The Bible has two major parts, the Old and the New Testaments. The New Testament was written because something new happened: Jesus came into the world. The four Gospels according to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John tell us about it. Read the texts in the text boxes and assign the correct symbols to the four authors of the Gospels (known as the evangelists). Afterwards, you can colour in the picture and write the correct names of the evangelists in the free space below the symbols.

The New Testament begins with the Gospel of Matthew. According to tradition, it was written by the publican Matthew, whom Jesus himself called to follow him (Matt. 9:9). For Matthew, it is especially important that the message of Jesus is proclaimed to the whole world. Symbolically, therefore, he is portrayed as a human being or as an angel.

The Gospel of Mark is the shortest and probably also the oldest of all the Gospels. You can find it in the Bible after the Gospel of Matthew. Mark begins his story with John the Baptist in the desert. Therefore, the lion is assigned to him as a symbol. The lion is considered to be a powerful and indomitable desert animal.

The Gospel of Luke is the first part of a two-part work. The second part is the Acts of the Apostles, which comes later in the New Testament. Luke himself was not a disciple of Jesus, but he interviewed many eyewitnesses for his texts, most significantly the Twelve Apostles. Luke begins by writing about Zacharias, who ministers in the temple in Jerusalem. Because bulls were often sacrificed there, Luke’s symbol is the bull.

In fourth place in the New Testament is the Gospel of John. It is written in simple language, but with deep meaning. Above all, it wants to encourage friendship with Jesus. John begins his stories with a prayer. Just as John’s words soar up to God, so does the eagle, which is his symbol, soar into the air. Like John’s observations, the gaze of an eagle is also extremely sharp.