

A Jesus' Lens

The Big Questions:

- What changed between the Old and New Testaments?
- What good is the Old Testament?
- Why do we have both Testaments?
- What's so important about Jesus?

Break the Ice:

- Say: *It's hard to make a shift, to think a different way. Often people do not see shifts that are coming, even people who should see them. For example, Thomas Watson, who was the chair of IBM in 1943, said, "I think there is a world market for maybe five computers." And a Boeing engineer said, after the first flight of Boeing 247 which accommodated 10 passengers, "People will never make a bigger plane." Now, let's see how flexible you are with your thinking.*
- Show **Optical Shifts** (PowerPoint attached).

Look at the Book:

- Say: *When Jesus came, he brought the new covenant. He asked people to see with a different lens—his lens. But you know, Jesus also stood up for the old covenant. He said he didn't come to do away with the old covenant, but to fulfill it. The old covenant did have a purpose. It showed how lousy people are at obeying laws like the ten commandments. And the old covenant pointed to Jesus. People needed more—a covenant of the heart, a direct relationship with God. Let's see what the book of Hebrews says about these covenants.*
- Read Hebrews 8:6-13, with you, as leader, reading the plain script and participants reading the bolded script.
- Ask participants to work in pairs or small groups to probe the scripture using the exercises at the bottom of the **Look at the Book** page.

Supplies:

- **Optical Shifts PowerPoint (attached)**
- **An index card per participant**
- **Writing instruments**
- **Colored pencils**
- **Copies**
 - **Look at the Book**
 - **Two-Part Frozen Scenes (one copy)**

Interact:

- Two-Part Frozen Scenes
 - Cut apart the sections from the paper entitled Two-Part Frozen Scenes (attached).
 - Divide participants into groups of four to six.
 - Give each group a section from the Two-Part Frozen Scenes papers.
 - Invite each group to huddle to prepare and practice for their two-part scenes.
 - When the time seems right, call the whole group together for the enactments.

Pray:

- Give index cards to participants and ask them to number from one to three.
- Say (pausing between each question):
 - *What is one reason you are glad God is your God?*
 - *What is a law that you think God has been writing on your heart?*
 - *In what way are you tempted to do something in the old covenant way instead of in the new covenant way?*
- Say: *Choose one of your answers to share with a prayer partner. After you share your answers with each other, pray for each other.*