

EQUIPPED!

Tools for Exploring the Bible



Group Facilitator Guide

Getting Started with Equipped

Welcome to Equipped! We're excited to have your co-op join us for this year-long exploration of the 27 books of the New Testament. No other collection of writings has influenced Western civilization, culture, and literature more than the Bible.



Equipped is designed to be a full school-year, high school literature course. It helps students understand the literary features and flow of each book, thus allowing Scripture to not just influence *what* students think but *how* students think.

Be sure to encourage your students to continue in the course—especially in their own personal reading of the New Testament and the discussion questions. The students who persevere soon find it's all worth it as they proceed through the course.

On the evening of his arrest, Jesus told his disciples that the Father would send them the Holy Spirit to teach them all things, guide them in all truth, bring to remembrance all that Jesus said to them, and declare to them the things that are to come (John 14:26; 16:13). The New Testament is the written fruit of that promise.

Soli Deo Gloria,
Luke & Trisha Gilkerson

Where to begin: add your students to the course

Log in to JourneyHomeschoolAcademy.com. From the dashboard...

1. Click on "Student Management."
2. You will see how many licenses (students) you have available. For each student, enter their first name, last name, and email address, then click the "Add" button.
3. A temporary password will be sent to the email address you assign to each student. Using their email and password, each student will be able to log into their *own* course dashboard.
4. If you have more students join your class, simply contact us via email at info@journeyhomeschoolacademy.com and we can invoice you for additional students.

FAQ: Do my students need their own email address?

The student login must use a unique email address. However, if you have parents who prefer their student not to have an email address, here are a few alternatives.

1) You may use a parent email address.

2) If parents use a gmail address, you can add a qualifier to your email address. For instance, if the email address is parent@gmail.com you can place a plus sign (+) after the first part of your email address like this:

parent+PhysicsStudent@gmail.com (you can use whatever you'd like after the +). Our system will view this as a *unique* email address, however all emails will still go to *your* inbox. It's a pretty handy feature gmail has.

3) Parents may open a new, free email account and have emails forwarded to their main account if they prefer.

How to Begin Your Course Access

You have the flexibility to begin this course whenever you're ready. Once your co-op account is set up, facilitators can access the resources section to begin planning their year and exploring the resources available at any time.

When you're ready to begin your 1-year access to the course, simply email us at info@journeyhomeschoolacademy.com and we will start your course access.

Course Schedule

There are 35 lessons. You should plan to complete one per week. You will have access to the course for a full calendar year, so you should be able to easily complete the course during the school year with your co-op.

Study Skills Training

One of the deficiencies we've seen in students is truly understanding how to study. We don't want to see students continue to make the same study mistakes over and over, but we want them to learn strong study habits. We developed training available to all of our Level B and C students. They will learn to apply the research-backed, time-tested study and notetaking techniques that will guide them toward becoming lifelong learners.

Students can access *Lesson 0: The Secrets to Student Success* anytime before or after they begin the course by logging into their student account now. They'll have access to two videos along with accompanying notetaking pages:

- **Study Smarter, Not Harder!**
- **Notetaking Crash Course**

The Student Guidebook and Lab Guide

From your dashboard under “Resources” you can **download the Student Guidebook**. This contains all the note-taking pages for each of the lectures along with the map and timeline activities.

The note-taking pages include a guided outline to follow along with the lecture, as well as one-page summaries of each book of the New Testament. If you’d prefer for your student to have a physical copy of the guidebook, a full color spiral-bound version is available in our online bookstore.

[Purchase Equipped Guidebook Here](#)

How the Course Works

The Student Guidebook and Lab Guide

It is recommended you reserve 1½ hours for class each week when you meet as a co-op to complete your lessons. Here are some ideas for how you can structure your class:

1. Make sure students have the note-taking pages from the Student Guidebook
2. Watch two lecture videos (average 25 minutes each).
** Lesson 1 has 8 shorter video lessons*
3. Assign reading from for that week along with any map or timeline activities corresponding.
4. Hand out discussion questions that pertain to the reading for that week.
5. Hand in written answers to the discussion questions or discuss the answers to these questions as a class.
6. A comprehension quiz may be administered in class or sent home (see below for details).

Discussion Questions

Each lesson contains between one and three “discussion questions.” These are research-oriented questions designed to help students think more deeply about what they are reading, helping them to catch specific themes in the text.

If you choose to use these in your co-op, assign the appropriate discussion questions for the reading, and then collect their written responses the next week. You may also choose to discuss answers to these questions as a class. Use the answer key for the discussion question and fill in any gaps you hear in the students’ responses, or allow the students’ answers to generate classroom conversation.

Quizzes

The quizzes are designed to help the student test their own knowledge of the material. There are 3 options you have for administering the quiz depending on what you believe works best for your students and class situation.

Option 1: At the beginning of each class, give students the quiz that corresponds to the previous week’s lesson. You may even allow students to use their notes during the quiz if you choose. Have students grade the quizzes in class. You can have students trade papers and grade one another or have students grade their own. Once a grade is written on the top of each quiz, collect the quizzes and record the grades for your own records later.

Option 2: Give students their quizzes at the end of each class to take home or send parents the quizzes electronically. Parents can then proctor the quizzes. If your time is limited, this option will allow you a few extra minutes in class for discussion.

Option 3: Have the students complete and correct the quizzes right after watching the video lesson each week (this is our least preferred option as students tend to do better after having time to complete their discussion questions and reading that corresponds with the lesson).

Quizzes can be used in class to help review. For questions students found to be particularly tricky, we recommend going over these together as a class as an extra learning opportunity.

Exams

In addition to the regular weekly lessons, students will also take two comprehensive exams: a midterm exam covering the books of Luke and Paul, and a final exam covering the rest of the New Testament books.

Students are provided with a study guide to help them study for these exams. Co-op facilitators may choose to take class periods to review for each of these exams or ask students to review on their own.

Course Schedule

There are 35 lessons in the course, including a midterm and final. If your co-op does not have enough weeks to complete the full course, below are some ideas for how to shorten your class. Choose as many as re necessary for your situation:

- Before the beginning of the school year, have students watch all 8 short videos of Lesson 1 on their own at home (a “crash course” in Bible interpretation).
- Have students watch Lesson 2 on their own at home before the beginning of the school year or skip this lesson (a general introduction to the New Testament).
- Skip doing an in-class review of the midterm and save the midterm for students to take at home during a planned break week.
- Skip doing a review for the final exam and save the final exam for the students to take at home after the last day of class.
- Skip Lesson 34 (various methods on interpreting the book of Revelation).

Scope & Sequence

No other collection of writings has influenced Western civilization, culture, and literature more than the Bible. Equipped! New Testament edition is a full-school-year course (35 weeks) designed to walk students through all 27 New Testament documents, examining the literary features of each book.

Students learn:

- How the New Testament canon was formed as it was shaped by the theological convictions of Jesus and his apostles
- Fluency in the stylistic patterns and literary techniques of the New Testament authors, including: metaphor, parable, chiasm, hyperbole, amplification, inclusio, parallelism, and repetition
- The importance of plot context when reading Biblical narrative literature
- The value of literary context for Biblical interpretation—the shared “literary culture” of those who wrote and the first readers of the New Testament documents
- How historical context helps modern readers grasp meanings in the Biblical texts
- Techniques for identifying basic genres of literature in the Bible and how these genres should shape how readers approach biblical texts
- Chronological, geographical, and cultural details that enrich our appreciation for the historicity and message of the New Testament
- How to appreciate the aesthetic and creative differences of each of the four Gospels and the unique ways they tell the story of Jesus
- The importance of recognizing both the human authorship and divine inspiration of the New Testament documents

The course organizes the documents of the New Testament according to “apostolic tradition” to allow students to appreciate the unique voices in the Scriptures.

- The Apostle Paul (Lessons 3-18): The course begins with an in-depth look at the books authored by Paul and his traveling companions.
 - The two-volume work written by the physician Luke (*The Gospel of Luke* and *The Acts of the Apostles*).
 - Letters written primarily by Paul (*Galatians, Romans, Ephesians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon*)

- Letters co-written by Paul and his companions (*1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Philippians, Colossians*)
- The Apostle Peter (Lessons 20-23): This section of the course examines the writings of Peter and his companions.
 - The memoirs of Peter as recorded by his scribe Mark (*The Gospel of Mark*)
 - Two epistles authored by Peter (*1 & 2 Peter*)
 - The epistle of *Jude*
- The Hebrew Tradition (Lessons 24:27): This section of the course examines the document written primarily to Jewish audiences.
 - *The Gospel of Matthew*
 - The epistle written by a leader of the church in Jerusalem (*James*)
 - The sermon-like exhortation written to Jewish Christians (*Hebrews*)
- The Apostle John (Lessons 28-34): This section of the course looks at the writings associated with the tradition of John, another pillar of the early church
 - *The Gospel of John*
 - Three epistles by John (*1, 2, & 3 John*)
 - *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*



New Testament Reading Plan

Students can find the reading plan at the beginning of the Student Guidebook.

Lesson	✓	Day of the Week	Reading
1		How to Read the Bible	
2		Introduction to the New Testament Canon	
3		Monday	Luke 1-2
		Tuesday	Luke 3-5
		Wednesday	Luke 6-7
		Thursday	Luke 8-9
		Friday	Luke 10:1-13:21
4		Monday	Luke 13:22-16:31
		Tuesday	Luke 17:1-19:10
		Wednesday	Luke 19:11-21:38
		Thursday	Luke 22:1-23:25
		Friday	Luke 23:26-24:53
5		Monday	Acts 1-2
		Tuesday	Acts 3-5
		Wednesday	Acts 6-8
		Thursday	Acts 9:1-10:23
		Friday	Acts 10:24-12:25
6		Monday	Acts 13:1-15:35
		Tuesday	Acts 15:36-18:22
		Wednesday	Acts 18:23-21:26
		Thursday	Acts 21:27-25:27
		Friday	Acts 26-28
7		Monday	Galatians 1
		Tuesday	Galatians 2
		Wednesday	Galatians 3:1-4:11
		Thursday	Galatians 4:12-4:31
		Friday	Galatians 5-6



New Testament Reading Plan

Lesson	✓	Day of the Week	Reading
8		Monday	1 Thessalonians 1:1-2:12
		Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 2:13-3:13
		Wednesday	1 Thessalonians 4-5
		Thursday	2 Thessalonians 1-2
		Friday	2 Thessalonians 3
9		Monday	1 Corinthians 1:1-1:17
		Tuesday	1 Corinthians 1:18-2:16
		Wednesday	1 Corinthians 3:1-4:5
		Thursday	1 Corinthians 4:6-5:13
		Friday	1 Corinthians 6
10		Monday	1 Corinthians 7
		Tuesday	1 Corinthians 8-10
		Wednesday	1 Corinthians 11-12
		Thursday	1 Corinthians 13-14
		Friday	1 Corinthians 15-16
11		Monday	2 Corinthians 1:1-2:13
		Tuesday	2 Corinthians 2:14-4:18
		Wednesday	2 Corinthians 5-7
		Thursday	2 Corinthians 8-9
		Friday	2 Corinthians 10-13
12		Monday	Romans 1:1-1:17
		Tuesday	Romans 1:18-32
		Wednesday	Romans 2
		Thursday	Romans 3
		Friday	Romans 4
13		Monday	Romans 5-6
		Tuesday	Romans 7-8
		Wednesday	Romans 9-10
		Thursday	Romans 11-13
		Friday	Romans 14-16



New Testament Reading Plan

Lesson	✓	Day of the Week	Reading
14		Monday	Philippians 1:1-1:11
		Tuesday	Philippians 1:12-1:30
		Wednesday	Philippians 2
		Thursday	Philippians 3
		Friday	Philippians 4
15		Monday	Colossians 1:1-1:14
		Tuesday	Colossians 1:15-1:29
		Wednesday	Colossians 2
		Thursday	Colossians 3-4
		Friday	Philemon
16		Monday	Ephesians 1:1-2:10
		Tuesday	Ephesians 2:11-3:21
		Wednesday	Ephesians 4
		Thursday	Ephesians 5:1-6:9
		Friday	Ephesians 6:10-6:24
17		Monday	1 Timothy 1-2
		Tuesday	1 Timothy 3-4
		Wednesday	1 Timothy 5-6
		Thursday	Titus 1
		Friday	Titus 2-3
18		Monday	2 Timothy 1
		Tuesday	2 Timothy 2
		Wednesday	2 Timothy 3:1-3:9
		Thursday	2 Timothy 3:10-3:17
		Friday	2 Timothy 4
19		Review for Midterm	
20		Monday	Mark 1
		Tuesday	Mark 2:1-3:35
		Wednesday	Mark 4-5
		Thursday	Mark 6-7
		Friday	Mark 8:1-8:26



New Testament Reading Plan

Lesson	✓	Day of the Week	Reading
21		Monday	Mark 8:27-10:52
		Tuesday	Mark 11-12
		Wednesday	Mark 13
		Thursday	Mark 14
		Friday	Mark 15-16
22		Monday	1 Peter 1:1-1:12
		Tuesday	1 Peter 1:13-2:10
		Wednesday	1 Peter 2:11-3:12
		Thursday	1 Peter 3:13-4:19
		Friday	1 Peter 5
23		Monday	2 Peter 1
		Tuesday	2 Peter 2
		Wednesday	2 Peter 3
		Thursday	Jude 1:1-1:16
		Friday	Jude 1:17-1:25
24		Monday	Matthew 1-4
		Tuesday	Matthew 5-7
		Wednesday	Matthew 8-10
		Thursday	Matthew 11-12
		Friday	Matthew 13:1-13:52
25		Monday	Matthew 13:53-17:27
		Tuesday	Matthew 18:1-20:28
		Wednesday	Matthew 20:29-23:39
		Thursday	Matthew 24-25
		Friday	Matthew 26-28
26		Monday	James 1
		Tuesday	James 2
		Wednesday	James 3
		Thursday	James 4
		Friday	James 5



New Testament Reading Plan

Lesson	✓	Day of the Week	Reading
27		Monday	Hebrews 1-2
		Tuesday	Hebrews 3-4
		Wednesday	Hebrews 5-8
		Thursday	Hebrews 9-10
		Friday	Hebrews 11-13
28		Monday	John 1-2
		Tuesday	John 3-4
		Wednesday	John 5-6
		Thursday	John 7-8
		Friday	John 9-10
29		Monday	John 11-12
		Tuesday	John 13-14
		Wednesday	John 15-17
		Thursday	John 18-19
		Friday	John 20-21
30		Monday	1 John 1:1-2:2
		Tuesday	1 John 2:3-2:27
		Wednesday	1 John 2:28-3:24
		Thursday	1 John 4
		Friday	1 John 5
31		Monday	2 John 1:1-1:6
		Tuesday	2 John 1:7-1:13
		Wednesday	3 John 1:1-1:8
		Thursday	3 John 1:9-1:14
		Friday	
32		Monday	Revelation 1:1-1:8
		Tuesday	Revelation 1:9-1:20
		Wednesday	Revelation 2:1-2:11
		Thursday	Revelation 2:12-2:29
		Friday	Revelation 3



New Testament Reading Plan

Lesson	✓	Day of the Week	Reading
33		Monday	Revelation 4-6
		Tuesday	Revelation 7-9
		Wednesday	Revelation 10-11
		Thursday	Revelation 12-13
		Friday	Revelation 14-16
34		Monday	Revelation 17
		Tuesday	Revelation 18
		Wednesday	Revelation 19
		Thursday	Revelation 20-21
		Friday	Revelation 22
35		Review for final	

Grading

Discussion Question Grading

Below record your grades for your student's discussion questions, on a scale of 1 to 3.

0 = No attempt was made to think about the questions

1 = Minimal effort was given to think about the questions

2 = Effort was made to think about the questions but answer was not thorough

3 = Effort was made to think about the questions and answer was thorough

Copy the pages below to keep a record of discussion question grades for each of your students.

Discussion Questions

Student Name: _____

Lesson 1	
Lesson 2	
Lesson 3	
Lesson 4	
Lesson 5	
Lesson 6	
Lesson 7	
Lesson 8	
Lesson 9	
Lesson 10	
Lesson 11	
Lesson 12	
Lesson 13	
Lesson 14	
Lesson 15	
Lesson 16	
Lesson 17	
Lesson 18	

Lesson 20	
Lesson 21	
Lesson 22	
Lesson 23	
Lesson 24	
Lesson 25	
Lesson 26	
Lesson 27	
Lesson 28	
Lesson 29	
Lesson 30	
Lesson 31	
Lesson 32	
Lesson 33	
Lesson 34	

Quiz & Exam Grading

Copy this page to maintain a record of student quiz and exam scores.

Student Name: _____

Quiz	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<i>Score</i>										

Quiz	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	End Semester 1
<i>Score</i>									

Quiz	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<i>Score</i>										

Quiz	30	31	32	33	34	End Semester 2
<i>Score</i>						

Exam	Semester 1 Exam	Semester 2 Exam
<i>Score</i>		

Final Grade

Below is a suggested way to compute your student's final grade at the end of the school year.

Average discussion question grade (total number of points divided by 99 possible points)	
Average quiz grade (total number of points divided by 3300 possible points)	
Average exam grade (total number of points divided by 200 possible points)	
Final grade (average of above 3 values)	