



THE STORY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

This overview of the entire story of Scripture establishes a foundation for a biblical worldview before high school. The course materials work together to present the Bible as the true story of what God is doing to glorify Himself by redeeming His fallen creation. The modern relevance of the individual narratives becomes clear when they fit into the one unfolding story of Scripture.

Essential items includes the following: Teacher's Edition, Student Text, Student Activities, Student Activities Answer Key, Tests, and Tests Answer Key.

The Story of the Old Testament will be the first essential piece in the new secondary Bible program. This course shapes future secondary Bible courses as follows.

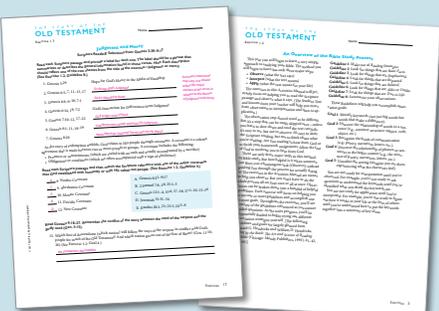
- » This course presents the **Creation, Fall, Redemption** framework for viewing the big story of Scripture as a single story. Future courses will expand on this and other ingredients of a biblical worldview.



- » This course effectively teaches the Creation, Fall, Redemption approach by correlating the **Teacher's Edition** with the **Student Text**.



- » This course stresses an **inductive approach** to Bible study, in contrast to a moralistic approach. Students will explore the Bible with a focus on the first step of inductive Bible study: observation.



- » This course expands assessments to encourage students to internalize what they learn from Scripture. Rather than just simple fill-in-the-blank and short answer assessments, the **Student Activities** include a prayer journal and assessments that guide them as they observe Scripture.

Three Steps for Studying Your Bible

Your purpose in approaching Scripture is to know God. Your "destination" is to reflect God. Bible study is the way to find out what God expects you to do, so that you can continue to walk with Him and have a personal relationship with Him. Your destination is to love your life in a way that pleases God.

So how do you keep from ending up where you don't want to go? If you're traveling, the answer is, "Don't get on the wrong plane." How do you avoid "getting on the wrong plane," when you start your Bible study?

The approach that this book takes to Bible study is a simple process that will keep you on the right plane. It is a simple process that involves only three steps—observe, interpret, and apply. And you can have it at the end of the steps.

Observe
The first step is to observe. Observation is more than seeing. Observation is taking notice of what you see—being aware and alert. It is paying attention to what the text says. (Like a strong swimmer, the observer reads up back about the danger.) When you observe, you

would be full of obvious things that nobody by any chance ever observes." So what do you need in order to observe them, obvious things? Bible scholar Robert Trueman notes three things that are needed. First, you must be willing to observe. You must make a conscientious effort to observe. Skimming the text doesn't work. You will need to read the text with purpose, looking for facts and clues about what is going on.

Second, you must be exact when you observe. You must notice the details. The more attentive you are, the more accurate you can be.

Third, you must be persistent. Read the text multiple times even if you think you know the passage. For example, did God put the rainbow in the sky as a sign to us to remember the Flood, or for Him to remember? Can you answer the question without looking it up? (See Gen. 9:12.)

Being willing, exact, and persistent are all necessary to prepare you to observe. The better you observe, the more you will know about the passage. But it doesn't stop there. We need to understand what you have observed.

Interpret
The second step is to interpret. Interpretation is understanding what you have observed. You can't observe, but interpret, but the interpretation

understand what it means. But this second step in Bible study is not the last step. For your Bible study to be complete, you must apply what you have already observed and interpreted.

Apply
The third step is to apply. Application is taking the biblical truths found within the passage and putting it into action in your current situation. Sometimes this is easy, but sometimes it is difficult.

It is easy when your situation and the biblical story are very similar, or when there are biblical commands that directly pertain to your situation. For example, when your friend gets the latest iPhone or gaming system, and you're stuck with one that's a few years old, it can be tempting to want what he has. In fact, it can lead to an extreme desire to have what he has. You long for

GOD'S BIG PICTURE



God **created** the world and humans to rule it.



God's world **fell** into sin when the first man disobeyed.

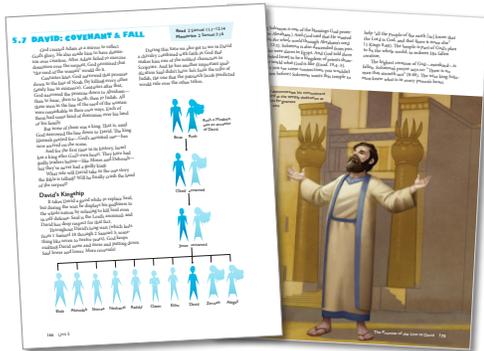
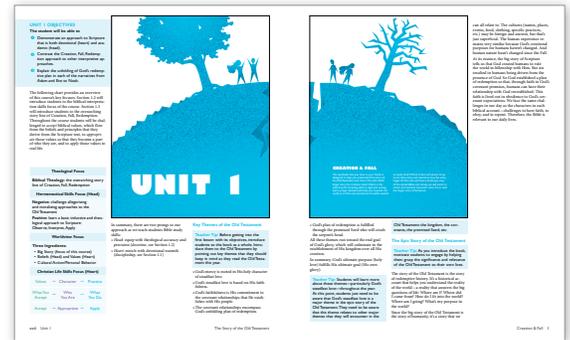


God promised to **redeem** His fallen creation.



Teacher's Edition

The Teacher's Edition engages students with multiple teaching strategies. It is packed full of rich content clearly aligned with scaffolded objectives as it focuses on interpretation and appropriate application. It correlates with the Student Text so that teachers have a guide for teaching the inductive approach of Creation, Fall, Redemption in contrast to teaching the Bible from a moralistic or allegorical approach.



Student Text

Building off the Student Activities' emphasis on observation, the Student Text guides students to take the next step in Bible study: connecting their observations to proper interpretation. Appropriate applications can't be made without proper interpretation. And proper interpretation cannot be done without good observation. The Student Text emphasizes the need for understanding how the Old Testament fits into the unfolding story of Scripture without making the study daunting. As students study the unfolding story of Scripture, they can understand clearly how the Old Testament applies to modern believers.

Student Activities

Students will be introduced to a simple Bible study method: Observe (what the text says), Interpret (what the text means), and Apply (what the text means for life). This integral part of the course will guide students to practice some basic observation skills as they complete their Scripture reading assignments. A prayer journal will guide them to pray scripturally and specifically as memory verses reinforce the lessons they have learned.

