

HOW WE GOT THE BIBLE



Core Bible

Level 2, Quarter A
Teacher Guide Sample (Lesson 4)



AUTHORS WROTE GOD'S WORDS

Big Idea God led human authors to write down His inspired words.

Bible Passage Moses and Luke—Deuteronomy 33:1-4; Luke 1:1-4

Lesson Summary

God took the initiative to communicate with people! He selected human authors to record His inspired words. Approximately forty different men were involved in writing the Bible over the course of about 1500 years. In this lesson, children will learn that these human authors wrote down, without error, God's inspired words in the Hebrew and Greek languages. In so doing, their personalities and backgrounds flavored the writing of the Scriptures. However, each word was God-breathed—directed to us from the heart of God. This lesson will emphasize that young disciples should pay close attention to God's direction in His Word.

Bible Background

In Deuteronomy 33, at the end of Moses' life, Moses records that God gave all of Israel His Word. It acknowledges that the book of the Law, the first five books of the Bible, were written by Moses, but inspired by God.

By the time that Luke wrote the first four verses of his Gospel, there were so many stories circulating about Jesus that he felt God's desire to record them. Mark had already

written his New Testament account; Luke wanted to record additional stories. He was probably in Judea at the time, so he was able to verify the facts of his accounts with other eyewitnesses. God had placed a desire in Luke's heart to write an "orderly narrative" of the truth so that those who lived after Luke's time would still hear about Jesus, the Son of God.

Teacher Devotional

Have you ever felt like God wanted you to give to a missionary or help a homeless person? Perhaps you have put together a Christmas box for children or delivered food to the elderly. God used you to serve His people, just as He used Moses and Luke to pen His Words. Know that God can use whatever you do to bring others to Him.

Dear God, Your Word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light to illumine my path (Psalm 119:105). Thank You for showing me how to walk and live. I long to show that same light to the children in my classroom. Please give me just the right words to communicate to the students, and draw them closer to You. I ask this in Jesus' name, amen.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • God helped human authors write down His inspired words. (2 Peter 1:20-21)
- N** • Inspired means "God-breathed"—God breathes life and power into the words of the Bible. (2 Timothy 3:16)
- O** • Bible "addresses" include book + chapter + verse.

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Thankful that God gave them His Word.
- E** • Fascinated that the words in their Bibles are God's words.
- E** • Grateful for authors like Luke and Moses who wrote down God's words.
- L**

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Explore how God inspired people to write down His Word.
- O** • Pay attention to God's Word carefully, like Luke did.
- Disciple Skill: Bible Books—Practice using their "Contents" pages in their Bibles.

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Opening Prayer

Ask your children to fold their hands and bow their heads to show God respect. Thank God for each child in the class, by name if possible. Pray that children will understand and trust that the Bible is truly from God—that it was inspired by God and not made up by men like other books. Ask for open hearts to hear God’s living Word.

WorldWatch

Missionary Biography 4 of 12—Cameron Townsend—Nothing Is Impossible with God *Missionary stories can have a profound impact on a child. Take 1-2 minutes to read this brief narrative. Download discussion questions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.*

In December 1917, Cameron traveled to Guatemala City to celebrate Christmas with other missionaries. Early on Christmas Eve morning, the city shook. A giant earthquake had struck! Most of the buildings collapsed. In Guatemala City, nearly everyone was living outside their houses because they feared the aftershocks. The need for help was very great. Many people died or were injured. Cameron stayed until others could come to help with the relief efforts. Then Cameron returned to travel the mountain trails for eleven more months. He sold Spanish Scriptures and told people about Jesus wherever he could. By the end of this trip, Cameron’s guide and friend, Francisco Diaz, challenged him to stay in Guatemala. He could start a school for the Cakchiquel Indians. He knew they could learn to read and write. But first someone had to create a written language for them. At first, Cameron thought it was impossible. But then, he refused to believe that anything was “impossible” if God was in it. Little did Cameron then realize how successful he would be.

Missions Education—The Universal Message

To add this component to the lesson, download the teacher script at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

DISCIPLESHIP TIP

The art of dramatic storytelling requires preparation and effort on the teacher’s part but is very powerful. Children will remember important details and relate the lesson to their own lives better when the Bible passage is “brought to life” by your storytelling!

KeyVerse

Topic: Authors Wrote God’s Words

Reference: 2 Peter 1:21

Memorization Activity: Before class, insert a small piece of paper with one word or phrase from the memory verse into balloons. Inflate, tie off, and set aside. Have children get their imaginary treasure hunter accessories (i.e., a rope like Dee’s, a magnifying lens like Cy’s, and a scroll like Paul’s) to signify that they will now learn words from God’s treasure map, the Bible. Practice the memory verse together as a class and clarify its meaning. Then play a game popping the balloons and putting the pieces of paper in order. Play this as a team relay or whole-class activity. To have enough balloons for each child, use either single words or phrases from the memory verse.

The Bible Came from God

Download the entire recitation at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. Build from the previous lessons and teach children the following:

Authors wrote (write on palm of hand)

God’s inspired words. (lower hands from heaven with palms open)

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

SUPPLIES

General Supplies

- Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 13-16)
- Pencils, markers, crayons
- Paper, notecards, scissors, tape, glue

Make Disciples

- Balloons

Spark Interest

- BEAUTIFUL MUSIC: any wind instrument (i.e., flute, clarinet, harmonica, etc.)
- POWER BALLOONS: balloons

Explore Scripture

- Bible-times costume (robe and belt)
- Doctor’s bag, stethoscope, quill pen, scroll, thick book, camera
- Teaching Picture 2A.7—Moses writing Scripture
- Teaching Picture 2A.8—Luke writing Scripture

Inspire Action

- PAYING ATTENTION: various items, tray
- PASS IT ON: none

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one activity that will involve students and grab their attention.

Beautiful Music (10 minutes)

This object lesson introduces the term “inspired.” **Supplies:** wind instrument (flute, clarinet, etc.)

Tell children that people wrote God’s Word through inspiration. The word “inspire” means “God-breathed.” To celebrate, tell students that you will have music. Set a wind instrument on a chair, and command it to play a celebration tune. When it does nothing, demand that if it can’t play a celebration song, it should play another song. Wait. When nothing happens, beg the instrument to at least play something, anything. Look upset and ask, **Why isn’t this instrument playing a song for us?**

Have children explain that someone has to blow into it. Draw from this example the idea that the instrument is useless without breath. It has no beauty, no strength, and no power without the breath of a player. Play the instrument briefly or ask a volunteer to play it for you. **Imagine how beautiful that instrument could sound if God’s breath was blowing into it! The Bible is a living instrument that is God-breathed. Without inspiration, the Bible would not be God’s Word—it would be just like any other book.**

OR

Power Balloons (10 minutes)

This hands-on activity shows what “God-breathed” means. **Supplies:** small balloons for yourself and each student

Hold up a balloon that is not blown up. Ask children if they want to hit the balloon back to you. Toss one limp and useless balloon after another at the students. When they fall to the floor, ask the children to toss them back at you. Try to hit as many limp balloons back as you can.

Explain that a balloon is limp and useless until someone breathes into it. Have everyone pick up a balloon and try to blow it up. When you have blown up your balloon, help students. Do not tie anyone’s balloon but yours. Tell students that their breath has brought power to the balloons.

Have them release the ends of their balloons to fly across the classroom. Gather up the spent balloons.

Hold up your balloon that is tied on the end. **Breath also forms the balloon into a shape. This shape allows everyone to enjoy it.** Toss the balloon to each child in your class.

Disciple Guide—page 13

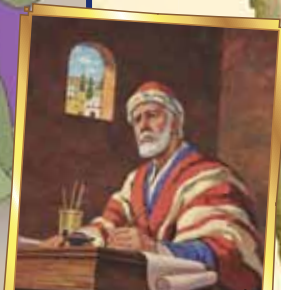
Challenge your children to find eleven things wrong with the picture of Dr. Luke. Complete this page at the beginning of class or after a *Spark Interest* activity.

13

AUTHORS WROTE GOD’S WORDS



Dr. Luke is writing God’s Word. Find eleven things wrong with this picture. **Circle** them.



Explore Scripture

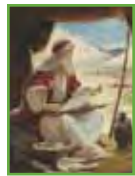
Teacher—Teach the Bible lesson. Include Teaching Pictures and exercises from the student Disciple Guides.

Deuteronomy 33:1-4; Luke 1:1-4

Before class, you or an adult volunteer should dress in a Bible-times costume (robe and belt) to be Dr. Luke. You will need a doctor's bag, stethoscope, quill pen, scroll, a thick book, and a camera.

We know that the Bible is a wonderful treasure map that God gave it to us, and that it is full of His wonderful plans. But have you ever wondered how God showed the people who wrote the different books in the Bible what to write? Introduce Dr. Luke.

Good morning, boys and girls. My name is Dr. Luke. Pick up the doctor's bag. I lived in Bible times when Jesus was on earth. I've come here today to tell you what it was like to help write the Word of God. Yes, I am one of the men God used to help write His Holy Word, just like Moses. Put doctor's bag down and open it.



Show the Teaching Picture 2A.7 of Moses writing God's Word. God inspired Moses. Moses wrote five books that are now the books at the front of your Bible. Can you name them?

Encourage responses. Now can you tell me which two books I wrote? Have students open their Bibles to the "Contents" page and find them. Encourage children to guess Luke and Acts.

Take the stethoscope from your bag. First, you should know that I am a medical doctor. How many of you have been to the doctor? Encourage children to respond. Well, that's my job. Doctors pay very close attention to things. I have to make sure that I listen closely to my patients so that I can figure out what's wrong with them. Use the stethoscope to listen to your own heartbeat. My carefulness helped me write God's Word. When God breathed His words to me, I paid close attention! I wrote exactly what God wanted me to write, and I was very careful not to write one single word that was not true. Put the stethoscope down.

Pull the camera out of your doctor's bag. Now, we didn't have cameras back when I was alive, but if we had, the disciples would have taken many pictures of Jesus. Do you know why?

Allow time for kids to answer. They spent their days and nights with Him and witnessed His miracles, stories, death, and resurrection. I listened to the disciples and wrote down their stories exactly as they took place. Put the camera down.

Pull the thick book out of the doctor's bag. When a doctor needs to learn more about an illness, he reads what other doctors have written. Pretend to read the thick book. If I needed to make sure about something from Jesus' life, I carefully read what other eyewitnesses had written. I also talked with people who had seen the events. I was "triple sure" that what I wrote was true because I had talked with people who had seen it with their own eyes, I had read the same true things written by other eyewitnesses, and God breathed the words to me. This helped me understand exactly what I should write. Show the Teaching Picture 2A.8 of Luke. Put the book down.



Take the quill pen and scroll from the doctor's bag and pretend to write on the scroll. When you read the Bible books that I wrote, you can be sure that what you are reading is true.

14

Authors Wrote God's Words—Deuteronomy 33:1-4, Luke 1:1-4

Moses wrote the books of the Law. Luke wrote about the life of Jesus. Both men wrote God's inspired words. What kind of men were Moses and Luke? Check the boxes.



- Careful
- Hardworking
- Educated
- Selfish
- Obedient to God

God's Word is "inspired." God breathes His own life and power into the Bible. Which pictures remind you of how God breathes life into His Word? Circle them.



God inspired not only the books that Moses and I wrote, but all sixty-six books in the Bible. In fact, I know God told my friend Paul to write down some important words too. These words are... (read 2 Timothy 3:16-17). Show delight when children recognize the memory verse from the first two lessons.

Writing part of God's Word was a special honor for me. I'm so glad God led me to write down His inspired Words. I hope you realize how special God's Word is, too. When you read it, will you pay extra special attention and listen carefully to what God says? When you tell other people what God's Word says, please be very careful to explain it truthfully! All of God's Word is true. You can be sure of that. Put the quill pen and scroll down.

Disciple Guide—page 14

As children complete this page, expand upon the meaning of the word "inspired."

Disciple Guide—page 15

Explain which man is Moses and which is Dr. Luke. Also review the names of each Bible book before they begin. Complete the HeartBeat.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one activity that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

Paying Attention (10-15 minutes)

This game teaches students to pay attention like Dr. Luke.

Supplies: various small objects, tray

Before class, put a variety of objects, like a wind instrument, balloon, stethoscope, quill pen, scroll, book, Bible, and camera on a tray. Allow children to look at the objects carefully for about one minute. Tell them that they are going to practice paying close attention and being careful—like Dr. Luke did when he wrote God's Word. After one minute, have children close their eyes while you remove and hide one of the objects. Choose one child to identify which object was missing. Put that object back in place. Repeat by choosing another object and another student. If this is too easy, add more objects to the tray. If it is too hard, remove a few objects. Repeat until everyone has had a turn. Discuss how they should apply the same attention to studying God's Word, just as Luke did when he wrote his Gospel.

OR

Pass It On (10 minutes)

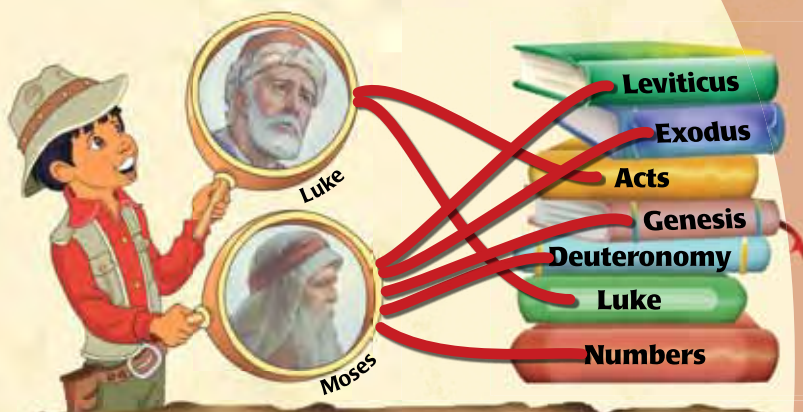
This game reinforces the truth that the Bible's accuracy had to come from God.

Have children sit in a circle. Whisper a Bible verse into the first child's ear. Have that child whisper what she heard into the next student's ear, and so on until the message has made it around the circle. Have the last person tell what he or she heard. Read the original verse. Talk about how careful listening and speaking is important. Explain that the truthfulness of the Bible did not only depend on a lot of careful people. God breathed the words of Scripture; that means we can be absolutely certain that the Bible is 100% true. Repeat with other verses and other children.

15

Moses and Luke

Draw lines to show which man wrote each book of the Bible.



God led human authors to write down His inspired words. Being careful, like Dr. Luke, is difficult and important.

What will you work hard at this week? Color one thing.

Doing schoolwork

Obeving your Mom and Dad

Keeping your room clean

Using polite words



Closing Prayer

Pass out notecards. Ask children to write or draw a praise, confession, and request. Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. Say, “Thank you, God,” and anyone who wants to pray aloud may give God thanks or praise. Say, “I’m sorry,” and kids may confess. Say, “Please,” and give them time to make requests.

Close by praying that all your children would strive to listen carefully to God like Luke did. Kids may place their note cards in the envelopes at the bottom of the Prayer Poster—pray for them all week.

Closing Words

Back in Bible times, people did not have copy machines or computers. Next time, we will learn how people made copies of the Bible.



Teacher—Children should complete this page on their own or at home with a parent.

Disciple Skill How to Use My Bible

During this quarter, your students will learn skills important for using their Bibles. Each lesson is designed to build upon previous ones, so make sure your kids are “caught up” and review if necessary.

Bible Books—To help students complete this exercise at home, you can discuss the good reasons for becoming familiar with their Bibles.

DiscipleZone.com

Direct children to DiscipleZone.com/2A4 for:

XploreMore Discover more about how human authors wrote God’s Words.

SwordWork Read Psalm 5.

WorldWatch Cameron Townsend helps after an earthquake!

Dee-Cy-Paul Live! The kids learn a new song.

KeyVerse Memorize 2 Peter 1:21.

HymnNotes Explore deeper into the lyrics of “We Plow the Fields.”

Disciple Guide—page 16

Encourage kids to complete DiscipleZone before the next lesson. Explain that activities are available at a special website—

DiscipleZone.com—where kids go to grow! Children should visit the website with their parents to complete the online activities.

DiscipleZone.com Class Code: **16**

Bible Books

Bible Address = Book + Chapter + Verse

The name of a book is the first part of a Bible “Address.” Look at the “Contents” page in your Bible. Find where these books begin.

LUKE 19:10
 For the Son of Man
 and everyone who
 wishes to
 save his life
 will lose it.

Look at all of these wonderful book names!

Exodus begins on page _____ in my Bible.
 (Hint: Old Testament)

Luke begins on page _____ in my Bible.
 (New Testament)

Proverbs begins on page _____ in my Bible.
 (Old Testament)

Ezra begins on page _____ in my Bible.
 (Old Testament)

Romans begins on page _____ in my Bible.
 (New Testament)

Revelation begins on page _____ in my Bible.
 (New Testament)

Answers will vary.

Authors Wrote God's Words
 Verse
 2 Peter 1:21

HymnNotes
 What does the word “impart” mean?
give
 Find the answer at DiscipleZone.com/2A4