

SECTION
2.2

The Bible Helps Us Know God



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Special Guest

What You'll Need: Easel, whiteboard and dry erase markers (optional: smartphones, computer, video projector)

PREP: Ask a guest your kids wouldn't know to "chat" with them using only nonverbal communication (e.g., texting, Messenger, sign language, writing messages on whiteboard). Note: Depending on the choice of communication, the guest could be in the classroom or offsite.

STEP 1: Explain to kids that they will have a special guest this evening. Encourage kids to get to know the guest by asking him or her questions (e.g., What is your name? What do you do for a living? Do you have any pets?). Explain that the guest will respond using only a form of nonverbal communication.

STEP 2: After kids have communicated with the guest for several minutes, ask the following questions:

- What was unusual about the communication between you and the guest?
- What key things did you find out about the guest?
- What difficulties did you face with this form of communication?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- It is fun to get to know new people and to be known by others. There are even key things about us that we want others to know.
- God gave us a special way to get to know Him by giving us His Word, the Bible.
- God uses the Bible to tell us what He is like and to teach us who He is.

Step 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that the Bible helps us know God.

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Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Fast Facts

What You'll Need: Picture of a T&T leader (optional: tablet or smartphone)

PREP: Choose a famous person to present to the kids. Be prepared to show a picture of that person and to verify key facts about that individual. (Optional: Pass around a tablet or smartphone for the kids to verify a photo or key facts.)

STEP 1: Display the image of the famous person and give kids one minute to call out fast facts about that person (e.g., his or her name, famous accomplishments).

STEP 2: Hold up the picture of a T&T leader. Give kids one minute to call out fast facts about the leader.

STEP 3: Ask the following questions:

- How many of you can claim to actually know (famous person's name) personally?
- What would be one way you could you get to know him or her?
- How is your relationship with (famous person's name) different from your relationship with (T&T leader's) name?

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- There is a difference between knowing someone and knowing about someone.
- Some people claim to know God when they really only know about Him.
- God gave us a special way to get to know Him by giving us His Word, the Bible.

STEP 5: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that the Bible helps us know God.

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Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Roving Reporters

What You'll Need: Bibles, *Start Zone*, Who? What? Why? handout (Resource Bundle), pens and pencils (optional: microphone) (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Choose three or four of the following biblical events: creation (Genesis 1- 2), the flood (Genesis 6-8), the crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 14), the battle of Jericho (Joshua 6:1-20), the death and resurrection of Christ (John 19-20). Assign an event to each adult leader and give each of them a copy of the handout. Ask them to be prepared to act as experts on their events and to answer questions about God based on their assigned event. (Optional: Instead of breaking into groups with leader experts, you may choose to stay together as one large group for the activity by focusing on one or two biblical events.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 20:31. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word was written to help us know God.
- The Bible was written to help us know and believe in His Son, Jesus Christ.
- If we believe and trust in Jesus as Savior, we will have eternal life!

STEP 2: Briefly review with kids the process of biblical inspiration from the *Start Zone*. Then divide kids into small groups. Assign the corresponding "expert" leaders to that group, and give the leaders the corresponding marked Bibles. Give each kid a handout and pen or pencil. Tell kids to pretend to be roving reporters who must investigate an incident in the Bible and see what they can learn about God through that incident. Explain that good reporters study information about the incident and then question experts to help them better understand the event they are reporting.

Give groups five minutes to study their assigned passage and record their findings on the worksheet.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have a reporter from each group share the groups' findings. (Optional: Give the reporter a microphone prop.)

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- There is a difference between knowing about God and knowing God.
- We get to know God through His Word, the Bible.
- When we explore Scripture, we learn who God is (Psalm 145:8-9).
- The Bible teaches us about Jesus.
- Knowing how to have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ is the most important thing He wants us to learn from the Bible (John 20:31).
- The Bible shows us what God wants for our lives.
- The more we read and study God's Word, the better we will know God and what He wants us to do (2 Timothy 3:16).

STEP 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

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Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Find Out More

What You'll Need: Bibles, pieces of candy with yellow or gold wrapping, gold card stock or yellow construction paper, scissors, tape, bowl, paper, pens or pencils, easel, whiteboard and dry erase markers (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Cut strips of yellow card stock or construction paper. Write one of the following references on each strip:

- 1 John 1:5
- Matthew 5:48
- John 3:16-17
- Isaiah 45:18
- Numbers 23:19
- Psalm 147:5

Wrap one of the prepared paper strips around a piece of candy and tape. Make sure the reference can be seen.

Hide the prepared candy around the room. Pour the rest of the candy in a bowl.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 20:31. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word was written to help us know God.
- The Bible was written to help us know and believe in His Son, Jesus Christ.
- If we believe and trust in Jesus as Savior, we will have eternal life!

STEP 2: Read aloud Psalm 19:7-10 and explain that God's Word is to be desired more than gold. Then divide kids into groups of two or three. Hold up the prepared candy, and ask a volunteer from

each group to find one of the treasures hidden around the room.

Give each group a Bible, and give them three to five minutes to look up their verses and record what those verses say about God. While kids are working, pass out candy to those who have not yet had a piece.

STEP 3: After groups are finished, ask a representative from each group to share their findings and record it on the board.

Share these key concepts:

- There is a difference between knowing about God and knowing God.
- We get to know God through His Word, the Bible.
- When we explore Scripture, we learn who God is (Psalm 145:8-9).
- The Bible teaches us about Jesus.
- Knowing how to have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ is the most important thing He wants us to learn from the Bible (John 20:31).
- The Bible shows us what God wants for our lives.
- The more we read and study God's Word, the better we will know God and what He wants us to do (2 Timothy 3:16).

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse John 20:31. Have kids repeat the verse with you, pausing after each phrase to help them learn the verse.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word was written to help us know God.
- The Bible was written to help us know and believe in His Son, Jesus Christ.
- If we believe and trust in Jesus as Savior, we will have eternal life!

STEP 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.



Who? What? Why Handout

INSTRUCTIONS: Your leader will assign to you one of these events to study: creation (Genesis 1-2), the flood (Genesis 6-8), the crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 14), the battle of Jericho (Joshua 6:1-20), the death and resurrection of Christ (John 19-20). Answer the following questions as you study.

1. Who are the main people involved in the incident?

2. What are some of the things God did in the Bible verses you read?

3. What are some of the things God said in the Bible verses you read?

4. Why do you think God told us about this incident in the Bible?