OLD TESTAMENT | LESSON 1

INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE



THINK ABOUT IT:

How can you use the Bible as your instruction book for life?

Introduction

- 1. Welcome the children to Bible2School, then say, "I love playing games. Who else here likes games?"
- 2. Explain to the children how reading the instructions for the game really makes a difference how you play.
- 3. Ask, "What would it be like to play a game without reading the directions first? Turn to a neighbor and share what you think."
- 4. Say, "There is an instruction book for your life, given to you by God Himself!"

Message

- 1. Present the *Think About It* question. Entertain answers from the children.
- 2. After getting a few ideas, have a volunteer call your cell phone. Answer it, telling the person calling that you can't talk right now because you are teaching a class.
- 3. Say, "Sorry about that, but I use my cell phone all the time! I don't think I could be without it for even a day. But there's something else even more important that I can't live without God's Word."
- 4. Show the kids the Bible and ask, "What if we treated our Bibles like we do our favorite electronic devices? How would your day be different?" Allow children to respond and give examples.
- 5. Say, "Bibles are so much better than our electronics. They won't need recharging, won't get outdated, and won't break."
- 6. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17.
- 7. Say, "The Bible is God's word to teach us, to help us see what we are doing wrong, and to help us do what is right."



SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 3:16-17



MATERIALS

- Bible for each small group leader
- Cell Phone



PREPARATION

 Write the Think About It question on the board

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(1)

VI IDEA!

It's the first day of class! Make the children feel special by calling on them by name.



VI IDEA!

Spend some time getting to know the children by asking about their family, likes, and friends. You can learn a lot by asking, "What do you think we're going to do in this class?"



EXTRA TIME

- Discuss how each book was written by different people, but all the ideas and words came from God
- Show children how each book is further divided into chapters and verses.

- 8. Say, "God has a lot to teach us in the Bible, but like an instruction manual, we won't know what to do if we don't read it. All this year we will be learning stories from the Bible and seeing what God has to say to us."
- 9. Ask, "How can you use the Bible as your instruction book for life?"

Dig Deeper in Small Groups

- 1. Ask, "Have you ever used instructions to put something together? What happens if you don't read the instructions or you miss a step?"
- 2. Say, "Tell me about a time when you had a really hard decision to make."
- 3. Ask, "When you have a hard decision to make, how do you know what's right?"
- 4. Ask, "How can you use the Bible as God's instruction book for life?" (*read it, study it, do what it says, etc.*)
- 5. Show children the Old Testament. Say, "The Old Testament tells the story of God's chosen people, the Israelites. This is the book we'll be studying this year. We'll learn from the Israelites how much God loves and cares for us, how God wants us to love Him, and how to treat others.
- 6. Show children the New Testament. Say, "The New Testament tells the story of Jesus' life and his teachings. The New Testament teaches us how God wants a personal relationship with us, which we'll also talk about this year, and tells us a little of what heaven will be like."
- 7. Guide the students on a tour of the Bible. Have the children find Genesis, Revelation, Psalms, and the Gospels. The book of Psalms is easily found by opening the Bible to the middle. The Gospels can then be found by finding the middle of the back half.
- 8. Pray. Thank God for giving us His word so we can learn more about Him and hear how much He loves us!

Fun Facts about Psalms

- It has the most chapters of any of the books.
- It has the longest chapter (119) and the shortest chapter (117) in the Bible.
- The very middle of the Bible is Psalm 118.

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