



Victory in Christ Midweek Bible Study

Jesus in the Old Testament

Why This Study Matters:

Each week builds a bridge between the Old and New Testaments, showing:

1. *God's Sovereignty*: His plan for redemption was intentional from the beginning.
2. *Jesus' Centrality*: Every major OT theme points to Him.
3. *Our Response*: Worship, obedience, and sharing the Gospel flow from these truths.



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Week 1: Jesus in the Creation Account

What You'll Learn:

Discover how Jesus, as the eternal Word (John 1:1), was present and active at creation. This week reveals His divine nature, His role as Creator, and how the Trinity (Father, Son, Spirit) worked in unity to bring forth life. Participants will see that Jesus is not just a historical figure but the foundation of all existence.

Key Insight:

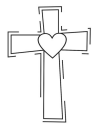
The same power that spoke light into darkness now brings spiritual light to our hearts (2 Corinthians 4:6).

Key Passage: Genesis 1:1-3, John 1:1-3, Colossians 1:15-17

Theme: Jesus as the Word and Creator

Discussion Questions:

1. How does John 1 connect Jesus to Genesis 1?
2. What does it mean that Jesus is the "image of the invisible God" (Colossians 1:15)?



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3. How does recognizing Jesus as Creator affect our worship?
4. What parallels exist between the Spirit hovering in Genesis 1 and the Holy Spirit's work today?
5. How should Christians respond to the truth that all things were made through Christ?

Application:

1. Worship as Creator: Spend time in nature (or meditate on Psalm 19:1–4), thanking Jesus for His power and creativity.
2. Create Order from Chaos: Identify one area of life (schedule, relationships, habits) where you need Christ's order—pray for His wisdom to restore it.
3. Share His Power: Tell someone how Jesus' creative power gives you hope in a current struggle.



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Week 2: The Promised Seed (Genesis 3:15)

What You'll Learn:

Explore the "first gospel", where God promises a Savior to crush Satan's power. This prophecy sets the stage for the entire Bible's redemptive story. Participants will trace the "seed" theme from Adam to Abraham to Christ, seeing God's faithfulness to His covenant.

Key Insight:

Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of this promise, reversing the curse of sin and offering victory over evil (Romans 16:20).

Key Theme:

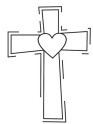
The first prophecy of Jesus—the One who would crush Satan's power.

Scripture Readings:

Genesis 3:15 (The first gospel)

Galatians 3:16 (The "seed" is Christ)

Romans 16:20 (God will crush Satan under our feet)



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Discussion Questions:

1. Why is Genesis 3:15 called the "first gospel"?
2. How does Paul connect the "seed" to Jesus in Galatians 3:16?
3. What does it mean that Jesus would "crush" the serpent's head?
4. How does this prophecy give us hope in spiritual battles today?
5. How should we respond to Jesus' victory over Satan?

Application:

1. Crush Temptation: When tempted, recite Genesis 3:15 aloud as a reminder of Jesus' victory over Satan.
2. Trace the Promise: Read Matthew 1:1–17 and note how God faithfully preserved the "seed" line to Christ.
3. Proclaim the Gospel: Share with one person how Jesus reverses the curse of sin in your life.
4. Reflection Question: "Where do I need to trust Jesus' victory in my life this week?"

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Community Church

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Week 3: The Passover Lamb (Exodus 12)

What You'll Learn:

Unpack the Passover as a vivid foreshadowing of Christ's sacrifice. The unblemished lamb's blood spared Israel from death, just as Jesus' blood delivers us from eternal judgment. Participants will connect the Exodus narrative to the Cross, understanding substitutionary atonement.

Key Insight:

Jesus is the "Lamb of God" whose blood marks us for salvation (1 Corinthians 5:7).

Key Theme:

Jesus is the ultimate Passover Lamb whose blood delivers us from death.

Scripture Readings

Exodus 12:1–13 (The first Passover)

John 1:29 ("Behold, the Lamb of God!")

1 Corinthians 5:7 ("Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed.")

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did God require a lamb without blemish for Passover?



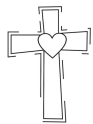
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2. How does Jesus fulfill the role of the Passover Lamb?
3. What does it mean that the blood was a "sign" for Israel (Exodus 12:13)?
4. How should remembering Jesus as our Passover Lamb affect our daily lives?
5. Why is it important that Jesus' sacrifice was a once-for-all event (Hebrews 10:10)?

Application:

1. Examine Your "Lamb" – reflect: What am I trusting instead of Christ's sacrifice? Repent and reaffirm His finished work.
2. Celebrate Deliverance: Take Communion (even at home), thanking Jesus for freeing you from sin's slavery.
3. Protect Your Household: Pray Psalm 91 over your family, claiming Christ's blood as your protection.



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Week 4: The Greater Joshua (Joshua 1)

What You'll Learn:

Joshua's name means "Yahweh is salvation" (the Hebrew form of "Jesus"). This week contrasts Joshua's leadership—leading Israel into Canaan's *temporary* rest—with Jesus, who brings *eternal* rest for our souls. Participants will see Jesus as the true conqueror of sin and death.

Key Insight:

Just as God commanded Joshua to be "strong and courageous," we're called to trust Christ's leadership in life's battles (Joshua 1:9).

Key Theme:

Jesus is the true Joshua who leads us into God's promised rest.

Scripture Readings:

Joshua 1:1–9 (God commissions Joshua)

Hebrews 4:8–10 (Jesus as our true rest)

Matthew 11:28–30 ("Come to me, all who labor...")

Discussion Questions:

1. How was Joshua a foreshadowing of Jesus?



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2. What does it mean that Jesus gives us "rest" (Hebrews 4:9)?
3. Why did God repeatedly tell Joshua to be "strong and courageous"?
4. How does Jesus' leadership differ from Joshua's?
5. What "promised land" (spiritual inheritance) has Jesus secured for us?

Application:

1. Enter His Rest: Replace anxiety with prayer (Matthew 11:28–30)—write down burdens and surrender them to Jesus.
2. Conquer a Stronghold: Identify one spiritual "Canaan" (habit, fear) and ask Jesus to lead you to victory.



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Week 5: The Suffering Servant (Isaiah 53)

What You'll Learn:

Dive into Isaiah's stunning prophecy of a Servant who would bear humanity's sins. Written 700 years before Christ, this passage details Jesus' crucifixion with uncanny precision. Participants will marvel at God's sovereign plan and the Servant's voluntary sacrifice.

Key Insight:

Jesus' suffering was not accidental but intentional—He was "pierced for our transgressions" (Isaiah 53:5).

Key Theme:

Jesus is the Suffering Servant who bore our sins and brought us peace.

Scripture Readings:

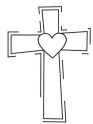
Isaiah 52:13–53:12 (The Suffering Servant prophecy)

Acts 8:26–35 (Philip explains Isaiah 53 to the Ethiopian eunuch)

1 Peter 2:21–25 (Jesus as the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy)

Discussion Questions:

1. What details in Isaiah 53 point directly to Jesus?



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2. Why did God allow the Servant to suffer (Isaiah 53:10)?

3. How does Isaiah 53 challenge our view of power and sacrifice?

4. What does it mean that "the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6)?

5. How should the truth of Jesus' substitutionary suffering change how we live?

Application:

1. Suffer Well: When wronged, meditate on Isaiah 53:7 and ask God to help you respond without retaliation.
2. Intercede for Others: Pray for someone who doesn't know Christ, asking God to reveal His sacrifice to them.
3. Serve in Silence: Do one act of anonymous kindness, imitating Jesus' humility (Philippians 2:5–7).



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Week 6: The True Temple (Ezekiel 40–48; John 2)

What You'll Learn:

Ezekiel's vision of a future temple points to Jesus, the true dwelling place of God. Participants will see how the temple system (sacrifices, priesthood, God's presence) was fulfilled in Christ. The study will challenge the notion that worship is confined to physical spaces.

Key Insight:

Believers are now God's temple—His Spirit lives in us (1 Corinthians 3:16).

Key Theme:

Jesus is the true Temple where God dwells among His people.

Scripture Readings:

Ezekiel 40–48 (Vision of a future temple)

John 2:19–21 ("Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.")

Revelation 21:22 ("I saw no temple in the city, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.")



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Christianity's Belief in God's Omnipresence vs. Localized Deities

- Many ancient religions (e.g., Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Greek, Roman) believed their gods were tied to specific places, objects, or temples. Their gods were thought to dwell in a particular location (like a mountain, a statue, or a sacred grove) and had to be worshiped there.
- Christianity, following Jewish monotheism, taught that God is omnipresent (Psalm 139:7-10, Jeremiah 23:24)—He is not limited to one place but is everywhere at once. This was a radical idea compared to pagan religions.

2. The Israelite Belief in the Temple as God's Dwelling

- The Israelites did believe that God's presence was uniquely manifest in the Temple (especially the Holy of Holies), which they called "God's house" (1 Kings 8:10-13, Exodus 25:8). This might seem contradictory to omnipresence, but it wasn't.
- They understood that God was not confined to the Temple (Solomon even says in 1 Kings 8:27, "But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you!"). Instead, the Temple was where God chose to reveal His presence in a special way to His people—not because He was limited to it, but because He made a covenant with Israel to meet them there (Exodus 29:45-46).

3. How Christianity Developed This Idea



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- Christianity retained the Jewish belief in God's omnipresence but expanded it further:
 - o Jesus as God's Presence on Earth (John 1:14, Colossians 2:9): Christians believe that God fully dwelt in Jesus ("Emmanuel" = "God with us"), yet without ceasing to be omnipresent.
 - o The Holy Spirit in Believers (1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19): After Jesus' resurrection, Christians taught that God's presence was no longer limited to a physical temple but now dwells in His people through the Holy Spirit.
 - o No Need for a Central Temple (John 4:21-24): Jesus told the Samaritan woman that worship would no longer be tied to Jerusalem or a specific place, but would be "in spirit and truth."

4. Key Difference from Pagan Religions

- Pagan gods were bound to their temples or idols—if the statue was destroyed, the god was thought to be powerless or gone (see Isaiah 44:9-20 for a mocking critique of this idea).
- The God of Israel (and Christianity) chooses to make Himself known in specific ways (Temple, Jesus, the Church) but is never limited by them. He remains sovereign over all places.

Conclusion:

The Israelites believed in an omnipresent God who graciously localized His presence in the Temple for covenant relationship. Christianity continued this idea but taught that God's presence is now fully revealed in Christ and the Church. Unlike pagan gods,



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Yahweh was never confined to a place—He was (and is) everywhere, but He made Himself specially accessible to His people.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why was the temple so central to Israel's worship?
2. How does Jesus fulfill Ezekiel's temple vision?
3. What did Jesus mean in John 2:19 about destroying the temple?
4. How are believers now "God's temple" (1 Corinthians 3:16)?
5. What does it mean for us that Jesus replaces the physical temple?

Application:

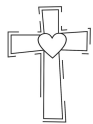
1. Meet God Daily: Designate a "temple space" (a chair, corner) for uninterrupted prayer/Word time.
2. Purify Your Temple: Confess any defiling sin (1 Corinthians 6:19–20) and recommit to holiness.
3. Gather with Believers: Attend church with renewed awe for Christ's presence among His people (Matthew 18:20).



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4. Add reflection: "How can I honor God's presence in my life this week?"



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Week 7: The Son of David (2 Samuel 7; Psalm 110)

What You'll Learn:

God's covenant with David promised an eternal kingdom, fulfilled in Jesus. This week explores how Christ is both the royal Son of David *and* David's Lord (Matthew 22:45), proving His divinity.

Participants will see Jesus' kingship as unshakable and His reign as everlasting.

Key Insight:

Jesus' throne surpasses all earthly powers—His kingdom will never end (Luke 1:32–33).

Key Theme:

Jesus is the eternal King from David's line who reigns forever.

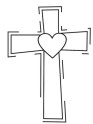
Scripture Readings:

2 Samuel 7:12–16 (God's covenant with David)

Psalm 110:1–4 (A royal psalm about the Messiah)

Matthew 22:41–46 (Jesus proves He is David's Lord)

Discussion Questions:



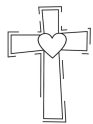
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1. What promises did God make to David in 2 Samuel 7?
2. How does Psalm 110 point to Jesus as both King and Priest?
3. Why did Jesus ask the Pharisees about Psalm 110 in Matthew 22?
4. What does it mean for us that Jesus reigns forever?
5. How should believers respond to Christ's kingship today?

Application:

1. Submit to His Rule: Surrender one area you've withheld from Christ's lordship (finances, relationships, etc.).
2. Study His Kingdom: Read Revelation 5:9–10 and journal how Jesus' reign changes your perspective on current events.
3. Honor Authority: Pray for leaders (1 Timothy 2:1–2), remembering Christ is the ultimate King.



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Week 8: The Bridegroom (Song of Solomon; Hosea; Rev. 19)

What You'll Learn:

The Bible's love stories (like Hosea and Gomer) mirror Christ's relentless pursuit of His people. Participants will see marriage as a metaphor for God's covenant love, culminating in the "marriage supper of the Lamb" (Revelation 19:7). This week celebrates Jesus as the faithful Bridegroom who redeems His bride (the Church).

Key Insight:

We are called to live in purity and anticipation of eternity with Christ (2 Corinthians 11:2).

Key Theme:

Jesus is the faithful Bridegroom who loves and redeems His Church.

Scripture Readings:

Song of Solomon (selected verses, e.g., 2:4; 8:6–7) (Symbolic of divine love)

Hosea 2:14–20 (God's covenant love for unfaithful Israel)

Revelation 19:6–9 (Marriage supper of the Lamb)



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Discussion Questions:

1. How does Song of Solomon illustrate Christ's love for the Church?
2. Why did God command Hosea to marry an unfaithful woman?
3. What does Revelation 19 reveal about Jesus' relationship with His people?
4. How should the Bridegroom's love affect our daily walk with God?
5. What does it mean to "make ourselves ready" for Christ (Revelation 19:7)?

Application:

1. Fall in Love Again: Read Song of Solomon 2:4 and spend 10 minutes in worship, adoring Christ.
2. Reconcile a Relationship: Forgive or seek forgiveness, reflecting Hosea's restorative love.
3. Anticipate Eternity: Write down how you'll prepare for Christ's return (Revelation 19:7–8).