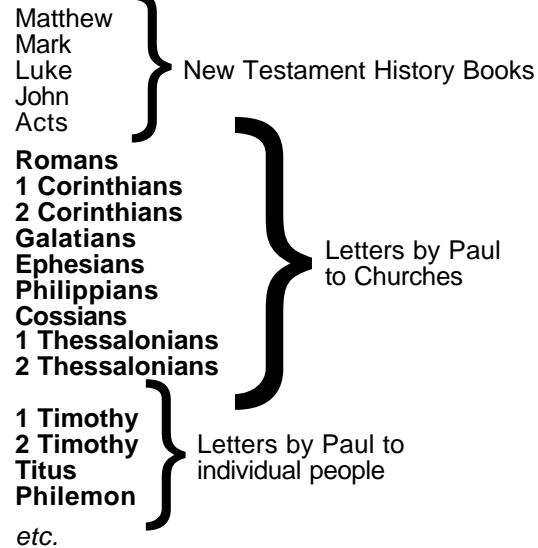
Find a Bible with maps in the back. Find the maps of Paul's travels.

#6. Paul went on *how many* mission trips (journeys)? 3 & 1 trip to Rome (for trial)

#7. Name some famous cities where Paul told the people about Jesus: *(Students will have various answers.)*

WHAT Bible books did Paul write?

Look at the *Table of Contents* page in front of your Bible.



#8. Paul wrote *how many* books of the Bible? 13

WHY did Paul write?

- Paul wrote letters to
- answer questions,
 - answer problems,
 - teach, and
 - encourage Christians

WHAT was Paul's message?

Read Ephesians 2:8-9

#9. What can we do to be sure we will go to heaven? We can DO NOTHING. God gives us salvation as FREE GIFT, which we receive only by faith.

Discussion Question:

#10. Saul(Paul) first thought Christians were bad. He thought that the things Christians said about Jesus were wrong. But the God showed Saul that he was wrong. God changed his mind about Jesus. *Are there ideas that you once had, but the truth of the Bible made you realize that you were wrong? Did God's Word change your mind about anything?*

LEADER'S GUIDE

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE? New Testament Authors

Lesson 7 Unknown Writer of "Hebrews"

Theme verse: "So Christ can save those people who come to God through Him. Christ can do this forever, because He always lives, ready to help people when they come before God."
Hebrews 7:25

WHO wrote Hebrews?... We don't know!

The writer of "Hebrews" does not identify himself. We can only guess who wrote Hebrews. Names some experts guess: Paul, or one of his friends: Barnabas, Luke, or Apollos (see Acts 18:24-28). Or the writer might be none of these men.

To whom is Hebrews written?

The people who were suppose to read "Hebrews" were Jews (Hebrew people). The book is full of Old Testament quotes, and many things about Jewish religion and history.

WHAT IS THE MESSAGE in Hebrews?

Read Hebrews 1:2

#1. The Book of Hebrews is about who? **The Son of God, Jesus**

Read Hebrews 1:4

#2. Jesus is greater (better) than who? **Angels**

Read Hebrews 2:14

#3. Why did Jesus become human? **so He could suffer and die in our place**

Read Hebrews 3:3

#4. Jesus should have more praise and honor than who? **Moses**

Read Hebrews 4:14 (or read Hebrews 8:6)

#5. Jesus is greater than who? **the priests**

Read Hebrews 7:23-24

#6. The Old Testament priests serve for how long? **only while they lived**

#7. Jesus serves as priest how long? **forever**

Read Hebrews 7:26-27 (or read Hebrews 10:10-12)

#8. The Old Testament priests offer how many sacrifices? **many**

#9. Jesus offers how many sacrifices? **ONE**

#10. The Old Testament priests offer sacrifices how often? **every day**

#11. Jesus offers sacrifice how often? **once**

Read Hebrews 8:13 (or read Hebrews 10:9)

#12. After Jesus finished his work, what happened to the work of the Old Testament priests? **it ended (became useless)**

Read Hebrews 9:11-12

#13. The Old Testament priests served where? **a tent (tabernacle or temple) on earth**

#14. Jesus serves as our priest where? **the Holy Place (heaven)**

#15. The Old Testament priests sacrificed what? **goats, young bulls, (and sheep)**

Read Hebrews 10:4

#16. Did the Old Testament sacrifices take away sins? **No**

Read Hebrews 10:10

#17. Jesus sacrificed what? **His body**

#18. Did Jesus' sacrifice take away our sin? **yes**

Read Hebrews 10:19-22

#19. Jesus' sacrifice makes us able to go where? **the Most Holy Place (heaven)**

Read Hebrews 10:23

#20. Jesus' sacrifice gives us what? **Hope**

LEADER'S GUIDE

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE? New Testament Authors

Lesson 8 JAMES

Theme Verse: "One law rules over all other laws. This royal law is found in the Scriptures: 'Love other people as much as you love yourself.' If you obey this law, then you are doing right." James 2:8

WHO is James?

Three different men in the Bible are named James. Which one wrote the Letter of James?

Read Matthew 10:1-4

#1. (Matthew 10:2) James the son of (who?)

Zebedee

and brother of (who?) John

[Both brothers belonged to Jesus' 12 Disciples.]

#2. (Matthew 10:3) James the son of (who?)

Alphaeus

[This James was another one of the 12 Disciples.]

#3. (Matthew 13:55) James the son of

Mary and Joseph

the brother of

Jesus, Joseph (Jr.), Simon, & Judas

WHAT HAPPENED TO JAMES #1?

Read Acts 12:2

#4. What happened to James the brother of John?

killed (by King Herod's order)

WHAT HAPPENED TO JAMES #2?

- Sorry, the Bible tells us nothing more about James the son of Alphaeus.

WHAT HAPPENED TO JAMES #3?

Read John 7:5

#5. Did James and his brothers believe in Jesus?

no

Read Mark 3:20-21

#6. What did James and his family think about Jesus? People said Jesus was crazy.

Read Acts 1:14

#7. Jesus died, came to life again, and went up to heaven. James and his family did what?

They believed in Jesus & prayed to Him.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-7

#8. Why did James and his brothers change their mind about Jesus? After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to them.

Read Acts 12:17, or Acts 15:13, or Acts 21:18

#9. The leader of the Christian Church in Jerusalem was who? James, the brother of Our Lord Jesus

- So, now we think that the Letter of James in the Bible was written by the brother of Jesus.

TO WHOM did James write?

Read James 1:1

#10. James wrote his letter to whom? all of God's people scattered everywhere in the world. (to the persecuted Jewish Christians who left Jerusalem?)

WHAT IS JAMES' MESSAGE?

Look in your Bible for the titles above each of these verses. (*Students will have various answers.*)

#11. James 1:2 Faith & Wisdom; trials

#12. James 2:1 Love all people

#13. James 2:14 Faith & Good Works

#14. James 3:1 Control things we say; taming the tongue

#15. James 4:1 Submit to God

#16. James 4:13 God plans your life; don't boast about tomorrow

#17. James 5:1 warning rich people

#18. James 5:13 pray with faith

LEADER'S GUIDE

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE? New Testament Authors

Lesson 9 PETER

Theme Verse: "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Glory be to Him now and forever! Amen." (2 Peter 3:18)

WHO is Peter?

- Peter was one of Jesus' 12 Disciples

Read John 1:40-42

#1. Who first told Peter about Jesus? Andrew (Peter's brother)

#2. What were Peter's other names? Simon, and Cephas

#3. What does Peter's name mean? Both Cephas and Peter mean "rock"

Read Matthew 4:18-20

#4. What was Peter's job? Fishing

Read Matthew 8:14-15

#5. Jesus healed a person in Peter's family. Who? Peter's mother-in-law

Read Matthew 16:16

#6. Peter said Jesus is who? Christ, the Son of God

Read Matthew 26:69-75

#7. Before Jesus died, three times Peter said what about Jesus? "I don't know this man Jesus!" (Peter denied Jesus)

Read John 21:15-17

#8. After Jesus became alive again, three times Peter said what about Jesus? "Lord, You know that I love you."

Read John 21:19

#9. Jesus said what will happen to Peter? Peter will die in a way that gives glory to God (killed for Jesus)

[If you have time, read Acts 10]

#10. What important lesson did Peter learn in Acts 10? God loves all people, no matter their race or nationality (Jesus is for both Jews and Gentiles.)

Two Letters From Peter:

1 PETER

Read 1 Peter 1:3

#11. Why can Christians be happy? God gave us new life and a living hope through Jesus rising from death.

Read 1 Peter 1:6-7

#12. Should problems make us stop being happy? No Why? God uses problems to make our faith stronger.

Read 1 Peter 2:13

#13. What is a Christian's responsibility toward people in authority? Obey

Read 1 Peter 2:19-20

#14. If we suffer, what should be the reason we suffer? for doing good

#15. If we suffer, what should *not* be the reason we suffer? for doing wrong

2 PETER

Read 2 Peter 1:16-18

#16. What did Peter see and hear? saw Jesus' glory on the mountain and heard the Voice: "This is my Son..."
(Transfiguration: Matt. 17:1-5)

Read 2 Peter 2:1-3

#17. Peter tells us to be careful and watch out for who? False teachers, false prophets

#18. What will happen to false teachers? God will destroy them in judgment

Read 2 Peter 3:10-13

#19. What will happen to the world? God will destroy the world with fire

#20. How should we live? Holy, serving God, waiting for The [Judgment] Day

#21. How should we feel about Judgment Day? Afraid? No, we "should want very much that Day to come... And we are waiting for what [God] promised... the place where goodness lives."

Discussion Question:

#22. What ways do Christians suffer persecution today?

LEADER'S GUIDE

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?

New Testament Authors Lesson 10

JUDE

#1. How many Chapters are in Jude's letter? 1

WHO IS JUDE?

- The English name "Jude" is really "Judas" in the Greek language. English Bible translators use the name "Jude" here, so we don't confuse him with the bad man also named Judas.

Read Jude 1

#2. Jude's brother is who? James

Read Matthew 13:55

#3. Who are the other people in Jude's (Judas') family? parents: Mary and Joseph, brothers Simon and Joseph (Jr.)

Read John 7:5

#4. Did Jude and his brothers believe in Jesus?
No

Read Mark 3:20-21

#5. What did Jude and his family think about Jesus? People said Jesus was crazy.

Read Acts 1:14

#6. Jesus died, came to life again, and went up to heaven. Jude and his family did what?
They believed in Jesus & prayed to Him.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-7

#7. Why did Jude and his brothers change their mind about Jesus? After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to them.

Read James 1:1 and Jude 1

#8. James and Jude each call themselves "a servant of Jesus Christ."

WHAT IS JUDE'S MESSAGE?

Read Jude 4

#9. Jude writes to warn us about who? people who have secretly joined the church. They use God's grace to do sinful things, and they don't believe in Jesus.

Read Jude 5

#10. What happens to people who don't believe?
God destroys them.

Read Jude 6

#11. What happens to angels who don't obey?
God keeps them in darkness. God will judgment on the Last Day.

Read Jude 7

#12. Jude warns against what kinds of sins?
sexual sins

Read Jude 8

#13. What leads the false teachers? dreams

Read Jude 9

#14. How does Michael, God's highest angel, fight the devil? Michael only told the devil, "The Lord punish you."

Read Jude 12

#15. The false teachers bring shame to what special thing in the church? The Lord's Supper

Read Jude 20

#16. We should do what with our faith? become strong

#17. We should pray how? with the Holy Spirit

Read Jude 21

#18. We wait for Jesus Christ to give us what?
Life forever

Read Jude 22-23

#19. What should we do to people that don't believe Jesus? Show mercy to them. Save them from hell. (Hate the sin, but love the sinner.

Read Jude 24

#20. God helps us do what? God helps us not fall, He brings us to His glory, and He gives us great joy.