

We Are Being Tested

Six Sundays alongside the small-group study and the video series. Each week has a main text, the big idea in the book's own words, three movements to build on, and a clip you can show. These are starting points, not scripts: preach your text, in your voice, for your people.

WEEK 1

The Setup

Text: Genesis 2:15–17; 3:1–9

It begins in a bounded garden: one rule, real choices, and a maker who never lets go of what he made.

1. One garden, one rule, real choices
2. Grief, not a reset: the maker who doesn't let go
3. Where are you? The question that starts the record

Show: Episode 1 or a short clip from Foreword, Prologue, Three Readers, chapters 1–3, free at wearebeingtested.com. Small groups this week read: Foreword, Prologue: Twelve Jars, Three Readers, 1. The Sandbox, 2. The Rule, 3. The Mark.

WEEK 2

The Trial of Job

Text: Job 1:6–12

The charge is the accuser's: that nothing we do is for nought, that every good thing people do is really wages.

1. The charge: does anyone serve God for nothing?
2. A test that can't be seen coming
3. The one thing appetite can't explain: grace

Show: Episode 2 or a short clip from Chapters 4–6, free at wearebeingtested.com. Small groups this week read: 4. Grace, 5. Job, 6. Admissible.

WEEK 3

Moriah

Text: Genesis 22:1–14

The answer to the charge is a substitute: the Son, who stood on both sides, paid the penalty himself, and rose.

1. The one test the narrator names in advance
2. The father's hand is stopped
3. In the stead of his son: the substitute

Show: Episode 3 or a short clip from Chapters 7–10, free at wearebeingtested.com. Small groups this week read: 7. First Positive, 8. Royal Priests, 9. Moriah, 10. Substitution.

WEEK 4

The Other Side

Text: 2 Samuel 12:1–7

People pronounce their own sentences, and God often holds them to their words and often lets them go.

1. Proof on demand, and why it produced fear
2. Thou art the man: the sentence we write for ourselves
3. A record that keeps its failures

Show: Episode 4 or a short clip from Chapters 11–14, free at wearebeingtested.com. Small groups this week read: 11. The Other Side Runs a Test, 12. The Pharaoh Curse, 13. On the Job, 14. The Method.

WEEK 5

The Quiet Years

Text: Esther 4:13–14

God showed overwhelming power early, and it produced fear, not trust, so he stepped back far enough to be refused.

1. The book without his name
2. Handfuls of purpose: chance that isn't
3. Room to be refused

Show: Episode 5 or a short clip from Chapters 15–19, free at wearebeingtested.com. Small groups this week read: 15. Ruth and Esther, 16. Jonah, 17. The Dissent, 18. The Seams, 19. The Terms on Our Side.

WEEK 6

God Sees Everything

Text: Luke 23:39–43; Genesis 16:13

God sees everything, and that is what makes the trial fair.

1. Two thieves in the same condition
2. Remember me: the last second
3. Thou God seest me: why that makes the trial fair

Show: Episode 6 or a short clip from Chapters 20–24 and the Epilogue, free at wearebeingtested.com. Small groups this week read: 20. Daily Bread, 21. Within Reach, 22. Custodians, 23. Testament, 24. The Last Second, Epilogue: God Sees Everything.

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