

Old Testament Themes and Images in John's Prologue

1. Circle the passage that your group has been assigned:

Genesis 1:1—2:4a

Proverbs 8:22–36

Wisdom 7:22b—8:1

Exodus 25:8–22

Exodus 40:34–38

1 Kings 8:10–13 and 27–30

2. Read the passage carefully. Use biblical or theological dictionaries to look up words you don't understand.

3. Using your own words, write a two-sentence summary of this passage.

4. Where in the footnotes to John's prologue is this Old Testament passage referenced? In what ways is this passage related to the particular verse or section of the prologue that the footnote addresses?

5. In what ways is this passage connected with the overall theological emphases of the prologue?



6. How does reading the Old Testament passage in its original context help you to better understand the theological and Christological points John is making in the prologue?

7. Why do you think John alludes to the Old Testament so frequently in the prologue? What effect do you think this would have had on those early believers who first heard or read this Gospel?

8. Discuss together how reading an Old Testament passage side by side with John's prologue helps to shed light on the meaning of the prologue. Then create an image that expresses the connection between the two passages. Rather than creating two images (one for each passage), create a single image that captures the relationship and commonality between the two passages. Use the bottom of this paper to sketch out your ideas, and then copy your image onto the newsprint you have been given.

