

SECTION
2.5

The Bible Teaches Us How to Live



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Useful Instructions

What You'll Need: Chairs, balloons, yarn, straws, scissors, painters tape, (optional: craft project and supplies)

PREP: Place two chairs, a balloon, a straw, a 6 foot piece of yarn, and a roll of painter's tape on each side of the classroom (you will have two workspaces). Print out one copy of the following directions:

DIRECTIONS:

1. Place two chairs 6 feet apart from one another with the chair backs facing each other.
2. Tie one end of the yarn to the chair.
3. Thread the straw through the other end of the yarn. Make sure the straw is near one end of the yarn.
4. Tie the other end of the yarn on a second chair.
5. Blow up the balloon but DO NOT tie it.
6. While holding the untied end of the balloon, carefully attach the blown-up balloon to the straw with two pieces of masking tape.
7. Let go of the balloon and watch what happens!

STEP 1: Divide kids into two groups and send each group to one of the prepared workspaces. Position the groups so they cannot see what the other group is doing. Explain to kids that they are going to work together to make a rocket. Give only one group a printed copy of the instructions. Assign leaders to each group, but encourage them to only give minimal assistance.

STEP 2: Give groups three minutes to successfully build a balloon rocket using the materials provided.

After three minutes, call the groups together.

Ask the following questions:

- (To the group with no instructions): What challenges might you face in this activity?
- (To the group with instructions): How did the instructions help your group?
- How important is it to have good instructions when we make something?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- If you want to make sure whatever you are making turns out correctly, you have to follow instructions.
- Instructions give us step-by-step guidelines to ensure our projects turn out how we intend them to be.
- God's Word works the same way. It offers believers instructions on how to glorify God.

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 teaches us about how to live.

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Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: My Favorite Recipe

What You'll Need: 3 x 5 cards, pencils or pens, chocolate chip cookie recipe, (optional: chocolate chip cookies, napkins)

PREP: (Optional: Prepare chocolate chip cookies and make available to kids during the activity.)

STEP 1: Give each child a 3 x 5 card and a pencil or pen. Encourage them to write down how they think chocolate chip cookies are made.

After two minutes, read the actual recipe out loud. Compare kids' recipes with the correct one. (Optional: Give each kid a napkin and chocolate chip cookie.)

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why is it important to follow a recipe?
- What would happen if we were to leave out any of the ingredients or recipe steps?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- If you want to make sure whatever you are making turns out correctly, you have to follow instructions.
- Instructions give us step-by-step guidelines to ensure our projects turn out how we intend them to be.
- God's Word works the same way. It offers believers instructions on how to glorify God.

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 teaches us about how to live.

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Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Living Words for Life

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pens or pencils
(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Bookmark several kids Bibles to 1 Thessalonians 5:11-22.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 119:11. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible instructs us how to live a life that pleases God.
- We "hide" God's Word in our hearts by studying it, thinking about it, and memorizing it.
- When we are faced with temptation to do wrong, God's Word helps us make good choices and will keep our way pure.

STEP 2: Give each kid a sheet of paper and pen or pencils. Have kids work in pairs or groups. Give each group a Bible, and assign one or two verses from 1 Thessalonians 5:11-22 to each group.

Give groups three minutes to study their verses(s) and brainstorm one or two scenarios in which kids their age can live out the instructions found in their verse(s).

STEP 3: After five minutes, have groups summarize their verses and share their scenarios.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible gives us God's instructions for life.
- When we follow God's instructions in the Bible, we will make good choices to obey Him and stay away from sin (Psalm 119:9-10).

STEP 4: Remind kids that just following God's rules and commandments will not get them into heaven.

Share these key concepts:

- You can only get to heaven if you trust that Jesus Christ died for your sins on the cross and rose again (Acts 16:31, Romans 10:9-10).
- When you trust that He did that for you, you are saved forever from the punishment for all your sin (John 3:16).
- God forgives all the bad choices you have made and will make that disobey Him (Isaiah 1:18, 1 John 1:9).

STEP 5: If you have unsaved kids in your group, continue discussing God's plan of salvation. Invite anyone with questions to talk to a leader.

STEP 6: 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: My Choice to Make

What You'll Need: Bible, easel, whiteboard or poster board and markers; pens or pencils
(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Print copies of Ephesians 4:25-32, one copy per kid.

STEP 1: Ask the class to give examples of ways in which kids their age make wrong choices (e.g., getting angry with their siblings, lying to their parents or teacher, bullying someone at school, disobeying their parents, cheating on a test). Write their responses on the board.

STEP 2: Have kids work in pairs or small groups. Distribute copies of Ephesians 4:25-32 and a pen or pencil to each kid, and assign one or two of the scenarios on the board to each pair or group.

Give kids several minutes to look through the verses of Ephesians 4:25-32 and find a verse that offers instruction to a kid in their scenario.

STEP 3: After several minutes, have a volunteer from each group share their scenario and a verse from the passage that offers instruction and guidance to that situation.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible gives us God's instructions for life.
- When we follow God's instructions in the Bible, we will make good choices to obey Him and stay away from sin (Psalm 119:9-10).

STEP 4: Explain to kids that God gave us His Word, the Bible to help us make good choices.

Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 119:11. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible instructs us how to live a life that pleases God.
- We "hide" God's Word in our hearts by studying it, thinking about it, and memorizing it.
- When we are faced with temptation to do wrong, God's Word helps us make good choices and will keep our way pure.

STEP 5: Remind kids that just following God's rules and commandments will not get them into heaven.

Share these key concepts:

- You can only get to heaven if you trust that Jesus Christ died for your sins on the cross and rose again (Acts 16:31, Romans 10:9-10).
- When you trust that He did that for you, you are saved forever from the punishment for all your sin (John 3:16).
- God forgives all the bad choices you have made and will make that disobey Him (Isaiah 1:18, 1 John 1:9).

STEP 6: If you have unsaved kids in your group, continue discussing God's plan of salvation. Invite anyone with questions to talk to a leader.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.