

Adventures with GOD!

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE 2 (A.SPRING.11)

Biblical Reference	2 Timothy 3: 16-17
Key Verse	John 17: 17
Key Concept	The Bible teaches us about the great love of God.
Educational Objectives	At the end of this lesson, children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss how we use the bible. 2. Memorize the Key Verse and explain the meaning. 3. Give thanks for God's Word.

Life Application

When we talk about the Bible, we use many phrases, like the Word of God, the Book of God, sword, truth, and so on. Every believer accepts the Word of God as truth, but children at this age may not capture the difficult terms or concepts that refer to the Bible. Today begin a process for children to learn that the Bible was inspired by God to help us live right, fair and enjoy our lives before God. Although children may not understand what "inspired by God" means, teach them that God used people to write what God wanted to say. Pray for children to love, respect and obey the Bible.

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
Craft	See attached	10 minutes
Snacks		10 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: Ask someone from the church (pastor, a known leader, etc.) to write a letter ahead of time for children in this class, congratulating them on their behavior and attendance at Sunday school. When children come to class, ask about what they did during the week, how their parents, sisters and/or brothers are, and so on. After children share about their week, tell them you have a surprise. The surprise will be the letter. Mention the letter arrived and is addressed to all of them. Open the envelope and begin to read the letter. When you finish reading, discuss something special about letter.

Bible Exploration: With your Bible open, begin telling children the ways God used people to write what God wanted humans to know at all times. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17 from the Bible and perhaps give examples of things children have learned.

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Explain that's the way God communicates with us today. God once spoke face to face with people, then through people, and now through the Bible, which we love and respect as God's word to us. Show children how to touch and handle the Bible, and encourage them to page through it. Ask: If we respect the Bible, how should we care for it? Talk about things you should never do to the Bible: break off pages and so on. Explain that it's okay to make notes and even underline special verses. You can explain why you do it, and if they have their own Bibles, take time to explore the many pages and verses written in it.

Craft: Copy the attached illustration on page 5. Provide extra sheets of paper to make a "Bible" with verses written on them. Or use the other illustrations on pages 6-9 and staple them together to make a booklet. Encourage children to draw pictures, color and express what they learned.

Conclusion: Pray together thanking God for how much the Bible helps us live a life pleasing to God. (Send a note to parents asking them to encourage children to open and read the Bible on a daily basis).

Snacks: Give thanks to God for giving us the Bible to help us live a wonderful life in God's love. After praying and giving thanks, serve refreshments.

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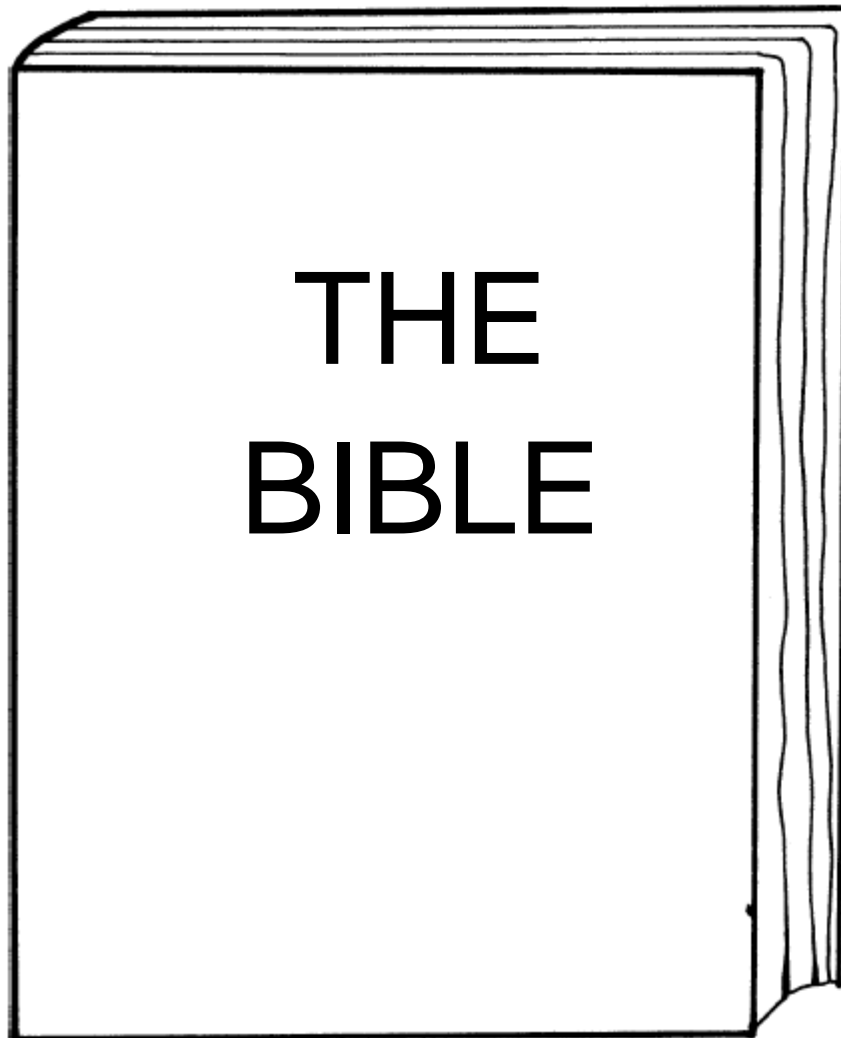
Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle, explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, the candle reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded,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

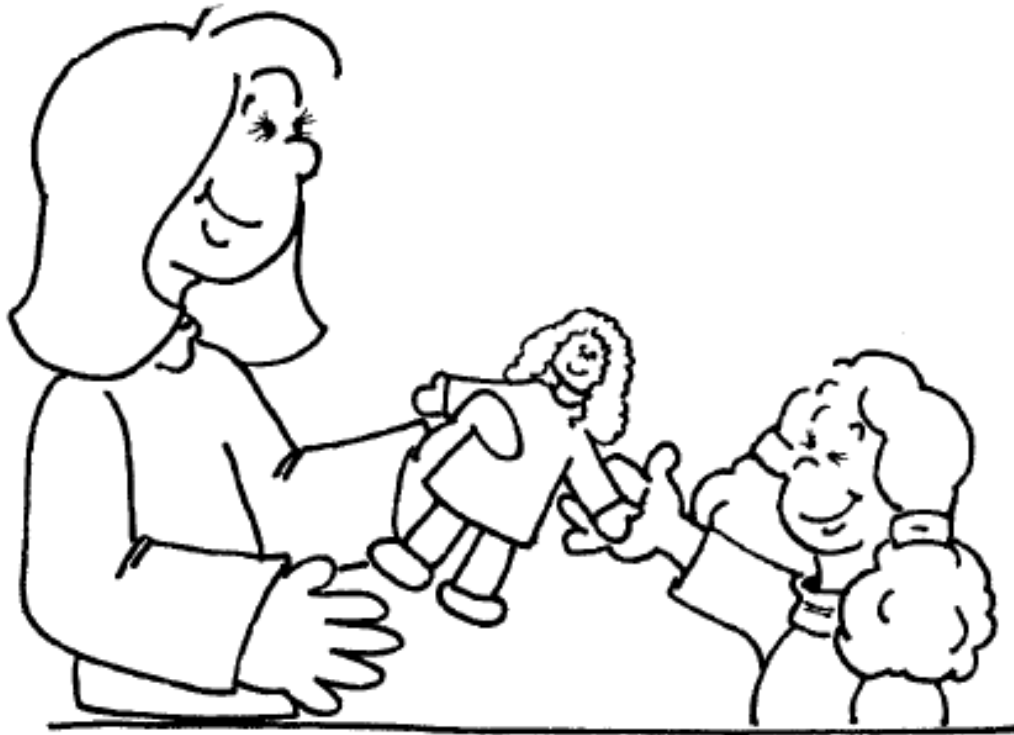
The Bible



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Illustration

The bible teaches us to share



Adventures with GOD!

Illustration

The Bible teaches us to obey



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Illustration

The Bible teaches us to love one another



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