

## SECTION 2.1

# The Bible Is The Explanation of God's Grace



### Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

#### Option 1: Tools of a Rescuer

**What You'll Need:** Whiteboard or poster board, easel, markers

**PREP:** Set up the whiteboard or poster board in the front of the room.

**STEP 1:** Ask, "What does it mean to rescue someone? In what types of job or career does a person train to rescue someone?"

Write kids' responses on the board (e.g., firefighter, police officer, lifeguard, doctor, EMT, etc.).

**STEP 2:** Ask, "What type of tools do they need for their jobs?" Write kids' responses on the board.

After you have completed the activity, ask the following questions:

- What sacrifices might these workers face?
- In what circumstances might these individuals need to save someone?

**STEP 3:** Share these key concepts:

- A rescue worker would never ask for payment from someone who needed to be rescued.
- The job of a rescue worker is to save someone in grave danger.
- God offers a free gift of grace to rescue all of us from sin.

**STEP 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the explanation of God's grace.

Notes:

## SECTION 2.1

# *The Bible Is The Explanation of God's Grace*



### *Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)*

#### **Option 2: Rescue Scenario**

**What You'll Need:** Nothing

**PREP 1:** Nothing

**STEP 1:** Divide kids into groups of three or four. Assign a leader to each group. Give groups two minutes to come up with a short skit in which a rescue worker is needed. If kids are stuck, encourage them to think of a time they needed to be rescued.

**STEP 2:** After two minutes, have each group share their rescue scenario.

Then ask the following questions:

- What tools would these rescue workers need?
- What are common types of rescue workers?
- What does it mean to rescue someone?

**STEP 3:** Share these key concepts:

- A rescue worker would never ask for payment from someone who needed to be rescued.
- The job of a rescue worker is to save someone in grave danger.
- God offers a free gift of grace to rescue all of us from sin.

**STEP 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the explanation of God's grace.

**Notes:**

# SECTION 2.1

## The Bible Is The Explanation of God's Grace



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 1: Before and After Grace

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, paper, pens or pencils, T&T handbooks

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Gather three sheets of paper. Write one of the following words or phrases on each of the blank sheets: "Before," "But God," "After."

**STEP 1:** Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Timothy 1:9. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God does not save a person from sin because he or she is a good person or does good things for God and others.
- God saves someone because of His own purpose and His grace.
- God had a plan before the beginning of time to offer us His amazing grace through Jesus.

**STEP 2:** Have kids turn to section 2.1 in their handbooks. Divide kids into two groups: the Before group and the After group. Give each group their prepared sheet of paper, and assign a leader to each group. Encourage kids in the Before group to open their Bibles to Ephesians 2:1-3 and the After group to open their Bibles to Ephesians 2:4-6. Distribute paper and pens or pencils to each group.

Give groups five minutes to read their verses and to discuss together what we were like before or after God's grace in our lives. Encourage kids to take notes on their papers.

After five minutes, ask the first group to share their findings.

Share these key concepts:

- Before we accept Jesus as Savior, we were dead in our sins (Ephesians 2:1). We were under the control of Satan and lived for ourselves (Ephesians 2:2-3). We were sinners, separated from God, on our way to hell.

- There was nothing we could do on our own to save ourselves. Without God's grace, we cannot be saved or be in a relationship with God.
- Step 3: Read Ephesians 2:4. Hold up the "But God" sign.
- Share these key concepts:
- God loved us, even when we were sinners (Romans 5:8). He showed His love for us by sending Jesus, His perfect son, to die on the cross to take the payment for our sin.
- God showed us mercy. We deserved death and separation from God forever because of our sin (Romans 6:23). God showed us mercy by not giving us the death we deserved, but instead showed us grace by giving us something good that we did not deserve: eternal life through Jesus Christ.

**Step 4:** Explain to kids that when we accept Jesus as Savior by God's grace, our lives are completely changed. Ask the "After" group to share their findings.

Share these key concepts:

- God offers everyone grace through Jesus. Because Jesus was perfect, He is the only one who could take our payment for sin.
- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are saved through grace. We are made alive through Jesus. Our sins are forgiven, and our punishment for sin has been paid. We have a right relationship with God now, and He has a perfect plan for us. We can even look forward to living forever in heaven with God. This is grace!

**STEP 5:** Explain to kids that this grace can change their lives as well. Give kids an opportunity to talk to a leader about salvation. Ask kids to pray silently, thanking God for the gift of grace.

**STEP 6:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

# SECTION 2.1

## The Bible Is The Explanation of God's Grace



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 2: Grace in Paul's Life

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, Grace in Paul's Life Handout  
(Optional: Bible times male costume)

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Print out a copy of Grace in Paul's Life Handout. Ask a male leader to portray the apostle Paul by presenting the monologue on the handout. Give him the handout ahead of time, and ask him to read through the piece several times. Optional: The leader may choose to wear a Bible times costume during the reading.

**STEP 1:** Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Timothy 1:9. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God does not save a person from sin because he or she is a good person or does good things for God and others.
- God saves someone because of His own purpose and His grace.
- God had a plan before time to offer us His amazing grace through Jesus.

**STEP 2:** Tell kids that Paul is an example of God's amazing grace. Ask the leader to share the monologue.

**STEP 3:** Ask, "What was Paul like before God's grace?"

Share these key concepts:

- Before God's grace, Saul thought he was a good person.
- He refused to believe the truth that Jesus was the true son of God.
- Because of his sin, Saul ended up hurting those who had accepted Jesus as Savior.

**STEP 4:** Share with kids that God loved Saul, even though he was a sinner and was against God. Ask, "What was Paul like after God's grace?"

Share these key concepts:

- When Paul recognized the truth that Jesus is God's Son and accepted Jesus as Savior, Paul was a different person.
- God gave Paul the gift of salvation, forgave Paul of all his sins, and restored His relationship with Paul.
- God's grace changed Paul. After he accepted Jesus as Savior, Paul shared the good news of God's grace to others. He followed God completely, and everything Paul did was for God's glory.
- God used Paul to write many books of the New Testament. Many of the books of the Bible that Paul wrote teach us the truths of God's great grace.

**STEP 5:** Explain to kids that this grace can change their lives as well.

Share these key concepts:

- God offers everyone grace through Jesus. Because Jesus was perfect, He is the only one who could be the payment for our sin.
- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are saved through grace (Ephesians 2:8-9). We are made alive through Jesus. Our sins are forgiven, and our punishment for sin has been paid (Romans 5:1).
- We have a right relationship with God now, and He has a perfect plan for us (Philippians 1:6). We can even look forward to living forever in heaven with God (John 14:1-3). This is grace!

**STEP 6:** Give kids an opportunity to talk to a leader about salvation. Ask kids to pray silently, thanking God for the gift of grace.

**STEP 7:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.



# Grace in Paul's Life Handout

Present this monologue to the kids during the main lesson time.

**Optional:** Wear a Bible times costume as you present the monologue.

*I'm Paul . . . well, at least that's what I go by now. I used to be known as Saul, but my life has changed completely since then.*

*When I was known as Saul, I thought I was on top of the world. I was an important religious leader. I was well-known and in good standing with many people. I believed and worshiped God, but I thought that those who believed Jesus is God's Son were wrong. I did my very best to destroy those who felt that way, because I was SURE that my view of God was the right one.*

*But I was wrong.*

*One day, while I was on my way to arrest some of Jesus' followers, I was stopped on the road by a great light. I couldn't see anything, and I was terrified. Then, I heard a voice, asking why I was persecuting Jesus.*

*All of a sudden, the bright light went away, but I was left blind. I made my way to Damascus, where a man took me in and told me more about who Jesus really is.*

*I realized that it didn't matter to God that I was a good person, or even that I believed in Him. The truth is I'm a sinner, and I realized that because God is perfect and cannot be around sin, I could never be right with God on my own. There is nothing I could ever do on my own to be better than my sins.*

*But God already knew that. He knew that I deserved death and hell.*

*But He still loved me. He loved me, even though I was willing to murder people who believed differently than I did. He loved me so much that He gave me something that I didn't deserve. He gave me grace.*

*God sent Jesus, His perfect Son, to earth. Since Jesus never sinned, He was the ONLY one who could die on the cross to take my punishment for sin. God's grace was my gift of salvation, made possible by Jesus.*

*No one deserves God's grace, especially me. Yet God offers His grace to EVERYONE as a free gift.*

*Because of God's grace, my life was changed, and my greatest desire was to teach others about God's great grace. I traveled many miles to share the message of God's free gift to others, and I wrote many books in the New Testament that share the good news of God's great grace.*

*How about you? Do you know that God wants to offer you that same grace? Please talk to a leader tonight to learn more about how you can receive God's amazing grace.*

## SECTION 2.2

# The Bible Is God's Story Shared With Us



### Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

#### Option 1: What a Character!

**What You'll Need:** Coin

**PREP:** Nothing

**STEP 1:** Divide the kids into two teams. Flip a coin to see which team goes first. Give the team who wins the coin toss 30 seconds to discuss the name of a character from a favorite book or movie. After 30 seconds, select a spokesperson to call out the character's name. Give the other team 10 seconds to come up with the book or movie the character stars in. Continue the game as time allows, alternating the activity for the teams as you play.

**STEP 2:** After you have completed the activity, ask the following questions:

- What makes a character stick out in a book or movie?
- Why are characters necessary in a story?

**STEP 3:** Share these key concepts:

- Every good book has an important character, one that the whole story is written about.
- Each story has a beginning, but it also has an ending that the writer has planned out ahead of time. Key characters in a story continue through the beginning to the end.
- The Bible is God's story, and God is the main character. He is there in the beginning, and He is there in the end.

**STEP 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God shared His story with us.

**Notes:**

# SECTION 2.2

## The Bible Is God's Story Shared With Us



### Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

#### Option 2: Tell a Story

**What You'll Need:** Paper, marker

**PREP:** Write on a sheet of paper, "To Be Continued."

**STEP 1:** Have kids sit in a circle. Give a kid in the circle the prepared paper. Ask that kid to think of a popular kid's story or movie that the other kids would be familiar with and whisper it to you. Once you approve of the story or movie, have that kid start telling part of what happened in the beginning of the story. After several seconds shout, "Next!" The kid telling the story passes the paper to the kid on his or her right, who continues telling the story where the previous kid left off. If that kid is not familiar with the story or movie, he or she can say, "pass," and pass the sign to the person on his or her right. Continue the activity until the storyline has been shared. As time allows, continue the activity with another story or movie.

**STEP 2:** Ask the following questions:

- Who was the main character in the story or movie?
- How did the story begin?
- How did the story end?
- What details would you have added if you were telling the story?

**STEP 3:** Share these key concepts:

- Every good story has an important character, one that the whole story is written about.
- Each story has a beginning, but it also has an ending that the writer has planned out ahead of time. Key characters in a story continue through the beginning to the end.
- The Bible is God's story, and God is the main character. He is there in the beginning, and He is there in the end.

**STEP 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God shared His story with us.

**Notes:**

# SECTION 2.2

## The Bible Is God's Story Shared With Us



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 1: God's Story

**What You'll Need:** Bible, children's storybook Bibles, T&T handbooks, paper, pens or pencils or colored pencils

**PREP:** Gather several children's storybook Bibles and place them around the room.

**STEP 1:** Remind kids that the Bible is God's story. All of the true stories in the Bible point us to God. Distribute a sheet of paper and a pencil or pen to each kid. (Kids may choose to work in groups of two or three to complete the activity.) Encourage kids to flip through past sections of their T&T handbooks or the children's storybook Bibles and search for their favorite true stories in the Bible. Give them three minutes to illustrate their favorite story.

**STEP 2:** After three minutes, have kids take turns revealing their drawings. After each kid has shared his or her drawing, ask these questions:

- How did this story point to God?
- What can we learn about God through this story?

**STEP 3:** Share these key concepts:

- God is the main character in His story. He is in the very beginning (Genesis 1:1).
- Every story in the Bible is true because it is part of God's story. In every story from Genesis to Revelation we learn truths about who God is and what His plan is for us.
- God knew that we would sin and need a rescuer to save us from sin (Genesis 3:15). God's plan from the very beginning was for Jesus, His Son, to come to earth and die on the cross to take the punishment for sin (2 Timothy 1:9).
- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are a part of God's Story. God has a plan for each one of us, and He will work everything in our lives for our good (Philippians 1:6, Romans 8:28).
- God's story has an exciting ending for those who trust Jesus as Savior. One day, Jesus will come back for us, and we will get to spend forever with God in heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18). What an amazing ending to God's awesome story!

**Step 4:** Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 3:17. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- After Adam and Eve sinned, God had a plan to send Jesus, His only Son, to the earth to pay the price for sin. This was always God's plan to save us from sin (2 Timothy 1:9).
- God did not send Jesus to earth to condemn, or make the world guilty because of sin.
- God sent Jesus to the earth as a way for us to be able to be in a right relationship with God.

**STEP 5:** Share these key concepts:

- God's story helps us understand who He is and who we are.
- God's story helps us understand how God wants us to look at the world.
- We need to study God's Word each day.

Share with kids your Bible study plan. Ask another leader to do the same. Ask kids if any of them would like to share their personal Bible study plan.

**STEP 6:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

**Notes:**



## SECTION 2.2

# The Bible Is God's Story Shared With Us



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 2: God's Story Timeline

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, whiteboard or pad of paper, easel, markers, children's storybook Bibles, T&T handbooks, roll of butcher or parchment paper, scissors, masking tape or sticky tac, pens or pencils, sticky notes

**PREP:** Cut a two-foot section of butcher or parchment paper. Write at the top of the paper, "God's Story Timeline." Draw a line down the middle of the paper. On the left-hand side, write vertically "Genesis." On the right-hand side of the page, write vertically, "Revelation." Hang the prepared paper on the wall in the classroom. Place several children's storybook Bibles around the room.

**STEP 1:** Ask, "What are some of your favorite characters or stories from the Bible?" Write the responses on the whiteboard.

**STEP 2:** After one minute, divide the kids into small groups and assign a leader to each group. Divide the characters on the whiteboard equally among the groups. Give each group several sticky notes and pens or pencils.

Have a kid in each group record each of their character's names on sticky notes. Then, encourage the kids and the leaders in each group to work together to discover where in God's Story Timeline these characters fit. They may use their Bibles, handbooks, or the children's storybook Bibles as a guide.

When they are finished, have a kid place the sticky note on the God's Story Timeline.

After groups have finished, look over the timeline, making sure the characters are in their biblical order. Adjust as necessary.

Share these key concepts:

- God is the main character in His story. He is in the very beginning (Genesis 1:1).
- Every story in the Bible is true because it is part of God's Story. In every story from Genesis to Revelation, we learn truths about who God is and what His plan is for us.

- God knew that we would sin and need a rescuer to save us from sin (Genesis 3:15). God's plan from the very beginning was for Jesus, His Son, to come to earth and die on the cross to take the punishment for sin (2 Timothy 1:9).
- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are a part of God's story. God has a plan for each one of us, and He will work everything in our lives for our good (Philippians 1:6, Romans 8:28).
- God's story has an exciting ending for those who trust Jesus as Savior. One day, Jesus will come back for us, and we will get to spend forever with God in heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18). What an amazing ending to God's awesome story!

**STEP 3:** Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 3:17. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

On the appropriate spot on the timeline, draw a cross and write the word "Jesus" vertically above the cross.

Share these concepts:

- After Adam and Eve sinned, God had a plan to send Jesus, His only Son, to the earth to pay the price for sin. This was ALWAYS God's plan to save us from sin (2 Timothy 1:9).
- God did not send Jesus to earth to condemn, or make the world guilty because of sin.
- God sent Jesus to the earth as a way for us to be able to be in a right relationship with God.

**STEP 4:** Share these key concepts:

- God's story helps us understand who He is and who we are.
- God's story helps us understand how God wants us to look at the world.
- We need to study God's Word each day.

Share with kids your Bible study plan. Ask another leader to do the same. Allow any children who would like to share their own Bible study plan.

**STEP 5:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

## SECTION 2.3

# The Bible Is God's Love Letter to You



### Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

#### Option 1: Cards for All Occasions

**What You'll Need:** Greeting cards

**PREP:** Purchase several inexpensive cards for various occasions (e.g., birthday, sympathy, funny, new baby, anniversary, just because).

**STEP 1:** Choose a card from your selection and read only part of the card aloud and ask these questions: "When would someone send this card to someone? Whom might they send it to?"

**STEP 2:** Ask the following questions:

- What would happen if you got the cards mixed up and gave a sympathy card to someone on their birthday?
- When was the last time you received a card or a letter?
- What makes receiving a card or letter so special?

**STEP 3:** Share these key concepts:

- People send cards or letters to those who mean the most to them.
- Reading a card or letter helps us get to know the sender.
- God wrote us a letter so that we can get to know Him better. His letter to us is God's Word, the Bible.

**STEP 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God wrote a letter to us.

Notes:

## SECTION 2.3

# The Bible Is God's Love Letter to You



### Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

#### Option 2: Mixed-Up Message

**What You'll Need:** Mixed-Up Message Handout, pen or pencil

**PREP:** Print out one copy of the Mixed-Up Message Handout.

**STEP 1:** Ask volunteers to give you an answer for each blank in the letter. Once you have all the blanks filled, read the letter out loud.

**STEP 2:** Ask the following questions:

- How would a person respond if they received a letter like this?
- What is the purpose of sending a letter or a card?
- On what occasions might you send a letter or card?

**STEP 3:** Share these key concepts:

- People send cards or letters to those who mean the most to them.
- Reading a card or letter helps us get to know the sender.
- God wrote us a letter so that we can get to know Him better. His letter to us is God's Word, the Bible.

**STEP 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God wrote a letter to us.

Notes:

Large empty box for notes.



# Mixed-Up Message Handout

Ask volunteers to fill in the blanks below. After all the blanks have been filled in, read the letter out loud.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,  
(famous cartoon character)

I heard from \_\_\_\_\_ that you were not feeling well and that you have missed  
(former president)

\_\_\_\_\_ days of school. I hope you feel better soon  
(number)

because we are going to \_\_\_\_\_ on a field trip on  
(country)

Friday, and we need your help defeating the \_\_\_\_\_ in the  
(professional sports team)

\_\_\_\_\_ game on Saturday.  
(outdoor activity)

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(favorite superhero)

PS: Here is a \_\_\_\_\_ gift card to \_\_\_\_\_ from all of us.  
(amount of money) (favorite restaurant)



# SECTION 2.3

## The Bible Is God's Love Letter to You



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 1: Letter of God's Love

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, T&T handbooks, Letter of God's Love Handout, scissors, pens or pencils, envelopes

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Make copies of the Letter of God's Love Handout and cut sections apart. Prepare one section per kid.

**STEP 1:** Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 John 4:9. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God showed His love to us by sending Jesus to earth to die on the cross for our sin.
- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we experience God's great love for us.

**STEP 2:** Explain to kids that one way we learn more about God's love is through the Bible, His letter to us.

Ask kids to think of someone to whom they would like to share the truth of God's love. Give each kid a copy of the Letter of God's Love Handout. Using their Bibles and T&T handbooks, have kids work together to fill in the blanks of the Letter of God's love.

**STEP 3:** After several minutes, give each kid an envelope and encourage them to place their letter inside and deliver it this week.

Share these key concepts:

- In the Bible, God tells us who He is and reveals to us His plan for mankind (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 119:105).
- God tells us how much He loves us in the Bible. He also showed us His love by sending Jesus, His Son, to die on the cross to take the punishment for sin (Romans 5:8, 1 John 4:9).
- God knows what is best for us, and His letter teaches us how to grow to be more like Jesus (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

- When we read and study God's Word, we learn more about God and how He wants us to live. When we follow His plan, we grow closer to Him (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 119:105).

**Step 4:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

#### Notes:



# Letter of God's Love Handout

Hi, \_\_\_\_\_.

I am learning about God's amazing love. I want you to know about it too.

God showed His love for us by sending Jesus to die for us, even when we were \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 5:8).

Because of God's great love for us, we have the opportunity to be called the \_\_\_\_\_  
of \_\_\_\_\_ if we accept Jesus as Savior (1 John 3:1).

And the greatest thing is that God's steadfast love \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 136:26).

Want to learn more about God's love for you? Read the book that contains the story of His love for all of us: The Bible. I hope you do!

Sincerely,



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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_



# Letter of God's Love Handout

Hi, \_\_\_\_\_.

I am learning about God's amazing love. I want you to know about it too.

God showed His love for us by sending Jesus to die for us, even when we were \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 5:8).

Because of God's great love for us, we have the opportunity to be called the \_\_\_\_\_  
of \_\_\_\_\_ if we accept Jesus as Savior (1 John 3:1).

And the greatest thing is that God's steadfast love \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 136:26).

Want to learn more about God's love for you? Read the book that contains the story of His love for all of us: The Bible. I hope you do!

Sincerely,



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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# SECTION 2.3

## The Bible Is God's Love Letter to You



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 2: Descriptions of God's Love

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, whiteboard or pad of paper, easel, markers, paper, pens or pencils, bookmarks or sticky notes

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Set up an easel and whiteboard or paper in the front of the room. Write the following verses on the board: Zephaniah 3:17, Ephesians 2:4-5, 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, 1 John 3:1.

**STEP 1:** Divide kids into groups and assign two or three verses to each group. Encourage them to look up their verses and then draw pictures displaying God's love based on the verses. Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil or pen to each kid.

**STEP 2:** After two minutes, have kids share their pictures with one another.

Share these key concepts:

- In the Bible, God tells us who He is and reveals to us His plan for mankind (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 119:105).
- God tells us how much He loves us in the Bible. He also showed us His love by sending Jesus, His Son, to die on the cross to take the punishment for sin (Romans 5:8, 1 John 4:9).

**STEP 3:** Write the following reference on the board 1 John 4:9-10. Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 John 4:9. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God showed His love to us by sending Jesus to earth to die on the cross for our sin.
- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we experience God's great love for us.

**STEP 4:** Read 1 John 4:10. Then on the board, draw a cross. Explain that the word *propitiation* means "payment." Share with kids that the greatest way God showed His love for us was to send Jesus to die on the cross for our sin.

**STEP 5:** Share these key concepts:

- The Bible is God's way for us to get to know God.
- When we read and study God's Word, we learn more about God and how He wants us to live. When we follow His plan, we grow closer to Him (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 119:105).
- God's Word shows us how we should live, because God wants what is best for us and He wants us to experience it.

**STEP 6:** Tell kids the best way to understand God's love is to read and study the Bible. Encourage kids to pick a time each day (suggest in the morning before school or in the evening before bed) and to choose a book of the Bible to read, such as James or Proverbs. Encourage kids to find those books in their Bible, and give kids bookmarks or sticky notes so they can mark where the books are located.

Encourage kids to study several verses each day and ask God to show them what He wants them to learn from those verses.

**STEP 7:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

#### Notes:

## SECTION 2.4

# The Bible Is God's Instruction to Love Him



### Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

#### Option 1: Recipe for Lunch

**What You'll Need:** Table, bread, peanut butter, jelly, plastic knife, paper plate and napkin

**PREP:** Set up a table in front of the room. Place the supplies listed above on the table.

**STEP 1:** Instruct kids to give you instructions on how to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Call on volunteers to give you step-by-step directions. Be sure to follow each instruction literally (e.g., if one instructs you to put the bread on the plate, place the whole, unopened loaf on the plate).

**STEP 2:** Continue to follow instructions literally for two minutes, then ask the following questions:

- Why are instructions important?
- Why do we need clear and complete instructions?
- What would happen if we didn't have instructions for recipes? Homework?

**Step 3:** Share these key concepts:

- Instructions are necessary if we want to achieve the expected outcome.
- Instructions show us what we are to do.
- God gives us instructions in the Bible. The greatest instruction is how to love God.

**Step 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God instructs us to love Him.

Notes:



## SECTION 2.4

# The Bible Is God's Instruction to Love Him



### Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

#### Option 2: Missing Instructions

**What You'll Need:** Small Lego® kit, table

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Place a table in front of the room. Scatter the Legos on the table.

**STEP 1:** Choose three volunteers, and ask them to work together to build the kit, using only the picture of the completed set as a guide. Give them three minutes to complete the activity, and encourage the other kids to call out encouraging words and constructive advice.

**STEP 2:** After three minutes, ask the following questions:

- Why are instructions important?
- Why do we need clear and complete instructions?
- What would happen if we didn't have instructions for recipes? Projects? homework?

**STEP 3:** Share these key concepts:

- Instructions are necessary if we want to achieve the expected outcome.
- Instructions show us what we are to do.
- God gives us instructions in the Bible. The greatest instruction is how to love God.

**STEP 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God instructs us to love Him.

Notes:

# SECTION 2.4

## The Bible Is God's Instruction to Love Him



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 1: Loving God with All I Am

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, paper, marker, tape

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Write each of the following words on a sheet of paper: all, heart, soul, mind, strength. Tape each of the following sheets of paper on a wall in the room: heart, soul, mind, strength (keep the sign with the word *all* with you). Clear the space so kids will have room to complete the activity.

**STEP 1:** Share these key concepts:

- God loves us and gave us the Bible to help us learn about Him.
- Its words are true (John 17:17), perfect (Psalm 19:7), and unchanging (Numbers 23:19).
- As we learn truths about God, we learn to appreciate Him more (Ephesians 1:16-19).

**STEP 2:** : Read or recite this week's memory verse, Mark 12:30. Repeat the verse, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible gives us instructions on how He wants us to live our lives.
- The most important command God gave to you is to love Him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30).

**STEP 3:** Play a game with the kids to help them learn their verse. Stand in the middle of the area and call out one of the ways that we are to love God (e.g., heart, soul, mind, strength). Tell kids to quickly stand by the sign on the wall of the word you called out. Continue the activity, calling out the words faster and faster.

**Step 4:** After one or two minutes, hold up the sign with the word *All*. Have kids sit on the floor next to you.

Share these key concepts:

- Loving God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength means that we love God with all of who we are.

- Loving God with all of who we are is a choice we must make.
- Loving God like He wants us to takes effort.
- The more we study God's Word and learn more about how awesome He is, the more we will want to love Him (Philippians 1:9).

**STEP 5:** Ask several volunteers to share a truth about God they have learned in Awana this year (e.g., God is loving, patient, faithful). Pray and thank God for those truths that were shared. Ask God to help you and the kids learn to love Him because He is worthy of our love.

**STEP 6:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

**Notes:**

## SECTION 2.4

# The Bible Is God's Instruction to Love Him



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 2: God's Greatest Instruction

**What You'll Need:** Bible, T&T handbooks, paper, pens or pencils, Loving God with All of Me Handout

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Make copies of the Loving God with All of Me Handout, one copy for every kid.

**STEP 1:** Share these key concepts:

- God loves us and gave us the Bible to help us learn about Him.
- Its words are true (John 17:17), perfect (Psalm 19:7), and unchanging (Numbers 23:19).
- As we learn truths about God, we learn to appreciate Him more (Ephesians 1:16-19).

**STEP 2:** Read or recite this week's memory verse, Mark 12:30. Repeat the verse again, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible gives us instructions on how He wants us to live our lives.
- The most important command God gave to you is to love Him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30).

**STEP 3:** Give each kid a handout and a pen or pencil. Encourage them to use their handbooks to help them draw or write about a truth of God they have learned so far this year.

**STEP 4:** After two minutes, have one or two volunteers share what they wrote or drew. Read Philippians 1:9 and share these key concepts:

- The more we study God's Word and learn more about how awesome He is, the more we will want to love Him (Philippians 1:9).
- Loving God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength means that we love God with ALL of who we are.
- Loving God with all of who we are is a choice we must make.
- We can love God if we remember that He loves us.

**STEP 5:** Have kids mark on the graph how they are doing in loving God with all they are. Remind kids that the first step to loving God with all of who they are is admitting they are a sinner and trusting Jesus as their Savior. Ask: "What is one thing you can do this week to help you learn more about God so that you can learn to love Him more?" Encourage them to write or draw their answer under the graph.

**STEP 6:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

**Notes:**



# Loving God With All of Me Handout

1. What is one truth about God that you have learned so far this year?

---

2. You can love God if you remember that He loves you! Check off the boxes of where is the hardest places to remember to love God!

Home	School
With Friends	When I'm Alone
When I'm Sad	When I'm Having Fun

---

3. You can only love God if you know Him! What can you do this week to help you learn more about God?

# SECTION 2.5

## The Bible Is God's Expectations Told to Us



### Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

#### Option 1: Silent Expectations

**What You'll Need:** Smartphone or timer, T&T handbooks

**PREP:** Nothing

**STEP 1:** Explain to your students that you expect them to be completely silent for 30 seconds. Begin the timer, and see how well the kids followed the expectation. If the kids did well, set a higher expectation of 60 seconds and repeat the activity. If your kids did not fulfill the expectation, try again.

**STEP 2:** After you have completed the activity, ask the following questions:

- What is an expectation? (If kids do not know the answer, encourage them to look it up in section 2.5 of their handbooks.)
- What are some common expectations a grown-up might have for someone like you?
- What would a kid be like if no one set expectations for them?
- Who are other people in authority who have expectations for you?

**Step 3:** Share these key concepts:

- Those in authority have a goal, they expect us to achieve or rules they expect us to follow.
- It is up to us to learn and choose to follow those expectations.
- God has expectations for His followers. They are found in the Bible.

**Step 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God told us His expectations in the Bible.

**Notes:**

## SECTION 2.5

# The Bible Is God's Expectations Told to Us



### Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

#### Option 2: Common Expectations

**What You'll Need:** Whiteboard, or poster board, markers, easel, T&T handbooks

**PREP:** Set up an easel and whiteboard or poster board in the front of the classroom. Place markers nearby.

**STEP 1:** Have kids look up the definition of expectation in section 2.5 of their handbooks. Then ask them to identify expectations that grown-ups have for them and write them on the whiteboard or poster board. Be sure to have them consider their expectations at school, home, church, athletic activities, etc.

**STEP 2:** Ask the following questions:

- What would happen if you chose to ignore one of these expectations?
- Why are expectations important?
- What would it be like if no one had expectations for other people?

**STEP 3:** Share these key concepts:

- Those in authority over us have goals they expect us to achieve or rules they expect us to follow.
- It is up to us to learn to follow those expectations.
- God has expectations for His followers. They are found in the Bible.

**STEP 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God told us His expectations in the Bible.

Notes:

# SECTION 2.5

## The Bible Is God's Expectations Told to Us



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 1: Great Expectations

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, easel, whiteboard or pad of paper, markers, paper, pens or pencils

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Set up an easel and whiteboard or pad of paper at the front of the room. Write the following on the board or paper: Make your bed, finish your homework before playing, completing your chores.

**STEP 1:** Explain that parents have expectations for their kids. Ask kids to rate the parental expectations on the board from 1 to 3.

**STEP 2:** Remind kids that our creator God has expectations for all of us. Have kids review their memory verse from section 1.4, 2 Peter 3:9.

Share these concepts:

- God wants each of us to become a follower of God.
- We must admit we are a sinner
- We must accept Jesus as our Savior.

**STEP 3:** After we have accepted Jesus as Savior, God has expectations for each of us as His followers. He told us His expectations in the Bible.

Give a sheet of paper and a pen or pencil to each kid. Divide kids into four groups, and assign a leader to each group. Give one of the following passages to each group: 1 Peter 1:16, 2 Timothy 2:21-25, 2 Timothy 2:15, 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

**Step 4:** Encourage kids to study the passages and their answers in section 2.5 of their handbooks. Then have them determine three ways a kid like them could strive to follow those expectations.

**STEP 5:** After three minutes, have each group share their ideas.

Share these key concepts:

- If you have trusted Jesus as Savior, God wants you to live a holy, obedient life that is set apart for God (1 Peter 1:16, 2 Timothy 2:21-25).
- God's Word contains everything we need so that we will be thoroughly equipped to successfully follow God's expectations (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- If we desire to follow God's expectations, we must study the Bible and apply the truths to our lives (Psalm 25:4, 2 Timothy 2:15)

**Step 6:** Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 25:4. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- This psalm is a prayer by David.
- David trusted God completely, and He desired to follow God with his whole heart.
- David asked God to help him understand what God expected him to do.

Encourage kids to think about their own hearts. Ask, "When you're in a tough situation, how can you remember to follow God's expectations?"

**Step 7:** Ask kids to look back through their handbooks and circle one expectation that they learned about that they need to work on.

**Step 8:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

#### Notes:

# SECTION 2.5

## The Bible Is God's Expectations Told to Us



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 2: Fulfilling God's Expectations

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, T&T handbooks, Fulfilling God's Expectations Handout, yellow and green stickers

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Purchase inexpensive yellow and green stickers.

Print copies of the Fulfilling God's Expectations Handout, one copy per kid. Bookmark Bibles to the following references: 1 Peter 1:16 and Romans 12:1-2.

**STEP 1:** Have kids review their memory verse from section 1.4. Ask, "What does God desire for all people?" (To accept Jesus as Savior.) Remind them that this is the first step in fulfilling God's expectations for their lives.

**STEP 2:** Explain to kids that God has expectations for His followers. Have a volunteer read 1 Peter 1:16 to identify the first expectation.

Ask, "Why does God want us to be holy?"

Share these key concepts:

- God is holy. That means that God is perfect and without sin.
- God knows that we are not perfect and that we still sin.
- God wants us to desire to be holy like He is and to turn from sin (2 Timothy 2:21-25).

Ask kids to fill in the blanks on the first section of the handout. Then have volunteers share their answers.

**STEP 3:** Have a volunteer read Romans 12:1-2.

Share these key concepts:

- God wants us to be willing to sacrifice what we want to do so that we follow what He wants us to do.
- God want our lives to be set apart for Him.
- Ask kids to fill in the blanks on the second section of the handout. Then have volunteers share their answers.

**STEP 4:** AShare these key concepts:

- If you have trusted Jesus as Savior, God wants you to live a holy, obedient life that is set apart for God (1 Peter 1:16, 2 Timothy 2:21-25).
- God's Word contains everything we need so that we will be thoroughly equipped to successfully follow God's expectations (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- If we desire to follow God's expectations, we must study the Bible and apply the truths to our lives (Psalm 25:4, 2 Timothy 2:15).

**STEP 5:** Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 25:4. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- David trusted God completely, and He desired to follow God with his whole heart.
- David asked God to help him understand what God expected him to do.

Ask kids to fill in the blanks on the third section of the handout. Then have volunteers share their answers.

**STEP 6:** Have kids turn to section 2.5 in their handbooks. Ask kids to evaluate how they are doing in their expectations. Encourage them to place a green sticker on the expectations they are trying to follow each day or a yellow sticker by the expectations they need to work on. Encourage kids to think about their own hearts. Ask, "Do you desire to follow God's expectations?"

**STEP 7:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.



# Fulfilling God's Expectations Handout



Situation: A friend wants you to share your answers with them while you are taking a test. What do you do?

A kid who wants to be holy will \_\_\_\_\_ at school.

A kid who wants to be holy will not \_\_\_\_\_ at school.

---

Situation: You are really frustrated with your brother and you want to call him a bad word you have heard before.

A kid who wants to be set apart will \_\_\_\_\_.

A kid who want to be set apart for God will not \_\_\_\_\_.

---

Situation: You have a big decision and you don't know what to do. Your leader suggests that you pray about your decision.

A kid who wants to follow God's expectations will \_\_\_\_\_.

A kid who wants to follow God's expectations will not \_\_\_\_\_.



# SECTION 2.6

## The Bible Is God's Tool to Transform Us



### Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

#### Option 1: Leader Transformations

**What You'll Need:** Scarves, hair accessories, hats, gloves, makeup, makeup remover wipes, table, two or three chairs  
(Optional: Camera or smartphone)

**PREP:** Ask two or three adults to take part in a makeover transformation.

Optional: Take their before picture.

Place the table and chairs in front of the room, making sure the chairs face away from the kids. Lay the makeover supplies on the table.

**STEP 1:** Divide kids into two or three groups. Assign one of the leaders to each group and have the leaders sit on the chairs in front of the room. Give groups two minutes to "transform" their leader using the materials provided.

**STEP 2:** After two minutes, have the groups return to their seats. One by one, have the leaders stand and turn around to reveal their transformations. (Optional: Show the before pictures to the kids before you reveal their transformations.)

After you have completed the activity, ask the following questions:

- Which leader showed the greatest transformation? Why?
- What changed the most about the leader's transformation?
- How long do you think this transformation will last?

**Step 3:** Share these key concepts:

- The leaders looked different after their makeovers, but the makeovers are only short-term transformations.
- A true transformation is long-lasting and takes time and effort.
- God wants to transform your life so that you are more like Jesus. He uses His Word, the Bible, to transform you into what He wants you to be.

**Step 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God wants to transform our lives.

#### Notes:

# SECTION 2.6

## The Bible Is God's Tool to Transform Us



### Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

#### Option 2: Scientific Transformations

**What You'll Need:** Vinegar, baking soda, measuring spoons, measuring cups, glass baking dish, Skittles, dinner plate, warm water, tables, disposable cleaning wipes, paper towels

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Set up two tables in front of the room and place the supplies on the tables. On one table, place the glass baking dish and add two tablespoons of baking soda in the middle of the dish. Place a ½ cup measuring cup and vinegar nearby.

On the other table, place the Skittles on a pattern around the rim of the dinner plate. Place a ½ cup measuring cup nearby.

**STEP 1:** Assign each kid to a table and assign leaders to each table. Ask the leader at the first table to help a kid pour the vinegar into the ½ cup measuring cup. Ask the leader at the second table to help a kid get a ½ cup of warm water from the sink.

**STEP 2:** Once the vinegar is poured and the warm water is at the table, count to three and have the kids pour the liquids into their dishes onto their table and watch the reactions.

**STEP 3:** Ask the following questions:

- What change took place after the vinegar was poured over the baking soda?
- Was there an immediate change in the Skittles after the warm water was poured over them?
- Why do you think the results of the vinegar and baking soda were immediate? (There was a chemical reaction between the two ingredients.)
- What do you think will happen over time with the Skittles and the water? (The water will cause the colors on the skittles to bleed.)

**STEP 4:** Share these key concepts:

- In both experiments, a change took place. One change was immediate and quick. The other change will take time to complete.
- If you have accepted Jesus as Savior, God has begun a change in you!
- God wants to transform your life so that you are more like Jesus. He uses His Word, the Bible, to transform you into what He wants you to be, and often this happens over time.

**STEP 5:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God wants to transform our lives.

#### Notes:

# SECTION 2.6

## The Bible Is God's Tool to Transform Us



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 1: Before and After

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, paper, marker, sticky notes

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Write each of the following words on a sheet of paper: "Before", "After." Write each of the following references on a sticky note: Psalm 119:11, Psalm 56:3, Psalm 119:165. Give each sign to a leader.

**STEP 1:** Ask the leader to hold up the Before sign.

Share these key concepts:

- Before we accepted Jesus as Savior, we were dead in our sins (Ephesians 2:1). Our sins separated us from God (Isaiah 59:2).
- There was nothing we could do on our own to make us right with God (Romans 3:23).

**STEP 2:** Ask the leader to hold up the After sign.

Share these key concepts:

- When we accepted Jesus as Savior, we became a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- God forgives our sins, and our relationship with Him is restored (1 John 1:9).

**STEP 3:** Explain to kids that we are not done changing after we accept Jesus as Savior. Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 12:2. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God wants our lives to be transformed.
- We are transformed when we renew our minds.
- We are renewed by the Holy Spirit and God's Word.

**Step 4:** Explain to kids that the Bible is our tool of transformation.

Divide kids into three groups, and give each group a prepared sticky note. Encourage the group to work together to study the verse and to determine how the Bible will help us be transformed.

**STEP 5:** After three minutes, have kids share their findings.

Share these key concepts:

- When we study and memorize God's Word, we will know what He expects of us. Following His expectations helps us avoid sin (Psalm 119:11).
- We can rely on God's Word when we are afraid (Psalm 56:3).
- When we love God's Word, we will have peace (Psalm 119:165).

**STEP 6:** Read or recite Romans 12:2 again. Remind kids that we will be able to know God's will for us when we allow His Word to transform our lives.

Share these key concepts:

- God uses His Word to transform our lives.
- Our job is to study the Bible and allow it to control our lives and the decisions we make.

**STEP 7:** Give each kid two sticky notes. Encourage leaders to help the kids find Colossians 3:17 and Romans 12:2 in their Bibles and mark these locations. Encourage the kids to read these verses each day and to ask God to help them apply these tools of transformation to their lives.

**STEP 8:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

# SECTION 2.6

## The Bible Is God's Tool to Transform Us



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 2: Transformation Tool

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, T&T handbooks, Transformation Tool handout, pens or pencils, Bible bookmarks or tab stickers

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this in a fun more visible way, such as rearranging large posters at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Make copies of the Transformation Tool Handout, one copy per kid.

**STEP 1:** Share these key concepts:

- Before salvation, our sins separated us from God (Isaiah 59:2).
- When we admitted we were sinners and trusted Jesus as Savior, we became a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)!

**STEP 2:** Explain to kids that we are not done changing after we accept Jesus as Savior. Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 12:2. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase to help them learn the verse.

Share these key concepts:

- God wants our lives to be transformed.
- We are transformed when we renew our minds.
- We are renewed by the Holy Spirit and God's Word.

**STEP 3:** Encourage kids to work in pairs or groups to complete the top half of the worksheet together. After two minutes, have kids share their answers.

Share these key concepts:

- When we study and memorize God's Word, we will know what He expects of us. Following His expectations helps us avoid sin (Psalm 119:11).
- God's Word transforms our minds so that we recognize truth from error (John 8:31-32).
- God's Word helps transform us from being afraid to being at peace (Psalm 119:165, Psalm 56:3-5).

**STEP 4:** Direct kids' attention to the bottom half of the handout. Remind kids that it is up to each one of them to study God's Word and apply it so that their lives will be like Jesus. Encourage them to fill in the bottom part of their handout. Give them an example from your own life to help them get started.

**STEP 5:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide

**Notes:**



# Transformation Tool Handout

Look up the verses below and draw a line from the reference to the statement that matches it.

## Verses

Psalms 119:9-11

Psalms 56:3-4

Psalms 119:165

John 8:31-32

## References

God's Word helps me recognize the truth.

God's Word helps me avoid sin.

God's Word helps me have peace.

God's Word helps me to not be afraid.

---

## Fill in the blanks.

I need God's tool of transformation to help me \_\_\_\_\_.

I will read my Bible \_\_\_\_\_ this week.



## SECTION 2.7

# The Bible Is God's Good News to the World



### Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

#### Option 1: News Worth Sharing

**What You'll Need:** Treats, paper products

**PREP:** Purchase special treats for your group (being careful to avoid any allergies), along with the necessary paper products.

**STEP 1:** Tell one kid in the room that you have brought a special treat to share with the kids. Encourage them to share about the treat with others, and observe the reactions of the kids.

**STEP 2:** After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- Who heard that they were getting a special treat tonight?
- How did you respond to the news?
- Did you share the news with anyone? Why or why not?

**Step 3:** Distribute the treats to the kids.

Share these key concepts:

- We like to hear good news.
- It's fun to get to share news with someone who has not heard and watch how they respond.
- God gave us wonderful news in His Word, the Bible. He wants us to share His amazing news with others.

**Step 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God's good news is for the world.

Notes:

# SECTION 2.7

## The Bible Is God's Good News to the World



### Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

#### Option 2: Share the News

**What You'll Need:** Notepads, pens or pencils

**PREP:** Purchase inexpensive notepads (one per kid or one notepad to be passed around the group).

**STEP 1:** Give each kid a notepad and pen or pencil. Write on the first notepad the following phrase: Ice Cream Sundae. Show the phrase to the first kid, and have him or her draw it on the next page. After thirty seconds, the kid who drew the picture should show only the picture to the next kid. That kid should then guess what the picture is, write down his or her guess on the next page, and then shows it to the next kid. That kid reads the guess, turns the page, and then draws that picture on the next page. Continue until the last kid, and ask him or her to share what they drew or guessed. Compare it to the original phrase.

**STEP 2:** Ask the following questions:

- In what two ways did the news spread?
- Was it the same message from the beginning to the end?
- How did the message change?

**STEP 3:** Share these key concepts:

- God gave His followers good news to share.
- This news reveals God's love to all people.
- We need to be sure to know God's good news and share it clearly to those near us and then to those far away.

**STEP 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God's good news is for the world.

**Notes:**



# SECTION 2.7

## The Bible Is God's Good News to the World



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 1: Important Message

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, scissors, string or yarn, yellow, black, red, white, and green beads, snack ZipLoc® bags, picture of missionary (optional: smartphone or tablet)

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Make Good News kits by cutting a 12-inch piece of string, tie a knot about 2/3 of the way down the string and placing it in a bag, along with a yellow, black, red, white, and green bead. Make one kit for each kid.

Choose a missionary that your church supports. Be ready to show his or her picture to your kids.

**STEP 1:** Share these key concepts:

- God's good news is that He loved us even while we were sinners. He sent Jesus to earth to die on the cross to take the punishment for sin (John 3:16, Romans 5:8).
- God desires for all to hear the good news of the gospel (2 Peter 3:9, John 3:16).

**STEP 2:** Read or recite this week's memory verses, Matthew 28:19-20. Repeat the verses again, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Before Jesus returned to heaven, He told His followers to go and make disciples.
- Making disciples means sharing the good news that Jesus came to earth, died on the cross to take the punishment for sin, and then rose again.
- If people accepted Jesus as Savior, Jesus' followers were supposed to baptize the new followers, and then continue to teach them from God's Word how God wanted them to live.
- Jesus promised that He would be with all of His followers as they shared the good news.

**STEP 3:** Tell kids that if they have accepted Jesus as Savior, they have the same job as Jesus' disciples. Distribute a Good News kit to each kid. Instruct kids to

place beads on the string in the following order: Yellow, black, red, white, green. Share the following concepts:

- The yellow bead reminds us of heaven, where God lives (Psalm 11:4). God is holy (1 Samuel 2:2). That means He has never sinned. There is no sin in heaven (Revelation 21:27).
- The dark bead reminds us that we are sinners. We have all sinned (Romans 3:23). Our sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2). We deserve to be separated from God forever in hell because of our sin (Romans 6:23).
- The red beads reminds us that God loves us, even when we were sinners (Romans 5:8). He sent Jesus, His perfect Son, to take the punishment for sin by dying on the cross (John 3:16).
- The white bead reminds us that if we admit we are sinners and believe that Jesus died and rose again to take the punishment for our sin, we will be saved (Romans 10:9-10). Our sins are forgiven, and our relationship with God is restored.
- The green bead reminds us that after we accept Jesus as Savior, we need to tell other people the good news of God's love for us (Matthew 28:19-20).

**STEP 4:** After kids have put their beads on the string in order, tell them to tie the end of the string. Encourage them to tie the string on their backpack, coat, or around their wrist. Encourage them to use the beads to share the good news of Jesus with their friends and family.

**STEP 5:** Remind kids that Jesus told His followers to share the gospel with people around the world. Hold up a prayer card of a missionary your church supports (Optional: Display the missionary's picture on your smartphone or tablet.) Explain to kids that some missionaries share the good news with people far away.

Ask, "How can we help spread the good news to people who live far away?" (Possible answers: pray for people around the world, donate money to help, pray for missionaries.)

**STEP 6:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

# SECTION 2.7

## The Bible Is God's Good News to the World



### Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

#### Option 2: The Very Best News

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, sticky note tabs, highlighters

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** You will need four sticky tabs and one highlighter for each kid.

**STEP 1:** Ask, "When was the first time you heard the good news that God loves you and Jesus died for your sin?" (Answers will vary).

**STEP 2:** Read or recite this week's memory verses, Matthew 28:19-20. Repeat the verse again, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Before Jesus returned to heaven, He told His followers to go and make disciples.
- Making disciples means sharing the good news that Jesus came to earth, died on the cross to take the punishment for sin, and then rose again.
- If people accepted Jesus as Savior, Jesus' followers were supposed to baptize the new followers, and then continue to teach them from God's Word how God wanted them to live.
- Jesus promised that He would be with them as they shared the good news.

**STEP 3:** Explain to kids that God wants us to share the good news too! Give every kid four sticky note tabs, a highlighter, and a pen or pencil. Ask leaders to walk around the room, helping kids as needed.

Encourage kids to number their sticky note tabs 1 to 4. Have kids turn to Romans 3:23 and place the first sticky note tab at the top of the page. Encourage them to highlight the verse in their Bibles. Ask a volunteer to read the verse.

Have kids turn to Romans 6:23, highlight the verse, and place the second sticky note tab at the top of the page. Ask a volunteer to read the verse.

Share these key concepts:

- We are sinners. We have all sinned (Romans 3:23). Our sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2).
- We deserve to be separated from God forever in hell because of our sin (Romans 6:23).

**STEP 4:** Have kids turn to Romans 5:8 and place the third sticky note tab at the top of the page. Encourage them to highlight the verse in their Bibles. Ask a volunteer to read the verse.

Share these key concepts:

- God loves us, even when we were sinners (Romans 5:8).
- He sent Jesus, His perfect Son, to take the punishment for sin by dying on the cross (John 3:16).

**STEP 5:** Have kids turn to Romans 10:9-10 and place the fourth sticky note tab at the top of the page in their Bibles. Encourage them to highlight the verse in their Bibles. Ask a volunteer to read the verse.

Share these key concepts:

- If we admit we are sinners and believe that Jesus died and rose again to take the punishment for our sin, we will be saved (Romans 10:9-10).
- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are promised a home in heaven forever with God (John 14:1-3).

**STEP 6:** Encourage kids to turn to their neighbor and practice sharing the good news of these verses with one another. Encourage the leaders to walk among the kids, offering encouragement and counsel as needed. Ask kids to practice reading these verses every day this week.

**STEP 7:** Encourage kids to ask God to help them think of someone with whom they can share the good news this week. Then follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION

# 2.8

# The Bible Is ... Review



## Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

### Option 1: List of Expectations

**What You'll Need:** Whiteboard or pad of paper, easel, markers

**PREP:** Set up an easel in the front of the room and place the whiteboard or pad of paper on the easel. Set markers nearby.

**STEP 1:** Ask, "What are expectations that your teachers or parents have for you?" Write answers on the board.

**STEP 2:** After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- Why is it important to know what is expected of you?
- What would happen if you did not understand the expectations of a teacher?

**Step 3:** Share these key concepts:

- God's Word explains God's amazing grace to us and gives instructions and expectations for us to live by.
- When we read and study His Word, we will understand how to live the life God wants us to live, and our lives are transformed to make us more like Jesus.
- As our lives continue to change, we desire for others to know the good news in God's Word, and we willingly share it with others.

**Step 3:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying God's Word and allowing it to change our lives.

Notes:

SECTION

# 2.8

# The Bible Is ... Review



## Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

### Option 2: Verse Pop

**What You'll Need:** Balloons, T&T handbooks, paper, marker, scissors

**PREP:** On a sheet of paper, write each memory verse reference from this unit in small letters and then cut them apart. Place one reference in each balloon. Blow up and tie the balloons.

**STEP 1:** Give a balloon to each individual or pair of kids. At your signal, have the kids pop their balloons, read the reference, and then say the verse to one of the leaders. If kids do not know the verse from memory, encourage them to look them up in their Bibles or handbooks.

**STEP 2:** Ask the following questions:

- What do the verses in this unit teach us about God's Word?
- Which verse means a lot to you? Why?
- How can you apply these verses to your life?

**STEP 3:** Share these key concepts:

- The verses from this unit show us the importance of God's Word.
- God's Word explains God's amazing grace to us and gives instructions and expectations for us to live by.
- When we read and study His Word, we will understand how to live the life God wants us to live, and our lives are transformed to make us more like Jesus. We will then desire for others to know the good news in God's Word, and we willingly share it with others

**STEP 4:** Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying God's Word and allowing it to change our lives.

### Notes:

## SECTION

## 2.8

## The Bible Is ... Review



## Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

## Option Pair and Share

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, T&T handbooks (optional: CD or CD player or computer or smartphone)

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Choose a favorite song about God's Word and be prepared to sing it with the class.

**STEP 1:** Share these key concepts:

- God saves us, not because of anything we have done, but because of His plan and grace (Romans 5:8). God's undeserved grace and free gift to us is eternal life through Jesus. God continues to lavish us with grace in our lives, and through His grace we will spend eternity with Him in heaven someday (John 14:1-3).
- God's story helps us understand who God is, who we are, and how He wants us to live. From the beginning, the Bible reveals God's plan to save us from sin and reminds us that Jesus will come back and take us to heaven someday (1 Thessalonian 4:16-18). We should read God's awesome story each day to learn more about our amazing God!
- The Bible is God's letter written to us. It tells us things about God we could never know without it. The Bible shows us how much God loves us, and it gives us everything we need to live a life that pleases God (2 Timothy 3:16-17). This letter from God will help us know God more and become more like Him (2 Timothy 2:15, Psalm 119:105).
- The Bible instructs us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30). Loving God with all of who we are is the most important commandment (Matthew 22:37-38). It is the most important choice we can make.
- God wants you to live a holy, obedient life that is set apart for God, and the Bible contains everything we need to know so that we can follow God's

expectations (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Our job is to study the Bible and apply the truths to our lives (Psalm 25:4, 2 Timothy 2:15).

- The Bible transforms our lives. When God's Word dwells in our hearts, we begin to think and act differently toward others around us. Our desires change, and we want everything we think and do to be done for Jesus (Colossians 3:16-17).
- God's Word contains the good news of the gospel. God can use our story of how God has worked in our lives to share the gospel with others (Matthew 28:19-20). We should start sharing the good news close to home, and then do what we can to take it into all the world (Acts 1:8).

**STEP 2:** Have kids work in groups of two or three to review what they have learned this unit. Encourage them to look through Sections 2.1 through 2.7 and take turns sharing with each other key truths that they have learned. Encourage leaders to walk among kids, making sure they are staying on task.

**STEP 3:** Tell kids that we can praise and worship God for giving us the Bible. End the lesson by singing together a song about God's Word (e.g., "Ancient Words," "Speak, Oh, Lord," "Your Word is Alive," "Thy Word.")

**STEP 4:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

## Notes:

# SECTION 2.8

# The Bible Is ... Review



## Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

### Option 2: God's Story Report

**What You'll Need:** Bibles, T&T Handbooks, God's Story Report Handout, pens or pencils

*(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

**PREP:** Print copies of the God's Story Report Handout, one per kid.

**STEP 1:** Share these key concepts:

- God saves us, not because of anything we have done, but because of His plan and grace (Romans 5:8). God's undeserved grace and free gift to us is eternal life through Jesus. God continues to lavish us with grace in our lives, and through His grace we will spend eternity with Him in heaven someday (John 14:1-3).
- God's story helps us understand who God is, who we are, and how He wants us to live. From the beginning, the Bible reveals God's plan to save us from sin and reminds us that Jesus will come back and take us to heaven someday (1 Thessalonian 4:16-18). We should read God's awesome story each day to learn more about our amazing God!
- The Bible is God's letter, written to us. It tells us things about God we could never know without it. The Bible shows us how much God loves us, and it give us everything we need to live a life that pleases God (2 Timothy 3:16-17). This love letter from God will help us know God more and become more like Him (2 Timothy 2:15; Psalm 119:105).
- The Bible instructs us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30). Loving God with all of who we are is the most important commandment (Matthew 22:37-38). It is the most important choice we can make.
- God wants you to live a holy, obedient life that is set apart for God, and the Bible contains everything we need to know so that we can follow God's expectations (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Our job is to study the Bible and apply the truths to our lives (Psalm 25:4, 2 Timothy 2:15).

- The Bible transforms our lives. When God's Word dwells in our hearts, we begin to think and act differently toward others around us. Our desires change, and we want everything we think and do to be done for Jesus (Colossians 3:16-17).
- God's Word contains the good news of the gospel. God can use our story of how God has worked in our lives to share the gospel with others (Matthew 28:19-20). We should start sharing the good news close to home, and then do what we can to take it into all the world (Acts 1:8).

**STEP 2:** Give a copy of the God's Story Report Handout and a pen or pencil to each kid. Encourage kids to look back through Sections 2.1 through 2.7 of their handbooks as they complete the handouts.

**STEP 3:** After four minutes, have volunteers share their thoughts from their handouts.

Share these key concepts:

- God's powerful Word shows us who God is and how He wants us to live.
- God wants us to study His Word so that we will know His amazing plans for us.

**STEP 4:** Encourage kids to pray silently, thanking God for His Word

**STEP 5:** Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

### Notes:



# God's Story Report Handout

Write or draw your answers in each blank.

1. God's Word teaches me ...

A large, empty rectangular box for writing the answer to question 1.

2. God's story transforms me when I ...

A large, empty rectangular box for writing the answer to question 2.

3. God's story instructs me to ...

A large, empty rectangular box for writing the answer to question 3.

4. God's story shows me that God expects me to ...

A large, empty rectangular box for writing the answer to question 4.

5. I will ...

A large, empty rectangular box for writing the answer to question 5.