

LESSON 3

GOD'S WORD IS A LAMP TO MY FEET

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Gives Us the Bible to Know Who He Is

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119

GOD'S BIG STORY: The writer of Psalm 119 tells how wonderful it is to follow God's ways. His Word is like a light that guides us and shows us what God is like so we can know Him better!

WORD OF WONDER: How God made me is amazing and wonderful. —from Psalm 139:14

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

We don't know the author of Psalm 119, but he was clearly an Israelite who loved God's Word and took joy in obeying it. Some think the author was a priest who used the psalm to help show others how to walk in God's way.

WHAT?

Psalm 119 has 176 verses and is the longest chapter in the book of Psalms and in the entire Bible. It's an acrostic poem that uses the whole Hebrew alphabet to tell about the wonder of God's Word. The Law of God was the author's highest joy!

WHERE?

Some believe Psalm 119 was written in Israel after the exile—when God's people returned to the land of Israel and became more committed to following Him and His way. This psalm encourages God's people to rejoice in His good Word.

WHEN?

The Psalms were written over hundreds of years—from the time of Moses to after the exile from Babylon. People believe this psalm was likely written after God's people returned to Israel from exile, starting in 538 BC.

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

Many years later, John described Jesus as “the Word” who was “the light for all people” (John 1:1, 4). Jesus is the living Word of God and the “light of the world” (John 8:12).

Object Lesson: Flashlight

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome to church! Today we're going to have some fun with this flashlight. Let's see what this flashlight does.

Show the kids the flashlight and show them how it turns on and off. Let them take turns shining the flashlight at something in the room. Remind them not to shine the light in each other's eyes and only at what you say.

Let them take turns standing in the light when you shine it on the floor or invite them to walk where you shine the light as you move it around the room.

We're going to hear today about how God's Word is like a light, kind of like this flashlight lights our way in a dark room!

Activity: Catch the Light

Let's play a game where you try to catch the light! Let's all stand up. I'll turn on the flashlight and shine the light on the floor. Try to step on the light wherever you see it on the floor!

Turn the flashlight on and off, shining it on the floor while the kids try to step on the beam of light.

In God's big story today, we'll learn that the Bible is like a light that helps us know who God is! Our Wonder Truth today is: **GOD GIVES US THE BIBLE TO KNOW WHO HE IS.**

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

GOD—*Point up.*

GIVES US—*Point to yourself.*

THE BIBLE—*Hold hands open in front of you.*

TO KNOW—*Point to your head.*

WHO HE IS—*Point up.*

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

How God made me is amazing and wonderful.

—from Psalm 139:14

Display the Word of Wonder Slide or [Video](#), if using. **Our Word of Wonder for the Wonderfully Made series is from Psalm 139:14. Let's practice saying the Word of Wonder together.** Practice the verse with the kids.

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **HOW GOD**—*Point up with both hands.*
- **MADE ME**—*Point to yourself with two thumbs.*
- **IS AMAZING**—*Put one arm out to your side for each word.*
- **AND WONDERFUL.**—*Burst both arms up and out to the sides at the same time.*
- **FROM PSALM 139:14**—*Hold your hands open in front of you, as if holding a book.*

Prayer and Blessing

Pray with the kids and thank God for giving us the Bible to help us know Him.

When I say, "Bible," hold your hands open like a book.

God, thank You for giving us the Bible (hold hands open like a book) to help us know who You are. Thank You for giving us the Bible (hold hands open like a book) to remind us how much You love us! We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: God knows you and wants you to know Him too! And He loves you and wants you to love Him as well! May you always know God and remember that He loves you!

Activity: Shadow Puppets

Use a puppet (or small animals or toys) to create shadows. **Let's look at shadows. We need darkness, and we also need light in order to make them.** Find a blank wall, dim the lights, and shine a flashlight on the wall. Let the kids experiment by putting different objects in front of the light to create shadows on the wall. Encourage them to experiment with putting the objects closer or farther from the light to see how they change sizes. You can also create shadows using your hands. Ask the kids whether they can guess what each object is just by its shadow.

Sometimes it's hard to know what something is just by its shadow. When we shine a light on the puppet, we can know what it is! God's Word is like a light that helps us know who He is. We can thank God for giving us the Bible to help us know Him more and know how to live. The Bible is God's big story.