

GETTING TO KNOW GOD: BIBLE BASICS
Week 1: The Bible Is Our Instruction Book for Life

This includes:

Leader Preparation

Lesson Guide

LEADER PREPARATION

BIBLE BASIS

From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible is God's Word, an instruction manual to his people. The Bible was written over the span of 1,500 years, by 40 different authors, across three continents, and in three different languages. It still contains one primary theme: knowing Jesus. It speaks as clearly today as it did centuries ago, giving its readers guidance and wisdom. Use this lesson to introduce your children to the wonder of applying God's Word to their lives.

DISCOVERY POINT

The Bible is our instruction book for life.

BIBLE FOCUS

2 Timothy 3:14-17

KEY VERSE

"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true" (2 Timothy 3:16).

TEACHING PREP

The short overview below is designed to help you prepare for your lesson.

Supplies You'll Need: *Getting to Know God: Bible Basics (Year 1/Quarter 1)* CD, *LIVE Children's Curriculum (Year 1)* DVD, CD player, TV/DVD player, 8-inch piece of string for every child, scissors, Bibles, marker, newsprint, tape, 15-inch length of rope per crew, scissors, "Situations and Solutions" handout, and "It's Knot a Problem" handout

Before This Lesson

- Cut string into lengths of about 8 inches so you have one for each child.
- Print the "Situations and Solutions" handout, and cut apart the sections. You'll need one section per team of four kids.
- Print the "It's Knot a Problem" handout. You'll need one copy per team of four kids.
- Assemble Bible Exploration Kits (one per four kids): Bible, 15-inch piece of rope, "It's Knot a Problem" handout, and one section of the "Situations and Solutions" handout prepared above.
- Write these questions on a piece of newsprint, and post it at the front of the room: "What does Scripture mean?" "Where did it come from?" and "What is it used for?"
- Review 2 Timothy 3:14-17.
- Cue "Into the Bible" (Track 1) on the *Getting to Know God: Bible Basics (Year 1/Quarter 1)* CD or (Quarter 1/Track 1) on the *LIVE Children's Curriculum (Year 1)* DVD.
- Huddle briefly with your volunteers beforehand. Answer any questions they have. Encourage them and pray.

PARENT EMAIL

We've provided you with a "Family Devotion" handout to send the Bible learning and faith discovery home. When kids and parents have faith discussions regularly, kids' faith multiplies.

So we've given you two options:

- Print the "Family Devotion" handout and make enough copies for each child to take one home.
- Email the "Family Devotion" to families before or after the actual lesson.

Or why not do both? That way you'll double the opportunities for parents to actually get the handout.

GETTING TO KNOW GOD: BIBLE BASICS
Week 1: The Bible Is Our Instruction Book for Life

Lesson Guide

WELCOME!

Supplies: *Getting to Know God: Bible Basics (Year 1/Quarter 1)* CD, *LIVE Children's Curriculum (Year 1)* DVD, CD player, TV/DVD player, 8-inch piece of string for every child

1. Play "Into the Bible" (Track 1) from the *Getting to Know God: Bible Basics (Year 1/Quarter 1)* CD or (Quarter 1/Track 1) from the *LIVE Children's Curriculum (Year 1)* DVD as kids arrive.

• **"Into the Bible"**

Makes me wanna jump!
Jump! Jump! Jump! Jump!
Makes me wanna sing! Hallelujah!
It's the greatest book.
Come and take a look.
Makes me wanna shout!
Shout! Shout! Shout! Shout!
So that everyone will see
I'm getting into the Bible
And the Bible...is getting into me!

We're discovering a brand-new world
As we dig a little deeper (deeper),
Finding out about who God is.
Open it up and see it (see it)!
There's nothin' like
God's Word, and I get
So excited.
It makes me wanna,
Makes me,

Makes me wanna jump!
Jump! Jump! Jump! Jump!
Makes me wanna sing! Hallelujah!
It's the greatest book.
Come and take a look.
Makes me wanna shout!
Shout! Shout! Shout! Shout!
So that everyone will see
I'm getting into the Bible
And the Bible...is getting into me!

"Into the Bible" by Jay Stocker. © 2006 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.
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2. As kids arrive, give each one a piece of string and tell kids to ask someone else to follow their step-by-step instructions to tie it in a creative way on one of their fingers. Make sure

the strings aren't tied too tightly. Have kids leave their strings on their fingers until they leave.

3. Play "Parrot Countdown" (Quarter 1/Countdown Track 1) on the *LIVE Children's Curriculum (Year 1)* DVD, and turn the volume way up. Lead kids in cheering along.

SAY: **I'm so glad you're here today! Everyone show me the string on your fingers.**

ASK:

- **What was it like to give instructions to someone else?**
- **What was it like to follow someone else's instructions?**

SAY: **Today we're going to learn the most important instructions ever. We're going to learn about how the Bible is our instruction book for life.**

LET'S EXPLORE!

Supplies: assembled Bible Exploration Kits, marker, newsprint

1. Have kids form Bible Crews of no more than four. Hand out Bible Exploration Kits, and ask crews to turn to 2 Timothy 3:14-17 in the Bible. Ask one child in each group to be the pointer. Ask all kids to read out loud along with you as the pointer points to the words in the Bible.

Afterward, SAY: **I'd like each group to answer the questions on this piece of newsprint. Have one person in your group read the first question, and then everyone take a turn giving an answer. It's OK if you have the same answer as someone else. When you finish one question, go on to the next.** Allow time.

ASK:

- **Why do you think we need instructions from God?**
- **On a scale from one to 10, tell how you rate yourself on how well you follow God's instructions.**

2. SAY: **Let's try something that relates to today's Scripture. In your Bible Crews, take the "It's Knot a Problem" handout and your rope out of your Exploration Kit. Have crews try the activity.**

When everyone has finished the activity, ASK:

- **What was the easiest or hardest part of this activity?**
- **What are some things in your life that seem as hard to figure out as this activity?**

- **Where can we find solutions to these problems?**

Have someone find and read the Key Verse, 2 Timothy 3:16, aloud.

SAY: **The Bible is our instruction book for life. God uses the Bible to guide us in our lives and teach us to do what's right. And the Bible helps us follow Jesus.**

3. SAY: **Jesus will help us find solutions to our problems. Everything in the Bible points to him and his example of how to live. There are plenty of difficult things to figure out in our lives. I'm very thankful that God gave us the Bible. The Bible is our instruction book for life! Let's see what the Bible says to help us figure out some of the difficult things in our lives. In your Exploration Kit, you'll find a strip of paper with a situation in which you might need help from the Bible. Your job is to create a skit that shows both the difficult situation and the Bible's solution. You'll have five minutes to prepare, so don't waste any time!**

4. Visit each crew several times to make sure its skit is appropriate and to help find answers in the Bible. Direct crews to their Bible concordance to find additional verses. After five minutes, ask each crew to present its skit. Allow time.

ASK:

- **What did these skits tell you about the Bible?**
- **Why can we say that the Bible is our instruction book for life?**
- **How would you explain to a friend that the Bible is our instruction book for life?**

LET'S PRAISE!

Supplies: *Getting to Know God: Bible Basics (Year 1/Quarter 1)* CD or *LIVE Children's Curriculum (Year 1)* DVD, CD player or TV/DVD player

1. SAY: **When I realize that God cares for me so much that he gave me the Bible, I'm amazed. What a privilege it is to know God and to know that the Bible is our instruction book for life. Let's praise and thank God for this!**

2. Set up the *Getting to Know God: Bible Basics (Year 1/Quarter 1)* CD or the *LIVE Children's Curriculum (Year 1)* DVD. PLAY:

- **"He Cares For You" (1 Peter 5:7)** (CD Track 2) (DVD Quarter 1/Track 2)

What are you worried about now?

Trying to figure it out now-

God knows right where you are now.

You know it's all in his hands now.

You know he cares for you;

He always cares for you.

You know he'll see you through;

He'll always see you through.

(Chorus)

Cast all your anxiety

On him

Because he cares for you.

He cares for you.

Cast all your anxiety

On him

Because he cares for you.

He cares for you.

Jesus cares for you.

(Repeat from beginning.)

What are you worried about now?

Trying to figure it out now-

God knows right where you are now.

You know it's all in his hands now.

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• **"No Greater Gift"** (CD Track 3) (DVD Quarter1/Track 3)

No greater gift than God's great love
For his children, every one.
Not a gift that we can earn,
So much more than we deserve.
No greater gift than God's great love
For his children, every one.
It would take a million words
To thank you for your love!

No greater gift than God's great love
For his children, every one.
Not a gift that we can earn,
So much more than we deserve.
No greater gift than God's great love
For his children, every one.
It would take a million words
To thank you for your love!

Ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah, hey!
Ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah, hey!
Ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah-ah, hey!

No greater gift than God's great love
For his children, every one.
Not a gift that we can earn,
So much more than we deserve.
No greater gift than God's great love
For his children, every one.
It would take a million words
To thank you,
Thank you,
Thank you for your love!

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• **"Humble Yourselves"** (CD Track 4) (DVD Quarter 1/Track 4)

Sometimes we think we know it all,
We've got it all together.
But we don't know what's goin' on,
Who's holdin' us together.
Yeah, yeah.
You gotta learn to listen to his voice
Yeah, yeah.
You gotta learn to put him first.
In everything you do, you must

Humble yourselves before the Lord,
And he will lift you up in honor, in honor.
Humble yourselves before the Lord,
And he will lift you up in honor, in honor.

And he will lift you up.

(Repeat from the beginning.)

Humble yourselves before the Lord,
And he will lift you up in honor, in honor.
Humble yourselves before the Lord,
And he will lift you up in honor, in honor.
And he will lift you up.

"Humble Yourselves" (James 4:10) by Jay Stocker. © 2007 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved. Permission to use lyrics granted for local church use only. No unauthorized duplication permitted.

LET'S PRAY!

Supplies: assembled Bible Exploration Kits, *Getting to Know God: Bible Basics (Year 1/Quarter 1)* CD, CD player

1. SAY: **The Bible is our instruction book for life.** There's no more important book or set of instructions for us to know. Return to your Bible Crews for our prayer time. Place your Bible in the center of your crew, and sit around it. Let everyone place his or her hand on the Bible. Then take turns thanking God for his instruction book for life. Think of one time this week you'll look in the Bible for instructions for how to live your life, and tell God when you'll do it. Leave the string on your finger this week to remind you of your commitment to follow the Bible because **the Bible is our instruction book for life.** When you've finished, you can pray individually until all the other crews have finished praying. I'll play some music until everyone has finished.

2. Play "Prayer Time Sound Effects 1" (Track 17) from the *Getting to Know God: Bible Basics (Year 1/Quarter 1)* CD as the children pray.

HIGH FIVES

Supplies: none

1. Teach the kids the following cadence:

**I just know 'cause I've been told
That God's Word is very old.
It shows me the right from wrong
And teaches us to get along.
Sound off, God's Word.
Sound off, God's Word.
(Descending notes) God's Word is my guide
(Ascending shout) Ev'ry day!**

2. Ask kids to form two lines. Have them give high fives to kids in the other line as they march past and recite their cadence. Then have them turn around and march back the other way, giving high fives again.

FOR-EXTRA-TIME ACTIVITIES

I've Got Your Back

Supplies: pencils, paper

Have children form pairs and sit back to back with one partner in each pair facing you. Give each pair two pieces of paper and a pencil. Draw a simple picture on a piece of white paper, and show it to the children facing you. Ask those children to explain to their partners how to draw your picture on their papers. After a few minutes, have partners look together at the drawing and then trade places. Show a new picture, and repeat the process. Talk about what it's like to give instructions and how God's instructions compare to ours.

Create a Bible Dictionary

Supplies: paper, markers, dictionary, CD player, *Getting to Know God: Bible Basics (Year 1/Quarter 1)* CD

Ask kids to create one or more pages, each with a new word, for a Bible dictionary. Have kids suggest words from today's lesson—*inspired* and *Scripture* are two suggestions. Have them write each word on a sheet of paper in fun letters, add a definition, list Scripture references, and make illustrations. Play "The Books of the Bible Song" (Track 8), from the *Getting to Know God: Bible Basics (Year 1/Quarter 1)* CD while kids work. Add each page to a three-ring binder, and watch the dictionary grow!