

Open Bible Stories — Jesus Is the Promised Messiah

Introduction

Key Idea

The story that shows Jesus is the promised Messiah teaches us Jesus is the deliverer that God promised to send to rescue humanity from sin and judgment.

Core Belief Verse

"Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.'" John 1:4]

God's Big Story

The eternal God created all things in six days.

He made a good and perfect world.

He made humans in his image to fill the earth and rule over creation.

But humans rebelled against God and ruined God's creation.

God set to restore his world through his promise.

God made a covenant with Abraham. He promised to bless all nations through Abraham.

God kept his promises across the generations.

God provided Abraham with a promised child, Isaac.

God gave Isaac a wife, and she bore twins Jacob and Esau.

God blessed Jacob and his sons, and the blessing continued to the next generation.

God rescued Joseph, one of Jacob's sons, and used him to rescue his family.

God caused his people, the Israelites, to multiply in the land of Egypt; eventually, they became slaves.

But God raised up a deliverer, Moses, to deliver his people from slavery.

God judged the Egyptians with harsh plagues; in the final judgment, he passed over his people, who covered their doorposts with the blood of a sacrificed lamb.

Then, God delivered the Israelites by bringing them out of Egypt and crossing the Red Sea on dry land.

God made a covenant with the Israelites and made them his people.

God tested Israel in a series of wilderness wanderings and eventually brought his people into the promised land of Canaan.

God raised up deliverers to lead Israel and rescue them from their enemies.

God formed Israel into a kingdom. He made a covenant with King David and promised to send a king that would rule his people forever.

Many of Israel's kings were evil, and the kingdom of Israel was divided into two kingdoms.

God sent prophets to warn his people of God's judgment and call them to repent.

When Israel did not repent, God sent his people into exile. After many years, he brought them back to the land.

Throughout the Old Testament, God promised to send his Messiah to deliver his people from their sin.

After many years, the prophet John was born. He would prepare people for the coming Messiah.

At the perfect time, God sent his Son, Jesus, to be born of a virgin Mary.

When John and Jesus grew up, John baptized Jesus as a sign that Jesus was God's beloved Son.

Jesus endured all manner of temptation without ever sinning.

When he was thirty years old, he launched a public ministry of preaching, teaching, and healing.

He taught his disciples about the life of compassion, sacrifice, and forgiveness.

Jesus performed many miracles: he fed a crowd of five thousand, he walked on water, he healed the sick, and he cast out demons.

He proclaimed to people the nature of real faith, God's kingdom, and how fallen humans can be restored in relationship with God.

Toward the end of his ministry, Jesus revealed his power and glory to his disciples.

He raised a dead man to life.

Jesus was betrayed by one of his disciples and put on trial before a Roman governor.

Jesus was sentenced to death and crucified on a cross

Three days later, Jesus rose again from the dead.

After meeting with many of his disciples, Jesus went back to heaven.

The Holy Spirit empowered Jesus' followers and formed them into his church.

Jesus' disciples, like Peter and John, performed miracles and preached the good news about Jesus.

New leaders like Stephen and Philip served the church and preached about Jesus.

Even Saul, a persecutor of Jesus' followers, became a Christian and preached the gospel to many people.

Jesus is the promised Messiah.

The Story

48-01



When God created the world, everything was perfect. There was no sin. Adam and Eve loved each other, and they loved God. There was no sickness or death. This was the way God wanted the world to be.

48-02



Satan spoke to Eve in the garden through the snake because he wanted to deceive her. Then she and Adam sinned against God. Because they sinned, everyone on earth dies.

48-03



Because Adam and Eve sinned, something even worse happened. They became enemies of God. As a result, every person since then has sinned. Every person is an enemy of God from birth. There was no peace between people and God. But God wanted to make peace.

48-04

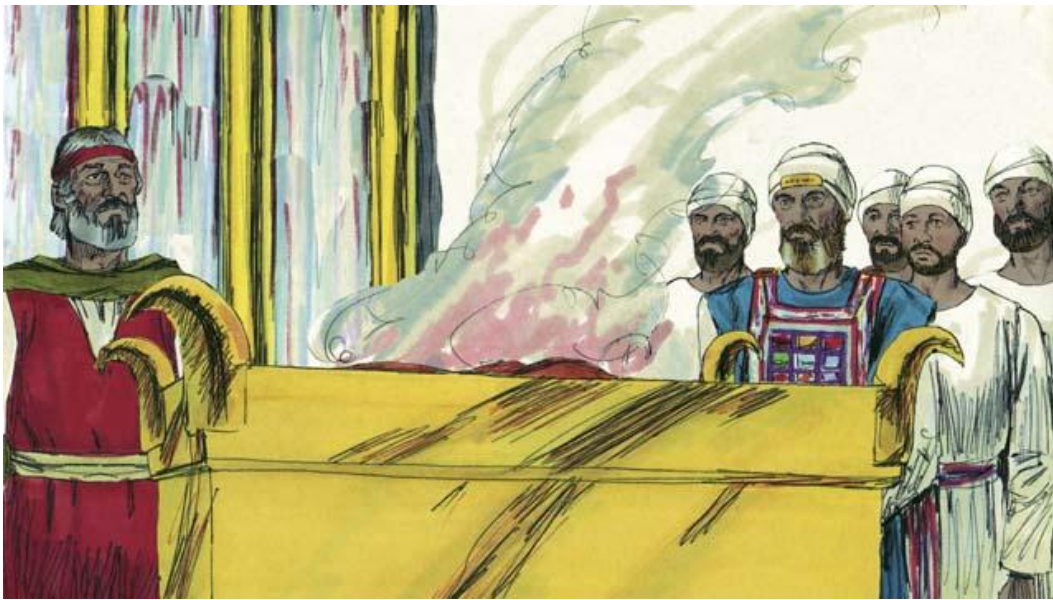


God promised that one of Eve's descendants would crush Satan's head, and Satan would bite his heel. In other words, Satan would kill the Messiah, but God would raise him to life again. The Messiah would take away Satan's power forever. Many years later, God showed that the Messiah is Jesus.

48-05

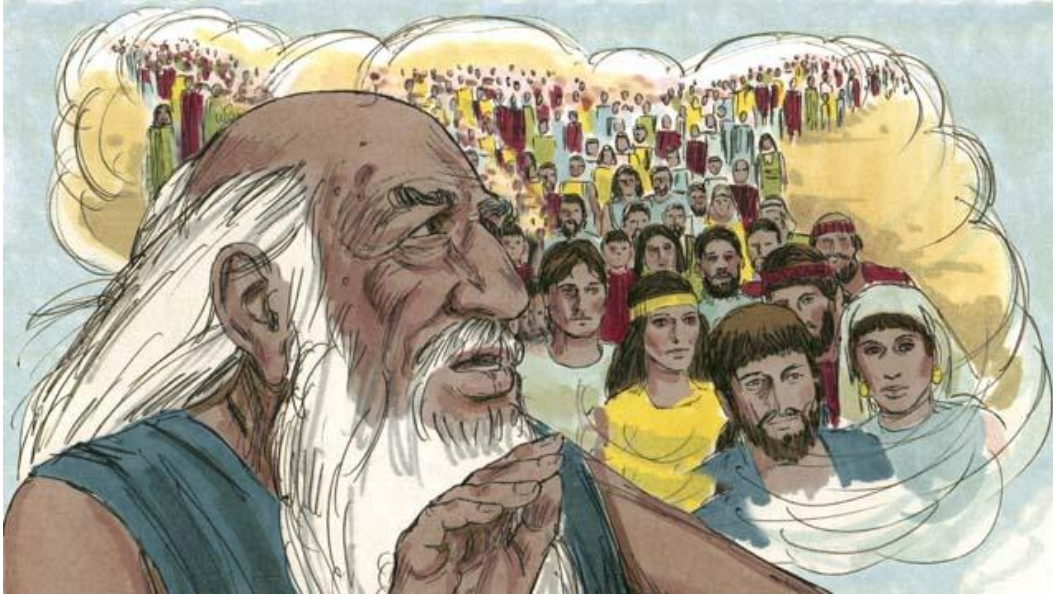


God told Noah to build a boat to save his family from the flood he was going to send. This is how God saved the people who believed in him. In the same way, everyone deserves death from God because they have sinned. But God sent Jesus to save everyone who believes in him.



For hundreds of years, priests kept on offering sacrifices to God. This showed people that they committed sin and deserved God's punishment. But those sacrifices could not forgive their sins. Jesus did what the priests could not do. He gave himself to be the only sacrifice that could take away everyone's sin. He accepted onto himself the punishment that we should have received for our sins. For this reason, Jesus is the Great High Priest.

48-07



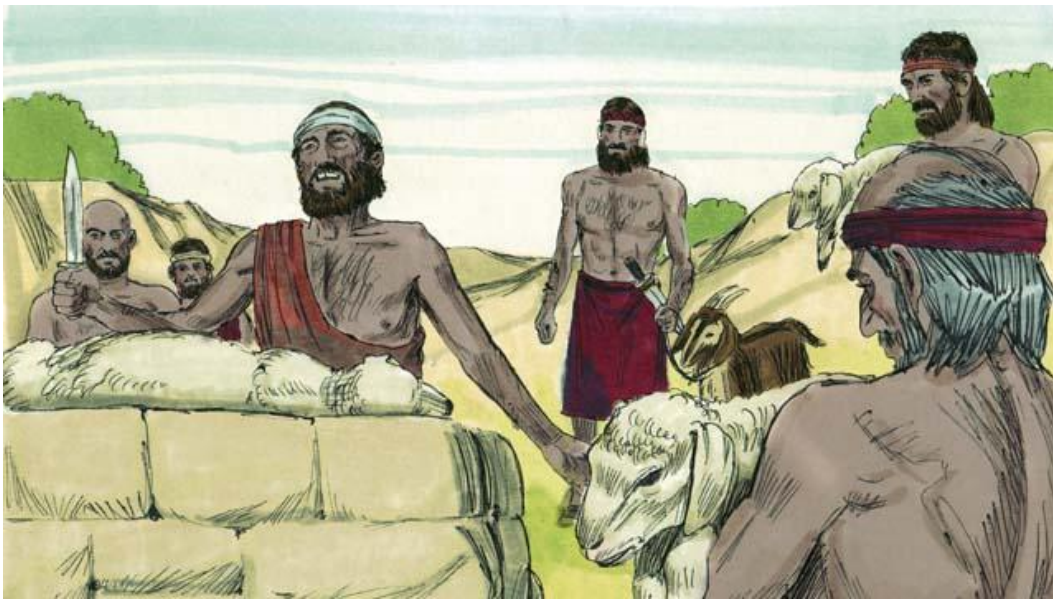
God had told Abraham, "I will bless all the people groups on the earth through you." Jesus was a descendant of this Abraham. God blesses all the people groups through Abraham because God saves everyone who believes in Jesus from sin. When these people believe in Jesus, God considers them to be descendants of Abraham.

48-08



God told Abraham to sacrifice his own son, Isaac, to him. But then God gave a ram for the sacrifice instead of Isaac. We all deserve to die for our sins! But God gave Jesus to be a sacrifice to die in our place. That is why we call Jesus the Lamb of God.

48-09



When God sent the last plague on Egypt, he told each Israelite family to kill a lamb. The lamb must not have any flaws. Then they had to spread its blood on the tops and sides of their door frames. When God saw the blood, he passed over their houses and did not kill their firstborn sons. When this happened, God called this the Passover.

48-10



Jesus is like a Passover Lamb. He never sinned, so there was nothing wrong with him. He was killed at the time of the Passover festival. When anyone believes in Jesus, the blood of Jesus pays for that person's sin. It is as if God passed over that person because he does not punish him.

48-11



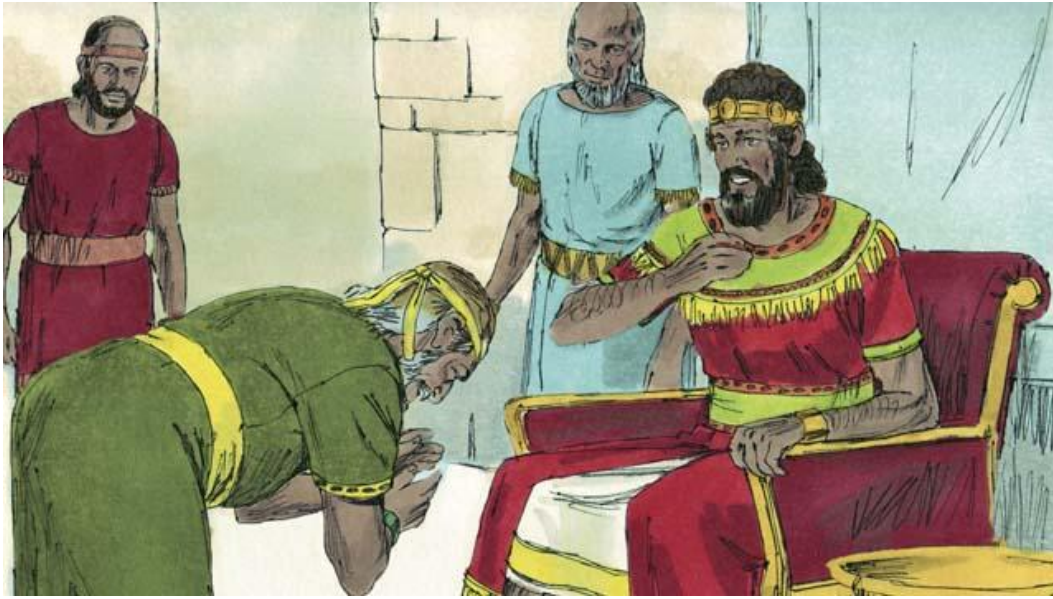
God made a covenant with the Israelites because they were the people he had chosen to belong to himself. But God has now made a New Covenant that is for everyone. If anyone in any people group accepts this New Covenant, he joins God's people. He does this because he believes in Jesus.

48-12



Moses was a prophet who proclaimed the word of God with great power. But Jesus is the greatest prophet of all. He is God, so all the things he did and said were the actions and words of God. That is why the Scriptures call Jesus the Word of God.

48-13



God promised King David that one of his descendants would rule as king over God's people forever. Jesus is the Son of God and the Messiah, so he is the descendant of David, who can rule forever.

48-14



David was a king of Israel, but Jesus is the king of the entire universe! He will come again and rule his kingdom with justice and peace forever.

A Bible story from: Genesis 1-3, 6, 14, 22; Exodus 12, 20; 2 Samuel 7; Hebrews 3:1-6, 4:14-5:10, 7:1-8:13, 9:11-10:18; Revelation 21

Community Study: Remembering Together—Taking Time to Review God's Work

- **Key Idea:** recalling all that God has done
- **Key Passage:** 2 Timothy 1:3-6
- **Main Session:** OBS 48 (Jesus Is the Promised Messiah)

Recite the Core Belief Verse (3–5 minutes)

The verse below summarizes the teaching of the current passage. Read the verse out loud as a community. Read it again several times as a group until the whole community can recite it from memory.

8 Remember Jesus Christ, from David's seed, who was raised from the dead. This is according to my gospel message 2 Timothy 2:8

OR

3:1 Beloved, this is now the second letter that I have written to you; and in both of them they are reminders to stir up your sincere mind, 2 so that you will recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command of our Lord and Savior given through your apostles. 2 Peter 3:1-2

Remember Truths about Jesus (5 minutes)

Think about the many stories you studied about the Bible. Identify some of the stories where you learned the most about Jesus.

These are some of the stories where I learned the most about Jesus...

These are some of the things I learned about Jesus...

Read the Passage (3–5 minutes)

Christian community becomes strong as it remembers important things God wants them to remember. It takes focus and concentration to recall these important things in our life and community. Read the passage below to learn about the important practice of remembering.

3 I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers, with a clean conscience, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day. 4 As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. 5 I have been reminded of your genuine faith,

which lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am convinced that it lives in you also. 6 This is the reason I am reminding you to rekindle the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 2 Timothy 1:3-6

Discuss the Passage (10–15 minutes)

As the gospel spreads, God wants the church to focus on the spread of the gospel to unreached areas. These places are areas where people do not yet believe in the gospel. A focus on frontier areas shapes your community. As a community, use the following questions to discuss the teaching of the biblical passage.

Remember the Past Journey (5 minutes)

Spend time remembering the past as a community. Specifically, remember the moments of challenge and moments of joy that your community experienced over the past months together.

When I think about the past months together, these are the difficult moments I remember...

When I think about the past months together, these are the joyful moments I remember...

Pray to God (5 minutes)

Divide into groups of 2-3 people. Think about the people your work will impact. Spend time remembering them by praying for them as a community.

Sing a Song (3–5 minutes)

Sing a song together as a community that remembers God's goodness and grace in your lives.

1. What are the different ways Paul talks about remembering in this passage? Specifically, what are the things that Paul remembers or reminds Timothy about?
2. Why is it important to remember? How does the practice of remembering aid our spiritual growth and ministry practice?
3. What negative things might happen to your community if you do not practice remembering?

4. How can your community develop a healthy practice of remembering together?

Movement 1: Understand the Story

Read each question aloud. Give the group time to answer before sharing the answer.

Observation Questions

48-01

What was the world like when God first created it?

When God first created the world, everything was perfect. There was no sin, sickness, or death, and people loved each other and God.

What did God think of the world when he first created it?

Everything in the world was the way God wanted it to be.

48-02

How did Satan deceive Eve?

Satan spoke to Eve through a snake to deceive her.

Why does everyone on earth die?

They die because Adam and Eve sinned against God.

48-03

How did the sin of Adam and Eve affect their relationship with God?

Because Adam and Eve sinned, they became enemies of God.

How many people have sinned since Adam and Eve?

Since the time that Adam and Eve sinned against God, every person has also sinned.

When do people become enemies of God?

Every person is born as an enemy of God.

What did God want to do to fix the relationship between God and people?

There was no peace between God and the people, but God wanted to make peace.

48-04

What did God promise would happen to Satan?

God promised that one of Eve's descendants would crush Satan's head, and Satan would bite his heel.

What does this prophecy mean?

This means that Satan would kill the Messiah, but God would bring him back to life and take away Satan's power forever.

Who is the Messiah?

Many years after Adam and Even, God showed that the Messiah is Jesus.

48-05

How did God save people in the time Noah lived?

God told Noah to build a boat to save him and his family, and God would save everyone who believed from a flood.

In what way is Jesus like the boat God provided when he destroyed the earth by the flood?

Everyone deserves death, but God sent Jesus as a way to save people who believe in him.

48-06

How did people deal with their sin through the priests in Israel?

People sinned and deserved God's punishment, and priests continually offered sacrifices.

Did these sacrifices ultimately forgive sins?

The sacrifices did not fully forgive the sins of people.

How was Jesus different from Israel's priests?

Jesus did what the priests could not do by forgiving the sins of people.

How is Jesus different than the priests who came before him?

He offered himself as the only sacrifice to be punished for our sin so that he could take away the sin of everyone.

What does this tell us about Jesus?

Jesus is the Great High Priest.

48-07

What promise did God give to Abraham?

God promised to bless all the peoples of the earth through Abraham.

How was Jesus related to Abraham?

Jesus was a descendant of Abraham.

How is God's promise to Abraham fulfilled through Jesus?

God considers everyone who believes in Jesus, from any people group, to be a descendant of Abraham.

48-08

What sacrifice did God tell Abraham to make?

God told Abraham to sacrifice his own son, Isaac.

Did Abraham sacrifice Isaac?

God provided a ram for the sacrifice so that Isaac did not have to die.

How is Jesus like the ram that was sacrificed instead of Isaac?

All people deserve to die, but Jesus is the Lamb of God, who God gave to be a sacrifice in our place.

48-09

What did God tell the Israelites to do at the time God sent the last plague on Egypt?

God told each Israelite family to sacrifice a lamb.

What condition did the lamb need to be in?

The lamb must not have any flaws.

What were the people to do with the blood?

The Israelites had to spread the blood of the lamb on the tops and sides of their door frames.

What would God do when he saw the blood?

When God saw the blood of the lamb, he passed over their houses and did not kill their firstborn sons.

What did God call this event?

God called this the Passover.

48-10

How is Jesus like the Passover Lamb?

Jesus never sinned, and there is nothing wrong with him, so his blood (his death) causes God to pass over and not punish anyone who believes in Jesus.

When was Jesus killed?

Jesus was killed at the time of the Passover festival.

48-11

How did God relate to the people of Israel?

God made a covenant with the Israelites because they were the people he had chosen to belong to himself.

Who is the New Covenant for?

God made a New Covenant that is for any person.

Who can be part of God's people?

Anyone from any people group can join God's people through the New Covenant by believing in Jesus.

48-12

How was Moses a prophet of God?

Moses was a prophet who proclaimed God's word in power.

In what way is Jesus the greatest prophet of all?

He is God, so all the things he did and said were the actions and words of God.

What do the Scriptures call Jesus?

The Scriptures call Jesus the Word of God.

48-13

What did God promise King David?

God promised King David that one of his descendants would rule as king over God's people forever.

How does Jesus fulfill God's promise to King David?

Because Jesus is the Son of God, he is the descendant of David, who can rule forever.

48-14

In what way is Jesus a greater king than David?

Jesus is the king of the entire universe.

What will Jesus do when he comes back to earth?

Jesus will come again and rule his kingdom with justice and peace.

Movement 2: Theological Questions

What Does This Story Teach Us?

1. How did sin enter into the world, and what effects does sin have on people? What does this story teach us about how God's good and perfect world was ruined by sin?
2. How did God plan to save his people from sin? How does this story teach us about God's plan to rescue and restore people to a relationship with himself?
3. In what ways is Jesus the promised Messiah whom God sent to save people from sin? What does this story teach us about who Jesus is and how he fulfilled God's plans and saves people from sin?

Movement 3: Live It Out

Guide the group to discuss practical obedience from this story and name concrete next steps.

Personal Implications & Applications From The Story

1. How have you experienced the negatives effects of sin in your own life?
2. What are wrong ways you have tried to deal with sin and restore your relationship with God?
3. Which Old Testament stories, which Jesus fulfilled as the Messiah, most encourage your faith in Jesus?
4. Think about this week. Where does "Jesus Is the Promised Messiah" challenge you to obey God in a practical way?
5. How does this key idea shape one decision you need to make right now: The story that shows Jesus is the promised Messiah teaches us Jesus is the deliverer that God promised to send to rescue humanity from sin and judgment.

Movement 4: Retell the Story

Invite the group to retell the story several times until they can tell it clearly and faithfully.

Church Ministry

1. Can someone retell "Jesus Is the Promised Messiah" from beginning to end in their own words?
2. Retell this story again, but focus on what God did at each key moment.
3. Retell the story in three parts: beginning, middle, and ending. What changed in each part?
4. If you were teaching this story to your family tonight, how would you tell it simply and clearly?

Ministry Preparation: Who in your church or community needs to hear this story, and how can you prepare to tell it clearly and faithfully?

Ministry Implementation: Share this story in a church, family, or small-group setting. Invite listeners to notice what God does and how people respond.

Ministry Reflection: After sharing, reflect on what people understood, what questions they asked, and how this story can strengthen the church.

Movement 5: Share It

Help each person plan how they will share this story with others before the next gathering.

Mission Engagement

1. Who is one specific person you will share "Jesus Is the Promised Messiah" with this week?
2. When and where will you share this story with them?
3. What is the one main truth from this story you want them to remember?

Report-back next meeting: Who did you share with, and what happened?

Witness Preparation: Pray for one person or group who needs to hear this story. Practice telling the story simply and clearly before you go.

Witness Implementation: Share this story with the person or group you named. Ask what they notice about God, Jesus, and the good news.

Witness Reflection: Record what happened after you shared. What did the person understand, how did they respond, and what follow-up is needed?