

IMPLEMENTING GOD'S WORD...

YEAR FIVE | WINTER QUARTER
CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS 2

SSY05W

SUNDAY SCHOOL CURRICULUM
FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH





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The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®)
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ESV Text Edition: 2007

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Printed in the United States of America



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LESSON SEQUENCE

WINTER QUARTER

The **Lesson Sequence** gives the teacher an overview of the entire quarter. The central goal of the **Implementing God's Word...** curriculum is to equip youth to put the truths of Scripture together in their minds and to work in their hearts, by the help of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus Christ

LESSON ONE	Fulfill O.T. Prophecies?
LESSON TWO	Is Jesus Truly God?
LESSON THREE	Is Jesus Truly Man?
LESSON FOUR	Jesus Tempted?
LESSON FIVE	Belief in Jesus?
LESSON SIX	Jesus have to Die?
LESSON SEVEN	Jesus Really Resurrected?

The Bible

LESSON EIGHT	Was the Bible Inspired?
LESSON NINE	Why were Books Left Out?
LESSON TEN	Modern Bibles Reliable?
LESSON ELEVEN	Contradictions in the Bible?
LESSON TWELVE	Bible Support Slavery?
LESSON THIRTEEN	Bible and Homosexuality?



DEDICATED TO THE YOUTH MINISTRY OF
PEAR ORCHARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

LESSON ONE --- WHAT PROPHECIES DID JESUS FULFILL?

OVERVIEW

A significant area of apologetics is the defense of Jesus Christ. Christians should always be able to explain what we believe about Jesus, and to share only the true, Biblical, historical Jesus with others. Our first question connects Jesus to Old Testament prophecies. Some scholars estimate that Jesus fulfills over three hundred of these prophecies! Jesus Himself declared that He was the Messiah who fulfills the law and the prophets.

Micah 5:2 prophesies that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. Isaiah 7:14 says that the Messiah would be born to a virgin and be given the name Immanuel. In Numbers 24:17, we read that the Messiah will be a descendant of Jacob. Then, in Genesis 49, it is foretold that the Messiah will be from the line of Judah. All these are fulfilled in the birth of Christ!

Isaiah was given many prophecies that were fulfilled in Jesus. Isaiah 53:3 declares that the Messiah will be rejected and despised by people. Isaiah 9:1-2 says that the Messiah would bring light to Galilee. Isaiah 61:1-2 predicts that the Messiah will heal the brokenhearted. This was a prophecy Jesus taught about Himself! Isaiah 53:7 says the Messiah will be silent before His accusers. Isaiah 53:12 prophesies that the Messiah will be killed with common criminals. Isaiah 53:5-6 declares that the Messiah will bear our transgressions and iniquities. Other passages in Psalms and Zechariah talk about the Messiah's betrayal and even His crucifixion. Christ is the fulfilment of Old Testament prophecy!

TEACHING ENCOURAGEMENT

Why should it matter to your students that Jesus fulfilled over three hundred Old Testament prophecies? Don't we just believe Jesus is our Savior and Lord, whether there is evidence or not? No! Ours is not a mindless faith! Christians are not just hoping that Jesus is the real deal. Because we are people of the Book (and we believe the Bible is inerrant, infallible, inspired, and authoritative) we then believe in Jesus! So it is vital that the Scriptures teach us that Jesus is the Messiah. It's essential that the Old Testament is connected to our covenant with God in Christ. So, this is a truth Christians must defend every day of our lives!

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

WELCOME

Proverbs 5:1-2
2-3 mins.

DRILL TIME

Worldviews
3-5 mins.

MIND-IN-TRAINING

Ambiguous
Apologetics
6-8 mins.

BIBLE IMPLEMENTATION

What prophecies
did Jesus fulfill?
30 mins.

MIND-IN-ACTION

Rest and defend
3-5 mins.



WELCOME

THE **WELCOME** SERVES AS BOTH AN OPPORTUNITY TO GREET YOUR STUDENTS AS WELL AS AN EFFORT TO HELP THEM GET FOCUSED.

EACH WEEK, YOU WILL BEGIN WITH A PASSAGE FROM PROVERBS THAT WILL “CALL” THEM TO STUDY AND GROW IN WISDOM!

DRILL TIME GIVES YOUR YOUTH THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECALL AND REHEARSE WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN TAUGHT IN THE PAST. THESE WILL BE QUESTIONS FROM A PREVIOUS LESSON OR FROM THE SCRIPTURES.

Greet the students. Welcome visitors. Open with prayer.

Listen to God’s Word. **Read Proverbs 5:1-2.**

¹ My son, be attentive to my wisdom; incline your ear to my understanding, ² that you may keep discretion, and your lips may guard knowledge.

Say: *Are you attentive to the LORD’s wisdom? You need to be, if you are to make good choices in this life! Let’s listen well and guard the knowledge that God has given us.*



DRILL TIME

Now, we will move on to DRILL TIME—our weekly opportunity to review what we have learned in the past. Are you ready?

Today’s questions: *What worldview denies that there is true objective truth? What worldview denies that truth can be known? What worldview says there is nothing good or bad? What worldview asserts that there is more than just one, true religion? What worldview denies that God exists? What worldview says that the universe is one? What worldview teaches that the universe is really God?*

Call on students to answer.

Answers:

1. Relativism.
2. Skepticism.
3. Nihilism.
4. Pluralism.
5. Atheism.
6. Monism.
7. Pantheism.

Your worldview determines how you view the world AND how you live in this world!



MIND-IN-TRAINING

Say: *Each week, we will train our minds to think the way God wants us to think. We need to think Biblically in order to defend the truth before a watching world.*

When we make arguments as good Apologists, we have to be careful not to be AMBIGUOUS. What does it mean to be AMBIGUOUS? [Unclear or vague.]

One fallacy of AMBIGUITY is called EQUIVOCATION. This happens when we change the meaning of terms in the middle of an argument. Here's an example:

**The only thinking being is man.
A woman is not a man.
So, a woman is not a thinking being.**

*How did we change the meaning of the terms in this argument? **Allow answers.** Yes, man meant "human being" in the first statement, but then was changed to mean the "male gender" in the second. To keep our argument from being AMBIGUOUS, we must keep the meaning of terms the same.*

Another fallacy of AMBIGUITY is called ACCENT. This happens when we change the meaning of a statement depending on our emphases. Compare the subtle differences of the following statements:

WE should not steal our neighbor's bike.
(But it is fine if someone else does.)
We SHOULD NOT steal our neighbor's bike.
(But we will anyway.)
We should not STEAL our neighbor's bike.
(So, we will just vandalize it.)
We should not steal our neighbor's BIKE.
(We will just steal his car instead.)

Do you see how the argument changes when we emphasize different terms? We must take great care, then, when we are making apologetic arguments, to be as UNAMBIGUOUS as possible!

THE **MIND-IN-TRAINING** SECTION IS DESIGNED TO HELP YOUR STUDENTS TO LEARN TO THINK.

THIS ELEMENT TEACHES A BIBLICAL VIEW OF THE MIND AS WELL AS USEFUL TOOLS TO ENGAGE YOUNG MINDS.



BIBLE IMPLEMENTATION

THE BIBLE IMPLEMENTATION

TIME IS THE HEART AND SOUL OF THE WEEK'S LESSON. IT TAKES THE STUDENT ALL THROUGH GOD'S WORD, TRAINING THEM TO BE CHRISTIAN APOLOGISTS.

ALL SCRIPTURE TEXT INCLUDED IN THE CURRICULUM IS FROM THE ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION (ESV).

Introduction: *Today, we will start a new section of apologetic questions—ones having to do with Jesus Christ. As you can probably guess, Christians have always had to make a DEFENSE about the person and work of Jesus Christ. There are many myths about Jesus, and you will meet plenty of people who don't believe in the true, historic Jesus. So, here's our first question:*

What Old Testament prophecies did Jesus fulfill?

*How many Old Testament prophecies do you think refer to Jesus as our Messiah? **Allow answers.** Some Bible scholars believe that there are over three hundred prophecies that point to Jesus. We don't have time to look at them all today, that's for sure! So let's get out our Bibles and examine as many as time will allow.*

*Turn to Micah 5. **Read Micah 5:2.***

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

Discussion: *When did Jesus fulfill this prophecy? **Allow answers.** Yes, in Matthew 2 and Luke 2, we read that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, just as Micah prophesied!*

*Turn to Isaiah 7. **Read Isaiah 7:14.***

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Discussion: *What virgin gave birth to Jesus? [Mary.] So in Luke 1, we see the fulfillment of this prophecy.*

*Now let's go to Numbers 24. **Read Numbers 24:17.***

¹⁷ I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth.

Discussion: *What does this prophecy say about the coming Messiah? [He will be a descendant of Jacob.] This prophecy is fulfilled in Matthew 1, where we read that Jesus descended from Jacob!*



Turn to Genesis 49. **Read Genesis 49:10.**

¹⁰ The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

Discussion: *The Messiah will also descend from the tribe of Judah. In Luke 3:33, we are told that Jesus came from the line of Judah!*

Let's go to Isaiah 40. **Read Isaiah 40:3-5.**

³ A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

Discussion: *Isaiah prophesied that a special messenger would prepare the way of the Lord. Who is this prophesy about? [John the Baptist.] And for whom did John the Baptist prepare the way? [For King Jesus!]*

Go to Isaiah 53. **Read Isaiah 53:3.**

³ He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Discussion: *Many prophecies of the coming Messiah came through God's prophet Isaiah. In this verse, the Messiah is predicted to be rejected by people. Can this accurately be said of Jesus? Yes!*

Let's stay in Isaiah—Chapter 9. **Read Isaiah 9:1-2.**

¹ But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. ² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

Discussion: *Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would bring light to Galilee. But how do we know this is fulfilled in Jesus?*

THIS SIDEBAR FOUND ON ALL PAGES IS FOR THE TEACHER TO WRITE NOTES AS HE OR SHE PREPARES THE LESSON.



Turn to Matthew 4. **Read Matthew 4:13-16.**

¹³ And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵ "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— ¹⁶ the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned."

Discussion: *Another prophecy fulfilled!*

Go back to Isaiah 61. **Read Isaiah 61:1-2.**

¹ The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

Compare that to Luke 4. **Read Luke 4:17-19.**

¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Discussion: *Jesus read this prophecy to the people in order to show them that HE was the one who was sent to heal the brokenhearted!*

Go to the prophecy of Zechariah. **Read Zechariah 11:12-13.**

¹² Then I said to them, "If it seems good to you, give me my wages; but if not, keep them." And they weighed out as my wages thirty pieces of silver. ¹³ Then the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter"—the lordly price at which I was priced by them. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD, to the potter.

Discussion: *What is Zechariah describing? Allow answers. Yes, hundreds of years before Jesus was even born, it was prophesied that He would be betrayed for thirty pieces of silver and that money would then be used to buy a potter's field.*



Go back to Isaiah 53. **Read Isaiah 53:7.**

⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

Discussion: *Do you remember when Jesus was before Pilate? In Mark 15, we read how Jesus was silent before His accusers. Jesus was the Lamb of God, led to the slaughter.*

Turn to Psalm 22. **Read Psalm 22:7-8.**

⁷ All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; ⁸ "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"

Discussion: *What does this sound like? Allow answers. In Luke 23, we read how Jesus was mocked and ridiculed on the cross. He was told to save Himself, if He was really the Son of God!*

Go back to Isaiah 53. **Read Isaiah 53:12.**

¹² Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Discussion: *How is this prophecy fulfilled by Jesus? Allow answers. We know that Jesus was crucified with common criminals, and that He was crucified for our transgressions!*

Back to Psalm 22. **Read Psalm 22:16.**

¹⁶ For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet—

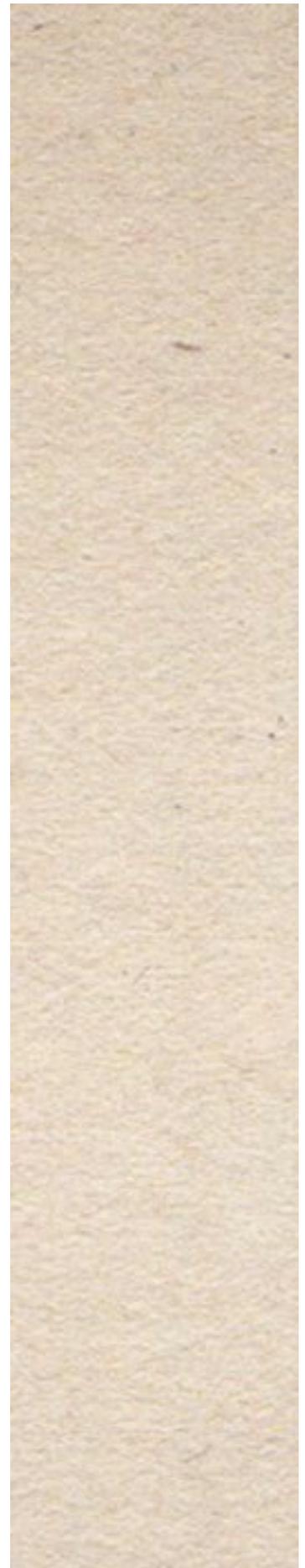
Discussion: *This Messianic Psalm has all sorts of references to Jesus. What does this verse predict? [That Jesus would have His hands and feet nailed to the cross.]*

One more verse from Psalm 22. **Read Psalm 22:1.**

¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

And one more visit to Isaiah 53. **Read Isaiah 53:5-6.**

⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our





iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Conclusion: *Who did God lay our iniquity on? Jesus! Can you see how just these few passages we have looked at today were all fulfilled in Jesus? But what does it matter? Why do Christians need to DEFEND that Jesus is the prophesied Messiah? Allow answers. Many people are still waiting for the Messiah. We know that He has come, lived, and died for our sins!*



MIND-IN-ACTION

Each week, we end our time together with a MIND-IN-ACTION section.

So, here is my challenge to you as we close today:

Rest in the fact that God always keeps His promises.

Prophecies are promises of God. God says what will happen, and then it happens. God spoke through the prophets of old, promising to send a Messiah. Then, He gave us Jesus! If God kept His promise of a Savior, that should give great comfort to you and me. Live in the truth that God keeps every one of His promises!

The second part of my challenge is this:

Defend the fact that Jesus is the promised Messiah.

Orthodox Jews are still waiting for the Messiah. Other people are looking for some kind of human savior. Be prepared to tell them that the Messiah has already come. Jesus fulfills all of Scripture. He is the promised Messiah!

Close in prayer.

THE **MIND-IN-ACTION** SECTION IS DESIGNED TO MOVE YOUR STUDENTS TO ACTION. AS THEIR MINDS GROW IN KNOWLEDGE, THEY ARE CHALLENGED TO GROW IN WISDOM. THEY WILL NEVER TRULY LEARN IF THEY DON'T PUT WHAT THEY HAVE STUDIED INTO PASSIONATE ACTION!