

GOD'S WORD IS LIVING!

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: HEBREWS 4:12-13



The STORY

Read Hebrews 4:12-13.

Please note: The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- What is this passage about? (These verses are about God and His Word.)
- What does the Bible compare God's Word to? (The Bible compares God's Word to a sword.)
- Why does the Bible tell us that God's Word is like a sword? (Just as a sword can cut through something so God uses the Bible to cut into our hearts to take out the sin.)

CRAFT QUESTIONS

Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: a drawing of a double edge sword with an open Bible and a heart. Engage the children by asking:

- What do you see in this picture? (A sword, a heart, and a Bible.)
- What does our Bible passage say about these three objects? (The sword is another name for the Bible and it is used to divide or cut open our heart to reveal the sin inside.)
- How does the Bible show us our sin? (The Bible is where we learn what sin is and how we can obey God. God doesn't hide the truth from us. He has given us the Bible so that we can know how to please Him and live for Him.)

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SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:

- Who does the Bible say can hide from God? (No one can hide from God. The Bible tells us that God sees all of us.)
- How does God speak to us today? (He uses the Bible to speak to us.)
- How does God use the Bible like a sword to take out the sin He sees in our lives? (When we read the Bible, the Spirit of God uses the words to show us what we are doing that is wrong and then help us to see that it is wrong and change.)

WHERE IS JESUS?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

The Word of God is living and active. Certainly it teaches us many moral lessons but the greatest story on its pages is the story of the Gospel of Christ. In fact, Jesus is the story. Jesus is called the Word; see John 1:1 and 1 John 1:1. In Jesus we see the true Living Word. The Living Word died on the cross that we might be forgiven and the Living Word rose from the dead that we might also rise!

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

BE A DOER OF THE WORD

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

