

**NEW JOURNEYS FAQs**

**Journeys** has a new design, but it continues to provide the high quality you have come to know and experience as you study and learn God's Word. The questions we ask and answer for you below will help you become familiar with our revised layout as you work with the new **Journeys**.

**Q: Are the Scriptures from the same Bible version?**

**A:** Yes. The Scriptures are still from the New Revised Standard Version.

**Q: What is the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL)?**

**A:** The RCL is a widely used collection of Scriptures that correspond with events in the Christian calendar, such as Advent, Easter, and Pentecost. The RCL is designed to cover all the major texts in the Bible over the course of its three-year cycle.

**Q: Why is *Journeys* switching to the RCL, instead of continuing to use the previous lectionary?**

**A:** The RCL allows for a much wider variety of themes, so readers can cover many more topics in a quarter, as opposed to only studying one theme for the whole quarter and four themes for the entire year. Also, the RCL is used by many denominations around the world, so it puts us in communion with a larger, international portion of the Christian Church.

**Q: Does each lesson have a theme and title?**

**A:** Yes. The theme and corresponding title are displayed at the beginning of each lesson. There is also a key verse, teaching objectives, and a short introduction that describes each lesson and its life application.

**Q: Why is there one book for teachers and students?**

**A:** Now both teachers and students can gain access to the key theological points and Biblical scholarship that was previously only available in the teacher's book. So, the new **Journeys** can be used for group or individual study.

**Q: Are teaching tips included?**

**A:** Convenient and lesson-enhancing Teacher Tips and Resources for both teachers and students are listed in each lesson. Teachers can choose from the options to tailor the lessons to their class.

**Q: Can *Journeys* be used by different Bible study groups?**

**A:** Sunday Schools can use *Journeys* for different adult classes, creating lesson continuity across Bible study groups. Each teacher can choose from the Resources to tailor their lessons. Teachers of all age groups can use *Journeys* for their personal study and as background information for teaching the Scripture lesson.

**Q: Is there more versatility in how *Journeys* can be used now?**

**A:** Yes. *Journeys* can be used for personal devotion, small-group Bible study, and men's and women's study groups. Most churches will continue using it for Sunday School classes; however, there is no limit. It is a book of excellent Bible studies that works in any setting, at any time.

**Q: What is the layout of each lesson?**

**A:** Each lesson has three main sections:

*Into the Scripture* focuses on Biblical scholarship that explains the lesson's socio-historical context and theological background and significance.

*Into the Lesson* breaks down the Scripture, providing key learnings about being committed Christians and applying the Word to all aspects of our lives.

*Into Discipleship* focuses on practical ways to apply the lesson objectives in our lives, so we can practice our discipleship daily.

**Q: What is the Scripture sequence in each quarter?**

**A:** The lessons follow the sequential order of the RCL. Each month includes at least one gospel lesson, an epistle lesson, and an Old Testament lesson. Lessons can be taught sequentially, or out of sequence if teachers prefer to choose lessons according to themes.

**Q: Will *Journeys* still focus on American Baptist identity and values?**

**A:** Absolutely! Aspects of ABC history and life will still be highlighted in lessons, sidebars, and teaching resources. *Journeys* will also feature a wider array of writers who are ABC pastors and ministers. So, it will better reflect the beautiful diversity of voices within our denomination.

*Journeys* continues to provide engaging lessons, Biblical scholarship, and exciting ways to dig deeper, discover more about God's Word, and learn to use Scripture to address the pain and joys of life.

Thank you for being a part of the *Journeys* Bible lesson series!