



### **Bible For Grown Ups, Pt. 3: The Old Testament**

The Old Testament chronicles God's redemptive, sequential activity in history. It's a fabulous, gritty, epic history of the Hebrew people in which, over and over, Israel is reminded that they are a divine means to an end. So, maybe instead of seeing the Old Testament as a spiritual guidebook or a storyline that needs to be tidied up, we should see it as something even better: the history of God preparing the world for a Savior.

**Bottom Line:** The storyline of the Old Testament is the story of God preparing the world for a Savior.

### **Discussion Questions:**

*Leaders: Grab some pens and notecards for this group discussion!*

1. Discuss a story or idea from the Old Testament that someone tried to tidy up and soften the edges of to serve their practical purpose in teaching you. What's the difference in seeing the Old Testament as a spiritual guidebook versus a history of the Hebrew nation?
2. Write each of the following words on separate notecards and put them in order where everyone can see them: Abraham, Moses, Sinai Covenant, Kings, Temple, Prophets. As a group, discuss a few words and phrases that you associate with the subject of each card. Write your answers on the cards.
3. Occasionally, a prophet would speak beyond their historical context to a future day when God would do something through a nation for all nations. **Read Isaiah 53:5–11.** What is the most meaningful image to you in this passage?
4. On a notecard, write "Jesus," and put the notecard after Prophets, in line with the others you've already made so that everyone can see them in sequential order. As a group, write words or phrases you associate with Jesus on the notecard. Now take the other cards, put them in a pile and place them to the side with only the Jesus card showing.
5. **Read Galatians 4:4–5.** What does it mean that Jesus would redeem those under the law? What is different about the relationship we can have with God versus the relationship an ancient Jew could have with him?
6. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you?
7. How can the group encourage you this week?

\*If time doesn't allow for you to discuss all of these questions, use only the ones you feel would be most helpful for your group.