

Lesson #9

Hebrews 4:12—13; Psalm 119:11; 2 Tim 3:14—17; James 1:22

Nov. 19, 2014

** Before class set out as many different kinds of Bibles as you can find. Include Bibles for adults and children, and even children's picture book Bibles. See if you can find a Bible written in another language to show them! Encourage the children to look at these Bibles throughout the day. Put all other books away, out of sight.*

Gather everyone together and sit in the story circle.

Does anyone know what book this is? Hold up your Bible for them to see. Let the children touch and hold the Bible. Pass the Bible around the circle. Let them open it and turn pages. They will learn that it is a special book, even for them! As you tell the story, keep the Bible close by on the floor.

The Bible is the Word of God. Sometimes we hear or see that the Bible is called the Holy Bible. "Holy" means very special. The Bible is a very special book. It's not like any other book! Let's listen to a story now about two kids who found this very special book:

Katie and Jeff are brother and sister. Their favorite place to go is the library! Every Saturday Dad walks with Katie and Jeff to the children's section of the library where they can pick out their very own books to check out and take home.

"I found a book about giants and castles!" Katie says to her brother. "What did you find Jeff?" "I found a book about a shipwreck and another book about tigers. Look!" He shows his sister a photograph of an orange tiger lying in the sun with its baby.

Katie and Jeff walk with Dad to the checkout desk. Suddenly, Jeff spots another book on the shelf. "Wait! Look, as this one, Katie!" Katie turns to see Jeff lift a big picture book off a bottom shelf. The book is big and full of drawings and words. "I've seen this book at church!" Jeff exclaims, "There are animals and birds, people working together, families, big boats, battles with swords, and look... even giants!"

"What's this book about, Dad?" Katie asks. Dad crouches down on the floor with them and begins to turn the pages. "This is the best book ever written! It has TRUE stories of adventures, history and even songs! This is the Bible, God's Word. The Bible tells the REAL story of God's people, just like us, who learned how to trust Him! The Bible tells us about Jesus, God's son!"

"This Bible here has all the great stories that are in our big family Bible at home. But this Bible that you found has pictures too! One of the best things about reading God's word is that when we read it and think about it, God's Word is in our hearts forever. The Bible helps us make good choices. God wants us to LISTEN to His instructions and DO what His word says." Dad smiles.

Katie's eyes widen in awe. "Wow, the greatest book EVER written and God gave it to us?"

“Yep.” Dad laughs.

“But, there are A LOT of words in this book, Dad.” Jeff says. “I’m not sure I can read and understand it.”

“God will help you understand the Bible more and more as you grow. Did you know that grown-ups aren’t the only ones who can know God’s Word? Kids can know God’s Word and read it, too. Even when you just look at pictures in the Bible, you can learn about God! When you hear a Bible story that you like, tell a friend or a teacher about the story. You can share Bible stories with others.”

“I have an idea!” Katy says. “I think we should check this Bible out of the library too, Jeff. Maybe you could read some of these stories with us tonight before bed, Dad.”

“Good plan, Katie!” Dad pats his daughter’s shoulder. “Let’s learn about God together.”

Jeff, Katie, and Dad check out their books. They leave the library with a book about tigers, a book about giants and castles, a book about a shipwreck...and they leave with the greatest book ever written, the Bible.

We can read and look at pictures in the Bible, too. We can learn about God just like Jeff and Katie. Let’s pray together and thank God for giving us His Word, the Bible.

“Dear God, Thank you for your Word, your very special book, the Bible. Help us listen closely to your instructions when we read it. Thank you for all the Bible stories that remind us how much you love us! In Jesus name, Amen.”

Bible Verse: “Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” Psalm 119:105 (NIV)

Grow at Home #9

Hebrews 4:12-13; Psalm 119:11; 2 Tim 3:14-17; James 1:22

Nov. 19, 2014

Today the children learned this God fact:

- God gives us His Word, the Bible.

Live It Out:

Today we learned a story about two real-life kids named Katie and Jeffrey who find a Children's Bible in their local library. Their dad explains that the Bible is God's very special book filled with true stories. The Bible also tells us that God loves us.

Purchase or borrow a Children's Bible from the library. Choose one with colorful illustrations and multiple stories. Make sure each story covers only one page (approximately) of text. Together as a family read one story every night before bedtime. Children learn most by example, so allow your child to *see you* engaging with God's word on a consistent basis. Give the Bible a prominent place in your home.

Help your child make a Bible Verse Memory book at home to memorize scripture. Attach five sheets of paper to make a booklet. Start the memory book with five verses, one verse per page. Write, say, and practice one new verse each week for five weeks. Later, you can add more! Encourage your child to draw pictures or make-up movements that go with the words in each verse. Here are two verses to help you get started: "***Trust in the Lord with all your heart...***" *Proverbs 3:5* and "***Be kind and tender to one another...***" *Ephesians 4:32* NIRV

Prayer: "Dear God, Thank you for your Word, your very special book, the Bible. Thank you for all the Bible stories that remind us how much you love us! In Jesus name, Amen."

Bible Verse: "Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Ps. 119:105 NIV