We Can Trust the New Testament



K-Ist Lesson

Introduction

Refer to the Seven C's of History Poster. Let's start with a quick review. The Seven C's of History help us remember the big events in the Bible.

- ? Which C's took place in the Old Testament? Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, and Confusion. Briefly review these events.
- ? Which C's happened in the New Testament? Christ and Cross.
- ? The seventh C hasn't happened yet. What is it called? Consummation.

The Consummation is when Jesus will make a new heaven and a new earth for those who have put their trust in him to save them from their sins.

Refer to the Lesson 121 Flip Chart. All through the Old Testament, God had a plan. He spoke of a Savior who would defeat Satan and save sinners.

How did Jesus win against Satan? He died on the cross then rose from the dead.

God talked about this in the Old Testament, but we read about how it happened in the New Testament. The whole Bible is important because it is all connected to tell us about Jesus.

Print and follow the instructions to prepare the Invisible Ink Object Lesson lettered papers the night before. Bring papers with invisible ink letters and other supplies. To start today's lesson, we're going to reveal a secret word written in invisible ink! Follow the instructions for students to reveal the invisible ink message, "True."

Today we're going to look at the New Testament and find out how we know the New Testament is true.

Written by Eyewitnesses

One reason we know the New Testament is true is because a lot of it was written by eyewitnesses.

? What is an eyewitness? It has something to do with your eyes. Allow guesses.

An eyewitness is someone who sees something happen. Then when they tell what they saw, that's called a testimony.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. **John was one of Jesus'** disciples and closest friends. The disciples, also called apostles, were 12 men who followed Jesus as he traveled around Israel teaching about the kingdom of God and doing many miracles. John was an eyewitness who wrote about the things he saw Jesus do. He watched as Jesus healed people and listened as Jesus taught them.

John 19:35

Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. Let's look at what John said in the Gospel of John chapter 19. Have the student with the Bible bring it up and turn to the sticky note. Read the verse.

- ? What did John say about his testimony of the things he saw; was it true or just made-up? /t was true.
- ? John knew he was telling the truth about Jesus and wrote about it so those who read it may what? Believe.

John 20:31

Why did John want others to believe what he wrote? Let's find out in John 20:31. Read the verse.

- ? Who did John say Jesus was? He is the Christ, the Son of God.
- And why was that so important? What would those who believe in Christ have? Life in his name.

John wanted his readers to know that he had walked with Jesus-he saw what Jesus did, heard what he said, and learned from him. John knew that Jesus is the Son of God, the Savior who would save people from their sins. And he wanted others to know that, too.

2 Peter 1:16

Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. There were 12 disciples, so we know John wasn't the only eyewitness. Let's turn to the book of 2 Peter. Like John, Peter was a disciple and very close friend of Jesus, and he wrote this book. Listen to 2 Peter 1:16. Read the verse.

Peter said that he and the other disciples "did not follow cleverly devised myths" when they spoke and wrote about Jesus. A myth is a madeup story—something that isn't true. Peter was saying the same thing that John said—that what he wrote was the truth. It wasn't made-up!

Peter also wrote so people would know about the Lord Jesus Christ. He said he and the other disciples were what? Eyewitnesses (of Jesus' majesty).

Peter was an eyewitness just like John. He also followed Jesus and saw him do many great things. And then Peter saw Jesus again after he rose from the dead! This is Peter's testimony.

We can trust what the New Testament says about Jesus because eyewitnesses wrote about things that he really did. These men weren't making up stories. They walked and talked and ate and prayed with Jesus. They were Jesus' friends. What they wrote about him is true!

Written with the Holy Spirit's Help

But how did these men know what to write? Let's find out. We're going to go back to the book of John chapter 14.

John 14:25-26

I'll read John 14:25–26. This is something Jesus told his disciples when he knew he wouldn't be with them much longer. Read the verses.

- Jesus said the Father would send the Helper. Who was that? The Holy Spirit.
- ? What's the first thing Jesus said the Holy Spirit would do for the disciples? Teach them all things.
- And what would he bring to remembrance, or help the disciples remember? All that Jesus said to

The Holy Spirit is also called the Spirit of truth. He would be a teacher and a helper so the disciples could write the truth about Jesus and what he did.

? Who is the Holy Spirit? Do you know? Allow discussion.

Show the Illustration. He is part of the Trinity. The word Trinity means there are three Persons in one God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

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Each of these three IS God. But the Father is NOT the Son. The Son is NOT the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is NOT the Father. Each one is a different and separate person, but they are all ONE God. This is hard for people to understand. But we know it is true because we read about it in God's Word. And we know that God cannot lie!

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Jesus, God the Son, promised his disciples that God the Father would send the Holy Spirit to help them write the truth so that people like us could know all about him. Since God doesn't make mistakes, and since he was the one helping these writers, we know the New Testament is true!

We can trust what God has written in his Word because he knows everything! What is the word we've learned that means God knows everything? Omniscient.

God is also wise. That means he does everything perfectly without mistakes. So we can trust what the New Testament says because God is wise and omniscient. He has directed the writing of the Bible perfectly, without mistakes, through the help of the Holy Spirit.

Not all of the New Testament was written by the disciples who were with Jesus. A lot of the New Testament was written by another man who didn't start out as a friend of Jesus. He hated the people who believed in Jesus and was very mean to them-until Jesus appeared to him! This man's name was Saul, later known as Paul. God chose Paul to spread the gospel and teach the believers in the churches he started. Just like the disciples, Paul was guided by the Holy Spirit to write exactly what God wanted him to say.

Refer to the message papers on the board. So, how do we know the New Testament is true? First, Jesus' disciples were eyewitnesses—they wrote about what they saw him do and heard him say. And second, the Holy Spirit helped them, and others like Paul, to know what to write so we could read the Bible and learn the truth about Jesus.

