



Old Testament Survey



GROUP GUIDE – MODULE ONE

DEVOTIONAL

Read Luke 24:13-49, paying special attention to verses 25-27 and 44-48.

Notice that on two different occasions (to two different groups of disciples) Jesus uses the Old Testament to explain and teach about Himself. He claims that the Old Testament speaks about Him - His suffering and resurrection. He then commissions the disciples to proclaim Him, presumably using the Old Testament (among other means) to do so.

What specifically about the Old Testament do you think caused Jesus to speak about it in this way? How has your reading of the Old Testament helped you to grow in your knowledge and experience of Jesus in the past? In what ways do you hope that this course will help your discipleship and ministry? What about the Old Testament made it effective in your past, and how does that impact your present and future expectations?

MODULE ONE OBJECTIVES

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this module, the student will:

- Favorably consider the necessity of and the means to study the Old Testament.
- Articulate the 'Big-Picture' history of the Old Testament People of God and the overall message of the Old Testament.
- Articulate God's purpose for creation and the 'Big-Idea' themes of the Old Testament.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the literary divisions of the Old Testament Scriptures.
- Place the Major historical epochs of the Old Testament in a general chronology.

MODULE ONE CHECKLIST

Preparation	☐ Read the Assigned Bible Passages ☐ Watch the Assigned Video Lectures ☐ Read the Assigned Textbook Sections
Reflection & Discussion	☐ Devotional Reflection & Discussion ☐ Bible Response Reflection & Discussion ☐ Course Material Response Reflection & Discussion ☐ Reflection & Discussion Questions
Research & Presentation	☐ Timeline Step 1
Review	☐ Review Slides
Exam	☐ Review Quiz

MODULE ONE ACTIVITIES

ONE: DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

Instructions:

The student will read and consider the devotional above. The student will then reflect and write on the following:

- The student will describe their own experience with the Old Testament, and how it has helped them connect with Jesus.
- And then they will describe the growth they desire in this area as a result of this course.

The student will be prepared to discuss the devotional with the group and to encourage one another with their findings and insights.

TWO: BIBLE & TEXTBOOK READING

Instructions:

Students will read selected portions of the Old Testament and the course textbook. The readings are listed on the [Reading Schedule for module 1](#), which is posted in a separate document on the course website. The same material is also included with each section in an individual document containing only those readings for each section. The student may decide whether to do ALL the reading before the other material, or do the reading for each smaller section along with the other material for each section. Each Reading Schedule has two columns.

- The first column (labeled “Bible Reading”) lists those portions of the Old Testament that are required.
- The second column (labeled “Textbook Reading”) lists those portions of the course textbook which are required. Other portions of the chapters assigned for each week may be read for profitable insights.

The Reading Schedule for the first module also has required supplementary readings. These are found on the course website and also linked in the Reading Schedule.

It is recommended that you complete all the Bible reading before watching the Lecture Videos as the videos assume an exposure to these passages. The textbook reading may profitably take place after watching the Video Lectures to supplement any material which you would like to pursue in more detail.

THREE: BIBLE RESPONSE REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

Instructions:

The student will choose one or more portions from the Bible reading assigned for the module which stood out as personally significant to them. The student will then reflect and write on the meaning of the passage; how it challenged or added to their current understanding; how they have personally responded; and how their worldview, life and/or ministry should be impacted in the future by their new understanding. The student should be prepared to share their response in the group discussion, as directed by the group leader.

Detailed Instructions for this Reflection assignment can be found in the [Bible Response Reflection/Discussion Instruction](#) document on the course website.

FOUR: VIDEO LECTURES

Instructions:

Students will interact with the video lectures on the course website. The student should actively engage with each presentation and not just passively watch. Lecture Guides and Blank Lecture notes are available on the course website to help the student engage with the Video Lectures.

FIVE: REVIEW SLIDES

Instructions:

The student should take advantage of the review slides on the course website in order to help commit the course material to memory. The review slides are a summary of the key ideas of each course lecture put into memorable form to aid memorization. It is highly recommended that the student recite these reviews out loud as an aid to memory. Some memory aids and tricks were mentioned in the Lectures for some of the summaries (e.g. SCRuB). The student should also brainstorm any shorthand memory aids to help them commit these review summaries to memory. The student should not just attempt to memorize the summaries, but also to use the summaries as a framework to understand and retain the nature and content of the Old Testament.

The Group leader may choose to have the group vocalize these reviews together and/or brainstorm memory aids and/or a group review, possibly including a game/competition format as a part of the group meeting time.

SIX: COURSE MATERIAL RESPONSE REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

Instructions:

The student will choose one or more items from either the Video Lectures or the Course Textbook which stood out as personally significant to them. The student will then reflect and write on the item(s); how it/they challenged or added to their current understanding and how their worldview, life and/or ministry should be impacted by their new understanding. The student will be prepared to discuss their Course Material response with the group and to encourage one another with their findings and insights.

Detailed Instructions for this activity can be found in the [Course Material Reflection Discussion Instructions](#) document found on the course website.

SEVEN: TIMELINE STEP ONE

Instructions:

The student will research and present an Old Testament Timeline in seven steps over the course of all seven modules.

Detailed Instructions for this activity, which apply to every step of the project, can be found in the [Timeline Project Instructions](#) on the course website.

Step One of the Timeline should include the following information:

- The general time periods covered by the five historical epochs.
- This is just a framework designating the approximate beginning and ending of each of the epochs, which will be used in subsequent modules as a guideline for placing new information.

The Group leader will determine whether each student will complete their own timeline, or whether the timeline will be constructed as a group activity during the group meeting time.

EIGHT: REVIEW QUIZ

Instructions:

The student will complete the review quiz on the course website as a learning and review experience. This will give the student a good assessment of how well they have learned the course material. The quiz will primarily cover material from the Video Lectures, but material from the Textbook Reading may be included.

No notes or study materials should be used while completing the quiz. Because the quiz is randomly generated, it includes different questions each time.

Therefore, it may be profitably taken more than once.

NINE: REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Instructions:

The student will thoughtfully consider and write in response to each of the reflection questions listed on the course website. The purpose of this activity is to help the student connect the Old Testament material with their own life and ministry. The student should prayerfully think through the difference the course material can make in their personal context and act upon these insights to the best of their ability.

The student will be prepared to discuss their response to the discussion questions with the group and to encourage one another with their applications and insights. The group may share encouragement and accountability in how to apply these insights.