

Please do not send this newsletter back to Crossroads.

Dear Student,

Welcome to the second edition of Crossroads' newest student resource, *Just for Students!* We were so encouraged by the positive response to the first JFS newsletter we sent out this spring. As you read each edition of *Just for Students*, we hope and pray that you will feel like you are part of a community of people who are journeying together to know and serve God.

Our Newest Course: *What Is the Bible?*

After releasing *Who Is Jesus?* in May, we put the final touches on our newest course, *What Is the Bible?*, in June. It will be part of the new Tier 1 study path for new Crossroads students. If you signed up for Crossroads after May 10, 2021, your course order for Tier 1 will be:

- *Who Are You?*
- *Who Is Jesus?*
- *What Is the Bible?*
- *Great Truths of the Bible*

Both new courses were inspired by animated videos from a ministry called BibleProject. If your chaplain has any BibleProject videos in their library, we highly recommend asking if you can watch them. They provide excellent summaries of Bible stories in a fun and easy-to-understand format.

Students who take *What Is the Bible?* will learn how the Bible was put together, who wrote the various books of the Bible, how to get the most out of time spent reading and studying the Bible and how the Bible tells one complete story of God's love and plan for us, His children.

What We're Reading at Crossroads

Dave, a staff member at Crossroads, is reading a book called *Help My Unbelief: Why Doubt Is Not the Enemy of Faith* by Barnabas Piper. In the book, Piper says that we tend to miss things when we read the Bible because we look for lessons or themes rather than looking for Jesus. He goes on to say, "All those stories and all those characters are parts of the whole, characters in the drama, but none of them are the point. They all point to the point: Jesus Christ came, lived a perfect life, died an innocent death to save sinners and kill death and sin, and will one day return to right all the wrongs."

Piper makes the following recommendations for reading and studying the Bible:

- Read the whole story of Scripture.
- Look for Jesus.
- When you see Jesus, get to know Him.
- Don't shy away from the hard stuff.
- Don't read the Bible as a set of rules but rather as a book.
- Pray for the Spirit's help.

We encourage you to use these suggestions as you study. We also recommend reading the book if you are able to access it. Dave has enjoyed it and thinks you will too!

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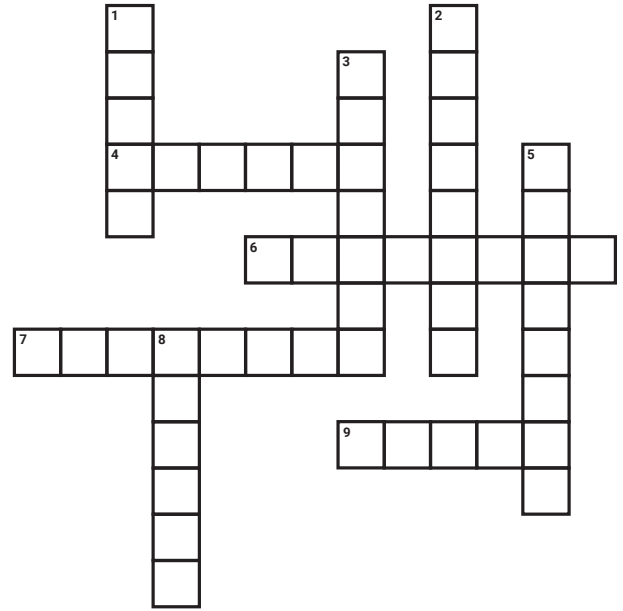
Crossword Puzzle: The Bible

Use the clues below to fill in the words.

- Words can go across or down.
- Letters are shared where two words cross each other.

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1. Acts, sometimes called the Acts of the Apostles, continues the story of Jesus' followers after His death and resurrection. In Acts 2:14, this apostle spoke to the crowd.
2. In Acts 20, this young man fell asleep on a windowsill while Paul was teaching and fell down three stories. He died but was raised from the dead.
3. The New Testament books Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are called the _____.
5. _____ 29:11 says, "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'"
8. The _____, many of which were songs written by King David, make up one of the poetic books of the Old Testament.



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4. The Torah, also called the Law, contains the first five books of the Bible. The second book of the Torah is _____.
6. Psalm 23 begins with the words, "The Lord is my _____."
7. The Old Testament books known as the _____ are messages from God to His people to encourage, warn and instruct them in their struggles and times of rebellion against God.
9. Revelation 1:8 says, "'I am the Alpha and the _____,' says the Lord God." This means He is the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

From the Operations Department

At Crossroads, we have the privilege of sending and receiving thousands of lessons each month. We think you would be blessed to see the care and prayer that goes into each lesson. Staff members and dozens of volunteers work together to serve the Lord and make sure students get lessons and letters as quickly as possible. We also pray for each one of you as you grow in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are always working to improve your experience as a Crossroads student! Here are some reminders about the program:

- Please don't send us your *Just for Students* crossword puzzles when you complete them. They are not part of your Crossroads coursework—they are just for fun!
- Tier 1 students are not able to correspond with previous mentors. They have a new mentor for each lesson.
- In Tiers 2 and 3, students have the opportunity to study with one mentor who will journey with them throughout that set of courses. One-on-one mentoring provides students with a personal, consistent and enhanced mentoring experience.

