

Invest in your spiritual health: *Studying the Bible*

| LESSON AT A GLANCE | |
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| Facilitator Notes: | <p>I wonder...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Why should I study the Bible? ➤ How should I study the Bible? <p>I believe...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ I want to study the Bible to be confident in the truths of God. ➤ One method to study the Bible is SOIA: SURVEY: What is the context? OBSERVE: What is happening? Who? Where? When? INTERPRET: Why is this happening? What truth is being revealed through the experience in the Bible? APPLICATION: What does this mean for me in my life? How will I apply this truth? <p>Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IGNITE bible pages 18A-34A (to show the various topics the Bible addresses and can provide insight) ➤ Chart paper or whiteboard <p>References:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Bible: Deuteronomy 11:18-23; Joshua 1:8; Proverbs 2:1-6; Romans 15:4; 2 Timothy 3:10-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Hebrews 4:11-13; Revelation 1:3</p> |
| PRE DISCUSSION MESSAGE TO PARENTS AND STUDENT (TO BE SENT VIA EMAIL OR TEXT) | |
| | <p>The Bible is a large collection of books that teaches us about God. It's so big that it can be intimidating and it can cause you to be hesitant to study its contents. But its Words are vital for our journey as disciples of Jesus. This week we will be talking about how to study the Bible. Join us tomorrow for small group at _____.</p> |
| POST DISCUSSION MESSAGE TO PARENTS (TO BE SENT VIA EMAIL OR TEXT) | |
| <p>Facilitator Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please keep the main message intact, but feel free to add local information as necessary. | <p>Dear Parents,</p> <p>This week the "I wonder..." questions are about studying the Bible. Taking time to study God's Word in the Bible is vital to our lives as disciples of Jesus. This week consider having a discussion with your student about taking time to study the Bible. As always, if you have any question about the topic, feel free to contact us.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Your Youth Leaders</p> |

SUNDAY SERMON REFLECTIONS (up to 10 minutes)

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| <p>Facilitator Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow 2-3 students to share their reflections. For larger groups, vary who shares from week to week. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What Bible verse was used for the basis of last Sunday's sermon? ➤ What were some of the main takeaways? What did you learn? ➤ So far this week, how have you applied what you learned from the sermon last Sunday? ➤ Going forward, how will you apply what you learned from the sermon last Sunday? |
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HOOK (up to 10 minutes)

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| <p>Facilitator Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow 2-3 students to share their reflections. For larger groups, vary who shares from week to week. • Video: The Story of the Bible | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ How are you and how are you feeling today? ➤ Who would like to share their point to ponder or call to action from last week? ➤ Play the video, "Literary Styles in the Bible" by The Bible Project. (https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=7_CGP-12AEo) ➤ Have you ever thought of the Bible as one story? |
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SET THE STAGE (1 minute)

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| <p>Facilitator Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preview the "I wonder" questions with the students. | <p>I wonder...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Why should I study the Bible? ➤ How should I study the Bible? |
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LESSON (up to 25 minutes)

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| <p>Facilitator Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider writing the student's answers on a whiteboard, and supplement or summarize with the bullet points. • Consider the <i>Soul Fuel</i> on page 1315 of the IGNITE Bible – 2 Peter 1:20-21 | <p>Student Question #1 With everything else I have going on, why would I take time out to give my attention to the Bible?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Bible is God's word to us and for us. It's the most important book that has ever been written from humankind. ➤ Within its pages you'll find answers for all of life's situations. (see 2 Peter 1:2-11) ➤ The Holy Scripture is divinely inspired, infallible, authoritative, truthful, and foundational for right belief. The Gospels teach us that Jesus saw the Bible to have all of these characteristics. |
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Student Question #2 How is the Bible divinely inspired?

- The Bible is divinely inspired because the author of its words is God.
- God initiated, superintended, and inspired the Scripture.
- According to the church father Origen (185-254) -), "the sacred volumes are fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, and there is no passage either in the Law or the Gospel, or the writings of an Apostle, which does not proceed from the inspired source of Divine Truth."

Student Question #3 Is the Bible authoritative for my life today?

- As the Word of God, the Bible has authority over your life today when you humble yourself beneath its teaching.
- When you claim the Word as an authority over your life, you can live obediently to the will of God and find blessing.

Student Question #4 How do I know that the Bible is truthful?

- The Scripture is completely and totally truthful.
- If God is who He said He is and this is His word to us, then this will be something that is truthful for us.

Student Question #5 What are you building your belief system up on?

- Without the Bible, we cannot form a picture of God nor can we fully understand the nature of who God is without His self-revelation.
- We cannot just make stuff up about God.
- We need God to reveal himself to us and if this Scripture is God's word to us, then it is going to be foundational for a right belief and a right understanding of God.

Student Question #6 The Bible is such a large book, how do I go about studying it?

- There are many ways to study the Bible. There are several plans available online that will provide you with a guide on how to read in various different ways such as reading the entire Bible in a specific amount of time.
- The key to studying the Bible is setting time aside each day that works for you. Start with an amount of reading that is reasonable and focus on what God is teaching you in that chapter or verse.

Student Question #7 Is there an easy way to understand what God is saying in the Bible?

- Prior to studying the Scripture, take a moment to pray and ask God to open up the Words of the Bible to you through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- One way to go about studying the Bible is to use the SOIA method. SOIA is acronym that stands for Survey, Observe, Interpret, Application.
- S – Survey = What is the context? Who is the human author and to whom was the book or passage written too originally?
- O – Observe = What is happening? Who? Where? When?
- I – Interpret = Why is this happening? What truth is being revealed through the experience? What does this passage teach me about God?
- A – Application = What does this mean for me in my life? How can I apply this truth today?

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME? (up to 10 minutes)

Facilitator Notes:

• **Hebrews 4:12:** For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Wrap up the lesson with this question: Did you see how valuable the Bible is to your life as a follower of Jesus Christ? What should we be doing with our Bibles? Are you willing to spend time reading God's Word?

Close with the "I Wonder..." questions

- Ask a student to read an "I Wonder..." question, and invite another student to answer with an "I Believe..." statement or an "I Believe..." statement in their own words.
- As you review each question and answer, stop and check in with the group to be sure there are no misunderstandings or misconceptions.
- Remind the students that on their Confirmation day, they will or have already promised and committed to surrendering themselves to God in belief and obedience.

I wonder...

- Why should I study the Bible?
- How should I study the Bible?

I believe...

- I want to study the Bible to be confident in the truths of God.
- A method to study the Bible is: SOIA (Survey, Observe, Interpret, Application)

Point to Ponder...

- How will regularly studying the Bible shape my understanding of who God is and the purposes He has for my life?

A Call to Action...

- Take some time to read the Bible, and ask God to help you understand what He has revealed about Himself in the passages you are reading.

Weekly Reflections

What Bible verse was used for the basis of last Sunday's sermon?

What were some of the main takeaways? What did you learn?

So far this week, how have you applied what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

Going forward, how will you apply what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

Point to Ponder...

Call to Action...

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| <p>References: Deuteronomy 11:18-23; Joshua 1:8; Proverbs 2:1-6; Romans 15:4; 2 Timothy 3:10-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Hebrews 4:11-13; Revelation 1:3</p> | |

1. With everything else I have going on, why would I take time out to give my attention to the Bible?

2. How is the Bible divinely inspired?

3. Is the Bible authoritative for my life today?

4. How do I know that the Bible is truthful?

5. What are you building your belief system up on?

6. The Bible is such a large book, how do I go about studying it?

7. Is there an easy way to understand what God is saying in the Bible?

Point to Ponder: How will regularly studying the Bible shape my understanding of who God is and the purposes He has for my life?

Call to Action: Take some time to read the Bible, and ask God to help you understand what He has revealed about Himself in the passages you are reading.