

PRESCHOOL
GUIDE
5

THE BIBLE TELLS US HOW TO LIVE

FOUNDATION: GOD IS TRUTH - GOD GIVES HIS WORD

BIG TRUTH: THE BIBLE TELLS US HOW TO LIVE

Psalm 19:7-11; 119:1, 9, 129-130; Proverbs 2:6-7; Joshua 1:7-8

BIBLE VERSE: 2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

BIG IDEAS

- The Bible tells us who God is.
- The Bible tells us how to live for God.
- The Bible protects us from disobeying God.
- The Bible tells us how to find our joy in God.

BIBLE STORY: PSALM 1

When a person learns God's Word and uses it in their lives, they experience real joy and happiness. Knowing God's Word helps us know who God is, how to live for Him, and how to obey Him. Our paths are made straight when we know God's Word.

FOUNDATION: GOD IS TRUTH - GOD GIVES HIS WORD

"God is" means that there is only one god in the universe. He alone is Lord over everything that exists, and He alone is worthy of our worship. This also means that every good thing that exists comes from God. All good things come from Him because goodness is a part of who He is as the one true God. It is a part of His nature and character to be good, and everything that comes from God is good. Thankfully God has not chosen to withhold His goodness from His creation, but instead gives it freely to us.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- God is truth
- The Bible is the true Word of God
- Truth exists and is important for our lives



Every child should feel:

- Excitement when they learn something that is true



Every child should be able to:

- Tell the truth
- Talk about the Bible as the source of truth



Every child should want:

- To hide God's Word in their heart by memorizing verses from the Bible

FAMILY DEVOTION:

THE BIBLE PROTECTS US FROM DISOBEDIENCE

God's Word is important to every person who desires to please Him. God's Word teaches us how we should live and it helps us obey Him.

THE BIBLE TELLS US HOW TO LIVE

BIBLE VERSE: 2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

All Scripture is Breathed Out By God

In his second letter to Timothy, Paul is reminding Timothy of the importance and purpose of God's Word.

- Earlier in chapter 3, Paul had reminded Timothy that in the last days there would be godless men and times of difficulty.
- God's Word is held up as a source of wisdom and truth and comfort.

Scripture is of great value because every part of it is breathed out from God.

- Though penned by human authors, the Bible's authority and truthfulness still stand. The human authors were given the words to write by the Holy Spirit.
- These words are profitable to every person who reads and studies it.
- A study of God's Word will yield a personal growth in knowledge of God and a personal growth in wisdom and discernment

Scripture is breathed out by God for the reproof and correction of all.

- Paul reminds Timothy that God's Word is used to correct us when we are wrong, to help us grow in righteousness.
- Because scripture is breathed out from God it is trustworthy.
- It does not change or vary.
- It can be trusted to help a believer grow in his or her spiritual walk.

God gave His Word to equip, or prepare His children for their work.

- Every believer is commanded to share the gospel, to reach the world with the truth, which is God's Word.
- God's Word is the most important tool to help a believer become equipped, or prepared to fulfill the command to carry the Gospel to the world.
- It is truth from God and when applied to our lives, serves as a way to increase our knowledge and wisdom.

FOUNDATION: GOD IS TRUTH - GOD GIVES HIS WORD**THE BIBLE TELLS US
HOW TO LIVE****BIBLE STORY: PSALM 1**

Happy Is The Man Who Delights In God's Word

Romans 1:20, Galatians 5:22, I Corinthians 2, Romans 14:7

Teacher Introduction:

The Psalms are a collection of poems or songs that reveal the character of God and His people. Many of the Psalms were written by King David who is most famously known for slaying the giant, Goliath. They serve as a collection of praises to God and instruction to believers. Psalm 1 serves as an introduction to the entire book of Psalms. As this collection of songs begins, we are told what the key to living a life pleasing to God and full of joy is. We are also warned of the dangers of not following God's Word and the outcome of disobedience.

Teaching Guide:

The guide below is provided to help you teach the foundational truth "The Bible Tells Us How To Live." The four points are the Big Ideas that should guide your lesson as you share the truth Happy is the Man Who Delights in God's Word. Footnotes are provided for further study of the text and God's interaction with His people. Throughout the lesson, questions are placed to help you guide the preschoolers to think about and process the truth: Happy is the Man Who Delights in God's Word.

Opening Illustration:

(Play a version of Follow-the-Leader with the preschoolers. Before class write simple directions on index cards. For example: Jump, Crawl, Turn Right, Walk backwards, etc. You can allow the children to pick a direction card. This game can be played by giving oral directions and omitting the cards. As you're playing talk with the children about the foundational truth that God's Word tells us how to live.)

- How do we know what we're supposed to do in our game? (*The card or leader tells us what to do.*)
- How do we know how to live? (*God's Word tells us what to do and how to live.*)
- What do we call God's Word? (*The Bible.*)

THE BIBLE TELLS US HOW TO LIVE

BIG IDEA: THE BIBLE TELLS US WHO GOD IS.

God is the greatest being to exist. There is no other like Him.

- One of the greatest joys for a Christian is that we have the ability to really know God.
- What we know about God is revealed to us through the Bible, which is His Word.
- God gave us His Word so that we can know Him more intimately and personally.¹

The Bible reveals the nature, or character of God.²

- It is through God's Word that we learn about God.
- We know the many attributes of God by learning about His interaction with His people.
- We learn what is required to please Him through His word.³

God's great love for His people is revealed in His Word.

- The Bible is the story of God's love for His people.
- It is the source of knowledge and wisdom that leads us back to God.
- We learn of His love that was so great He gave His only Son for us.
- How do we learn about God? (The Bible tells us about God.)



Help preschoolers memorize the Bible Verse by having them play *London Bridge Is Falling Down*. The verse can be sung to the tune of *London Bridge* as you play. When a child is caught in the bridge, have that child say the verse.

1. Romans 1:20: Scripture teaches that even creation reveals the invisible traits of God, yet God, in His great love for man, gave us His Word that we may know even more about Him and understand the way back to Him.

2. Galatians 5:22: In God's Word we learn what the fruit of the Spirit is and how we can be like God. This is God's character; it is who He is.

3. 1 Corinthians 2:9-11: Only God knows the hearts and thoughts of man and man cannot know the thoughts of God except what is revealed to us. God has revealed His thoughts and desires for us in His Word. It serves as a guide for us.

THE BIBLE TELLS US HOW TO LIVE

BIG IDEA: THE BIBLE TELLS US HOW TO LIVE FOR GOD.

God's Word serves as a guide for His people.

- Whether we read the Old Testament, rich in the history of God's people, or the New Testament, a guide that points us to right living, we know how to please God by reading His Word.
- In this life there are two ways of living—Righteously and Wickedly.
- In Psalm 1, the righteous live by first delighting in God's Law, or Word.

The Bible reveals the will of God for His people.

- God's people do not have to live in confusion.
- They can know what He desires for and of them.
- His will is revealed through all of His Word and is profitable for every believer.⁴

In Psalm 1 the believer meditates on the Word of God day and night.

- Knowing and understanding how to live for God requires a disciplined study of His Word.
- Through a daily intake of the Word of God a believer can understand how to live for God.⁵
- Meditating, or considering, God's Word is what helps a person know right from wrong.
- When we take time to truly think on what God's Word says, we can walk in obedience to Him.

God's Word gives us a firm foundation upon which to stand.

- Psalm 1:3 reveals that those who meditate on God's Word, who learn it, are given a sure, or secure footing.
- Those who are rooted in God's Word are like trees planted by streams of water. They are not easily uprooted or torn away.
- Their lives flourish and grow because they are constantly watered by the truths found in God's Word.
- *How do we know the right way to live? (The Bible tells us how to live and the right things to do.)*

4. Psalm 119:1: God's Word reveals to a believer the right way to walk so that their way may be blameless.

5. Joshua 1:8, Philippians 4:8, Psalm 16:8: Keeping God's Word before us daily, seeking to know Him will lead us down a path of righteousness.

FOUNDATION: GOD IS TRUTH - GOD GIVES HIS WORD**THE BIBLE TELLS US
HOW TO LIVE****BIG IDEA: THE BIBLE PROTECTS US FROM DISOBEDIENCE.⁶**

Those who use God's Word as their source of wisdom and knowledge yield the fruit of obedience.

- The righteous fruit that a person bears is from the Spirit.⁷
- As they work for Christ, seeking ways to minister for Him, they will prosper, or do well.
- They will not dry up, like the things of this world dry up and fade away.⁸



God knows those who belong to Him.⁹

- His Word is a tool that teaches and protects.
- God's Word protects His followers by revealing His will. It serves or acts like a magnifying glass through which one can see himself accurately.
- Through His Word we learn how to obey and why we should obey.

The profit of God's Word for the believer is a life that is continually becoming more and more like Christ.¹⁰

- Being rooted in the Word of God yields a life that is under the examination of God.
- God uses the Holy Spirit to direct our lives, guiding our actions and attitudes so that they look more like His.
- He teaches us through His Word and by His Spirit how to obey Him.

God's Word is like a sharp double-edged sword that keeps us from disobeying.¹¹

- It reveals our sin and our wickedness and teaches us how to confess and repent.
- Those who don't live by God's Word are like chaff, or useless parts of wheat or corn, that is thrown away or discarded.
- This chaff will be separated from those who are righteous and are seeking God's Will.¹²
- They will be easily blown away by the wind. They are easily turned away from the truth because they are not planted in the Word of God.
- What keeps us from disobeying God? (The Bible shows us how to obey God.)

Gather the children together as you talk about the chaff or people who don't really follow God. As you discuss Psalm 1:4, blow bubbles to demonstrate the chaff that is easily blown away from the root [bottle of bubbles]. God's Word keeps us from being blown away because it keeps us from disobeying Him. When we are rooted in His Word and truly following Him, we will not be blown by the wind.

6. Jeremiah 26:13, I Peter 1:14: When we heed the voice of God, the law of God, we amend our ways and begin walking in obedience to Him. We learn this through His Word.

7. Colossians 3:12-15: Those who are learning God's Word and meditating on its truths will put on the fruit of the Spirit. They will become more like Christ because they are rooted in His Word.

8. Isaiah 40:8: The things of this world, things that have no eternal value, will fade away, wither and dry up, but the Word of God and the things of God will last for all eternity.

9. Psalm 1:6: God knows about and knows intimately those who are seeking Him and obeying Him. He is actively involved in their lives, sustaining and prospering their work for Him.

10. Psalm 32:8, Romans 8:26, John 14:26: The Spirit teaches us and grows us. The Spirit also intercedes for us. God's Word helps us to obey Him.

11. Hebrews 4:12, Revelation 1:16: God's Word is several times referred to as a sword and referenced as sharper than a double-edged sword. His Word slices through our deception revealing the sin in our hearts and cleanses us through our repentance and belief in the work of Jesus Christ.

12. Matthew 3:12: Christ's judgment at His return is likened to a winnowing fork. Those who are planted and rooted in His Word, who are true believers, will be separated from those who are like chaff, or are not true believers.

THE BIBLE TELLS US HOW TO LIVE

BIG IDEA: THE BIBLE TELLS US HOW TO FIND OUR JOY IN GOD.¹³

God's Word brings delight and joy to us because in it we learn about God and how to please God.

- A life that is pleasing to God is a blessed life.¹⁴
- One who meditates on God's word finds joy because he finds God.
- True happiness is not found in the things of the world, that fade away, but in God.

True joy is found in the presence of God and by knowing Him.¹⁵

- Joy found in God is not based upon earthly circumstances or situations.
- Because real joy is not found in things that fade away, it is eternal.¹⁶
- God's Word is the way in which we learn about God and understand His character.
- This understanding leads us to joy in who He is and what He has done for us.

Throughout the Bible we see God at work in the lives of His people and this brings joy.

- God's presence in our lives and His active working in our hearts produces a joy inside of us.¹⁷
- When we delight in the Word of God we find joy because we are delighting in God.
- His words are an outpouring of Himself given to us to bring us in closer communion with Him.
- By delighting, meditating, and seeking to follow God, we find true joy because our paths are made straight and no one can really harm us.¹⁸
- How can we find real joy? (By knowing God and reading His Word.)



Help the children understand what it means to find joy in the Lord by singing "Down in my Heart" with them. The lyrics can be found online.

13. Romans 14:17: God is the source of true joy and it is through His Word that we find joy. The joy that is set before us and gives birth to our hope is His coming kingdom.

14. Psalm 1:1: "Blessed" means that God is showering the follower with favor. Favor from God is greater than favor from anyone else because He is Creator of all things and the giver of all good gifts.

15. Psalm 16:11: Truly knowing God and walking in His presence brings the ultimate joy to a person. To know and be known by God brings indescribable joy to a person's life. God directs the path of the one who finds his joy in Him.

16. I Peter 1:8-9: Our joy is found in our faith in Jesus Christ. When we hope in God and what He promises for our future—eternal life—we experience a joy that cannot be taken away by the circumstances of this world.

17. Psalm 71:23: It is the work of Jesus Christ that evokes joy inside of a believer. An understanding through the Word of God of all that God has done for us will bring about great joy and praise.

18. Isaiah 26:7, Psalm 5:12: God protects and blesses those who obey Him and seek after Him. When we delight in His Word, we find truth and truly know Him.

THE BIBLE TELLS US HOW TO LIVE

HOOKS



The Bible Tells Us How To Live For God

(Gather a flat balloon. As you discuss with the preschoolers the truth that God's Word tells us how to live for Him, blow up a balloon. Do not tie it, just pinch the end with your finger. Show the preschoolers the balloon and tell them that the air in the balloon is the Word of God inside of us. When we read the Bible, we grow. Let the air out of the balloon quickly. When God's Word is not inside of us, we blow away like chaff in the wind.)



- Why is it important to follow God's Word? (The Bible tells us how to live for Him.)
- What can we do to live for God? (Read the Bible and learn about God and obey Him.)



The Bible Tells Us Who God Is

Help the preschooler understand about God by singing "God Is So Good."

- How do we know about God? (His Word tells us about God.)
- How do we know God is good and that He cares for us? (The Bible tells us that He is and does these things.)



The Bible Tells Us How To Find Our Joy In God

(Sing "If You're Happy and You Know It" with the children. Lyrics can be found online.)

Before you sing, ask these questions:

- What makes you happy? (Answers will vary, but may include, mom, dad, my favorite animal, etc.)
- What does it mean to be happy or to have joy? (To feel glad about something and to be excited about it.)

Sing the song.

After you sing the song ask these questions:

- Where do you think we find real happiness? (Real happiness is found in God.)
- How do we find out about God? (We find out about God by reading the Bible.)