

Take Home Page: F1. Bible Skills – Old Testament

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that **the Word of God stands forever**. Children explored the Old Testament of the Bible and talked about how important it is for us to read it and learn from it.

Help me learn my memory verse...

“The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stands forever.” --Isaiah 40:8 (NLT)

Ask me...

1. Where does all scripture come from?
2. Does the Bible have any mistakes in it?
3. How can the Bible help us to grow to be more like Jesus?

Live Your Faith...

Play a game of “charades” together, in which you take turns acting out your favorite Bible stories from the Old Testament. After the correct story is guessed, let the person who chose it explain why it is their favorite and what they learned from that story.

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Take Home Page: F2. Hannah and Samuel

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that **God wants us to keep our promises**. The children reviewed the story of Hannah and Samuel and talked about what it means to keep a promise, especially to the Lord.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"The Lord has given me what I asked Him for." --1 Samuel 1:27

Ask me...

1. What promise did Hannah make to the Lord?
2. Did Hannah keep her promise? Why?
3. Have you ever made a promise to God? Do you think it is important to keep our promises to Him? Why or why not?

Live Your Faith...

Go on a nature walk together and make a point to notice and name all the things that God created. Remind your child just how amazing and wonderful God is that He made so many beautiful things for us to enjoy. He also made each one of us. Remind your child of how much God loves us and how important it is for us to keep our promises to Him. Say a prayer together and thank God especially for promising to always be with you each day.

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Take Home Page: F3. Samuel the Prophet

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Today your child learned that **God will bless us when we answer the call to serve Him.** The children reviewed the story of how God called Samuel to be a prophet. They also explored how God calls us as well, to help Him by serving others.

Help me learn my memory verse...

“Speak, for your servant hears.” --1 Samuel 3:10

Ask me...

1. What happened to Samuel in the story?
2. How would you react if you realized you were hearing the voice of God? Why?
3. What can you do to serve God in the congregation? At home? Discuss together.

Live Your Faith...

Ask your child to help you prepare and serve a meal in your home. As you work together, talk about what a joy it is for you to serve a meal to your family and/or to friends. Remind your child that by serving this meal with love and thankfulness in your heart, you are also serving the Lord because you are actively loving one another. As you eat together, talk about specific ways you and your children can serve our Heavenly Father each day, both at home and in your congregation. Talk about it.

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Take Home Page: F4. The Capture and Return of the Ark

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that we should **love God with all our mind, soul, heart and strength**. The children reviewed the story of the capture and return of the Ark of the Covenant. They also talked about what it means to fear the Lord.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"You who have respect for the Lord, praise him!...honor Him!...worship Him!" --Psalm 22:23

Ask me...

1. What happened to the Ark of the Covenant?
2. Do you think God is powerful? Why or why not?
3. What do you think it means to fear God? Discuss together.

Live Your Faith...

Play a game together, preferably one that your child knows the rules to. Today, however, play without any rules. See how long you can last before stopping and talking about why it is important to have "rules" when you play the game. Remind your child that God also has rules or "commandments" that He wants us to follow each day of our lives. When we follow them, we have order and peace in our lives, but when we choose not to follow them, we often have complete chaos. God wants us to honor and respect Him, and we show Him that we do by following His commandments.

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Take Home Page: F5. Elijah: the Ravens and the Poor Widow

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Today your child learned that we want to **listen for God's voice** each day. The children reviewed the story of Elijah, the ravens and the poor widow. They also talked about how much God wants to take care of all our needs. He only asks that we obediently follow Him.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"My God will meet all your needs." --Philippians 4:13 (NIRV)

Ask me...

1. What adventures did Elijah have in today's stories?
2. How did God reward Elijah when He obeyed Him?
3. Do you think it is always easy to follow God's instructions? Why or why not?

Live Your Faith...

Play a game together of either follow the leader or Simon says. After you play a few rounds, talk about the importance of listening to and following the footsteps of Jesus. Remind your child that Jesus wants us to follow Him and obey His commandments with our whole heart, not letting anyone or anything get in the way of following Him. Pray this week that your eyes would be opened to anything that is preventing you to follow Jesus with your whole heart.

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Take Home Page: F6. Elijah and the Prophets of Baal

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that **God wants to be first** in our lives. The children reviewed the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal. They also talked about what it means to put God first in our lives.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"No one can serve two masters at the same time." --Matthew 6:24

Ask me...

1. What was happening with the people in today's story?
2. How did Elijah show them who the one true God is?
3. Why do you think it is important to put God first in our lives?

Live Your Faith...

Make a list together of all the things your child and you have to do in one day. When your list is complete, take a look again. Did you make any time for God? Does your list reflect a life that is putting Him first? Talk about that together, and then make some adjustments to your list in a way that would reflect putting God first in your life and in your day.

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Take Home Page: F7. Elijah is Taken to Heaven

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that God's wants us to **stay close to Him!** The children reviewed the story of Elijah and Elisha, and what happened when Elijah ascended to heaven. They also talked about things they can do each day to draw closer to God.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"But anyone who is joined to the Lord becomes one with Him in spirit."

--1 Corinthians 6:17 (NIRV)

Ask me...

1. What kind of relationship did Elijah and Elisha have?
2. What happened to Elijah?
3. Do you want to go to heaven too some day? Why or why not?

Live Your Faith...

Make a simple treat with your child, but the first time you attempt making it, make it incorrectly. (i.e., use salt instead of sugar.) Let your child taste the result and see what reaction you get. Then try to make the treat again, this time following a written down "recipe". As you work, talk about how important it is to follow the recipe as much as possible so that the end result is what it should be. God also wants us to be obedient to Him and His commandments, but He also wants us to stay close to Him. Talk about specific ways you can do that each day.

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Take Home Page: F8. Elisha and the Miracles

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Today your child learned that God's wants us to **be a blessing to others**. The children reviewed the stories of Elisha and the miracles with the widow, the Shunammite woman, and the boy he brought back to life. They also talked about if we obey God and His commandments then we will be able to experience God's blessing in our lives.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"You will experience all these blessings if you obey the Lord your God." --Deuteronomy 28:2 (NLT)

Ask me...

1. How did the widow help Elisha?
2. How was Elisha able to help the widow?
3. Do you think you can be a blessing to others too? Why or why not?

Live Your Faith...

Try to think of a way that you can bless another family this week. Maybe you can make cookies or a sweet treat to share with them in your home? Possibly even a meal? Or perhaps there is a widow in your congregation who you can show love and kindness to in a special way. Talk about it together and come up with a plan on how you will be a blessing to someone this week.

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Take Home Page: F9. Thanksgiving

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Today your child learned that we should **in all things give thanks** to God. The children explored things that God has done for them in their own lives. They also talked about the importance of thanking our Heavenly Father no matter what happens.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"Give thanks no matter what happens" --1 Thessalonians 5:18

Ask me...

1. What things does the Bible tell us to not worry about?
2. Why do you think God wants to give us the things that we need?
3. When is it hard to be thankful?

Live Your Faith...

When our hearts are thankful, we thank God for all He provides for us. We can also make a habit of thanking others for their help, for food they give us, or even for their kindness. As a family, encourage and challenge each other this week to not only have a thankful heart, but to verbally thank others for everything possible this week. Each day take a few minutes to share who you thanked and why.

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Take Home Page: F10. Prayer

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that **we can pray to God anywhere, anytime, about anything, AND He wants to hear from us!** The children examined what James wrote about prayer in the Bible. They also talked about how prayer is a way we can speak to God and draw near to Him.

Help me learn my memory verse...

“But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private.” (Matthew 6:6)

Ask me...

1. When does James say we should pray? (When we are....)
2. Why do you think we should pray for each other?
3. If you know someone is really having a hard time or a bad day, what can we ALWAYS do for them?

Live Your Faith...

Praying is described as the “breathing of the soul.” It is necessary for us to pray. If we do not pray, we do not have a living faith. A prayer without faith is also not a real prayer. When we pray, we experience God’s presence and believe that He hears as well as answers our prayers. A prayer should include adoration and worship, thanks, petitions, and intercessions. Our knowledge of God’s greatness prompts us to worship and adore Him. We should give thanks for everything that has been given to us spiritually through His word, grace and the sacraments. We should also give thanks for the gifts we receive in our natural lives (such as food, clothing and accommodation). We bring all our concerns to God in our petitions. Such concerns may be in regard to strengthening our faith, angel protection, or help in daily life. The most important petition is with regard to the return of Christ and our longing to be accepted in grace at that moment. When we intercede for another person, we express our love towards our family or neighbor and even those in the beyond. Prayer strengthens faith and trust in God and provides the assurance of security in God. After praying, we can be sure that all our concerns now lie in the hand of God.

Ideas for Discussion Prayer is an opportunity for us to feel close to God.

As a family, discuss specific petitions and intercessions that can be included in your family prayers. Make a list together and use that list during your family prayer time this week.

Take Home Page: F11. Jesus is Born

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that we should **we are waiting for Jesus to return** to us again. The children explored the story of Jesus' birth. They also were reminded that Jesus is the Son of God and was sent to be our Savior.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11)

Ask me...

1. Tell me what happened when Jesus was born.
2. How would you have worshiped Jesus if you were there when He was born?
3. What do you think you would want to say to Jesus when He comes again?

Live Your Faith...

When Jesus was born, God used the light of a very bright star to show others the way to find the baby Jesus. Our actions, the things we do and say, and how we treat others all can shine a light and draw others to the love of Jesus too. How can you share the love of Jesus with others this Christmas season? What can your family do? Maybe you can help a family or child in need or do something kind for your neighbors. Decide together on one way your family can be a light and share Jesus' love in the next few weeks. Pray that you would also be able to share the story of Jesus with others too.

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Take Home Page: F12. The Wise Men/Escape to Egypt

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that God wants us to **make time to worship Him every day**. The children reviewed the story of Jesus' birth and how the wise men found Jesus. They also talked about specific ways they can worship God each day.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"...We have come to worship Him." --Matthew 2:2

Ask me...

1. How did the wise men find Jesus? What did they bring?
2. What did the wise men do when they finally found Jesus?
3. In what ways can we worship God each day?

Live Your Faith...

Spend time together singing your favorite songs from Sunday school or church or worship time. Try to do this every day this week, even if it's just one song each day. Talk with your child about how important it is to worship the Lord each day, and one easy way to do that is through songs and music. When you pray together, thank God for the gift of singing praises to Him.

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