

History of the New Testament

Answer Key

Lesson 1 – Introduction

1. What is Pastor Seeger’s (your video teacher) goal for you? Why is he teaching this class?

“My purpose here is to teach you so you can teach others people.”

2. Describe ways you can teach the history of the New Testament to other people?

Lesson 2 – The Land of the New Testament

1. Why were there so many good roads in the Roman Empire?

The Romans built good roads throughout the Empire so the army could travel easily and quickly.

2. Give three examples from the New Testament that indicate that there were good roads in the Roman Empire.

- *Wise Men from the East, came on one road, went home on a different road.*
- *Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus escape south to Egypt, return to Nazareth.*
- *Jesus travelled a lot.*
- *Paul travelled a lot on his mission trips.*

Lesson 3 – Geography

1. Pick one of the five geographic areas described in this lesson and research facts about it. What did you learn about that area?

Lesson 4 – History: The Old Testament

1. Research the story of Hanukah (or Chanukah). Which period in Israel’s history did this story happen?

The story of Hanukah is about the Maccabean revolt that happened at the end of the Hellenistic period and the beginning of the Hasmonean period.

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2. Research Alexander the Great. How did he influence the language and culture in the lands he ruled (including Israel)?

Alexander the Great tried to unite the world with Greek language and culture.

3. Research *The Septuagint*. What was it? Who wrote it? Where? When? Why?

WHAT: *The Septuagint is the Greek translation of the Old Testament*

WHO: *Jewish scribes and rabbis (tradition says: 72 translators)*

WHEN: *Mid-third century BC (285-247 BC)*

WHERE: *Egypt (probably Alexandria)*

4. Research this question: What is the original language of the New Testament?

Greek

Lesson 5 – History: Roman Rule & Herod

1. Which Herod executed (killed) the baby boys in Bethlehem? ***Herod the Great***
2. Which Herod married his brothers wife? ***Herod Antipas***
3. Which Herod executed John the Baptizer? ***Herod Antipas***
4. Which Herod personally met Jesus? ***Herod Antipas***
5. Which Herod executed James the brother of John? ***Herod Agrippa I***
6. Which Herod personally met Paul? ***Herod Agrippa II***
7. Herod the Great executed many members of his own family. Who?
his wife (Mariamne)
3 sons
1 mother-in-law
1 brother-in-law
1 uncle
and many others

Lesson 6 – The Four Gospels

1. Why is it important to study the *Old Testament*?

...to better understand the New Testament (background, prophecy, context)

2. Which verse in the Old Testament was the first time God announced His Gospel plan?

Genesis 3:15

3. Describe the beginning of each of the four gospels:

Matthew

*Genealogy from Abraham to Christ
revelation to Joseph
Jesus' birth*

Mark

*Ministry & Message of John the Baptizer
Jesus' Baptism & Temptation
Jesus calling His Disciples (Simon, Andrew, James, John)
Jesus' healing ministry*

Luke

*Gabriel's announcements to Zachariah & Mary
Mary's visit with Elizabeth
John's birth*

John

*"In the beginning was the Word..."
Describing who Jesus Christ is.
John the Baptizer introduces Jesus: "The Lamb of God..."
Disciples follow Jesus: Andrew, Peter, Philip, Nathanael*

3. Which of the four gospels tell about Jesus' birth?

Matthew & Luke

4. Which of the four gospels tell about Jesus' crucifixion, death, and resurrection?

All four gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)

Lesson 7 – The Birth of John The Baptizer

1. Read Luke 1. Zachariah and Elizabeth were descended from what Old Testament families?

All priests were descended from Aaron (Moses' brother) from the tribe of Levi. Zechariah was from Abijah's group of Aaron's descendants. Elizabeth also was descended from Aaron.

2. How did Zachariah learn about God's plan for Zachariah's son?

The angel Gabriel told him

3. What Old Testament couple had a similar situation to Zechariah and Elizabeth?

Abraham and Sarah

4. What was Zachariah unable to speak while Elizabeth was pregnant?

He did not believe the Angel's message.

Lesson 8 – The Birth of Jesus

1. Approximately what year was Jesus born?

About 5 BC.

2. How are historians able to figure out the approximate year for Jesus' birth?

*Roman Emperor Caesar Augustus order the census in 8 BC.
King Herod died in 4 BC.
So Jesus' birth was between 8 – 4 BC (probably around 5 BC).*

3. What did the angel tell Mary that is special about Jesus?

“He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. 33 And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.” And He will be conceived by the Holy Spirit.

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4. What did the angel tell Joseph that is special about Jesus?

“...that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ... He will save His people from their sins.”

Lesson 9 – Jesus’ Early Years

1. What were the names of Jesus’ half-brothers?

James, Joseph (or Joses), Judas, and Simon

2. What is the only true story that we know about Jesus when He was a boy?

When Jesus was 12 years old, He went with His family to the Jerusalem for the Passover. Mary and Joseph accidentally left without Him. Three days later they found Him in the temple. (Luke 2:41-52)

Lesson 10 – A Voice in the Wilderness / Jesus’ Baptism & Temptation

1. What was John’s message to the people about baptism?

***Repent and receive baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
John preached about God’s judgment and mercy.***

2. What was John’s message to the people about Jesus?

***John preached about the coming Savior.
“Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!”
“After me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”***

3. What happened at Jesus’ baptism?

Heaven was opened. Jesus saw the Spirit of God coming down on him like a dove. A voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, and I love him. I am very pleased with him.”

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4. How did Jesus answer the devil's temptations?

Jesus answered with God's Word. He quoted Old Testament scriptures. "It is written...!"

Lesson 11 – The Essenes

1. What are the "Dead Sea Scrolls"?

2000 year old Old Testament scrolls found in a cave near the Dead Sea.

2. Who were the Essenes? Where did they live? Why did they live there?

The Essenes were Jewish people (many were descended from Jewish priests) who wanted to live alone in the desert, to get away from the sinfulness of the cities. They study the Old Testament Scriptures and made copies of the Bible. They bathed and washed every day to stay spiritually clean.

Lesson 12 – Jesus Begins His Ministry

1. How do you Sign the word "miracle"?

2. What did Jesus do for His first miracle? Where? Why?

Jesus turned water into wine at a wedding in Cana, Galilee.

3. Why did Jesus chase the money changers out of the temple?

Because the money changers had made God's House into a market. (John 2:16)

4. Jesus said, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days." What "temple" was Jesus talking about?

Himself – His own body.

Lesson 13 – Nicodemus / The Samaritan Woman

1. Who was Nicodemus?

Nicodemus was a Pharisee, a member of the Sanhedrin (the Jewish ruling council).

2. What was the Sanhedrin?

“The Great Council” -- The religious supreme court.

3. Who led the people in the Samaritan town to believe in Jesus?

The Samaritan woman that Jesus met by the well at Sychar.

Lesson 14 – Jesus’ Ministry in Galilee

1. Why did Jesus leave Nazareth and go to Capernaum?

Because people in Jesus’ home town of Nazareth rejected Him.

2. Who were Jesus’ 12 Disciples?

Simon Peter

Andrew

James

John

Philip

Bartholomew

Matthew

Thomas

James, son of Alphaeus

Simon the Zealot

Judas, son of James

Judas Iscariot

3. Where and how did Jesus call His Disciples to follow Him?

Peter, Andrew, James, & John – He called them at the Sea of Galilee: “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Jesus called Matthew from the tax collector’s table: “Follow Me.”

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4. Make a list of as many of the miracles Jesus did that you can find in the four Gospel books. Separate the miracles into two categories. A) Healing and resurrections; B) Command over nature. Write the miracle name, and the book, chapter and verse where it is in the Bible. The first one is given as an example.

(Students answers will vary...)

HEALING & RESURRECTIONS	COMMAND OVER NATURE
Leprosy – Luke 5:12-16	Calms the storm – Luke 8:22-27

Lesson 15 – Jesus Leaves From Galilee

1. Jesus left the Jewish area of Galilee. He went to Gentile areas.
 - (a) Where? *Tyre, Sidon, the Decapolis (Ten Cities)*
 - (b) Why? *Christ Jesus came for everyone; God loves all people.*

2. In which Gentile area did the Deaf man live?

The Decapolis (Ten Cities)

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Lesson 16 – Themes in the Gospel of Matthew

1. Find and name at least two Bible verses from the Gospel of Matthew that describe Jesus preaching, teaching, and healing (write two or more Bible verses for each.)

(Students answers will vary...)

Preaching	Teaching	Healing

Lesson 17 – Two Views of the Messiah

1. The Old Testament prophets show us two views of the Messiah:

- (a) *Suffering Servant*
- (b) *Victorious King*

2. Many people in Israel did not recognize that Jesus was the true Messiah. Why?

They were looking only for the Victorious King, not the Suffering Servant.

Lesson 18 –Sadducees, Pharisees, & Zealots

1. Compare Sadducees and Pharisees.

- (a) How were they similar (the same)?

Both were religious groups that were against Jesus. Both groups thought they were holy people so they separated themselves from the common people.

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(b) How were they different?

Sadducees were mostly priests. They accepted only the first five books of the Old Testament. They accepted a lot of Greek ideas.. They did not believe in angels, demons, and the resurrection (life after death). They rejected rules and traditions imposed by the Pharisees. Sadducees focused on temple sacrifices and rituals.

Pharisees accepted the whole Old Testament and they studied it a lot. They believed in angels, demons, and the resurrection. Pharisees tried to make themselves look holy by following lots of religious rules (more than 620 laws).

2. Research the Jewish Zealots on the internet. What happened to the Zealots?

Zealots used violence and killing to try to achieve political independence. Zealots convinced many people to join them in rebelling against Rome. The Roman army responded by destroying Jerusalem and the Temple in AD 70.

Lesson 19 – A Crucial Turning Point

1. The 12 Disciples saw Jesus differently than the way most people saw Jesus.

(a) What did the Disciples think about Jesus?

“You are Christ, the Son of the Living God.”

(b) What did most people think about Jesus?

The thought that Jesus was just a preacher or a prophet.

2. Jesus told His Disciples shocking news...

(a) about Himself

He must go to Jerusalem, suffer many things, be killed, and the 3rd day rise to life.

(b) about them (and us!)

“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.” (Luke 9:23-24)

3. Which Old Testament prophets appeared with Jesus on the mountain? ***Moses & Elijah***

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4. Jesus and the prophets talked about what? *Jesus' coming death.*

Lesson 20 – Jesus set His face to go to Jerusalem

1. Who in this story did Jesus raise from the dead?

Lazarus (brother of Mary & Martha)

2. What does that story teach us about Jesus?

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die. "

*Jesus is true God. He has power over life & death.
He the only One who give eternal life.*

3. Because Jesus raised a dead man to life, the religious leaders wanted to do what?

kill Jesus ...and kill Lazarus.

4. How did Mary (the sister of Martha) show her faith in Jesus?

Mary pour expensive perfume on Jesus' feet and wiped them with her hair.

5. Who became upset with Mary? Why?

Judas Iscariot – because he wanted to steal the money for himself.

Lesson 21 – Jesus' Last Days

1. On Palm Sunday, why did Jesus cry?

Because people rejected God and refused to repent.

2. What did Jesus do to encourage His Disciples to serve each other with Christian love?

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He washed their feet, and then told them to follow His example.

Lesson 22 – The Threads of the Story

1. During the last week before Jesus' crucifixion He taught often, "You must be ready." Look through Matthew chapters 21 -25 and find three parables that teach this point and write a paragraph or two explaining each parable.

Two Sons (Mt. 21:28-32)

Tenants (Mt 21:233-44)

Wedding Banquet (Mt 22:2-14)

Faithful & Wise Servant (Mt 24:45-51)

Ten Virgins (Mt 25:1-13)

Talents (Mt 25:14-30)

Sheep & Goats (Mt 25:31-36)

Lesson 23 – Peter and Judas

1. Why did Judas betray Jesus? *Greed; Satan entered in his heart.*
2. Why did Peter deny Jesus? *Fear.*
3. Did Judas repent and go the Heaven? Support up your answer with Bible verses.

Jesus said, "Woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born." (Matthew 26:24)

Judas was sorry for what he did, but he did not believe that God would forgive him. (Matthew 27:5)

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4. Peter wrote two short books in the New Testament. Read those two books. What verses show that Peter understood:

a) the forgiveness of sins

1 Peter 1:3-12

1 Peter 2:24-25

1 Peter 3:18

b) the power of Baptism

1 Peter 3:21

2 Peter 1:1-4

c) the priesthood of all believers

1 Peter 2:4-10

Lesson 24 – Jesus’ Trials

1. Why did Jesus let His enemies arrest Him, whip Him, and kill him?

This was God’s plan, so Jesus could suffer and die for our sins.

2. What did Jesus say that made the High Priest mad?

The high priest said to Jesus, “I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.”

Jesus answer: “You have said so. But I say to all of you: From now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.” (Matthew 26:63-64)

3. Who had a bad dream about Jesus? *Pilate’s wife (Matthew 27:19)*

4. Why was Pilate afraid to let Jesus go free?

The religious leaders threatened Pilate – “Jesus claims to be a king, so if you defend Jesus, you are not Caesar’s friend!” Pilate did not want Caesar to fire.

Lesson 25 – Jesus’ Crucifixion

1. The soldiers put a sign on the Jesus’ cross. The sign said what?

Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews.

2. The video lesson quotes John 19:30 (Jesus said, “It is finished!”). What else did Jesus say from the cross?

"Father, forgive them. They don't know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34)

"Today you will be with me in Paradise (heaven)." (Luke 23:43)

"Woman, here is your son... Here is your mother." (John 19:26-27)

"My God, my God, why have you left me alone?" (Matthew 27:46)

"I am thirsty." (John 19:28)

"Father, I give you my spirit." (Luke 23:46)

Lesson 26 – Jesus’ Burial

1. Which member of the Jewish Council loved Jesus and buried Jesus’ dead body in his own tomb?

Joseph of Arimathea

2. That person hurried to bury Jesus before sunset. Why?

The Sabbath (day of rest) began at sunset.

3. The other Jewish religious leaders asked Pilate to send soldiers to guard Jesus’ tomb. Why?

Because they did not want Jesus’ Disciples to steal His body and then claim that Jesus rose from the dead.

Lesson 27 – Jesus’ Resurrection

1. After Jesus rose from the dead, the soldiers did what?

First they fainted. Then they went into the city tell the Jewish chief priests what happened.

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2. After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to whom?

Mary Magdalene and the other women (John 20:11-19)
Two men walking on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35)
Peter (1 Corinthians 15:5)
10 Disciples, without Thomas (John 20:19-23)
11 Disciples, with Thomas (John 20:24-29)
More than 500 other disciples (1 Corinthians 15:6)
Paul (1 Corinthians 15:7)

3. After Jesus rose from the dead, He promised what?

To send the Holy Spirit to the Disciples. (Luke 24:48; Acts 1:5,8)

Lesson 28 – The Strategy

Read Acts 1:1-8

1. Jesus promised that we become His witnesses to the whole world. Jesus said that we will be able to do that, how?

By the Holy Spirit's power (Acts 1:8)

Lesson 29 – The Plan Unfolds: Pentecost

1. Back when Jesus was arrested and on trial, Peter was afraid; three times he told people that he didn't know Jesus. Now on Pentecost day, Peter had a different attitude; he bravely preached about Jesus to a large crowd in Jerusalem. What made him change?

(1) Peter saw Jesus after He rose from the dead.
(2) The Holy Spirit gave Peter faith and courage.

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2. Make a list of all the countries and areas mentioned in Acts 2 . Then look at a map and find those areas. Find the scale of the miles and write down approximately how far each area is from Jerusalem.

<i>Parthia</i>	<i>900 miles</i>
<i>Media</i>	<i>900 miles</i>
<i>Elam</i>	<i>900 miles</i>
<i>Mesopotamia</i>	<i>500 miles</i>
<i>Judea</i>	<i>0 miles</i>
<i>Cappadocia</i>	<i>500 miles</i>
<i>Pontus</i>	<i>650 miles</i>
<i>Asia</i>	<i>600 miles</i>
<i>Phrygia</i>	<i>500 miles</i>
<i>Pamphylia</i>	<i>400 miles</i>
<i>Egypt</i>	<i>200 miles</i>
<i>Libya near Cyrene</i>	<i>700 miles</i>
<i>Rome</i>	<i>1,400 miles</i>
<i>Crete</i>	<i>600 miles</i>
<i>Arabia</i>	<i>600 miles</i>

See: https://visualunit.files.wordpress.com/2015/08/pentecost_map.png

3. Why were all those people visiting Jerusalem?

To worship for the Jewish feast of Pentecost (Shavuot)

Lesson 30 – Life in the Early Jerusalem Church

1. The video lessons describes four ways of what life was like in the early Jerusalem church:
- (a) *Many people willingly sold their property and gave the money to the church to help poor people.*
 - (b) *There was persecution against the church. Many of the Christian leaders suffered.*
 - (c) *Many Greek-speaking Jewish Christians from other parts of the world came to live in Jerusalem. So there were two groups of Christians: Greek speaking and Hebrews.*
 - (d) *Christians worshipped daily, learning from the apostles' teaching. They had the Lord's Supper often. Christian joy spread.*

Lesson 31 – Into Judea and Samaria

1. In Acts 10 God gave Peter a vision and then an experience which taught Peter an important lesson. What did Peter learn about God's plan?

Jesus is for all people – not just for Jewish people. Gentile can be saved through faith in Christ without converting to Judaism.

Lesson 32 – Paul Learns About Grace

1. Saul of Tarsus hated Christ and His followers. What changed Saul's mind and heart?

Saul saw Jesus in a bright vision on the road to Damascus.

2. Who was the first person to welcome Saul into the fellowship of Christian believers in Jerusalem? (The answer is in Acts 9, not in video.)

Barnabas (Acts 9:27)

Lesson 33 – To the Ends of the Earth: Paul's First Missionary Journey

1. Barnabas became the first pastor for new Gentile followers of Christ in what city? (Find that city on a Bible map.)

Antioch (in Syria)

2. Barnabas asked someone to be his helper. Who?

Saul (Paul)

3. The people in that city gave followers of Christ a new name. What was that name?

“Christians”

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4. Name the places where Paul and Barnabas preached for Christ on their first missionary journey. (Find those places on a Bible map.)

The cities of Salamis & Paphos on the island of Cyprus
[Perga in Pamphylia]
Pisidian Antioch
Iconium
Lystra & Derbe

Lesson 34 – Paul’s 2nd & 3rd Missionary Journeys

1. Why didn't Paul want to take John Mark on any more missionary journeys? (The answer is in Acts 15, not in video.)

Because John Mark left them and went back home during their first journey; he did not finish the work with them. (See Acts 13:13 and Acts 15:36-40)

2. Read Acts 9:15. Find in the Bible where it records much of the suffering Paul experienced. Make a list of the different sufferings he endured.

During the first journey:
Stoned in Derbe (Acts 14:19)
Beaten and put in prison in Philippi (Acts 16:22-24)
Chased out of Thessalonica (Acts 17:5-10)
Cased out of Berea (Acts 17:13-14)
Beaten and arrested in Jerusalem (Acts 21:30-36)
Escaped assassination in Jerusalem (Acts 23:12-23)
Held in prison in Caesarea without a trial for two years (Acts 24:27)
Shipwrecked (Acts 27)
Held under house arrest in Rome for two more years (Acts 28:30)

Paul’s own description of his sufferings. (Paul wrote this in Ephesus during his third missionary journey -- before his beating and arrest in Jerusalem.)

“I have been in prison more often. I have suffered terrible beatings. Again and again I almost died. Five times the Jews gave me strokes with a whip. Three times I was beaten with sticks. Once they tried to kill me by throwing stones at me. Three times I was shipwrecked. I spent a night and a day in the open sea. I have had to keep on the move. I have been in danger from rivers. I have been in danger from robbers. I have been in danger from my fellow Jews and in danger from Gentiles. I have been in danger in the city, in the country, and at sea. I have been in danger from people who pretended they were believers. I have worked very hard. Often I have gone without sleep. I have been hungry and thirsty. Often I have gone without food. I have been cold and naked. (2 Corinthians 11:23-27)

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Lesson 35 – The Christian Church in the Roman World (65 – 100 AD)

1 Paul wrote five letters while he was under house arrest or in prison, which now are books of the New Testament. What are those five letters? (The first four are called Paul's "Prison Epistles" because Paul wrote them close to the same time in the same place.)

(a) ***Ephesian*** (see Eph. 3:1; 4:1; 6:20)

(b) ***Philippians*** (see Phil. 1:14)

(c) ***Colossians*** (see Col. 4:10)

(d) ***Philemon*** (see verse 1)

(e) ***2 Timothy*** (see 2 Tim. 1:8)

2. What is the name of the Roman Emperor who was the first to target Christians for persecution and death?

Nero

3. How did Peter die for the Lord? ***Peter probably was crucified.***

4. How did Paul die for the Lord? ***Paul probably was beheaded.***

5. Read 2 Timothy 4:6-8. How did Paul feel about getting killed for Christ?

Paul had joy while expecting his execution.

"I am already being poured out like a drink offering. The time when I will leave is near. I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. Now there is a crown waiting for me. It is given to those who are right with God. The Lord, who judges fairly, will give it to me on the day he returns. He will not give it only to me. He will also give it to all those who are longing for him to return." (2 Tim. 4:6-8)

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6. What were some of the long term consequences (results) of persecution for Christians?
- (a) Most of the Apostles and first leaders had died. The Bible itself became more important.*
 - (b) The Jewish Christian church broke up and scattered. The Jewish influence in the church became less.*
 - (c) Christianity and traditional Judaism separated. The church saw itself, not as “Jewish” or “Gentile,” but as the Body of Christ. They wanted to preach the Gospel, and tell all people about Jesus.*
 - (d) Christians facing persecution resolved to stay faithful to the Gospel until death.*

Lesson 36 – Conclusion

NOTE TO MENTOR: Please give your student a opportunity to teach an adult Bible class about the history of the Old Testament.