

Adventures with GOD!

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE 3 (A.3.SPRING.12)

Biblical Reference	Colossians 3: 12-17
Key Verse	Ephesians 5:19
Key Concept	God speaks to me through others.
Educational Objectives	At the end of this lesson, children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name adults they can talk to about God. 2. Draw a picture of today's story. 3. Memorize the Key Verse.

Life Application

What a blessing it is to be part of a family. So many people around the world belong to God's family. Within this family, we have people who are like older brothers and sisters who teach us about the Bible and about God. Children should be encouraged by how much they can learn from other Christians, and have the opportunity to thank God for these people.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure w/God materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Introduction		3 minutes
Bible Exploration	Bible	10 minutes
Song		5 minutes
Activity	See Attached	5 minutes
Snacks		5 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review: As children enter, take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets, and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials at CovChurch.org/children/adventures-with-god.

Opening Prayer: Gather children around a candle. Light the candle, and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them, palms up, as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

Prayer Example: Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

Bible Reading: Explain that we read the Bible first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out stretched, palms up, to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read the Key Verse for the day twice and ask children to respond.

Question Examples: What did you notice in this passage? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you though the story?

Introduction: Display a map of the world. Cut out pictures of churches in other cities and/or countries. If possible, cut out pictures of people from around the world, too. When children arrive, ask who had the opportunity to visit other countries. Discuss how God's family is so big that it spreads out all over the world. Our family is made up of people who love Jesus and want to be our friends.

Bible Exploration: The Bible teaches so many beautiful and good things. What a blessing it is to have the Bible! For several weeks, we learned how God has been communicating with humans since the creation of the world. First God spoke to people (Adam and Eve) face to face. Others heard God's voice through their ears (Noah). God sent messages to people by angels (like Abraham and Sarah). God also sent messages through men and women (such as Gideon and

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Abigail). When Jesus was on earth, he personally gave messages of God. After Jesus' death and resurrection, God has given us messages through the Bible. The Bible also teaches important things through mature people who know more about the Bible (i.e. through the pastor of the church, by a leader, by our parents and teachers). God wants us to be ready to hear these teachings and obey God's commands.

Song: It's nice that the Bible encourages us to talk to each other through Psalms, hymns and songs. Psalms and hymns are other words to songs. What is your favorite song that we sing here? Another option is "God loves you and you". Remember to sing this song.

Activity: On page 5, there is an illustration of children from around the world. Make a copy of this sheet for each child to color and bring home. If there is extra time, children can color illustrations on pages 6-8.

Snacks: End this time in prayer. Pray for all of the women and men, young and old, that teach us about God's word.

Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:

G=God's Word: What is the story? (Give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story).

R=Relationships: Is there anything in today's bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others. Give children a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead).

O=Outward Action: Is there anything in the bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week).

W=Worship: Is there anything in the bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? What would you like to say to God?

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Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle, explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, the candle reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

Prayer Example: Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen

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Illustration

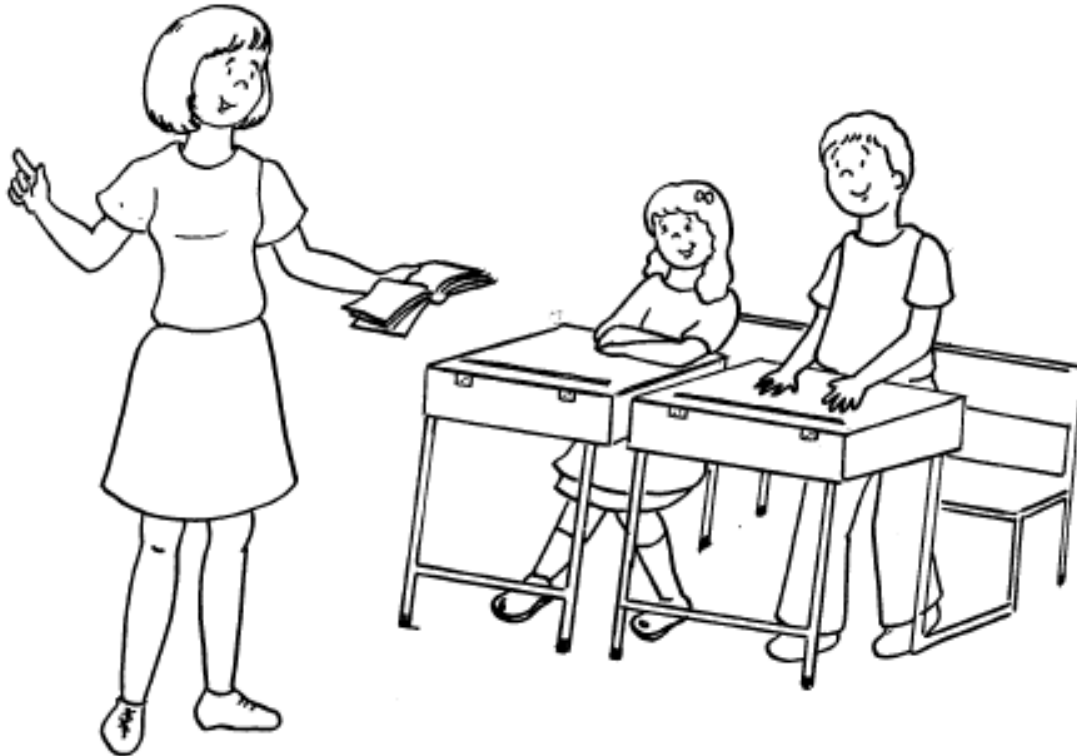
Children around the world



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Illustration

Listening to the Bible



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Pastor preaching



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Illustration

Parents talk about God

