

ST MATTHEW IN THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT – QUARTER 1

If using *The Story Bible* with kids as you read, the weekly headings match the chapter titles.

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|--------------------------|--------|---|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sep 27 | God Creates the World – Part 1 & 2 | Genesis 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Oct 4 | God Creates Adam and Eve | Genesis 2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Oct 11 | Sin Enters the World | Genesis 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Oct 18 | Cain and Abel | Genesis 4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Oct 25 | Noah and the Flood & God's Promise to Noah | Genesis 6-9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nov 1 | God Calls Abram | Genesis 12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nov 8 | Abraham and Isaac | Genesis 22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nov 15 | Jacob and Esau | Genesis 25, 27 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nov 22 | Joseph and His Brothers & Joseph's Troubles | Genesis 37, 39 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nov 29 | Joseph Feeds Egypt | Genesis 40-41 |

IN THE BEGINNING...

Now THAT'S an opening line!

The first part of our journey through the Old Testament begins with the creation of the universe. Through His word, God speaks creation into existence and with His hands, He forms the first man and woman.

Things start out very good but quickly turn south when Adam and Eve fall victim to the serpent's temptation and go against God's will. The rest of the pages that follow – through Old and New Testaments – are all about God's mission to send a Savior who would restore His creation and reclaim what was lost in that rebellion: the relationship between God and His human creatures.

In the aftermath of the rebellion in the Garden of Eden, Cain & Abel struggle with sin and the situation continues to get worse, quickly spinning out of control until God sends a flood and saves humanity through Noah.

But then the story slows down when it introduces us to Abram, who would later be renamed Abraham and become the ancestor of the nation of Israel. He's called by God to leave his home and trust that God would make him and his wife, Sarah, into a great nation – a nation from which the Savior will come. This promise from God is a thread that stretches through the rest of the Old Testament. A Savior is coming! When will he arrive?

Through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph, God's promise moves forward. Time and time again, we see humanity struggle with being faithful to God while God remains perfectly faithful to them. In these stories, we see an accurate picture of our own struggle with faithfulness and are given a great reminder: even when we aren't faithful, God remains faithful to us.

*If we are faithless, he remains faithful... **2 Timothy 2:13***