

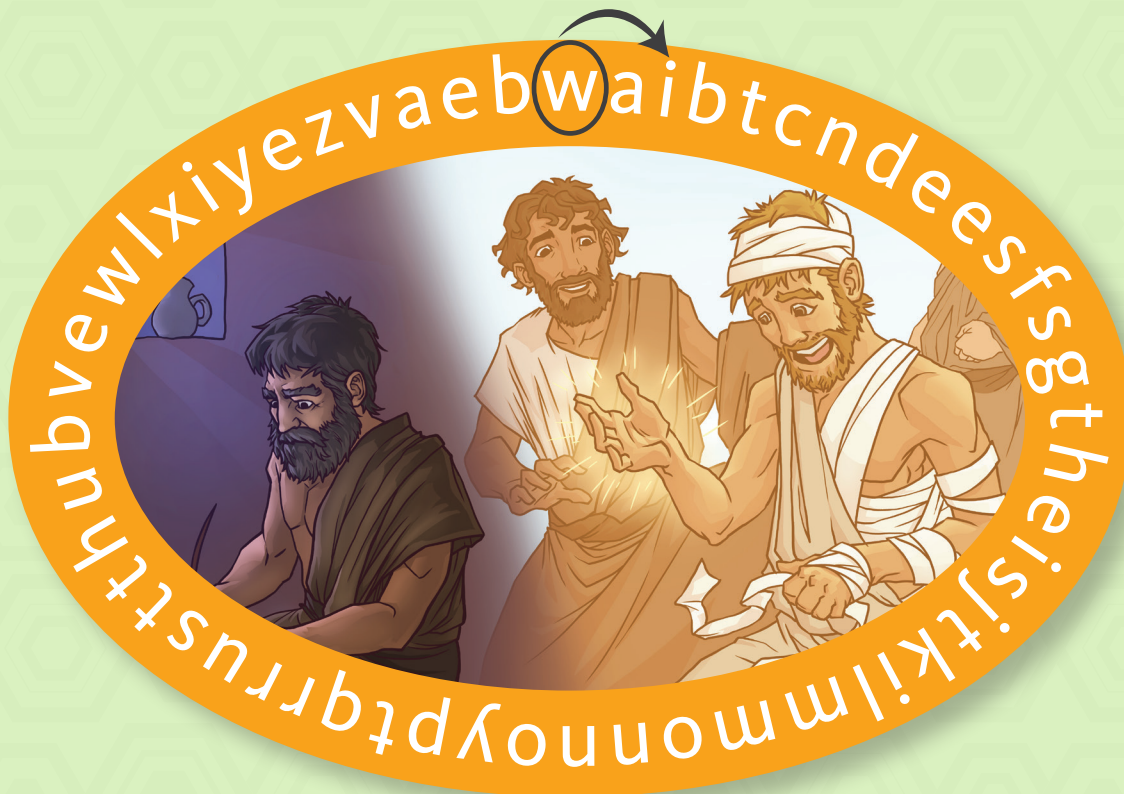


Grades 4–5 • Unit 13 • Lesson 122

We Can Trust the New Testament

John 14:25–26, 16:13, 19:35, 20:31; 2 Peter 1:16, 3:15–16

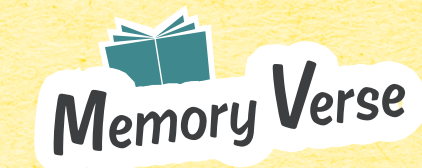
On the blanks below, write down every second letter starting at the letter W and following the arrow. This verse reminds us why we can trust the New Testament.



He who saw it has borne _____ — his
 _____ is true, and he knows that he is telling
 the _____ — that you also may _____.

John 19:35

Name



Answer the following questions about the memory verse. Use the colors for help!

Therefore **the Lord** himself will give you a sign. Behold, **the virgin** shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name **Immanuel**. Isaiah 7:14

Who will give a sign? _____

What is the sign given? _____

What will the son be called? _____

What You Heard *In the Word*

- Jesus promised the Helper, the Holy Spirit, would come to teach the apostles and help them remember the things Jesus said.
- The apostles were eyewitnesses and testified that their words were true.

OutWord *For Family Discussion*

Suppose you heard your friends say they thought the New Testament is just a bunch of made-up stories. There is no evidence that it really happened. **What could you say?**

Of course, it takes faith to believe God's Word. But there are other reasons we can know the Word of God is true. God tells us that it is his Word, and we know that God cannot lie. Also, much of the New Testament was written by people who knew Jesus. They walked with him and learned from him. We also have thousands of manuscripts, which are handwritten copies of the books of the New Testament. The authors wrote about Jesus on animal skins, papyrus, or other kinds of paper. Jesus' message was passed down this way for many years. These manuscripts have proven to be accurate, reliable, and consistent! Even though there are so many of them in different languages and from different countries, they all tell the same thing—God's plan of salvation through Jesus. These old manuscripts confirm that the events recorded in the Bible really did happen.



HomeWord *For Parents*

The New Testament tells the history of the life of Jesus Christ. Many ask, “How do we know the New Testament is true?”

First, the Holy Spirit empowered the apostles to recall, write, and interpret the life, words, and deeds of Jesus. Jesus said the Helper would come and would teach his apostles all things and help them remember the things Jesus said to them (John 14:26). The apostles would receive and record special revelation through the Holy Spirit, who would guide them into all truth (John 16:13).

Second, the apostles were ordained by Jesus to spread the message of the gospel, and we have the writings from them and their close associates. Peter verified this emphatically when he wrote that they were eyewitnesses of Jesus' majesty and heard the voice of God acknowledge the beloved Son with whom he was well pleased (2 Peter 1:16–18). The Apostle John also claimed to be an eyewitness: “This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true” (John 21:24).

As the New Testament letters began to be gathered and read throughout the church, we find evidence that they were already being described as “Scripture.” The Apostle Peter made such a claim about Paul's writings in 2 Peter 3:15–16 when he put Paul's epistles in the same category as “the other Scriptures.” A similar confirmation is seen when Paul quoted from Deuteronomy 25:4 and Luke 10:7, indicating that both statements are from the Scriptures (1 Timothy 5:18). Paul considered Luke's writings to be on par with those of Moses!

Differences about which letters and books should be included in the canon—the official list of the inspired texts—have long been resolved. Now God's Word is closed. We can be confident that the 27 books of the New Testament canon combined with the 39 books of the Old Testament is the completed Word of God. God clearly warns us that we are NOT to add to his Word or take away from what is written (Revelation 22:18–19).

