

The Bible is God's Story

Challenge Supplement

Lesson Aim: To challenge children to trust the true Word of God and tell the story of who God is and what He has done for us.

Reserve lessons do not belong to a specific unit, and may be taught separately or inserted into a unit.

RESERVE LESSONS

THE WORSHIP, THE WORD, & THE WAY

To challenge the more mature children, use this Challenge Supplement along with the Teacher's Guide for ages 8-11. Replace THE WAY segment in the Teacher's Guide for ages 8-11 with THE WAY Challenge Supplement for Ages 10-12. Also, replace the DAILY WAY 5-day Bible study with the W³ BETWEEN THE LINES personal Bible study available at www.childrensministrywarehouse.net.



SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR CHALLENGE SUPPLEMENT

THE WORD

- ☐ Challenge children to read these verses as Old Testament touchpoints in the story of God: Genesis 1:1, Exodus 15:13, Isaiah 45:5-6.

THE WAY

- ☐ Christ Connection: John 3:16, Matthew 28:19-20, Revelation 21:3-5
- ☐ Additional passage: Titus 1:1-3
- ☐ Optional passages (if time allows): Acts 2:32, Acts 26:16, 2 Timothy 3:14-17
- ☐ W³ BETWEEN THE LINES Journal Entry #Lesson R1

Notes

Reminder: Replace the DAILY WAY segment of FINAL FIVE with the following:

W³ CHALLENGE

Take home today's W³ Journal Entry # R1 as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together at home in a notebook or in your Bible. (Distribute W³ Journal Entry # R1.) Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!



THE WAY

Trust the evidence; tell the story.

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Evidence of God's love is everywhere. (Make a list of everyone's favorite Bible stories. Brainstorm ways each story shows that God loves us.)

CHRIST CONNECTION

Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament and Us

After Moses spoke of God's unfailing love, all people continued to sin. When the prophet Isaiah spoke, most people worshipped false gods. Most Israelites had turned away from Him. Some truly loved God and faithfully tried to do what was right, but no one was perfect. God's love never failed. When the time was right, He made a way for them to be close with Him. 700 years after God spoke through Isaiah, He sent His Son Jesus to earth. There, Jesus explained why God sent Him.



FIND IT FIRST> Everyone place your Bibles closed on your laps. (Choose a child to unveil Christ Connection Scripture reference: John 3:16, Matthew 28:19-20, Revelation 21:3-5.) **Let's see who can Find It First! Find John 3:16 and highlight it. Ready? Set? Go!**
(Read John 3:16.)

Jesus died on the cross so that we could have eternal life. He loved the world so much that wanted everyone to have the chance to believe in Him. Let's hear what He told His disciples before He was lifted up to heaven. (Read Matthew 28:19-20.) Eternal life is life forever close to God, here on earth and later in heaven. What do you think heaven will be like? (Respond.) At the end of the Bible, God gave John a vision of what heaven would be like. As we read it, imagine how life in heaven will be. (Read Revelation 21:3-5.) What did the voice from the throne of God say about the words in the Bible? (They are trustworthy and true.)

You can tell the story of God, and trust that it is true. Some who you tell this story, may be surprised to hear it is true. In this case, you can research and show the historical evidence and recent discoveries that confirm its trustworthiness. (If time allows, check out the following Bible verses about its truth and its writers: Acts 2:32, Acts 26:16, 2 Timothy 3:14-17.)

Even when you find evidence to confirm most of the Bible stories and teachings, you will always need faith to believe that *every* word is from God and *every* word is true. Hebrews 11:1 tells us that faith is being certain of what we do not see. Ask God to give you the faith to trust that the Bible is God's Word, and faith to trust that His Word is always true. (Read Titus 1:1-3.)

If you met someone who had never heard of the Bible, and did not know about Jesus, how would you tell him or her the true story of God in your own words? (Respond. If time allows let each child tell the story of God from the beginning to end. Younger children may need to simplify the story to 3 points: (1) God made us. (2) He loved us so much He sent Jesus to die for us. (3) Whoever believes in Him will have life forever close with God, now on earth and later in heaven.)

Why is it important to tell the story? (Respond.)