

WEEK 3 – Student Handout

Week 3 – Biblical Theology: The Bible’s One Story Centered on Christ

Aim: See the Bible as one unfolding story of God’s saving work—creation to new creation—with Christ as the center and climax.

1. What Is Biblical Theology?

Biblical theology traces the progressive unfolding of God's saving revelation in history according to the Bible's own categories.

Working definition: **Biblical theology = tracing the Bible's own storyline of God's saving work in history, centered on Christ.**

Question: How is this different from just collecting verses about a topic (for example, "love" or "prayer")?

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2. The Big Storyline

Creation, fall, promise, Israel, Christ, church, and new creation form the main shape of the biblical story.

Write or circle these on the line below:

Creation → Fall → Promise → Israel → Christ → Church → New

Creation

Take a moment and jot down where a few of your favorite stories fit:

- Story: _____ fits between: _____
- Story: _____ fits between: _____
- Story: _____ fits between: _____

3. Example: Abraham's Promise (Genesis 12:1–3)

Read **Genesis 12:1–3**.

Questions:

1. Where are we in the storyline? (e.g., after the fall and Babel; before Israel as a nation.)

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2. What is God promising Abraham? (Hint: land, offspring, blessing to the nations.)

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Now read **Galatians 3:7–9, 16**.

How does Paul say this promise points to Christ?

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4. Group Exercise (Class Time)

In your group, you will look at one passage and ask three questions:

1. Where is this in the big storyline?
2. What is God promising or doing here?
3. How does Jesus fulfill or complete this?

Passages (your teacher will assign one):

- Exodus 12:1–13 (Passover)
- 2 Samuel 7:12–16 (Davidic covenant)
- Jeremiah 31:31–34 (New covenant)

Use the space below for notes:

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Takeaway

- **The Bible is one story** of God's saving work.
 - **Jesus is the center and climax** of that story.
 - Gospel-centered hermeneutics means reading every passage in light
of its place in this story and its relation to Christ.
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For Next Week

- We'll practice a simple tool for going from **text** → **Christ** → **life**, and think about how this shapes preaching, teaching, and daily Bible reading.
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