

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE: BONUS LESSON

WRITER - TIFFANY CRISP
MANAGING EDITOR - KRISTI CAIN
EDITOR (PRE-K) - JENNIFER MCGHEE
DESIGNER - KATE KALVACH



BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

PREPARATION GUIDE

BONUS LESSON-ELEMENTARY & PRE-K

The Books of the Bible lesson, is a stand-alone lesson meant to be used as a bonus lesson in the longer months with five weeks in them. Since each monthly unit is comprised of only four lessons, a bonus lesson (like this one) will be used to teach your children Christian disciplines and knowledge. This lesson focuses on how every story in the Bible connects together and how it is one big story about God. The verse for this week helps the kids realize that everything was written so we can believe in God: "But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God" (John 20:31). Learn and grow with your class this week as you teach about the Word of God.

WEEK 1- ELEMENTARY

LESSON MATERIALS: Bibles (1 per child or 1 per pair), *Books of the Bible Labels* (1 pre-cut sheet per 3 kids), *Bible Color-By-Name* Sheet (1 per child), Markers or Crayons

WEEK 1- PRE-K

LESSON MATERIALS: Kid Puzzles (1 for every 3-4 children), Bibles (1 per class), *The Bible* Sheet (1 per child), Crayons

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

BIBLE PASSAGE

The 66 Books of the Bible

BIG IDEA

The Bible is one big story about God.

FOCUS VERSE

"But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God."

John 20:31 (NIV)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzles | Bibles | The Bible Sheet | Crayons |

GREET – 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- Do you have a favorite Bible story?
- Tell me about what you know about the Bible.

WORSHIP – 10 MINUTES

Help our children (even the littlest ones) understand that worship is a way of living, not just a time of singing. After all, worshipful acts flow out of a worshipful heart. God cultivates worshipful hearts as we practice worshiping in a variety of ways: thinking about God, praying, talking about God, or quietly listening to God. Before you sing, tell the kids that you are going to worship Him by singing. End by reminding them that God loves our worship!

PRAY – 5 MINUTES

Encourage one of the children to volunteer to pray for the class.



SAMPLE PRAYER: "Lord, we love You. You are so great. Help us love You more and more each day. In Jesus' name, Amen."

REVIEW – 5 MINUTES

BACKGROUND: Say, "Today, we are taking a break from our normal lessons to talk about the Bible, God's Word to us. We are going to make sure we understand what the Bible is and why God gave us the Bible."

TRANSITION: Say, "To get us thinking about what we will be learning, let's play a game together."

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzles (1 per group) |

Say, "Did you know that **the Bible is one big story about God**? This means that all of the stories we learn in church connect like a puzzle to tell us one huge story about God. What connects together to make one big picture? Yes! Puzzles! Let's do some puzzles together."

GAME GOAL: For each group to build a puzzle from start to finish.

HOW TO PLAY:

- 1. Split the class into groups of 3-4 people.
- 2. Give each group a puzzle and tell them they need to work together to build their group's puzzle. **CHALLENGE:** If teams finish early, you can have them switch puzzles with another group.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great job working together to build your puzzles! Let's see what else we can learn about the Bible."

LEARN — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Bibles (1 per class) |



Say, "Today, we won't be learning about only one story in the Bible, but instead, we will learn about the Bible as a whole book. **The Bible is one big story about God!** Let's talk about two big questions we are going to answer: 1. What is the Bible? and 2. Why did God give us the Bible?"

What is the Bible?

Say, "Who wants to tell me what you think the Bible is? Good answers! Well, the Bible is a book, but it is more than just a normal book; the Bible is the BEST book. The Bible is one big story about God. At the very beginning, the Bible talks about how God created the perfect world and even how He created us perfectly! Then it spends a long time talking about how everyone hurt God's heart by choosing to disobey Him. Our wrong behavior ruined God's perfect world, but God had a special plan to fix everything! Much later in the Bible, we learn about Jesus, God's Son, who makes everything right again. The most important thing to remember is that the Bible is one big story about God."

Why did God give us the Bible?

Say, "Why do you think God gave us the Bible? Great guesses! God gave us the Bible so we can know who He is! We find this out by reading the stories of the Bible. We can see more of who God is with each story. God also gave us the Bible so we can know that God loves us. John 3:16 says, 'For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son..."

Say, "The most important thing to remember about everything you have learned today is that **the Bible is one big story about God**.

Ask, "What is one thing you learned from today's lesson? Great! God gave us a great gift when He gave us the Bible! Can we pause for a second and say thank You to God for the Bible? Thank you, God! All of the stories in the Bible are connected, just like a puzzle, to make one ginormous story about God."

TRANSITION: Say, "I'm so grateful God gave us the Bible so we can know Him and learn about how much He loves us. Aren't you?"

DISCUSS – 10 MINUTES

Say, "Let's see what you can remember about today's lesson."

1. The Bible is one big story about who?

Response: God! The Bible is one big story about God.

2. What is the Bible?

Response: **The Bible is one big story about God**. In the Bible, we find out so many important true stories like how God created the world and then later how He sent His Son, Jesus, to save us.

3. How is the Bible different from other books?

Response: The Bible is the BEST book because it is God's book.

4. Why did God give us the Bible?

Response: God gave us the Bible so we can know Him, and so He can teach us how much He loves us.

5. How do we know that God loves us?

Response: There are many ways we can learn about God's love for us, but one of the best ways is through the Bible.

6. What does this lesson tell us about God?

Response: The Bible is a story about God, God loves us, God gave us the Bible so we can know Him, God gave us the Bible, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "Nice job, everyone! Great listening ears."

RESPOND – 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | The Bible Sheet (1 per child) | Crayons |

Say, "Remember, **the Bible is one big story about God!** And because of that truth, today we are coloring a picture of the Bible! Who is ready to get started?"

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. Give each child a *Bible* Sheet and crayons to color in.
- 2. While the kids are coloring their *Bible* Sheet, review what the Bible is from the LEARN section. One way to review the lesson is to ask the class to tell you what they learned.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great job making your Bibles beautiful! Don't forget, **the Bible is one big story about God**."

MEMORIZE – 5 MINUTES

Say, "Do you feel like you know a little more about the Bible after today? That is great news! Remember, **the Bible is one big story about God**. We have a verse just for this week, and it reminds us of why the Bible was written. Let's learn it together." Read the verse aloud a few times, and then invite the children to say it with you.

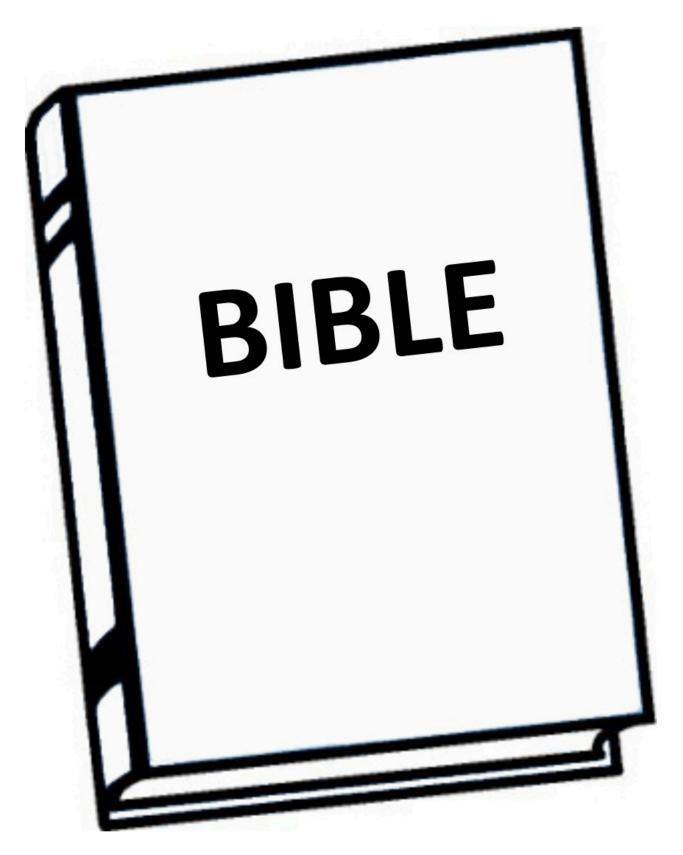
"But these are written (pretend to write with a pencil) that you may believe (point to your head) that Jesus is the Messiah, (point straight up) the Son of God." John 20:31 (NIV) (hold your hands out like a book)

CHALLENGE: Since this is the only week you will work on memorizing this verse, encourage the kids to draw a picture that reminds them of the words of John 20:31.

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, "We read the Bible because we want to know about God. Did you know that the better you get to know God, the more you will love Him? So God, out of His love, gave us a book about Himself—the BEST book! **The Bible is one big story about God**." Ask a volunteer to pray for the class, and then the leader can close in prayer.

SAMPLE PRAYER: "God, You are amazing! You surprise us, and You show Your love for us in so many ways. Thank You for giving us the Bible so that we can know You and believe in Your Son, Jesus. Amen."



THE BIBLE IS ONE BIG STORY ABOUT GOD.