

SMALL GROUP RESOURCES

BIG IDEA: If we don't USE IT we might LOSE IT!

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

II Chronicles 34 & 35 Psalm 1
Psalm 119:9-16 Deuteronomy 17:14-20
2 Timothy 3:14-17 2 Peter 1:16-21

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Psalm 1

How would you describe a tree planted near plenty of water?
Information comes at us from all directions. What should be our primary source?

How much time should we invest in drawing from this source?

Psalm 119:9-16

What does it mean to hide God's Word in our heart?

How do you do this?

What is the benefit of doing this?

Deuteronomy 17:14-20; II Chronicles 34

What is God's instruction to the kings of Israel?

From the story of Josiah, was this instruction being followed?

What had happened to Israel as a result?

What happens in your life when you don't spend regular time reading and memorizing the Bible?

What happens in your life when you do spend regular time reading and memorizing the Bible?

Why don't we spend more time reading the Bible?

What would you need to change this?

PRAYER FOCUS:

Praise God for the gift of language.

Confess your desire to be entertained rather than instructed.

Thank God for the people who taught you to read.

Pray for the distribution of Bibles
to people who don't have them.

Ask God to show you how to make time to read the Bible.

ACTION:

Daily read through Psalm 119 until you find a scripture that is meaningful to you. Copy that scripture and put it in a place where you will see and read it several times throughout your day.

FAMILY RESOURCES

BIG IDEA: If we don't USE IT we might LOSE IT!

READ II Chronicles 34:1

What important thing happened (or will happen) to you when you were/are 8 years old?

How many years was Josiah a king?

READ II Chronicles 34:2-7

Can you think of one thing that you ALWAYS do right?

READ II Chronicles 34:8-13

Choose something that needs to be fixed and work on it together.

READ II Chronicles 34:14-21

Have each person choose an area to clean.

What unusual things did you find?

READ Psalm II Chronicles 34:26-33

What are you going to DO with what you found?

READ II Chronicles 35:16-19

Have a family party to celebrate what you have found and what you have done.

READ II Chronicles 35:20-27

Draw a picture of something you want to be remembered for after you die.

MEMORY VERSE:

" _____ and _____

will pass away,

but my _____ will never pass away."

Luke 21:33

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
18	26	11	12	19	17	14	23	6	13	4	20	7	5	15	9	10	21	24	3	25	22	2	8	16	1

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Cryptogram

_____ 18 20 20 _____ 24 11 21 6 9 3 25 21 19 _____ 6 24
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 _____ 3:16-17

Find the names of the books of the New Testament.

JSAEM _____
 NSECDO OHMTIYT _____
 OSDNCE ALONINESSSAHT _____
 LEUK _____
 FSRTI RPETE _____
 LHINMPEO _____
 JONH _____
 OLCSOISANS _____
 RTHDI HNOJ _____
 PPNLPISIIH _____
 DCESNO OJNH _____
 SENHPAESI _____
 TUIST _____
 SATLAAGNI _____
 EWEHBSR _____
 MHETWTA _____
 ITLEVAERNO _____
 SFRIT YMOTHTI _____
 IFSRT RICHANNSITO _____
 ASOMNR _____
 UDJE _____
 CDNSEO NASICTINRHO _____
 TSRFI JHON _____
 STIRF TLNSAHISANSOE _____
 DNECOS TPERE _____
 TASC _____
 RMAK _____

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE/STORY:

God's Word is important - King Josiah finds & reads God's Word (II Chronicles 34 & 35)
Josiah became a king at a VERY young age, and the kingdom he ruled was not following God. God's Word was lost and the temple building, where people came to worship God, had fallen apart. Josiah chose to learn about God. He destroyed all the idols that the people had been worshipping. Josiah arranged for the temple to be rebuilt. While the temple was being fixed, a scroll with God's Word was found. Josiah read the Word of God to the people and they all agreed to follow God.

KEY PHRASES:

God gave us His Word. We should read it.

THINGS/NOUNS: Josiah; idols; book/scroll; temple; Jerusalem; king; money; prophetess;

ACTIONS: repair; remodeling; finding a treasure; cleaning; following God; reading;

IDEAS: organization; discipline; changing/growing/learning

BIBLE DRILLS:

What word/s are found in all these verses?

1 Kings 8:26	2 Chronicles 6:17	Psalm 119:9
Psalm 138:2	Luke 1:38	Luke 5:5
John 17:17	Acts 4:29	

OBJECT LESSON:

Talk about the difficulty of finding things that you don't use all the time, like glasses, keys, etc. (Note that glasses are hard to find! How can you see to find your glasses without your glasses on to see?!?) How important is it to have a special place to put each thing? We are making a special place to hold our Bibles. (Demonstrate how the stand can hold a Bible that is closed and how it can hold a Bible that is open. If you are putting markers/ribbons in your Bible book covers, talk about how they help you find important things in the Bible.) BUT, the most important place to keep some-things is inside of us, in our minds and in our hearts.

MEMORY VERSE OPTIONS:

Use Memory verse relays - (Say words aloud as they are placed, word by word, on the floor/table.)

Memory verse puzzles – Set out groups of memory verses that are cut in a unique way (not word by word) and let people put them back together. Be sure the puzzles are read out loud when completed.

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away." Luke 21:33

"All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." II Timothy 3:16-17

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." Psalm 119:105

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God." Colossians 3:16

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

What is an idol? Do you see any idols around you? Make a list of things that get between you and God. Pick one of those things and make a plan to have the rest of the family help you to keep it from getting between you and God.

GAMES:

BIBLE BINGO - with names of Books of NT or OT on the playing cards

Hide & seek - find the lost scrolls (small pieces of paper rolled and secured with rubber band or string)

Chart of Bible Books (one for each group) - make chart of Bible books, cutting them into the organized sections of history, poetry, prophecy, etc. for both NT and OT. Take turns putting them in order and being timed. (As sessions progress, cut apart the sets and see who can put them in order.) Challenge everyone to learn or help teach the book order of both OT and NT books.

Hot Potato toss/pass ball (or potato) to each other.

Each person who catches the “potato” must say the next book of the Bible, or next word in the memory verse, before tossing/passing the ball on. (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)

Duck, Duck, Goose (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, ACTS! ...or any part/section of the books in their order)

Can you spell it? Not all of the books are easy to spell! Draw the name of a book and ask someone to write it on a board. If they get it right, they get to draw the next book to spell.

Memory Verse Word Puzzles

Tic-Tac-Toe - Let the kids put an X or O on the board if they can tell if a book is in the OT or NT.

SONG OPTIONS:

The BIBLE (learn to play instruments!)

Psalms 119:105

God's Holy Book

God's Word is for Me

The Wisdom of The Lord

What Book?

CRAFTS:

Each person begins on #1 and progresses through the crafts as each is finished.

#1 - Bible Book Cover (These need to be designed to go over the Bibles that will be given to each person. Put their new Bible in them for display and for pick up at the end of the sessions or as completed.)

#2 - Book Ends/stand (Made of wood bottoms with 4 holes and with bent wire in the holes and shaped to hold their new Bible in either an open or closed position- personally painted/finished wood?)

#3 - Bible Soap (God sent Jesus so that we could be clean!)

#4 - Make "old parchment" for use as a scroll, writing an appropriate verse on it

#5 - Make a Bible Book mark

OTHER OPTIONS - Memory verse plaque

COMMUNION OPTIONS:

(Act 2:42-47 NIV) The early church did not have our New Testament. Instead, they had the verbal instructions that the apostles gave them. Whenever they could they would gather in the temple courts to receive this instruction, but every day groups of believers would meet together in homes and share what they had heard around a common meal. This particular meal had special meaning and Jesus had provided clear instructions on how to do it and what it meant. Eventually, the church forgot those instructions and the importance of the meal got lost in people's desire to eat and drink. Maybe that's why we have taken this meal and set it apart from the times when we are eating to satisfy hunger.

The time we spend in communion should remind us of how often we need to eat (note the song “I heard Your Word” from Love Letters by Rob Evans) and encourage us to spend time daily in God's Word.

OFFERING OPTIONS:

How many copies of the Bible do you have in your house? How would your life be different if there was only one copy of the Bible for everyone in your church? How often would you get together to read it?

There are many organizations who distribute Bibles to people who don't have them. Take a look at one of these and consider sending them a gift to provide a Bible for someone who doesn't have one.

- <https://www2.gideons.org/>
- <http://www.biblica.com/>
- <http://american.bible/>

Consider buying a Bible just to give away. Bibles are not expensive. Maybe your family could buy a case of them and see how long it took to give them all away.

MORE RESOURCES:

- <https://www.biblica.com/bible/reading-plans/>
- <http://replicate.org/f260-bible-reading-plan/>

- <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/>
- <http://www.mygrandmatime.com/3019-2/visit-with-grandma/bible-fun-with-grandma/family-bible-activities/bible-reading-plan/>

YouVersion sets aside one week a year as Family Bible Week. You can find their resources by going to <http://blog.youversion.com/> and typing "Family Bible Week" in the search bar.