In the Beginning...Jesus



Lesson 2
Back to the Beginning

Themes:

- The whole Bible is necessary for understanding the mystery of Jesus' death on the cross.
- The Bible has an intentional order.
- Jesus is the key to understanding the Bible.
- The solution to the mystery of Jesus and the cross begins in Genesis.
- God is the main character in the story of the Bible.

Scripture:

Luke 24:26-27; Genesis 1:1

Memory Verse:

Isaiah 53:3a

Home and Heart:

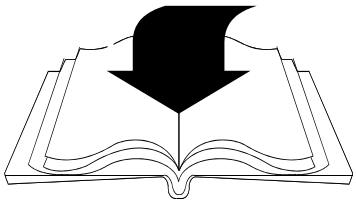
Read together the story of Jesus on the road to Emmaus from Luke 24:13-27. (You may have already read verses 13-21 in Lesson 1.) What did Jesus do to explain to the disciples what had happened to Him on the cross? What does this tell us about the purpose of the Old Testament? What does this tell us about Jesus? How is Jesus the "key" to understanding the Bible—including the Old Testament? Read and talk about Hebrews 1:1-3 and John 1:1-3. How do these passages connect Jesus with the very beginning of the Bible?

Read Genesis 1:1 with your child. This verse is the starting point for solving the mystery of Jesus' death on the cross. What questions does this verse answer? Who is the main character of the Bible? What did He do? When did He do it? Read Psalm 90:2. What does this verse tell us about the one Creator God? [God is eternal—He has no beginning and will have no end.] As we read through the story of the Bible, why is it important to know God is eternal? Is the story of the Bible about someone who lived a long time ago but is now dead or will be dead in the future? How does this matter for your own life? How do you think this might help us to solve the mystery of Jesus' death on the cross?

Read Hebrews 11:3 with your child. What do the words "by faith" mean? (Read verse 1 for help.) Ask your child: *Do you have faith that makes you sure God created the whole world? Is it still hard for you to understand? Can you believe something to be true even though you can't fully understand it? Is it hard for you to understand God is eternal—He had no beginning and will have no end? Can you still trust it is true? Why is it important to know God is eternal? Have you ever been in a situation when someone tried to tell you God didn't create the world? How did you respond? Can you depend on the Bible, or should you trust the ideas of other people?* Read and discuss Psalm 119:89,160; 1 Corinthians 2:13-14.



DISCOVER MORE



The Old Testament

In the coming weeks, we will be searching the Old Testament for clues to solve the mystery of Jesus' death on the cross. All the words in the Old Testament are God's words. God gave these words to men called "prophets," who wrote them down. The Old Testament contains 39 separate books. With the 27 books of the New Testament, these 66 books form one complete, true story—the whole Bible. Now is a good time to become familiar with the books of the Old Testament. Below you will find scrambled words. Each word, when correctly unscrambled, will spell out a book in the Old Testament. After you have unscrambled all of them, use the table of contents in your Bible to put them in the correct order. Draw a line matching each book to the correct number.

BUREMNS	_____	**1**
RESPOVRB	_____	**2**
CAMIHAL	_____	**4**
HISAIA	_____	**6**
HIJEMARE	_____	**16**
SIGNEES	_____	**20**
USHOJA	_____	**23**
SHOEA	_____	**24**
HENEHIMA	_____	**28**
ODEXUS	_____	**39**