

# The New Testament

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# Bible Who's Who Timeline

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This activity helps the family learn about important people of the Bible and where they appear in the timeline of salvation history. You may want to do this activity many times, each time looking up and learning about one or two people of the Bible at a time.

**Materials needed:** pencils, 23 index cards, a 15-foot length of string, masking tape

Before the activity, print each of the following names or sets of names on a separate index card. You may also include the time period if you wish to give an additional clue to help your family complete the activity. Print 1900 BC on an index card and tape it to one end of a 15-foot-long piece of string. Print AD 100 on another card and tape it to the other end of the string. Create an AD 0 card and attach it a few feet to the left of the AD 100 card. Hang the string along a wall in your home, with the AD dates on the right side.

Name	Time period	Name	Time period
Abraham and Sarah	patriarchs & matriarchs	Elijah	kings & prophets
Jacob, Leah, and Rachel	patriarchs & matriarchs	Isaiah	kings & prophets
Joseph	slavery in Egypt	Ezekiel	Exile in Babylon
Moses and Miriam	Exodus	Daniel	Exile in Babylon
Samson	judges	Ezra and Nehemiah	Persian domination
Ruth	judges	Judas Maccabeus	Greek domination
Samuel	judges	Mary and Joseph	Roman domination
King Saul	kings & prophets	Jesus	Roman domination
King David	kings & prophets	Peter	Roman domination
Solomon	kings & prophets	Paul	Roman domination

1. You may wish to work as a group with, the whole family together, or you may wish to pass out the index cards, dividing them among members of the family. Using the Bible, find out as much as you can about the person whose name is on the first card. You may find help in the "Where Do I Find It?" section of this Bible, on pages 1816-1830.
2. When you have finished researching, share with the whole family what you have learned about the person.
3. Now, turn to the biblical history timeline that begins on page 1868. See if you can find where the person appears in biblical history. Then take the index card with the name of the person on it and attach it to the timeline string along the wall, in the approximate proper location.

## Another Version of this Activity

Create a similar timeline that is focused on biblical events. Write on each index card the name of a different important biblical event (such as "Abraham and Sarah leave their home," "God frees the Hebrew people from Egypt," "kings rule," or "the prophets speak"). You can even do this activity twice, once with people cards and once with event cards, combining the cards on the same timeline.

# When a Family Member Dies

The time of a family member's death is especially difficult. Often, our first instinct when receiving the news of a family member's death (as well as when a loved one or friend dies) is to cry out in agony and wonderment, much like King David (2 Sm 19:1) or like the Psalmist (Psalm 6) or as we might imagine Mary at the foot of the cross where her son hung (Mk 15:40–47) or like Jesus at the death of Lazarus (Jn 11:35).

The death of a family member is a tender time in life. Everyone in the family may experience different emotions and have different thoughts in their own time. So it is especially important to not force one another into feeling or thinking the same way at the same time.

Following is a list of articles in this Bible that can bring comfort and peace to family members as they work through their grief and remembrances of their loved one, and as they begin the journey toward hope and trust in the resurrection to new life in Christ.

- “Surviving Grief,” page 394 (2 Sm 19:1–9)
- “Praying for Death,” page 568 (Tobit, chapter 3)
- “Being There,” page 675 (Jb 2:11–13)
- “Suffering,” page 678 (Job, chapter 7)
- “Why?” page 703 (Jb 38:1–42:6)
- “Our Cross to Bear,” page 710 (Psalm 6)
- “The Balance of Life,” page 856 (Eccl 3:1–8)
- “Resurrection Hope,” page 1472 (Lk 24:1–12)
- “Alive Again!” page 1499 (Jn 11:1–44)
- “A God Who Cries,” page 1500 (Jn 11:35)
- “Dying for New Life,” page 1502 (Jn 12:24–26)
- “Trusting the Grace of God,” page 1587 (Rom 5:1–11)
- “Life After Death,” page 1632 (1 Cor 15:35–58)

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Praying together as a family during the special time of loss and grief can provide comfort and strength. Using the Lord's Prayer, Psalm 23, or the ancient forms found in the “Praying with the Bible” section (pages C9–C16) can be a start.

O God our Father,

Creator of all the living, we entrust to your gentle care [name],  
and all those we love who have gone before us,  
and have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

## Alphabetical List of Bible Books and Abbreviations

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Book	Abbreviation	Page	Book	Abbreviation	Page
Acts	Acts	1525	1 Kings	1 Kgs	403
Amos	Am	1223	2 Kings	2 Kgs	437
Baruch	Bar	1116	Lamentations	Lam	1106
Ben Sira	Sir	902	Leviticus	Lv	147
1 Chronicles	1 Chr	468	Luke	Lk	1412
2 Chronicles	2 Chr	499	1 Maccabees	1 Mc	612
Colossians	Col	1685	2 Maccabees	2 Mc	644
1 Corinthians	1 Cor	1605	Malachi	Mal	1284
2 Corinthians	2 Cor	1635	Mark	Mk	1374
Daniel	Dn	1180	Matthew	Mt	1300
Deuteronomy	Dt	231	Micah	Mi	1242
Ecclesiastes	Eccl	853	Nahum	Na	1251
Ephesians	Eph	1666	Nehemiah	Neh	546
Esther	Est	599	Numbers	Nm	186
Exodus	Ex	92	Obadiah	Ob	1234
Ezekiel	Ez	1126	1 Peter	1 Pt	1756
Ezra	Ezr	533	2 Peter	2 Pt	1765
Galatians	Gal	1655	Philemon	Phlm	1725
Genesis	Gn	20	Philippians	Phil	1677
Habakkuk	Hb	1256	Proverbs	Prv	813
Haggai	Hg	1266	Psalms	Ps(s)	706
Hebrews	Heb	1728	Revelation	Rev	1786
Hosea	Hos	1203	Romans	Rom	1578
Isaiah	Is	960	Ruth	Ru	332
James	Jas	1747	1 Samuel	1 Sm	339
Jeremiah	Jer	1040	2 Samuel	2 Sm	374
Job	Jb	672	Song of Songs	Song	865
Joel	Jl	1217	1 Thessalonians	1 Thes	1693
1 John	1 Jn	1771	2 Thessalonians	2 Thes	1700
2 John	2 Jn	1779	1 Timothy	1 Tm	1706
3 John	3 Jn	1781	2 Timothy	2 Tm	1716
John	Jn	1475	Titus	Ti	1722
Jonah	Jon	1238	Tobit	Tb	564
Joshua	Jos	278	Wisdom	Wis	875
Jude	Jude	1783	Zechariah	Zec	1270
Judges	Jgs	305	Zephaniah	Zep	1261
Judith	Jdt	581			

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

(2 Tm 3: 16–17)