

Bible

Old Testament
New Testament
Church History
Spiritual Formation

SAMPLE





About the Course

This course includes the following topic(s): Old Testament: Grades 7-12, New Testament: Grades 7-8, Church History: Grades 7-9, Spiritual Formation: Grades 7-8

About Old Testament: Grades 7-12

From 7th grade through high school, students read through the OT chronologically. For 2026-2027 they read 2 Samuel-I Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Psalms and Proverbs (selections) and Ecclesiastes. 12th grade will also read Song of Solomon. With the aid of study Bible notes and selections from study helps such as the Old Testament Today or The Bible Project, this course allows students to meditate on Scripture and engage with the historical and cultural context of the Bible when it was written, as well as the way the OT continues to be relevant as God's word today.

About New Testament: Grades 7-8

Students read through the book of Acts over the year. Additional study helps assigned in the lesson plans provide background information and context to help students begin to dive deeper into the life, ministry, and message of the early church.

About Church History: Grades 7-9

Students read about important events and influential people from Church History using biographies and narrative-driven overviews of the time period. In this course, students delve into the 19th century and learn the stories of a variety of Christians.

About Spiritual Formation: Grades 7-8

Spiritual formation courses help students think more deeply about various topics in the Christian life such as prayer, studying the Bible, and other spiritual disciplines.



Placement & Combining Tips

Old Testament: Grades 7-12

Students in Grades 7-12 read the same passages of Scripture, but the lesson plans include a variety of discussion questions and extra study helps differentiated by grade to help students engage at various depths. This makes these lessons flexible for individual students and/or a multi-age context. Younger students in Grades 5-6 can be combined with older students if they have a good general understanding of the narratives and overarching story of the OT.

New Testament: Grades 7-8

Younger students in Grades 5-6 can be combined with older students if they have a good general understanding of the gospels. Ideal for HS students who are new to studying the Bible or unused to commentaries or discussions about cultural context or interpretive issues.

Church History: Grades 7-9

Can be combined with Grades 5-6.

Spiritual Formation: Grades 7-8

Also appropriate for HS students.



Scheduling

GRADE	SCHEDULE INFO.	BOOKS
7-12	Old Testament: Grades 7-12 2 times/week 30 min 2 times/week 30 min	The Student Bible Atlas, Revised Edition Old Testament Today NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible: Bringing to Life the Ancient World of Scripture ESV Concise Study Bible
7-8	New Testament: Grades 7-8 1 time/week 30 min	The Student Bible Atlas, Revised Edition ESV Concise Study Bible Introducing the New Testament: A Historical, Literary, and Theological Survey
7-9	Church History: Grades 7-9 1 time/week 30 min	Spurgeon: A Biography Renewal: The Church That Expands Outward An Honorable Heritage: The Pandita Ramabai Story in Her Own Words
7-8	Spiritual Formation: Grades 7-8 1 time/week 30 min	Transformed by Truth This Changes Everything

Sample Weekly View

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Bible: Grades 7-8				
Old Testament: Grades 7-12	New Testament: Grades 7-8	Old Testament: Grades 7-12	Church History: Grades 7-9	Spiritual Formation: Grades 7-8



Planning & Prep

Permission to print for non-commercial use. See Alveary group use policy to use lessons in a group context.

LINKS: Click text or scan the QR code in the top corner of the lesson plan pages to view online resources associated with the lessons.

Responsibility for previewing all links rests with the teacher. All links were checked at the time of publication; however, websites change frequently and may contain objectionable content. Please report broken links by contacting us through our website.



Books & Resources

For book rationales and purchase options, click the Book List link or scan the QR code below.

∞ [View Book List Details](#)

Bible: Grades 7-8

Old Testament: Grades 7-12



The Student Bible Atlas, Revised Edition



Old Testament Today



NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible: Bringing to Life the Ancient World of Scripture



ESV Concise Study Bible

New Testament: Grades 7-8



The Student Bible Atlas, Revised Edition



ESV Concise Study Bible



Introducing the New Testament: A Historical, Literary, and Theological Survey

Church History: Grades 7-9



Spurgeon: A Biography



Renewal: The Church That Expands Outward



An Honorable Heritage: The Pandita Ramabai Story in Her Own Words

Spiritual Formation: Grades 7-8



Transformed by Truth



This Changes Everything



Supplies

For supply list details and basic supplies helpful to have on hand, click the links or scan the QR code below.

∞ [View Basic Supplies](#)

(No Subject Supplies Assigned)



Quick Links

Bible: Grades 7-8

∞ [Extra Helpings](#)

∞ [Foundations \(See Section 6: Bible\)](#)

New Testament: Grades 7-8

∞ [Video overviews of Bible books from Bible Project](#)

∞ [Teaching the Bible with Dr. John Walton](#)

Church History: Grades 7-9

∞ [History Charts & Timeline Scope & Sample](#)

Spiritual Formation: Grades 7-8

∞ [Extra Helpings](#)

Click THIS text
or scan the QR
code for links.



Bible: Grades 7-8

How To Teach



Prepare

Read the commentary to prepare.



Recap

Connect back to the previous lesson. Ask students to give a summary of what they remember. (Full narration is not necessary.)



Introduce

Use a picture, a map, or an engaging question to prepare students to receive the story. You may talk about one or two unfamiliar words that will be crucial to understanding.



Read

Read aloud from the Bible.



Narrate

Have the students narrate.



Share

Optional: Share something interesting from your preparation that will help shed light on the story.



Discuss

Give students an opportunity to share their thoughts on the story and any connections made.



Term 1

WEEK 1 30m Old Testament: Grades 7-12 - Lesson 1

Materials: Bible, Old Testament Today, notebook

→ INTRO (FOR GRADES 7-12)

This year you will be reading 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, selections of Psalms, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes. You will be reading the passages chronologically, or in the order of the events. "The goal of studying the Bible chronologically is not to replace the time-honored canonical arrangement, but instead to honor time as a setting in which the biblical record appeared. Readers who study the Bible this way will return to their traditional Bibles better equipped to read them. Acquiring a sense of the flow of the Bible's story will put flesh and blood on its message" (from Chronological Guide to the Bible).

1. Your ESV Concise Study Bible (Grades 7-8) or Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible (Grades 9-12) will have maps, articles, and notes to help you along the way. If you have a question about a specific verse, see if there is a note about that verse below the text.
2. Use your Student Bible Atlas or atlas in your Bible to locate places as needed.
3. We will also utilize Old Testament Today and the Bible Project website as a handbook for helping us understand the background information we need to be informed readers. Look up the chapter of the Bible book you are reading in OT Today for any interesting sections you have not read before. Similarly, do a search at the Bible Project Website for the book you are reading and see what interesting articles or videos they have available when you have time in a lesson.

→ VIEW

1. Throughout the year, you will watch short videos of Dr. John Walton, the co-author of OT Today. The videos were created specifically for Alveary students. We hope they help you understand the Bible better.
2. You will be reading selections from the Psalms throughout the year. Watch this video to learn more about the Psalms.

∞ Video Link: Overview of the Psalms

→ PRINT

You may want to print out the summary of the book to reference as you read selections from the Psalms.

∞ Image Link: Psalms Overview Poster

→ READ, NARRATE & RESPOND

1. OT Today p.367-370 "To understand what" - "individual and nation."
2. Psalms 79-82

The psalms are difficult to tie to a specific historical context. They are the worship songs of Israel and are intended to apply to the needs of all worshippers across time. Some psalms do have historical superscriptions that make it possible to associate them with specific events, but these make up only about 10% of all the psalms. Another criterion is to place the psalms ascribed to David (or Solomon or Moses) during the life of that person. A second criterion is to place Psalms according to their type (from the Chronological Guide to the Bible).

• EXTRA HELPING

∞ Video Link: Bible Project Overview of the Psalms

WEEK 1 30m New Testament: Grades 7-8 - Lesson 1

Intro to Acts

Materials: ESV Concise Study Bible, Introducing the New Testament, Notebook

Note: Introducing the New Testament is a resource book that will be used over 5 years. As students get older, they will read more sections and



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interact with some of the more scholarly questions about the New Testament. Only small sections will be read this year, but feel free to read more.

→ INTRO

1. The book of Acts is actually "part two" of the Gospel of Luke, but it has been put in its own section in the New Testament (following the four Gospels) because it is the only book that relates the history of the early church—what happened after the events reported in the Gospels.

2. Watch this short video about Acts with the author of the book, Introducing the New Testament.

∞ Video Link: Acts

→ READ & NARRATE

Introducing the New Testament

1. p.205-206 "The book of" - "Lord Jesus Christ."

2. In the video, the author asked you to pay attention to the key motifs that are outlined in the book of Acts. A motif is a dominant idea or central theme. Read about a couple of the motifs or major themes in Acts:

p.216-220 "The book of" - "is worth remembering."

ESV Concise Study Bible

3. Although Luke is the author of two books in the New Testament, he is only mentioned three times in the Bible by name.

Read the following verses to meet the author of the book of Acts: Col.

4:14; 2 Timothy 4:11; Philemon 24; Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-5; Luke 24:36-53

→ NOTEBOOK

You read about five of the major themes in Acts. Write down each theme on the top line of 5 different pages in your notebook. Then write a brief sentence of what that theme means. As you read through Acts this year, you will add the events that fall under the different themes.

WEEK 1 30m Old Testament: Grades 7-12 - Lesson 2

Materials: Bible, OT Today, notebook

→ RECAP

What do you recall about your reading in the Psalms last time?

→ INTRO

Last year, we read through I Chronicles 16. Today, we will keep moving forward chronologically.

→ VIEW

∞ Video Link: Davidic Covenant

→ READ, NARRATE, & RESPOND

1. Read about 1-2 Chronicles p.223-224 in OT Today.

2. Psalm 83

3. I Chronicles 17

• EXTRA HELPING

Watch this summary of the whole OT in under 13 minutes.

∞ Video Link: OT Summary

WEEK 1 30m Church History: Grades 7-9 - Lesson 1

William Wilberforce

Materials: Renewal: The Church that Expands Outward

→ INTRO

1. This year, we are learning about people who lived during the 19th century (1800-1900). We will read how these Christians lived out Jesus' commands. When Jesus was asked what the greatest command was, he replied, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first

• IMPORTANT DATES

1759-1833 - William Wilberforce
1833 - Slave Trade was abolished in England

• DEFINITIONS

diminutive: (p.93) small size

• EXTRA HELPING

You can listen to the hymn Amazing Grace and follow along



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commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37-39)

2. Today, you will read about an Englishman named William Wilberforce (1759-1833) who was a member of Parliament, the lawmaking group in the government of Great Britain. Parliament consisted of two houses: the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The English had been part of the slave trade since 1662. In 1770, out of a total of one hundred thousand slaves a year from West Africa, British ships transported more than half. English considered the slave trade inseparably linked with the commerce and national security of Great Britain.

→ VIEW

∞ Image Link: Painting of William Wilberforce

→ READ, NARRATE, & DISCUSS

p.93-100 "The striking of" - "after this event."

- Wilberforce had considered withdrawing from public life for the sake of his faith. However, his pastor John Newton advised him, "It is hoped and believed that the Lord has raised you up for the good of his church and for the good of the nation." What do you think about that advice?

with the lyrics on p.100.

∞ Video Link: Amazing Grace

WEEK 1 30m Spiritual Formation: Grades 7-8 - Lesson 1

Materials: Transformed By Truth, notebook

→ INTRO

How would you answer someone who asks why you study the Bible? As the title indicates, the first half of Transformed by Truth will focus on the why of studying the Bible, while the second half will move into the how of Bible study. As we move through the book's second half, we will apply the lessons to a chapter from your reading in the book of Acts.

→ READ & NARRATE

Intro p.13-16

→ NOTEBOOK

Take a moment to reflect on the author's statement, "Teens need serious Bible study just as much as adults." Do you agree? Why or why not? What do you hope to learn about Bible study this year?

WEEK 2 30m Old Testament: Grades 7-12 - Lesson 3

Materials: Bible, OT Today, notebook

→ RECAP

What do you recall about your reading in the Psalms and I Chronicles last time?

→ VIEW

When you read the Bible chronologically, you switch back and forth between 1-2 Samuel, 1-2 Chronicles, and 1-2 Kings. Dr. Walton will explain what the differences are between those books, even though they are telling about the same time period.

∞ Video Link: Differences Between Two Accounts of Israelite History

→ READ, NARRATE, & RESPOND

1. Read about 1-2 Samuel in OT Today p.204-208.
2. Psalm 88
3. 2 Samuel 8-9



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WEEK 2 30m New Testament: Grades 7-8 - Lesson 2

Ascension

Materials: ESV Concise Study Bible, Introducing the New Testament, Notebook

→ RECAP

What did you read last time about the book of Acts?

→ INTRO

Acts 1:8 is the key verse of Acts, and the outline of Acts follows this verse as the gospel spreads and the church grows. Jesus gives the disciples a job after he leaves them on earth to ascend to heaven. "The ascension is the conclusion of the synoptic Gospels, and it is the introduction to Acts, where it begins the story of the development of the church" (Bible Story Handbook, Walton).

→ READ & NARRATE

1. Introducing the New Testament p.220-223 "The Jewish matrix" - "of his name."

Read about 3 more major themes in Acts. (You can skip Box 10.5.)

2. ESV Concise Study Bible Acts 1:1-26

→ NOTEBOOK

Add the three additional themes you read about to your notebook and a brief sentence of explanation for each. Then record anything from today's reading under any of the themes that might be relevant. There is not one right answer. For example, under the theme Centrality of Jerusalem, you can write: "Jesus orders his disciples not to leave Jerusalem."

WEEK 2 30m Old Testament: Grades 7-12 - Lesson 4

Materials: Bible, OT Today, notebook

→ RECAP

What do you recall about your reading in the Psalms and 2 Samuel last time?

→ READ & VIEW

1. OT Today p.12-15 "A plotline traces" - "these three terms."

2. ∞ Video Link: Big Ideas and Plotlines

→ READ, NARRATE, & RESPOND

2 Samuel 10-11

WEEK 2 30m Church History: Grades 7-9 - Lesson 2

Fact Files: The Beacons of Freedom and Justice

Materials: Renewal: The Church that Expands Outward

→ RECAP

Give a brief account of what you remember about William Wilberforce.

→ INTRO

In this section, "The Beacons of Freedom and Justice," you will be introduced to four historical figures who were motivated by their Christian faith to help others find freedom and justice. The first person lived in the 1700's, so that is the century before the time period we are studying this year.

→ READ, NARRATE, & VIEW

• IMPORTANT DATES

- 1733 - James Oglethorpe founded the colony of Georgia
- 1772 - John Newton pens Amazing Grace
- 1839 - Frederick Douglas becomes a licensed preacher
- 1850-1860 - Harriet Tubman's Underground Railroad Work

• EXTRA HELPING

- Learn more about John Newton, the author of Amazing Grace
- ∞ Article Link: The Story of John Newton



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1. p.101-102 "Freedom is a word" - "should be applauded."
 2. Watch this video that tells about Oglethorpe's role in the founding of Georgia and then takes us up to the 19th century.
- ∞ Video Link: Founding of Georgia Colony

→ READ, NARRATE, & VIEW

1. p.102-104 "Another Englishman who" - "Thee Are Spoken."
 2. p.104-107 "While men like" - "fight for themselves."
 3. Read this article to learn more about Harriet Tubman.
- ∞ Article Link: Black Moses

∞ **Video Link:** Newton's Grace: The True Story of Amazing Grace

WEEK 2 30m Spiritual Formation: Grades 7-8 - Lesson 2

Materials: Transformed By Truth, notebook

→ RECAP

What did you read about last time?

→ READ & NARRATE

Ch.1 p.19-29

→ NOTEBOOK

Choose one or more of the questions on p.29 to answer in your notebook.

WEEK 3 30m Old Testament: Grades 7-12 - Lesson 5

Materials: Bible, OT Today, notebook

→ RECAP

What do you recall about your reading in 2 Samuel last time?

→ READ & VIEW

1. OT Today p.19-21 "Confidence in the Results" - "hermeneutics are insufficient."
2. ∞ Video Link: Defective Views of God

→ READ, NARRATE, & RESPOND

1. 2 Samuel 12
2. Psalm 51

WEEK 3 30m New Testament: Grades 7-8 - Lesson 3

Pentecost

Materials: ESV Concise Study Bible, Notebook, Introducing the New Testament

→ RECAP

What did you read last time about the Book of Acts?

→ INTRO

Acts 2 is considered the church's birthday. Luke shows how the Holy Spirit came upon all the believers there, and how they began speaking in other languages. This may bring to your mind the story from Genesis of the Tower of Babel. However, "[a]t the Tower of Babel, nobody could understand the languages, and it drove people apart. At Pentecost, the languages could be understood, and it brought people together into a unity that helped start the Church" (Bible Story Handbook).

→ READ & NARRATE

1. Acts 2:1-41
2. (Optional) Read notes in the ESV Study Bible.

- How does speaking different languages on the Day of Pentecost fit with



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the mission Jesus gave the disciples in Acts 1:8?

→ VIEW

🖼️ Image Resource: Introducing the New Testament

Take a moment to look at the painting on p.211 (Fig. 10.1 Pentecost).

Describe what you see in the painting.

→ NOTEBOOK

Record anything from today's reading under any of the themes that might be relevant. There is not one right answer. You may want to refer to Introducing the New Testament for extra guidance.

WEEK 3 📅 30m Old Testament: Grades 7-12 - Lesson 6

🖼️ Materials: Bible, OT Today, notebook

→ RECAP

What do you recall about your reading in the Psalms and 2 Samuel last time?

→ READ & VIEW

1. Read OT Today p.9-12 "Most people come" - "the Old Testament."
2. ∞ Video Link: Tapestry Illustration

→ READ, NARRATE, & RESPOND

2 Samuel 13

WEEK 3 📅 30m Church History: Grades 7-9 - Lesson 3

Emilie Mallet

🖼️ Materials: Renewal: The Church that Expands Outward

→ RECAP

What do you remember about our last reading?

→ INTRO

Today, you will read about a French lady from the 1800s who may be unknown to you but has an interesting story of love and service to those in need. She could have just enjoyed her upper-class lifestyle but wanted to show the love of Christ to others.

→ VIEW

1. ∞ Image Link: Emilie Mallet
2. The Pantheon in Paris (not to be confused with the Pantheon in Rome) is mentioned in this chapter. It is a mausoleum or monument that houses the remains of distinguished French citizens,
∞ Image Link: Pantheon in Paris

→ READ, NARRATE, & DISCUSS

1. p.109-117 "The shrieks could" - "margins of society."
2. Read these excerpts from the biography A Christian woman; being the life of Mme. Jules Mallet, translated by Mrs. H.N. Goodhart. Most of them are journal entries from Emilie about the circumstances in Paris.
∞ PDF Link: Excerpts from A Christian Woman

- What did you learn about Emilie from her journal entries?

→ VIEW

Have you seen Toile de Jouy fabric before? It is actually French for "cloth from Jouy." It was produced by Emilie's father and can still be found today on decorative fabrics and wallpaper.

∞ Image Link: Toile de Jouy

• DEFINITIONS

Cholera: (p.109) a disease that is caused by bacteria through water or food that has been tainted. Cholera can cause serious diarrhea and dehydration and can be fatal.

aristocracy: (p.111) upper class usually made up of a hereditary nobility

• IMPORTANT DATES

1832 - Emilie Mallet begins her charity work for young children and prisoners



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WEEK 3 30m Spiritual Formation: Grades 7-8 - Lesson 3

Materials: Transformed By Truth, notebook

→ RECAP

What did you read about last time?

→ INTRO

Part of Bible study starts with basic questions, such as, "What does the Bible say about this matter?" Rather than taking an author's opinion or statement as truth when claiming the Bible supports it, verifying and reading what the Bible says on the subject is important. As you read through Transformed by Truth, look up the Scripture references that are included as time allows. Today, those verses are assigned as part of the reading.

→ READ, NARRATE & DISCUSS

p.31-36 "When I was" - "others. Praise God!"

Also read the verses in the passage: Jer. 1:1-2; Ezek. 1:3; 2 Pet. 1:20-21; 2 Pet. 3:15-16; 2 Tim. 3:16; I Cor. 7:40

- Did reading the verses from the source (the Bible) help clarify or support the author's claim?

→ NOTEBOOK

Take a moment to record new insights, copy quotes, or ask questions.

SAMPLE