

OLD TESTAMENT

Class Objective for Old Testament

- 1) To understand the difference between the Old and New Testament.
- 2) To be able to describe the relationship of God to the people of the Old Testament, and to discover elements of our relationship with God that are revealed through those Old Testament relationships.
- 3) To learn key stories of the Old Testament and be able to describe one story and how it relates to one's life.

Session 1: GOD'S RELATIONSHIP TO HIS PEOPLE

OBJECTIVE: To begin to become familiar with stories that illustrate themes of God's relationship to people (stories of history, law, wrath/judgment and love); God as creator, God as deliverer, God's response to sinfulness, etc. and to be able to contrast/compare these OT themes with basic New Testament themes.

General themes of the New Testament:

Four key themes of the Old Testament.

A.

Text that illustrates this: Genesis 12:1-3, Genesis 17: 1-8, Genesis 22: 15-18

What this theme illustrates about God's relationship to his people:

B.

Text that illustrates this: Exodus 20: 1-21

What this theme illustrates about God's relationship to his people:

C.

Text that illustrates this: Ezekiel 7:1-27

What this theme illustrates about God's relationship to his people:

D.

Text that illustrates this: Psalm 23

What this theme illustrates about God's relationship to his people:

- **HOMEWORK:** Each week for the next 5 weeks you'll have essentially the same homework assignment: select a story from the **FAVORITE BIBLE STORIES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT** on the next page You'll read the story and then write (to turn in each week) a response that describes the story, the key characters, the theme and how that theme relates to your life (what you can learn from the message of that story). There will be a couple creative variations but otherwise the homework assignment will be a constant. Sharing your story and response with a parent will be **PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION QUESTION** each week.

The Old Testament story I read this week (describe story-characters, basic plot, theme, AND how theme relates to your own life):

PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION QUESTION:

We discussed the story that my child selected and how that theme relates to both their life and my/our life.

COMPLETED: _____

FAVORITE STORIES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

God creates a wonderful world	Genesis 1-2
Adam and Eve Sin	Genesis 3
Noah and the Great Flood	Genesis 6-8
The Tower of Babel	Genesis 11:1-9
God's Covenant w. Abraham	Genesis 17
The Destruction of Sodom	Genesis 19: 1-29
Abraham offers Issac	Genesis 22:1-19
Esau sells his birthright	Genesis 25: 19-34
The Hebrews become slaves	Exodus 1
Moses is Born	Exodus 2: 1-10
The Burning Bush	Exodus 3:1-4:17
God send plagues to Egypt	Exodus 4:18-12: 50
The Exodus	Exodus 12: 51-13:16
Crossing the Red Sea	Exodus 14
Food in the Wilderness	Exodus 15-16
Water from the Rock	Exodus 17:1-7
The 10 Commandments	Exodus 20
The Golden Calf	Exodus 32
Twelve Spies	Numbers 13-14
Balaam's Donkey	Numbers 22
Samuel is Born	1 Samuel 1:1-20
God speaks to Samuel	1 Samuel 3
Saul is made King	1 Samuel 8-10
Jonathan's Bravery	1 Samuel 14
Samuel anoints David	1 Samuel 16: 1-13
David and Goliath	1 Samuel 17
The friendship of Jonathan and David	1 Samuel 18
Saul tries to kill David	1 Samuel 18:10-19: 24
Jonathan warns David	1 Samuel 20
Saul dies in battle	1 Samuel 31
David becomes King	2 Samuel 5
Absalom rebels against David	2 Samuel 15-18
David plans the Temple	1 Chronicles 22-29
Solomon's wisdom	2 Chronicles 2-7
The Kingdom Divides	1 Kings 12: 1-24; 14:21-31 15: 6-8, 2 Chronicles 10

Session 2: People's Choices-God's Response

OBJECTIVE: To become familiar with Old Testament stories that illustrate God's response to people's faithfulness and obedience/disobedience of His laws.

NOTES ON STORIES SHARED BY PEERS: (Story, theme, what it says about God's relationship to His people, how it relates to their life.)

In the stories of the Fall, Cain and Abel and Noah we see that _____ leads to disobedience.

4 consequences of disobeying God, that are illustrated in the stories we read:

- A.
- B,
- C.
- D.

What's a situation that presents a temptation to disobey for you?

If you were appointed God for a day, how would you live out that day?

Describe a time you felt jealous/how that jealousy affected relationships:

Describe a time you felt distant from God during a time of waiting:

What is a symbol of God's promise and presence in your life?

- **HOMEWORK:** This week you will select a different story from the **FAVORITE BIBLE STORIES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT** sheet in your student packet. This week you will choose a story and create a **Children's Bible Story Book** of that story. (None of the three used in this week's lesson are eligible) Rewrite the story in kid friendly language and add accompanying pictures. Sharing your story with a parent will be **PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION QUESTION**

The Old Testament story I read and turned into a children's book this week-
(describe story-characters, basic plot, theme, AND how theme relates to your own life):

PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION QUESTION:

I saw my student's children's book. We discussed the story that my child selected and how that theme relates to both their life and my/our life.

COMPLETED: _____

5. What do we do with a desire to have a God who only blesses and who we expect to intervene and prevent any tragedy or heartache?

In times that seem desperate, God rewards our faithfulness, and will always provide a way out. How does God do this in each of the stories below:

Genesis 21: 1:

Genesis 22:1-19:

Daniel 3:1-30:

Daniel 6: 10-23:

What would it say about God, for you, if these stories did not end in rescue/deliverance?

Share a time when you experienced God's presence in a joyous or difficult time. What was God trying to communicate to you through that situation?

- **HOMEWORK:** Select a third story from the **FAVORITE BIBLE STORIES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT** sheet. Read the story and then write (to turn in each week) a response that describes the story, the key characters, the theme and how that theme relates to your life (what you can learn from the message of that story). Sharing your story and response with a parent will be **PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION QUESTION** each week.

The Old Testament story I read this week (describe story-characters, basic plot, theme, AND how theme relates to your own life):

PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION QUESTION:

We discussed the story that my child selected and how that theme relates to both their life and my/our life.

COMPLETED: _____

Session 4: God's Means of Communicating with His People

OBJECTIVE: To explore examples of God's communication with the Israelites and to discover how to be more open to God's communication in our lives.

As you watch the DVD reflect on the following:

What were some ways that God communicated to Moses and the Israelites? What were His messages?

MY GROUP'S TEXT: _____

How is God communicating?

What is being communicated?

What does this story say about God's relationship to His people?

The object I chose to represent the ways I experience God communicating with me in my

life_____.

What does this represent to you?

What messages does God have for you?

- **HOMEWORK:** This week select a fourth story from the **FAVORITE BIBLE STORIES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT** sheet in your student packet. This week try to select a story that has the same theme or message as the item you selected to represent how God communicates with you today. Do not use any of the stories we use in class-Moses /Exodus stories. Read the story and then write a response that describes the story, the key characters, the theme and how that theme relates to your life (what you can learn from the message of that story). Sharing your story and response with a parent will be **PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION QUESTION** for this week.

The Old Testament story I read this week (describe story, theme, how theme relates to your own life):

PARENT/CHILD DISCUSSION QUESTION:

We discussed the story that my child selected and how that theme relates to both their life and my/our life.

COMPLETED: _____

Session 5: The Give and Take Communication of the Psalms

OBJECTIVE: To explore the Psalms, and recognize both their ability to reflect our lives, our thoughts, our prayers and God's responses to us.

What is a Psalm?

MY GROUP'S PSALM: _____

What is tone or theme?

What does it tell you about writer's emotions- fears, joys?

What is being asked for?

What picture does it paint of God?

OUR OWN 8 STANZA PSALM:

OLD TESTAMENT TEST

- 1. In your own words describe the difference between the Old and New Testament.**

- 2. Describe God's relationship to the people of the Old Testament. Cite two OT stories, giving details (characters, situations, theme) about them that illustrate the attributes of this relationship.**

- 3. Choose 1 Old Testament story, retell it in your own words (characters, situations, theme) and describe how the theme of that story applies to your life.**

- 4. Select a style of Psalm, state what the style is and then write 4 stanza Psalm that reflects that style. How can something like a Psalm be a vehicle for communication between you and God?**