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**Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
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Important Note to Parents or Teachers: The New Testament letters are presented in your study guide as a high level summary. The letters are sequenced based on the approximate date they were written, instead of the sequence they appear in the Bible. You can present this module to students using your study guide’s sequence or the Bible’s sequence. To use your study guide’s sequence, follow the Table of Contents on page two of this module entitled, “Study Guide Sequence of New Testament Letters.” To use the sequence that appears in your Bible, follow the Table of Contents on page three of this module entitled, “Bible Sequence of New Testament Letters.”

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Study Guide Sequence of New Testament Letters
Based on Approximate Date Written

Lesson	Approx. Date Written	Pages
Galatians	49 A.D.	4 – 6
James	49 A.D.	7 – 9
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1st & 2nd Corinthians	55 – 57 A.D.	13 – 18
Romans	57 A.D.	19 – 22
Ephesians	60 A.D.	23 – 25
Colossians	60 A.D.	26 – 28
Philemon	60 A.D.	29 – 32
Philippians	61 A.D.	33 – 36
1st Timothy	64 A.D.	37 – 39
Titus	64 A.D.	40 – 42
1st Peter	62 – 64 A.D.	43 – 44
2nd Timothy	66 – 67 A.D.	45 – 47
2nd Peter	67 A.D.	48 – 51
Jude	65 – 70 A.D.	52 – 53
Hebrews	Before 70 A.D.	54 – 57
1st John, 2nd John, & 3rd John	85 – 90 A.D.	58 – 60
Revelation	90 – 95 A.D.	61 – 64

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Bible Sequence of New Testament Letters

Lesson	Approx. Date Written	Pages
Romans	57 A.D.	19 – 22
1st & 2nd Corinthians	55 – 57 A.D.	13 – 18
Galatians	49 A.D.	4 – 6
Ephesians	60 A.D.	23 – 25
Philippians	61 A.D.	33 – 36
Colossians	60 A.D.	26 – 28
1st & 2nd Thessalonians	51 – 52 A.D.	10 – 12
1st Timothy	64 A.D.	37 – 39
2nd Timothy	66 – 67 A.D.	45 – 47
Titus	64 A.D.	40 – 42
Philemon	60 A.D.	29 – 32
Hebrews	Before 70 A.D.	54 – 57
James	49 A.D.	7 – 9
1st Peter	62 – 64 A.D.	43 – 44
2nd Peter	67 A.D.	48 – 51
1st John, 2nd John, & 3rd John	85 – 90 A.D.	58 – 60
Jude	65 – 70 A.D.	52 – 53
Revelation	90 – 95 A.D.	61 – 64

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Galatians (Approx. 49 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Paul’s letter to the Galatians.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

After Paul’s first missionary journey, he wrote his first letter called Galatians. There are two theories about when Galatians was written. Some scholars believe Paul wrote Galatians in about 49 A.D. to churches in southern Galatia (Antioch of Pisidia, Iconium, Lystra and Derbe). Paul helped establish these churches during his first missionary journey. Others believe Galatians was written in about 56 A.D. to churches in northern Galatia. While Luke informs us in Acts that Paul traveled through northern Galatia during his second missionary journey, there is no mention of him ministering in this area. For this reason, Galatians was most probably written in about 49 A.D. to the churches Paul ministered to during his first missionary journey in southern Galatia.

In Galatians, Jesus is the One who makes us right with God, freeing us from the law. Paul writes, *“Yet we know that a person is made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law. ...Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing. ...So Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free, and don’t get tied up again in slavery to the law”* (Galatians 2:16a; 3:13; 5:1)

Main Message: Paul attacks the doctrine of works and defends the gospel of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “Galatians,” on page 167 of your study guide.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Galatians (Approx. 49 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) What was Paul’s primary purpose for writing to the churches in Galatia?
 - a) To correct a false doctrine of salvation based on works (good deeds).
 - b) To explain the events that will occur when Jesus returns.
 - c) To lay out the foundational truths of the gospel message.
 - d) To provide elders instructions for overseeing the church.

- 2) Some Jews in Galatia were teaching a false gospel message. What were they teaching?
 - a) They were teaching that God has forgiven everyone and everybody will be saved.
 - b) They were teaching that Jesus did not rise from the dead, so no one would be saved.
 - c) They were teaching that in addition to faith believers must obey Jewish laws to be saved.
 - d) They were teaching the foundational truths of the gospel message.

- 3) What is the main message of Paul’s letter to the Galatians?
 - a) We must obey Old Testament laws to be saved.
 - b) Gentile converts need to be circumcised as a requirement of salvation.
 - c) Jesus is the One who makes us right with God and has freed us from the law.
 - d) Jesus is the One who will judge the world.

- 4) According to Paul, the purpose of the Old Testament law is to show people how unrighteous they are before God. Who fulfilled the requirements of the law?
 - a) Moses
 - b) Jesus
 - c) John the Baptist
 - d) Paul

- 5) According to Scripture, what must we do to be saved?
 - a) Obey Jewish Old Testament laws
 - b) Do good deeds
 - c) Study the Bible
 - d) Have faith in Jesus Christ

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
James (Approx. 49 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of James' letter to Jewish believers living outside of Jerusalem.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

A great number of Gentiles were accepting the Good News and becoming Christ-followers. Some Jewish believers, devout followers of Judaism, insisted that circumcision and obedience to Jewish laws were required for salvation. Paul and Barnabas argued the only requirement for salvation was faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Jewish believers, called Judaizers, had practiced Judaism all of their lives and were not ready to give up their traditional beliefs. This created a panic among Gentiles who were uncircumcised and unfamiliar with Jewish laws. A meeting was held in about 50 A.D. to resolve the issue. The apostles and elders attending this meeting are collectively referred to as the Jerusalem Council.

James, Jesus' half-brother, was head of the church in Jerusalem and presided over the Jerusalem Council meeting recorded in Acts 15. According to church tradition, James wrote a letter to Jewish believers living outside of Jerusalem in about 49 A.D. This letter is called James and was written before the Jerusalem Council's meeting, which occurred in about 50 A.D.

In James, Jesus is the Judge standing at the door. James writes, *"Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. . . You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!"* (James 5:7 – 9 NIV).

Main Message: James confronts hypocrisy and explains that true faith in Christ produces a changed life for Christ.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, "James," on page 168 of your study guide.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
James (Approx. 49 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) What was James’ primary purpose for writing this letter?
 - a) The primary purpose was to reveal events that will occur in the future.
 - b) The primary purpose was to explain the events that will occur when Jesus returns.
 - c) The primary purpose was to correct believers whose actions were not aligned with the faith.
 - d) The primary purpose was to provide elders instructions for overseeing the church.

- 2) Who was James writing to in this letter?
 - a) James was writing to the church in Rome.
 - b) James was writing to the Galatian churches.
 - c) James was writing to believers living outside of Jerusalem.
 - d) James was writing to his brother, Jude.

- 3) What is the main message of James’ letter?
 - a) We must have faith and obey Old Testament laws to be saved.
 - b) True faith in Christ produces a changed life for Christ.
 - c) Jesus has freed us from the law.
 - d) Jesus is the One who will judge the world.

- 4) According to James, what must we do to actively demonstrate our faith?
 - a) James tells us to listen to God’s Word and do what it says.
 - b) James tells us to listen to God’s Word and do whatever we want to do.
 - c) James tells us to memorize God’s Word and then follow our instinct.
 - d) James tells us to listen to our peers and follow their actions.

- 5) Which of the following is “not” something James warns against in his letter?
 - a) Uncontrolled tongues
 - b) Prejudice
 - c) Judging others
 - d) The wisdom of God

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
1st and 2nd Thessalonians (Approx. 51 – 52 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Paul’s letters to the church in Thessalonica.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

Paul left Athens and traveled to Corinth. In Corinth, Paul met a man named Aquila and his wife Priscilla. They had recently left Italy and moved to Corinth as a result of Claudius Caesar’s edict banishing Jews from Rome. While in Corinth, Paul stayed with Priscilla and Aquila, who made tents for a living. Since Paul was a tentmaker, he worked alongside them in their business. Paul stayed in Corinth for a year-and-a-half preaching the Good News.

Most scholars believe Paul wrote two letters to the church in Thessalonica while he was in Corinth. About two or three years earlier, Paul helped establish the church in Thessalonica during his second missionary journey.

In 1st Thessalonians, Jesus is the Resurrection and Life. Paul writes, *“For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died... Christ died for us so that, whether we are dead or alive when he returns, we can live with him forever”* (1 Thessalonians 4:14; 5:10).

In 2nd Thessalonians, Jesus is the One who will judge the world. Paul writes, *“He (Jesus) will come with his mighty angels, in flaming fire, bringing judgment on those who don’t know God and on those who refuse to obey the Good News of our Lord Jesus”* (2 Thessalonians 1:7b – 8).

Main Message (1st Thessalonians): Paul describes the events that will occur when Jesus returns.

Main Message (2nd Thessalonians): Paul outlines the events that will occur, leading up to the time of Jesus’ return.

Reading Assignment: Read the boxes entitled, “1st Thessalonians,” on page 171 and, “2nd Thessalonians,” on page 172 of your study guide.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
1st and 2nd Thessalonians (Approx. 51 – 52 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) What was Paul’s primary purpose for writing 1st Thessalonians?
 - a) To clear up confusion and misconceptions about the timing of Jesus’ return.
 - b) To explain the events that will occur when Jesus returns.
 - c) To introduce himself as an apostle preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ.
 - d) To provide elders instructions for overseeing the church.

- 2) What was Paul’s primary purpose for writing 2nd Thessalonians?
 - a) To clear up confusion and misconceptions about the timing of Jesus’ return.
 - b) To explain the events that will occur when Jesus returns.
 - c) To introduce himself as an apostle preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ.
 - d) To provide elders instructions for overseeing the church.

- 3) Who was Paul writing to in these letters?
 - a) Paul was writing to the church at Thessalonica.
 - b) Paul was writing to Roman officials in Thessalonica.
 - c) Paul was writing to all believers living outside of Jerusalem.
 - d) Paul was writing to a woman named Thessalonica.

- 4) As believers experienced persecution and hardships for their faith, word soon spread that the Day of the Lord had already started. What is meant by the Day of the Lord?
 - a) It is the Day Jesus was born.
 - b) It is the Day Jesus was crucified.
 - c) It is the Day Jesus rose from the dead.
 - d) It is the Day Jesus will return.

- 5) In 2nd Thessalonians, Paul admonished some believers who thought the Day of the Lord had already started. What did these believers do which caused Paul to express his disapproval?
 - a) They were insisting that Gentile believers must be circumcised before Jesus’ return.
 - b) They were insisting that Gentile believers must be baptized before Jesus’ return.
 - c) They had stopped attending worship services in the synagogue.
 - d) They had stopped working and were waiting for the Jesus’ return.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
1st & 2nd Corinthians (Approx. 55 – 57 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Paul’s letters to the church in Corinth.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

During Paul’s third missionary journey, he visited the churches in Galatia and then traveled west to Ephesus. He preached for three months in the local synagogue at Ephesus before some Jews began opposing him. When these Jews at the synagogue rejected Paul’s message, he began preaching in a school lecture hall. Paul taught Jews and Gentiles at the lecture hall in Ephesus for two years. While he was in Ephesus, Paul wrote a letter to the church in Corinth, established during his second missionary journey. Paul had been in Ephesus for well over two years when a riot broke out over Paul’s teachings. After the riot, Paul left Ephesus and headed for Macedonia. While Paul was in Macedonia, he wrote another letter to the church in Corinth. Paul had written three previous letters to the Corinthians, two of which are lost. Scholars believe 1st Corinthians was Paul’s second letter and 2nd Corinthians was Paul’s fourth letter to the Corinthians.

In 1st Corinthians, Jesus is the Wisdom of God. Jesus brings unity, righteousness, spiritual purity and redemption. Paul writes, *“God has united you with Christ Jesus. For our benefit God made him to be wisdom itself. Christ made us right with God; he made us pure and holy, and he freed us from sin”* (1 Corinthians 1:30).

In 2nd Corinthians, Jesus is the One who reconciles us with God. Paul writes, *“... anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people’s sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation”* (2 Corinthians 5:17 – 19).

Main Message (1st Corinthians): Paul identifies and corrects problems, which had caused believers to lose sight of what it means to live for Jesus Christ.

Main Message (2nd Corinthians): Paul defends his ministry and authority as an apostle.

Reading Assignment: Read the boxes entitled, “1st Corinthians,” on page 173 and, “2nd Corinthians,” on page 174 of your study guide.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
1st & 2nd Corinthians (Approx. 55 – 57 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1.) While Paul was in Ephesus, he wrote a letter to the church in Corinth. What was Paul’s primary purpose for writing 1st Corinthians?
 - a) The primary purpose was to explain how Jesus Christ fulfilled Old Testament prophecies.
 - b) The primary purpose was to defend his ministry and authority as an apostle.
 - c) The primary purpose was to encourage believers who were being persecuted for their faith.
 - d) The primary purpose was to correct problems which had caused disharmony in the church.

- 2.) While Paul was in Macedonia (perhaps Philippi), he wrote another letter to the church in Corinth. What was Paul’s primary purpose for writing 2nd Corinthians letter?
 - a) The primary purpose was to explain how Jesus Christ fulfilled Old Testament prophecies.
 - b) The primary purpose was to defend his ministry and authority as an apostle.
 - c) The primary purpose was to encourage believers who were being persecuted for their faith.
 - d) The primary purpose was to correct problems which had caused disharmony in the church.

- 3.) Which of the following is “not” one of the issues Paul addressed in 1st Corinthians?
 - a) Paul condemned sexually immorality, spiritual pride, and disharmony among believers.
 - b) Paul provided instructions for observing the Lord’s Supper in a manner that honors Christ.
 - c) Paul revealed that he would soon be arrested and imprisoned in Rome.
 - d) Paul answered questions on marriage and eating food sacrificed to idols.

- 4.) In 2nd Corinthians, Paul responded to those who were questioning his ministry. What did Paul say to them about his ministry?
 - a) Paul said he had suffered many trials and hardships as an apostle.
 - b) Paul said Timothy was more capable than those who were questioning him.
 - c) Paul said an angel appeared to him and commissioned him as an apostle of the gospel.
 - d) Paul explained that he was more deserving than those who were questioning him.

- 5.) In 2nd Corinthians, Paul explained his authority as an apostle. According to Paul, who gave him authority to preach the gospel message?
 - a) Caesar
 - b) Herod
 - c) An angel
 - d) God

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
1st & 2nd Corinthians (Approx. 55 – 57 A.D.)

Lesson Application 1: In 1st Corinthians 1:18 – 31, Paul explains that God’s plan of salvation and redemption sounds like foolishness to the world. Read these scriptures and answer the questions.

“The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God. . . . God has made the wisdom of this world look foolish. Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe. It is foolish to the Jews, who ask for signs from heaven. And it is foolish to the Greeks, who seek human wisdom. So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it’s all nonsense. But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God’s weakness is stronger than the greatest of human strength” (1 Corinthians 1:18, 20 – 25 NLT).

- 1.) What is the message of the cross? (Hint: See pages 210 and 211 in your study guide. The cross represents Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection.)

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
1st & 2nd Corinthians (Approx. 55 – 57 A.D.)

2.) In your opinion, why does the message of the cross seem like foolishness to the world?

3.) Is God’s plan of redemption and salvation foolish to you? Why or Why not?

4.) Read the scripture below and write your thoughts about what these verses mean to you.

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,’ declares the LORD. ‘As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts’” (Isaiah 55:8-9 NLT)

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
1st & 2nd Corinthians (Approx. 55 – 57 A.D.)

Lesson Application 3: False teachers were denying Paul’s authority as an apostle and questioning his motives. Paul defended his ministry saying his authority came directly from God. Paul’s many trials and hardships demonstrated his dedication and commitment to God. Read 2nd Corinthians 6:3 – 13 and 11:16 – 33. Based on these verses and what you have read in your study guide, list the various trials and hardships Paul endured while spreading the Good News.

Paul’s Trials and Hardships

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Romans (Approx. 57 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Paul’s letter to believers in Rome.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

After visiting Macedonia, Paul traveled to Greece. He stayed in Corinth for three months, teaching and preaching the Word of God. While in Corinth, Paul wrote a letter to believers in Rome. He had heard many good reports about the church in Rome, but had never been there.

In Romans, Jesus is God’s Plan of Redemption and Salvation. Paul writes, *“For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile. This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. . . . Yet God, with undeserved kindness, declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood”* (Romans 1:16 – 17; 3:24 – 25).

Main Message: Paul explains the foundational truths of the gospel message.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “Romans,” on page 174 of your study guide.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Romans (Approx. 57 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) What was Paul’s primary purpose for writing this letter to believers in Rome?
 - a) The primary purpose was to explain the events that will occur when Jesus returns.
 - b) The primary purpose was to provide a historical account of Jesus’ life story.
 - c) The primary purpose was to explain the foundational truths of the gospel message.
 - d) The primary purpose was to correct problems which had caused disharmony in the church.

- 2) According to Paul’s letter, he was planning a trip to Rome. When was he planning to go?
 - a) Before his first missionary journey.
 - b) After his second missionary journey and before his third missionary journey.
 - c) At the end of his third missionary journey after he visited Jerusalem.
 - d) After his trial before Caesar.

- 3) In this letter, what does Paul explain in great detail?
 - a) Paul explains why we must obey Old Testament laws to be saved.
 - b) Paul explains John the Baptist’s ministry and what it means to believers.
 - c) Paul explains the events that will occur before and during Jesus’ return.
 - d) Paul explains God’s free gift of salvation and what it means to believers.

- 4) According to Paul, why did God entrust the Jews with the law (the Old Testament laws)?
 - a) To save the Jews and exclude the Gentiles from His plan of salvation.
 - b) To show mankind how sinful humanity is compared to His standard of righteousness.
 - c) To ensure that His laws would be handed down to future generations.
 - d) To honor Abraham, the Jewish patriarch who walked upright before God.

- 5) In Romans, Paul explained what Jesus did for believers on the cross. Which of the following is “not” something Jesus did for believers on the cross?
 - a) Jesus took mankind’s sins upon Himself and substituted His life for ours.
 - b) Jesus paid the price of redemption with His blood on the cross.
 - c) Jesus made us righteous before God and reconciled our relationship with God the Father.
 - d) Jesus made sure that everyone would suffer and pay the penalty for their own sins.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Ephesians (Approx. 60 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Paul’s letter to the church in Ephesus.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

The book of Acts comes to an end with Paul proclaiming the Good News to visitors while under house arrest in Rome. According to tradition, Paul never appeared before Caesar in a trial. He was released after spending two years under house arrest. Although the Biblical account of the spreading of the gospel ends in the book of Acts, the apostles wrote letters, which provide insight into this period of early church history. During the two years Paul spent under house arrest, he wrote letters to the churches in Ephesus, Colosse and Philippi. Paul also wrote a personal letter to a Christian friend named Philemon. These letters are often called Paul’s prison letters.

In Ephesians, Jesus is the One who provides spiritual blessings for the benefit of the church. Paul writes, *“God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself”* (Ephesians 1:22 – 23).

Main Message: Paul explains the spiritual blessings that belong to those who are in Christ.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “Ephesians,” on page 180 of your study guide.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Ephesians (Approx. 60 A.D.)

Writing Assignment: In Ephesians, Paul explains the spiritual blessings that belong to those who are in Christ. Read Ephesians 1:3 – 14 and list the spiritual blessings Paul says belongs to those who are in Christ.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Ephesians (Approx. 60 A.D.)

Lesson Application 1: In Ephesians 6:10 – 18, Paul explains God’s armor (the weapons) we can use to fight against the Satan’s strategies. Read these scriptures. Draw a line to the appropriate piece of armor you can use to fight each of Satan’s strategies.

Satan’s Strategies	God’s Armor (Our Weapon)
Satan wants you to believe lies instead of truth.	Shield of Faith
Satan wants you to doubt your righteousness.	Sword, the Word of God
Satan tries to stop the gospel of peace.	Helmet of Salvation
Satan wants you to doubt your faith.	Body Armor of Righteousness
Satan wants you to doubt your salvation.	Belt of Truth
Satan tempts you to disobey God’s Word.	Shoes

Lesson Application 2: What strategy does Satan most often use to attack you? What can you do to resist Satan’s attacks?

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Colossians (Approx. 60 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Paul’s letter to the church in Colosse.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

Colossians is another one of the letters Paul wrote while under house arrest in Rome. In Colossians, Jesus is Supreme Head of the church. Paul writes, *“Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation. . . . Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first in everything. For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ’s blood on the cross”* (Colossians 1:15, 18 – 20).

Main Message: Paul refutes false teachings, misconceptions, and establishes a proper view of Christ.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “Colossians,” on page 180 of your study guide.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Colossians (Approx. 60 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) What was Paul’s primary purpose for writing to believers in Colosse?
 - a) To explain the events that will occur before and after Jesus’ return.
 - b) To refute false teachings, correct misconceptions and establish a proper view of Christ.
 - c) The primary purpose was to explain the foundational truths of the gospel message.
 - d) To ask a friend to forgive a runaway slave and accept him as a brother in Christ.

- 2) How is Jesus portrayed in Colossians?
 - a) Jesus is the Supreme Head of the church.
 - b) Jesus is a Humble Servant.
 - c) Jesus is the worthy Lamb of God.
 - d) Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

- 3) What specific problem had infiltrated the church in Colosse?
 - a) False teachers were questioning Paul’s authority as an apostle.
 - b) False teachers were combining paganism and Judaism with Christianity.
 - c) Believers had stopped working and become idle as they waited for Jesus’ return.
 - d) Christians were not welcoming traveling ministers with warm hospitality.

- 4) Where was Paul when he wrote this letter to the church in Colosse?
 - a) Paul was at his ministry’s home base in Antioch.
 - b) Paul was in his hometown of Tarsus.
 - c) Paul was with the other apostles in Jerusalem.
 - d) Paul was under house arrest in Rome.

- 5) According to Paul, who provides everything believers need to be reconciled with God?
 - a) Moses
 - b) John the Baptist
 - c) Apostle Paul
 - d) Jesus Christ

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Philemon (Approx. 60 A.D)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Paul’s letter to a believer named Philemon.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

Philemon is another one of four letters Paul wrote while under house arrest in Rome. In Philemon, Jesus is an Advocate. Paul intercedes for Onesimus as his advocate in the same way Jesus intercedes with God the Father and advocates on behalf of all believers. Paul writes, *“He (Onesimus) is no longer like a slave to you. He is more than a slave, for he is a beloved brother, especially to me. Now he will mean much more to you, both as a man and as a brother in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge it to me”* (Philemon 1:16 – 18).

Main Message: Paul asks Philemon to forgive his runaway slave and accept him as a brother in Christ.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “Philemon,” on page 180 of your study guide.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Philemon (Approx. 60 A.D)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) Paul addressed this letter to a man named Philemon. Who was Philemon?
 - a) Philemon was a fellow prisoner.
 - b) Philemon was a runaway slave.
 - c) Philemon was the owner of a runaway slave.
 - d) Philemon was a Roman soldier.

- 2) In Paul’s letter, he wrote about a man named Onesimus. Who was Onesimus?
 - a) Onesimus was a fellow prisoner.
 - b) Onesimus was a runaway slave.
 - c) Onesimus was the owner of a runaway slave.
 - a) Onesimus was a Roman soldier.

- 3) What happened to Onesimus while he was in Rome?
 - a) Onesimus met Paul and accepted Jesus as his Savior.
 - b) Onesimus forgave Philemon for stealing from him and running away.
 - c) Onesimus helped Paul escape from Roman soldiers.
 - d) Onesimus met Paul’s nephew and worked with him as a merchant.

- 4) What did Paul want Philemon to do?
 - a) Paul wanted Philemon to send his slave to Rome.
 - b) Paul wanted Philemon to forgive his runaway slave.
 - c) Paul wanted Philemon to arrest his runaway slave.
 - d) Paul wanted Philemon to visit him in prison.

- 5) What did Paul want Onesimus to do?
 - a) Paul wanted Onesimus to run away to Antioch of Syria.
 - b) Paul wanted Onesimus to forgive Philemon for making him a slave.
 - c) Paul wanted Onesimus to help him escape from Roman soldiers.
 - d) Paul wanted Onesimus to go back to Philemon and give him this letter.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Philemon (Approx. 60 A.D)

- 6) What is an “Advocate?”
 - a) A person who owns slaves.
 - b) A person who wants to get rid of slavery.
 - c) A person who pleads in support of another.
 - d) A person who has been sent by God.

- 7) In this letter, who acted as an “Advocate?”
 - a) Paul
 - b) Philemon
 - c) Onesimus
 - d) Epaphras

- 8) Who acts as an “Advocate” for Christians?
 - a) John the Baptist
 - b) Paul
 - c) An Angel
 - d) Jesus Christ

- 9) Where was Paul when he wrote this letter?
 - a) Paul was at his ministry’s home base in Antioch.
 - b) Paul was in his hometown of Tarsus.
 - c) Paul was with the other apostles in Jerusalem.
 - d) Paul was under house arrest in Rome.

- 10) Who did Paul ask to accept a runaway slave as a brother in Christ?
 - a) Philemon
 - b) Onesimus
 - c) Onesimus’ brother
 - d) Philemon’s brother

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Philemon (Approx. 60 A.D)

Lesson Application: In Paul’s days, slavery was legal and widespread throughout the Roman Empire. Philemon, a Christian and Paul’s friend, owned a slave named Onesimus who had stolen from him and run away. Onesimus later met Paul and accepted Jesus as his Savior. In this letter, Paul asked Philemon to forgive Onesimus and accept him as a brother in Christ. Answer the following questions:

1.) What does it mean to forgive?

2.) Read Matthew 6:12, 14 – 15. Why is it important to forgive?

3.) How should we treat our brothers and sisters in Christ?

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Philippians (Approx. 61 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Paul’s letter to believers in Philippi.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

Paul established the church in Philippi during his second missionary journey. Paul’s letter to the church in Philippi was one of his four letters written while he was under house arrest in Rome.

In Philippians, Jesus is the Source of believer’s joy and power over circumstances. Paul writes, *“Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! . . . For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength”* (Philippians 4:4, 13)

Main Message: Paul encourages believers to grow in Christ in spite of adversities, for Jesus is the One who gives true joy.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “Philippians,” on page 181 of your study guide.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Philippians (Approx. 61 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) When did Paul initially travel to Philippi and help establish the church there?
 - a) Before his first missionary journey.
 - b) During his first missionary journey.
 - c) During his second missionary journey.
 - d) After his third missionary journey.

- 2) What was the primary purpose of Paul’s letter to the church in Philippi?
 - a) To warn non believers about the Day of the Lord and explain the events that will occur before and after Jesus’ return.
 - b) To defend his ministry as an apostle and explain what happened after Jesus appeared to him on the road to Damascus.
 - c) To express his gratitude for their support and encourage them to grow in Christ in spite of adversities.
 - d) To ask a friend to forgive a runaway slave and accept him as a brother in Christ.

- 3) Where was Paul when he wrote this letter?
 - a) Paul was at his ministry’s home base in Antioch.
 - b) Paul was in his hometown of Tarsus.
 - c) Paul was with the other apostles in Jerusalem.
 - d) Paul was under house arrest in Rome.

- 4) What did the church in Philippi send to Paul that prompted him to write this letter?
 - a) They sent Paul a message about his trial date.
 - b) They sent Paul a gift.
 - c) They sent Paul a copy of the Old Testament laws.
 - d) They sent Paul a message about his nephew.

- 5) According to Paul, who is the source of believer’s joy and power over circumstances?
 - a) Jesus
 - b) Paul
 - c) Moses
 - d) Angels

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Philippians (Approx. 61 A.D.)

Lesson Application: When Paul wrote this letter, Christians were being persecuted for their faith. Paul (himself) was under house arrest in Rome, yet he expressed great joy and encouragement in his letter. Paul writes, *“Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice!”* (Philippians 4:4 NLT). Answer the following questions:

1.) How could Paul write such an encouraging letter when he (himself) was in prison?

2.) Read Philippians 4:6 – 7 in your Bible. What does Paul tell us to do when we find ourselves worrying and in need of peace?

3.) Read Philippians 4:8 in your Bible. What does Paul tell us to think about instead of focusing on our troubles?

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Philippians (Approx. 61 A.D.)

Writing Assignment: In Philippians, Paul explains that we are to have the same attitude as Christ. Read Philippians 2:1 – 11 and write your thoughts about what Paul meant when he said we should have the same attitude as Christ.

Having the Same Attitude as Christ

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
1st Timothy (Approx. 64 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Paul’s letter to his young faithful companion, Timothy.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

Most scholars believe Paul was released from house arrest in about 62 A.D. After his release, Paul wrote letters to Timothy and Titus, two faithful companions in his ministry. Paul’s letters to Timothy and Titus are often called pastoral letters because the letters focus on overseeing and caring for the church.

Main Message: Paul provides guidance for establishing church leadership and teaching the truths of the faith.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “1st Timothy,” on page 181 of your study guide

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
1st Timothy (Approx. 64 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) Paul wrote this letter to a young man named Timothy. Who was Timothy?
 - a) Timothy was a devout priest.
 - b) Timothy was a faithful companion in Paul’s ministry.
 - c) Timothy was the author of several New Testament books.
 - d) Timothy was one of Jesus’ twelve disciples.

- 2) Where was Timothy when Paul wrote this letter?
 - a) Timothy was in Crete.
 - b) Timothy was in Philippi.
 - c) Timothy was at home in Lystra.
 - d) Timothy was in Ephesus.

- 3) What was the primary purpose of Paul’s letter to Timothy?
 - a) To explain why and how he was arrested in Jerusalem.
 - b) To reveal the events that will occur before and when Jesus returns.
 - c) To provide guidance for establishing church leadership and teaching the faith.
 - d) To urge believers to work for a living instead of idly waiting for Jesus’ return.

- 4) What are Paul’s letters to Timothy and Titus often called?
 - a) Paul’s prison letters
 - b) Paul’s companion letters
 - c) Paul’s ministry letters
 - d) Paul’s pastoral letters

- 5) Which of the following is not included in the instructions Paul gave Timothy in this letter?
 - a) Instructions on conducting worship
 - b) Instructions on appointing church leadership
 - c) Instructions on caring for church membership
 - d) Instructions on constructing a church building

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Titus (Approx. 64 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Paul’s letter to his faithful assistant, Titus.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

Paul’s letter to Titus was much like his first letter to Timothy and was written about the same time. In Titus, Jesus is our Savior. Paul writes, *“And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed. He gave his life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us, and to make us his very own people, totally committed to doing good deeds”* (Titus 2:12 – 14).

Main Message: Paul provides guidance on organizing and overseeing the church.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “Titus,” on page 181 of your study guide

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Titus (Approx. 64 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) Paul wrote this letter to a young man named Titus. Who was Titus?
 - a) Titus was a devout priest.
 - b) Titus was the author several New Testament books.
 - c) Titus was one of Jesus’ twelve disciples.
 - d) Titus was a Greek believer assisting in Paul’s ministry.

- 2) Where was Titus when Paul wrote this letter?
 - a) Titus was in Crete.
 - b) Titus was in Philippi.
 - c) Titus was in Lystra.
 - d) Titus was in Ephesus.

- 3) What was the purpose of Paul’s letter to Titus?
 - a) To explain why and how he was arrested in Jerusalem.
 - b) To provide guidance on organizing and overseeing the church.
 - c) To urge believers to work for a living instead of idly waiting for Jesus’ return.
 - d) To reveal specific events that will occur before and when Jesus returns.

- 4) Paul and Titus had been teaching together. Paul left Titus with specific instructions about what he was supposed to do. What instructions did Paul leave with Titus?
 - a) Paul instructed Titus to come with him as he traveled spreading the Good News.
 - b) Paul instructed Titus to let the believers know that he was no longer under house arrest.
 - c) Paul instructed Titus to finish the work he had started and appoint elders in each town.
 - d) Paul instructed Titus to join Timothy and help him organize church leadership in Ephesus.

- 5) Which of the following is not included in the letter Paul wrote to Titus?
 - a) Paul outlined the qualifications for church elders.
 - b) Paul instructed Titus to teach the truths of the faith and correct false teachings.
 - c) Paul told Titus to encourage believers to live upright and obey societal laws.
 - d) Paul told Titus to encourage Gentile believers to follow Jewish laws and be circumcised.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Titus (Approx. 64 A.D.)

Lesson Application: In Paul’s letter to Titus, he writes, *“Once we, too, were foolish and disobedient. We were misled and became slaves to many lusts and pleasures. Our lives were full of evil and envy, and we hated each other”* (Titus 3:3 NLT). Most of us have acted foolishly at some point in our lives or have been misled into doing things we’ve been taught were wrong. Answer the following questions:

1.) In your opinion, why do we do things we’ve been taught were wrong?

2.) Is it dangerous to allow people to talk us into doing things we’ve been taught were wrong? Why or why not?

3.) What should we do when someone encourages us to do things we know are wrong?

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
1st Peter (Approx. 62 - 64 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Peter’s 1st letter written to Jewish believers living in several Roman provinces.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

In 64 A.D., Emperor Nero blamed Christians for a fire, which burned significant sections of Rome. After the fire, Nero began persecuting Christians in Rome. Many historians believe Emperor Nero set the fire himself to speed up his plans for urban renewal. While Nero was making life extremely difficult for believers in Rome, opposition to Christianity intensified world-wide. Believers everywhere faced danger and personal hardships. Apostle Peter wrote a letter to encourage Jewish believers who had fled from religious persecution and were scattered throughout Asia Minor.

In 1st Peter, Jesus is the One who provided believers a priceless inheritance. Peter writes, *“It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see”* (1 Peter 1:3b – 5).

Main Message: Peter encourages believers to stay spiritually strong in the midst of their trials.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “1st Peter,” on page 182 of your study guide

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
1st Peter (Approx. 62 – 64 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) When Peter wrote this letter, believers were being persecuted because of their religion. What does it mean to be persecuted because of one’s religion?
 - a) Believers were being honored by Roman authorities because of their faith in Christ.
 - b) Believers were being tormented and killed because of their faith in Jesus Christ.
 - c) Believers were being praised for their commitment to Jesus Christ.
 - d) Believers were prospering because of their faith in Jesus Christ.

- 2) Who did Peter write this letter to?
 - a) To Gentile believers living in several Roman provinces
 - b) To both Jews and Gentiles living in several Roman provinces
 - c) To Jewish believers living in several Roman provinces
 - d) To Romans who were persecuting believers

- 3) What was Peter’s main purpose for writing this letter?
 - a) To encourage, comfort, and offer hope.
 - b) To explain how he became an apostle.
 - c) To provide guidance on organizing and overseeing the church.
 - d) To reveal specific events that will occur before and when Jesus returns.

- 4) According to Peter, what gift does God give believers as a reward for their faith in Jesus Christ?
 - a) Long Life
 - b) Salvation
 - c) Money
 - d) Fame

- 5) Whose example does Peter say believers should follow?
 - a) Peter’s example
 - b) Paul’s example
 - c) The Bible’s example
 - d) Christ’s example

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
2nd Timothy (Approx. 66 – 67 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Paul’s 2nd letter to Timothy.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

After a few years of freedom, Paul was apparently arrested and put in prison again. This is indicated in Paul’s second letter to Timothy, written while he was in prison and facing death. (See 2 Timothy 2:9). Christians suffered persecution under Emperor Nero in Rome from 64 A.D. to 67 A.D.

According to church tradition, Paul was executed under Emperor Nero in about 67 A.D. About this same time, Peter wrote a second letter to encourage and strengthen believers. Church tradition states Peter suffered martyrdom shortly after Paul’s death.

In 2nd Timothy, Jesus is the Way to Life and Immortality. Paul writes, *“And now he (God) has made all of this plain to us by the appearing of Christ Jesus, our Savior. He broke the power of death and illuminated the way to life and immortality through the Good News. . . . If we die with him, we will also live with him. If we endure hardship, we will reign with him”* (2 Timothy 1:10; 2:11 – 12a).

Main Message: Paul gives final words of wisdom and encouragement to stay strong in the faith.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “2nd Timothy,” on page 182 of your study guide

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
2nd Timothy (Approx. 66 – 67 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) Where was Paul when he wrote this letter to Timothy?
 - a) Paul was teaching in Ephesus.
 - b) Paul was in Caesarea.
 - c) Paul was in his hometown of Tarsus.
 - d) Paul was in prison.

- 2) According to church tradition, Paul died shortly after writing this letter. How did Paul die?
 - a) Paul died of a disease in a hospital.
 - b) Paul was shipwrecked and drowned at sea.
 - c) Paul was executed because of his faith in Jesus Christ.
 - d) Paul was banished to a deserted island and died.

- 3) What was Paul’s primary purpose for writing this letter?
 - a) To provide some final words of wisdom and encouragement to Timothy.
 - b) To provide a record of his life story for Timothy and all future believers.
 - c) To provide guidance on organizing and overseeing the church in Ephesus.
 - d) To provide guidance on organizing and overseeing the church in Crete.

- 4) According to church tradition, who was emperor of Rome when Paul was executed?
 - a) Augustus
 - b) Titus
 - c) Nero
 - d) Tiberius

- 5) Which of the following is not included in this letter to Timothy?
 - a) Paul reminds Timothy of his responsibilities as a minister and pastor.
 - b) Paul encourages Timothy to use his spiritual gifts to teach, correct, rebuke, and encourage.
 - c) Paul told Timothy to encourage Gentile believers to follow Jewish laws and be circumcised.
 - d) Paul warns about a time when evil and false teachings will abound and be widespread.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
2nd Peter (Approx. 67 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Peter’s 2nd letter.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

Peter wrote a second letter to encourage and strengthen believers. Church tradition states that Peter suffered martyrdom shortly after writing this letter.

In 2nd Peter, Jesus is the Source of knowledge and spiritual growth. Peter writes, *“Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone. The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ”* (2 Peter 1:5b – 8).

Main Message: Peter exhorts believers to grow spiritually in the knowledge of Jesus Christ and warned against false teachings.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “2nd Peter,” on page 182 of your study guide

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
2nd Peter (Approx. 67 A.D.)

Lesson Application: In his second letter, Peter writes, *“Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone. The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ”* (2 Peter 1:5b – 8). In these verses Peter tells us that our faith should lead to spiritual growth so that we become more and more like Jesus Christ. Over time, people should be able to see increases in a believer’s moral excellence, knowledge of Christ, self-control, patient endurance, godliness, brotherly affection, and love. Answer the following questions about how believers are to grow in Christ.

- 1.) Over time, believers are to grow in moral excellence. What is moral excellence? (Note: Some Bible translations use the words “virtue” or “goodness” instead of the word “moral excellence.” What is moral excellence, virtue, or goodness?)

- 2.) Believers are to grow in their knowledge of Christ. What is knowledge? What is the knowledge of Christ?

- 3.) Believers are to grow in self-control. What is self-control?

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
2nd Peter (Approx. 67 A.D.)

4.) Believers are to grow patient endurance. What is patient endurance?

5.) Believers are to grow godliness. What is godliness?

6.) Believers are to grow in brotherly affection. What is brotherly affection?

7.) Over time, believers are to grow in love. What is love? (Peter is referring to godly love, not erotic love or lust.)

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Jude (Approx. 67 – 70 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of Jude’s letter to believers.

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

The church was only about thirty years old. In the midst of religious persecution, another pressing problem threatened the church’s survival. False teachers were increasingly working their way into the church, attempting to destroy the message of the gospel. Jude, another one of Jesus’ half-brothers, had planned to write a letter to believers on salvation. When Jude heard the magnitude of the problem with false teachers, he changed the subject of his letter. Jude wrote a stern letter to oppose false teachers, warn about the dangers of false doctrines, and encourage believers to remain true to the faith.

In Jude, Jesus is the One who keeps us safe in His care. Jude writes, *“To all who are chosen and loved by God the Father and are kept safe by Jesus Christ”* (Jude 1:1b CEV). *“Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault. All glory to him who alone is God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord”* (Jude 1: 24 – 25a).

Main Message: Jude condemns false teachers who were condoning immorality and urges believers to defend the truths of the faith.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “Jude,” on page 183 of your study guide.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Jude (Approx. 67 – 70 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) A man named Jude authored this letter. Who was Jude?
 - a) Jude was a priest living in Jerusalem.
 - b) Jude was a Gentile believer.
 - c) Jude was a half-brother of Jesus Christ.
 - d) Jude was a Temple guard in Jerusalem.

- 2) In this letter, Jude said he had originally intended to address a different subject, but changed his mind. What subject was Jude planning to write about before he changed his mind?
 - a) Jude intended to write about salvation.
 - b) Jude intended to write the life story of his mother, Mary.
 - c) Jude intended to write a historical account of Jesus’ life story.
 - d) Jude intended to write an explanation of Jewish laws.

- 3) What was the main purpose of Jude’s letter?
 - a) To provide some final words of wisdom and encouragement to Peter and Paul.
 - b) To provide a record of Jesus’ life story.
 - c) To provide guidance on organizing church leadership.
 - d) To condemn false teachers who condoned immorality.

- 4) What did Jude urge believers to do in his letter?
 - a) Jude urged believers to memorize the laws of Moses.
 - b) Jude urged believers to defend the truths of the faith.
 - c) Jude urged believers to be baptized and remember to take communion.
 - d) Jude urged believers to stop worshipping at the Temple in Jerusalem.

- 5) Which of the following is not included in Jude’s letter to believers?
 - a) Jude pointed to Israel’s past to remind believers that God condemns immorality.
 - b) Jude described false teachers as godless, self indulgent, complainers, braggarts, scoffers, deceivers, etc.
 - c) Jude explained that obedience to the laws of Moses and good deeds results in salvation.
 - d) Jude urged believers to build their faith through prayer, staying focused on Christ, and showing mercy to others.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Hebrews (Before 70 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of the letter called “Hebrews.”

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

The message of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ was difficult for Jews to accept. They were well versed in the practice of Judaism. Some Jews rejected the message of the gospel, while others who accepted Jesus as the Messiah often struggled with their new faith. A letter, entitled Hebrews, was written to Jewish Christians to establish the superiority of the gospel message over Judaism and other religions. The author of Hebrews is unknown. However, Paul and others who assisted in Paul’s ministry have often been suggested as possible authors.

In Hebrews, Jesus is our Great High Priest, ruling over God’s house. The author of Hebrews writes, *“And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven’s Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God’s house, let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ’s blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water”* (Hebrews 10:19 – 22).

Main Message: The author of Hebrews explains that Jesus was the perfect on-time sacrifice for our sins and no other sacrifice is needed.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “Hebrews,” on page 183 of your study guide.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Hebrews (Before 70 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) Who is the author of Hebrews?
 - a) Peter is the author of Hebrews.
 - b) John is the author of Hebrews.
 - c) Paul is the author of Hebrews.
 - d) The author of Hebrews is unknown.

- 2) Who was this letter written to?
 - a) Hebrews was written to Gentile believers.
 - b) Hebrews was written to a Roman officer named Cornelius.
 - c) Hebrews was written to a Greek named Theophilus.
 - d) Hebrews was written to Jewish believers.

- 3) What was the author’s purpose for writing Hebrews?
 - a) To establish the superiority of Christianity over Judaism and all other religions.
 - b) To provide an accurate historical account of Jesus’ life story.
 - c) To provide guidance on organizing church leadership and pastoral care.
 - d) To condemn false teachers who condoned the worship of idol gods.

- 4) What is the author’s main message in this letter?
 - a) The author’s main message is that there is no perfect sacrifice for our sins, so we must do good deeds and pay tithes to be reconciled with God.
 - b) The author’s main message is that we must study and obey the law of Moses to be reconciled with God.
 - c) The author’s main message is that Gentile believers must follow Jewish laws, be circumcised and baptized as requirements of salvation.
 - d) The author’s main message is that Jesus was the perfect one-time sacrifice for our sins and no other sacrifices are needed.

- 5) Which of the following is “not” one of the ways Jesus is described in Hebrews?
 - a) Jesus is described as both divine and human.
 - b) Jesus is described as the exact representation of God.
 - c) Jesus is described as one of God’s angels.
 - d) Jesus is described as our Great High Priest.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Hebrews (Before 70 A.D.)

Writing Assignment: Hebrews 11:1 gives the biblical definition of the word “faith” and Hebrews 11:2 – 39 describes the faith of great men and women of the Bible. Read Hebrews 11:1 – 39 and answer the following questions:

1.) How did Abel demonstrate faith in God?

2.) How did Noah demonstrate faith in God?

3.) How did Abraham demonstrate faith in God?

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Hebrews (Before 70 A.D.)

4.) How did Moses demonstrate faith in God?

5.) How did Rahab demonstrate faith in God?

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
1st John, 2nd John, 3rd John (Approx. 85 – 90 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main messages of 1st John, 2nd John, and 3rd John.”

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

Jews in Jerusalem revolted against Roman domination in 66 A.D. The Roman government dispatched troops led by General Titus, the Roman Emperor’s son, to squelch the uprising. After holding the city under siege for several years, the Romans finally broke through Jerusalem’s walls in 70 A.D. They set Jerusalem on fire, destroying everything. Apostle John lived well past the destruction of Jerusalem. According to church tradition, John ministered in Ephesus for a while. John wrote three letters after Jerusalem’s destruction. These letters are called 1st, 2nd, and 3rd John.

In 1st John, Jesus is our Advocate and the Giver of Eternal Life. John writes, *“But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous. He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world. . . . And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God’s Son does not have life”* (1 John 2:1b – 2; 5:11 – 12 NLT).

In 2nd John, Jesus is the Source of our relationship with God. John writes, *“Anyone who wanders away from this teaching has no relationship with God. But anyone who remains in the teaching of Christ has a relationship with both the Father and the Son”* (2 John 1:9 NLT).

In 3rd John, Jesus is the Source of Truth. John writes, *“Please continue providing for such teachers in a manner that pleases God. For they are traveling for the Lord, and they accept nothing from people who are not believers. So we ourselves should support them so that we can be their partners as they teach the truth”* (3 John 1:6b – 8 NLT).

Main Message (1st John): John encourages believers in the faith and opposes false prophets who taught against the truth of Jesus Christ.

Main Message (2nd John): John encourages believers to stay grounded in the faith and warned against false teachers.

Main Message (3rd John): John commends Gaius for assisting God’s messengers of the gospel.

Reading Assignment: Read the boxes entitled, “1st John,” “2nd John,” and “3rd John,” on page 184 of your study guide.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
1st John, 2nd John, 3rd John (Approx. 85 – 90 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) Which of the following statements is “not” true about the author of 1st John, 2nd John, and 3rd John?
 - a) John wrote the gospel of John.
 - b) John was one of Jesus’ twelve disciples and an apostle.
 - c) John was also called “John the Baptist.”
 - d) John had a brother named James, who was one of the twelve disciples and an apostle.

- 2) John wrote these letters sometime after the destruction of Jerusalem which occurred in 70 A.D. Who was responsible for the destruction of Jerusalem?
 - a) The Greeks under the leadership of Alexander the Great
 - b) The Romans under the leadership of General Titus
 - c) The Persians under the leadership of King Cyrus
 - d) The Babylonians under the leadership of King Nebuchadnezzar

- 3) What was John’s primary purpose for writing 1st John and 2nd John?
 - a) To commend a man named Gaius for assisting God’s messengers of the gospel.
 - b) To provide an accurate historical account of Jesus’ life story.
 - c) To encourage believers in the faith and to oppose false prophets and false teachers.
 - d) To provide guidance on organizing church leadership and pastoral care.

- 4) What was John’s primary purpose for writing 3rd John?
 - a) To commend a man named Gaius for assisting God’s messengers of the gospel.
 - b) To provide an accurate historical account of Jesus’ life story.
 - c) To encourage believers in the faith and to oppose false prophets and false teachers.
 - d) To provide guidance on organizing church leadership and pastoral care.

- 5) How does John define love in 1st John?
 - a) Love is a feeling.
 - b) God is love.
 - c) The Gospel is love.
 - d) Truth is love.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Revelation (Approx. 90 – 95 A.D.)

Lesson Objectives: To understand the main message of John’s letter called “Revelation.”

Prayer: May God bless this study and give wisdom and insight into His Word.

After John wrote 1st John, 2nd John, 3rd John, and his gospel, the Roman government banished him because of his faith in Jesus Christ. John was exiled to a desolate rocky island named Patmos where the Romans banished criminals and terrorist. While exiled on the island of Patmos, John received a prophetic vision. John’s vision is described in his final letter, called Revelation.

In Revelation, Jesus is the Eternal One, who will judge the world. Jesus appeared to John saying, *“I am the First and the Last. I am the living one. I died, but look—I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave”* (Revelation 1:17c – 18 NLT).

Main Message: John records the future events Jesus revealed to him in a prophetic vision.

Reading Assignment: Read the box entitled, “Revelation” on page 185 of your study guide.

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Revelation (Approx. 90 – 95 A.D.)

Review Questions: Read each question and then choose the “best” answer (a, b, c, or d) based on the assigned reading from your *Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament* study guide.

- 1) Where was John when he wrote Revelation?
 - a) John was in Jerusalem.
 - b) John was in a Roman prison.
 - c) John was in Ephesus.
 - d) John was on the island of Patmos.

- 2) What does the word “revelation” mean?
 - a) The unveiling or disclosure
 - b) The commissioning
 - c) The beginning and end
 - d) The warning

- 3) What was John’s primary purpose for writing this letter?
 - a) To provide a historical account of Jesus’ life story.
 - b) To refute false teachers, false prophets, and misconceptions.
 - c) To record future events revealed to him in a prophetic vision.
 - d) To encourage believers to obey the laws of Moses.

- 4) John’s letter begins with Jesus’ messages to specific churches that existed in Asia when this letter was written. How many churches received messages from Jesus in John’s letter?
 - a) 3
 - b) 4
 - c) 7
 - e) 12

- 5) After Jesus’ messages to specific churches, John’s vision suddenly shifts from the churches to scenes of worship. Where is worship taking place in John’s vision?
 - a) In heaven
 - b) In Jerusalem
 - c) In Rome
 - d) On the island of Patmos

Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Revelation (Approx. 90 – 95 A.D.)

- 6) In John’s vision, God gives Jesus, the worthy Lamb of God, several scrolls. How many scrolls does God give Jesus, the worthy Lamb of God?
- a) 3
 - b) 4
 - c) 7
 - d) 12
- 7) As the worthy Lamb of God, what is Jesus doing in John’s vision?
- a) Jesus is creating the world and everything in it.
 - b) Jesus is being baptized by John the Baptist.
 - c) Jesus is judging the world of sin.
 - d) Jesus is dying for the sins of the world.
- 8) What happens to Satan in John’s vision?
- a) Jesus imprisons Satan in an abyss.
 - b) Jesus turns Satan into a serpent.
 - c) Jesus pushes Satan off the top of a mountain.
 - d) Jesus forces Satan to apologize.
- 9) Who establishes a kingdom for all believers?
- a) Satan
 - b) St. Peter
 - c) The angel Michael
 - d) Jesus
- 10) How long will believers be allowed to live with God in heaven?
- a) One hundred years
 - b) One thousand years
 - c) One million years
 - d) Forever



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**Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament (Module 8)
Chapter 6: Spreading the Good News (Part 2)
Revelation (Approx. 90 - 95 A.D.)**

Congratulations!!

You have finished Module 8 of the Big Picture of the Bible—New Testament Lesson Plans.