

## Equipped! New Testament Scope and Sequence

No other collection of writings has influenced Western civilization, culture, and literature more than the Bible—that is, the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament), and Christian Scriptures (New Testament).

Equipped! (New Testament) 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.

Throughout the course, students will 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 to 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: The course begins with an in-depth look at the books authored by Paul and his traveling companions. This includes not only the letters written primarily by Paul (*Galatians, Romans, Ephesians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon*), but those co-written by Paul and his companions (*1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Philippians, Colossians*), and the two-volume work written by the physician Luke (*The Gospel of Luke and The Acts of the Apostles*).
- The Apostle Peter: This section of the course examines the writings of Peter and his companions. This includes the two epistles authored by Peter (*1 & 2 Peter*), as well as the epistle of *Jude*, and the memoirs of Peter as recorded by his scribe Mark (*The Gospel of Mark*).
- The Hebrew Tradition: This section of the course examines the document written primarily to Jewish audiences. This includes *The Gospel of Matthew*, the epistle written by a leader of the church in Jerusalem (*James*), and the sermon-like letter written to Jewish Christians (*Hebrews*).
- The Apostle John: This section of the course looks at the writings associated with the tradition of John, another pillar of the early church, including *The Gospel of John*, three epistles (*1, 2, & 3 John*), and *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*.