Scripture Quotation Games

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Six quotation games for Old and New Testament courses, adult Bible study, and lay preaching.

Objective

Identify where a familiar line comes from and read it in context. Ask what the passage opens up about God and how it might complicate a familiar interpretation.

Answer criterion

Score the source choice. For reflection, ask learners to ground one observation in a detail from the reading.

Live and online use

Live classes can guess, reveal, and discuss in one sitting. Online, post two or three questions across the week, share the reveals as feedback, and invite a short reflection on one reading.

Finding a round

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Scripture quotations use the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV). Short quotations from other traditions identify the translator in the reveal. Keep those credits with the passages.

Bard, Bible, or Bumper Sticker? · New Testament

A. Bard · B. Bible · C. Bumper Sticker

01 “The devil can cite Scripture for his purpose.”

Reveal A. Bard. Antonio in The Merchant of Venice, Act 1, Scene 3.

Discuss Read Matthew 4:5–7 with Psalm 91:9–12. What is the psalm inviting its hearers to trust? What is the tempter trying to get Jesus to do with that promise?

02 “God helps those who help themselves.”

Reveal C. Bumper Sticker. A proverb that often sounds biblical.

Discuss Read Romans 5:6–8. What does Paul say God does while people are still weak? What would you say to someone who heard the proverb as a condition for receiving help?

03 “All things are lawful for me.”

Reveal B. Bible. 1 Corinthians 6:12. The line may be a Corinthian slogan Paul repeats.

Discuss Read 1 Corinthians 6:12–14. What limits does Paul put on the statement? What changes if you hear it as a saying Paul is responding to?

04 “To thine own self be true.”

Reveal A. Bard. Polonius in Hamlet, Act 1, Scene 3.

Discuss Read James 1:22–25. What does Polonius want Laertes to remember? What does the person in James’s mirror forget, and what action does James call for?

05 “Let go and let God.”

Reveal C. Bumper Sticker. A popular religious saying.

Discuss Read Philippians 2:12–13. What does Paul ask people to do, and what does he say God is doing?

Bard, Bible, or Bumper Sticker? · New Testament

A. Bard · B. Bible · C. Bumper Sticker

06 “A little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough.”

Reveal B. Bible. Galatians 5:9. Paul uses the same image in 1 Corinthians 5:6.

Discuss What is spreading in each letter?

07 “The quality of mercy is not strained.”

Reveal A. Bard. Portia in The Merchant of Venice, Act 4, Scene 1.

Discuss Read Portia’s appeal for mercy and Matthew 18:23–35. Who has power to show mercy in each scene? What happens when mercy depends on who is asking for it?

08 “Money is the root of all evil.”

Reveal C. Bumper Sticker. A familiar shortening of 1 Timothy 6:10.

Discuss Read 1 Timothy 6:6–10. Notice “the love of money,” “a root,” and “all kinds of evil.” What does the surrounding passage say about the desire to be rich?

09 “Bad company ruins good morals.”

Reveal B. Bible. 1 Corinthians 15:33. Paul quotes this saying in a discussion about resurrection.

Discuss Read 1 Corinthians 15:29–34. How does the advice sound when you hear it amid an argument about resurrection? What does the stand-alone saying leave out?

10 “So shines a good deed in a naughty world.”

Reveal A. Bard. Portia in The Merchant of Venice, Act 5, Scene 1. She compares a good deed to a candle whose light can be seen from far away.

Discuss Read Matthew 5:14–16. What are people meant to see, and whom are they meant to thank? Compare Isaiah 58:6–10. What actions make the light break forth there?

Bard, Bible, or Bumper Sticker? · New Testament

A. Bard · B. Bible · C. Bumper Sticker

11 “Some rise by sin and some by virtue fall.”

Reveal A. Bard. Escalus in Measure for Measure, Act 2, Scene 1.

Discuss Read 1 Peter 3:13–17. How does each passage reckon with the possibility that doing good could cost you?

12 “The letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.”

Reveal B. Bible. 2 Corinthians 3:6. Paul uses letter imagery for the Corinthians themselves.

Discuss Read 2 Corinthians 3:1–6 and Exodus 34:29–35 for the scene Paul takes up later. What is Paul claiming about his ministry? What gets lost if the line becomes a verdict on Jewish Scripture?

13 “Faith without works is also dead.”

Reveal B. Bible. James 2:26.

Discuss Read James 2:14–17. What concrete need is in view? What happens to the discussion when we start with the hungry person?

14 “Love the sinner, hate the sin.”

Reveal C. Bumper Sticker. A familiar religious maxim.

Discuss Read Luke 18:9–14. How does the parable direct attention to the posture of the person doing the judging?

15 “God works in mysterious ways.”

Reveal C. Bumper Sticker. The familiar wording resembles William Cowper’s hymn God Moves in a Mysterious Way.

Discuss Read Romans 11:30–36. What has Paul just said about mercy? What might be lost if we use mystery to end a conversation about suffering?

Bard, Bible, or Bumper Sticker? · Old Testament

A. Bard · B. Bible · C. Bumper Sticker

01 “All that glisters is not gold.”

Reveal A. Bard. The Prince of Morocco reads it in The Merchant of Venice, Act 2, Scene 7.

Discuss Read 1 Samuel 16:6–7. What does Samuel assume he can tell about Eliab by looking at him? What does God ask him to reconsider?

02 “This too shall pass.”

Reveal C. Bumper Sticker. A familiar saying.

Discuss Read Ecclesiastes 3:1–8. Which lines might give someone room to grieve? What does the poem allow you to say that the short reassurance leaves out?

03 “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge.”

Reveal B. Bible. Ezekiel 18:2. The book quotes a proverb already in circulation.

Discuss Read Ezekiel 18:1–4 and 19–20. What explanation does the proverb offer, and what does God challenge through Ezekiel? What question about the effects of earlier generations’ choices might still be open?

04 “A soft answer turns away wrath.”

Reveal B. Bible. Proverbs 15:1.

Discuss Read 1 Kings 12:6–16. Whose advice does Rehoboam take? What makes the people’s response a question of power as well as tone?

05 “Cleanliness is next to godliness.”

Reveal C. Bumper Sticker. A popular saying.

Discuss Read Leviticus 14:8–9. What steps mark the person’s return? What might we miss about the ritual and the community if we turn this into general advice about hygiene?

Bard, Bible, or Bumper Sticker? · Old Testament

A. Bard · B. Bible · C. Bumper Sticker

06 “The fault … is not in our stars.”

Reveal A. Bard. Cassius in Julius Caesar, Act 1, Scene 2. “The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars.”

Discuss Read Genesis 15:1–6. Cassius directs Brutus away from the stars. God tells Abram to look up. What is each speaker asking the other person to believe or do?

07 “There is nothing new under the sun.”

Reveal B. Bible. Ecclesiastes 1:9.

Discuss Read Ecclesiastes 1:4–11. How do the sun, wind, and rivers change the sound of the line? What about human life does the poem ask you to notice?

08 “God won’t give you more than you can handle.”

Reveal C. Bumper Sticker. A familiar reassurance.

Discuss Read Job 2:11–13 and 6:1–4. How does Job describe the weight of his grief? What do the friends offer before anyone tries to explain it?

09 “How sharper than a serpent’s tooth it is / To have a thankless child!”

Reveal A. Bard. Lear in King Lear, Act 1, Scene 4.

Discuss Read Exodus 20:12. What does the command ask of children? What does Lear expect of his daughter? Where would you draw the line between honoring a parent and complying with a demand?

10 “Some went down to the sea in ships.”

Reveal B. Bible. Psalm 107:23.

Discuss Read Psalm 107:23–32. Where does the story take the sailors? What does their experience give the community to remember about God?

Bard, Bible, or Bumper Sticker? · Old Testament

A. Bard · B. Bible · C. Bumper Sticker

11 “Neither a borrower nor a lender be.”

Reveal A. Bard. Polonius in Hamlet, Act 1, Scene 3.

Discuss Read Deuteronomy 15:7–11. How does the possibility that a debt will soon be released affect the lender? What does the passage ask of a neighbor with resources?

12 “What’s past is prologue.”

Reveal A. Bard. Antonio in The Tempest, Act 2, Scene 1.

Discuss Read Deuteronomy 8:11–18. What does Moses want the people’s memory of God’s care to change about how they act when they prosper?

13 “The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.”

Reveal B. Bible. Exodus 14:14. Moses speaks as the people face the approaching Egyptians.

Discuss Read through verse 16. What do the people hear from Moses? What does God tell them to do next? How would you preach the two lines together?

14 “If you want something done right, do it yourself.”

Reveal C. Bumper Sticker. A familiar maxim.

Discuss Read Exodus 18:13–23. Who pays the price when Moses tries to handle every dispute himself? What kind of responsibility does Jethro ask him to share?

15 “Actions speak louder than words.”

Reveal C. Bumper Sticker. A familiar proverb.

Discuss Read Proverbs 14:23. What sort of talk does this proverb criticize? What distinction might you make between empty talk and words that are themselves a form of action?

ROUND 3 / QUESTIONS 1–5

Paul, Pulpit, Podium, or Prophet?

A. Paul · B. Pulpit · C. Podium · D. Prophet

Pulpit means religious teaching. Podium means public argument. Prophet means a quotation from a prophetic book. Use the source and setting to explain overlap.

01 “With malice toward none; with charity for all.”

Reveal C. Podium. Abraham Lincoln, Second Inaugural Address.

Discuss Read Romans 12:17–18. Which part of Paul’s advice would be hardest to say aloud near the end of a civil war?

02 “If one member suffers, all suffer together with it.”

Reveal A. Paul. 1 Corinthians 12:26.

Discuss Back up to verses 22–25. Which parts of the body deserve special attention?

03 “When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.”

Reveal B. Pulpit. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, The Cost of Discipleship.

Discuss Read Mark 8:34–35. What else do you discover in Jesus’ next sentence?

04 “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”

Reveal C. Podium. Martin Luther King Jr., Letter from Birmingham Jail.

Discuss Just before this, King invokes Paul’s Macedonian call. Read Acts 16:9–10. How does that story help King answer the charge that he was an outsider?

05 “For Pride is spiritual cancer.”

Reveal B. Pulpit. C. S. Lewis, Mere Christianity.

Discuss Read Philippians 2:3–4. What does Paul ask people to practice in place of conceit?

Paul, Pulpit, Podium, or Prophet?

A. Paul · B. Pulpit · C. Podium · D. Prophet

06 “Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

Reveal A. Paul. Romans 12:21.

Discuss Read Romans 12:17–21. What does Paul ask you to do for an enemy? What does he leave to God?

07 “My religion is kindness.”

Reveal B. Pulpit. The Dalai Lama.

Discuss Read Galatians 5:22–26. What gives kindness its shape in Paul’s letter? What does the Dalai Lama’s phrasing invite you to notice about kindness as a religious practice?

08 “Power concedes nothing without a demand.”

Reveal C. Podium. Frederick Douglass, 1857 speech on West India emancipation.

Discuss Read Philemon 8–17. What can Paul ask of Philemon? What can you hear of Onesimus’s own wishes in the letter? How does Douglass’s line draw attention to who can make a demand?

09 “Our hearts are restless until they rest in You.”

Reveal B. Pulpit. Augustine, Confessions, Book 1.

Discuss Read Philippians 4:6–7. What does each passage give a restless person to do or say?

10 “Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.”

Reveal A. Paul. Romans 12:15.

Discuss Read verses 14–16. Which instruction would you happily put on a card, and which might you be tempted to leave off?

Paul, Pulpit, Podium, or Prophet?

A. Paul · B. Pulpit · C. Podium · D. Prophet

11 “Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream.”

Reveal D. Prophet. Amos 5:24.

Discuss Read Amos 5:21–24. What practices does God reject here, and what is the force of the image when you hear it in that setting?

12 “What does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

Reveal D. Prophet. Micah 6:8.

Discuss Read Micah 6:6–8. What are the preceding questions trying to accomplish through offerings? How does the answer redirect the worshiper?

13 “Is it not to share your bread with the hungry?”

Reveal D. Prophet. Isaiah 58:7.

Discuss Read Isaiah 58:3–7. The people want to know why God has not noticed their fasting. What does God ask them to notice in their own community?

14 “Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile.”

Reveal D. Prophet. Jeremiah 29:7.

Discuss Read Jeremiah 29:4–7. What would it have cost the exiles to hear this? How does the location of the city change the invitation to pray?

15 “Bear one another’s burdens.”

Reveal A. Paul. Galatians 6:2.

Discuss Read Galatians 6:1–5. How do you hear the call to bear one another’s burdens alongside the instruction that each person carry their own load?

Paul, Check Your Footnotes

Which earlier text does Paul draw on? Choices vary by question.

01 “The one who is righteous will live by faith.” (Romans 1:17)

A. Isaiah · B. Habakkuk · C. Psalms

Reveal B. Habakkuk 2:4.

Discuss Read Habakkuk 2:2–4 and Romans 1:16–17. What are Habakkuk’s hearers waiting for? What is Paul talking about when he brings in the line?

02 “You shall not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain.” (1 Corinthians 9:9)

A. Proverbs · B. Exodus · C. Deuteronomy

Reveal C. Deuteronomy 25:4.

Discuss Read Deuteronomy 25:4 on its own, then 1 Corinthians 9:7–12. What does the law ask of someone using an ox? What connection does Paul draw to people who labor for the community?

03 “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” (Galatians 5:14)

A. Leviticus · B. Deuteronomy · C. Proverbs

Reveal A. Leviticus 19:18.

Discuss Read Leviticus 19:17–18 and Galatians 5:13–15. What does love have to do with grudges in one passage and biting and devouring in the other?

04 “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart.” (Romans 10:8)

A. Jeremiah · B. Deuteronomy · C. Isaiah

Reveal B. Deuteronomy 30:14.

Discuss Read Deuteronomy 30:11–14 and Romans 10:6–9. What is near enough to do in Deuteronomy, and what is near enough to confess in Romans?

05 “If your enemies are hungry, feed them.” (Romans 12:20)

A. Psalms · B. Leviticus · C. Proverbs

Reveal C. Proverbs 25:21–22.

Discuss Read through Romans 12:21. Proverbs ends with the Lord rewarding you. What does Paul choose to say next?

Paul, Check Your Footnotes

Which earlier text does Paul draw on? Choices vary by question.

06 “The one who had much did not have too much.” (2 Corinthians 8:15)

A. Exodus · B. Proverbs · C. Amos

Reveal A. Exodus 16:18.

Discuss Read Exodus 16:13–18 and 2 Corinthians 8:13–15. In Exodus, everyone gathering manna has enough. What does Paul ask a community with plenty to do?

07 “Those who were not my people I will call ‘my people.’” (Romans 9:25)

A. Jeremiah · B. Isaiah · C. Hosea

Reveal C. Hosea 2:23.

Discuss Read Hosea 1:6–10 and 2:23, then Romans 9:24–26. Who receives Hosea’s promise in its own setting? Who is Paul addressing through it? What might get lost if we hear only the later use?

08 “The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.” (Romans 15:3)

A. Job · B. Psalms · C. Lamentations

Reveal B. Psalm 69:9.

Discuss Read Psalm 69:7–12, then Romans 15:1–4. What can you hear of the psalmist’s own distress before Paul applies the line to Christ? What does that application ask of the strong?

09 “By people of strange tongues and by the lips of foreigners I will speak to this people.” (1 Corinthians 14:21)

A. Isaiah · B. Ezekiel · C. Daniel

Reveal A. Isaiah 28:11–12. Paul introduces the line with “In the Law it is written.”

Discuss Read Isaiah 28:9–13 and 1 Corinthians 14:20–25. In each setting, what gets in the way of hearing?

10 Abraham “believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” (Galatians 3:6)

A. Exodus · B. Psalms · C. Genesis

Reveal C. Genesis 15:6.

Discuss Read Genesis 15:1–6 and Galatians 3:6–9. What promise does Abram trust? Who counts as Abraham’s children in Paul’s argument?

That Sounds Familiar

A. Paul · B. Not Paul

01 “Repel the evil deed with one which is better.”

Reveal B. Not Paul. Qur’an 41:34, Marmaduke Pickthall. The verse pictures an enemy becoming like a close friend.

Discuss Read Qur’an 41:34–35 and Romans 12:17–21. What action does each text ask of the hearer? What outcome does each passage invite you to hope for?

02 “Defeat anger with kindness, villainy with virtue.”

Reveal B. Not Paul. Dhammapada 223, Bhikkhu Sujato.

Discuss Read Galatians 5:19–25. Paul lists anger among the works of the flesh and kindness among the fruit of the Spirit. What might each passage offer someone who wants to become less ruled by anger?

03 “Hear with your ears the best things; look upon them with clear-seeing thought.”

Reveal B. Not Paul. Avesta, Yasna 30.2, C. Bartholomae.

Discuss Read Yasna 30.2–3 and 1 Thessalonians 5:19–22. What choice follows the invitation to listen in the Yasna? What does Paul ask his hearers to test?

04 “God shows no partiality.”

Reveal A. Paul. Romans 2:11. Compare Qur’an 49:13, Pickthall. “We have created you male and female, and have made you nations and tribes that ye may know one another.”

Discuss Read Romans 2:6–11. What does each passage ask you to reconsider about how you see people from a different group?

05 “It is not righteousness that ye turn your faces to the East and the West.”

Reveal B. Not Paul. Qur’an 2:177, Marmaduke Pickthall.

Discuss Read all of Qur’an 2:177 and Galatians 5:2–6. What practice is each passage addressing? Where do prayer, giving, or love fit? What would each community lose if you reduced its text to a general claim about rituals?

That Sounds Familiar

A. Paul · B. Not Paul

06 “In humility regard others as better than yourselves.”

Reveal A. Paul. Philippians 2:3. Compare Qur’an 59:9, Mustafa Khattab. They “give ˹the emigrants˺ preference over themselves even though they may be in need.”

Discuss Read Philippians 2:3–8 and Qur’an 59:8–9. What does Paul ask his community to see in Christ? What does the Qur’an praise in the people who welcome the emigrants? What would each example ask of a community today?

07 “Do not invalidate your charities with reminders or injury.”

Reveal B. Not Paul. Qur’an 2:264, Sahih International. The verse also warns about giving to be seen by others.

Discuss Read 2 Corinthians 9:6–8. Imagine someone gives cheerfully and then keeps reminding the recipient of the favor. What does each passage help you notice about that gift?

08 “Think not lightly of evil, that it won’t come back to you.”

Reveal B. Not Paul. Dhammapada 121, Bhikkhu Sujato. Verse 122 adds a companion saying about good.

Discuss Read Dhammapada 121–122 and Galatians 6:7–10. What does a pot filling drop by drop help you notice about repeated choices? What does a harvest suggest about waiting for their results?

09 “Not to do any evil; to embrace the good; to purify one’s mind.”

Reveal B. Not Paul. Dhammapada 183, Bhikkhu Sujato.

Discuss Read Dhammapada 183–185 and Romans 12:1–2, 9. What kind of formation is each passage describing? Where does each place the work of changing how a person thinks and acts?

10 “Hatred is never laid to rest by hate.”

Reveal B. Not Paul. Dhammapada 5, Bhikkhu Sujato.

Discuss Read Dhammapada 3–5 and 1 Corinthians 13:4–7. What happens when an injury becomes a story you keep telling yourself?

That Sounds Familiar · Ancient Near East Edition

A. Hebrew Bible · B. Another ancient Near Eastern text

01 “The dove went away and came back to me.”

Reveal B. Another ancient Near Eastern text. Epic of Gilgamesh, Tablet XI, lines 145–154, translated by Alexander Heidel.

Discuss Compare Genesis 8:6–12. Which bird goes out first in each story? Which bird’s failure to return ends the sequence? What did you assume you remembered from Genesis?

Read the flood account

02 “She placed me in a basket of reeds.”

Reveal B. Another ancient Near Eastern text. Birth Legend of Sargon, opening lines.

Discuss Compare Exodus 2:1–10. Who finds each child, and who raises him? What comes into view in Exodus when you follow the choices made by the mother, the sister, and Pharaoh’s daughter?

Read the Birth Legend of Sargon

03 “The young lions roar for their prey.”

Reveal A. Hebrew Bible. Psalm 104:21.

Discuss Read Psalm 104:19–24 beside the passage about night and sunrise in the Great Hymn to the Aten. What does darkness make possible in each poem? How do the lions help you hear what each poet is praising?

Read the hymn comparison

04 “Do not rob the poor because they are poor.”

Reveal A. Hebrew Bible. Proverbs 22:22.

Discuss Read Proverbs 22:17–23 alongside the Egyptian Instruction of Amenemope, chapters 1–2. What reasons does each teacher give for listening? What does it mean in Proverbs for the LORD to plead the poor person’s cause?

Read the Instruction of Amenemope

05 “And let man bear the load of the gods!”

Reveal B. Another ancient Near Eastern text. Atrahasis, Tablet I, translated by Stephanie Dalley.

Discuss Compare Genesis 2:5–15. Why is a human worker needed in each story? Read Genesis through verse 15 before turning to chapter 3. What place does work already have in the garden?

Read the Atrahasis excerpt

That Sounds Familiar · Ancient Near East Edition

A. Hebrew Bible · B. Another ancient Near Eastern text

06 “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters.”

Reveal A. Hebrew Bible. Genesis 1:6.

Discuss Read Genesis 1:6–8 beside Enūma Eliš, Tablet IV, lines 123–146, where Marduk makes the sky from part of Tiamat after defeating her. What brings the sky into being in each account? What picture of divine power does each scene give you?

Read Enūma Eliš Tablet IV

07 “The One, the sister without peer.”

Reveal B. Another ancient Near Eastern text. Egyptian love poetry, Papyrus Chester Beatty I, translated by Miriam Lichtheim.

Discuss Compare the opening stanza with Song of Songs 4:9–10. What is each speaker doing by calling a beloved “sister”? What do you notice about the Song when you first hear it as love poetry?

Read Lichtheim’s translation

08 “Alas, my city, alas, my house.”

Reveal B. Another ancient Near Eastern text. Lament for Ur, line 329, Oxford’s Electronic Text Corpus of Sumerian Literature translation.

Discuss Read the surrounding lines with Lamentations 1:1–4, 12–16. Ningal mourns her city, and Jerusalem speaks as a grieving woman. Who is asked to witness the grief? What can each speaker say aloud that a report of the destruction might leave out?

Read the Lament for Ur

09 “The owner shall let the slave go, a free person.”

Reveal A. Hebrew Bible. Exodus 21:26.

Discuss Compare Exodus 21:22–27 and the Laws of Hammurabi §§196–201. Who receives compensation for an eye injury, and in what form? What protection does Exodus offer, and what does the law assume about slavery?

Read the laws side by side

10 “God has taken his place in the divine council.”

Reveal A. Hebrew Bible. Psalm 82:1.

Discuss Read Psalm 82 beside the Baal Cycle (KTU 1.2 I) scene in which Yamm’s messengers demand that the gods surrender Baal. What is at stake in each gathering? What does the psalm ask you to notice about divine authority and the treatment of vulnerable people?

Read the Baal Cycle excerpt

Additional Pentateuch and Wisdom Questions

A. Bard · B. Bible · C. Bumper Sticker

01 “Am I my brother’s keeper?”

Reveal B. Bible. Genesis 4:9. Cain is speaking.

Discuss Read Genesis 4:8–10. What is Cain trying to avoid by asking it here? What changes when you hear his question in the story?

02 “You shall love the alien as yourself.”

Reveal B. Bible. Leviticus 19:34.

Discuss Read Leviticus 19:18 and 33–34. What does Israel’s remembered experience in Egypt have to do with the way its people are to receive someone from elsewhere?

03 “One does not live by bread alone.”

Reveal B. Bible. Deuteronomy 8:3.

Discuss Read Deuteronomy 8:2–5 before comparing Matthew 4:1–4. What does the line teach about Israel’s hunger and God’s provision before Jesus uses it?

04 “Do not answer fools according to their folly.”

Reveal B. Bible. Proverbs 26:4.

Discuss Read verse 5 aloud after the reveal. When might answering pull you into the folly? When might silence let a claim go unchallenged?

05 “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?”

Reveal B. Bible. Job 38:4. God speaks from the whirlwind.

Discuss Read Job 38:1–7 and recall Job’s complaint in 23:1–9. What does the speech offer Job? What has it left open so far?

Additional Pentateuch and Wisdom Questions

A. Bard · B. Bible · C. Bumper Sticker

06 “Why were the former days better than these?”

Reveal B. Bible. Ecclesiastes 7:10. The teacher cautions against asking this question.

Discuss Read the full verse and then 7:13–14. How does the rest of the passage change what sounds at first like nostalgia?

07 “Many waters cannot quench love.”

Reveal B. Bible. Song of Songs 8:7.

Discuss Read Song of Songs 8:6–7. What do fire, floods, and wealth add to the poem’s picture of love? What does a wedding-card excerpt leave out?