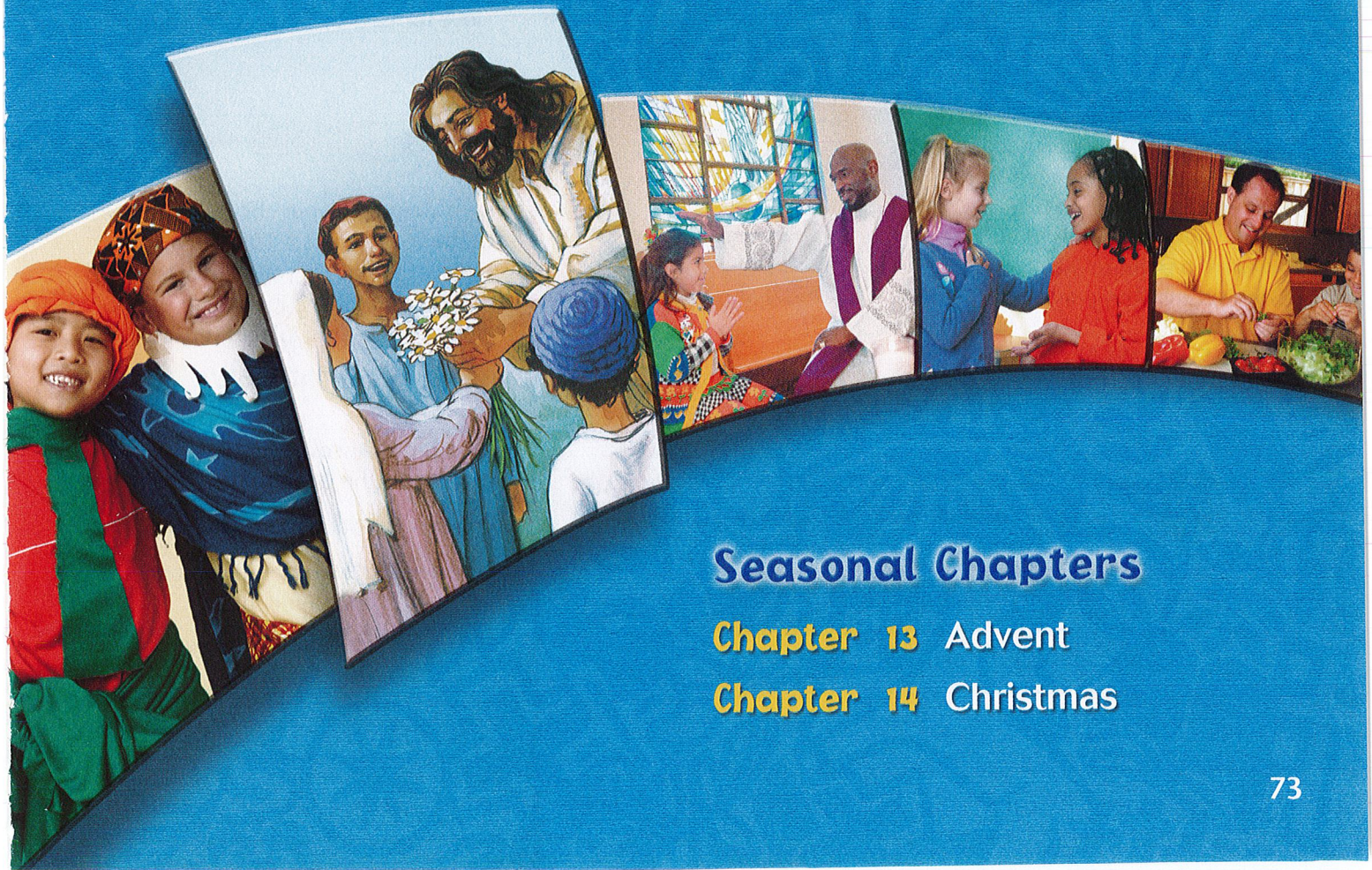


Jesus Calls Us to Penance and Reconciliation

UNIT 2

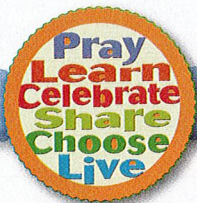
Chapter 8	We Learn About God's Love	75
Chapter 9	God Gives Us Laws	83
Chapter 10	We Follow God's Laws	91
Chapter 11	We Prepare for the Sacrament of Forgiveness.....	99
Chapter 12	We Celebrate the Sacrament of Forgiveness.....	107



Seasonal Chapters

Chapter 13 Advent

Chapter 14 Christmas



In Unit 2 your child will grow as a disciple of Jesus by:

- understanding the importance of listening to the Word of God as found in the Old Testament and the New Testament
- learning how to live the Ten Commandments and the Great Commandment
- making choices that show love for God and others and avoiding sin
- recognizing that God always loves us and shows us mercy and asks us to forgive others
- preparing to celebrate God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

What's the Word?

In Chapter 11, the children hear the story of the shepherd and the lost sheep (Luke 15:4-6). Jesus told this story to show us that God will always love and forgive us. Read the story on page 100 with your family. This month, make it a point to ask God for his forgiveness. And pray:



Jesus, may we never wander far from you.



Review the list of the Ten Commandments on page 85. Then pray with your child:

God, thank you for the Ten Commandments. They help me to show love for you, for myself, and my wonderful family.

Reality Check

"The relationships within the family bring an affinity of feelings, affections and interests, arising above all from the members' respect for one another."
(Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2206)

Celebrate!

Jesus has given us a way to receive God's forgiveness. The Church celebrates this forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Take a moment to consider if you are receiving God's forgiveness through the sacrament on a regular basis.

Show That You Care

Point out that we can always show our love for God by forgiving one another.

Take Home

Each chapter in your child's *We Believe* Grade 2 text offers a "Take Home" activity that invites your family to support your child's journey to more fully become a disciple of Christ.

Be ready for this unit's Take Home:

Chapter 8: Discovering news about the Church

Chapter 9: Listing important family rules

Chapter 10: Discussing the qualities of a good friend

Chapter 11: Performing a scriptural puppet play

Chapter 12: Discussing the Sacrament of Penance

We Learn About God's Love

8

WE GATHER

✝ Leader: Let us gather to listen to
God's Word.

Reader: God said,
"I, the LORD, your God,
teach you what is for
your good,
and lead you on the way
you should go." (Isaiah 48:17)

Leader: O God, we want to
understand your Word.

All: God, help us to remember
all the good things you teach
us. Help us to follow your
ways of love.



What kind of books do you like?

WE BELIEVE

The Bible is the book of God's Word.


God has always wanted us to know and love him. He wants us to tell others about him, too.

Long ago the Holy Spirit helped certain people to write about God's love. Different writers wrote in different ways. Some wrote stories or poems. Some wrote about people and events.

These writings were put into one large book called the Bible. God the Holy Spirit guided the people who wrote the Bible. So the **Bible** is the book in which God's Word is written.

When we read the Bible we learn:

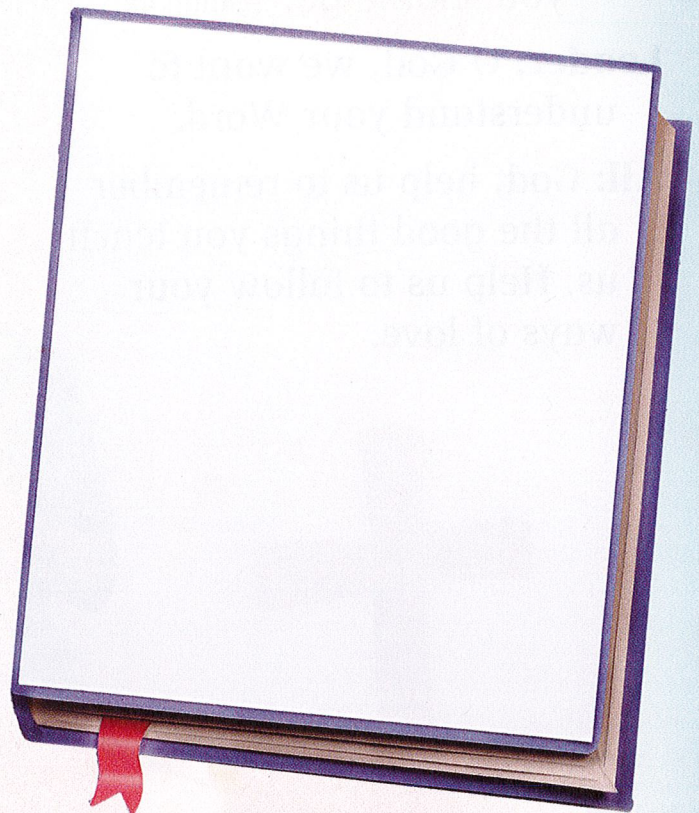
- what God has told us about himself and his love
- what God wants us to do to live as his children.

 Draw a cover for the Bible. It should show that the Bible is a very special book about God's love.

As Catholics...

We also call the Bible Sacred Scripture. The word *sacred* means "holy." The word *Scripture* comes from a word that means "writings."

We keep the Bible in a special place in our homes and churches. Together make a special place in your classroom for the Bible.



The Old Testament is the first part of the Bible.

The Bible has two parts. The first part is called the **Old Testament**. In this part we learn about God's people who lived before Jesus' time on earth. We read about the many wonderful things God did for his people. We read about the ways God showed special love for them. We also learn how they showed their love for God.


In the Old Testament we learn about the lives of many people. One of the people we read about is David. David was a shepherd. God was pleased with David. God loved David very much. God chose David to become king.

David showed his great love for God by praising him. David said, "Great are you, Lord GOD!" (2 Samuel 7:22)

Key Words

Bible the book in which God's Word is written

Old Testament the first part of the Bible

 Talk about ways David showed his love for God. Pray David's prayer of praise.



The New Testament is the second part of the Bible.



Luke 4:42–43

One morning a crowd went to see Jesus. They tried to stop him from leaving their town. But Jesus said, “To the other towns also I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God, because for this purpose I have been sent.” (Luke 4:43)

This reading is from the second part of the Bible. The second part of the Bible is the **New Testament**. The New Testament is about Jesus Christ, his disciples, and the Church.

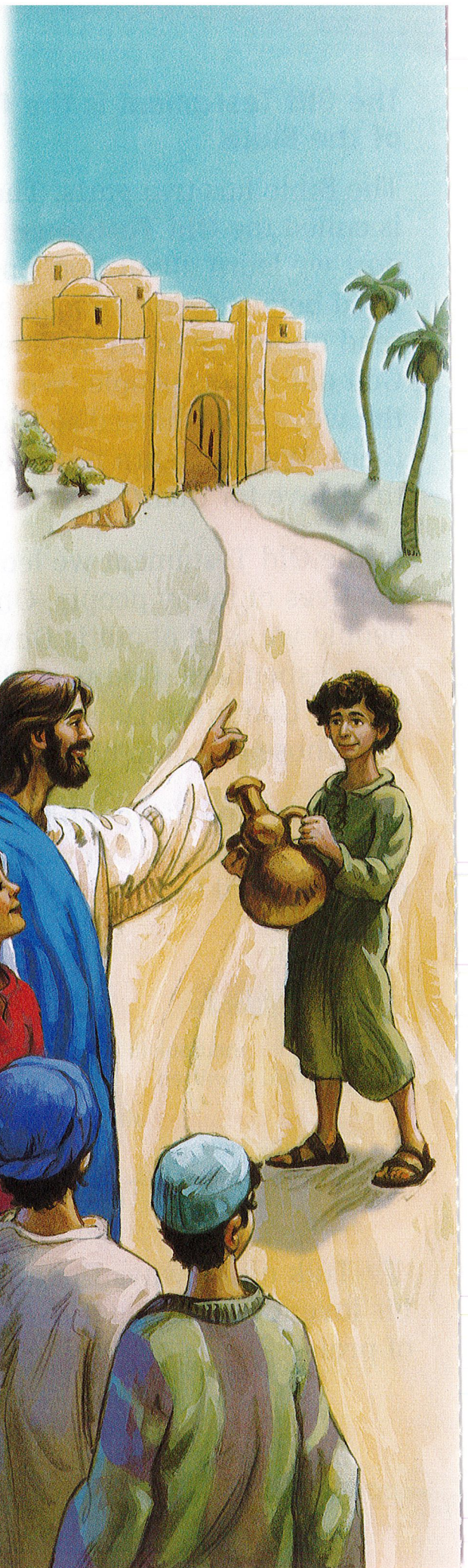
Four of the books in the New Testament are called the **Gospels**. They are about Jesus’ teachings and his life on earth.

The word *gospel* means “good news.” We learn the Good News of Jesus Christ in the Gospels.

- God is our Father who loves and forgives us.
- Jesus is with us always. He teaches us how to love and do good.
- The Holy Spirit helps and guides us.



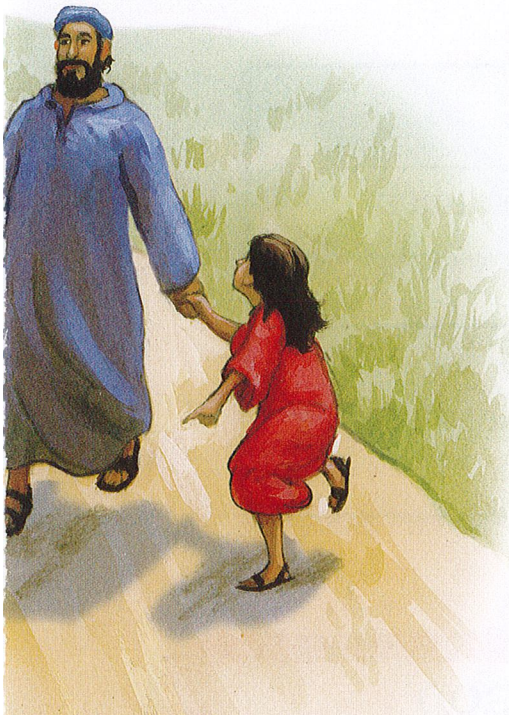
What is your favorite story about Jesus?



Key Words

New Testament the second part of the Bible

Gospels four of the books in the New Testament that are about Jesus' teachings and his life on earth



Jesus wants us to listen to his teachings.

One day Jesus had been teaching for a long time. He had taught people about believing in God and praying to him. Jesus ended by telling this story.



Matthew 7:24–27

A man built his house on rock. When storms came, the wind blew. The rain beat against the house. But the house did not fall. It had been built on rock.

Jesus told the people, “Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.” (Matthew 7:24)

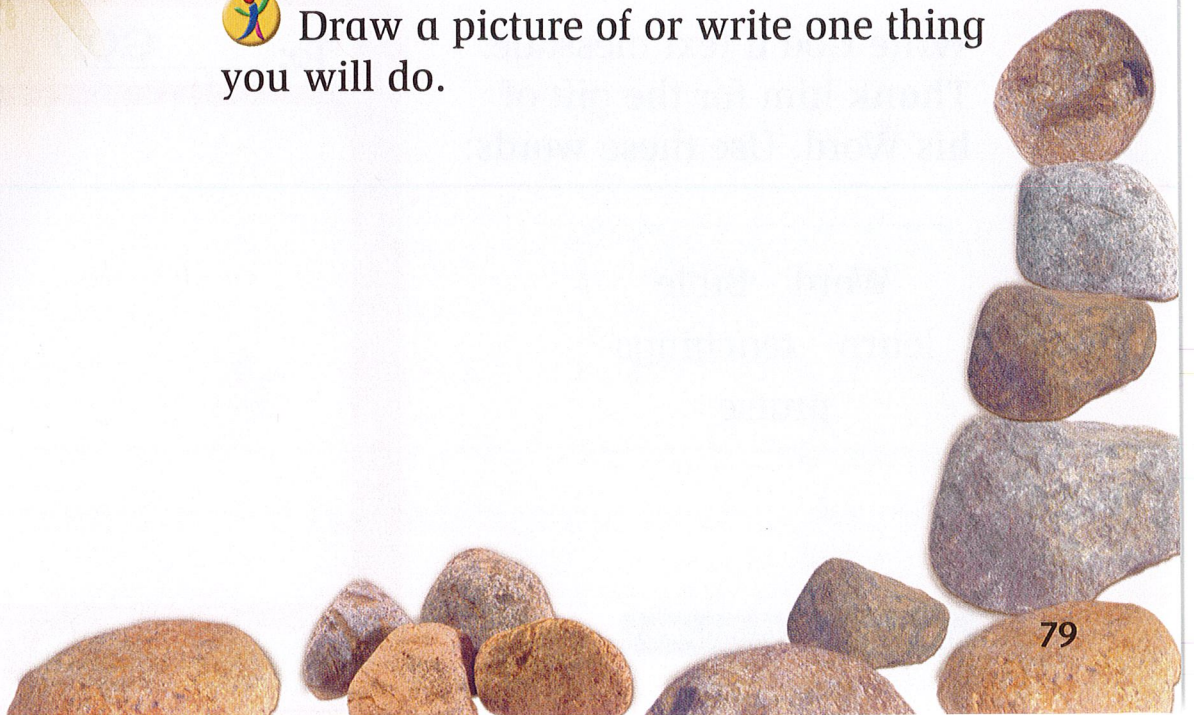
When we listen to God’s Word in the Bible, we hear with our ears. We remember in our minds and hearts. We show we have listened by loving God and helping others.

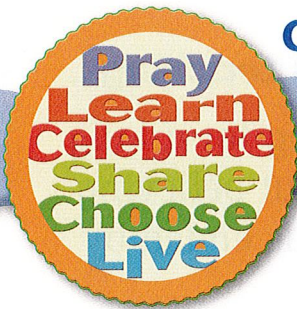
WE RESPOND

What can you do to show Jesus that you have listened to him?



Draw a picture of or write one thing you will do.

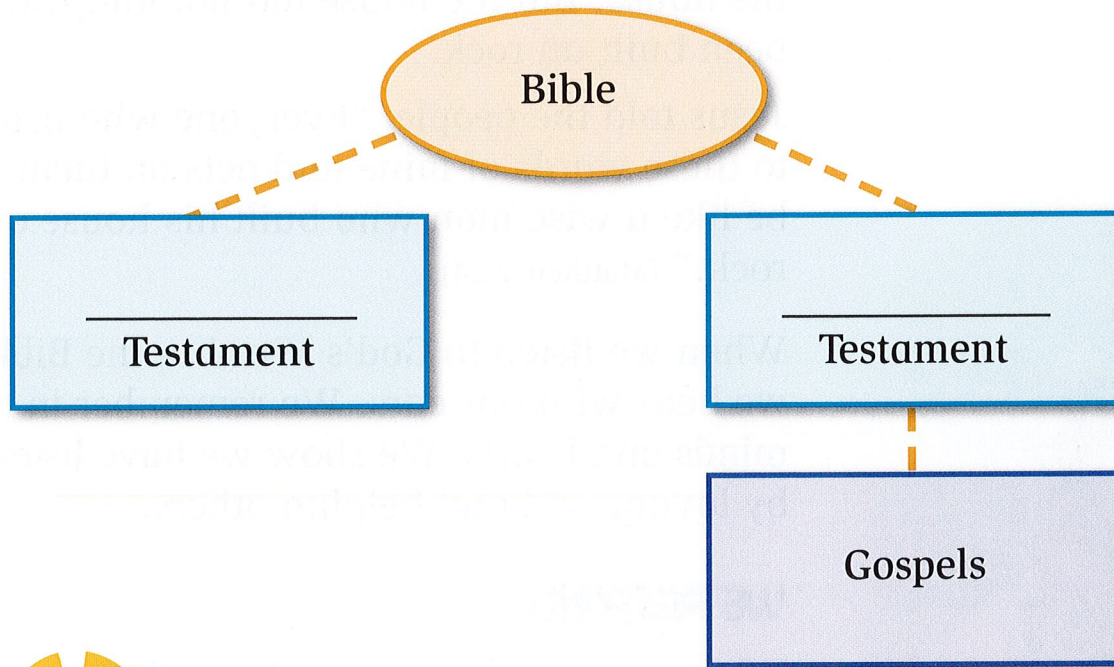




PROJECT

Show What *you* Know

Use what you know about God's Word to complete the web.

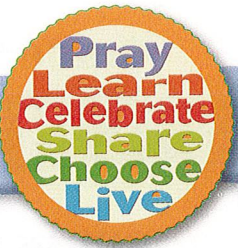


Write God a text message. Thank him for the gift of his Word. Use these words:

Word Bible
learn teachings
praise

To: GOD

DISCIPLE



Make *it* Happen

Recommend your favorite Bible story to a friend. Use the form below.

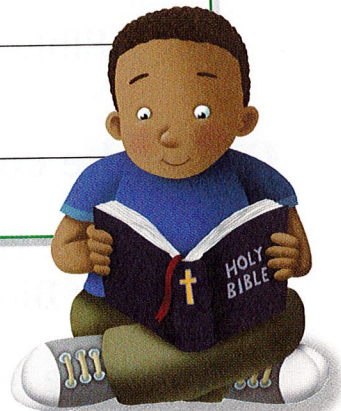
I recommend _____.

It can be found in the _____ Testament.

In this story, _____

_____.

It is my favorite story because _____



Fast Facts

More copies of the Bible have been sold than any other book ever written.

Now, pass it on!

Take Home

Ask a family member to get a copy of your local Catholic newspaper. Find out what is happening in the Catholic community.

CHAPTER TEST

Fill in the circle beside the correct answer.

1. The Bible is the book of _____ Word.
 God's David's

2. The _____ Testament is the first part of the Bible.
 Old New

3. The _____ Testament is the second part of the Bible.
 Old New

4. We can read about Jesus' life and teachings in the _____ Testament.
 Old New

5. The word _____ means "good news."
 Bible gospel

Circle the correct answer.

- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| 6. Did the Holy Spirit guide the writers of the Bible? | Yes | No |
| 7. Are the four Gospels about God's people before Jesus' time on earth? | Yes | No |
| 8. Did all the writers of the Bible write in the same way? | Yes | No |

9–10. Write two things we can learn when we read the Bible.