

# SMALL GROUP

TODAY'S WONDER TRUTH: GOD GIVES US THE BIBLE TO KNOW WHO HE IS



## WORD OF WONDER:

For you created my inmost being;  
you knit me together in my  
mother's womb. I praise you  
because I am fearfully and  
wonderfully made; your works are  
wonderful, I know that full well.  
- Psalm 139:13-14

## GOD'S BIG STORY:

God's Word is a  
Lamp to My Feet  
(Psalm 119:97-105)

## POST-LARGE GROUP QUESTIONS:

- What does the author of Psalm 119 say that he loves? (Possible answers: God's Word, the Bible, God's Law.)
- What type of food does the writer of Psalm 119 say God's Word is like? (a sweet, delicious treat like honey)
- God's Word is described as a lamp. What does a lamp or light do?
- How is God's Word like a light or lamp for us? (Possible answers: It shows us God's good way; it guides us; it helps us know what God is like.)
- How can God's commands or laws help us?
- What is something you've learned about God from the Bible?

## Welcome Question

- What do you do when you want to learn something new?
- We all learn new things all the time by listening to teachers, practicing new skills, and reading about new things! God gave us His Word to teach us about Him and show us the best way to live. I can't wait to talk more about all that God teaches us.

## Curiosity Questions

- How can we learn about God when we can't see Him?
- What makes the Bible different from other books?

## Curiosity Activity: Hidden Treasure

- Hide the slips throughout the room where kids will be able to find them. In this activity, kids will use light from flashlights to search for the hidden slips. The room will need to be dimly lit but not so dark that it could be scary for kids. If needed, use night-lights or small lamps to achieve the ideal level of dimness.
- Help kids form groups of 3–4 and give one flashlight to each group. Also give flashlights to the leaders, including yourself. **Today we're going to look for hidden treasure! There's only one catch: We'll have to search in the dark! To make everyone's search easier, I've given each group a flashlight. When I say, "Go," you'll use your flashlight to find three hidden slips of paper around the room. Each slip of paper has a number on it, and you'll want to make sure that your three slips have different numbers on them.**
- **On each slip is a treasure from God's Word! So, once you've found three different slips, you'll read them together using the flashlight to see! Once everyone has discovered and read their three slips, you'll have a chance to share your treasure with the whole group!**
- Turn the lights low (make sure that exits are lit and the room isn't pitch black) and then say, "Go!" Invite leaders to help any groups that need help finding three slips and then reading them.
- Once all the groups have found and read three slips, turn the lights back on and invite each group to read their favorite treasure (Bible verse slip) to the group.
- **It wasn't easy finding your treasure in the dark, was it? However, when you shined your flashlight on the treasure, you were able to see and read treasures from the Bible. Did you notice anything similar about all the verses on the treasure slips? Invite responses. All the verses came from Psalm 119! Today we're going to explore more of Psalm 119 as we learn that God's Word is like a flashlight that shows us what God is like.**
- Today's Wonder Truth is **GOD GIVES US THE BIBLE TO KNOW WHO HE IS.**

## Word of Wonder Activity

- **Our Word of Wonder for the Wonderfully Made series comes from Psalm 139. Let's say the verse together.** Open your Bible to Psalm 139:13–14. Read Psalm 139:13–14 several times together.
- **When we examine, or look closely, at God's Word, we learn more about God and His great plan for His creation. God's Word is a lamp to our feet! We're going to examine God's Word in the Bible today using a magnifying glass.**
- Set out a magnifying glass and the paper slips from the Word of Wonder Sheet. Invite kids to take turns using the magnifying glass to put the slips in verse order. If there are pre-readers in your group, read each section of the verse aloud for them (using the magnifying glass!).

## Responding in Worship: Bible Journals

- Today we learned that God gives us the Bible to know who He is. The writer of **Psalm 119** explains many reasons that God's Word is wonderful. Does anyone remember any of the reasons he gives? Allow kids to respond.
- The psalmist states that God's Word is like a lamp that shows us the way and guides us. Reading and listening to the Bible gives us an opportunity to hear from God and for the Holy Spirit, God's presence with us, to teach us more about what God is like.
- **Let's spend some time now reading the Bible and reflecting on God's good Word!** Give a prepared Bible Journal to each kid and set out writing and coloring utensils. Invite kids to write their names on the front cover of their journals. Then have everyone turn to the next page and write today's date. (Write the date on the whiteboard for kids to copy.) Next, read the instructions slowly as the kids follow along: Read **Psalm 119:97**. **As you read the verse, what did you imagine? Draw a picture of it or write about it.** Invite kids to turn in their Bibles to **Psalm 119:97** and read the verse together. Give them time to draw a picture of the verse or write what they imagine as they read it.
- If time allows, kids can look at the other pages and continue working in their journals.
- **You did a wonderful job reflecting on God's Word! My prayer for each of you is that as you spend time reading the Bible, you'll experience joy as you get to know who God is. This journal is meant to help you as you read God's Word. Each day that you read your Bible, use one of the pages in this journal to help you reflect. You may write the date and then read a Bible verse. Then, write or draw what God is teaching you. I encourage you to dive into the pages of the Bible and discover who God is.**
- Send kids home with their Bible Journals and encourage them to show their journals to their families at pick-up time.

## SMALL GROUP PRAYER

God loves us so much that He gave us His Word, the Bible. He wants to help us in all the areas of our lives, and He gave us the Bible so we could know Him. Let's talk with God in prayer now.

Invite kids into a time of prayer and encourage them to share prayer requests. Ask for a volunteer to lead a prayer to thank God for giving us the Bible so we can know Him. Other volunteers can pray for the requests kids shared during this group time.