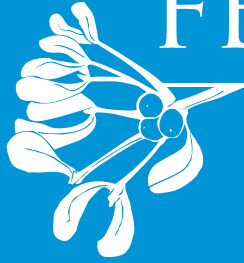


Teaching the Revised Common Lectionary

FEASTING on the WORD

CURRICULUM



Tweens

Grades 5–6



Welcome to *Feasting on the Word Curriculum!*

You have accepted the call to teach God's people. Teaching is an important calling and ministry. *Feasting on the Word* resources will help you fulfill your calling. You can expect these resources to help you:

- ✠ Introduce biblical stories in new and creative ways.
- ✠ Gather your community with age-appropriate learning activities.
- ✠ Challenge your learners to put their faith into action and grow in their self-understanding as Christians.
- ✠ Prepare your learners for the worship and service of God.

About Children in Grades (K)1–2

These young learners are moving out from their families to explore the worlds of school and church, and *Feasting on the Word* materials help teachers shape learning experiences that proclaim: You are welcome here! You belong to God and to this church family! Children will explore God's Word in ways that engage their senses, their emerging skills in reading and writing, and their need to learn by doing.

About Children in Grades 3–4

Third- and fourth-graders are growing in their desire to join teams and organizations, and *Feasting on the Word* materials help teachers shape learning experiences that address the many ways God's Word shapes the identity of members of the body of Christ. Older children will use their Bibles to dig into the stories of our faith. This resource will encourage their love of questions and capitalize on their desire to feel competent in their academic skills.

About Tweens

Tweens are on a journey from childhood into puberty, growing in reliance on social networks. *Feasting on the Word* materials help teachers shape learning experiences that encourage investigation of the many ways Christian faith can shape life choices. This resource will engage their expanding ability to understand abstract imagery and their love of learning by interacting with peers. Tweens will explore the biblical texts to investigate what the church teaches, wrestle with implications of Jesus' teachings, and give voice to what they believe.

About Multi-aged Children

Teachers and learners from ages five to twelve will come together to explore and connect with our faith stories. This resource is designed to encourage cooperative learning across a wide age range. Children will experience Scripture through storytelling, drama, and a variety of activities that appeal to various learning styles. Multi-Age is the perfect resource for churches that require plans for groups of learners of different ages, capabilities, and curiosities.

Session Flow

Each session of *Feasting on the Word Curriculum* provides you with a plan for teaching the focus scripture in age-appropriate ways. Each session assumes a 45-minute period. For a 60-minute session, use more options from Responding.

Preparing for the Session offers excerpts from the *Feasting on the Word* commentary series, giving a brief but rich background for your own learning.

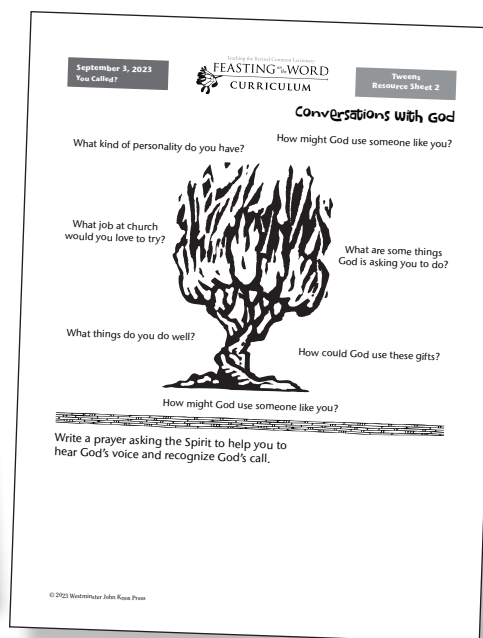
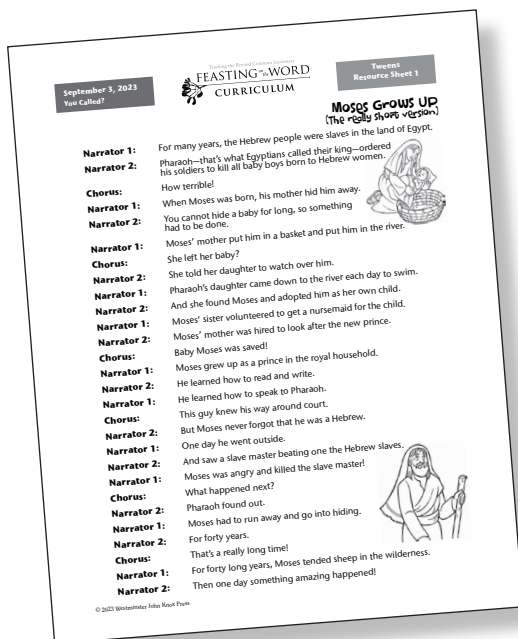
Focus on Your Teaching makes connections between the focus scripture and the age group.

Leading the session begins with gathering, a brief worship time and an activity to make the bridge from participants' lives to the theme of the focus passage.

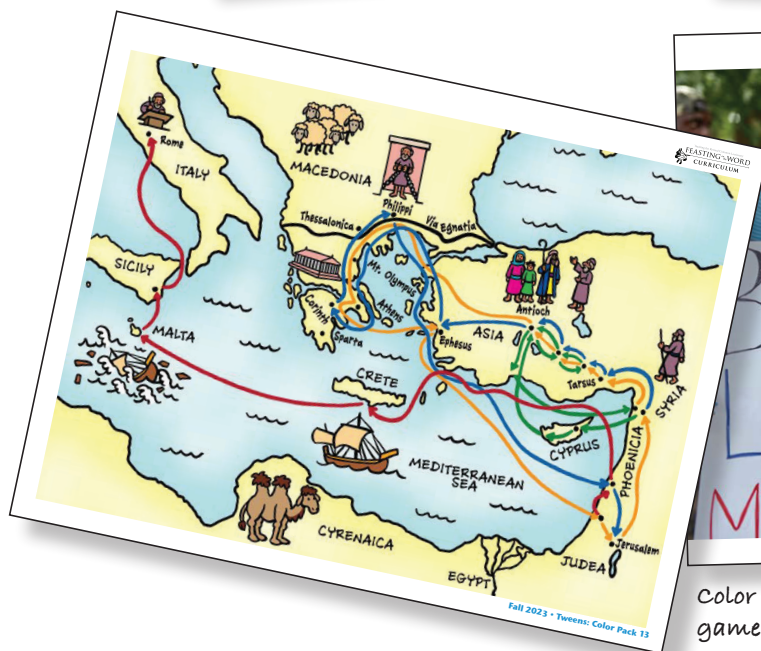
- Exploring addresses two questions: "What is important to know about this passage?" and "Where is God in these words?"

Responding poses the questions "So what does this mean for our lives?" and "Now what are we, individually and as the church, called to be or do?"

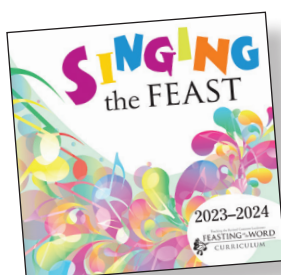
Closing suggests a prayer and an opportunity for the participants to recall what they discovered and what they are called to do.



Two reproducible
resource sheets



Color Pack contains illustrations, photographs,
game boards, patterns, maps, etc.



Singing the Feast, a
collection of child-friendly
and faith-inspiring songs

Preparing to Teach

- ✿ Read the focus scripture and the *Feasting on the Word* commentary excerpts.
- ✿ Read Focus on Your Teaching and pray for your group and your leadership.
- ✿ Look over the session plan. Select the activities you will use and gather necessary supplies.

Ways of Learning and Teaching

In any group, whether children, youth, or adults, many learning styles will be present. You too have preferred ways of learning something new. The session plans include a variety of learning methods so varieties of learner styles are included during each season. We tend to teach with the methods that are most familiar to or comfortable for us. From time to time, include activities that challenge you so you are including learners who prefer to learn in that way. If you find that you tend to lead the group in verbal activities, for example, try introducing musical, bodily, and other activities suggested by the session plan.

TEAM OF WRITERS AND EDITORS

General Editors: Rebecca Grothe, Carol Wehrheim

Writers

Grades (K)1–2

Jennifer Ohman-Rodriguez, Sally Zeiner

Grades 3–4

Linda LeBron, Deborah Payden

Tweens

Sharon Harding, Michael Poteethe

Multi-Age

Sharon Harding (summer)

Youth

Mark Ray, Tom Riggs, Tricia Tedrow, Jacqui Thone

Conversations on the Feast

Rob Fohr, David Gambrell, Mark Hinds, Lee Hinson-Hasty, Rose Niles, Karen Russell,
Teresa Stricklen

Adult

Scott Kuechenmeister Hall, John Indermark, Elisabeth Johnson, LindaJo McKim

Music

Marissa Galván Valle

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