

One God, Two Testaments: Unveiling the Consistency of the Bible

A BIBLE STUDY AND REFLECTION GUIDE



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Faith, Hope and Love Ministries

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About Us

At FHLM, we are dedicated to nurturing faith, fostering hope, and spreading love. We provide both spiritual and practical guidance to Christians, students, and Christian leaders. We are not a church, and we do not offer financial support.

We are a small ministry with a simple hope: to put warm, thoughtful, Bible-centred resources into the hands of anyone who wants to grow closer to Jesus — whether you are gathering a group around a kitchen table or sitting quietly with a cup of tea and an open Bible. Everything we make is offered freely, in the hope that it will be a blessing and passed on.

Core Values

Our mission is grounded in the values of unconditional love and unity. We prioritise inclusion and diversity over dogmatism and division, reaching out to people right where they are, and trying our best to follow the example of Jesus.

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This guide is organised into three main sections:

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- Bible Study Notes
- Worksheet

Note

This guide is formatted for double-sided printing, to save paper and make for a nicer reading experience.

Stay in Touch

We would love to keep walking alongside you. Explore our growing library of Bible study and reflection guides, and do get in touch to let us know how you are getting on.

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Leader's Guide

One God, Two Testaments: Unveiling the Consistency of the Bible

Introduction for Leaders and Solo Readers

Dear Leaders and Solo Readers,

Welcome to “One God, Two Testaments: Unveiling the Consistency of the Bible,” from all of us at Faith, Hope, and Love Ministries. Whether you are leading a group or exploring on your own, we are so glad you are here. Over ten sessions we will follow the seamless thread that runs through the whole of Scripture — the one, unchanging God whose character and plans hold steady from Genesis to Revelation.

Each session explores a theme that shows the unity of God’s Word, and you should feel free to make this guide your own — rearrange the sessions, linger where one is landing, trim a discussion that isn’t. The material is a starting point, not a script. The suggested prayers, too, are simply there to help you begin; pray them as they stand, or from your own heart.

We have laid out the sessions to fit on a single, double-sided page — Scripture and notes on one side, discussion and reflection questions on the other — so they are easy to photocopy and hand round. You can find out more about us, or say hello, at <https://fhlm.org>, or on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

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A word on Scripture: the verses in this guide are taken from the Berean Standard Bible (BSB), used with kind permission. Please read along in whichever translation you love best — we are not endorsing any single one.

Our prayer is that, as you trace God’s consistency across both Testaments, your trust in His Word and your love for its Author would grow deeper still.

In service to Christ,

Faith, Hope and Love Ministries

Session 1: The Seamless Story of God's Love

Opening Prayer:

"Father God, as we begin this journey to understand Your seamless story of love, open our hearts and minds to see Your consistent character all through the Scriptures. Amen."

Key Scripture:

John 3:16 (BSB) "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Supplementary Scripture:

- Genesis 1:1 (BSB) "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

Discussion Points:

1. One Unified Story:

- How does seeing the Bible as one unified story shape your view of God and His plan?
- What examples from both Testaments show you God's unchanging character?

2. A Consistent God:

- How does God's faithfulness in keeping His promises — like the one to Abraham — strengthen your faith?
- As we begin, what are you most hoping to discover about the consistency of Scripture?

Desired Outcomes:

By the end of this session, we hope everyone will begin to see the Bible not as a collection of unrelated pieces but as one unified story — the same God at work from creation to salvation, His character unchanging across both Testaments.

Closing Prayer:

"Heavenly Father, thank You for revealing Your unchanging love and character through Your Word. May we keep seeking You as we explore the depths of the Scriptures. Amen."

Session 2: Promises Made, Promises Kept

Opening Prayer:

"Father God, as we look at Your promises across the Old and New Testaments, grant us the wisdom to see Your unchanging faithfulness and love. Amen."

Key Scripture:

Genesis 12:2-3 (BSB) "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you; and all the families of the earth will be blessed through you."

Supplementary Scripture:

- Isaiah 9:6 (BSB) "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government will be upon His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Discussion Points:

1. Promises Kept:

- How does seeing Old Testament promises fulfilled in the New affect your trust in God's Word?
- How does the covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12:2-3) serve as a foundation for the rest of the Bible?

2. Fulfilled in Christ:

- How does the fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy (Isaiah 9:6) in Jesus strengthen your confidence in Scripture?
- Paul says the promise was to Abraham's "seed," meaning Christ (Galatians 3:16). What does that mean to you?

Desired Outcomes:

By the end of this session, we hope everyone will come away with a reinforced trust in God's faithfulness — seeing how the New Testament fulfils and expands the promises of the Old, all pointing to Christ.

Closing Prayer:

"Lord, thank You for Your faithfulness in keeping Your promises. May we hold fast to these truths as we continue to explore Your Word. Amen."

Session 3: The Essence of the Law — Love

Opening Prayer:

“Father God, as we explore the essence of Your law as love, help us to grasp the depth of Your character, consistently revealed from the Old Testament to the New. Amen.”

Key Scripture:

Matthew 22:37–40 (BSB) “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Supplementary Scripture:

- Galatians 5:22–23 (BSB) “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

Discussion Points:

1. Love at the Heart of the Law:

- How does seeing love as the essence of the law change the way you read the Old Testament commandments?
- How do the two great commandments (Matthew 22:37–40) gather up the whole law?

2. Fulfilled, Not Abolished:

- What does Jesus mean when He says He came to fulfil the Law, not abolish it (Matthew 5:17–18)?
- How does the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22–23) show love at work in daily life?

Desired Outcomes:

By the end of this session, we hope everyone will see love as the beating heart of God’s law — the thread that binds the Ten Commandments, the Prophets, and the teaching of Jesus into one — and will let that shape their daily lives.

Closing Prayer:

“Lord, thank You for revealing the essence of Your law as love. May this understanding transform our hearts and guide our actions as we seek to love You and others more deeply. Amen.”

Session 4: Miracles and the Power of God

Opening Prayer:

"Father God, as we consider the miracles recorded in Your Word, open our eyes to see Your unchanging nature, power, and compassion. Amen."

Key Scripture:

Exodus 14:21-22 (BSB) "Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove back the sea with a strong east wind that turned it into dry land. So the waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on their right and on their left."

Supplementary Scripture:

- John 9:6-7 (BSB) "When Jesus had said this, He spit on the ground, made some mud, and applied it to the man's eyes. Then He told him, 'Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam' (which means 'Sent'). So the man went and washed, and came back seeing."

Discussion Points:

1. The Same Powerful God:

- How do miracles in both Testaments testify to God's unchanging nature?
- What parallels do you see between the parting of the sea (Exodus 14) and the works of Jesus?

2. Miracles and Faith:

- How do people's responses to miracles reveal the impact of God's power on human lives?
- Have you witnessed or experienced something that strengthened your faith? Share, if you are willing.

Desired Outcomes:

By the end of this session, we hope everyone will see in the miracles of both Testaments the same God — powerful and compassionate — and will find their own faith strengthened by His active involvement in the world and in their lives.

Closing Prayer:

"Lord, thank You for the miracles that reveal Your unchanging nature and power. May these accounts strengthen our faith and deepen our sense of Your active involvement in our lives. Amen."

Session 5: Prophets and the Fulfilment in Christ

Opening Prayer:

"Father God, as we explore the role of the prophets and the fulfilment of their words in Jesus Christ, grant us wisdom to see Your faithfulness across the Testaments. Amen."

Key Scripture:

Isaiah 53:4-6 (BSB) "Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows; yet we considered Him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. We all like sheep have gone astray, each one has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid upon Him the iniquity of us all."

Supplementary Scripture:

- 1 Peter 2:24 (BSB) "He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His stripes you are healed."

Discussion Points:

1. Messengers of God:

- How does understanding the prophets as God's messengers deepen your appreciation of the Old Testament?
- How does the fulfilment of prophecy in Jesus strengthen the link between the two Testaments?

2. The Suffering Servant:

- How does Isaiah's picture of the suffering servant (Isaiah 53:4-6) resonate with your understanding of the cross?
- What do you make of Peter tying Isaiah's words directly to Jesus' sacrifice (1 Peter 2:24)?

Desired Outcomes:

By the end of this session, we hope everyone will marvel at how the prophets' words find their fulfilment in Jesus — strengthening their trust in the continuity and reliability of the whole Bible.

Closing Prayer:

"Lord, thank You for the prophets who spoke Your truth, and for the fulfilment of their words in Jesus Christ. May this understanding deepen our faith and our commitment to Your Word. Amen."

Session 6: Themes of Redemption

Opening Prayer:

"Father God, as we trace the theme of redemption across both Testaments, open our hearts to grasp the depth of Your love and the grandeur of Your plan of salvation. Amen."

Key Scripture:

Exodus 6:6 (BSB) "Therefore tell the Israelites: 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians and deliver you from their bondage. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment.'"

Supplementary Scripture:

- Mark 10:45 (BSB) "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

Discussion Points:

1. A Thread of Redemption:

- How does the theme of redemption connect the Old and New Testaments?
- How does the rescue of Israel from Egypt (Exodus 6:6) foreshadow the redemption Jesus brings?

2. A Ransom for Many:

- How do you understand Jesus' words that He came "to give His life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45)?
- What does it mean to you that this redemption is offered to all — Jew and Gentile alike?

Desired Outcomes:

By the end of this session, we hope everyone will see redemption as a golden thread running through the whole Bible — from the rescue out of Egypt to the ransom paid at the cross — and will trust more deeply in God's eternal plan of salvation.

Closing Prayer:

"Lord, thank You for Your redemptive work that spans from the beginning to the end of time. May our understanding of this theme deepen our faith and our commitment to You. Amen."

Session 7: The Covenant Relationship — From Old to New

Opening Prayer:

"Father God, as we explore covenant relationships across both Testaments, grant us wisdom to understand Your eternal faithfulness and love. Amen."

Key Scripture:

Exodus 24:7-8 (BSB) "Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people, who replied, 'All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.' So Moses took the blood, splattered it on the people, and said, 'This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.'"

Supplementary Scripture:

- Luke 22:20 (BSB) "In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you.'"

Discussion Points:

1. Old Covenant, New Covenant:

- How do you understand a covenant, and how does it differ from a mere contract?
- How does the covenant at Sinai (Exodus 24:7-8) set the stage for the new covenant in Christ?

2. Sealed in His Blood:

- How do you understand Jesus' words at the Last Supper about a new covenant in His blood (Luke 22:20)?
- How does the new covenant both fulfil and go beyond the old?

Desired Outcomes:

By the end of this session, we hope everyone will grasp more deeply what covenant means — God binding Himself to His people — and will treasure the new covenant sealed in the blood of Christ.

Closing Prayer:

"Lord, thank You for Your covenants, which reveal Your unchanging nature and Your eternal commitment to us. May our understanding of them deepen our relationship with You. Amen."

Session 8: The Character of God — Consistent from Beginning to End

Opening Prayer:

“Almighty God, as we seek to understand Your consistent character across both Testaments, grant us wisdom to see Your unchanging love, justice, and holiness. Amen.”

Key Scripture:

Exodus 34:6–7 (BSB) “Then the LORD passed in front of Moses and called out: ‘The LORD, the LORD God, is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in loving devotion and faithfulness, maintaining loving devotion to a thousand generations, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin.’”

Supplementary Scripture:

- John 3:16–17 (BSB) “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.”

Discussion Points:

1. Compassionate and Just:

- What do you learn about God from His self-revelation to Moses (Exodus 34:6–7)?
- How do you hold together God’s love and His justice as shown in both Testaments?

2. The Same God, Revealed in Christ:

- How does John 3:16–17 align with the character of God revealed in the Old Testament?
- Where have you seen God’s unchanging character at work in your own life?

Desired Outcomes:

By the end of this session, we hope everyone will come away trusting the unchanging character of God — compassionate and gracious, yet just and holy — the same from Sinai to the cross and beyond.

Closing Prayer:

“Lord, thank You for revealing Your consistent character to us. May our understanding of Your love, justice, and holiness deepen our faith and draw us closer to You. Amen.”

Session 9: The Role of Faith and Obedience

Opening Prayer:

"Gracious God, as we explore the roles of faith and obedience in our relationship with You, grant us wisdom to understand Your unchanging character and expectations. Amen."

Key Scripture:

Genesis 15:6 (BSB) "Abram believed the LORD, and it was credited to him as righteousness."

Supplementary Scripture:

- Ephesians 2:8-9 (BSB) "For it is by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not from yourselves; it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast."

Discussion Points:

1. Faith Credited as Righteousness:

- What do you learn from Abraham's faith (Genesis 15:6)?
- How do you understand Paul's teaching that we are saved by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8-9)?

2. Faith and Obedience Together:

- Jesus says, "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments" (John 14:15). How does obedience relate to grace?
- How do faith and obedience work together in your own walk with God?

Desired Outcomes:

By the end of this session, we hope everyone will see the beautiful consistency of God's way with His people — faith counted as righteousness in both Testaments, and obedience flowing not to earn grace but out of love for the One who gives it.

Closing Prayer:

"Lord, thank You for the gift of faith and the call to obedience. May our understanding of these deepen our relationship with You and guide us in our daily lives. Amen."

Session 10: The Ultimate Goal — Reconciliation and Eternal Life

Opening Prayer:

“Heavenly Father, as we consider Your ultimate goal for humanity — reconciliation and eternal life — may we gain a deeper understanding of Your unchanging love and faithfulness. Amen.”

Key Scripture:

Isaiah 1:18 (BSB) *“‘Come now, let us reason together,’ says the LORD. ‘Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are as red as crimson, they will become like wool.’”*

Supplementary Scripture:

- John 6:40 (BSB) *“For it is My Father’s will that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.”*

Discussion Points:

1. Reconciled to God:

- How does the promise of reconciliation resonate with you personally?
- How does Isaiah 1:18’s offer of cleansing align with your understanding of God’s mercy?

2. The Goal of It All:

- How does 2 Corinthians 5:18–19 deepen your understanding of God reconciling the world to Himself?
- How do you see the promise of eternal life running through both Testaments (John 6:40)?

Desired Outcomes:

By the end of this session — and of the whole study — we hope everyone will see clearly where the seamless story has been heading all along: God reconciling us to Himself and offering eternal life, one great plan of love from Genesis to Revelation.

Closing Prayer:

“Lord, as we conclude this series, we thank You for Your unchanging goal of reconciling us to Yourself and offering eternal life. May this understanding guide us in our daily lives and deepen our relationship with You. Amen.”

One God, Two Testaments: Unveiling the Consistency of the Bible

Ever wondered how the God of the Old Testament relates to the God of the New? This study follows the seamless thread that ties the whole Bible together — one unchanging God, from Genesis to Revelation.

Bible Study Notes

One God, Two Testaments: Unveiling the Consistency of the Bible

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Session 1 – The Seamless Story of God’s Love

The Bible is not a jumble of unrelated stories, laws, and teachings. It is a unified narrative of God’s dealings with humanity — and from the first page of Genesis to the last of Revelation, one thread runs through it all: God’s love and His plan of redemption.

It begins simply: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). And the same God who made all things is the God who gave His Son to save us: “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). The God of creation is the God of salvation; His character does not change between the Testaments.

One of the clearest proofs of this continuity is the promises God makes and keeps. To Abraham He promised that “all the families of the earth will be blessed through you” (Genesis 12:3) — a promise fulfilled in Christ, for as Paul explains, it was made “to your seed, meaning One, who is Christ” (Galatians 3:16). What God says, He does — across the centuries.

We see the same consistency in the law (summed up by Jesus as love for God and neighbour), in the miracles that reveal His power and compassion in both Testaments, and in the prophets who point ahead to Jesus: “He was pierced for our transgressions... and by His stripes we are healed” (Isaiah 53:5). This is only the beginning. In the sessions ahead we will trace, theme by theme, the one unchanging God who holds the whole Bible together.

Discussion and Reflection Questions

The Seamless Story of God's Love

Here are some questions to guide your discussion and quiet reflection. There's no need to rush through them all — linger wherever God seems to be at work.

1. How does seeing the Bible as one unified story, rather than a collection of separate texts, shape your view of God?
2. What examples from both Testaments most clearly show you God's unchanging character?
3. How does God's fulfilment of His promises — from the Old Testament to Jesus in the New — strengthen your faith?
4. How does understanding the law as love for God and neighbour change the way you read the Old Testament?
5. What parallels do you notice between Old Testament miracles and the works of Jesus? Do they serve the same purpose?
6. How do the prophets prepare the way for the events and teachings of the New Testament?
7. Which thread running through the whole Bible are you most eager to explore in this study?
8. How does the consistency of God across both Testaments affect your own relationship with Him?
9. Where have you sensed God's unchanging love at work in your life?
10. As we begin, what do you most hope to take from this study of the seamless story of God's love?

Session 2 – Promises Made, Promises Kept

If you want to see the consistency of the Bible, watch God keep His promises. Again and again, what He pledges in the Old Testament He fulfils in the New — and nowhere more clearly than in His covenant with Abraham.

To Abraham God said, “I will make you into a great nation... and all the families of the earth will be blessed through you” (Genesis 12:2–3). It is a staggering promise, and it becomes a foundation stone for the whole of Scripture — the thread from which the story of salvation is woven.

The prophets add detail. Isaiah foresees a child who will carry the government on His shoulders: “He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6). Centuries later that child is born in Bethlehem, just as Micah had said. The specifics are met in Jesus.

And Paul shows us the heart of it: the promise to Abraham’s “seed” was, all along, about Christ — “not... ‘and to seeds,’ meaning many, but... ‘and to your seed,’ meaning One, who is Christ” (Galatians 3:16). In Jesus the ancient promises are not only kept but opened wide, so that the blessing reaches every family on earth. A God who keeps His word like this is a God we can trust with our own lives.

Discussion and Reflection Questions

Promises Made, Promises Kept

Here are some questions to guide your discussion and quiet reflection. There's no need to rush through them all — linger wherever God seems to be at work.

1. How does seeing Old Testament promises fulfilled in the New affect your trust in God's Word?
2. How does the covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12:2-3) serve as a foundation for the rest of the Bible?
3. How do you interpret Paul's teaching that the promise to Abraham's "seed" points to Christ (Galatians 3:16)?
4. How does the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy (Isaiah 9:6) in Jesus strengthen your confidence in Scripture?
5. In what ways does the New Testament expand upon the promises of the Old, such as the gift of the Spirit?
6. Can you recall a time God kept a promise to you? How did it shape your trust in Him?
7. Why do you think God makes and keeps promises across generations, rather than all at once?
8. How does knowing that "all the families of the earth" are blessed through Abraham's seed affect how you see God's heart?
9. Which of God's promises do you most need to hold onto in this season?
10. What is one way you could grow in trusting God's faithfulness this week?

Session 3 – The Essence of the Law: Love

The Old Testament law can seem, at first glance, like a long list of rules. But Jesus draws out its beating heart in a single word: love. Far from a burden, the law was always meant to guide people into a life pleasing to God — a life of love for Him and for one another.

Asked which command is greatest, Jesus answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart... This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments” (Matthew 22:37-40). The whole of the Old Testament, He says, gathers up into love.

And Jesus is careful to say He has not come to sweep the law away: “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to abolish them, but to fulfill them” (Matthew 5:17-18). He does not lower the standard; He reveals its true depth — a righteousness of the heart, not merely of the hands.

What does this love look like when the Spirit grows it in us? Paul names it: “the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control” (Galatians 5:22-23). This is the same God, the same heart, the same call — from Sinai to the Sermon on the Mount. To understand the law as love is to let it reshape our ordinary, everyday relationships.

Discussion and Reflection Questions

The Essence of the Law: Love

Here are some questions to guide your discussion and quiet reflection. There's no need to rush through them all — linger wherever God seems to be at work.

1. How does seeing love as the essence of the law change the way you read the Old Testament commandments?
2. How do the two great commandments (Matthew 22:37-40) gather up the whole of the Law and the Prophets?
3. What does Jesus mean when He says He came to fulfil the Law, not abolish it (Matthew 5:17-18)?
4. How does the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) show love at work in everyday life?
5. Where do you find it hardest to live out love for God and love for neighbour?
6. How does understanding the law as love free you from seeing it as merely a list of rules?
7. In what ways does a righteousness "of the heart" go deeper than outward rule-keeping?
8. Which fruit of the Spirit would you most like to see grow in you, and why?
9. How might putting love at the centre change a specific relationship in your life?
10. What is one practical way you could love God or a neighbour more fully this week?

Session 4 – Miracles and the Power of God

Across both Testaments we meet a God who acts — who steps into human history with power and compassion. The miracles of Scripture are not random wonders; they reveal the unchanging character of the God who works them.

In the Old Testament, God rescues His people at the Red Sea: “Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove back the sea with a strong east wind that turned it into dry land. So the waters were divided” (Exodus 14:21-22). The Creator bends creation itself to deliver those He loves.

In the New Testament, that same power meets a single suffering man. Jesus heals one born blind: “He spit on the ground, made some mud, and applied it to the man’s eyes. Then He told him, ‘Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam’... So the man went and washed, and came back seeing” (John 9:6-7). The God who parts a sea also stoops to touch one pair of eyes.

The miracles of both Testaments, then, sing the same song: our God is mighty, and our God is kind. They invite a response — not merely amazement, but trust. Whether in the grand deliverance of a nation or the quiet mercies of our own days, the same God is at work, and He is worth our faith.

Discussion and Reflection Questions

Miracles and the Power of God

Here are some questions to guide your discussion and quiet reflection. There's no need to rush through them all — linger wherever God seems to be at work.

1. How do miracles in both Testaments testify to God's unchanging nature?
2. What parallels do you see between the parting of the sea (Exodus 14) and the works of Jesus?
3. How do people's responses to miracles reveal the impact of God's power on human lives?
4. Can you think of a miracle in Scripture that led to a deeper understanding of God?
5. Have you witnessed or experienced something that strengthened your faith? Share, if you are willing.
6. How do you hold together God's great acts of power and His tender care for individuals?
7. Why do you think God sometimes works through the ordinary as much as the extraordinary?
8. How does trusting God's power change the way you face difficulty?
9. Where do you most long to see God's power at work today?
10. How might reflecting on God's miracles deepen your prayers this week?

Session 5 – Prophets and the Fulfilment in Christ

The prophets of the Old Testament were God’s messengers, speaking His word to their own generation – and, remarkably, pointing far beyond it, to a Saviour yet to come. To read them well is to see how tightly the two Testaments are bound together.

Centuries before the cross, Isaiah described a suffering servant with startling clarity: “He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. We all like sheep have gone astray... and the LORD has laid upon Him the iniquity of us all” (Isaiah 53:4-6). It reads almost like an eyewitness account of Calvary, written long before.

And the New Testament makes the link explicit. Peter takes up Isaiah’s very words and applies them to Jesus: “He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His stripes you are healed” (1 Peter 2:24). The prophecy and its fulfilment fit together like a key in a lock.

Micah even named the town – Bethlehem – where the ruler “whose origins are of old” would be born. Prophecy after prophecy finds its yes in Jesus. This is not coincidence but consistency: one God, unfolding one plan, across the centuries – and it gives us solid ground to stand on when we trust His Word.

Discussion and Reflection Questions

Prophets and the Fulfilment in Christ

Here are some questions to guide your discussion and quiet reflection. There's no need to rush through them all — linger wherever God seems to be at work.

1. How does understanding the prophets as God's messengers deepen your appreciation of the Old Testament?
2. How does the fulfilment of prophecy in Jesus strengthen the link between the two Testaments?
3. How does Isaiah's picture of the suffering servant (Isaiah 53:4-6) resonate with your understanding of the cross?
4. What do you make of Peter tying Isaiah's words directly to Jesus' sacrifice (1 Peter 2:24)?
5. How does Micah's naming of Bethlehem, fulfilled in Jesus' birth, affect your view of the Bible's reliability?
6. Why do you think God announced His plan through the prophets long before it came to pass?
7. How does fulfilled prophecy strengthen your confidence when you meet difficult passages?
8. Which prophecy of Christ most moves you, and why?
9. How does seeing Jesus in the Old Testament change the way you read it?
10. What is one way this session encourages you to trust the whole of Scripture?

Session 6 – Themes of Redemption

Redemption — being bought back, set free — is one of the great threads that ties the whole Bible together. It runs from the rescue of a nation out of slavery to the ransom paid for the whole world at the cross.

In Exodus, God pledges to redeem His people from Egypt: “I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians... I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment” (Exodus 6:6). The exodus becomes the Old Testament’s great picture of salvation — God stretching out His hand to free those in bondage.

That picture finds its fullness in Jesus: “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45). What the exodus foreshadowed, the cross accomplishes: not freedom from Egypt only, but freedom from sin and death itself.

And this redemption is wide open. What began with one family and one nation reaches, in Christ, to all peoples — Jew and Gentile alike. The same God who heard the cry of slaves in Egypt hears us still, and the same outstretched arm that divided the sea was stretched out on a cross for us. Redemption is not a footnote in Scripture; it is the story.

Discussion and Reflection Questions

Themes of Redemption

Here are some questions to guide your discussion and quiet reflection. There's no need to rush through them all — linger wherever God seems to be at work.

- 1.** How does the theme of redemption connect the Old and New Testaments?
- 2.** How does the rescue of Israel from Egypt (Exodus 6:6) foreshadow the redemption Jesus brings?
- 3.** How do you understand Jesus' words that He came "to give His life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45)?
- 4.** What does it mean to you that this redemption is offered to all — Jew and Gentile alike?
- 5.** From what has God redeemed you? How does that shape your gratitude?
- 6.** Why do you think God chose to picture salvation first through the exodus?
- 7.** How does knowing redemption cost the life of Christ affect the way you receive it?
- 8.** Where do you long to see God's redeeming work in your life or in others?
- 9.** How might the theme of redemption shape the way you treat those still in "bondage"?
- 10.** What is one way you could live more fully in the freedom Christ has won for you?

Session 7 – The Covenant Relationship: From Old to New

A covenant is more than a contract. A contract exchanges goods and services; a covenant binds persons together in committed relationship. Right through the Bible, God relates to His people by covenant — pledging Himself to them, and calling them to Himself.

At Sinai, the old covenant was sealed. “Moses took the blood, splattered it on the people, and said, ‘This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you’” (Exodus 24:7-8), and the people answered, “All that the LORD has spoken we will do.” Blood and promise bound God and Israel together.

At the Last Supper, Jesus lifts the cup and speaks of something new: “This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you” (Luke 22:20). The pattern is the same — a covenant sealed in blood — but now it is His own blood, and the relationship it opens is deeper and wider than before.

The new covenant does not discard the old so much as fulfil and surpass it. What was written on tablets of stone is now written on human hearts; what was sealed with the blood of animals is sealed with the blood of Christ. To grasp this is to see God’s astonishing constancy: the same faithful God, forever committed to His people, from Sinai to the upper room and on to us.

Discussion and Reflection Questions

The Covenant Relationship: From Old to New

Here are some questions to guide your discussion and quiet reflection. There's no need to rush through them all — linger wherever God seems to be at work.

- 1.** How do you understand a covenant, and how does it differ from a mere contract?
- 2.** How does the covenant at Sinai (Exodus 24:7-8) set the stage for the new covenant in Christ?
- 3.** How do you understand Jesus' words about a new covenant in His blood (Luke 22:20)?
- 4.** In what ways does the new covenant both fulfil and go beyond the old?
- 5.** What does it mean to you that God binds Himself to His people by covenant?
- 6.** How does the picture of a covenant "written on the heart" speak to your own walk with God?
- 7.** Why is it significant that both covenants are sealed with blood?
- 8.** How does God's covenant faithfulness give you confidence in your relationship with Him?
- 9.** How might living as a covenant people shape the way we treat one another?
- 10.** What is one way you could respond to God's covenant love this week?

Session 8 – The Character of God: Consistent from Beginning to End

Some imagine the God of the Old Testament as fierce and the God of the New as gentle – as though He changed somewhere between the Testaments. But Scripture shows us one God, whose character is consistent from beginning to end: loving and just, gracious and holy, all at once.

When God reveals Himself to Moses, this is what He proclaims: “The LORD, the LORD God, is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in loving devotion and faithfulness... forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin” (Exodus 34:6-7). This is the Old Testament’s own self-portrait of God – and it overflows with grace.

The New Testament sings the same note, now in the key of the cross: “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son... For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him” (John 3:16-17). The compassion Moses met at Sinai is the compassion that hung on a cross.

God’s love and His justice are not at war; they meet perfectly at Calvary, where sin is judged and sinners are saved. To know that God does not change is a deep comfort: the God who was faithful to Abraham, to Moses, and to the disciples is faithful still – the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Discussion and Reflection Questions

The Character of God: Consistent from Beginning to End

Here are some questions to guide your discussion and quiet reflection. There's no need to rush through them all — linger wherever God seems to be at work.

1. How do you perceive God's character based on what both Testaments reveal?
2. What do you learn about God from His self-revelation to Moses (Exodus 34:6-7)?
3. How do you hold together God's love and His justice as shown in both Testaments?
4. How does John 3:16-17 align with the character of God revealed in the Old Testament?
5. Have you ever thought of the "Old Testament God" and "New Testament God" as different? How does this session speak to that?
6. Where do you see God's love and justice meeting perfectly?
7. How does knowing God does not change bring you comfort?
8. Which attribute of God — His grace, faithfulness, holiness, or justice — do you most need to dwell on just now?
9. Where have you seen God's unchanging character at work in your own life?
10. How might a deeper trust in God's constancy shape the way you face the unknown?

Session 9 – The Role of Faith and Obedience

How are people made right with God? The answer is beautifully consistent across both Testaments: not by earning it, but by faith — a trust that then overflows into a life of glad obedience.

Long before the law was given, Abraham simply trusted God's promise: "Abram believed the LORD, and it was credited to him as righteousness" (Genesis 15:6). Right relationship with God came, from the very start, through faith. Paul draws the same truth into the New Testament: "For it is by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not from yourselves; it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9).

But faith is never idle. It shows itself in a life that follows. Jesus put it plainly: "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments" (John 14:15). Obedience, in the Christian life, is not a way of earning God's love; it is the natural response of a heart that has already received it.

So faith and obedience belong together, as they always have. We are saved by grace through faith, and that same faith bears fruit in a life shaped by love. From Abraham to the apostles, God's way with His people has not changed — and it does not change with us.

Discussion and Reflection Questions

The Role of Faith and Obedience

Here are some questions to guide your discussion and quiet reflection. There's no need to rush through them all — linger wherever God seems to be at work.

1. How do you understand the relationship between faith and obedience in your own journey?
2. What do you learn from Abraham's faith (Genesis 15:6)?
3. How do you understand Paul's teaching that we are saved by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8-9)?
4. Jesus says, "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments" (John 14:15). How does obedience relate to grace?
5. How is faith counted as righteousness a consistent theme across both Testaments?
6. Why is it important that obedience flows from love, rather than from trying to earn God's favour?
7. Where do you find obedience most costly, and what helps you there?
8. How does resting in grace actually free you to obey more gladly?
9. Can you share a time trusting God led you to a step of obedience?
10. What is one act of glad obedience you sense God inviting you into this week?

Session 10 – The Ultimate Goal: Reconciliation and Eternal Life

Where has this seamless story been heading all along? To reconciliation — a broken relationship mended — and to eternal life. This is God's ultimate goal for humanity, held out with the same open hand in both Testaments.

Even in the Old Testament, God's longing to forgive rings out: "'Come now, let us reason together,' says the LORD. 'Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow'" (Isaiah 1:18). This is no reluctant God, but One who reaches out to cleanse and restore.

In the New Testament, Paul names the goal directly: "All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ... that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting men's trespasses against them" (2 Corinthians 5:18-19). The whole story has been moving towards this — God and people brought back together, through the cross.

And the reconciled life does not end with this world. "For it is My Father's will that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life" (John 6:40). From Genesis to Revelation the thread holds: one God, one plan of love, drawing His people home. May we look to the Son, and live.

Discussion and Reflection Questions

The Ultimate Goal: Reconciliation and Eternal Life

Here are some questions to guide your discussion and quiet reflection. There's no need to rush through them all — linger wherever God seems to be at work.

1. How does the concept of reconciliation resonate with you personally?
2. How does Isaiah 1:18's offer of cleansing align with your understanding of God's mercy?
3. How does 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 deepen your understanding of God reconciling the world to Himself?
4. How do you see the promise of eternal life running through both Testaments (John 6:40)?
5. Have you experienced reconciliation with God, or with another person? What was it like?
6. What does it mean to you to be given "the ministry of reconciliation"?
7. Looking back over the whole study, how has your view of the Bible's unity grown?
8. Which session or theme has stayed with you most, and why?
9. How might the hope of eternal life shape the way you live today?
10. As this study closes, what is one truth about God's consistency you will carry forward?

Worksheet

This worksheet is a companion to the study — a practical aide-memoire to help you deepen your grasp of the continuity between the Old and New Testaments, and to carry these truths into everyday life.

In a group

If you are leading a group, do give a copy of this worksheet to each person to take home. Explain that it is for personal reflection and practical application. In your meetings, or in quiet times of reflection, you might invite people to share their insights, their struggles, and their experiences — while making clear that completing the worksheet is never required, only offered as a help.

On your own

If you are reading on your own, use this worksheet as a personal guide to reinforce and apply what the study has stirred in you.

The worksheet sets out ten simple, doable steps to help you see the unchanging nature of God and the seamless thread that ties the whole Bible together. As you take them up, our prayer is that your love for God and His Word would deepen and grow.

Ten Steps to Understand the Continuity of the Bible

By taking up these steps, our prayer is that you will come to know more deeply the unchanging nature of God and the seamless thread that ties the whole Bible together.

1. Read Both Testaments:

Commit to reading both the Old and New Testaments, so you can see the full picture of God's character and plan.

2. Identify Key Themes:

As you read, jot down the recurring themes and ideas that appear in both Testaments.

3. Study Biblical Characters:

Choose figures from both Testaments and study their relationship with God, noting the similarities and differences.

4. Pray for Insight:

Before each reading, ask the Holy Spirit to open the Scriptures to you.

5. Join a Study Group:

Share the journey with others in a Bible study group, especially one exploring the two Testaments together.

6. Use Trusted Helps:

Draw on a good, reliable commentary or study Bible to gain further insight into the text.

7. Ask Questions:

Don't be afraid to ask questions when you meet a difficult or seemingly contradictory passage.

8. Reflect on God's Nature:

Take time to dwell on the attributes of God that stay constant across both Testaments.

9. Share Your Insights:

Tell a friend or family member what you are learning — it reinforces your own understanding and may bless theirs.

10. Apply It to Life:

Consider how the unchanging nature of God shapes your daily choices, and make any adjustments that draw you closer to Him.

May God richly bless you as you give yourself to His Word. Your desire to know Him more deeply, and to live by His eternal truths, is itself a lovely gift back to Him.

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Thank you for spending this time with us. We'd love to keep walking alongside you — so do stay in touch, and let us know how the study went.

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With Thanks

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