

ONE STORY | ONE SAVIOR - UNIT 1 | LESSON 01

The Pentateuch – The Promise Given Through the Royal Gift Covenant

God is a PROMISE Making God

God 1) **CREATES** a place where 2) He will **MEET** with his People 3) for their **JOY**. 4) His People, however, reject Him. 5) Nonetheless, God binds Himself through **PROMISE (i.e. The Royal Gift Covenant)** to 6) **RESCUE** His people from their sin and 7) **RESTORE** them to Himself for their **JOY**.

ILLUSTRATION – How many of you are familiar with the story and character CURIOUS GEORGE? [Show them books with Curious George] There are many books about CURIOUS GEORGE such as. . .

- CURIOUS GEORGE in the Snow
- CURIOUS GEORGE rides a Bike
- CURIOUS GEORGE gets a Medal.




Well, the main character or person is the little monkey named CURIOUS GEORGE. His primary caregiver is The Man in the Yellow Hat. There are all kinds of stories, but the main character is always the same. In fact, without CURIOUS GEORGE, there is no CURIOUS GEORGE book. Well, the Bible is a large book with a lot of stories, but there is one main character and that is Jesus. And without Jesus, there is no story.

Today’s lesson shows us how the Bible is a single story and at the center of this story is JESUS.

VIDEO - The Road to Emmaus - Jesus appears to two of his disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13). <https://us-en.superbook.cbn.com/video/road-emmaus>

“God and His Story” Luke 24:44-49; Acts 1:1-8

²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

	<p>THE HEAD - To Know how the Bible records the Words and Works of Jesus as the final and fullest revelation from God.</p> <p>Q – What is the Bible a “revelation” of? If the Bible is a revelation of Jesus, then when I read my Bible, who should I be looking for?</p>
	<p>THE HEART - To Choose the Bible as our final and fullest authority / record that is to be loved and followed.</p> <p>Q – How might I encourage my relationship with God through the reading of the Bible?</p>
	<p>THE HAND - To Pray we will obey all that God has said.</p> <p>Q – How do I make sure I am not following a rule book, but rather a real person?</p>

EMPHASIS

The Bible tells a single Story and at the Center of this Story is Jesus. It is a story of revelation and of redemption. God reveals himself to humanity and he saves his people from their sin. This Story is traceable from Genesis through Revelation.

The resurrection of Jesus verifies the veracity of the Bible's Storyline. In the Death, Burial, Resurrection, and Ascension [hereafter DBRA] of Jesus, God is revealed, and sinners are redeemed. It is that confirmed *Story* that continues to this day. And you and I are a part of that singular *Story* with Jesus at the center.

LITERARY CONTEXT

Luke wrote the Book of Acts as a continuation of his gospel to show Theophilus what happened after Christ ascended to heaven. A primary purpose of Acts is to explain the orderly and sovereignly-directed progress of the Gospel of Jesus Christ from Jews to Gentiles and from Jerusalem to Rome. The book of Acts can be roughly divided into three sections. Each section focuses on a particular audience, key personalities, and specific phases in the expansion of the gospel message.

- Jerusalem (1-7)
- Judea and Samaria (8-12)
- Uttermost Regions (13-28)

If we were to compare the account in Luke 24 with Matthew 28 and John 20, there are two strong contributions Luke makes for us.

- First, there is the **confirmation** | **verification** of the *Story* (Luke 24).
- Second, there is the **continuation** of the *Story* (Acts 1).

The style of writing for the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts is historical narrative. It is a straight forward and plainly written account from the incarnation of Jesus to the expansion of the church and the spreading of God's glory.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Our current study in Luke 24 fits inside of Israel's timeline from Passover (Luke 23) to Ascension (Luke 24:50ff) and finally Pentecost (Acts 2:1ff).

The Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts are a two-volume work written to Theophilus and written by the Apostle Paul's associates, the physician named Luke. It was written around 63-64 A.D.

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

The entire Old Testament points us to and prepares us for Jesus. When Jesus arrives, He fulfills all that the Old Testament pointed us to and prepared us for. This is readily seen in the story of Jesus cleansing the Temple and rebuilding the Temple (John 2:13-25). Jesus fulfills the purpose of the physical Temple. The Temple was the place revealing God and redeeming sinners.

STRUCTURE

I. The **Story Confirmed** (Luke 24)

How do we know the Bible is true? There are two ways the Bible confirms its story.

ILLUSTRATION – if you have an event or special activity at your school, it is typically advertised through various platforms [i.e. flyer, email, text message, and phone call]. If you attend the event or activity, you are now a witness of the event. Because of the flyer and your attendance, you can prove or confirm that the event actually happened.

A. It is Confirmed by Witness [people were actually attending the event or activity]

In four different places, Jesus reveals Himself to others. He is alive.

1. In the Garden (vv. 1-12)
2. On the Road (vv. 13-32)
3. In the Upper Room (vv. 33-49)
4. On the Mt. of Ascension (vv. 50-53)

B. It is Confirmed by Word [this was the platform like email or flyer]

Jesus uses the Hebrew Scripture [i.e. OT] to show how He is the center of the Biblical Story.

- Luke 24:25-27
²⁵ And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!
²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.
- Luke 24:44-46
⁴⁴ Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,”

Not only can we tell you the story is true, but it also continued on even after the events are over.

II. The **Story Continues** (vv. 48, 49)

ILLUSTRATION – let us say you went to a school event and when you went home your grandparents came over. As a consequence of attending the event you can tell them everything you experienced at the school event and as long as you are alive, you can continue to tell the story.

A. It Continues through Witness (v. 48; Acts 1:8)

⁴⁸ You are **witnesses** of these things.

The followers of Jesus were [are] to witness of His physical and bodily resurrection. They are to witness of how the Old Testament all leads to Him.

B. It Continues through Waiting (v. 49; Acts 1:4, 8)

⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. **But stay** in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

Acts 1:4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but **to wait** for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me;

Luke tells us the Story about Jesus is true and the entire biblical record affirms this claim.

JESUS IN THE TEXT

ILLUSTRATION – If we go back to our CURIOUS GEORGE story, we can see how the idea of Jesus dying for our sins as a punishment receiving substitute is traceable throughout the entire Bible. In the State of Wisconsin, we have a long trail called the ICE AGE TRAIL. The trail runs for about 1,200 miles from the Northern western edge all the way down to the south east corner and ends at the end of the peninsula. That trail is marked by yellow tags. That trail, like Jesus, runs through the entire Bible and it is possible to see the yellow markers assuring you that you are on the path.

In Genesis 3:15 and 3:21, God gives two promises to the serpent, and to Adam and Eve. The first is the coming of a Seed from the Woman who shall crush the serpent’s head, thus defeating and overthrowing sin and death. We have called this, “The SEED PROMISE.” The second is the BLOOD PICTURE, thus restoring humanity into His presence for their joy. God shall do for humanity what humanity could never do for itself. These two promises are called a ROYAL GIFT COVENANT. It is a one-sided, unconditional promise/covenant that God alone shall fulfill for humanity. This same promise is sustained over thousands of years until it is reiterated to Abraham in Genesis 12:1-3. This reiterating of the covenant to Abraham is given three markers: a land or place of rest, a seed through which the rest shall be secured for his offspring, and as a consequence of the Seed’s work, a blessing for all the Nations. All Nations through the Seed’s work shall have this place of rest offered to them.

Yet, what we assume in our modern audience, which Luke did not assume, is that we understand the *Storyline* of the Bible. Now, I do not assume the average individual knows what the Bible is talking about. By the time we get to Luke 24 certain assumptions are made. The first and most important is we know the Story. So before moving into our passage let me trace for you the Bible’s “superglue” holding it all together.

Seed Promise	Gen. 3:15
Blood Picture	Gen. 3:21
Seth	Gen. 4:25
Noah	Gen. 6:8
Abraham, Isaac, Jacob	Gen. 12:1-3
Judah	Gen. 49:8-10
Exodus	Exodus 11-13
Moses Leviticus	The Book of Leviticus [Blood Picture – Substitution Atonement Mediation – Mediator]
Ruth	Ruth 4:18-22

David	1 Samuel 16:1-13
Solomon	2 Samuel 7
Psalms	Psalms 22:1-21 [Blood Picture - Substitution Atonement]
Isaiah	Isaiah 53 [Blood Picture – Substitution Atonement]
Matthew Genealogy	Matthew 1:1 “The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham:”
Luke Genealogy	Luke 3:38 “the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.”

The entire Story promises the reader that God, YHWH, shall keep His promise by providing a Seed from a Woman who shall crush the Serpent and his seed. This selective Seed shall bring victory through a bloody substitutionary sacrifice. The Gospel writers explain to the reader that JESUS is the FULFILLMENT OF THE SEED PROMISE and the COMPLETION OF THE BLOOD PICTURE.

You see, God is both revealing himself and redeeming his people.

Each Gospel writer believes they have proven their point. By the time we get to the end of each gospel, the triumph of this storyline culminates with resurrection and ascension. The intent of this conclusion is to confirm that what has been told is true AND how that story continues to this day. Thus, our study.

APPLICATION

1. First, as you read the Bible, keep your eyes on Jesus. Keep looking for Him.

ILLUSTRATION

The *Where's Waldo?* books were created by British illustrator **Martin Handford**. The series, known as *Where's Wally?* in the UK and other regions, features intricate, detailed illustrations where readers are challenged to find Waldo (or Wally) and other hidden characters and objects within crowded scenes. In some ways, the Bible is similar to WHERE'S JESUS? There are a lot of moving parts [like the LAW and the OT Story] but embedded in the story you can find JESUS.

2. Second, by looking to Jesus, you shall stay on the trail.

ILLUSTRATION

If you do not find Waldo, you miss the point of the *Where's Waldo* series. Well, the same is true concerning the Bible. If you do not find JESUS, you miss the point of the Bible.

3. Finally, your knowledge of and experience with Jesus is a witness to others of the gospel. Keep living out and speaking of Jesus.

When you find Waldo in the series, you can help others find Waldo. The same is true in the Bible. When you find Jesus, you can help others find Jesus.

VISUALS

Look at the illustration examples and use items in the illustrations.

Theme: Jesus explaining how the Scriptures pointed to Him¹

Visual:

- **Open Bible with pictures of the Old Testament stories:** Draw a large Bible with images from the Old Testament, such as a **lamb**, **Moses with the tablets**, or a **prophet** pointing to the future. Above the Bible, you can show **Jesus standing** with rays of light around Him, explaining how the Scriptures foretold His coming.
- **Speech bubble from Jesus:** Add a speech bubble saying, “The Scriptures are talking about Me!”
- **Scroll with symbols:** Show a **scroll** (representing the Law of Moses and the Prophets) with small symbols of the **cross**, **empty tomb**, and **crown**, signifying that Jesus' suffering, resurrection, and reign were foretold.

CRAFT EXPLAINING LUKE 24:44-49²

1. Scroll Craft – Jesus Fulfills the Scriptures

Theme: Jesus explains how He fulfills the Scriptures

Materials:

- Paper (brown or white)
- Wooden dowels or craft sticks
- Markers or crayons
- String or ribbon
- Glue or tape

Instructions:

1. Give each child a piece of paper and ask them to write or draw symbols that represent the **Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms** (like the Ten Commandments tablets, a shepherd's staff, or a crown).
2. Attach a **wooden dowel** or **craft stick** to each end of the paper and roll it up like a scroll.
3. Have them tie the scroll with **string or ribbon** to make it look ancient.
4. Explain that Jesus **opened the Scriptures** to help His disciples understand how the whole Bible pointed to Him.
5. Encourage the children to open their scrolls and say, “The Scriptures tell us about Jesus!”

MEMORY VERSE

Luke 24:27 “And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.”

RESOURCES

¹ <https://chatgpt.com/c/66ed4bf0-899c-800c-886a-f6d39834784a>

² <https://chatgpt.com/c/66ed4bf0-899c-800c-886a-f6d39834784a>