



BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS

GREEN CYCLE

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INTRODUCTION

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Never underestimate the power of family sharing God's Word together. Our prayer is that families would connect and dig into God's Word. Truthfully, a parent or grandparent spending a few minutes sharing God's Word together speaks louder and deeper in a child's heart than the most elaborate, amazing lesson any teacher in a class could do. Family devotion is not about teaching an amazing lesson. It is about connecting as a family and showing that your family prioritizes God's Word. The power of the family devotion is in the *relationship* you have with each other. God reminds us of this power and responsibility in Deuteronomy 6:1-9.

Bible Drill Leader, we hope this resource will be useful to you in helping families connect with what you are doing in Bible Drill class, learn along together with you, and continue learning at home. We are giving you a devotion for each Key Passage and verse in the Green Cycle. At the top of each verse page, all three versions (KJV, CSB, ESV) of the verse are listed. When you send this out to parents, make sure you use one with only your version OR that you make sure your parents know which version you want them to learn.

Some ways you could use this resource:

Each week send your families (by email, by giving out a hard copy, or both) the verse(s) and Key Passage you introduce in class that week. Families could be doing family devotions on the same things you taught in class and learn the verse and Key Passage together that week. This email or copy could also serve as a reminder of what the students should be working on at home during the week.

Example of email you could send each week to parents: (You could then attach Family Devotion for the verse and Key Passage or just copy them straight into the email.)

Hey Awesome Bible Drill Parents!

We had a great time in class this week! This week we went over the books of the Law: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy. Try to drill your driller on these books this week. We also introduced the verse Genesis 1:1 and the Key Passage, The Ten Commandments. Attached you will find a devotion on Genesis 1:1 and on The Ten Commandments. Take some time this week to do these two devotions as a family.

Challenge each other to learn the verse and find the Key Passage together.

Have a wonderful week! We can't wait to see your child in class next week.

*Love in Christ,
Jane Smith*

Other options for using this resource:

Make a booklet with all the verses and key passages and send it home with families. You could then send an email or note each week letting families know which verse and Key Passage you did that week.

You could put the booklet together in the same order as on the verse card (which is how they are ordered here) OR put them in the order in which you will teach them. Perhaps make a content page with your schedule to go in the front. There is a wonderful sample schedule for you on the www.alsbom.org/bibledrill website. Providing a schedule for parents would also serve as a way for them to keep track of what you are doing in class in case their child misses a week.

The more you can involve families, the more the kids are going to learn. And what a life changing thing for families to do together!!!

In Year Round Bible Drill/Discipleship Class, the devotions can be used as classroom lessons. This gives you, the Bible Drill Leader, a great opportunity to teach more than memorization of the verses and Key Passages. You have time to teach how the verse or Key Passages apply to the driller's life.

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**KEY PASSAGES
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1. THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Exodus 20:3-17

Key Verse/s *All the verses are key verses. Think about it. If God chose to narrow down how to live with God and the people around us into ten statements, don't you think all ten statements are very important?*

Why Is This Key Passage Important? There are two, and only two ways, to live one's life. One way is to live by LOVE and the other way is to live by the LAW. Humans have developed books and books of laws; but all that people have written can be narrowed down to the Ten Commandments that GOD WROTE.

Lesson – The first four commandments are about our relationship to God.

Commandment 1 There is Only One God.

Commandment 2 Don't Make an Idol to Worship.

Even more importantly, don't have ANYTHING in your life that is so important (baseball, football, cheerleading, boyfriend, girlfriend, a car, or things like that) that you think more about it and give more time to it than you do to God.

Commandment 3 Do Not Misuse God's Name.

Back when Moses received the Ten Commandments people would not even say God's name. We have come a long way from that kind of respect. Don't answer this question out loud, but think about how people misuse God's name today. WAIT! DON'T DO WHAT I JUST ASKED! Don't even think about those words. It is better that you show the respect that God deserves by not even thinking of a misuse of His name. Keep your mind clean – don't think it, don't stay around people who misuse God's name.

Commandment 4 Remember the Sabbath & Keep it Holy.

Of all the commandments, this is the only one that is a process that can be measured. All the others are do's or don'ts. You either do it or you don't. Very little attention is given to remembering the Sabbath and keeping it holy. Yet, it is a COMMANDMENT. How important is this commandment? Would you believe it is important enough that God says it over and over throughout the Bible? Between fifty and sixty times God says it in the Bible. It is IMPORTANT to Him, and it should be important to us.

The next six commandments are about how we should relate to others.

Commandment 5 How we should relate to FAMILY – Honor/Respect Your Parents

Commandment 6 How to relate to others – Do Not Murder

Commandment 7 How we should relate in MARRIAGE – Be Faithful in Marriage to Your Husband/Wife

Commandment 8 Another one on relating to others – Do Not Steal

Commandment 9 And another one relating to others – Do Not Tell Lies about Others

Commandment 10 Do not want anything that belongs to someone else – Do Not Covet.

What is the difference between this and stealing? (Answer – Stealing is linked completely to the act itself, in which someone takes that which belongs to another. Coveting has to do with an attitude deep within. It involves desires that are so strong that one is willing to reach out and take, or commit other unacceptable acts, to satisfy those desires. It also, more often than not, involves an attitude of dislike or hate that lingers on toward the person from which you want to take something.

After nine commands that either focus on God or outer behavior, the tenth command enters the realm of the heart and mind. It concentrates on a person's thoughts, motives and attitudes.

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2. A PSALM OF PRAISE

Psalm 100

Key Verse/s *Psalm 100:2b “Be joyful and sing as you come in to worship the LORD!” (Contemporary English Version)*

Why Is This Key Passage Important? When you think about worshiping God, you can learn how to worship God from this PSALM OF PRAISE. When you go to church it should be with one main purpose – to worship God!

Lesson Answer these questions:

- What is the best football team?
- What is the best TV show?
- Which is the best telephone?
- Who is the best teacher in your school?
- Who is the best person in your school?

How are the “best team, show, telephone, teacher, and person” praised?
 Do you praise them or do you leave the praising up to other people? You probably do not have much experience praising people do you?

Activity: *Write a two or three sentence praise of the six people/things mentioned above. Then after doing that, maybe you are in the mood to praise, and you can write a praise of God. Write a three sentence praise of God.*

Maybe if we learn how to praise others we will learn how to praise/worship God. Sometimes we need to stop all that we are doing and praise God. This Psalm encourages us to praise God.

A quick look at the Psalm suggests there are several ways to praise God – With **words, songs, and worship.**

If you can remember back to the Ten Commandments, you will remember that the fourth commandment is, “Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy!” Nothing has changed since the commandments were given to Moses, and he gave the commandments to the people. In Psalm 100, which was written over a thousand years later, in verse 4, it says, “Be thankful and praise the Lord as you enter His temple.” That is a very important commandment. Important enough for God to say something about keeping the Sabbath holy in over fifty places in the Bible. You, me, everybody should “remember the Sabbath and keep it holy,” but most people don’t. In keeping the Sabbath holy, there is no better way than to go to church and praise God by your words, by singing songs that praise Him, and by worshipping.

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3. THE GREATNESS OF GOD

Isaiah 40

Key Verse/s – *Isaiah 40:8* “The grass withers and the flowers fade; but the word of God stands forever.” (New Living Translation)

Why Is This Key Passage Important? It is difficult to realize how great God is. There really is no one to whom we can compare Him. This passage helps us realize how great God is.

Lesson

If someone were to tell you the Bible is old; it is about the past; it has no meaning for the way things are done today; it is outdated; you could answer that grass grows and then dies, flowers bloom and then fade away; but the Bible will always have meaning and purpose, and never be outdated.

Can you tell how big the oceans are? In Isaiah 40 it says God can. Scientists do not know for sure, but they say if all the irregularities on the Earth’s surface were to be smoothed out, such that there are no more holes or dents below the ocean water or mountains above, then the entire earth would be filled up with water that would be 12,000 feet deep. Scientists also say the ocean contains so much salt that if you take out the salt and spread it evenly on all the land of the earth, then you will have a 500-foot thick salt layer. Over seventy two percent of the earth’s surface is covered with water. God knew that and a lot more.

Can you make what is in the sky? In Isaiah 40 it says God did. Scientists think there are about 1,000,000,000,000,000,000 (that's 1 billion trillion) stars in the observable universe! God made each one of them and much, much more.

Can you tell how much the soil of the earth, hills, and mountains weigh? In Isaiah 40 it says God can tell you. Isaiah 40:12 says, “Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance?” It can’t be done by us; but God knows.

How great is God? GOD IS THE GREATEST!!

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4. THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

Matthew 4:1-11

Key Verse/s CSB: Verse 4 “He answered, “It is written:...”
 Verse 7 “Jesus told him, “It is also written:...”
 Verse 10 “Then Jesus told him, “Go away, Satan! For it is written:...”

Why Is This Key Passage Important? Most all of the temptations that will come our way can be compared to the three temptations that Satan put Jesus through in this Key Passage. This Key Passage also shows us the BEST way to respond to the temptations that the Devil uses.

Lesson

Notice that each time Jesus was tempted by Satan, He quoted scripture from the Bible to back Satan down. In Bible Drill you are learning scripture that will help you when Satan tempts you. Most importantly, it looks like Satan cannot win over God’s word. Just like Jesus, you want to be able to say to the devil, when he tempts you to do something wrong, “The Scriptures say...” Jesus set the example for us.

When the devil tempted Jesus, Jesus could have said, “I say...” rather than “It is written...” He certainly had the power to say that; but instead He came back with the answer, “It is written ...” Jesus was showing us what we should do when the devil tempts us. Do not say to the devil, “I tell you to leave me alone,” but use God’s words. To answer the devil with God’s words we must know the scripture. We are learning a lot of the scriptures we will need in Bible Drill.

Let’s imagine you are with a group of children playing outside after a fellowship meal at the church. Your mom or dad looks out the door of the fellowship hall and says, “Hey, come in and help clean up.” The devil tempts you by causing you to think to yourself: “Yeah, mom/dad asked me to come into the church and help clean up after the fellowship, but they will understand that I am having fun with my friends.”

Next to come to your mind is the verse, ‘Honor your father and your mother.’ The devil cannot do anything now. You have just used God’s Words to come back at the devil and he cannot talk back to God. If you had tried to use your own words, the devil might have gotten into a discussion back and forth with you to justify your staying outside. Because you used God’s words, the devil couldn’t argue, and you are pleased with yourself. You go inside and help.

The devil may say to you: “Your coach, cheerleader sponsor, gymnastic teacher, hunting buddy, or that good movie kept you up late on Saturday. Those are good

reasons for not going to church on Sunday.” Your answer to those temptations should be: “The Scriptures say: ‘Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy.’”

Another important lesson to learn from this Key Passage concerns where the “Temptation of Jesus” comes in the Bible. There is an important reason why it comes after what happens in chapter three rather than before.

In Chapter 3 of Matthew, Jesus is baptized. Then in Matthew 4, Jesus is tempted. Here is the reason for that order of events. When you consider what most people would do, chapters 3 and 4 would be swapped. People think they have to get everything going just right, and get all the sin out of their life before they are “good enough” to ask God to save them.

You might think, and you will meet people who think that a person has to clean up his life and make it “good” and acceptable to God before he can join the church and be baptized.

By Jesus’ example we know that is not the way to do it. The correct way is – make the decision to get God on your side and then withstand the devil.

Finish this Key Passage devotion with a discussion of the three temptations that Jesus withstood.

1. There is a “basic need” temptation – food. Jesus let us know that even a basic need of life isn’t more important than following God. Jesus quoted from Deuteronomy 8:2-3 in His answer about food, “Man does not live by bread alone.”
2. There is the “relationship” temptation. This has to do with who do you trust (temple temptation). The devil even quoted scripture in this temptation. He quoted Psalm 91:11-12 in trying to convince Jesus that God will save Him from falling to His death. Jesus quoted from Deuteronomy 6:16, “don’t try to make God prove that he can help you.”
3. There is the temptation for “power.” How many people have had their lives destroyed because they wanted power or popularity (the mountain top temptation)? Jesus quoted from Deuteronomy 6:13 when the devil tempted Him with power. Jesus said, “Worship the Lord your God and serve only Him.”

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5. THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Matthew 5, 6, & 7

Key Verse/s *Matthew 5:16 KJV (also a Bible Drill verse for this year) Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*

Special Note to Parents or Bible Drill Leaders: There are so many good lessons in this Key Passage, that of all the Key Passages, it would be well worth spending more time teaching the content of this one. Read it, make notes, read it again, and pray that God will help you open up the “Sermon on the Mount” to the children’s understanding. Due to space limitations, all that can be said about The Sermon on The Mount cannot be covered here. Please ask God to prepare your heart and mind to teach much more than is given here.

Why Is This Key Passage Important? This Key Passage is so full of good information about how to live as God wants us to, that it is possibly the most important passage in the Bible.

Lesson When we think about the “The Sermon on the Mount” we say, “Ok. It is in Matthew 5, 6, & 7. I’ve got that, now what?” But do you know that three other important passages – “The Beatitudes,” “The Lord’s Prayer,” and “The Golden Rule” are in “The Sermon on the Mount?”

We find “The Beatitudes” in Chapter 5. Do you know what “beatitudes” are? Think of “The Beatitudes” as – let this attitude be in you. These are virtues or ways we should live. If we have these attitudes Jesus says God will bless us.

We find the “Lord’s Prayer” in Chapter 6 of “The Sermon on the Mount.” Here Jesus gives us an example of how to pray and what to cover when we pray.

We find the “Golden Rule” in Chapter 7 of “The Sermon on the Mount,” in Matthew 7:12.

And listen to this, “The Sermon on the Mount” is not just lessons we should learn that a New Testament writer wrote. It is not just something that one of the apostles said and was recorded by Matthew. It is WHAT JESUS SAID – Jesus’ words. We really should pay attention to it if Jesus said it.

So, in “The Sermon on the Mount” you have “The Beatitudes” which say you are blessed if you do certain things. You have “The Lord’s Prayer” which says, Our Father which art in heaven. And, you have “The Golden Rule” which says do unto others as you would have them do unto you. All of these are in “The Sermon on the Mount.”

Parent or Drill Leader: A good way to teach more of what is in this Key Passage is to make some small cards with the following bold headings on them. Ask the children to tell you which they would like to know more about. Give them the scripture reference that is in italics where they will find the information.

Are you a peace maker? *Matthew 5:9*

What happens if you are treated badly for doing what is right? *Matthew 5:10*

What happens if you call someone a “fool” or say they are “good for nothing?” *Matthew 5:22b*

What does the Bible say about divorce? *Matthew 5:32*

Do you ever say, “I swear I didn’t do it.” Or “I swear I am telling the truth.”
Matthew 5:30

What does God say about getting revenge? *Matthew 5:39*

Should you only love and care about people who love you? *Matthew 5:46*

What if people do not know you have done something good for someone?
Matthew 6:1

How should we pray? *Matthew 6:9-15*

Do you want forgiveness for your mistakes? *Matthew 6:15*

Do you have any treasures? *Matthew 6:19*

Money, Money, the more the better? *Matthew 6:24*

I am worried about everything. *Matthew 6:25-34*

Did you know that God will judge you like you judge others? *Matthew 7:1*

I am not treated right. *Matthew 7:12*

It is hard to get into heaven. *Matthew 7:13-14*

How to really know if someone is truthful and good? *Matthew 7:15-20*

How important are the teachings of “The Sermon on the Mount?”
Matthew 7:24-28

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6. THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Mark 4:1-20

Key Verse/s *Mark 4:8 But a few seeds did fall on good ground where the plants grew and produced 30 or 60 or even 100 times as much as was scattered. (Contemporary English Version)*

Why Is This Key Passage Important? This passage teaches us that we should witness but not get disappointed if the results we want do not happen. It also gives us something to compare our lives to. Are we thorn choked ground, or can we work toward being fertile ground which bears much fruit?

Lesson What is a parable? **A parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning!**

What is the heavenly meaning of this story? Is the Parable of the Sower about planting seeds? No, it is about witnessing, and it is also about one's own spiritual growth.

Jesus tells the parable in verses 1-8 and explains it in verses 13-20. One does not have to wonder what this parable is about, Jesus tells us.

Do you get discouraged that most of the people you tell about JESUS seem to be uninterested or drop away soon after they start to follow Him? JESUS CALLS US TO BE HIS WITNESSES, BUT THAT IS NOT A CALL TO CONVERT OTHERS. CONVERSION IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. WE SHOULD NOT MEASURE OUR SUCCESS AS A WITNESS BY THE NUMBER WHO RESPOND. IF THAT WERE THE CASE, JESUS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED SUCCESSFUL. MANY WHO HEARD HIM, AND SOME WHO EVEN FOLLOWED HIM FOR A WHILE, TURNED OUT TO BE UNINTERESTED. Jesus kept telling the GOOD NEWS even though it often did not seem to make a difference.

One thing "farmers/witnesses" cannot do is change the soil. All we can do is plant good seed and work the soil – live a life of day-to-day faith in front of and alongside the person to whom we witness.

The story is told of an evangelist, who, while traveling on an airplane, sat across from a man who was noisily drunk. After watching the man carry on for a while a pastor friend of the evangelist said sarcastically to the evangelist, "I understand he is one of your converts!" The evangelist replied, "Must be. If he were God's convert he wouldn't be acting that way."

Will you witness to hard packed soil? To shallow soil? To thorn covered soil? Or good soil that reproduces fruit?

There is an old hymn that has been sung in churches for almost 100 years.

It is "Let Others See Jesus in You."

While passing thro' this world of sin, and others your life shall view,
 Be clean and pure without, within; Let others see Jesus in you.
 Let others see Jesus in you, Let others see Jesus in you.
 Keep telling the story, be faithful and true; Let others see Jesus in you.
 Your life's a book before their eyes, They're reading it thro' and thro'
 Say, does it point them to the skies, Do others see Jesus in you?
 Let others see Jesus in you, Let others see Jesus in you.
 Keep telling the story, be faithful and true; Let others see Jesus in you.
 What joy it will be at the set of the sun, in mansions beyond the blue,
 To find some souls that you have won; let others see Jesus in you.
 Let others see Jesus in you, Let others see Jesus in you.
 Keep telling the story, be faithful and true; Let others see Jesus in you.
 Then live for Christ both day and night, Be faithful, be brave and true,
 and lead the lost to life and Christ. Let others see Jesus in you.
 Let others see Jesus in you, Let others see Jesus in you.
 Keep telling the story, be faithful and true; Let others see Jesus in you.

The other way to look at this parable is to consider the kind of soil you are.

Are you hard packed soil and when you hear the GOOD NEWS you make no change in your life?

Are you shallow soil and decide that being a church member is a good idea; but you are shallow and you act a little better; but you don't repent and change your way of living your life?

Are you like the seed that fell in the thorn bushes? You want to become rich and have the luxuries of life. The message of salvation gets choked out, and you do not witness, thus bear any fruit.

Hopefully you are like the seed that fell in good soil. You hear the message, you welcome the message, you repent (turnaround from what you have been doing), you tell others about how Jesus can save them, and you bear much fruit (people hear the message that you tell and they are saved).

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7. THE FIRST LORD'S SUPPER

Luke 22:15-20

Key Verse/s *Luke 22:19b ESV "This is my body, which is given for you..."*

Why Is This Key Passage Important? The First Lord's Supper reminds us of what Jesus did for us when He gave up His life (His body represented by the bread) and His life blood (represented by the juice). It also causes people to ask questions when they see the Lord's Supper, and they learn what Jesus did for all people.

Lesson "The Lord's Supper" has other names – it is also known as "The Last Supper." Methodists and Presbyterians may call it "Communion." Catholics use "Eucharist" and "Communion." When talking to friends of other religious faiths, it is good to know that we are talking about the same event, but by different names.

Why did Jesus do the things he did in this Key Passage? Why unleavened bread? Why red wine? You will find the reasons by reading the story of "The Passover" in Exodus 12:1-13,16 and making the comparisons. In "The Passover" the Israelites took the blood of a lamb and painted it over the doorposts of their houses. When the death angel came by, he passed over the houses where the blood was, and no one in the house died that night. Jesus' blood is like the blood of the lamb. His blood also keeps us alive. The sacrifice of His life keeps us alive for eternity.

There are some unusual monuments in Alabama and around the nation. There is the monument to the boll weevil in Enterprise, Alabama. That monument is to remind people of an insect that destroyed the cotton crops in the area. Thanks to the boll weevil the farmers changed to peanuts and soon the area became one of the leading peanut producers in the nation.

There is a monument to the bird dog in Union Springs, Alabama, and a monument to the coon dog in north Alabama. In Sylacauga there is a marble monument to the only meteorite known to have hit a person when it landed. In Utah, there is a monument to the seagull – an unusual monument for a place that has no ocean. The monument is a reminder of when the gulls came in and ate the cricket-like insects that were destroying the crops. The people felt it was a miracle that the gulls appeared and saved their crops from the insects.

In Iowa, there is monument recognizing the birth place of Captain James T. Kirk of Star Trek. It states that this is the location of the future birthplace of James T. Kirk, March 22, 2228.

All of these monuments are to help people remember something.

The activity of participating in the Lord's Supper, as we are instructed to do in Luke 22:15-20, is to help us remember something. That something is what Jesus did for us when he sacrificed his life so that we would be able to go to heaven.

In The First Lord's Supper, Jesus said He gave his disciples the bread and the wine so that as often as they ate the bread and drank the wine, in this special ceremony, they would remember what Jesus had done for them.

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8. JESUS AND NICODEMUS

John 3:1-21

Key Verse/s Have the drillers read the Key Passage and see if they can guess which verse is the key verse.

Key Verse: *John 3:16 (I like the CEV of this verse. The noticeable changes are underlined.) God loved the people of this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die.*

Why Is This Key Passage Important? Did you know that the most quoted verse in the Bible, John 3:16, was said to Nicodemous? That helps us remember where this Key Passage is found.

Lesson This Key Passage isn't just about Jesus and a man named Nicodemous. It is about how to be saved. As the passage says, Nicodemus was a Pharisee. That means he was like a man today who believes that going to church and obeying all the rules of the church are more important than caring about the people around him.

- This person would know what to say and would sound like a great church leader, but would not do what he says.
- This person would do all the church things just so he or she could be seen by others as a great person.
- This person would be so strict on what someone has to do to be a good church member that he would actually keep people from Jesus and His grace.
- He would live more by the rules that he and others set up as the way things are to be done, than by love for people.
- He would keep his sin secret instead of confessing and repenting because he would want people to think he was almost perfect and others should listen to him. He could never show weakness.

The good thing about Nicodemous is, that even though he was known as a member of the Pharisee group, he recognized that Jesus was the Son of God and the only true Savior. Nicodemus believed there was life after death, and he went to Jesus to see how he might have eternal life. Notice in verse two that Nicodemus went to Jesus at night. He had a feeling that Jesus was the Savior, but at this point he still had questions. This Key Passage, “Jesus and Nicodemus,” John 3:1-21, is all about a person asking questions so that he might understand how to be saved. Nicodemus believed what Jesus told him and later was willing to let other people know he was a follower. He later defended Jesus before the court of the Sanhedrin ([John 7:50–51](#)) and was on hand at Jesus’ crucifixion to help bury Jesus’ body ([John 19:39](#)).

The two most important things to learn from this Key Passage are that God wants you and me to be saved and be able to live in heaven with Him. And, it is GOOD to ask questions.

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9. THE CRUCIFIXION

John 19

Key Verses *John 19:19b-20* “Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews.” The words were written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek. (Contemporary English Version)

Why Is This Key Passage Important? This Key Passage is a summary of what happened to Jesus on His last day on earth. It also shows how God is in control of all things. Many, many of the things that happened to Jesus in “The Crucifixion of Jesus,” written shortly after Jesus’ death, were predicted in the Old Testament, written about seven hundred and fifty years to one thousand years before The Crucifixion. Isn’t that amazing!

Lesson There is an insurance commercial on TV that has the slogan, “We know a few things, because we have seen a few things.” Well, God knows everything because He has seen everything. A thousand years before it happened, God told some people to write down what would happen at Jesus’s birth and at His death. In “The Crucifixion of Jesus,” John 19, several things happened that were told about seven hundred to a thousand years before.

- John 19:6 says that Pilate found Jesus not guilty of doing anything wrong. Isaiah 53:11 says the Suffering Servant would be innocent but would take on the punishment for the sin of others.
- John 19:10 tells of how Pilate tried to get Jesus to say something in his own defense, but Jesus would not do it. Isaiah 53:7 said Jesus would be painfully abused but would not complain. He would be as silent as a lamb.
- John 19:23-24 tells that the soldiers gambled for Jesus’ clothing. Psalm 22:18 said they divided my garments and cast lots for my clothing.
- John 19:36 says that the soldiers were going to break the bones in Jesus’ legs so that He could not push Himself up to breathe, and thus would die a little quicker. After they did this to the two criminals who were crucified with Jesus they found that Jesus was already dead and so they did not need to break His legs. Psalm 34:20 said that even though the Messiah would suffer greatly, no bones would be broken.
- John 19:34 says that Jesus’ side was pierced. Zechariah 12:10 said this would happen.

A second lesson from this passage is to realize that Jesus was put to death for things He did not do.

Today, if someone commits a murder or does something that results in the death of many people (treason, spying, large-scale drug trafficking), he or she may be put to death by the electric chair or by lethal injection. Years ago they would be hanged or placed before a firing squad for their crime. Prior to that, the punishment may have been beheading or burning.

In Jesus' day – nailing, did you get that, nailing someone to a large piece of wood, maybe in the shape of a cross, was the capital punishment. Jesus did not kill anyone, He did not encourage anyone to kill. He did not spy or commit treason or do anything that deserved the punishment of death. All He did was make people feel uncomfortable around Him. Was it because He was better than they? Was it because He was better liked? Was it because they were afraid He would change things they were very comfortable with – their relationship with the Romans, their money, their rules? Yes, these are the reasons, and none of them is anything that deserves the death penalty. Jesus did not die for these reasons, He died for the all the sins – large and small – of all people. We sin. He didn't.

KEY PASSAGES
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



10. THE FAITH CHAPTER

Hebrews 11

Key Verse/s Hebrews 11:13b *they agreed that they were only strangers and foreigners on this earth. (Contemporary English Version)*

Hebrews 11:16 *But they were looking forward to a better home in heaven. (Contemporary English Version)*

Why Is This Key Passage Important? The Faith Chapter is a list of 32 people of the Bible who demonstrated through their actions that they believed it was worthwhile to be different from people around them. These people had faith that God would bring about a good result from their actions. Most important of all is that they did it without immediate results. They did it for the future – the heavenly future. They were looking forward to a better home in heaven. (Hebrews 11:1 could be the key verse. Faith makes us sure of what we hope for and gives us proof of what we cannot see.)

Lesson Here are ten of the 32 whom you may know something about.

- What do you know about Abel? Did you know that he was killed because someone was JEALOUS of what he did? His faith was shown when he gave a sacrifice that pleased God.
- What do you know about Enoch? He went to heaven without dying. The Bible says he “walked with God” and at the age of 365 years, God “took him”. He must have done everything right and **God** loved **Enoch** so much he spared him the experience of death. His faith was rewarded in that he did not die, but just “went”.
- Noah had never seen a lot of water, but he built a big boat. And his was the only family saved from the great flood. He had faith to do what God asked him to do even when it seemed very foolish.
- Abraham had the faith to leave his hometown, his family, and his friends and go where God told him to go. Abraham has from that time on been called the father of all who have Jewish blood in them.
- What do you know about Joseph? He had a rough start but when he grew up he gave God credit for all his abilities. He had the ability to save the Jews by preparing the way for them to live in Egypt. He also had faith that God would later take the Jews out of Egypt.

- Moses chose to be mistreated with God's people when he could have had a good time living as an Egyptian prince. Read Hebrews 11: 26. The Red Sea split because of his faith.
- The walls of Jericho came tumbling down after people walked around them for seven days. Who in the world would have the faith to believe the wall around a city and all the people in it would be defeated just by walking around it? Joshua had that kind of faith.
- Rahab, a woman of bad reputation, saved the spies who went into the Promised Land because she had faith in God. She married a Jew and had a son named Boaz. She thus became the great-great grandmother of King David and the thirty something grandmother of Jesus. All because she had the faith to trust in God rather than the people who were in power.
- What do you know about Gideon? He became a great warrior, but when God sent an angel to talk to him, Gideon was working in a pit because he was hiding. When the angel said Gideon was going to be a great warrior and leader, Gideon said God must be mistaken because his family was the weakest of all the people, and he, himself, was the weakest of his family.
- Daniel and the lions, Daniel's friends and the fiery furnace, Samuel, and many others did what they did, not for the results at the time, but by faith in what the long time, far away results would be – heaven.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



1. Genesis 1:1

KJV In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

CSB In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

ESV In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Family Preparation: Gather an index card for each member in your family. Write the following phrases, one on each line of the index card: *something red, something blue, something yellow, something green, something brown, something black, something white, something orange*. Or visit www.alsbom.org/bibledrill to print off one copy of this devotional for each family member. Cut off the chart at the bottom of the page. Think about a place where you can take your children for a nature scavenger hunt. You could walk around your neighborhood, take a trip to the zoo or simply drive around in your car.

Family Activity: Give each child an index card and a pen or pencil. Tell them that your family is going on a nature scavenger hunt. Ask the children to look for things that God made that match each color (i.e. green: tree; blue: sky; brown: stick). Let them write or draw their answers on the card. Go on your scavenger hunt. Work until each child has completed the card. Let each child share his/her answers.

Read Genesis 1:1. Tell the children to close their eyes. Ask them what they see (darkness). Before God created the world, the earth was formless and empty. Darkness covered everything. God loved people so much that He created a beautiful world to share with them. Think about all the beautiful things that your children saw on the nature scavenger hunt. Ask a child to pray thanking God for creating such a beautiful world for people to enjoy.

Practice saying Genesis 1:1. Use different voices and have the children repeat after you mimicking your voice. You can squeak in a high pitch or rumble in a low pitch or speak in a fast tempo or exaggerate in a slow tempo.

This week, say Genesis 1:1 as a family each morning as the children walk out the door to start their day.

Find something that God has made that is:

Red _____

Blue _____

Yellow _____

Green _____

Brown _____

Black _____

White _____

Orange _____

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



2. Exodus 20:12

KJV Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

CSB Honor your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

ESV “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.”

Family Activity: Play a game of “Mother, May I?” Insert the name that the children call you. Use a hallway or go outside to play. Have the children line up at one end of the hallway. Call each child individually and give them an action to complete (i.e. take two giant steps, take three baby steps). Before the child can move, he must say “Mother, may I?” If he forgets to ask permission, he goes back to the beginning. Play several times so that each child can win. If you have only one child, have the child line up a few stuffed animals or other toys. Have fun letting the child do the actions with toys and choose to say or not say “Mother, may I?” for the toys.

Talk together about the rules for the game. Ask who told the child what actions to do each time (the adult). Ask the child what she had to do before she could complete any of the actions (ask permission). Ask what happened if the child forgot to ask permission (she had to return to the beginning line). The child had to obey the adult. The child also had to follow the rules of the game by asking permission.

Read Exodus 20:12. Explain that God gives children to parents.¹ Parents take care of their children by keeping them safe, meeting their needs, helping them learn, and leading them to know God. Children obey their parents by following their instructions. Just like in the game, children need to do what their parents ask them to do. When children obey their parents, they are obeying God’s Word. God is pleased when children obey His Word.

^{1*} If you are not the child’s parent, insert your relationship to the child each time the devotion mentions “parents.” Remind the child that God gives children lots of adults who love them and want to keep them safe.

Read Exodus 20:12, but this time leave out a key word. See if the children can remember the missing word. Say the verse several times leaving out a different word. Affirm the children each time they remember the missing words.

This week divide the verse into several sections. Work on memorizing the verse in smaller phrases. Toward the end of the week, put all the phrases together to memorize the entire verse.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



3. Psalm 118:24

KJV This *is* the day *which* the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

CSB This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

ESV This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Family Preparation: Gather 7 index cards for each person in your family. Write the days of the week on each card. You could have your children make their set of cards.

Family discussion: Talk about the days of the week. Ask each family member to share which day of the week is their favorite and tell why.

Read Psalm 118:24. Explain that God has created all the days in the week and He wants us to rejoice every day and be glad. Talk about why it is easier to rejoice and be glad on some days than it is on others. Discuss the attitudes we have that look for reasons to rejoice and cause us to be glad. When we look for ways to rejoice, it makes us glad.

What are some ways we can rejoice? Let the children give answers. Examples: saying aloud things we are thankful for, by singing, by dancing, by writing, by drawing, etc.

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cccJhMVFrLs> and watch and sing with the video: This is the Day That the Lord has Made.

Practice saying Psalm 118:24. Each morning this week give each child an index card with the day of the week printed on it. Ask them to write or draw something each day that makes them rejoice. Each evening (at dinner or bedtime) look at their index cards together. Pray, thanking God for the day He has made and that we are able to rejoice and be glad in it. Recite Psalm 118:24 each night.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



4. Psalm 119:105

KJV Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

CSB Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path.

ESV Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

I love to backpack on the Appalachian Trail. So far, I have hiked about 350 miles. I only have 1,840 more miles to go. Having the right hiking equipment is very important. One of the most important things to have is your flashlight. One time I was stuck walking on the trail at night. It was not fun. There are rocks, and roots and cliffs and lots of things to trip on. One wrong step and I could trip and break my leg or even fall off the side of a cliff. Thankfully I had my flashlight to keep me safe by lighting the path in front of me. My flashlight also shows me things I might have missed. Sometimes, at night, I can see owls, or deer or even a pretty waterfall. I am glad I had my flashlight.

Sometimes when I camp, at night, I will hear noises that can be scary. But I have my flashlight that keeps me safe. When I shine it out in the woods, I see that everything is ok.

God's Word, the Bible, is called a "lamp to my feet." By reading it I know what God wants me to know or do. God's Word protects me from making the wrong choices just like my flashlight shows me where to step and avoid things that will harm me. The Bible shows me wonderful things that I may not know.

There are lots of people who do not read their Bibles. They wonder why they have no direction in their life. They wonder why they feel all alone. It may be because they are not using God's Word like a lamp to their feet. They are not allowing the Bible to help them make wise and good choices.

The Bible really is like a lamp to our feet. I am glad that God gave us His Word to help direct our paths. I am glad that His word helps us to make wise and good choices.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



5. Proverbs 3:5-6

KJV Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

CSB Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding; in all your ways know him, and he will make your paths straight.

ESV Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

The Appalachian Trail is a trail that goes from Georgia all the way to Maine. The highest point is Clingmans Dome in Tennessee. It is like climbing to the top of the Empire State Building three times.

There are lots of other trails that lead to the top of Clingmans Dome. Some go around it. Some go just to the top and then you have to go back the way you came. Some cross it, but go in a different direction than you want to go. The worst thing would be to accidentally take the wrong trail and end up somewhere that is not the top of Clingmans Dome. Then you would be lost.

Luckily the Appalachian Trail is marked very well. About every 70 feet there is a white mark on a tree or a rock. They are called "Blazes." Blazes let you know that you are on the right trail. They are like a map. Blazes always take you the best and safest way along the Trail.

There are times when I think I know a better way to go. Once, I was really tired and I thought I would make my own short cut down the side of the mountain. I could see the campsite below me. The blazes kept going away from the campsite. So I decided to make my own path and slide down the hillside to the campsite. I trusted in my own understanding. I started sliding down the hill and the next thing I know I am tumbling down the side of a mountain. I was all cut up and bruised. I should have trusted in the blazes that marked the safe trail instead of doing what I thought was right.

Proverbs 3:5-6 says that we should trust God. We should seek God and find out what He would have us to do instead of doing what we think is probably best. The Bible says that if we will trust in God with all our heart, He will make our paths straight. That means when we are faced with doing something right or doing something wrong, that we should always choose to do what is right.

When we ask God to direct our paths we are really asking him to show us or to help us make wise choices and to do what is right. Do you know how God directs our paths? Does He say, "Stop, turn right"! God directs our paths through reading the Bible (Proverbs 3:5-6) praying, worshipping and trusting those that God has put in authority over us like our parents. God wants you and me to make wise choices. He tells us that when we trust Him, He will direct us.

Thank you God for caring and loving me enough to direct my paths.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



6. Proverbs 15:1

KJV A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

CSB A gentle answer turns away anger, but a harsh word stirs up wrath.

ESV A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Family preparation: Gather two stuffed animals

Family discussion: What does it mean to be soft? Discuss various meanings (or if using CSB, to be gentle). Ask children to find something in your home that is soft (a blanket, a sweater, a stuffed animal). Talk about a soft and gentle tone of voice. What is the opposite of soft or gentle? Show the difference by giving the child a direction in a soft, gentle voice with a smile on your face. Then give the child the same direction in a harsh tone with a scowl on your face. Explain how soft and gentle words are peaceful and show love. Explain how harsh words make people angry and how harsh words are usually LOUD!

Read Proverbs 15:1. Ask the children to explain what that verse means or to give examples from their life.

Get 2 stuffed animals and act out a conversation with the animals that show how harsh words stir up anger. (If using KJV explain grievous: causes pain, suffering or sorrow). If time allows, let each child practice a soft vs harsh scenario with the stuffed animals.

Memorize Proverbs 15:1 this week. Use the verse this week in family interactions: Celebrate when soft and gentle words are used. If harsh words are used, model how to change the harsh words to gentle words. Let peace reign in your home.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



7. Isaiah 9:6

KJV For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

CSB For a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

ESV For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Who does not love Christmas? It is my favorite time of the year. I like it more than I like my own Birthday. I like all the presents I get and I like all the presents that I give.

Sometimes the birth of Jesus gets lost in all the giving and receiving of presents. Christmas is not about lights, trees, giving and receiving presents. It is about God sending His one and only Son to be the Savior of the world. God was sending His only Son to earth, knowing that Jesus would have to die on the cross for our sins.

Do you think it was a happy time or a sad time for God? Why or why not?

Seven hundred years before Jesus was born, God told us what Jesus would be like. What do you think makes Jesus “Wonderful?”

The Bible calls Jesus the Counselor. What does a counselor do? How is Jesus like a counselor?

“The Mighty God” – This is a good bit of theology here. Jesus is in the Trinity. He is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Three in one. Can you think of ways that Jesus is like God?

“The Everlasting Father” – What are some things that a father does? What are some of those fatherly things that Jesus does for us?

“The Prince of Peace” – Jesus came to earth to bring peace between God and people. Someone had to pay for our sins. Jesus chose to come to earth as a Baby to die for our sins. Jesus took the punishment that was meant for us so we could have peace with God. Jesus also came to show us how to have peace with each other. Can you think of 3 things that Jesus told us to do to help us have peace with others?

I am glad that Jesus is all we need.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



8. Isaiah 40:8

KJV The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever,

CSB “The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the word of our God remains forever.”

ESV The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

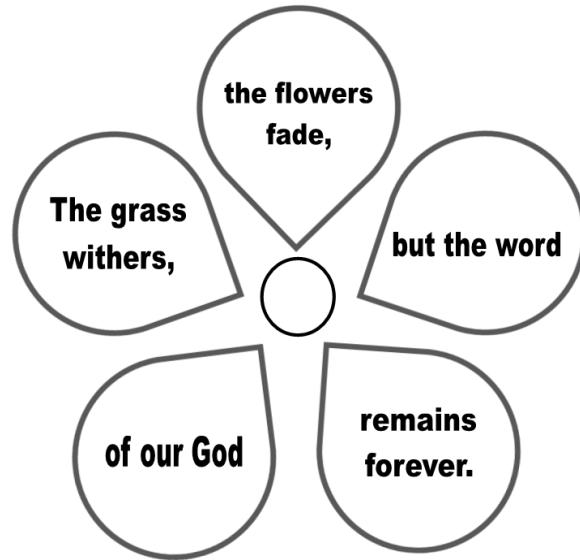
Family Preparation: (1) Print off this page from alsbom.org/bibledrill and cut out the flower pattern below. Or cut tear drop shapes from a piece of paper. Write the words from the passage on each tear drop.² (2) Gather two flowers: one flower that has been sitting out of water for a few days and one flower that is fresh.

Family Activity: Show the children the two flowers. Ask them to compare and contrast the flowers. Talk about what makes the two flowers so different. Ask the children why the first flower is drying up. Ask the children why the second flower looks fresh. Plants need water. Without water the plants will dry up and die. Tell them that ultimately all plants and flowers die. Even the fresh flower will live for a while then the bloom will fall to the ground as another flower takes its place.

Read Isaiah 40:8. Ask the children to listen for what withers (grass), what fades (flowers), and what will stand forever (Word of God.) God’s Word will never wither or fade. It will never die. We can trust that God will guide us forever with His truth.

Help the children put the flower petals in order around the center. Time them to see how fast they can assemble the flower. Say the verse out loud as a family each time they complete the flower. This week put the flower together each day to memorize the verse.

² Make sure you know which translation your church is using to memorize the verse. Write that wording on your flower petals.



VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



9. Nahum 1:7

KJV The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.

CSB The LORD is good, a stronghold in a day of distress; he cares for those who take refuge in him.

ESV The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him.

Family Preparation: Gather a variety of building materials such as blocks, paper cups, Popsicle sticks, tissue boxes, paper towel tubes, etc.

Family Activity: Let children choose their building materials. Give them five minutes to construct their best structure. Let each child tell about his/her building. Together, evaluate each structure. Which one is the tallest? Which one is the longest? Which one would stand up in a rain storm? Which one would stand up in a big gust of wind? Which one would still be here in 100 years? Probably none of the structures would stand in rain or wind or after a century!

Read Nahum 1:7. Ask the children how Nahum describes God in this passage (a stronghold). Describe a stronghold as a safe place or a place that stays strong even in a storm or over the passage of time. People go to strongholds for protection in times of trouble. God is good and wants to provide a safe place for His people. He cares for His people. Ask the children to name some times when they have seen God care for them in times of trouble (i.e., when they are sick, when a family member dies, when they had to move).

Ask the children to create motions to help memorize the verse. Here are a few suggestions to get you started: The Lord is good (hands waving in the air in praise); a stronghold in a day of distress (arms flexed showing strong muscles); he cares for those who take refuge in him (wrapping arms around self as in a hug). Pray thanking God that he is our stronghold in times of trouble.

This week, use the motions to say the verse each evening before bed.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



10. Matthew 4:10

KJV Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

CSV Then Jesus told him, **“Go away, Satan! For it is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”**

ESV Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.”

Sometimes we tend to think the devil is not real. We think he is a cartoon character with horns on his head and a long red pointed tail. The Bible says that we have an enemy who is out to destroy us. There was a comedian who used to say “The Devil made me do it.” I think it was said so much that people started believing that we had no defense against the enemy. If did something wrong, we believed it was the devil’s fault.

Even today people blame the devil for their actions. They say things like this, “It was not my fault. The devil made me do it.” They take no responsibility for their own actions. The Bible is clear that we sin when we allow our desires to overtake what God says is right. The Devil does not make us sin, we choose to sin.

Jesus had a choice. He could listen to what the Devil told Him or He could choose to do what is right. Jesus always chose to do what was right. Guess what? Jesus told Satan to leave Him alone and then quoted scripture to back up his point. This is a good reason why Bible Drills are so important.

What are some things that we are tempted to do that are not pleasing to God? What are some Bible Verses we are learning this year that can help us resist temptation or help us choose to do what is right? Randomly choose 5 of your Bible Drill passages. Can they help you resist temptation? Almost all of our Bible Drill verses help us know how to live a Christian life.

The Bible and the power of the Holy Spirit is how we fight our enemy. God gives us the strength to choose to do right by using our Bible. Sometimes we just know what is right. We know that we should not kill someone. So maybe, Proverbs 15:1 could help us. We all tend to disobey or sometimes become disrespectful to our parents. Is there a verse to help us resist the temptation to be disobedient to our parents? I am glad that God has already defeated our enemy. I am glad that God gives us the Bible to teach us the way we should live. I am glad that we can use His word to help us resist temptation.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



11. Matthew 5:16

KJV Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

CSB “In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

ESV “In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

Do you remember this song? This little light of mine, I’m going to let it shine. This little light of mine, I’m going to let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Have you ever wondered what your “little light” was? When I was a little boy, I thought it was my finger because we always held up our pointer finger. Then I thought it was a birthday candle. But now I know that the “little light” really is a strong beacon. It is how God’s love is shown to others. It is how others can know that I am a Christian.

It is kind of like the moon. Did you know that there is no light coming from the moon? The moon reflects the brightness of the sun. In this verse it is like God’s light, His love, His compassion for others is reflected by us. We are supposed to show others what being a Christian is all about.

How do people know that you are a Christian? Is there anything you do that makes people wonder if you really are a follower of Christ?

The last part of this verse says that our light should shine so that people will glorify God. When we are disrespectful or mean to our family, teacher, friends or other people, they do not see Christ in us. Sometimes our actions do not cause others to praise God.

Once, when I was camping, I got lost in the woods. It was so dark that I could not find my way back to the campsite. So I called out to my friends, “Turn on the flashlight so I can see the campsite.” Someone turned on a light and I could follow the light back to the camp. I did glorify God when I got there. What would have happened if no one turned on a flashlight?

God tells us that we are to be a light to a lost world. Some of our friends do not know Jesus. The Bible says they are walking around in spiritual darkness. Darkness represents sin, so the Bible is saying that our friends are walking around in sin. We are like a light in the darkness showing them the way to Jesus. We are showing them God by the way we talk and act.

Our light, or our actions, should be so bright, be so good, that people notice we are different and want to know the God that we serve. Can you think of any of your friends who do not know Jesus? Do you have any friends who do not go to church? Be the light that points them to God.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



12. Luke 6:37

KJV Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven:

CSB “Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.”

ESV “Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven;

Hey, try this; take your pointer finger and point it at someone. How many of your fingers are you pointing at that person? Keep on pointing. Look at your other fingers. How many of them are pointing back at you? This is a great object lesson to show you what this verse is saying. We can't point fingers and judge people because we are guilty of some of the same things or different things as they are. The Bible is pretty clear when it says that if we judge someone, God will judge us. But if we forgive people, then God will forgive us.

I once bought a house way out in the country. It belonged to the nicest lady. There were only three houses on hundreds of acres. I asked why the neighbor's house was so close to the house I was going to buy. She told me that the person living in the other house used to be her friend. One time they had a disagreement and they stopped talking to each other. She said that she found someone who wanted to build a house in the country. She told them they could build on her property if they built their house so close to hers that she could not see the other neighbor. So they did. The two friends refused to forgive each other for something that happened 20 years before.

Over the years they both said some really mean things about each other. I became friends with them both. They were both wonderful people. They both accused each other of the same things. They both judged each other for having the same personalities. Their unforgiveness towards each other caused two wonderful people to become bitter and unhappy. I tried for years to get them to become friends again. Sadly, they both died and never forgave each other.

The Bible is very clear that we should not judge other people. We should be willing to forgive someone even if they do not ask for forgiveness. God forgives us for our sins even though we do not deserve it. It is hard to forgive someone when we feel we have been wronged. No one likes to be talked about or treated badly.

Usually it's something silly that we are mad about. "This person didn't talk to me." Or, "They said this about me." It is usually things that do not really matter. The problem is our pride. It gets in the way of forgiveness. Someone does something to us and then we do the same back to them. Now we have created a situation where everyone is upset. I think Jesus knew this when He told us that we should forgive.

Is there anyone who is upset with you? What do you need to do to seek forgiveness?

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



13. Luke 11:9

KJV And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

CSB “So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you.”

ESV “And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”

Family Preparation: Get a treat to give to each family member – it can be simple like a piece of candy or a sticker or it can be something that they have wanted and asked you to get for them. Hide that item.

Discussion:

ASK: Talk with your children about what kinds of things their teachers or friends ASK them to do: finish their school work, wait in line quietly, share their resources, etc. Talk about things your children ASK you to do for them. Explain how you make decisions on whether you will do what they ASK. (your schedule, expense, timing, and the way they ask, etc.).

SEEK: Tell them you have hidden something for them. Give them clues and guide them to SEEK the item. Have them bring the item back to the group. Talk with them about the effort it required to SEEK. They had to physically get up and go! They had to search, it took effort.

KNOCK: Have a family member go out and knock on your door to be let in. Explain how they couldn't come in until they knocked and someone came to open the door for them.

Read Luke 11:9. Explain that Jesus is talking. Jesus is telling us that when we pray we are to ask, seek and knock. Jesus hears us when we pray. He wants to supply all our needs. Jesus knows what we really need and what is good for us. It is our job to ask, seek and knock.

Memorize Luke 11:9 this week. Write the words of the verse on a paper and place on the child's bedroom or bathroom door. They are to practice the verse as they use the door this week.

For extra fun: play hide and seek and say the verse when the next person becomes IT.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



14. John 3:16

KJV For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

CSB “For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.”

ESV “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

When I Googled “3:16”, I expected to find something profound about God loving the world. But what I found instead was a WWF (now WWE) professional wrestler named Stone Cold Steve Austin and his famous remarks about Austin 3:16.

Once Stone Cold Steve Austin fought and beat Jake Roberts. ‘Jake the Snake’ wrestling character was a preacher. He would pray, and quote Bible verses. After Stone Cold Steve Austin beat Jake the Snake, he made a very mean and blasphemous remark about God, and prayer. He said, “You sit there and you thump your Bible and you say your prayers and it didn’t get you anywhere...” then he made a very blasphemous remark about his new verse Austin 3:16.

As we all know, the WWE gets a bit theatrical and they get lost in their characters. There is no doubt that what they do is sport, but it is a lot of yelling and showmanship. A lot of it is not real.

But what God did for us is real. JOHN 3:16 from the Bible is not make believe and it was not for show. It is the greatest act of love ever shown to the human race. The God of the Universe, the same God we learn about in Genesis 1:1, loved us so much that He sent His one and only son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sins. Jesus suffered and died on the cross so that our sins could be forgiven. He died so we could live forever with Him.

God wants us to share that message. The Bible says, “Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” God offers everyone the choice to live forever in peace with Him. We can live forever in a perfect and wonderful place called heaven. The Creator of the Universe loves us with a deep passion. It is the most important message that could ever be known. We need to share the good news with all people.

It is sad when you Google, “3:16” the number one hit is about a blasphemous remark concerning God. God offers salvation to all who believe.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



15. John 15:12

KJV This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

CSB “This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you.”

ESV “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

Family Preparation: Make big paper hearts for each family member. Gather crayons, colored pencils or markers.

Family Activity: Hand out the paper hearts and the art supplies. Have each family member write or draw the things they love. Let each person show their artwork and explain what they drew.

Family Discussion: Why is it easy to love some people and difficult to love others? Read John 15:12. Talk about the word commandment (or command). Explain that this is not one of the 10 Commandments but that the 10 Commandments are about Loving God and Loving People. God expects us to love others even when they are acting unlovable.

Ask how they know that Jesus loves them. Explain that the Bible tells us over and over how much God and Jesus loves us. God’s love is not based on how we act or how we feel. God loves us because God is love. Jesus loves us and He died to take the punishment for our sins. We are to love others the way Jesus loves us. He is our example.

Memorize John 15:12. Have each child write the verse on the back of their heart artwork. Each day say the verse together, and then see who can say it without looking at the verse.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



16. Acts 16:31

KJV And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

CSB They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”

ESV And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

I love our Bible Drill verses that deal with salvation. I love them because we get to learn about the greatest message to ever be told. I love the verses because one day we are going to be talking to someone who does not know about God. These verses will come to our mind and God will use them to help our friends know about Him. To “believe on” means something totally different than to “believe in”.

I love riding roller-coasters. My favorite roller-coaster in the world is the Batman Ride at Six Flags over Georgia. It’s a 10 story high inverted beast where you ride with your feet dangling below you like a ski lift. I love the first drop where you scream through a 360 degree loop at 50 mph. In all there are 2 full loops, 2 corkscrews that flip you upside down and then a zero gravity heartline spin. It does not get better than this.

I can say that I BELIEVE IN the safety of the roller-coaster all I want. I know that it is safe and I believe that I will get off the roller-coaster safely. But I don’t actually BELIEVE ON the roller-coaster until I actually ride it. At that point I put my trust in the coaster, in the track, in the harnesses, and in the car. I put my faith in everything concerning it. I know that the ride will keep me safe. So to BELIEVE ON something means to know it, have faith in it, and trust in it.

Another way to look at it is like sitting in a chair. We sit in chairs every day. Have you ever seen a chair that you didn’t trust? Maybe a baby chair? You know it’s a chair. So you believe IN the chair. “Yep, that’s a chair.” But you don’t believe ON the chair. “Yep, that’s a chair, but nope, I am not sitting in it. I don’t have faith or confidence that it will hold me up.”

Some of us have been raised in the church since the day we were born. We have always believed IN Jesus. There comes a time when we must believe ON Jesus. Do you know where you will spend eternity? Do you know for certain that you have asked Christ to be your Savior? Do you know for certain that you will spend eternity with God? Talk to your Bible Drill leader or your pastor if you are not certain.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



17. Romans 8:28

KJV And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

CSB We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

ESV And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28 is a promise for believers. Real believers. Those who are living for Christ. Not those who claim to believe in God but are not living like it. The promise is that even though bad/sad/evil/wicked things will happen to you if you are a Christian, God is in charge and He will see that ultimate good, real good, will develop out of it.

The truth of **Romans 8:28** reminds us that although sin and Satan are powerful, God is more powerful; He is able to change anything for our good and his glory. All things may not *be* good, but God can and will use all things *for* good.

The final thing we may never have noticed about **Romans 8:28** and its accompanying verse, **Romans 8:29**, is the ultimate good God wants to accomplish in the lives of his children. It says God decided long ago that He wants us to be more like His son, Jesus.

A wise Bible teacher once said, “God allows everything into our lives for one of two purposes—either to bring us into a relationship with himself or, if we already know him, to make us more like his Son.”

God is always at work for the good of everyone who loves him. They are the ones God has chosen for his purpose.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



18. Romans 12:1

KJV I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which* is your reasonable service.

CSB Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship.

ESV I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Family Preparation: Gather a clean water bottle (a sturdy one) for each child. Gather vegetable oil, a funnel and some red food color.

Family Discussion: What does it mean to beseech, urge or appeal? It means to beg or plead. Tell of a time you begged or urged someone to do something. Make sure to cover the seriousness of it.

Read Romans 12:1. Point out that Paul is begging us (believers) to present our bodies to God. God wants us to offer our whole selves to Him.

Ask:

What does Paul urge us to present to God as a living and holy sacrifice? (our bodies)

What does Paul say this is? (KJV – reasonable service, CSB - true worship, ESV - spiritual worship)

Because of God's mercy, we are already declared holy and acceptable to Him. How much of you does God want? (all of us)

Activity: Have each child pour water in their bottle to half full. This represents the word. Have each child add oil to their bottle to nearly full. This represents the child. Have them squirt a few drops of red food coloring into the bottle. This represents sin. Place the cap on the water bottle. The red food coloring should drip down into the water. Either glue the cap on or tape it with strong tape.

Teach: We are to be separate from the world. We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable (or pleasing) to God. We are not to live like unbelievers (the world). Write out Romans 12:1 (or put on labels). Attach them to your bottle. Memorize Romans 12:1 this week.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



19. 1 Corinthians 4:2

KJV Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

CSB In this regard, it is required that managers be found faithful.

ESV Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.

Family Preparation: Plan a family dinner night. If cooking is a challenge, make sandwiches or pick up dinner from a local restaurant. Gather plates, napkins, cups and utensils. If you can, use your best dishes and silverware.

Family Activity: Assign each child a task to help set the dinner table. Let the children set each person's place. Ask a child to pray and thank God for the meal. Eat dinner at the table as a family. After the meal, assign each child a task to help clear the table. Gather around the table after the meal is cleaned up.

Read I Corinthians 4:2. Explain that a steward or a manager is a "person who takes care of something that belongs to someone else." At dinner, each child served as a steward as they set and cleaned the table for the family meal. Just like the children were stewards by taking care of the dishes and utensils, God expects people to be stewards of the things he has given us. Ask the children to name some things that God wants us to steward or take care of (creation, animals, each other, money, toys, home and church).

God also wants his stewards to be faithful. A person who is faithful can be trusted to do his/her best in everything all the time.

Say I Corinthians 4:2 again. Stand in a circle. Let each family member say one word of the Scripture verse. Go around the circle again and again. See if you can say the verse "word perfect" at least one time together.

This week, look for people who are stewards in your community (teachers, mail carriers, police department, fire department, trash collectors). Say the verse each time you see a steward.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



20. Ephesians 4:32

KJV And be ye kind one to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

CSB And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ.

ESV Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Family Preparation: Gather 8 craft sticks per child and colored markers or Sharpies. Print Random Acts of Kindness Cards for your family. Sample Random Acts of Kindness cards are on the next page for you to print.

Family Activity: Read Ephesians 4:32. Divide the verse into phrases. Have children to write phrases on their craft sticks, about 3 or 4 words per stick (tenderhearted or compassionate can be written as the only words on a craft stick). Have children choose a color for their set of verse sticks and add the color to their set of sticks.

Ask: What are some ways we can show kindness? Brainstorm ways to be kind, letting every family member participate. Ask: what does it mean to be tenderhearted (or compassionate)? Mention people you know who have this quality. Ask: what does it mean to forgive? Forgiveness takes courage and strength of character. We can forgive others because God has forgiven us in Christ.

Family Activity: Take all the craft sticks and mix them together. Have each child find their color sticks and put the verse in order. Be sneaky and take one of each set of sticks while the children are working. When they find they are missing a stick, ask them to forgive you for taking it.

Memorize Ephesians 4:32 this week. Each day each family member should be sneaky and try to do a Random Act of Kindness for someone in their family. When the person receives the Random Act of Kindness Card, he should recite Ephesians 4:32.



VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



21. Colossians 3:23

KJV And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

CSB Whatever you do, do it from the heart, as something done for the Lord and not for people,

ESV Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,

Family Preparation: Write the verse on a piece of paper. Do not use spaces or punctuation. Remember to use the translation your church is using to memorize. The verse will look like this:

whateveryoudodoitfromtheheartassomethingdonefortheLordandnotforpeople. Write a few more phrases for your children to decipher. Here are a few thoughts: iloveyou; iamproudthatyouaremychild; thankyoufortakingthetrashouthismorning; youaredoingagreatjoblearningaboutJesusandmemorizingGodsWord.

Family Activity: Tell your children to pretend they are secret agents. They need to discover the secret messages. Give the children a secret message (not the verse). Have them decipher and read their messages. If they are having trouble, make a line between each word so they can see the sentence. Ask them to write a secret message to you. Read your message.

Give them the secret message for Colossians 3:23. When they decode the message, read it aloud together. Ask your children to tell you in their own words what they think this verse is telling them to do. God wants us to work with all our heart and do our best for Him. We do not always need to have other people tell us we are doing a good job. Sometimes we can even do good things for other people and keep it a secret. Only God will know how we have been kind or helpful. Say Colossians 3:23 again as family. Pray asking God to help your family work well with all their hearts and do their best for Jesus.

This week think about a secret mission your family can do together this week. Do it secretly so only God knows. You can leave a sweet note at your pastor's office, rake a neighbor's yard, or pick up trash in the neighborhood. After you complete your mission, whisper the verse as a family.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



22. 2 Timothy 1:7

KJV For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

CSB For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love, and sound judgment.

ESV for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Family Preparation: (1) Create a matching game. Gather eight index cards or sticky notes. Use a pencil to write one word on each card: *fear, power, love* and *sound judgment*. Make two sets of cards. Lay the cards face down on the table. (2) Gather another set of index cards, one for each child. (3) Gather pencils or color markers for each child.

Family Activity: Invite your children to play a matching game. Give each child a chance to turn over two cards. Play until all the matches are found. Let the winner scramble the cards and lay them out again. This time if a child makes a match, she has to act out the word (i.e., fear - scared face; power - flex muscles; love - arms crossed over body like a hug; sound judgment - point to head).

Read 2 Timothy 1:7. Read the verse again having the children act out the motions.

Brainstorm some things that make children afraid. Have an older child write down the list. After you complete the list, call out the things that cause fear. After each one, let the children yell, "No fear! Only power, love and sound judgment!"

There are many things in our world that can cause children to be afraid. God does not want us to live in fear. He gives us power, love, and sound judgment. When we are afraid, we can pray and ask God to give us peace. We can quote Scripture verses that remind us of God's power. We can talk to adults who love Jesus and who love children.

Give each child an index card and a pencil or colored marker. Direct them to write the verse on the index card.

This week, place the index card with the Scripture verse beside each child's bed. Say the verse with them each night before bed. Pray that God will help them not to fear, but to have power, love, and sound judgment.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



23. 2 TIMOTHY 3:16

KJV All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

CSB All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness,

ESV All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

Family Preparation: Gather several different types of Bibles. Find different translations of the Bible in English (Christian Standard Bible, English Standard Version, or King James Version). Find the Bible in different languages (Spanish, Korean, Chinese, etc.) Borrow a Greek or Hebrew Bible from your pastor or a staff member. Use a digital version on a smart phone or the computer (biblegateway.com or blueletterbible.org).

Family Activity: Lay all the Bibles out on a table. Talk about how each Bible is similar or different from the other Bibles. Look at the different languages. Tell the children that the Old Testament was originally written in Hebrew and the New Testament was originally written in Greek. God used people to translate the Bible from Hebrew and Greek into the languages that people can read today. The original Scripture was written on a scroll. Today, Bibles are written on paper or coded digitally on an app or a website.

Even though these Bibles look different, they all contain the Word of God. Read 2 Timothy 3:16 out of several different Bibles. Let older children choose a version to read aloud.

The Bible was inspired or breathed out by God. He gave the writers the exact words to use to communicate His message. The Bible teaches us to love God and love others. The Bible rebukes us or shows us the sin in our lives. The Bible corrects us and helps us follow God's plan for our lives. The Bible helps us think and act like Jesus – a person who is righteous does what is right.³

³ This definition comes from the *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary for Kids*. It is a great resource for teaching your children about the Bible.

We know what is right by reading and obeying God's Word.

Pray asking God to help you and your children know God more through His Word.

This week, open the Bible every day to 2 Timothy 3:16. Have a different person read the verse out loud.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



24. 1 John 1:9

KJV If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

CSB If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

ESV If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Family Preparation: You will need dirty laundry or dirty dishes or dirty shoes. Print 1 John 1:9 on labels that will fit onto a bar of soap or a container of liquid hand soap.

Family Activity: Show the items from your house that need to be cleaned: laundry or dishes or shoes. Ask what would happen if you didn't do the laundry for several weeks? Or what would happen if you never cleaned your dishes or pots and pans? Or what would happen if you wore your sports shoes (dirty cleats or tennis shoes) or gardening shoes inside on the clean floors? Would you like to wear dirty, smelly clothes? Or eat from dirty dishes?

Ask: What is sin? Wait for answers. Make sure they know it is anything that we think (point to brain), say (point to mouth), or do that isn't pleasing to God. What happens if we never confess our sin? It builds up and makes us feel guilty, and it separates us from God. Read 1 John 1:9. God wants us to confess our sins to Him and to ask Him to forgive us. God will forgive us and make us clean again.

Give each child a bar of soap (unwrapped) or a bottle of hand soap. Have him place the Bible verse label on his soap. Each child should recite the verse. This week recite the verse each day as you help to clean the dishes or fold the laundry. Look for opportunities to use this verse as you tidy up all week.

VERSE
BIBLE DRILL DEVOTIONS
GREEN CYCLE



25. Revelation 4:11

KJV Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

CSB Our Lord and God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power, because you have created all things, and by your will they exist and were created.

ESV “Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”

Family Preparation: Gather a white board and dry erase markers or a poster board and sticky notes.

Family discussion: The very first Bible Drill verse for this year was Genesis 1:1. Have children recite it. Read Revelation 4:11. Ask them why God created all things? (for His pleasure, by His will). God alone is worthy. He is worthy of:

1. Glory – God is glorious above everything. He is worthy of our praise.
2. Honor – to give God respect and a place of authority in our lives.
3. Power – God is all-powerful, and we are to use our strength to worship Him.

Family activity: Write the verse on the white board or the poster board. Read the verse. Have a child erase or cover one or two words at a time and recite the verse, filling in from memory the missing words. If using poster board, cover a word with a sticky note. Continue until each family member can say the verse.

Family Prayer: Pray, thanking God for His creation and giving Him glory, honor and power.

Memorize Revelation 4:11 this week.