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# Teach the Psalms

One of the common failures of Bible teachers is to treat the Old Testament simply as case studies in morality or religious piety, or as illustrative material for New Testament teaching. The relationship between the Testaments is a key for opening up the meaning of both Old and New Testaments.

## Exercise

Prepare and give 3 Bible studies or talks on the Psalms.

## Aims

1. To wrestle with the promise-fulfilment structure of Biblical theology
2. To think through how to interpret and teach the Old Testament
3. To understand Bible teaching as teaching the gospel, expounding Christ by expounding the Scriptures

## Apprentices

1. Choose 3 Psalms to study and teach.
2. Study each Psalm, considering aspects such as:
  - overall themes
  - the structure and logic
  - possible contexts or background in the life of God's covenant people and their King
  - how the Psalm is used in the New Testament
  - how the Psalm is fulfilled in Christ
3. Prepare and give 3 short talks, one on each Psalm. (This might be in a Bible study group, a youth fellowship or at a team meeting.)

## Trainers

- Discuss the relationship between the Testaments with your apprentice. Suggest reading material, and help select Psalms if needed
- Model good use of the Old Testament in your preaching and teaching
- Discuss progress during one-to-one meetings with Apprentice. Listen to one of the talks or Bible studies and give feedback.

## Resources

- New Bible Commentary, (IVP)
- New Bible Dictionary, (IVP)
- According to Plan, Graeme Goldsworthy (IVP: 1991)
- Postcard from Palestine, (Matthias Media)
- Psalms (2 vols), Derek Kidner (IVP, 1973)
- Sermons on Psalms (Matthias Media Tapes)