Puzzle 1

EASY

Name _____ Date _____

A good first round for kids who've had a year or two of Sunday school. Find the 4 groups of 4 words and write down what links each group. If you like, cut out the 16 tiles and move them around the table.

Matthew	**Mark**	**Dove**	**Raven**
Gnats	**Love**	**Joy**	**Luke**
Quail	**John**	**Rooster**	**Locusts**
Peace	**Hail**	**Frogs**	**Patience**

1 Connection _____

Words _____

2 Connection _____

Words _____

3 Connection _____

Words _____

4 Connection _____

Words _____

Puzzle 2

MEDIUM

Name _____ Date _____

Every word here comes from the Old Testament. Read all 16 before you commit to a group. Find the 4 groups of 4 words and write down what links each group. If you like, cut out the 16 tiles and move them around the table.

Carmel	**Nebo**	**Lyre**	**Harp**
Benjamin	**Fish**	**Dan**	**Nineveh**
Worm	**Judah**	**Reuben**	**Sinai**
Flute	**Plant**	**Ararat**	**Tambourine**

1 Connection _____

Words _____

2 Connection _____

Words _____

3 Connection _____

Words _____

4 Connection _____

Words _____

Puzzle 3

MEDIUM-HARD

Name _____ Date _____

People and things from both testaments, with at least one well-known decoy. Find the 4 groups of 4 words and write down what links each group. If you like, cut out the 16 tiles and move them around the table.

Simon	**Jacob**	**Gate**	**Vine**
David	**Abram**	**Rain**	**Sarai**
Manna	**Saul**	**Way**	**Sulfur**
Jehu	**Shepherd**	**Fire**	**Ahab**

1 Connection _____

Words _____

2 Connection _____

Words _____

3 Connection _____

Words _____

4 Connection _____

Words _____

Puzzle 4

HARD

Name _____ Date _____

You'll need to know the stories in some detail. Find the 4 groups of 4 words and write down what links each group. If you like, cut out the 16 tiles and move them around the table.

Dreams	**Pearl**	**Baal**	**Leaven**
Pillars	**Broom**	**Riddle**	**Net**
Jawbone	**Foxes**	**Robe**	**Whirlwind**
Ravens	**Mustard**	**Baker**	**Pharaoh**

1 Connection _____

Words _____

2 Connection _____

Words _____

3 Connection _____

Words _____

4 Connection _____

Words _____

Puzzle 5

HARDEST

Name _____ Date _____

The toughest grid in this pack. Keep a Bible handy. Find the 4 groups of 4 words and write down what links each group. If you like, cut out the 16 tiles and move them around the table.

Deborah	**Jacob**	**Mark**	**Ham**
Philemon	**3 John**	**Perez**	**Eve**
Obadiah	**Job**	**Jude**	**Huldah**
Zerah	**Esau**	**Miriam**	**Anna**

1 Connection _____

Words _____

2 Connection _____

Words _____

3 Connection _____

Words _____

4 Connection _____

Words _____

Answer key

Groups run from 1 (easiest) to 4 (hardest).

Puzzle 1

1 · **the four Gospels:** Matthew, Mark, Luke, John.

2 · **plagues on Egypt:** Frogs (Exodus 8:2), Gnats (Exodus 8:16), Hail (Exodus 9:18), Locusts (Exodus 10:4).

3 · **fruit of the Spirit:** Love, Joy, Peace, Patience. Galatians 5:22 lists "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness."

4 · **birds in Bible stories:** Raven and Dove, both sent out by Noah (Genesis 8:7-8); Quail, which covered the camp in the wilderness (Exodus 16:13); Rooster, which crowed right after Peter's third denial, just as Jesus had said (Matthew 26:34, 74-75).

The traps: Dove pulls toward the fruit of the Spirit, since at Jesus' baptism the Spirit of God descended "like a dove" (Matthew 3:16). Paul's list in Galatians 5:22 has no dove in it, so the dove stays with Noah's birds. Locusts fly, so they tempt you toward the birds. Exodus 10:4 puts them in the plague account, and that's their group. (They were also John the Baptist's food, Matthew 3:4.)

Puzzle 2

1 · **sons of Jacob:** Reuben, Judah, Benjamin, Dan (Genesis 35:23-25).

2 · **instruments in Psalm 150:** Harp, Lyre, Tambourine, Flute (Psalm 150:3-4).

3 · **mountains:** Sinai (Exodus 19:11), Carmel (1 Kings 18:19), Ararat, where the ark came to rest on "the mountains of Ararat" (Genesis 8:4), and Nebo (Deuteronomy 34:1).

4 · **the book of Jonah:** Fish (Jonah 1:17), Plant and Worm (Jonah 4:6-7), and Nineveh (Jonah 1:2).

The traps: Ararat sits in a story about a boat, so it can drift toward Jonah's group. It belongs to Noah's story (Genesis 8:4). Dan shows up in Deuteronomy 34:1, where the LORD shows Moses the land from Mount Nebo "as far as Dan." No verse calls Dan a mountain, so it stays with Jacob's sons.

Puzzle 3

1 · **kings of Israel:** Saul (1 Samuel 11:15), David (2 Samuel 5:3), Ahab (1 Kings 16:29), Jehu (2 Kings 9:3).

2 · **"I am" sayings of Jesus in John:** Gate (John 10:9), Shepherd (John 10:11), Way (John 14:6), Vine (John 15:1).

3 · **it came down from the sky:** Manna, "bread from heaven" (Exodus 16:4); Sulfur and Fire on Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19:24); Rain in Noah's day (Genesis 7:12).

4 · **given a new name by God or Jesus:** God renamed Abram as Abraham (Genesis 17:5), Sarai as Sarah (Genesis 17:15) and Jacob as Israel (Genesis 35:10), and Jesus told Simon he'd be called Cephas, or Peter (John 1:42).

The traps: Saul looks like a name-change candidate because the apostle Paul was first called Saul. Acts 13:9 only says he was "also called Paul," with no renaming by God, so this tile is the first king of Israel. Manna points toward Jesus' words "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35). The "I am" group holds only the words Jesus used about himself, and manna is the food God sent in the wilderness, so it goes with the things that came down from the sky.

Answer key (cont.)

Puzzle 4

1 · Joseph's story: Robe (Genesis 37:3), Dreams (Genesis 37:5), Baker (Genesis 40:1), Pharaoh (Genesis 41:14).

2 · Samson's story: Riddle (Judges 14:12), Foxes (Judges 15:4), Jawbone (Judges 15:15), Pillars (Judges 16:29).

3 · parables in Matthew 13: Mustard (13:31), Leaven (13:33), Pearl (13:45-46), Net (13:47).

4 · Elijah's story: Ravens (1 Kings 17:6), Baal (1 Kings 18:21), Broom, the tree he sat under (1 Kings 19:4), Whirlwind (2 Kings 2:11).

The traps: Baker sits next to Leaven, and a woman mixing leaven into flour sounds like baking; the baker is Pharaoh's, from Joseph's prison days. Foxes call to mind Jesus' words "Foxes have dens" (Matthew 8:20), which aren't a parable. In Judges 15:4, Samson caught 300 of them.

Puzzle 5

1 · prophetesses: Miriam (Exodus 15:20), Deborah (Judges 4:4), Huldah (2 Kings 22:14), Anna (Luke 2:36). The BSB calls each of them "the prophetess" or "a prophetess."

2 · twins: Esau and Jacob (Genesis 25:24-26), Perez and Zerah (Genesis 38:27-30).

3 · one-chapter books: Obadiah, Philemon, Jude, 3 John.

4 · Bible names that are everyday English words: Job (work), Mark (a sign), Eve (the night before), Ham (the meat). Adam named his wife Eve (Genesis 3:20), and Ham was a son of Noah (Genesis 5:32).

The traps: Job and Mark are books of the Bible, so they tempt you toward the one-chapter group. Job has 42 chapters and Mark has 16. Eve is the first woman in Scripture, and she looks at home with the prophetesses, but the Bible never gives her that title. Esau has a link to Obadiah, whose short book speaks against Esau's descendants (Obadiah 1:6). He still goes with his twin.

Spelling: names follow the BSB. Check them against your class Bible before you make copies.