

Stories About God's Word

Four things are always true about God. These things are true all through the Old Testament and the New Testament:

1. God always loves. The Creation, the Exodus, the kings, the exiles – behind all these great events stands the never-ending, unstoppable love of God. The God of rainbows and psalms is first and forever, then and now a God of love.
2. God pursues relationships with people. The Old Testament portrays God as seeking fellowship with man. In Hosea He is the loving husband. In Psalms He is the caring shepherd watching His sheep. At Jericho He is the concerned general leading the troops to victory. At Sinai He is the lawgiver, explaining how to get along in harmony.
3. God always forgives. He does not bear grudges. When man finds his way back to God through repentance, God forgives. The Israelites made a golden calf in the shadow of Sinai; the people worshiped other gods during the time of the judges; and the kings of Israel led the people astray. But God always welcomed His wayward children home with a forgiving heart. Many times He was preparing punishment for His children, but when they returned to Him, He gave them another chance.
4. God loves good. God is called "righteous" and "holy" because He loves good. God hates defiance, and when man's rebellious spirit turned away, God used discipline, crisis, wars and danger to bring him back to the good. God always loves good.

This is the story of God that we need to remember and share with children.

SCRIPTURE

Review of Lessons 7-9

FAITH-BUILDING PRINCIPLE

People learn about God's Word in different ways.

KEY BIBLE VERSE

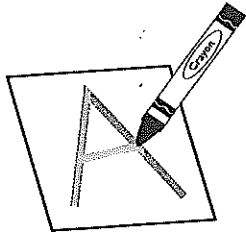
"I will not forget Your word" (Psalm 119:16 NKJV).

"I will not forget your word" (Psalm 119:16 ICB).

PRAYER LIST

Dear God, help me to meet You in the pages of the Bible. Help me to share the stories in Your Word in a way that excites my students. Bless each student, Father. (List each child's name.)

What a joy it is to teach children about You, Lord! Thank You. In Jesus' name, amen.



ATTENTION, PLEASE!

TEACHING OUTLINE

Materials Needed

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast snacks | <input type="checkbox"/> Camera |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Film | <input type="checkbox"/> Robes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors | <input type="checkbox"/> Shoe box |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ruler | <input type="checkbox"/> Tape |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Letter | <input type="checkbox"/> Real or pretend money |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assorted books | <input type="checkbox"/> Bible |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paper sack | <input type="checkbox"/> Cardboard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Props for Bible scenes activity | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scroll made in Lesson 8 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heritage of Faith Song Cassette | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching Resources sheets 7 and 10 | |

ClassTime

1. Re-enact Sunday morning preparations.
2. Provide breakfast-type snacks for the activity.
3. Ask how children can help on Sunday mornings.
4. Provide props and costumes for the children to re-enact scenes from the Bible stories.
5. Photograph the scenes of the children.
6. Prompt discussion with these questions:
 - How have you been remembering God's Word?
 - Who helps you learn God's Word?
 - Where can you learn about the Bible?
7. Sing "God's Word."
8. Follow instructions for making a viewfinder, and use Teaching Resources sheets 7 and 10 to show and tell the story "The Very Best Book."
9. Have the children act out the frames, using the props listed in the text.

Lesson Preparation

ClassTime

Getting Ready for Bible Class and Worship. Sunday mornings can be hectic in some homes. Through this activity the children may re-enact Sunday morning preparations. Help the children discover the spirit of cooperation and helpfulness. If all family members work together, Sunday morning preparations can be pleasant. This sets the tone for the learning that will take place Sunday morning.

The children may pretend to carry out actual Sunday morning activities. Begin after they wake up. Pray at breakfast. You may serve fruit, dry cereal or granola, which the children should be able to manage with minimal adult assistance. Ask them, "How can you help get ready on Sunday mornings? What are some ways you could help during breakfast?"

Bible Scenes. Pose the children for re-enacted scenes from some of the Bible stories studied in this unit, and take pictures of the scenes. Simple props capture the children's attention while creating a mental picture of the lesson. You could re-enact Moses' carrying God's Word to the people, or one person may play King Josiah and another may tell the story while the other students listen.

Provide a few robes for the children to wear. You could use the scroll made in Lesson 8 as well. Cut two tablets from cardboard to represent the Ten Commandments. (Remember, the Bible clearly says that God wrote on both sides of the tablets.) One teacher or assistant may dress as Lois or Eunice while reviewing the high-

lights of last week's lesson about Timothy. Cover only the highlights of the stories.

Guided Conversation. Help the children realize that God's Word will help us when we remember it. Prompt discussion by asking the children, "How have you been remembering God's Word? Who helps you learn God's Word? Where can you learn about the Bible?" Sing "God's Word."

Viewfinder. Use a large shoe box and Teaching Resources sheet 7 to create a viewfinder. Cut a slit in one end of the shoe box, from the top of the box to the bottom. Also cut two vertical slits along one side of the shoe box. These slits should be 3/4" apart. Prepare sheet 7 by cutting the two strips and taping them together lengthwise. When using the viewfinder, you will thread the picture strip through the end slit. The strip then should be threaded through the middle frame of the shoe box so that one picture will be shown at a time.

Show the frames to the children as you read "The Very Best Book" from Teaching Resources sheet 10. Once you have read the story, have the children act out the frames. The action words are italicized on sheet 10. Your props can be a letter, real or pretend money, books, a Bible, and a paper sack. The characters can be of either sex – mother, grandmother and girl; or father, grandfather and boy.

BibleTime

Preschoolers do not need to know the details about the writing of the Bible. But neither should they picture the whole volume as being handed down from heaven, as they may easily infer when we call it "the Book God gave us." The stories in this unit can help establish right thinking in this regard. Today the lesson will review the stories studied in Unit 2. Have an open Bible nearby.

God's Word Is Given on a Mountain (Exodus 19:1-20; 20:1-21; 32:15-16). Ask, "How do you think God gave us the Bible? He told different men what to write. We have learned about some of these men. Who carried the laws God gave him on a mountain? (*Moses*) What did Moses bring down from the mountain? (*two stone tablets with God's law written on them*) What do we call the rules written on the tablets? (*the Ten Commandments*) Where can we find the rules written today?" (*We can read them in the Bible.*) Show Exodus 20 from your open Bible.

God's Scroll-book Is Found (2 Kings 22:1-13; 23:1-3). "Another man wrote about young King Josiah. We find this story in our Bibles, too." Show 2 Kings 22:1-13. Be sure this is an active, not a passive, learning experience. Lead the children in hand and body motions for the story.

Ask, "What work did Josiah tell the priest and servants to do? (*clean and repair the temple*) Where was the scroll-book found? (*in the temple*) Why did the king become so upset? (*He was upset that he and the people had not been following God's commands.*)

"Do you have a Bible or Bible storybook of your own? Do you know where it is, or is it lost like the scroll-book was? Ask someone in your family to read a story in it with you. We should try to remember God's Word (Psalm 119:16) and live to please God."

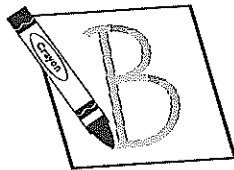
Timothy Learns God's Word (Acts 16:1-5; 1 Corinthians 4:17; 16:10-11; 2 Timothy 1:1-5; 3:14-15). Review the story about Timothy by using the finger puppets made in Lesson 9 from the Handwork book. Ask the children, "Who is this? (*Hold up Timothy puppet.*) How did Timothy learn God's Word?" (*from his mother and grandmother*) Hold up mother and grandmother puppets to help the children.

Ask, "Whom did Timothy help when he was older?" (*Paul*) Hold up Paul puppet, and explain: "Paul wrote two letters to Timothy that are in our Bible. How can you learn God's Word with people in your family?"

Ask, "Aren't you glad God had people write about things that happened long ago? Who would like to thank God for giving us His Word?" Let several volunteers pray.

WorkbookTime

Have the children complete Student workbook pages 21 and 22. Page 21 will reinforce the events from this unit. They will need crayons or pencils to match the pictures and will apply the Timothy sticker. Page 22 will reinforce that the Bible is God's Word and that it is very special. The children will place Bible stickers.



BIBLE STORY

TEACHING OUTLINE

Materials Needed

- Bible
- Set of finger puppets made from Project 9 in Handwork manual
- Student workbook pages 21 and 22
- Crayons or pencils
- Timothy and Bible stickers

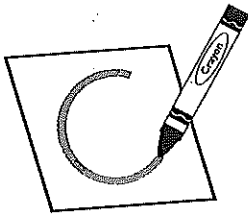
BibleTime

Review the Bible stories from Unit 2:

1. God's Word Is Given on a Mountain. Ask these questions:
 - How do you think God gave us the Bible?
 - Who carried the laws God gave him on a mountain?
 - What did Moses bring down from the mountain?
 - What do we call the rules written on the tablets?
 - Where can we find the rules written today?
2. God's Scroll-book Is Found. Ask discussion questions:
 - What work did Josiah tell the priest and servants to do?
 - Where was the scroll-book found?
 - Why did the king become so upset?
 - Do you have a Bible or Bible storybook of your own?
 - Do you know where it is, or is it lost like the scroll-book was?
3. Timothy Learns God's Word. Show the puppets from Project 9 as you ask these questions:
 - Who is this?
 - How did Timothy learn God's Word?
 - Whom did Timothy help when he was older?
 - How can you learn God's Word with people in your family?

WorkbookTime

Have the students complete pages 21 and 22 of the Student workbook.



CLASS ACTIVITIES

TEACHING OUTLINE

Materials Needed

- Items from room that tell about the Bible
- Box
- Heritage of Faith Song Cassette
- Handwork pages 4, 19 and 20
- Scissors
- Crayons
- Stapler
- Staple remover

WorshipTime

1. Gather everything in your room that tells about the Bible, and put the objects in a box.
2. Remove each item, discussing the fact that many children have never heard about the things represented by each.
3. Help the class feel thankful that we do have knowledge of God's Word.
4. Encourage the children in their prayer lives, and lead a prayer.

HandworkTime

1. Help the children complete Handwork Project 10 using pages 4, 19 and 20.
2. Scissors, a stapler and crayons will be needed.

ActivityTime

1. Have volunteers point to their pictures on the bulletin board and recite the Key Bible Verse.
2. Let the children take down their pictures to take home.
3. Sing "I'm Special," "Buddies" and "God Takes Care of Everything."
4. Stand in a circle singing "Jesus Loves Me."

Lesson Preparation

WorshipTime

Just before the worship activities begin, gather up everything in your room that tells about the Bible (Bibles, Bible storybooks, pictures of Bible scenes, cone visual from Lesson 9), and put them in a box.

Tell the children, "We are so glad we have God's Word, the Bible, to tell us Jesus loves children and helps us know what is right. But there are some children in our town and far away who have never seen a Bible. Some children have never heard about how God gave His Word to Moses."

Remove the items from the box one at a time, commenting that some children do not know the things represented by each item.

Turn from this sad state to rejoicing that we *do* know these things. Help the group feel thankful and expectant toward future learning. To help them learn to express these feelings to God, sing "God's Word," "O Give Thanks," and "Praise Him, Praise Him."

Encourage the children to pray for their concerns and to thank God for hearing and answering our prayers. Thank God for the offering, as well.

HandworkTime

Help the children complete Project 10 in the Handwork book using pages 4, 19 and 20. To make the booklet about how we got the Bible, you will need scissors, a stapler and crayons.

Cut apart the sheet at the bold line on page 19. Staple together the pages in chronological

order. Fold at the dotted lines. Let children color the booklet, draw and outline as instructed.

ActivityTime

Gather the children in front of the "Our Class" photo bulletin board. Have volunteers from the class come up to the board, point to their photo, and say today's Key Bible Verse, Psalm 119:16.

Then instead of adding to the "Our Class" bulletin board, let the children help you take it down. One at a time, let each child come and remove his or her picture. You may need to help with a stapler remover.

As each child comes, sing some of the songs you learned earlier this quarter: "I'm Special" – both verses; "Buddies" and "God Takes Care of Every thing," inserting the words "God takes care of me" and "God takes care of you."

End this activity by letting the children stand in a circle holding their pictures and singing "Jesus Loves Me." Then they may take home their pictures along with their other take-home materials.