Introduction to the Bible for Kids

Unit One

From the Curriculum Series, "Foundations"

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Note to Teachers and Parents:

The Word of God is so profoundly important for living a life of faithful obedience. As a person studies, it seems that the importance only increases as it becomes evident how essential and powerful it can be in obtaining the inheritance. It is no less important in the lives of children. As they grow and are trained by their parents and in the church, there is a great and wonderful responsibility of equipping them with the truths of the Word of God to impact and change their lives. We are thrilled about this opportunity to have a small part in helping children to establish foundations upon which they can continue to build Scriptural knowledge. An accurate and strong foundation precedes and accurate and strong structure built upon it. Without the right foundation, the structure will be incorrect. What an amazing gift we as teachers and parents can offer our children. Thus this series was born out of a sense of responsibility and love for His Word.

There are a few thoughts we wish to convey before you begin. Please familiarize yourself with the entire unit. All circumstances are different, so whether you find yourself teaching each lesson, or just one in the five, it is important that you see the context of your lesson and how it relates to the others. This way you can draw on previous knowledge they have gained in previous weeks, or take more time on a concept if it is new.

This is an introduction to Bible basics. We reference ‘stories’ of the Bible, throughout the five lessons. We encourage you to emphasize that these ‘stories’ are true, historical and accurately recorded. The word “story” can sometimes suggest comparison to made-up stories and fairy tales. We just want to make sure the distinction is made.

We also want to encourage the teachers and parents to ask the children to bring their Bibles to class each week. The act of seeking for references, and getting their own hands on the Bible, paging through it, and seeing the words, will be a lesson in itself. It is another way for them to become familiar with God’s Word.

Another note to emphasize is to encourage the children to talk with their families about the lessons and what was learned. There is a parent resource sheet at the end of this booklet that will be distributed to each family. Please familiarize yourself with this so you will know what has been reviewed with each child. There are activities that are created to bring things home for this purpose, but it will just be another good reminder.

We hope this will be profitable and fun for you and your class!

Shelby Brewer,
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Lesson 1

The Bible: One Special Book

Objective

• To help students discover how the Bible is different from any other book. To do this we will be using the truths found in scripture to build a correct foundation about the Bible.

Memory Verse

• 2 Timothy 3:16 “All scripture is God-breathed”

Supplies

• Age appropriate children’s books, a Bible (one book per child and adult)
• Medium size balloon
• One balloon per child (with “2 Tim 3:16” written with permanent marker)
• Construction paper (9x12)
• Hole puncher
• Yarn
• Crayons
• Scissors
• Glue Sticks
• Copied worksheet: “Things I Know About the Bible”

Lesson

Have children sit in a circle and lay various children’s books and a Bible on the ground in the middle of the circle. Ask the children to identify what has been put in front of them.

Begin a discussion on “books”. Ask the children questions about the books:

• “What do you do with books?” , “What books do you have at home?”, “Who reads you books?”, etc.

Allow time for each child to express his or her thoughts and ideas.

Then hand a book to each child (keeping the Bible for an adult). Tell them to open it up and use their eyes to look each page. Then continue the previous discussion and include the various parts of the book (cover, title, author,
pages, words, etc.). Go around the circle and have each child hold up their books for everyone to see.

Next, hold the Bible up. Explain that the Bible is different from the other books in the room. Point out the physical differences (lots of words, some words are red, pages are thin and crinkly, lots of pages, etc.) and then move into the differences in content. Discuss the different names for the Bible: scripture, God’s Word, Truth, etc.

Ask the children, “Did you know the Bible talks about itself? Let’s look through some of these pages to read what the Bible says.” Open your Bible to the memory verse and read 2 Timothy 3:16-17:

“All scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”

Read verse in it’s entirety but focus mainly on the first part, “All scripture is God-breathed”. Use visual to help explain what this means:

Visual To help children understand that scripture is “God-breathed”, take out deflated balloon and show it to the class. Discuss why the balloon is “small” and “flat” and what needs to happen in order to make it “big” and “round”. Point out that the balloon needs air from someone’s mouth in order to make a balloon shape. Blow the balloon up for the children to see.

Compare this to the memory verse and explain that the Bible is written from “God’s breath”. God breathed the words, He wrote these important words and stories for us to read and learn from. Point to each child and emphasize the fact that “God-breathed” these special words for each person in the room.

Listen carefully as I read some more from the Bible to help us learn more about this special book. Open your bible and read Hebrews 4:12:

“For the word of God is living and active sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

The way God gave us His God-breathed words was through using men to write them down. Scripture tells us this in 2 Peter 1:21:

“...but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God”

God showed these men exactly what to write down.
Remind the children that we should never forget how special and important these words are to us.

Put all the books back on the floor. Ask the children to point out the only book that is “God-breathed”. Use this time to review what was learned and emphasize how the Bible is very different from all the other books on the ground.

Tell the children in the coming weeks we will be learning more about the Bible and why it is such a special book. Emphasize the importance of bringing their Bible to church every Sunday.

**Activity**

Explain to the children that in order to help us remember what we learned today each person is going to make his or her own book to bring home with them.

**Activity Preparation (to be done before class):** Cut pieces of construction paper in half and punch two holes in each page. Copy appropriate number of worksheets and cut out each section. Gather other materials needed: scissors, glue sticks, hole punch, yarn and crayons.

Begin activity by distributing 5 pieces of construction paper to each child. Point out that these will be the pages of their book. Hand out the pre-cut title and help each child glue on the title. Continue this until all pages are completed. Use a crayon to write the child’s name under the title to show they are the “author”. Use pieces of yarn to tie book together.

Before the children leave, make sure to pass out a balloon to each child. Review the illustration that was given at the beginning of class. Instruct children to take the balloon home. They can blow the balloon up and explain to their family that they learned that the Bible is “God-breathed” and alive.

Use the rest of class time to review this week’s memory verse and song.
Things I Know About the Bible

It helps us grow and guides us.
- Psalm 119:105

It is one complete true story.
- Isaiah 46:10

It is God-breathed.
- 2 Timothy 3:16

It is a special book.
- Isaiah 40:1

It is living and active.
- Hebrews 4:12
Lesson 2
The Bible: Learning the Facts

Objective

• To introduce basic facts about the Bible; emphasizing it’s content and structure.

Memory Verse

• Isaiah 40:8 “The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.”

Supplies

• Fresh cut flowers, vase
• String or elastic
• Assorted bag of large foam beads (for activity)
• Tape
• Containers to display beads
• 5 large unique beads (for visual)

Lesson

Begin today’s lesson by asking the children what they learned last week. Be sure to review the memory verse and main themes.

Introduce this week’s memory verse. Explain that it is another place in scripture where God tells us how special the Bible is: Isaiah 40:1

“The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.”

Visual

Display the vase of fresh flowers. Ask the children, “What do you think will happen to these flowers in a couple of days?” Allow the children to answer and explain the flowers will lose their color, begin to wilt and eventually die. Direct the conversation back to the memory verse. Emphasize how things in this world, such as grass and flowers, are only around for a short time, but that God’s word, the Bible, will be here for us and be true always -- in a week, a month, a year – forever!
Today we will build upon last week’s lesson. We are going to learn more about why the Bible is so different and find out what exactly is inside this special book.

Instruct everyone to take out his or her Bible and open it. Ask the children what they see. Ask for visual observations: words – color, amount; numbers – page numbers, verses, chapters, etc.

Explain that there are important facts that we should know about the Bible. Take time to discuss each of the following facts:

- **The Bible is divided into two main parts. Does anyone know the name for each of these sections? New and Old testaments**
  - Use your Bible to show the children exactly where the Old and New Testaments begin and end.
- **The Bible was written a long time ago and it took thousands of years to be completed.**
  - Explain that the Bible has been around for a long, long time. God wrote the Bible for all people everywhere. God loves when we read His special book and when we learn important things from it.
- **The Bible is made up of many stories that all go together to make up one complete true story.**
  - The Bible tells us stories about many different people. These people lived a very long time ago and everything the Bible says about them is true! Each person in the Bible actually lived on the earth thousands of year ago. God uses the lives of these people to guide and teach us today.

Ask the children, “Can you think of any people that you know from the Bible?” Allow each child who answers to briefly state some facts about each Biblical person. Be prepared to give your own examples.

Point out how each story has different people, a different setting and/or takes place at a different time. Again, emphasize how each of these individual stories are found within one complete true story --the Bible.

**Visual**

Use the beads and string at this time to illustrate how there are many different stories in the Bible that make up one complete true story. Have children sit around a table. Distribute one bead to each person in the room. Place a bead on the table and ask the children not to touch it. Ask the children to identify what is in front of them. Instruct the children to pick up the bead. Ask them to look the bead carefully, taking note of it’s physical attributes – shape, size, color, texture, etc. Point out the
differences between each bead. Lay remaining “visual” supplies on the table (ask the children not to touch them). Ask the children to think about what a necklace looks like. Emphasize that each child is only holding a single bead and then ask, “What else is needed to make your bead into a necklace?” Allow the children to figure out that string and additional beads are needed to make their single bead into a necklace.

Collect all the beads and string them together to form a necklace. Note that there are many beads that make up a necklace. When they are not on a string they are very separate and individual (different shapes, colors, textures). But when the beads are put together on a string they all work together to make a beautiful necklace.

Take the beads off and hand them back to the children. Now ask each child to assign his or her bead a story from the Bible. Discuss how each Bible story is different and individual – just like their bead. Gather the beads, repeating the Bible story each child has chosen and one by one, put them back on the string. Emphasize the analogy: Just like many beads make up one necklace; many Bible stories make up the complete Bible.

**Activity**

Explain to the children that in order to help us remember what we learned today each person is going to make his or her own necklace.

**Activity Preparation (to be done before class):** Gathering materials: various foam beads, containers for beads to be displayed, string and tape.

**Begin activity:** Using the string, measure an appropriate length for a tied necklace (*long enough to be placed over the child’s head when tied*). Cut the string and tape one end of the string to the table. Instruct children to place beads on the string leaving enough room at the end to tie the necklace together. Allow the children to attempt the task of stringing beads on their own, but assistance may be needed to complete necklace. Once beads are strung, an adult will need to un-tape necklace and tie a knot.

Use the remainder of class time to review this week’s memory verse and song. Pass out flowers used at beginning of class (if there is enough for every child) to help children remember the memory verse. For extra emphasis, write or type out memory verse on strips of paper and attach to each flower with string or yarn.
Lesson 3

The Bible: One Complete True Story

Objective

- To help students understand that the Bible is one continuous true story. To do this we will be teaching an overview of this story, emphasizing how the Bible tells us about God, His creation and His plans and purposes for His people.

Memory Verse

- Isaiah 46:9c-10a “I am God, and there is no one like Me, declaring the end from the beginning”

Supplies

- Large 25 Piece Puzzle
- Copied “Bible” Worksheet
- Glue
- Magnets
- Crayons
- Gallon Size Ziploc Bag
- Blank Puzzle Pieces (either purchased or painted a solid color)

Lesson

Begin today’s lesson by asking the children what they learned last week. Review memory verse and necklace making activity. Ask the children if they remember how each individual bead on the necklace was just like one story in the Bible. When all the beads are put on the string they make a necklace; when all the stories in the Bible are read together they make up “one complete true story” which we call the Bible or God’s Word.

Visual

(Before children arrive in class put the puzzle pieces in the plastic bag and put the box top away so that children cannot see it.) At this time take out the bag of puzzle pieces and distribute one puzzle piece per child. Ask the children, “What are you holding?” Point out that each child has been given a puzzle piece.
Tell the children that we need to find out what picture is on the puzzle. Ask, “What do we need to do to figure out what the picture is?” Help the children discover that they need all the pieces to the puzzle in order to put the picture together. Place the remaining puzzle pieces on the floor or table. At this time also introduce the idea of using the box top to see the picture – which will help in putting all the pieces in the correct places. Encourage and help the children complete the puzzle.

Now take time to relate the illustration to the lesson. Point out that the puzzle that was just completed is like the Bible. Explain that each puzzle piece is like a story in the Bible. There are a lot of different stories, just like there are a lot of different puzzle pieces. And just like the puzzle pieces, the stories in the Bible fit together to make up one big picture. Our job is to study and learn what the big picture looks like (like the box top) so we can figure out how the pieces (or stories) all fit together. *Pick up puzzle pieces and put puzzle away so it will not be a distraction for children*

Hold your Bible out for the children to see and open it to the book of Genesis. Using simple statements, begin to walk the children through the different books and stories of the Bible. Flip through your Bible as you go so the children can visualize where each story is taking place.

- **Old Testament**: Name some stories from the Old Testament – Noah, Abraham, Joseph, Moses, the Israelites, David, etc
- **New Testament**: Explain how the New Testament begins: birth of John the Baptist, birth of Jesus, Jesus teaching and healing, Jesus’ death and resurrection, etc.
- **Revelation**: Explain how the last book in the Bible gives us details about when Jesus comes back, judgment, ruling and reigning with Christ.

Tell the children to listen very carefully. Take the facts that were just discussed and read it as a story:

“In the very beginning God formed the earth and then made it suitable for all kinds of living things. God created living things to fill the earth: trees and flowers, birds and fish, lions and lambs and most important in God’s eyes, He made man and woman. The very first people God created were Adam and Eve and they were placed on the earth with a very specific job: to rule over all the earth, like a king and queen! BUT, God gave them a test to make sure they were going to be good rulers. Adam and Eve did not pass the test, which made them not able to rule the earth. Not only were they not fit to rule, but neither were their children,
or their children’s children, or their children’s children’s children, even you and me! Many, many years pass and God sends His own son, Jesus, to save us and teach us what we need to do so that we can one day rule over the earth. The Bible is full of very important instructions that we must study and obey in order to know how to live our lives and pass our test so that we can one day rule with Jesus. The Bible ends with explaining some future events, showing us that man will be ruling with Jesus (just like God wanted Adam and Eve to do). Man will rule with Jesus over a restored earth and entire universe!!

What an exciting day that will be when we get to rule with Jesus!! All the individual stories throughout the Bible all point to this awesome ending!”

The children might have questions as to some of the specific details that were explained in the above summary. Explain to the children that over the next months they will be more and more details of this amazing story. Use the previous puzzle illustration and explain that each week will be getting one more puzzle piece and will help to make the big picture clearer and clearer.

**Activity**

**Activity Preparation (to be done before class):** Copy worksheets; write “Isaiah 46:10” one each blank puzzle piece (one per child); glue magnets on the back of puzzle pieces.

At this time pass out worksheets and allow children to color. Explain the concept of the picture they are coloring – reiterating the theme and objective of the lesson.

Use the remainder of class time to review this week’s memory verse and song.

At the end of class pass out puzzle piece magnets as a reminder of today’s lesson. Review puzzle visual and encourage children to explain this to their family.
Lesson 4

The Bible: For Growth and Guidance

Objective

• To present the idea that the Bible has important instructions for us; the instructions help us grow in our faith and guide us in our everyday lives.

Memory Verse

• Psalm 119:105 “Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”

Supplies

• House plant
• Bright flashlight
• Scissors
• Permanent marker
• Water in container (to water plant)

• Craft Foam
• Masking Tape
• Marker Board, Markers
• Copied Coloring Worksheet

Lesson

Begin today’s lesson by asking the children what they learned last week. Be sure to review the memory verse and main themes.

Explain to the children that we will be learning even more about the Bible. Today we will be discussing how the Bible helps us grow and guides our lives.

Visual

Set the houseplant out for the children to see. Begin a discussion about the plant. Ask the children:

• “What did this plant look like when it first started growing?” *A seed*
• “What did the plant need to grow from a small seed to a beautiful big plant?” *Water/food and light*
• “What will happen to the plant if it does not get water and light? For examples, what would happen if you put the plant in a dark closet where there is no light or water?” *It will stop growing*
Continue the discussion using the examples of other living things; such as a tree, a puppy, a newborn, children, adults, etc. Use the above questions to guide the discussion. Be sure to emphasize the fact that all living things need both water and light to grow properly.

Next, ask the children, “Do you know that the Bible helps to make things grow? Let’s open our Bibles and see what it says about this…” Help children to find each verse and choose a child to read the following verses aloud.

1. **1 Peter 2:2** “Like newborn babes long for the pure milk of the Word so that you may grow in respect to salvation.”
   - Use a marker board to help illustrate this verse. You can draw a baby drinking a bottle of milk.
   - **What does a little baby drink? Milk**
   - Take time to explain the comparison in the verse: the Bible is being compared to milk for a newborn baby.
   - Ask the children if they have younger siblings or have been around babies. Do they remember that when a tiny baby is hungry milk was the only food that a baby eats – and this helps them grow up to be big and strong.

2. **Psalm 1:2-3** “But his delight is in the law of the Lord and in His law he meditates day and night. He will be like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither and in whatever he does, he prospers”
   - Use a marker board to help illustrate this verse. As you read it you can draw a tree by a stream, then add the leaves and fruit on the tree.
   - Restate the verse in your own words. Simplify it – “Whoever studies the Word of God will grow like a strong tree!” Continue the thought by asking, “What helps a tree stand up strong?” Roots -- which soak up water and nutrients in the soil.
   - Point out the location of the tree – by streams of water. What does water help the tree to do...grow and produce fruit!
   - Ask the children, “What does this verse say we need to do to be like the tree planted by streams of water?” Delight in the law of the Lord and meditate on it day and night.
   - Ask, “Do you want to be like the tree by the water and so you can grow in your understanding of God?”

These two verses tell us that the Bible is like milk and/or water that provides the things to make us grow. Now let’s look and see how the Bible is like a “light” that guides us:
1. Psalm 119:105 “Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”
   - What two things does this verse say the Bible is like? A lamp and a light.
   - Summarize: The Bible is like a light showing us where to go

Transition into the activity by discussing how the Bible, as our “light” helps guide us in our everyday life. Use the following examples and ask the children if they can think of their own examples to share.

- **A child who gets scared during a thunderstorm.** He or she may be afraid of the loud thunder crashes from a storm, but can remember what the Bible says in Psalm 56:3 “Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in you.”
- **A friend knocking down your block creation.** You have worked very hard on building a tower out of blocks and your friend comes walking in the room and knocks some of it down. Instead of getting angry you can remember what the Bible says in 1 Corinthians “love is patient” and ask the person to be more careful next time.
- **A child who doesn’t want to stay with a babysitter.** Being separated from parents can seem like a scary thing, but you can remember that the Bible tell us in Phillipians 4:13 “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

Can you see how the Bible guides us in what to do and how to act throughout the day?

**Activity**

**Activity preparation (to be done before class):** Use the craft foam to cut out a Bible shape. (Patterns are provided on page 18.) Cut slits in the middle of the cut out big enough to allow the “Bible” to slide onto the end of the flashlight. Write the word “Bible” on the foam with the marker. Use smaller pattern to cut out individual “Bibles” for each child. Follow the same instructions as above.

In an unused room that can be easily darkened, place masking tape on the floor to create a path for the children to follow. Depending on the number and ages of students, you can make the “path” more challenging by adding obstacles to go around – such as pillows to jump over.

**Begin activity:** Instruct the children that they will be going on a mission. Explain that when they enter the room there will be a path they must follow. They will be given a special “tool” that will allow them to see where to go on this mission. Pick one child to be the line leader and give them the flashlight. Make sure to explain that the flashlight is just like the Bible because it will give them light and guide them on their mission. Have the children line up
one behind each other holding onto each other’s shoulders. Instruct the line leader to use the flashlight to see where the path is going. Explain he or she must lead the other children along the complete path. Continue this until all children have become the line leader.

Relate the activity to the memory verse and lesson. Emphasize how each person needed the “light” to see where they were going. Relate this to how importance God’s Word is as our light in order to help guide us in our everyday lives.

To end the class, pass out copied worksheet to send home with each child. Give them the assignment of coloring this page with their parents to help reiterate what was taught today.
Bible Pattern for Activity
Word

Born Again

Spirit
Lesson 5
The Bible: Obeying God's Word

Objective

• To review past lessons and introduce the idea of obeying God's Word everyday.

Memory Verse

• John 14:15 “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”

Supplies

• Recipe Book
• Drink Mix (Kool Aid)
• Sugar
• Water
• Pitcher
• Larger Spoon
• Notecards
• Cups, Straws

Lesson

Activity Preparation (to be done before class): Place all drink making supplies out on a table. Measure out correct amount of water and put in several different cups so the children can all take turns adding water to the pitcher.

Begin Activity: Tell the children that they are going to get to make something very special today. Explain that you will be giving them certain instructions and they must be listening very carefully to make sure the special treat turns out just right. Be sure to emphasize their listening skills throughout the activity.

Begin by verbally giving the first instruction (follow instructions on drink mix package). After stating this, ask one child to complete the step. You may have to repeat the instructions at first, but try and encourage the children to listen carefully the first time something is said.

After all steps are completed, serve drink in cups with straws to children. Allow time for children to enjoy their drink before beginning discussion. Be sure to collect empty cups and straws from children to prevent any distractions.
Now, take time to connect the above activity with the topic of “obedience”. Use the following statements to guide the discussion:

- What would have happened if they did not understand the instructions?
- What would have happened if they skipped a step?
- Ask the children if they can think of how what they just did (listening, understanding, and then “doing”) relates to the Bible.
- Hold up a cookbook. Compare cookbook with the Bible.
- What does obedience mean?

Make sure to emphasize how each step of the “recipe” for the Kool-Aid had to be completed correctly in order for the final product to turn out right. Just like we have to read and understand what God’s Word says and then do what it says (obedience) in order for us to be found complete before God. Discuss how it pleases God when we obey His Word and we will be rewarded for our obedience. Tie in today’s memory verse at this time, **John 14:15:**

“If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”

This verse teaches us that when we obey God’s Word it shows that we love Him.

Ask the children to name ways they can be obedient and show love to God. Discuss things the Bible says and ways the children can be obedient. For example:

- God’s Word tell children to obey their parents
  - What do your parents ask you to do?
  - What does it mean to be obedient to them?
  - Are there any rules you must follow?
  - Do your parents like it when you obey?

Emphasize the fact that we obey because it pleases God. We know how to obey because of what God tell us in His Word. Tell the children, “Let’s open God’s Word and read some examples of people who obeyed”. Read and discuss the following verses. Be sure to simplify each passage emphasizing what God instructed and how each person was obedient.

**Noah:**

- **God instructing Noah - Genesis 6:9, 13-14, 17, 22**
  
  9 “This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God. // 13 So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. 14 So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch
inside and out. // 17 I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. // 22 Noah did everything just as God commanded him.”

Abraham:

- **God speaking to Abraham** - Genesis 22:17-19 “indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have **obeyed** My voice.”

Joshua:

- **God instructing Joshua** - Joshua 6:2-5, 14, 20 2”The LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and the valiant warriors. 3"You shall march around the city, all the men of war circling the city once. You shall do so for six days. 4"Also seven priests shall carry seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark; then on the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. 5"It shall be that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people will go up every man straight ahead." // 14 Thus the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp; they did so for six days. // 20 So the people shouted, and priests blew the trumpets; and when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted with a great shout and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight ahead, and they took the city.

Explain to the children that this is why it is so very important to study and learn what God says. As God instructs us in **Joshua 1:8**:

> “This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.”

Emphasize the last part of the verse. Remind the children that when we are obedient we are showing God love and He will be faithful to reward us.
Ask each child to share with the class ways that they can obey God in the coming week. (To help them remember you could pass out notecards and write down their statement so they can keep it with them throughout the week as a reminder.)

End lesson time with a game of “Simon Says”. Explain the rules of the game.

1. **One person is picked to be “Simon” and states instructions to players by saying “Simons Says...” at the beginning of each statement.**
2. **If the instruction does not begin with “Simon Says...” players are not to complete task.**
3. **If a player moves following the non “Simon Says...” instructions they are out of the game.**
4. **Play the game until only one person is left. This person then becomes the new “Simon”.**

Point out that the children have to listen carefully to each instruction and complete the appropriate task in order to stay in the game. Relate this with God’s Word and what they have learned about obedience.
Parents: We encourage you to spend some time with your child during the week interacting over the prompts given in this sheet. In each week is a short lesson summary, their memory verse of the week, and some activities or questions that you can do with them. It will be a way for you to plant a seed in preparation for their lesson on Sunday...and for eternity!

Week 1: The Bible: One Special Book

LESSON SUMMARY: Your child will learn that the Bible is distinct from any other book.

MEMORY VERSE: 2 Timothy 3:16 “All scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness.” (Preschool memory verse is underlined portion.)

ACTIVITIES/QUESTIONS TO DO WITH YOUR CHILDREN DURING THE WEEK:

- Make a quiet moment with your child and sit together each with a Bible in your hands. Page through it together, listening to the sound of the pages, touching it, even smelling it. Ask questions like “Are there a lot of pictures? What color are the words?” Look at the maps in the back. This could just be a very simple hands-on moment that doesn’t need to go very deep unless it leads to that!
- Ask your child if they know who wrote the Bible. In your child’s Sunday school class, we will go into depth about God writing the Bible. This will be a good chance to introduce this before class.
- Sing the song B-I-B-L-E during the week with your child.

Week 2: The Bible: Learning the Facts

LESSON SUMMARY: Introducing Bible facts, with an emphasis on content and structure.

MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 40:8 “The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.”

ACTIVITIES/QUESTIONS TO DO WITH YOUR CHILDREN DURING THE WEEK:

- Take the time to open your Bibles again with your child. Turn to the beginning and find the table of contents. If your child is at reading age, have him/her read through some of the book titles. If not read through some of the names with them.
- For an extra challenge, get them to count how many books there are.

Week 3: The Bible: One Complete True Story

LESSON SUMMARY: The sum of all the content in the Bible is one complete true story. We want to establish that the Bible is not just a string of unrelated true stories, or passages, but it is all driving toward one purpose-ruling and reigning with Christ.

MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 46:9-10a “Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God and there is no one like Me, declaring the end from the beginning.” (Preschool memory verse is underlined portion.)
ACTIVITIES/QUESTIONS TO DO WITH YOUR CHILDREN DURING THE WEEK:

- Ask your children this question: Is the Bible one ‘story’ or many ‘stories’? *(We use this word with the understanding or distinction that the Bible contains accurate, historical and true accounts. We want the children to understand that the accounts are not “made-up stories” or “imaginary adventures” but that they actually happened to real people at real times in history.) Give them a chance to answer but make sure that the answer is both! All make up one complete true story!
- Next, with Bibles in hand, show that the Bible has a beginning, middle, and an end, just as all books do. Emphasize that you can’t leave any parts out, otherwise you miss out on the message -- just as you would not skip the beginning or middle of another book you chose to read.
- If time during your week allows take a piece of paper and either write, or have your child write the word ‘Bible’ in large letters. With scissors cut the paper into many pieces (none that are too small). Now you have a puzzle! Try to put it back together. This can be a lesson that all the pieces make up the whole.

Week 4: The Bible: For Growth and Guidance

LESSON SUMMARY: The Bible has important instructions for us to help us to grow, and to guide us.

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 119:105 “Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”

ACTIVITIES/QUESTIONS TO DO WITH YOUR CHILDREN DURING THE WEEK:

- Take some sidewalk chalk and head out to the driveway. Trace your children’s feet into a path that leads them a short distance around your driveway/or have siblings do it for each other. Have them color their footprints and then walk the path that they make. If they have siblings have them try each other’s path. Discuss with them how the Bible is a tool that helps direct our path, or as the verse says, ‘light unto my path.’ Explain to them that God shows us the best ‘path’ to take, and the Bible is like the footprints showing where to step next.
- If you have household or outdoor plants, ask your children to help you water them this week. (Even if it is just turning on the sprinkler for the grass!) Explain to them that plants need water in order to grow. Relate this to how it is necessary for us to have the Word of God in our lives if we are going to grow up spiritually.

Week 5: The Bible: Obeying God’s Word

LESSON SUMMARY: After learning all of these Bible basics, we want to emphasize that this wonderful, special, distinct Word of God is meant to be obeyed.

MEMORY VERSE: John 14:15, “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”

ACTIVITIES/QUESTIONS TO DO WITH YOUR CHILDREN DURING THE WEEK:

- Sing the “Obedience” song with your children this week
  
  *(Obedience is the very best way to show that you believe, doing exactly what the Lord commands, doing it faithfully, action is the key to immediately, joy you will receive, obedience is the very best way to show that you believe, O-B-E-D-I-E-N-C-E, obedience is the very best way to show that you believe)*

- When you read over the memory verse with your children ask them what “keep” My commandments means? Lead this into a discussion of what the definition of obedience is.
- Ask them just from looking at this verse says, what it means if we keep His commandments. That we love Him!
- Share with your child at least one commandment that you obey.