

Week 7- The Bible

Word to Deed

1

KEY VERSES

Read these key verses together:

James 1:22-25

2

INTRODUCTION

This is the last week of our God Breathed series. We have looked at the Bible in many different ways. It's inspiration, what it consists of, it's purpose, how to meditate on it and memorize it and even how to handle the difficult parts.

We have learned a lot about what the Bible says, but if we don't DO what it says, what's the point? That is the goal this week, to move to being DOERS of the word.

3

WHAT'S DIFFERENT

PLAY: Play the What's Different game (you will need a mirror). Have one of your kids leave the room and alter their appearance somehow and then return. The rest of the family must figure out what has changed. Once you have guessed have them fix it back to normal and say, "all back to normal." Allow all kids to have a turn. Once they have had a turn, have one of the adults take a turn. Make your difference very obvious. When your kids guess it, act very surprised and run and look in the mirror. Return saying you have fixed it back to normal (but don't actually fix it). Your kids should point out that it has not been fixed. Run back to mirror in surprise. Repeat this several times.

READ: Read James 1:22-25 again

ASK: How is hearing without doing anything about it like looking in a mirror and forgetting what you look like?

SAY: When we look into the mirror of God's word and we learn something, but don't do what we learned it is like we have not learned it at all. God wants us to do what he teaches us.

4

EVEN THE KETCHUP PACKET?

SAY: God wants us to listen to what he is telling us in the Bible. There are a lot of choices of who we can listen to, but deep down we know we need to be listening to God.

WATCH: Watch this short [object lesson](#) on listening to God.

ASK: Why didn't the ketchup packet listen to the volunteer? (*Because the pastor was in control*)

SAY: We need to decide who will be in control of our lives. We need to decide who we are going to listen to. We need to decide to hear what God is telling us in the Bible and be DOERS of God's word.

5

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

DO: Look up some of your favourite verses and figure out how you and your family are going to be DOERS of God's word based on those verses. Make a list of practical ideas that you could do as a family that would bless those around you and allow you to be obedient to God's word. (Verse suggestions: Micah 6:8, James 2:14-17, Hebrews 13:16, Galatians 6:9, Titus 2:7)

6

CONCLUSION

SAY: We have learned a lot these past 7 weeks. I hope all we have learned about the Bible won't just stay in your head but will stay in your heart too. Let's try to take all we have learned, and all we will continue to learn from the Bible and make sure we are DOING what God wants us to!

Week 6- The Bible

Making Sense of the Difficult Parts

1

KEY VERSES

Read these key verses together:

Matthew 5:17-20
John 16:13

2

INTRODUCTION

Parents, this week we are dealing with talking to our kids about the hard parts of the Bible, and why we need to do that. Before you get started this week, click [here](#) for a great article on the importance of not ignoring the hard parts of the Bible.

As we go through this week's material, judge how the discussion will go for your own family based on the age and maturity of your kids. It's an important topic for all kids, but needs to be done at their level.

3

THE WHATS AND WHYS?

ASK: What things do you hear and see that are hard for you to understand? Do you ever wonder why something happened? Are there things that just don't make sense to you?

DO: Grab a pen and paper or a tablet and make a list of things your kids find hard to understand. Share some things you find hard to understand.

DISCUSS: Talk about some of the things your kids find hard to understand or wonder about. Ask them why they think some of these things happen. Ask them how these situations make them feel. (You don't need to have all the answers, just aim to have a good dialogue).

4

WHAT ABOUT THE BIBLE?

SAY: Sometimes there are things in the Bible that are hard to understand or we don't know why they happened.

ASK: What are some of the things you have questions about in the Bible? What are some things you don't understand? Have you ever asked yourself, "why did that happen"? If you could ask God one question, what would it be?

DISCUSS: Talk about these questions with your family (again, don't worry if you don't have all the answers).

5

WHAT ELSE IS GOING ON?

ASK: What are some of your favourite Bible stories? What do you like about those stories?

DO: Revisit some of those stories. Read them again as a family. (Some suggestions if you need some stories to revisit are: Noah's ark, Jonah and the big fish, Joshua and the defeat of Jericho).

ASK: (Bear in mind the age of your children when asking these questions and adapt them accordingly) What else is going on in these stories? What things seem strange to you, what things don't you understand? Do you understand why God would allow some of those things to happen?

SAY: We don't always understand everything that happens in these stories, or why they happen, or why God allows things to happen, and that's okay. It's okay to ask questions, that is the only way we will find answers. Never be afraid to ask questions.

6

CONCLUSION

DO: Re-read John 16:13

SAY: God's word, the Bible, can be hard sometimes. Hard to understand, hard to follow and can fill us with lots of questions. It is important that we look for answers to those questions by first asking the Holy Spirit to guide us and reveal the truth to us.

Week 5- The Bible Memorizing Scripture

1

KEY VERSES

Read these key verses together:
Psalm 119:11
Psalm 37:31
Colossians 3:16

2

INTRODUCTION

SAY: This week we are going to be talking about memorizing Scripture. Before you think this sounds too much like homework, think of all the things you have memorized in your lifetime.

ASK: What are some of the things you have memorized that you didn't realize you had? (*possible responses: alphabet, numbers, nursery rhymes, songs, O Canada, web addresses, catch phrases, commercials, etc.*)

3

WHAT'S THE POINT?

ASK: Why do we memorize things? What do you use the things you memorized for? For instance, what do you use the alphabet for?

SAY: We memorize things that are going to help us both today and in the future. Imagine if you had not memorized the alphabet, how would you read or write anything. Our memory is a useful tool, it highlights the things that we are going to need in the future. That is also why we should memorize scripture, it will highlight things that will help us in the future.

DO: Watch this [short video](#) together about why we need to memorize scripture.

4

LET'S PRACTICE

SAY: Let's practice memorizing some scripture right now. We are going to try to learn our three Key Verses from this week. Let's read them together first.

DO: Write out one or all of the three Key Verses from this week to display and play Toss Across and Clap a Word to help learn the verses. You can find the instructions [here](#).

SAY: Those were fun games. Memorizing comes easier to some than others, but it can always be fun.

5

THE MEMORY CHALLENGE

CALLING ALL FAMILIES! GET READY FOR A SCRIPTURE MEMORY THROW DOWN!

We really want you to get God's word into your heart, so we have a challenge for you and your family. If you and your family (kids and parents or guardians) complete the challenge you'll win a prize for the family.

The Challenge: There are 7 weeks in our God Breathed series and each week we have added another verse from 2 Timothy to be memorized on our God Breathed page. If you and your parent or guardian can memorize all 7 verses and recite them to Neil or Kristen, or send a video of you reciting them (from memory), you will win a prize for your family. You will have until the end of 2020 to learn and recite all 7 verses. **REMEMBER**, it must be kids and at least one parent or guardian saying the verses.

Good luck and happy memorizing!

6

CONCLUSION

SAY: God's word is so important for us to have in our hearts and minds. It is a useful way for us to be able to think about God in every situation. The Bible can help us whatever we may be faced with and if we have it in our memory and in our hearts God will bring back to our minds when we need it most.

Week 4- The Bible

Meditating on Scripture

1

KEY VERSES

Read these key verses together:
Psalm 1
Joshua 1:8

2

INTRODUCTION

SAY: This week we are going to be talking about meditating on Scripture.

ASK: When given a piece of gum, do you quickly chew it and throw it out, or do you chew it for a while and enjoy it? What is your favorite food? Have you ever chewed your favorite food very slowly so that you can taste every nuance of the flavour and truly enjoy it? This is a lot like meditation. Let's have some fun learning about it!

3

BUBBLE GUM GAMES

NEEDED: Lots of bubble gum!

SAY: We are going to learn what it means to meditate in some really fun ways using bubble gum.

ASK: What is your favourite kind of bubble gum? Why? Why do you chew bubble gum - the flavour, to blow bubbles, or simply to have something to chew on or pass the time? What does it mean to chew on something? What is the benefit of chewing something for a long time?

DO: Play the bubble gum games found in the Game Time section of the God Breathed Family Discipleship material.

4

CHEWING ON SCRIPTURE

ASK: In what way is meditation in God's Word similar to chewing gum?

SAY: In many of these games, we rushed to chew the gum quickly so that we could simply blow a bubble. We didn't take it slowly or take time to enjoy it and fully experience the flavour, we simply chewed it just enough to get something done. Unfortunately, this is the same way many of us treat our Bible reading. We read just enough to get the job done, we don't really meditate on it or or take time to really enjoy it. In the Bible, we are often commanded to meditate on scripture. We are also told to taste and see that God is good.

5

HOW DO WE CHEW ON SCRIPTURE?

SAY: Meditate means to take your time to think long and hard about something, to focus on something or someone in order to get the most out of it.

ASK: What are some ways we can meditate on scripture?

SAY: Here are three ways we can meditate on scripture.

- Look up key words of the verse in an English Dictionary. How does the full meaning of the words expand your understanding of the scripture?
- Read a verse emphasising a different word each time.
- Read it in various translations.

DO: Try using these three methods with the verse Joshua 1:8.

6

CONCLUSION

SAY: God's Word, unlike bubble gum, never loses its flavour. And once we've meditated or chewed on it a while, we become more flexible and useful to God. He can stretch us, fill us and use us.

As a family, let's be sure we have personal bible reading plans or devotional books to help us meditate on scriptures. Let's set aside some time each day to meditate on Scripture. Let's keep a journal of insights as we meditate on God's Word each day.

Week 3- The Bible

The Purpose of the Bible

1

KEY VERSES

Read these key verses together:
2 Timothy 3:14-17
John 20:30-31
Hebrews 4:12

2

INTRODUCTION

SAY: We have heard how the Bible is the inspired word of God, about all the parts that make up the Bible and a little bit of history of the Bible. This week we are going to dive in and discover what is the purpose of the Bible.

ASK: Based on the verses we just read, what do you think is the purpose of the Bible?

3

OWNER'S MANUAL

NEEDED: Bible and owner's manual from your car (use an instruction manual from a tool or appliance if you do not own a car).

SAY: This is an owners manual and it tells me all about the features of the car, how to get the best performance from the car and what to do if something goes wrong.

DO: Explore the owner's manual with your family. Point out cool features your car has and be sure to show them how it has recommendations for performance and warning systems if things are not working properly.

ASK: How is the Bible like this owner's manual?

4

GOD'S MANUAL

READ: 2 Timothy 3:16

SAY: This verse tells us that the Bible teaches us what is true, corrects us when we make mistakes, can give us a meaningful life if we follow what it says and trains us to do what is right. It sounds like God has thought of everything we will need.

ASK: How can we use the bible for teaching, correcting, giving meaning and training?

DO: Write down a list of the answers you come up with and post it somewhere as a reminder to your family.

5

MORE THAN A MANUAL

SAY: We have seen how the Bible can be used to help us in our everyday lives, but now we are going to discover that it is much more than "God's owner's manual".

READ: John 3:16 and John 20:30-31

SAY: We know from the book of Genesis that sin separates us from God. But we also know from the verses we just read that God loves us and does not want us to be separated from Him. That is why he had a plan to restore that relationship through His son Jesus. John 20:31 tells us that is why we have the writings of the Bible, so that we would believe that Jesus is our saviour and if we believe that we would not have to be separated from God. The Bible is so much more than a manual, it is a reflection of God's love for us.

LISTEN: [These Are Written](#)

6

CONCLUSION

SAY: The Bible can help us in so many ways - teaching, correcting, giving us meaning, training - but the most important thing about the Bible is that it shows us God's love for us, how he sent Jesus to save us and how we can spend eternity in his presence.

Week 2- The Bible

Many Books, 2 Testaments, 1 Story

1

KEY VERSE - MATTHEW 24:35 (NIRV)

Heaven and earth will pass away. But my words will never pass away.

2

INTRODUCTION

SAY: Last week we talked about the Bible being the inspired words of God. This week we are going to look at how the Bible is put together. We will see that even though it may look like many stories it is actually GOD'S ONE BIG STORY!

ASK: What is the Bible?

3

LOOK AT THE BIBLE

SAY: Let's take a look at the Bible. Let's open up to the table of contents and see what's there.

READ: Read through the table of contents and point out the Old Testament and the New Testament. Count the number of books in the Old Testament and the New Testament. Have your kids add the two numbers together to get the total.

SAY: Wow, 66 books is a lot of books. Last week we learned that many different people wrote the words but God gave them the message.

ASK: Why do you think the Bible is divided into the Old Testament and the New Testament? Why is it important that we study both the Old Testament and the New Testament?

4

DID YOU KNOW?

SAY: Did you know that the Bible is written in different genres? Which means it doesn't have the same type of writing all the way through. It has writings that tell history, it contains laws, poetry, books of wisdom, prophecy, it has letters people wrote and biographies of Jesus' life.

DO: See how many different styles of writings you can find in your house. For example, can your kids find any poetry books, biographies, history books.

ASK: Why do you think God wanted so many different styles of writing in the Bible?

5

FROM BEGINNING TO END

SAY: So if the Bible was written by about 40 different people, is made up of 66 books, has different genres and was written over the course of 1500 years, what is really all about?

READ: Genesis 1:1 and Revelation 22:5

SAY: The Bible is telling one story, from beginning to end, a story of God's love. It tells of God's love for the human race and his plan to restore the relationship that man broke through sin, and continued to break throughout history. God's plan to rescue us by sending his son Jesus to pay the price for our sin. There's a lot that goes on between Genesis 1 and Revelation 22, told in a lot of different ways, but ultimately it is telling GOD'S ONE BIG STORY.

WATCH: [What is the Bible by the Bible Project](#)

6

CONCLUSION

SAY: The Bible may seem big and confusing, but when you break it down into it's different parts and see that each of those parts has a story to tell as part of GOD'S ONE BIG STORY, it becomes something beautiful you will want to explore.

Week 1 - The Bible

The Inspiration of God

1

KEY VERSE - 2 TIMOTHY 3:16 (NIRV)

God has breathed life into all Scripture. It is useful for teaching us what is true. It is useful for correcting our mistakes. It is useful for making our lives whole again. It is useful for training us to do what is right

2

INTRODUCTION

SAY: As we begin to study about the Bible, there are some important things you should know. The most important thing is this: The Bible is GOD'S WORD. That is, the words in the Bible (which are called "SCRIPTURE"), are the words of God.

ASK: Whose word is the Bible?

3

INSPIRED

SAY: The next thing you need to know is that God's Word is PERFECT. That means that everything God says is right.

READ: Proverbs 30:5

SAY: So, all Scripture is God-breathed, and it is all perfect. But, God didn't actually personally write the Bible. Instead, He used certain men throughout history to write down His Word for us so that we could read it today. Men like Moses, Joshua, Isaiah, John, Paul, and many others were spoken to by God and wrote down what He told them to write. In other words, the Bible is INSPIRED by God.

ASK: Did God personally write the Bible? Did God use certain men to write down His words?

4

GOD SPEAKS

READ: Hebrews 1:1-2

SAY: There are several ways God inspired His Word. To keep things simple, I'll show you a couple of them. (Give a child a piece of paper and a pen). One way that God inspired his servants was to dictate to them exactly what to write like this - (Tell your child to write, "Red crayons are the best." Show it to the rest of the family).

ASK: Did I write these words? But whose words are they?

SAY: So, even though I didn't write this note, it is MY word. I told the writer exactly what to say

5

IN OTHER WORDS

SAY: But sometimes, instead of telling His servants EXACTLY what to say, God told His servants what He wanted to say, and He let his servant write it down in their own words, kind of like this (give another child the paper and pen, and say "Write down what you see and hear me do." Then, hold up your red and blue crayons, throw the blue one away, keep the red one, and say, "I choose the red crayon." After your child has written down what you've said and done, have them read it aloud.)

ASK: Did I write this, or tell them the exact words to use? But who told them to write down what they saw? So whose message is this?

SAY: So, even though God used certain men to write down His Word, it was HIS Word they were writing. And God saw to it that, however His servants wrote His messages, they all said just what God wanted to say. Now, for us today, God's Word is COMPLETE. There is nothing more to be said.

6

CONCLUSION

SAY: The Bible, including both Old and New Testaments, is the Godbreathed, perfect, and COMPLETE Word of God. It is what God wants all of us to know and trust and obey. Our hope is that you will learn to love, trust, and obey the Holy Word of God.