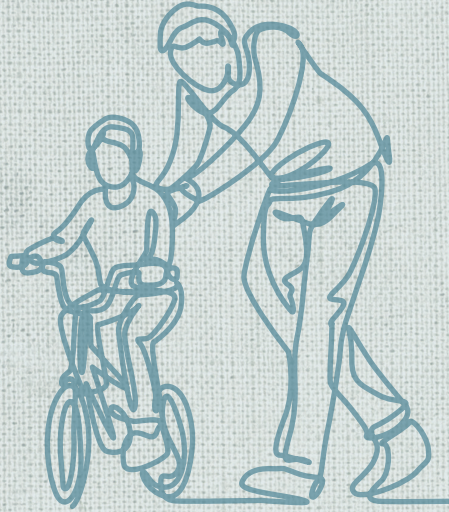




ELEMENTARY

SEP-OCT 2026

TEACHING GUIDE

BACK TO BASICS

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS

SEP-OCT 2026

ELEMENTARY TEACHING GUIDE

Volume 23 • Number 1

ISSN 2151-0350

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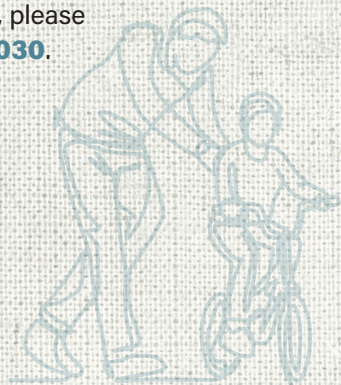
Elementary Teaching Guide is published bi-monthly by D6 Family Ministry, 114 Bush Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37217. Board Members: Rick Taylor, Chair; Timothy York, Vice Chair; Kendall Ross, Clerk; Jay Baines; Kevin Barnett; Paul Bryant; Darin Gibbs; Ryan Giles; Mark Price

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WELCOME TO THE ELEMENTARY TEACHING GUIDE

You're Helping Shape Faith That Lasts

Every week, God gives you an opportunity to help children know Him, trust His Word, and follow Jesus. This guide is designed to help you do just that.

D6 Curriculum is built on the principle of Deuteronomy 6:5–9: *parents are the primary spiritual leaders in a child's life*. That's why D6 aligns church and home around the same biblical truths. Through a four-year study of the Bible, families explore God's story together, creating opportunities for faith conversations throughout the week.

The goal isn't simply to teach a lesson—it's to help kids grow in a lifelong relationship with Jesus.

HOW EACH LESSON WORKS

LESSON LAUNCH

Start with an activity that captures attention and prepares students for the lesson.

Each week you'll find:

- An activity geared for younger students
- An activity geared for older students
- A biblical literacy activity that helps students understand how the Bible fits together as one story

The biblical literacy activities help build important skills such as locating passages, recognizing biblical themes, and connecting Scripture to everyday life.

TEACHING THE TRUTH

Help students discover what God's Word *says* and what it *means*.

This section explores Scripture in age-appropriate ways while helping students develop a biblical worldview. You'll also find apologetics elements that equip students to understand and confidently share their faith.

LIVING THE TRUTH

Help students move from *learning* God's Word to *living* God's Word.

This section includes:

- A gospel connection
- Application Verse activities
- Practical ways to apply biblical truth throughout the week
- Build Your Faith challenges

QUICK GUIDE TO LESSON COMPONENTS

COMPONENT	PURPOSE
Family Theme	Connects all ages around the same biblical truth each week
Scripture Text	The passage that forms the foundation of the lesson
What We're Learning	The main truth students should understand and remember
Build Your Faith	A practical response that helps students live out the lesson
Application Verse	Encourages students to apply Scripture, not simply memorize it (James 1:22)
Pre-Launch Checklist	A quick preparation guide for supplies and resources
D6 Digital	<i>D6 Curriculum</i> is available in a digital format. Study from your laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Go to d6curriculum.com or call 800.877.7030 for more information.

RESOURCES THAT SUPPORT YOU

TEACHING ESSENTIALS

The *Elementary Teaching Essentials* provide many of the resources used throughout the lesson, including:

- Teaching pictures and posters
- Application Verse posters
- Activity pieces
- Reproducible pages such as dramas, reader's theaters, and craft templates
- *Faith Connections* reproducibles

Each *Teaching Essential* is identified by a TE number:

- The first number identifies the lesson where it first appears.
- The second number identifies its order within that lesson.

Leader Tip: Some *Teaching Essentials* are used across multiple lessons, so keep them organized and accessible.

FAITH CONNECTIONS *The Bridge Between Church and Home*

Faith Connections help extend discipleship beyond class.

Front Side: Family Engagement

- Family Theme
- Scripture Text
- Application Verse
- What Your Student Learned
- Build Your Faith Challenge
- Family Activity

Back Side: Classroom Reinforcement

- Age-appropriate worksheet activities
- Younger (Y) and Older (O) versions available

When church and home work together, discipleship becomes a daily journey—not just a Sunday experience.

AT-HOME RESOURCES

Adventure Kids Discipleship Journal

Kindergarten–Second Grade

Helps younger students build daily habits of spending time with God through:

- Devotions
- Journal prompts
- Fun activities
- Bible knowledge articles
- Cut-out posters
- *Adventures With Hodie* stories
- *God's Amazing Creatures* features

Explorer's Discipleship Journal

Third–Fifth Grade

Encourages older students to engage with God's Word through:

- Devotions
- Reflection prompts
- Sermon note-taking pages
- Bible knowledge articles
- Fun activities
- Cut-out posters
- Occasional crafts, recipes, and *Tales From Explorer's Academy* stories

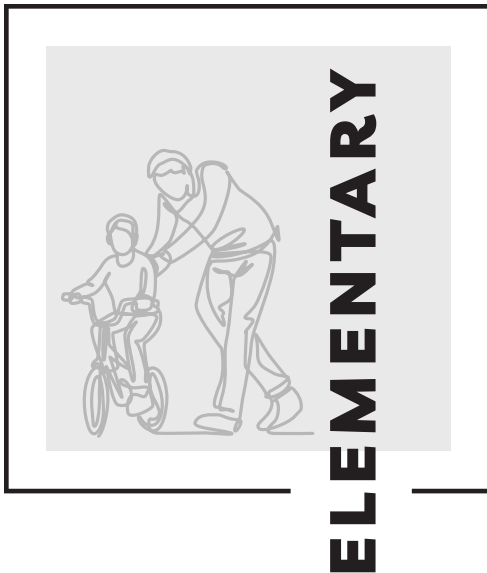
Discipleship Journals are available for every age and stage of life, helping families grow together in God's Word.

REMEMBER THIS:

Children may not remember every activity, game, or object lesson, but they will remember leaders who cared about them and pointed them to Jesus.

Pray for your students. Learn their names. Celebrate their questions. Trust God to use your faithfulness.

For additional guidance on spiritual conversations with children, download **Talking With Children About Spiritual Matters** at d6curriculum.com/bonus.



LESSON 1 ■ SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

THE BIBLE IS GOD'S WORD

FAMILY THEME: The Foundation of Scripture

SCRIPTURE TEXT:

2 Timothy 3:16;
2 Peter 1:20–21; Romans 1:19–20

BUILD YOUR FAITH:

Make the Bible the standard for
what you believe and how you live.

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING:

The Bible was inspired by God but
written by men. It is a foundational
truth to a believer's faith.

APPLICATION VERSE:

2 Timothy 3:16a

PRE-LAUNCH CHECKLIST:

LESSON LAUNCH

OPTION 1

Various books with an "about
the author" section

OPTION 2

TE 1-1
Pencils

OPTION 3

Bibles

TEACHING THE TRUTH

TE 1-2

TE 1-3

TE 1-4

Faith Connections 1

Whiteboard and marker

Colored pencils

LIVING THE TRUTH

TE 1-5

TE 1-6

Faith Connections 1

Cardstock

Crayons

Scissors

Craft sticks

Glue

LESSON LAUNCH

Choose one of these two options to help students transition into the classroom and get started with the lesson.

OPTION 1 (YOUNGER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED: Various books with an “about the author” section

Let the students name some of their favorite books. Ask if they know who wrote the books and if they know anything about the authors. **Sometimes books will have a section either on the front flap or the back cover that tell you about the author. It’s interesting to learn different facts about the person who wrote some of the books we like. Do any of you know what book has sold the most copies ever?** Encourage response. **The Guinness Book of World Records lists the Bible as the best-selling book of all time. Today we are going to learn about the Bible and why it is important to our faith.**

OPTION 2 (OLDER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED: TE 1-1a and b
Pencils

Read the following statements and decide whether each is true or false.

1. Almost one-half of the pigs in the world are kept by farmers in China. TRUE or FALSE
2. A single abacus blade is not attached to the rest of its stem in order to allow greater flexibility for carving. TRUE or FALSE
3. A dove has 10 ridges around its eye. TRUE or FALSE
4. The only planets in our solar system that rotate clockwise are Jupiter and Mars. TRUE or FALSE
5. The strongest bone in the human body is the skull. TRUE or FALSE
6. In the state of Texas, there are four times more cows than there are people. TRUE or FALSE
7. A dove's heart is located in its head. TRUE or FALSE
8. There are more grains of sand on every beach on the world than there are stars in the sky. TRUE or FALSE
9. There are 100 ways to make change for a dollar. TRUE or FALSE
10. The world's largest school is located in India. TRUE or FALSE

TE 1-1a

Answer Key

1. Almost one-half of the pigs in the world are kept by farmers in China. TRUE
2. A single abacus blade is not attached to the rest of its stem in order to allow greater flexibility for carving. FALSE
3. A dove has 10 ridges around its eye. FALSE
4. The only planets in our solar system that rotate clockwise are Jupiter and Mars. TRUE
5. The strongest bone in the human body is the skull. TRUE
6. In the state of Texas, there are four times more cows than there are people. FALSE
7. A dove's heart is located in its head. FALSE
8. There are more grains of sand on every beach on the world than there are stars in the sky. TRUE
9. There are 100 ways to make change for a dollar. FALSE
10. The world's largest school is located in India. TRUE

TE 1-1b

Before class, copy TE 1-1a so each student will have one. Distribute TE 1-1a and pencils to the students. Let them read through the statements and circle if they think it is true or false. Once they are finished, go over the answers with them (all the statements are false). **When you were reading through the statements, how did you determine whether you thought it was true or false?** Encourage response. Students might respond with things like they thought they had read something about it, another student told them it was the correct answer, or they just guessed. Use TE 1-1b to share the true statements with the students. **Some people will try to convince you something is true about the Bible or your faith that sounds like it might be true, but, in reality, it is false. Other people don't think of the Bible as the truth and will try to sway you to doubt God's Word. Today, we are going to learn the Bible is God's Word and trusting it is essential to our faith.**

OPTION 3 (BIBLICAL LITERACY)

ITEMS NEEDED: Bibles

Hold up your Bible. **This is God's Word, the Bible. It is one large book that is made up of 66 smaller books. The Bible is divided into two main parts—the Old Testament and the New Testament.** Have the students say *Old Testament* and *New Testament* with you. **The Old Testament has 39 books in it and the New Testament has 27 books in it. Let's look in our Bibles and find the very first book in the Old Testament.** Help the students find the book of Genesis in their Bibles. **The very first book in the Bible is the book of Genesis. The Old Testament teaches us about the things that happened before Jesus was born. Now let's find the very first book in the New Testament.** Help the students find the book of Matthew. **The New Testament teaches us about Jesus' birth and the things that happened after He was born. The Bible is**

very special because it is God's words to us. When you read your Bible, you are learning about God and how He wants us to live. It's important to bring your Bible with you to church so you can learn more about God and His Word.

TEACHING THE TRUTH

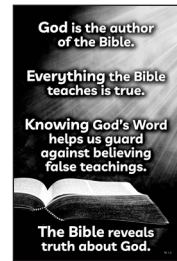
ITEMS NEEDED:

TE 1-2—TE 1-4
Faith Connections 1

Whiteboard and marker
Colored pencils

APOLOGETICS: There is proof the Bible is true and trustworthy. Many old copies of the Bible and early translations show God's Word was carefully passed down through many years. Archaeology (the study of people and items from ancient times) also help prove that people, places, and events were real.

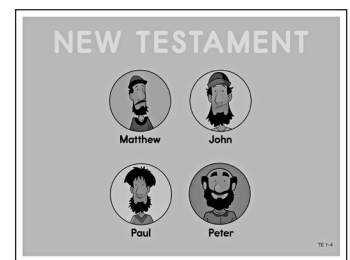
Before class, write the word *Scripture* on the whiteboard. Also, copy *Faith Connections 1* for every student. Distribute *Faith Connections 1* and colored pencils to the students. Have younger students color the stars next to each truth as you talk about it and older students fill in the blanks as you talk about the different truths about the Bible. **The Bible is unlike any other book ever written. Some books teach us about the Bible, and some teach stories that are found in the Bible. But the Bible is the only book given to us from God.** Display TE 1-2 and point to the different truths as you teach them. **God is the author of the Bible, and it is often referred to as "God's Word" because that's what it is. Second Timothy 3:16 teaches us that all Scripture is from God.** Point to the word *Scripture* on the white board. **Do any of you know what the word *Scripture* means?** Encourage response. **Scripture is what the words in the Bible are called and it is God's inspired and completely accurate message to man. There are zero mistakes, untruths, or wrong facts in the Bible. Even though different men wrote the different books, God spoke His words through them so they would write what He wanted us to know. The Bible says it like this.** Read or choose a student to read 2 Peter 1:20–21 aloud. **These verses teach us that even though men wrote the words, the Holy Spirit inspired their words. God used each writer's personality and life experiences to get the words of the Bible to the people.** Display TE 1-3. **These are some of the men God used to write His words in the Old Testament.** Point to the different pictures on TE 1-3 and name the different people. Display TE 1-4. **These are some of the men God used to write His words in the New Testament. Some of the words that were written were spoken by Jesus, God's Son.** Point to the different pictures on TE 1-4 and name the different people. **The writers of the Bible didn't all live at the same time or in the same place. Some of the men wrote in the**



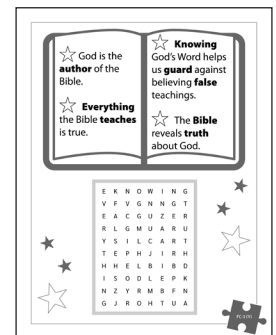
TE 1-2



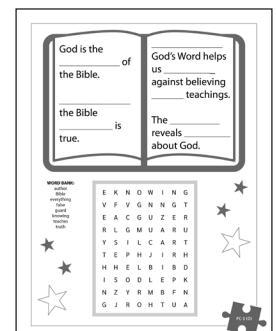
TE 1-3



TE 1-4



FC-1 (Y)



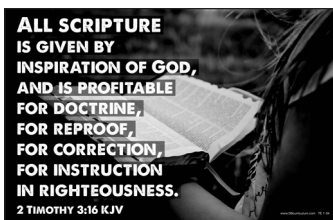
FC-1 (O)

Greek language. Some wrote their books in the Hebrew language and a few even wrote in a language called Aramaic. God showed each of these men His truth and told them He wanted the people of the world to know about Him, and they wrote His words.

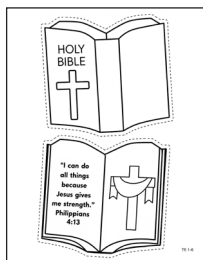
Refer back to TE 1-2 and point to the second truth about the Bible. ***Everything the Bible teaches is true.*** From the first book of the Bible—Genesis—to the last book of the Bible—Revelation—every part of God’s Word is true. Unlike humans, God does not lie or twist words to fit a situation. Because God does not lie, and every word is from God, then we can trust He has given us absolute truth in His Word. There are many people in the world who do not believe the Bible is true. For some, it’s too unbelievable for them to trust what it says. For others, they choose to live according to which truth works or is convenient for them. Satan, who is the father of lies, is deceiving them (John 8:44).

Point to the third truth about the Bible on TE 1-2. ***Knowing God’s Word helps us guard against believing false teachings.*** There will be times when someone tells you something they say is from the Bible, but their words don’t sound quite right. When that happens, see how it matches up to what the Bible *actually* says. Whenever you think something, hear something, or see something that opposes what the Bible states, then you know it isn’t truth. That’s why it’s so important to know *what* the Bible says.

Point to the fourth truth about the Bible on TE 1-2. ***The Bible reveals truth about God.*** He wants to be known, and He wants us to know Him. Romans 1:19–20 teaches that we can learn about God by looking at what He made. His power and who He is can be seen in creation. Through His Word, we not only learn about Him, but also how to have a relationship with Him. God chose to reveal Himself through Scripture and sending his Son (Hebrews 1:1–2).



TE 1-5



TE 1-6

LIVING THE TRUTH

ITEMS NEEDED:

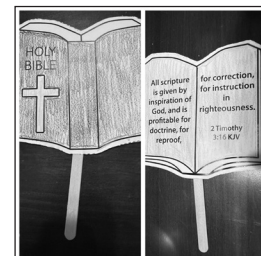
TE 1-5—TE 1-6
Faith Connections 1
 Cardstock
 Crayons

Scissors
 Craft sticks (one craft stick/student)
 Glue

GOSPEL CONNECTION:

This lesson declares the Bible as the inspired, inerrant, authoritative Word of God. Through Scripture, God shows our need for salvation and His plan of redemption through Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit guided the writing of Scripture so people in every generation could know the truth about Christ and respond to the gospel by grace through faith.

Before class, copy TE 1-6 on cardstock so every student will have one. **God is the source of truth and because everything in the Bible is from God, we can trust and believe what it teaches. Believing is sometimes called *faith*. When we have faith in God, we believe what the Bible teaches us about Him and that He will do what His Word says He will do. Learning what God's Word says is so important. In fact, the Bible teaches us to keep God's Word in our hearts to help us when we are tempted to sin (Psalm 119:11). Our application verse is one we read earlier and is the basis for trusting God's Word.** Display TE 1-5 and introduce the application verse to the students by reading it to them. **This verse teaches us that all Scripture is from the mouth of God and is meant to help us live for Him. Let's say the first part of our verse together a few times to help us learn it.** Say the first section of the verse with the students several times until they seem comfortable with it.

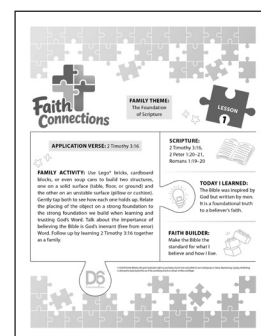


Distribute TE 1-6, crayons, and scissors to the students. Let them color both sections of the craft and cut out along the dotted lines. Distribute a craft stick and glue to the students. Let them glue the craft stick to the bottom of both sides of the Bible so it is between the two pieces. **Our craft has our application verse on it. We can use our craft to remind us that the Bible is God's words to us. We can also use our craft to share what we've learned with those around us.** Set the craft aside to dry.

Because everything in the Bible is from God, we can know that Scripture is important, and we are to apply what it teaches to our daily lives. It is the foundation of our Christianity to know that every word of the Bible is absolute truth authored by God Himself. The moment we begin thinking that any part of the Bible may not be absolutely true or may not have come from God Himself through His Spirit, it leads to overall doubt in everything the Bible says. That is Satan's goal—to get us to doubt God and His Word. He tempted Eve in the Garden of Eden and caused her to question God's words *and* also question the authority of those words. As a result, sin entered the world. Satan even tempted Jesus, but He resisted the lies by using the truth of God's Word. Jesus knew God's Word was the ultimate truth and He knew who had authored it. Jesus trusted it enough to live His earthly life according to it. We can learn from Jesus' example the importance of knowing what God's Word says so we will recognize Satan's lies. Have the students turn to the *Build Your Faith* section on their *Faith Connections* sheet. **So, how do you use what you learned to build your faith? You make the Bible the standard for what you believe and how you live. Let's pray and thank God for His Word. Thank You, God, for giving us Your Word. Help us learn it, trust it, live out what it teaches, and share it with others. We love You. Amen.** If time allows, let the students find the words in the word search on their *Faith Connections*.

TAKE NOTE:

Go to www.d6curriculum.com/bonus to see color pictures of the crafts and to download resources for this age group.



Faith Connections 1



LESSON 2 ■ SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

TREASURE GOD'S WORD

FAMILY THEME: How Did We Get the Bible?

SCRIPTURE TEXT:

Job 23:12;
Psalm 119:89; Acts 2:6–8

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING:

God gave and preserved His Word
so we can know, trust, and
grow closer to Him.

BUILD YOUR FAITH:

Choose one way to spend time in
God's Word every day.

APPLICATION VERSE:

2 Timothy 3:16

PRE-LAUNCH CHECKLIST:

LESSON LAUNCH

OPTION 1

Small treasure box
Bible

OPTION 2

Paper
Pencils

OPTION 3

Bibles
Index cards
Pencils

TEACHING THE TRUTH

TE 2-1
TE 2-3
Faith Connections 2
Colored pencils
Whiteboard and marker

LIVING THE TRUTH

TE 1-5
TE 2-4
Faith Connections 2

LESSON LAUNCH

Choose one of these two options to help students transition into the classroom and get started with the lesson.

OPTION 1 (YOUNGER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED: Small treasure box (or decorated box), Bible

Before class, place a Bible inside the small treasure box or decorated container. As students arrive, show them the closed box. **What do you think is inside?** Allow a few guesses. Then open the box and reveal the Bible. **Why would someone put a Bible in a treasure box?** Encourage response. **People protect things that are valuable to them. God's people have treasured God's Word for thousands of years because it tells us who God is and how much He loves us. They wanted future generations to know God and trust His promises. Today, we are going to learn how God gave us His Word and how God's people have treasured it for generations.**

OPTION 2 (OLDER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED: Paper, Pencils

As students arrive, distribute a piece of paper and a pencil to students. Ask them to write down three things they would save if they could only keep a few possessions. Encourage them to think about items that are valuable, meaningful, or difficult to replace. Allow several volunteers to share their answers. **What makes something valuable?** Encourage response. **People protect things they treasure. Throughout history, God's people treasured His Word because it helped them know God and understand His truth. They carefully preserved it and passed it on to future generations. Today, we are going to learn how God gave us His Word, how He faithfully preserved it through the centuries, and why people around the world need to hear and understand it.**

OPTION 3 (BIBLICAL LITERACY)

ITEMS NEEDED: Bibles, Index cards, Pencils

Before class, write several short Bible phrases on separate index cards. (See sidebar for suggestions.) As students arrive, divide them into small groups. Give each group one of the phrase cards, a pencil, and blank index cards. Instruct the first student in each group to carefully copy the phrase onto the blank index card given to them. Then the student will give his or her card to another student who will copy what is written on his or her card. The second student will give his or her card to another student who will do the same. Continue until several copies have been made. Once each group is finished, compare all the copies to the original card. **Did the message stay the same or were there any mistakes?** Encourage response. **Throughout history, God's people carefully copied and protected God's Word because it was precious to them. Today, we have the Bible because God faithfully preserved His Word through many generations. Even though the Bible was written long ago, God's message has not changed.**

BIBLE PHRASES:

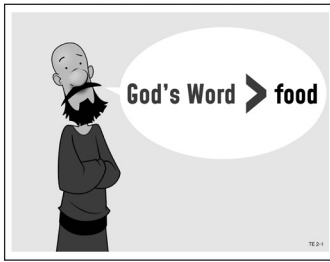
God is love.

Trust in the Lord.

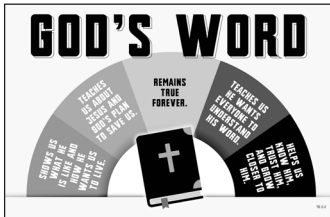
God's Word lasts forever.

Jesus loves me.

TEACHING THE TRUTH



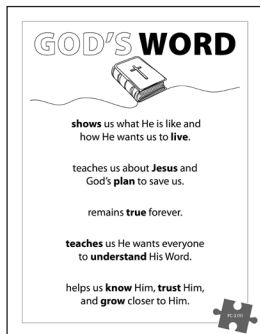
TE 2-1



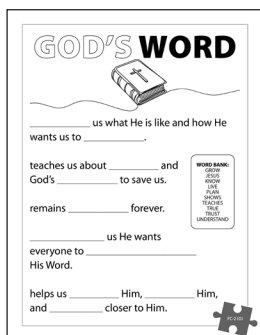
TE 2-2



TE 2-3



FC-2 (Y)



FC-2 (O)

ITEMS NEEDED: TE 2-1—TE 2-3, *Faith Connections 2*, Colored pencils, Whiteboard and marker

APOLOGETICS: The Dead Sea Scrolls were found in the Qumran caves a long time ago. They contained copies or part of every Old Testament book except Esther. These scrolls were much older than any other Bible copies that were known before. When people compared the Dead Sea Scrolls to the Old Testament, they were found to be basically the same. This shows that God's Word had been carefully copied and protected for many years. This helps us trust and know the Bible we read today is the same message God gave long ago.

Before class, copy *Faith Connections 2* for every student. **Last week we learned God gave His Words to different men who wrote them for us to read. Today we are going to learn about an important question: *How did we get the Bible?* Write that question on the whiteboard. Have you ever thought about that before?** Encourage response. **The Bible is God's Word, and God gave it to help people know Him. The Bible teaches us who God is, how much He loves us, and how we can follow Him (John 20:31). But how did God's Word make its way from people who lived thousands of years ago to us today?**

The Bible teaches that God's people have always treasured His Word. To treasure something means to consider it valuable and important. What are some things people treasure? Encourage response. **People might treasure family photographs, special gifts, favorite toys, or things that remind them of someone they love.**

Display TE 2-1. **In the book of Job, a man named Job said that God's words were more valuable to him than his daily food (Job 23:12). Think about that for a moment. Food is something we need every day! Job believed God's Word was even more important because it helped him know and trust God.**

Distribute *Faith Connections 2* and colored pencils to the students. Have younger students follow along and circle the bolded words and older students use the word bank to fill in the blanks. **Why do you think God's Word is so valuable?** Encourage response. Display TE 2-2. **God's Word teaches us the truth. God's Word shows us what He is like and how He wants us to live. Most importantly, it teaches us about Jesus and God's plan to save us (John 3:16). Because God's people treasured His Word, they joyfully and carefully copied it, preserved (protected) it, and shared it with others so future generations could know God too.**

Have you ever had a favorite toy break or maybe a favorite shirt wear out? Encourage response. **Many things in our world do not last forever. But God's Word is different. It does not wear out or become outdated. The same God**

who spoke to people long ago still speaks to us through His Word today. Psalm 119:89 teaches that God's Word lasts forever and is firmly fixed in Heaven. That means God's truth never changes. People change. Ideas change. Rules and opinions change. But *God's Word remains true forever*. God did not preserve His Word simply to protect a book. He preserved it because He wants people to know Him.

Throughout history, many people have worked hard to preserve God's Word. Display TE 2-3. They carefully copied the Scriptures by hand and passed them from one generation to the next. Why do you think they did that? Encourage response. They wanted future generations to know God and understand His truth. Because God faithfully preserved His Word, we can open our Bibles today and read the same message God gave long ago. Many people throughout history did not have their own copy of the Bible. Today, many families have several Bibles in their homes. How many Bibles does your family have? Encourage response. We can read God's Word at church, at home, at school, and even on phones or tablets. God has made His Word available to us because He loves us and wants us to know Him (Jeremiah 9:23–24).

The Bible teaches another important truth. *God's Word teaches us He wants everyone to understand His Word*. In Acts 2, something amazing happened. Jesus' followers were gathered together when the Holy Spirit came upon them. Suddenly, they began telling people about God's mighty works. There were visitors from many different countries and regions in Jerusalem that day. They spoke different languages. But when the believers spoke, something incredible happened. Each person heard God's message in a language he could understand (Acts 2:6–8). Can you imagine how surprising that must have been? People were amazed because they could understand what was being said. Why do you think God did that? Encourage response. God wanted people from many nations to hear and understand His message. God loves people everywhere. He wants people from every language, culture, and country to know Him (Revelation 7:9). God did not give us the Bible simply to fill our heads with information. He gave us His Word to *help us know Him, trust Him, and grow closer to Him*. Today, people continue translating the Bible so more people can read God's Word in their own language. Missionaries, pastors, teachers, and translators work hard to help people understand the Bible. God wants everyone to know His truth.

So, how did we get the Bible? We learned last week that God gave His Word to people long ago. God's people treasured it and carefully preserved it. God faithfully protected His Word through generations. And God continues to help people around the world hear and understand His message. The Bible is more than just an old book. It is God's Word. We can trust the Bible because God has preserved it. We can treasure it because it helps us know Him. And as we grow in our relationship with Jesus, God often gives us opportunities to share His truth with others.

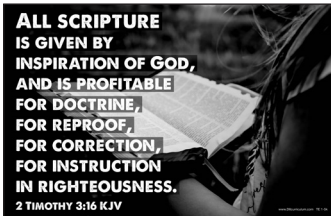
When we open the Bible, we are reading the very words God has given us.
What a wonderful gift God has given His people!

LIVING THE TRUTH

ITEMS NEEDED: TE 1-5, TE 2-4, *Faith Connections 2*

GOSPEL CONNECTION:

This lesson highlights how God has faithfully preserved and communicated His Word so people from every generation and every nation can hear the gospel and respond to Jesus Christ in faith.



TE 1-5

Today we learned about an important question: *How did we get the Bible?* We discovered that God's people treasured His Word, God preserved His Word through generations, and God wants people everywhere to understand His message. Display your Bible for the students to see. **The Bible is not just another book. It is God's Word, and it is one of the greatest gifts God has given us. Last week, we began learning a new application verse that teaches us about Scripture.** Display TE 1-5 and review the application verse with the students by reading it aloud. If you have younger students, read the verse slowly and allow them to repeat it after you. If you have older students, have them read the verse together with you. **This verse reminds us God gave us the Bible for a reason. His Word teaches us truth, helps us make wise choices, and guides us as we grow in our relationship with Him. The Bible is not just a book we own—it is a gift God has given so we can know Him better. What do you think it means that the Bible *comes from God*? Encourage response. It means that God guided the writers of the Bible, so they wrote exactly what He wanted them to write. Even though God used many different people, the Bible is *God's Word*.**

The Bible is useful for our everyday lives. It teaches us what is true. It helps us understand who God is and how much He loves us. It helps us recognize right from wrong. It guides us when we need wisdom and direction.

Have you ever needed help learning something new? Encourage response. **Maybe someone taught you how to ride a bike, solve a math problem, or play a sport. In the same way, God uses His Word to teach us. As we read the Bible, God helps us grow in our faith and understand His truth.**

The Bible does more than teach us facts. God's Word helps shape our hearts. Sometimes we read a verse and realize we need to change the way we think or act. Sometimes a Bible story encourages us when we feel afraid. Sometimes God's promises remind us that He is with us no matter what happens. God uses His Word to help us grow closer to Him.

We learned that God’s people treasured His Word. Why do you think they treasured it so much? Encourage response. **They treasured God’s Word because it helped them know God. The same is true for us. The Bible helps us learn about God’s character, His promises, and His plan to save us through Jesus.**

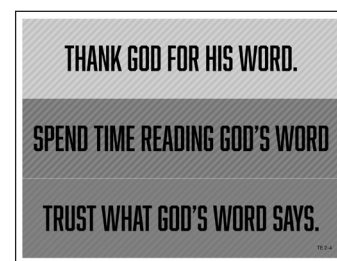
We also learned that God preserved His Word. Psalm 119:89 reminds us that God’s Word stands forever. Because God preserved His Word, we can trust that the Bible is true. When the world feels confusing or people disagree about what is right, God’s truth remains the same.

Something else we learned today is that God wants everyone to understand His Word. In Acts 2, people from many different places heard God’s message in their own languages (verses 6–8). God loves people everywhere and wants everyone to know Him. That is one reason the Bible continues to be translated into many languages today.

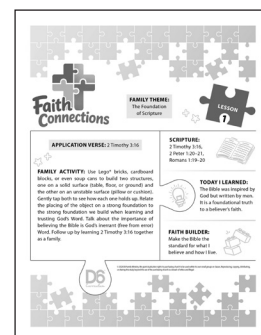
So how should we respond to the gift God has given us? Encourage response. Display TE 2-4. **First, we can *thank God for His Word*. God did not have to reveal Himself to us, but He chose to do so because He loves us. Every time we open the Bible, we have an opportunity to learn more about Him (Psalm 119:105).**

Second, we can *spend time reading God’s Word*. You do not have to read a whole book of the Bible at once. Even reading a few verses each day can help you grow. Ask God to help you understand what you read and how it points you to Jesus (Luke 24:27).

Third, we can *trust what God’s Word says*. It is always true. When we face questions, worries, or difficult decisions, we can look to the Bible for wisdom and guidance. Have the students turn to the *Build Your Faith* section on their *Faith Connections* sheet. **So, how do you use what you learned to build your faith? This week, choose one way to spend time in God’s Word every day. You might read a few Bible verses before school, listen to a Bible story with your family, or memorize a favorite Scripture verse. Let’s ask God to help us treasure His Word and grow closer to Him as we read it. God, thank You for giving us Your Word and preserving it through generations so we can know You today. Help us treasure Your Word, learn from it, and grow closer to You through it. We love You. Amen.**



TE 2-4



Faith Connections 2



ELEMENTARY

LESSON 3 ■ SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

WHO IS GOD?

FAMILY THEME: Who Is God?

SCRIPTURE TEXT:

2 Timothy 3:16;
Hebrews 3:4; Romans 2:15

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING:

God is real, He is our Creator, and
He is our moral guide. God is
part of the Trinity.

BUILD YOUR FAITH:

Learn more about who God is and how
He wants us to live, and then do it.

APPLICATION VERSE:

2 Corinthians 13:14

PRE-LAUNCH CHECKLIST:

LESSON LAUNCH

OPTION 1

Paper
Crayons, colored pencils,
and/or markers

OPTION 2

TE 3-1
Scissors

OPTION 3

TE 3-2
Scissors
Whiteboard and marker

TEACHING THE TRUTH

TE 3-3
TE 3-4
Faith Connections 3
Whiteboard and marker
Scissors
Colored pencils

LIVING THE TRUTH

TE 3-5
TE 3-6
Faith Connections 3
Scissors

LESSON LAUNCH

Choose one of these two options to help students transition into the classroom and get started with the lesson.

OPTION 1 (YOUNGER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED:

Paper
Crayons, colored pencils, and/or markers

Distribute paper, crayons, colored pencils, and markers to the students. Instruct them to draw a picture of something God created. Once they finish, let the students share their artwork with the class and talk about what they drew. Choose one student's picture and hold it up for the class to see. **Who created this?** Encourage response. (Student's name) **created this. Who created us?** Encourage response. **Yes, God did. How do you know that?** Encourage response. **Today we are going to learn who God is and how we can be sure He is real.** Consider displaying the artwork around the room.

OPTION 2 (OLDER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED:

TE 3-1
Scissors

Before class, cut apart the pictures from TE 3-1. Display the pictures one at a time and ask the students tell you if it is a picture of something God created or if it is something created by man. **God has created some amazing things. Who created the people who made the items that were man-made?** Encourage response. **Yes, God did. Could a human create the things we said God did?** Encourage response. **Could God create the things we said man did if He wanted to? Today we are going to learn about who God is and how we can know He is real. Because He is real, we can believe what the Bible teaches about Him, and we can trust Him completely.**

OPTION 3 (BIBLICAL LITERACY)

ITEMS NEEDED:

TE 3-2
Scissors
Whiteboard and marker

Before class, cut apart the sections from TE 3-2 that contain the Bible verses. Write *God* at the top of the whiteboard. Then, write the words listed at the bottom of TE 3-2 on the whiteboard. Distribute the verses from TE 3-2 to the students as they come into class and have them find the verse in their Bible. Be sure to help them if needed. **I gave some of you a verse to read from your Bible. As the verse is being read, I want you to think about what that verse**



TE 3-1

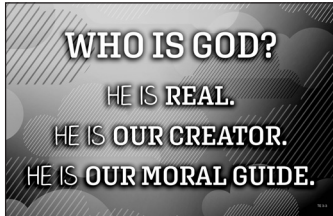
1 John 4:8
Genesis 1:1
Isaiah 6:3
Psalms 23:1
Psalms 46:1
Romans 11:33
Deuteronomy 7:9
Word Bank: Creator, Faithful, Holy, Love, Protector, Shepherd, Wise

TE 3-2

ANSWERS:

1 John 4:8 (Love)
Genesis 1:1 (Creator)
Isaiah 6:3 (Holy)
Psalm 23:1 (Shepherd)
Psalm 46:1 (Protector)
Romans 11:33 (Wise)
Deuteronomy 7:9 (Faithful)

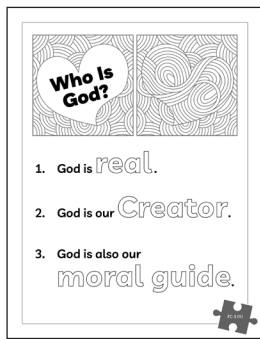
teaches us about God. Let the students read their verse, one at a time, and ask the students what quality or attribute of God it describes (answers are in the sidebar). Write the quality or attribute on the whiteboard around God's name. **Why is it important to know these things about God?** Encourage response. **The more we know about God, the more we can know Him. Today we are going to learn about who God is and how we know He is real.**



TE 3-3



TE 3-4



FC-3 (Y)



FC-3 (O)

TEACHING THE TRUTH

ITEMS NEEDED:

TE 3-3—TE 3-4

Faith Connections 3

Whiteboard and marker

Scissors

Colored pencils

APOLOGETICS: There are many finely tuned details about our universe that point to an Intelligent Designer (Amazing Creator). Examples are provided at www.d6curriculum/bonus for you to share with your students.

Before class, write this question on the whiteboard: *Who is God?* Also, cut apart the pictures from TE 3-4 and copy *Faith Connections 3* for every student. Distribute *Faith Connections 3* and colored pencils to the students. Have younger students follow along and color the words and older students fill in the blanks as you learn more about God and who He is. Point to the question on the whiteboard. ***Who is God? Today we are going to learn three important foundational truths about who God is.*** Display TE 3-3 and point to the different truths as you teach them. **The first truth we will learn is that *God is real.* We learn about God when we read His Word, the Bible. We learned a verse over the past two weeks that teaches us that all Scripture—the words in the Bible—is from God (2 Timothy 3:16). It teaches us about who God is—our Creator—and what He is like—holy, loving, forgiving, eternal, and so much more. He gives life and He gives us the moral standard by which we should live. Have you ever been to the beach or looked at the stars at night? Encourage response. *God is the One who tells the waves where to begin and where to stop and He is the One who put the stars where they are (Job 38:8–11, 31–32). This leads us to the second truth about who God is. *God is our Creator.** Display TE 3-4a. He designed and created everything in the universe. Astronomers are people who study the stars, galaxies, planets, moons, black holes, and other things outside the earth's atmosphere. They estimate there are 100 billion stars in our galaxy and perhaps 100 billion galaxies in the universe. The Bible teaches us God is the builder of everything (Hebrews 3:4). Genesis 1 teaches us about His Creation of the world and the things in it, including humans. Display TE 3-4b. This is a picture of the earth. Did you know that**

Earth is the only known planet with the right mixture of gases for plants, animals, and humans to live? Not only that, but the earth is the exact right distance from the sun. If it were any further away, we would freeze. If we were any closer, we would burn up. The earth remains this perfect distance away while it spins around the sun at a speed of nearly 67,000 miles per hour. It's also spinning on its axis, allowing the entire surface of the earth to be warmed and cooled every day. Display TE 3-4c. **God is also the Creator of every single person who has ever lived or will ever live. The Bible teaches us God formed us, and we are wonderfully made** (Psalm 139:13-14). **God gave us brains to send and receive more than one million messages a second! Our brains can think, create feelings, plan, and help us understand, reason, and communicate with other people. God also amazingly created our organs to work together. The way our brain sends signals to our lungs to breath and our heart to beat proves our God is an amazing Creator.**

The third truth we will learn about God is *He is also our moral guide*. He gives us a sense of morality—the recognition of what is right and what is wrong. Display TE 3-4d and TE 3-4e. **Which of these pictures shows a right choice and which one shows a wrong one?** Encourage response. **How did you know which was which?** Encourage response. **Your parents and others have taught you the difference between the two. Can people who don't believe God is real be moral?** Encourage response. **Yes, they can. Most people, including unbelievers, would agree that murder is wrong. But where does this standard of morality come from and who gets to determine what is right and what is wrong if it's from a human perspective?** Encourage response. **It *has* to come from God. He is the One who originally decided what was right and what was wrong. The Bible teaches us God's moral laws are written in the hearts of man** (Romans 2:15). **Since He is the Creator of all, He knows the best way for us to live, and His rules of right and wrong are based on who He is** (kind, loving, holy, etc.).

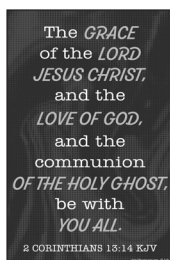
These are just some of the truths that teach us about who God is. We learn about God when we study the Bible, see His amazing Creation, and talk to Him in prayer. He is all around us, but we must make the choice to get to know Him.

LIVING THE TRUTH

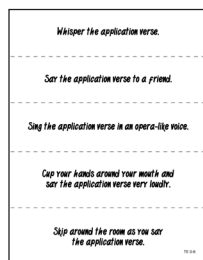
ITEMS NEEDED: TE 3-5—TE 3-6, Scissors, *Faith Connections* 3

GOSPEL CONNECTION:

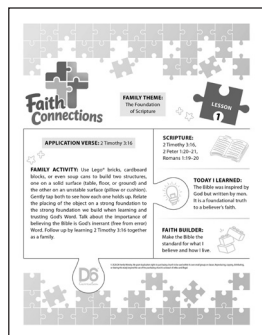
This lesson shows that God is real, He created all things, and He sets the standard of what is right. But it also reminds us that we fall short of that standard. The Bible reveals that God did not leave us in that condition. He made a way for us to be restored through His Son, Jesus Christ, who perfectly reveals who God is.



TE 3-5



TE 3-6



Faith Connections 3

Before class, cut apart the strips from TE 3-6. **God is real, He is our Creator, He is our moral guide, and He is also part of the Trinity. Have any of you ever heard about the Trinity?** Encourage response. **There is only one God who exists as three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each is fully God, and yet one God, not three. They are equal, but the Bible teaches that each member of the Trinity has a different role. God the Father provides and cares for the world and all who are in it (Matthew 6:26). He forgives sin, listens to our prayers, and answers those prayers (Matthew 6:9–14, 7:11). He protects believers from the Devil, and He sends the Holy Spirit to believers (John 10:29, 14:26). As humans, it is so hard for us to comprehend the three Persons of God, but Scripture repeatedly declares that there is *God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit*. The Trinity is truly something we must accept by faith. Today, and over the next two weeks, we are going to learn more about who the different members of the Trinity are.**

Display TE 3-5 and introduce the application verse to the students. **This verse reminds us that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are all with us all the time. God the Father loves us more than anyone ever could. He made and cares for us.** Read the words to the application verse to the students pointing to them one at a time. Then, have the students say the verse with you several times. Use the strips from TE 3-6 to help them learn the application verse. Explain that you are going to choose a strip and read what it says aloud. The students will say the verse in the manner indicated. Repeat the activity until all the strips have been read aloud.

Why is it important to know who God is? Encourage response. **What we believe determines how we live. If I said the building was on fire and you believed it was, you'd get out of the building, right? If I said I was going to give a special treat to good listeners, you would choose to be a good listener. When we believe God will do what He says He will do, we have faith in Him. Even though we can't see God, we can learn about who He is to know He is real. Raise your hand if you've seen the wind.** Allow time for response. **Raise your hand if you've seen the effects of the wind.** Allow time for response. **You know wind is real because you've seen it in action. We can learn about who God is, how He wants us to live, and how we should live for Him by reading our Bibles, coming to church to learn more about Him, asking questions about Him, and talking to Him in prayer.** Have the students turn to the *Build Your Faith* section on their *Faith Connections* sheet. **So, how do you use what you learned to build your faith? You learn more about who God is and how He wants us to live, and then do it. Let's pray and ask God to help us learn more about Him. God, thank You for helping us learn more about You. We want to learn more about You so we can continue to grow our faith and live in ways that show others who You are. We love You. Amen.**



ELEMENTARY

LESSON 4 ■ SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

WHO IS JESUS?

FAMILY THEME: Who Is Jesus?

SCRIPTURE TEXT:

John 1:1–3;
John 3:16–17; John 14:6

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING:

Jesus Is God's Son, He is our Savior,
and He is the only way. Jesus is
also part of the Trinity.

BUILD YOUR FAITH:

Compare what you hear or think
you know about Jesus to what
the Bible teaches about Him.

APPLICATION VERSE:

2 Corinthians 13:14

PRE-LAUNCH CHECKLIST:

LESSON LAUNCH

OPTION 1

TE 4-1
TE 4-2
Crayons
Scissors
Construction paper
Marker
Stapler

OPTION 2

TE 4-3
Index cards
Pencils

OPTION 3

TE 4-4
Post-it notes
Marker

TEACHING THE TRUTH

TE 4-5
TE 4-6
TE 4-7
TE 4-8
TE 4-9
Faith Connections 4
Whiteboard and marker
Colored pencils

LIVING THE TRUTH

TE 3-5
TE 4-10
Faith Connections 4
Cardstock
Crayons
Scissors
Envelopes or small baggies

LESSON LAUNCH

Choose one of these two options to help students transition into the classroom and get started with the lesson.

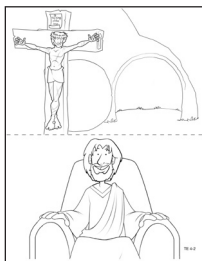
OPTION 1 (YOUNGER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED:

TE 4-1—TE 4-2	Construction paper
Crayons	Marker
Scissors	Stapler



TE 4-1



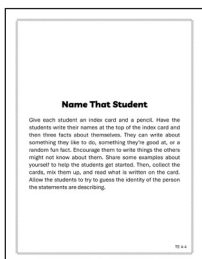
TE 4-2

Before class, copy TE 4-1 and TE 4-2 for every student. Also, fold the construction paper in half, short end to short end, and cut along the fold so each student will have two sections. Write **Jesus** on the outside of one for every student. Distribute TE 4-1, TE 4-2, crayons, and scissors to the students and let them color the different pictures of Jesus and cut along the dotted lines. Distribute two pieces of construction paper to the students and let them put the pictures of Jesus between them with the one with “Jesus” at the front. Use the stapler to form a book. As the students are coloring, talk to them about things they know about Jesus. **When we read the Bible we learn about God’s Son, Jesus, His love for us, and how we can follow His example in our own lives. Today, we are going to learn who Jesus is and why it’s important for us to have a relationship with Him.**

OPTION 2 (OLDER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED:

TE 4-3	Index cards
Pencils	



TE 4-3

Give each student an index card and a pencil. Have the students write their names at the top of the index card and then three facts about themselves. They can write about something they like to do, something they’re good at, or a random fun fact. Encourage them to write things the others might not know about them. Share some examples about yourself to help the students get started. Then, collect the cards, mix them up, and read what is written on the card. Allow the students to try to guess the identity of the person the statements are describing. Read the instructions from TE 4-3 and have students do the activity. **How did you know who the statements were describing?** Encourage response. **Did you learn something about that person you didn’t know before?** Encourage response. **The more you know about a person, the better you know him or her. Today, we are going to learn about Jesus. How do we learn about Jesus?** Encourage response. **When we read the Bible, we learn about God’s Son, Jesus. We learn about His love for us and how we can follow His example in our own lives. Today, we are going to learn who Jesus is and why it’s important for us to have a relationship with Him.**

OPTION 3 (BIBLICAL LITERACY)

ITEMS NEEDED:

TE 4-4
Post-it notes
Marker

Display TE 4-4. **What are some things you know about Jesus.** Have the students name things they know about Jesus and write them on different Post-it notes. Display the Post-it notes around TE 4-4. **When we read the Bible we learn about God's Son, Jesus. We learn about His love for us and how we can follow His example in our own lives. Today, we are going to learn who Jesus is and why it's important for us to have a relationship with Him.**



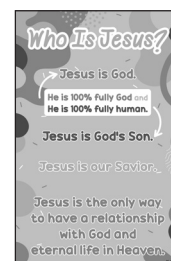
TE 4-4

TEACHING THE TRUTH

ITEMS NEEDED:

TE 4-5—TE 4-9
Faith Connections 4
Whiteboard and marker
Colored pencils

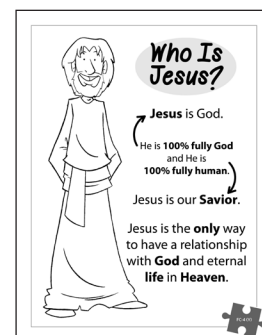
APOLOGETICS: Some people don't believe or aren't convinced Jesus was real. Others do believe He was real, but don't believe He is God. The Bible and history both tell us Jesus was a real person. Even writers who were not Christians wrote about Jesus and His death. The Bible also teaches Jesus forgives sin, is God's Son, and did things only God can do. In John 10:33, some leaders became angry because they understood that Jesus was saying He is equal with God. Jesus was not just a teacher; He said He is God and the people listening understood what He meant.



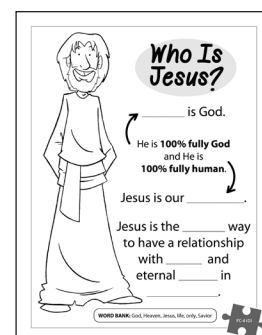
TE 4-5

Before class, write this question on the whiteboard: *Who is Jesus?* Also, copy *Faith Connections 4* for every student. Distribute *Faith Connections 4* and colored pencils to the students. Have younger students underline the bolded words as you talk about who Jesus is and have older students fill in the blanks. Point to the question on the whiteboard. **Who is Jesus? We learn about the birth of Jesus, His life on earth, His death, His resurrection, and His return to Heaven in the New Testament. But the Old Testament also gives us many promises about Jesus that were written hundreds of years before He was born. These verses point us to the Messiah whom God promised to send to save us from our sin. Jesus is not Someone who is introduced halfway through the Bible, His story is woven throughout the Bible. So, let's learn more about what the Bible teaches us about who Jesus is.**

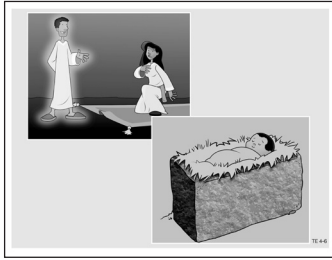
Display TE 4-5 and point to the first truth. **Jesus is God. He is 100% fully God and He is 100% fully human.** Read or choose a student to read John 1:1–3 aloud. **These verses teach us that Jesus is the Creator. He made all things.**



FC-4 (Y)



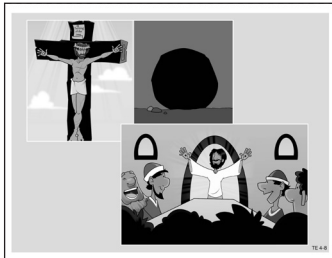
FC-4 (O)



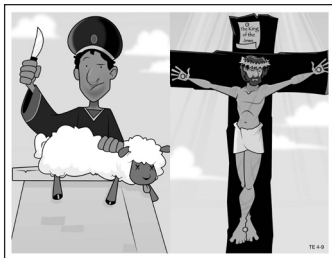
TE 4-6



TE 4-7



TE 4-8



TE 4-9

Since we know from Genesis 1:1 that God created the world, what this actually teaches us is that *Jesus is God*. This goes to the truth that Jesus is **100% fully God**. Display TE 4-6 and point to the different pictures. **But the Bible also teaches us in Luke 1 that God sent the angel Gabriel with an important message for a young woman named Mary—she had found favor with God and she would have a baby boy. She was to name Him Jesus. He would be the Son of God (Luke 1:30–31, 35). When Jesus was born, He was completely 100% fully human. Jesus came as a baby to save the world (John 3:16–17). We study and celebrate Jesus’ birth at Christmas.**

Point to the second truth on TE 4-5. *Jesus is our Savior*. The Bible teaches us in **Luke 19:10 Jesus’ purpose for coming to earth. He came to seek and save the lost. Who are the lost?** Encourage response. **Those who have not chosen to follow Jesus and trust Him as the leader of their lives are the lost.** Display TE 4-7. **Jesus grew from a baby to a young boy to an adult. He lived on earth for over 30 years teaching, leading, and helping others know how to have eternal life through Him. Remember, Jesus was a human, so He experienced friendship, love, betrayal, joy, and hurt just like we do.** Display TE 4-8 and point to the different pictures. **But His sole purpose was to save us by taking the punishment for our sin through His death on the cross, and He did (Matthew 27:45–51). But God’s plan didn’t end there. Three days later, just as Jesus had said, He rose from the grave. Between His resurrection and His return to Heaven, people saw Jesus. They spoke with Him and Jesus gave His disciples instructions on what to do after He was gone (Matthew 28:1–10, 16–20; Luke 24:13–35). Because Jesus died and rose again, we can have forgiveness of sin and a restored relationship with God. His death was the sacrifice we needed, and His resurrection is the proof that both sin and death have been overcome.**

This brings us to our third truth about Jesus we will learn today. Display the third truth on TE 4-5. *Jesus is the only way to have a relationship with God and eternal life in Heaven*. In Genesis 3, we learn sin entered the world when Adam and Eve chose to go against God’s way, but God’s plan to send a Savior to take the punishment for sin was also revealed. The Bible teaches us in Romans 3:23 that everyone sins. Romans 6:23 teaches us the punishment for our sin is death, but God gives us the gift of life through His Son, Jesus. **Why Jesus? Because He is the only One *without sin*.** Display TE 4-9. **Throughout the Old Testament, God used the sacrifices of animals as a picture of how He required a payment for sin and helps us understand the need for a promised Savior. Isaiah 53 describes God’s promise of Jesus as the One who would come as a sacrifice for our sin. When Jesus began His ministry on earth, John the Baptist proclaimed Him as the “Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). *Jesus, who never sinned, became the perfect sacrifice and took the punishment for our sin* (2 Corinthians 5:21). In John 14:6, Jesus teaches us He is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him. Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection prove He is the only way to have eternal life in Heaven.**

LIVING THE TRUTH

ITEMS NEEDED:

TE 3-5
TE 4-10
Faith Connections 4
Cardstock

Crayons
Scissors
Envelopes or small baggies

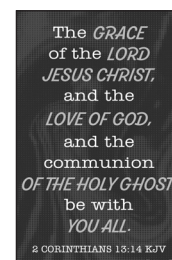
GOSPEL CONNECTION:

This lesson shows how God's promises point to Jesus. From the beginning, God promised a Savior who would deal with sin and restore what was broken. Throughout the Old Testament, those promises pointed to the Messiah, and in Jesus, they are fulfilled. His life, death, and resurrection are the center of God's plan to bring redemption to the world.

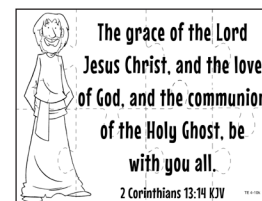
Before class, copy TE 4-10 on cardstock for every student. **Last week, we learned God is part of the Trinity. Jesus is also part of the Trinity. Each member of the Trinity has a different role. Some people don't believe Jesus is God. They think Jesus was a good man, a teacher, or prophet, but they don't believe He is all the Bible says He is. It's important to know, understand, and believe that everything the Bible teaches is true. History and Scripture prove the Bible is true and reliable.**

Display TE 3-5 and review the application verse with the students. **Our application verse reminds us that the Trinity is with us all the time. This verse teaches us God the Son shows us grace, which is when we get something we don't deserve. We don't deserve God's forgiveness, but, through Jesus, we receive it.** Read the application verse to the students pointing to each word. Then, have the students say the verse with you several times. Distribute TE 4-10, crayons, and scissors to the students. Let them color the picture of Jesus and the different sections of the puzzles and cut along the dotted lines. Have the students mix up the pieces and work to put the puzzle in the correct order. Give the students an envelope or bag to put the pieces of their puzzle in and encourage the students to use the puzzle to remind them of their verse from God's Word.

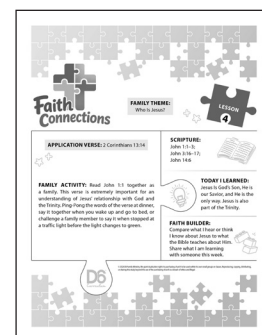
Today we learned some truths about Jesus. We learned Jesus is the Son of God, fully God and fully man, and He is our Savior. Here's the thing: every one of us has sinned. Just one wrong choice separates us from our holy God. The good news is that God has made a way for us to be forgiven, and that way is through His Son. Jesus died so the sin of every person would be forgiven. Jesus' death was real, but it wasn't the end of the story. Jesus rose from the dead, defeating sin and death, and He will return again as part of God's plan. Jesus is the only way for us to have forgiveness of our sin and one day live in Heaven with God. It's important for us to know who Jesus is because the more we know about Him, the more we can share



TE 3-5



TE 4-10



Faith Connections 4

with others what we have learned. Jesus wants everyone to have eternal life in Heaven, but only those who make the choice to trust in Him for forgiveness can enter into a restored relationship with God. If time allows, let the students color the picture of Jesus on their *Faith Connections* sheets.

Have the students turn to the *Build Your Faith* section on their *Faith Connections* sheet. **So, how do you use what you learned to build your faith? Compare what you hear or think you know about Jesus to what the Bible teaches about Him. Let's pray and thank Jesus for His love. Thank You, Jesus, for loving us enough that You willingly gave Your life so we could have forgiveness of our sins and eternal life in Heaven with You. We love You. Amen.**



ELEMENTARY

LESSON 5 ■ OCTOBER 4, 2026

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

FAMILY THEME: Who Is the Holy Spirit?

SCRIPTURE TEXT:

John 14:26, 15:26–27, 16:8, 16:13;
Acts 1:8; Romans 8:26–27

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING:

The Holy Spirit is our Helper and
He is also part of the Trinity.

BUILD YOUR FAITH:

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you choose
God's way over your way and then pay
attention to small nudges in your heart.

APPLICATION VERSE:

2 Corinthians 13:14

PRE-LAUNCH CHECKLIST:

LESSON LAUNCH

OPTION 1

TE 5-1

Whiteboard and marker

OPTION 2

A smartphone

Whiteboard and marker

OPTION 3

Bible

Whiteboard and marker

TEACHING THE TRUTH

TE 5-2

Faith Connections 5

Whiteboard and marker

Colored pencils

LIVING THE TRUTH

TE 3-5

Faith Connections 5

Craft sticks

Permanent marker

Glue

Yarn

Scissors

Gift bag

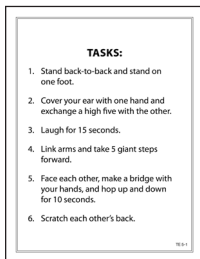
Small treat

LESSON LAUNCH

Choose one of these two options to help students transition into the classroom and get started with the lesson.

TAKE NOTE:

You will need an open space to play the game, so rearrange the classroom, if necessary. If the weather is nice, consider doing the activity outside.



TE 5-1

OPTION 1 (YOUNGER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED: TE 5-1, Whiteboard and marker

Partner up the students and play a game with the pairs. Explain that you are going to give a task and the partners are to complete it. The pairs should raise their hands to indicate they have done it. Read the tasks from TE 5-1, one at a time, and allow time for the students to do it before reading the next one. As the students are finishing the last one, write the word *Parakletos* on the whiteboard. **The New Testament was written in the Greek language. Have any of you ever heard the Greek word *Parakletos* (par-AH-klay-tos)?** Encourage response. Have the students say the word with you. **It is a big word that literally means “One called to the side of another.” *Parakletos* is the word used in the Bible to describe what the Holy Spirit does. He comes alongside us to help and comfort us. Today, we are going to finish our study of the Trinity as we learn more about who the Holy Spirit is and what He does for us.**

OPTION 2 (OLDER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED: A smartphone, Whiteboard and marker

Display the smartphone for the students to see it. **What are things I can do with this phone?** Encourage response. **I may not fully understand exactly how this phone works, but I trust that the information it provides is true. For example, if I use the GPS on this phone, I trust that it will get me to the place I am headed. Why do you think I trust this phone so much?** Encourage response. **Because I have seen and experienced the results of its work. The same is true of the Holy Spirit. I might not know everything about the Holy Spirit, but I have seen and experienced how He works. I know He is trustworthy and dependable.** Write the word *Parakletos* on the whiteboard. **The New Testament was written in the Greek language. Have any of you ever heard the Greek word *Parakletos* (par-AH-klay-tos)?** Encourage response. Have the students say the word with you. **It is a big word that literally means “One called to the side of another.” *Parakletos* is the word used in the Bible to describe what the Holy Spirit does. He comes alongside us to help and comfort us. Today, we are going to finish our study of the Trinity as we learn more about who the Holy Spirit is and what He does for us.**

OPTION 3 (BIBLICAL LITERACY)

ITEMS NEEDED: Bible, Whiteboard and marker

Write the verses listed in the sidebar on the whiteboard. Show the students how to use their Table of Contents to find the book of the Bible if they don't know where it is. Remind students the Bible is divided into two sections—the Old Testament and the New Testament. Then, show the students how to find the chapter in the book listed on the left of the colon and the verse which is listed to the right of the colon. Assign different students to find the verses written on the whiteboard and let them read the verses aloud. **All these verses, both in the Old Testament and New Testament, are about the Holy Spirit. Today, we are going to finish our study of the Trinity as we learn more about who the Holy Spirit is and what He does for us.**

VERSES:

Genesis 1:2

Judges 6:34

1 Samuel 16:13

Acts 1:8

Romans 5:5

Galatians 5:22–23

TEACHING THE TRUTH

ITEMS NEEDED:

TE 5-2

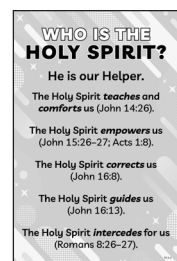
Faith Connections 5

Whiteboard and marker

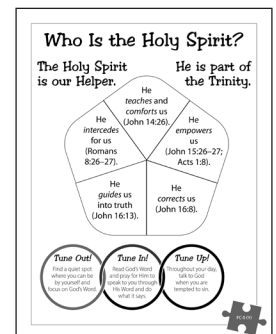
Colored pencils

APOLOGETICS: Scripture teaches that the Holy Spirit is a Person who is fully God. He has special qualities, and He is different from God the Father and God the Son. He is part of the Trinity. Understanding who the Holy Spirit is helps us relate to Him not as something we use, but as Someone we know, trust, and respond to.

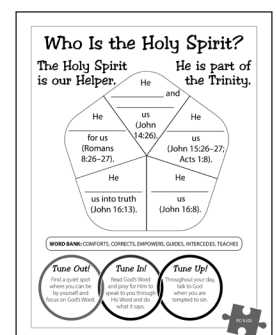
Before class, write this question on the whiteboard: *Who is the Holy Spirit?* Also, copy *Faith Connections 5* for every student. Distribute *Faith Connections 5* and colored pencils to the students. Have younger students color the different sections as you talk about who the Holy Spirit is and have older students fill in the blanks. Point to the question on the whiteboard. **When Jesus was about to return to Heaven, He promised His believers the Holy Spirit would come to be with them. He also told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the gift God had promised—the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:1–5, 8). Ten days after Jesus ascended to Heaven, on the day of Pentecost (a special Jewish festival), the disciples heard a sound like a rushing wind and each one was filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1–4). Point to the question on the whiteboard. So, let's look in God's Word to answer this question: *Who is the Holy Spirit?* For some, the Holy Spirit is harder to understand than God and Jesus are. But He is equally important for us to learn about and realize what He does for us. The Holy Spirit is our Helper and He is also the third Person of the Trinity. Let's learn more about how the Holy Spirit helps us.** Display TE 5-2 and point to the different things the Holy Spirit does for us. Read or choose a student to read John 14:26 aloud. **The first thing we learn about the Holy Spirit is He teaches and comforts us. He reminded the disciples of all Jesus had said and helped them remember Jesus' words. He does the same for us.**



TE 5-2



FC-5 (Y)



FC-5 (O)

Read or choose two students to read John 15:26–27 and Acts 1:8 aloud. **The Holy Spirit also empowers us. Do any of you know what the word empowers means?** Encourage response. **It means giving somebody the power to do something. When the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit, they spoke the message of Jesus with boldness. The Holy Spirit helps us understand the truth about who Jesus is, what He has done for us, and how we should follow Him. The Holy Spirit then gives us the power to tell others what we have learned about Jesus with love and boldness.**

Read or choose a student to read John 16:8 aloud. **Have any of you ever heard a quiet voice inside you telling you what you just did or said was wrong? That is the Holy Spirit convicting or helping you know you made a wrong choice. The Holy Spirit corrects us. Raise your hand if you like to be corrected. Most of us don't, but we need the Holy Spirit to help us know when we are wrong so we can be more like Jesus.**

Read or choose a student to read John 16:13 aloud. **The Holy Spirit also guides us into truth and helps us know the right way to go. Does that mean we will always make the right choice and never sin once we become a follower of Jesus?** Encourage response. **No, but the Holy Spirit will help us make right choices if we listen and follow His leading.**

Read or choose a student to read Romans 8:26–27 aloud. **The Holy Spirit intercedes for us. That means He prays on our behalf to the Father. Have you ever wanted to pray for something or someone, but didn't know what to say or how to pray?** Encourage response. **The Holy Spirit takes our worries, cares, and emotions and talks to the Father for us.**

The Holy Spirit lives in every person who is a follower of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:38). God's Word helps us learn about the Holy Spirit and how He works in our lives. We all need the Holy Spirit and His teaching, comforting, empowering, correcting, guiding, and interceding. He helps us grow the qualities that are more like Jesus and changes us to be the person God wants us to be.

LIVING THE TRUTH

ITEMS NEEDED:

TE 3-5

Faith Connections 5

Craft sticks (three craft sticks/student)

Permanent marker

Glue

Yarn

Scissors

Gift bag

Small treat (one treat/student)

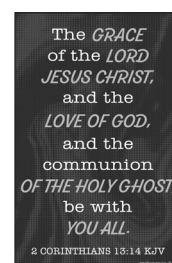
GOSPEL CONNECTION:

This lesson teaches us who the Holy Spirit is and how He helps us every day. The Holy Spirit helps us know and understand the truth about Jesus, shows us when we sin, and helps us believe in Jesus (John 16:8–13). When we trust in Jesus, the Holy Spirit gives us new life and lives in us (Titus 3:5). He helps us be close to God and follow Jesus.

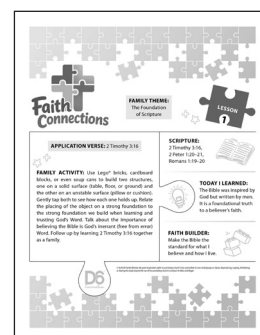
Before class, write *God the Father*, *God the Son*, and *God the Holy Spirit* on the craft sticks so the students will have one of each. Also, cut the yarn into 6" sections so each student will have one. Place the treats inside the gift bag. **We have learned God and Jesus are two parts of the Trinity and they each have a different role. Remember, there is only one God who exists as three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the day-to-day presence of God that helps us be more like Jesus.** Distribute the glue and one of each craft stick to the students. Show them how to glue the sticks together to form a triangle. Then, distribute a piece of yarn to the students and have them thread it through the triangle. Tie the ends together and set the craft aside to dry.

Display TE 3-5 and review the application verse with the students. **What does our application verse teach us about the Trinity?** Encourage response. **The Trinity is always with us.** Read the words to the application verse to the students pointing to them one at a time. Then, have the students say the verse with you several times. **God the Holy Spirit is always with us helping us grow our faith and make right choices. He is a gift to us.** Have the students form a circle. Have the students say the verse and reference as they pass the bag around the circle. Whoever is holding the bag when the reference is said, will choose a treat from the bag. Repeat the activity until every student has received a treat.

When we say that God the Holy Spirit is always with us, it means He knows our thoughts, He hears our every word, and He sees every action. We might be able to hide those things from our family and friends, but we cannot hide from Him. The Holy Spirit is holy. He has no sin and when we sin, it makes Him sad (Ephesians 4:30). It's important that we take time to listen to and learn from the Holy Spirit. Use the tools at the bottom of your Faith Connections sheet to help you. Have the students turn to the *Build Your Faith* section on their *Faith Connections* sheet. **So, how do you use what you learned to build your faith? Ask the Holy Spirit to help you choose God's way over your way and then pay attention to small nudges in your heart. Follow through with what the Holy Spirit is encouraging you to do (be kind instead of hurtful, be truthful even if it gets you in trouble, be helpful, don't participate in gossip, etc.). Let's pray and thank God for giving us the Holy Spirit. Thank You, God, for giving us the Holy Spirit to teach, comfort, empower, correct, guide, and intercede for us. We ask that You help us be obedient to Your leading. We love You. Amen.**



TE 3-5



Faith Connections 5



LESSON 6 ■ OCTOBER 11, 2026

KNOWING JESUS, FOLLOWING JESUS

FAMILY THEME: What Is Discipleship?

SCRIPTURE TEXT:

Mark 1:14-20

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING:

A disciple is simply a follower or learner. As followers of Jesus, we are to grow our discipleship journey of faith.

BUILD YOUR FAITH:

Take one "disciple step" this week.

APPLICATION VERSES:

Deuteronomy 6:5-6

PRE-LAUNCH CHECKLIST:

LESSON LAUNCH

OPTION 2

Post-it notes

Pencils

OPTION 3

Bibles

TEACHING THE TRUTH

TE 6-1

TE 6-2

TE 6-3

TE 6-4

TE 6-5

Faith Connections 6

Colored pencils

LIVING THE TRUTH

TE 6-6

TE 6-7

Cardstock

Crayons

Scissors

Faith Connections 6

LESSON LAUNCH

Choose one of these two options to help students transition into the classroom and get started with the lesson.

OPTION 1

What are some different challenges people experience? Encourage response. Answers might include physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual challenges. **I have a physical challenge for you today.** Ask for a volunteer or choose a student to try to accomplish the challenge. Make sure they follow the directions exactly as given. **Bend over and hold your toes with your hands. Keep your knees only slightly bent. Here's the challenge: try to jump forward while staying in this position.** Let another student try, but it is best to only have one or two students at a time to be sure they follow the steps exactly as given. **That was a physical challenge, but our lesson has to do with a spiritual challenge.** Help the students find Deuteronomy 6 in their Bibles. **In Deuteronomy 6:5, God gave a specific command to the Israelites. This command was written down by Moses.** Read the verse to the students and then have them repeat the words after you. **God wants us to love Him with all our heart, soul, and strength. Today, we are going to learn about discipleship and what it means to be a disciple.**

OPTION 2

ITEMS NEEDED: Post-it notes, Pencils

Distribute a pencil and Post-it note to each student. Instruct them to write down a way people influence others, good or bad. Allow the students to share their answers and display the sticky notes on the wall. **What is an influencer?** Encourage response. **Influencers affect the way people think, talk, or act. Raise your hand if you think you are an influencer.** Allow the students time to respond. **As believers, we *should* be influencers. We should help others know, love, and follow Jesus through our words and actions. That means when we are kind, helpful, and loving, we are showing others who Jesus is. Today we are going to learn about being a disciple of Jesus and why discipleship is so important.**

OPTION 3

ITEMS NEEDED: Bibles

Encourage the students to bring their Bibles to class each week. Consider creating a point system (see sidebar) for bringing their Bibles to class. After a certain number of points, the students will receive a prize. Also, consider offering points for bringing a friend to class, listening closely, learning the application verse, reading the Bible at home each day, etc. It's your class, do what you think works best. Explain that you are going to call out a verse and they are to find it in their Bibles. Begin slowly without making it a race or competition. The goal is to help the students learn how to navigate finding the different verses in the Bible. If you have younger students, choose books

that are easy to find (Genesis, Psalms, Matthew, and Revelation) and help them begin to feel comfortable finding the chapters and verses in these books.

TEACHING THE TRUTH

ITEMS NEEDED: TE 6-1—TE 6-5, *Faith Connections 6*, Colored pencils

APOLOGETICS: Jesus chose ordinary people—fishermen, tax collectors, and everyday workers—to be His disciples and follow Him. Those same disciples faced difficult times, were put in prison, and even died because of their choice to follow Jesus. The disciples’ continued faith in who Jesus was changed lives as they shared the gospel with those around them. Jesus still changes lives, and He still uses ordinary people who follow Him to help others know the truth of who He is.

Before class, copy *Faith Connections 6* for every student. Also, write the words *disciple* and *discipleship* on the whiteboard. Point to the word *disciple*. **What is a disciple? A disciple is simply a follower or learner.** Point to the word *discipleship*. **Discipleship is learning and following God’s Word, and it is a daily choice. It is more than just learning God’s Word but also putting into practice what is learned. So, as followers of Jesus, we are His disciples, and discipleship should be part of our everyday lives. Do any of you know what Jesus’ twelve closest friends are called? Encourage response. Yes, they are known as His disciples. When Jesus chose His disciples, He didn’t look for the most religious people, the smartest men, or the ones with the greatest power. Instead, He saw potential in the ordinary, regular men that were asked to follow Him.**



TE 6-1



TE 6-2

Have the students turn to Mark 1 in their Bibles. Help them as needed. Have them look for verse 16 in Mark 1 so they can follow along. Display TE 6-1. **As Jesus began His ministry, He was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee. As He walked, Jesus saw some fishermen whose names were Simon and Andrew. They were working hard, casting—or putting—their nets into the water trying to catch fish. Jesus stopped and spoke to them.** Read or choose a student to read Mark 1:17 aloud. Display TE 6-2. **Jesus didn’t use big words or explain why they should follow Him. He spoke simple words instructing them to follow Him and fish for people. Even though the words were simple, the choice was big. Jesus asked them to leave their familiar way of life, trust Him, and start a new life with Him. Listen to what the men chose to do.** Read or choose a student to read Mark 1:18 aloud. **They left their nets and followed Him. They didn’t think about it or talk to each other about what to do, but they chose to immediately become Jesus’ disciples.**

The Bible goes on to tell us about others who chose to follow Jesus. Read or choose a student to read Mark 1:19–20 aloud. Display TE 6-3. **James and John**

were two men who were also fishermen. When Jesus called them, they immediately chose to follow Him. These four men didn't become perfect when they chose to follow Jesus. Display TE 6-4. But they did begin a journey of learning, growing, and changing as they spent time with Jesus. They began a journey of discipleship. Our journey of discipleship is one that will change us and continue to grow us until we get to Heaven.

When Jesus spoke these words to these four fishermen, He wanted them to make Him the leader of their lives. Jesus wants the same for us. He wants us to follow Him and begin a journey of discipleship with Him. When we do that, we not only learn *about* Him, but we learn to trust Him, listen to Him, and choose His way every day.

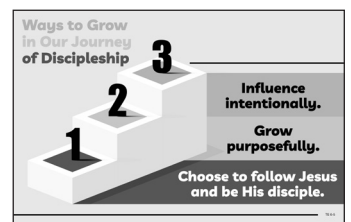
Just like we grow and change *physically* over time, we also grow and change *spiritually*. Let's learn some ways we can grow in our journey of **discipleship**. Distribute *Faith Connections* 6 and colored pencils to the students. Have students follow along and color the steps in the discipleship journey. Display TE 6-5. **The first step is to simply choose to follow Jesus and be His disciple.** The next step is to *grow purposefully*. We grow when we read the Bible, pray and talk to God, and learn from others who follow Jesus. As we grow, we should become more loving, patient, kind, obedient, and other characteristics that mirror Jesus. Will we be perfect in these ways? Of course not. Every follower of Jesus messes up, but we keep going and trying to be more like Jesus. Finally, we should *influence intentionally*. Do any of you know what the word *influence* means? Encourage response. It's when we persuade someone to do something. There are *positive* influences and *negative* influences. We want to be a positive influence by sharing our faith. Do any of you know what the word *intentional* means? Encourage response. It's when we make a conscious decision to do something or we do something on purpose. When we choose to follow Jesus and grow in Him, we should want others to know about Him too. When we become more loving, patient, kind, and obedient, others notice. They become curious as to why and how you are different. We can look for opportunities to tell others about Jesus and how He has changed our lives. As Jesus' disciples, we are commanded to share what we are learning about Him (Matthew 28:19–20). When Jesus called these four men, He didn't just want them to follow Him. He had a plan or mission for them—to fish for people. That mission is for us too.



TE 6-3



TE 6-4



TE 6-5

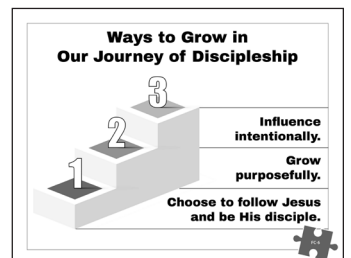
LIVING THE TRUTH

ITEMS NEEDED:

TE 6-6—TE 6-7
Cardstock

Crayons
Scissors

Faith Connections 6



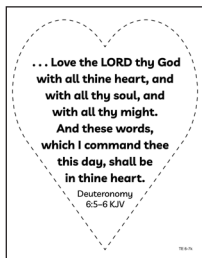
FC-6

GOSPEL CONNECTION:

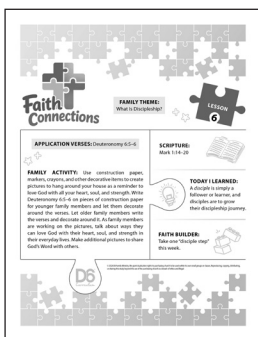
This lesson teaches what it means to follow Jesus as His disciple. Discipleship begins with the good news that Jesus died and came back to life to forgive sin and restore us to God. When we trust in Jesus, He changes us by His grace, helps us grow to be more like Him, and teaches us to help others learn to follow Him too.



TE 6-6



TE 6-7



Faith Connections 6

Before class, copy TE 6-7 on cardstock for every student. **Following Jesus sometimes means letting go of things that keep us from obeying Him (choosing truth over lying, kindness over selfishness, obedience instead of doing what we want). Being a follower of Jesus wasn't always easy for the disciples who were with Jesus, and they weren't always successful. That means it won't always be easy for us, and we won't always be successful. But that doesn't mean we give up. When Jesus called these four fishermen, He said He would make them *fishers of men*. They didn't have to do it alone; He would be with them. Today, we are going to learn a new application verse. It's actually two verses from the Old Testament book of Deuteronomy.** Display TE 6-6 and introduce the verses to the students by reading it to them. Then, read it again, a few words at a time, and have the students repeat the words after you. **Loving God with all our heart, soul, and strength is how we build our foundation of discipleship. When we love God with all our heart, He is the top priority in our lives. Spending time with God in prayer and His Word isn't something we do to check it off our list, it is something we *want* to do. When we love God with all our soul, we love Him with our entire being. The soul is the part that makes us who we are—that will live on after we die. When we love God with all our strength, we are not talking about our muscles, but about giving everything we have to God, including our abilities and what we own.** Distribute TE 6-7, crayons, and scissors to the students. Let them color the heart with their application verse on it and cut it out. Encourage them to display it somewhere this week to help them learn God's Word and be reminded of how we are to love our God.

So, what is discipleship? It is the continuous, lifelong process of choosing to make Jesus number one in your life, growing in your faith, and sharing Jesus with those around you. But it is also the understanding that we aren't doing it on our own. It is Jesus working in us to help us be the person He knows we can be. Have the students turn to the *Build Your Faith* section on their *Faith Connections* sheet. **How do you use what you learned today to build your faith? Take one "disciple step" this week. This might include praying for someone, learning a Bible verse, obeying God when it's hard, or stepping out of your comfort zone and inviting someone to church. Let's pray and thank Jesus for inviting us to follow Him and be His disciple. *Jesus, thank You for Your example of how we are to live our lives. Help us follow You, trust You, grow closer to You, and help others know You too. We love You. Amen.***



ELEMENTARY

LESSON 7 ■ OCTOBER 18, 2026

WHY FOLLOWING JESUS MATTERS

FAMILY THEME: What Good Is Christianity?

SCRIPTURE TEXT:

Psalms 119:105, 16:11; Joshua 1:9;
2 Corinthians 1:20; Matthew 22:37–39

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING:

Christianity is about knowing God
and discovering His way is best.

BUILD YOUR FAITH:

Choose one way to keep God's Word
close to your heart every day.

APPLICATION VERSE:

Deuteronomy 6:5–6

PRE-LAUNCH CHECKLIST:

LESSON LAUNCH

OPTION 1

Two clear cups
Water
Spoon
Dirt or cocoa powder

OPTION 2

Paper
Pencils
Whiteboard and marker

OPTION 3

TE 7-1
Bible
Scissors

TEACHING THE TRUTH

TE 7-2
TE 7-3
TE 7-4
TE 7-5
TE 7-6
Faith Connections 7
Whiteboard and marker
Colored pencils

LIVING THE TRUTH

TE 6-6
Faith Connections 7

LESSON LAUNCH

Choose one of these two options to help students transition into the classroom and get started with the lesson.

OPTION 1 (YOUNGER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED: Two clear cups, Spoon, Water, Dirt or cocoa powder

Fill one of the cups with clean water. Fill the second cup with water, add dirt or cocoa powder, and stir. As students arrive, show them both cups. **Which water would you drink and why?** Encourage response. **Just like this cloudy cup, the world can sometimes feel “cloudy” or confusing. People in our world say different things about what is right, wrong, or important. Today, we are going to learn what it means and does not mean to be a Christian. We will discover how following Jesus allows us to experience a joyful and meaningful life.**

OPTION 2 (OLDER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED: Paper, Pencils, Whiteboard and marker

As students arrive, distribute a piece of paper and a pencil to every student. **Make a list of things people believe will make them happy or successful** (see sidebar for suggestions). **What are some things people think will make them happy?** Encourage response and write the students’ answers on the whiteboard. **Do these things *always* make people happy *forever*?** Encourage response. **Many people spend their lives searching for happiness, purpose, and meaning in things that do not last. But only Jesus can truly fill our hearts with lasting joy and peace. Today, we are going to learn what it means and what it does *not* mean to be a Christian. We will discover how following Jesus allows us to experience a joyful and meaningful life.**

OPTION 3 (BIBLICAL LITERACY)

ITEMS NEEDED: TE 7-1, Bible, Scissors

Before class, cut apart the strips from TE 7-1 and hide them around the room. Let the students search for the hidden strips. Once they have all been found, read or let the students read the different words aloud. Talk about what the students think the words mean. **Which of these words describes the way God wants us to live?** Encourage response. Explain that all these words connect to God’s character and the life He wants for His people. Display your Bible. **The Bible teaches us what is true, good, and right. It shows us how to live and how to treat others. Today, we are going to learn that following Jesus helps us know what is true, teaches us how to live good and right lives, and gives us a joyful and meaningful life.**

TRUTH
KINDNESS
LOVE
BEAUTY
JOY
PEACE
HOPE
HONESTY
HELPING
FORGIVENESS

TE 7-1

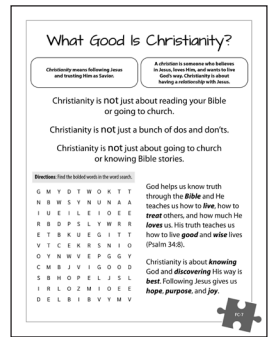
TEACHING THE TRUTH

ITEMS NEEDED:

TE 7-2—TE 7-6
Faith Connections 7

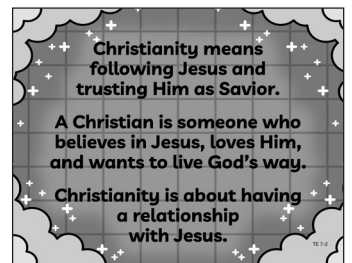
Whiteboard and marker
Colored pencils

APOLOGETICS: Christianity teaches that God is truth and everything HE says is right. Because God is true, we can learn about the world and trust what is real. God helps us think wisely, make right choices, and live with purpose each day.



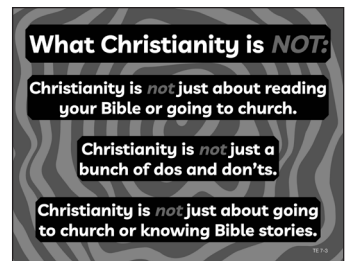
FC-7

Before class, write this question on the whiteboard: *What good is Christianity?* Also, copy *Faith Connections 7* for every student. Distribute *Faith Connections 7* and colored pencils to the students. Instruct the students to follow along and underline the bolded words. Point to the question on the whiteboard. **Today we are going to talk about this important question: *What good is Christianity?* Let's first talk about what the word *Christianity* means.** Display TE 7-2. ***Christianity means following Jesus and trusting Him as Savior. A christian is someone who believes in Jesus, loves Him, and wants to live God's way. Christianity is about having a relationship with Jesus.***

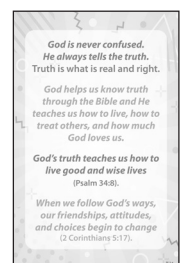


TE 7-2

Let's talk about some things Christianity is *not*. Display TE 7-3 and point to the first sentence. ***Christianity is not just about reading your Bible or going to church. So, why are these things important? Have you ever heard people say different things about what is right or wrong? Encourage response. One person says one thing is right while another person says something completely different. The world will try to confuse you about what is true. Display TE 7-4. But God is never confused. He always tells the truth. What do you think *truth* means? Encourage response. Truth is what is real and right. God helps us know truth through the Bible and He teaches us how to live, how to treat others, and how much God loves us. We do not have to guess about what is right and wrong because God has given us His truth. When friends, television, games, or social media tell us different things, we can trust God's Word because He always tells the truth. It's important for us to learn God's Word because it helps us know what is right and good.***



TE 7-3



TE 7-4

Let's look at some verses from God's Word to help us learn why Christianity is good. In the book of Isaiah, God told His people, "Come now, let us settle this matter" (Isaiah 1:18). God wanted His people to stop ignoring Him and listen to His truth. Even though the people had sinned, God still loved them and invited them to come back to Him. God was showing them that His way is always right. *God's truth teaches us how to live good and wise lives. What are some ways we can live good and wise lives? Encourage response. We can tell the truth, show kindness, forgive others, obey our*

parents, share with others, and help people in need. God's Word teaches us to love others because God loves us. *When we follow God's ways, our friendships, attitudes, and choices begin to change* (2 Corinthians 5:17).

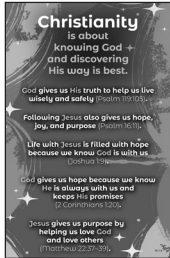
Point to the second sentence on TE 7-3. **Christianity is not just a bunch of "dos and don'ts," but some people think it is. God is not trying to take joy away from us. God wants what is best for us because He loves us. Psalm 34:8 says, "Taste and see that the LORD is good." That verse means we can personally experience God's goodness. Display TE 7-5. *Christianity is about knowing God and discovering His way is best.***

Just like a loving parent gives rules to protect a child, God gives us His truth to help us live wisely and safely (Psalm 119:105).

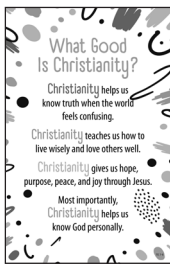
Point to the third sentence on TE 7-3. **Christianity is not just about going to church or knowing Bible stories. Christianity is about having a relationship with Jesus. He changes lives from the inside out. *Following Jesus gives us hope, purpose, and joy* (Psalm 16:11). Jesus said, "I have come so that they may have life and have it in abundance" (John 10:10b). Jesus was teaching that He came to give people a full and meaningful life. That does not mean life will always be easy or perfect. We still experience sadness, disappointment, and hard days. But life with Jesus is filled with hope because we know God is with us (Joshua 1:9; Matthew 28:19–20). We live with hope because we know Jesus is always with us and keeps His promises (2 Corinthians 1:20). Jesus gives us purpose by helping us love God and love others (Matthew 22:37–39). When we trust Jesus, we learn truth from Him, follow His ways, and experience the joyful life He gives.**

Point to the question on the whiteboard. **So, what good is Christianity?** Display TE 7-6. **Christianity helps us know truth when the world feels confusing. Christianity teaches us how to live wisely and love others well. Christianity gives us hope, purpose, peace, and joy through Jesus. Most importantly, Christianity helps us know God personally.**

God's truth is always trustworthy. God's ways are always good. And life with Jesus is the best life we could ever have.



TE 7-5



TE 7-6

LIVING THE TRUTH

ITEMS NEEDED: TE 6-6, *Faith Connections 7*

GOSPEL CONNECTION:

Jesus came to show us God's way is best. When we trust and follow Jesus, He gives us hope, joy, and purpose. Jesus is always with us, and He keeps every promise that is given to us by Him.

Today we learned about an important question: *What good is Christianity?* We discovered that following Jesus helps us know truth, teaches us how to live wisely, and gives us hope, joy, and purpose. Christianity is not just about knowing facts about God. Christianity is about loving and trusting God, following Jesus, and living according to His truth every day.

Display TE 6-6 and review the application verses with the students by saying the words to the verse together. If you have younger students, read the verse slowly and allow them to repeat it after you. If you have older students, have them to say the verse together with you. **Our application verses today come from Deuteronomy 6:5–6 and teach us to love God with all our heart, soul, and strength. God wants His words to be on our hearts. Do any of you remember what it means to love God with all your heart?** Encourage response. **Loving God with all our heart means loving Him more than anything else. Do any of you remember what it means to love God with all your soul?** Encourage response. **It means loving God with our whole lives—our thoughts, choices, actions, and attitudes. Do any of you remember what it means to love God with all your strength?** Encourage response. **It means we give everything we have to God including our abilities and the things we have.**



TE 6-6

God does not want us to only know Bible verses or hear Bible stories. He wants His truth to live inside our hearts. When God’s Word is in our hearts, it changes the way we think, speak, and act. That is just one of the good things about Christianity. Jesus changes us from the inside out.

In our lesson today, we learned that God helps us know what is true. The world can sometimes feel confusing. People may say different things about what is right or wrong. But God’s Word is always true. We can trust what God says because He never lies and never changes. When we read the Bible, God helps us understand how to live wisely and make good choices.

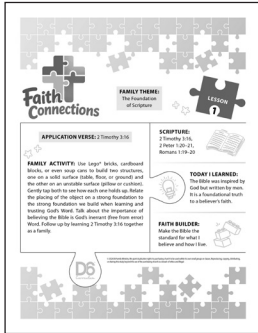
We also learned that God teaches us how to live good and loving lives. Following Jesus affects the way we treat people. Because God loves us, we can show love to others. **What are some ways we can show God’s love to others this week?** Encourage response. **We can help someone who is hurting, forgive someone who upset us, share with others, tell the truth, or pray for a friend. Small acts of kindness can show people what God is like.**

Following Jesus also gives us hope, purpose, and joy. Everyone wants happiness, but true joy comes from knowing Jesus. He helps us through hard days and reminds us that we are never alone. Because of Jesus, we can have peace even when life feels difficult. We can trust that God has a plan and that He is always with us.

Sometimes following Jesus means making choices that are different from the world around us. Maybe friends encourage us to say unkind words,

disobey, or leave someone out. God helps us choose what is right even when it is hard. We do not obey God because we are trying to earn His love. We obey Him because He already loves us, and we want our lives to honor Him.

How can we grow stronger in our faith every day? Encourage response. **We can read the Bible, pray, worship, spend time with other believers, and obey what God says. The more we spend time with Jesus, the more He changes our hearts and helps us become more loving, joyful, truthful, and wise.**



Faith Connections 7

Have the students turn to the *Build Your Faith* section on their *Faith Connections* sheet. **So, how do you use what you learned to build your faith? This week, choose one way to keep God's Word close to your heart every day. You might read one Bible verse each morning, pray before school, show kindness to someone who needs encouragement, or tell someone about Jesus. Ask God to help you love Him with all your heart, soul, and strength and to help you live out His truth every day. Let's pray and talk to God. Thank You, God, for Your truth, love, and goodness. Please help us trust You, follow You, and live in ways that point others to Your Son, Jesus. We love You. Amen.** If time allows, let the students do the word search on their *Faith Connections* sheet.



ELEMENTARY

LESSON 8 ■ OCTOBER 25, 2026

A LIFE SHAPED BY SCRIPTURE

FAMILY THEME: How to Study and Live Out the Bible

SCRIPTURE TEXT:

Psalm 119:1–18; James 1:22–25

BUILD YOUR FAITH:

First study God's Word, then think about what God is teaching you, and then ask what is one thing you can do to live out God's Word.

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING:

God gives us His Word to teach us, and we are to live out His Word in our everyday lives.

APPLICATION VERSE:

James 1:22

PRE-LAUNCH CHECKLIST:

LESSON LAUNCH

OPTION 1

TE 8-1

OPTION 2

Medium sized mirror

Dry erase marker and eraser

OPTION 3

TE 8-2

Cardstock

Crayons

Scissors

Whiteboard and marker

Envelopes

TEACHING THE TRUTH

TE 8-3

TE 8-4

Faith Connections 8

Colored pencils

LIVING THE TRUTH

TE 8-5

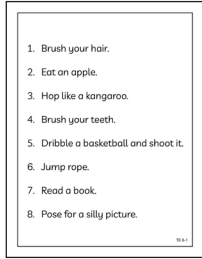
TE 8-6

Faith Connections 8

LESSON LAUNCH

OPTION 1 (YOUNGER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED: TE 8-1



TE 8-1

Pair up the students for this activity. Consider pairing up shy or bashful students with more outgoing ones. **We are going to play a game called “Mirror, Mirror.” One of you will be the action person and the other will be the mirror that reflects the action being performed. Halfway through the activity, we will reverse roles.** Call out the actions from TE 8-1, and before you name action 5, have the students reverse roles. Have the students clap for themselves and for their partner. **The Bible speaks to us about how looking into God’s Word as a mirror can help us learn the truth about ourselves and God. Today we are going to learn about the importance of studying God’s Word as well as living it out.**

OPTION 2 (OLDER AGE)

ITEMS NEEDED: Medium sized mirror, Dry erase marker and eraser

Before class, write the phrases in the sidebar on the mirror with the dry erase marker. **We look in the mirror to see our reflection. If we want to see if our hair is messed up or we have something in our teeth, we look in a mirror.** Display the mirror so the students can see it. **Can anyone read what these words say?** Allow a student to read the phrases aloud. **Are these actions pleasing to God?** Encourage response. **No, they are not. These actions go against God’s way. In other words, they are sinful actions. When we know we have sinned, what should we do?** Encourage response. **We should tell God we are sorry and ask Him to forgive us. When God forgives us, He erases our sin. We might still have the consequence of our wrong action, but our sin is forgiven.** Erase the phrases from the mirror. **The Bible speaks to us about how looking into God’s Word as a mirror can help us learn the truth about ourselves and God. Today we are going to learn about the importance of studying God’s Word as well as living it out.**

PHRASES:

being mean, telling a lie, cheating, and complaining

The Pentateuch	Genesis	Exodus
Genesis		
Exodus	Leviticus	Numbers
Leviticus		
Numbers		
Deuteronomy	Deuteronomy	

TE 8-2

OPTION 3 (BIBLICAL LITERACY)

ITEMS NEEDED:

- TE 8-2
- Cardstock
- Crayons
- Scissors
- Whiteboard and marker
- Envelopes (one envelope/student)

Before class, copy TE 8-2 on cardstock for every student. Write *the Pentateuch* on the whiteboard. **The first five books of the Bible are called the Pentateuch. Let’s say that together.** Say “the Pentateuch” with the students. **This word literally means five books or scrolls. In Hebrew, the language Jewish people speak, these books are known as “the Torah.” They are also known**

as “the Law” because they contain many of the rules and promises God made to His people in the Old Testament. These books tell the beginning of God’s story. Part of learning what God’s Word says is knowing the books of the Bible. We are going to start learning the order of the first five books of the Bible. Distribute TE 8-2, crayons, and scissors to the students and let them color the different cards and bookmark. Then, have the students cut along the dotted lines. **You can put your bookmark in your Bible to help you learn the first five books of the Bible. Use the cards at home to work on putting these first five books in the correct order. Turn the cards over to check your answers.** Distribute an envelope and have the students write their names on it so the pieces don’t get lost.

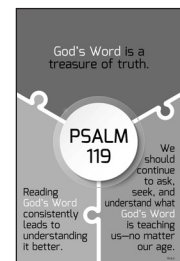
TEACHING THE TRUTH

ITEMS NEEDED:

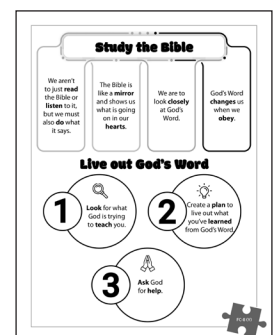
TE 8-3—TE 8-4
Faith Connections 8
 Colored pencils

APOLOGETICS: The Bible is not just a collection of ancient writings. It is God’s inspired Word (2 Timothy 3:16). Written by more than 40 authors over 1,500 years, it presents a unified message centered on God’s plan of redemption through Jesus Christ. Because Scripture is trustworthy, we can study it with confidence, knowing it reveals truth that transforms our lives.

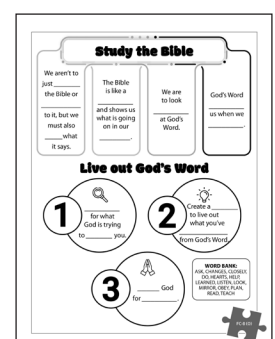
Before class, copy *Faith Connections 8* for every student. **Earlier last month, we learned about the foundation of Scripture—the verses in the Bible—as well as how we got the Bible. The Bible is God’s Word, and even though it is made up of different books, it is actually one beautiful story of God’s plan to redeem us through Jesus. Studying the Bible involves more than just reading the words; it also includes understanding what it says and living it out. To learn how we are to study and live out the Bible, we are going to look at some verses from the Old Testament and some from the New Testament.** Have the students turn to Psalm 119 in the Old Testament. **We don’t know who the writer of this psalm is, but he understood how important it is to learn God’s Word. And even though these words were written a very long time ago, the truths are still valuable for us today.** Display TE 8-3 and point to the different points as you discuss them. **God’s Word is a treasure of truth. The first verses in this psalm teach us how walking in God’s way—or living according to God’s way—leads to us being *blessed*. Do any of you know what it means to be blessed? Encourage response. It doesn’t mean you will get lots of stuff or always get your way. Being blessed means God is with you. He helps you, gives you peace,**



TE 8-3



FC-8 (Y)



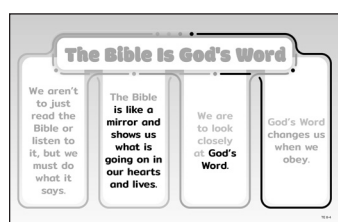
FC-8 (O)

and fills you with joy, even when things are hard. Does that mean if we live God's way, everything in our lives will be easy or great? Encourage response. Of course not. Not all of our blessings will happen while we are on earth. But when we choose God's way, we get to live close to Him and that is the best kind of blessing. This psalm shows us the different ways the writer used to learn God's Law. He walked according to it or was guided by it, he examined or searched it, he memorized it, he talked about it with others, he meditated on (or thought deeply about) it, and he praised God because of what he learned from it (Psalm 119:1–16).

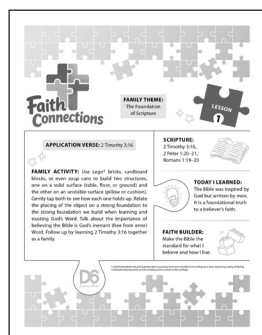
Reading God's Word consistently leads to understanding it better. Raise your hand if you know why you should brush your teeth every day. Raise your hand if you automatically reach for the seat buckle when you get in a car. Studying God's Word is important and is something that should be done every day. When you get in the habit of spending time in God's Word, doing so will become as automatic as buckling in a car.

We should continue to ask, seek, and understand what God's Word is teaching us—no matter our age. When reading Scripture, we should ask, "What does this verse say?" and "What does this verse say to me?" God will continue to teach us new things even in verses that we have read since we were in preschool (Psalm 119:17–18).

Now, let's look at some verses from the New Testament to help us learn more about why we should study the Bible *and* live it out. Have the students turn to the book of James and turn to chapter 1. **The book of James was written by James who many believe was Jesus' brother. He wrote this letter to help the people who believed in Jesus know how to live for Him every day. Just like the book of Psalms, this book was written a long time ago, but it still teaches us how to live today.** Distribute *Faith Connections* 8 and colored pencils to the students. Have younger students follow along and circle the bolded words. Have older students use the word bank to fill in the blanks. Read or choose a student to read James 1:22–25 aloud. Display TE 8-4 and discuss the different points from these verses. **The first thing we learn from these verses is we aren't to just read the Bible or listen to it, but we must do what it says.** The goal of studying the Bible is not to just be able to recite it, but to understand what it means and choose to follow God's way. The next thing these verses teach us is that *the Bible is like a mirror and shows us what is going on in our hearts.* When you look in a mirror, you see what you really look like. Imagine if you looked in the mirror and saw you had a big piece of broccoli stuck in your teeth or a big glob of ketchup on your nose. What would you do? Would you ignore what you saw and walk away, or would you try to fix what you saw in your reflection? Encourage response. **In the same way, when we read the Bible and don't do what it says, it's like we forgot what God has shown us. God's Word helps us know how to live in ways that please and honor Him and get along best with others around us. For example, the Bible can help us remember to be more**



TE 8-4



Faith Connections 8

patient, kind, and forgiving because we want others to be more patient, kind, and forgiving toward us.

James teaches that *we are to look closely at God's Word*. That means we don't just glance at the Bible or skim over the verses, but we are to pay attention, think about what we have read, and try to understand it. We ask questions such as, "What does this mean?" and "What is God teaching me?" These are the same types of questions we learned we should ask when reading through Psalm 119. Finally, we learn in these verses in James that *God's Word changes us when we obey*. The person who looks at God's Word and does what it says will be blessed. Remember, being blessed doesn't mean everything will always be easy, but it does mean we are living the way God designed us to live—and that is always best.

LIVING THE TRUTH

ITEMS NEEDED:

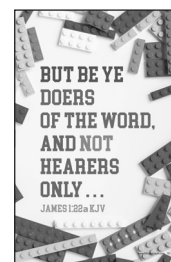
TE 8-5—TE 8-6

Faith Connections 8

GOSPEL CONNECTION:

This lesson explores how to study the Bible, but we do so with a greater purpose in mind. The Bible is one unified story of God's plan to redeem humanity through Jesus Christ. Every part of Scripture points to Him—either preparing for His coming, revealing His life and work, or showing how we are to live in response to the gospel. As we study the Bible, we are not just learning information—we are coming to know Christ more fully.

Knowing God better through the Scriptures leads us to loving and trusting Him more. As we seek to learn God's Word, we are actually seeking Him. But as we learned, knowing *about* the Bible and knowing facts from the Bible is not enough. We must do what it says. In other words, learn it and do it. This leads us to our application verse for this week. Display TE 8-5 and introduce the application verses to the students by reading it to them. If you have younger students, read the verse a few words at a time and allow them to repeat it after you. If you have older students, invite them to read the verse together with you. **We read these words from the Bible earlier in our lesson. Being a "doer" means we listen to God's Word, learn to understand what God is teaching us, and then choose to live it out in our everyday lives—at home, at school, and with our friends. Let's learn this verse by adding motions to help us remember the words.** Use the suggested motions in the sidebar for the different phrases or create your own. Say the application verse several times using these motions.



TE 8-5



TE 8-6

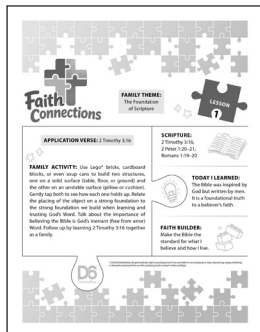
SUGGESTED MOTIONS:

Not – move pointer finger back and forth

Doers/Do – step forward

Word – hold hands in front like holding a Bible

Hearers/listen – cup hands around ears



Faith Connections 8

Let's learn some steps to help us live out what we learn from God's Word. Have the students follow along on their *Faith Connections* sheet. Display TE 8-6. **The first step is to *look for what God is trying to teach you.* When you read the Bible, don't rush through it. Sometimes we think of our time with God as something we need to "finish" instead of using it as time to learn from. Slow down and pay attention to what you are reading or hearing. For example, when we read that we should be slow to speak and slow to be angry in James (19–20), we should stop and think about how God is teaching us to be patient. Then, *create a plan to live out what you've learned from God's Word.* We should choose one thing we can do because of what we learned. Try to be specific in your step instead of unclear. Sticking with the verses in James 1:19–20, instead of saying, "I'll try to be more patient with others," create a more definite plan. Say, "I will stop and count before I speak." The next step is to *ask God for help.* We can't live out the Bible on our own. We need God's help. He will never ask us to obey Him without His help. Remember, we learned earlier that when we hear God's Word and do what it says, we will be blessed. When we obey God's Word, He changes us, helps us grow, and uses us to show His love to others. Have the students turn to the *Build Your Faith* section on their *Faith Connections* sheet. **So, how do you use what you learned to build your faith? You must first study God's Word, then think about what God is teaching you, and then ask what is one thing you can do to live out God's Word. Let's pray and talk to God. Thank You, God, for giving us Your Word. Help us understand what we read and live by what Your Word teaches us. We love You. Amen.****