Take Home Page: E1. Bible Skills - Old Testament

Today I learned...

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

Help me learn my memory verse...

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

Ask me...

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

Live Your Faith...

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

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Take Home Page: E2. Moses Review

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that <u>God always provides</u>. The children reviewed the stories of Moses, including his birth and childhood, the burning bush, the ten plagues, and crossing the Red Sea. The children also talked about ways that God protected both Moses and the Israelites.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart...In all your ways obey him.

Then he will make your paths smooth and straight." --Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIRV)

Ask me...

- 1. Tell me some of the things that you remember that happened to Moses.
- 2. If you were an Israelite crossing in the middle of the Red Sea on dry ground, how would you feel? Why?
- 3. Do you believe that God wants to protect and provide for you too? Why or why not?

Live Your Faith...

Go on a nature walk together and make a point to notice and name all the things that God created. Remind your child just how amazing and wonderful God is that He made so many beautiful things for us to enjoy. He also made each one of us. Remind your child of how much God loves us and wants to protect us and provide for us. Say a prayer together and thank God especially for all the times He has taken care of you.

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Take Home Page: E3. Manna and Quail

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that God wants us to be happy with what we have! The children explored the story of the manna and quail that was provided for the Israelites in the desert. They also talked about the importance of thanking God for everything that He gives us.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"In everything give thanks...." --1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NKJV)

Ask me...

- 1. What did God do for the Israelites in today's lesson?
- 2. How did the people react to what God had given them?
- 3. What do you think a "thankful heart" looks like? How would you know if someone had one?

Live Your Faith...

Gather around the table with a large piece of paper or (if possible) a large piece of poster board. On the middle of your "paper", write "attitude of gratitude" in big letters. Talk with your child about what it means to be grateful. Take turns as a family, writing (or drawing) things that you are grateful for. Encourage your child to add to the list each day this week as he/she passes by the list. Pray together that God would help your family to have more grateful hearts each day.

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Take Home Page: E4. The Ten Commandments/The Golden Calf

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that <u>God wants us to follow His commandments</u>! The children explored the story of how God gave Moses the Ten Commandments for the Israelites. They also talked about how God also expects us to follow rules.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"Your word is like a lamp that shows me the way." --Psalms 119:105 (NIRV)

Ask me...

- 1. Where did the ten commandments come from?
- 2. Why are the commandments important for us?
- 3. What do you think is the most important commandment? Why?

Live Your Faith...

Play a game together, preferably one that your child knows the rules to. Today, however, play without any rules. See how long you can last before stopping and talking about why it is important to have "rules" when you play the game. Remind your child that God also has rules or "commandments" that He wants us to follow each day of our lives. When we follow them, we have order and peace in our lives, but when we choose not to follow them, we often have complete chaos. Each day this week before bedtime, talk about a different commandment together and what it means for each of you.

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Take Home Page: E5. Cloud and Fire

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that God wants us to <u>follow the footsteps of Jesus</u>. The children explored the story of how the clouds and fire guided the Israelites through the desert. They also talked about why it is pleasing to God when we follow Jesus' example.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"Follow what you heard from me..." --2 Timothy 1:13 (NIRV)

Ask me...

- 1. What happened in the desert with the Israelites in today's lesson?
- 2. How did the clouds and fire guide the Israelites? Who was actually guiding them?
- 3. What do you think it means to follow Jesus?

Live Your Faith...

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

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Take Home Page: E6. The Twelve Spies

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that God wants us to learn to <u>trust in Him</u>. The children explored the story of the 12 spies that were sent by Moses into the land of Canaan. They also talked about how God can give us the strength to handle our fears and problems.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"My help comes from the Lord...." --Psalm 121:2 (NIRV)

Ask me...

- 1. What were the spies looking for in today's lesson? What did they find?
- 2. What happened to the people because of they didn't trust God?
- 3. Do you trust God with all of your problems or fears? Why or why not?

Live Your Faith...

Crawl under your kitchen or dining room table together and talk about things that you are afraid of. Share with your child that some people are afraid of thunderstorms and they hide under the table or under a blanket until the lightning and thunder finally stops. Remind your child that our help comes from the Lord, and that we can go to Him anytime of the day or of the night for strength and help. He wants to hear from us when we are afraid. Pray together and ask God to help you to remember to trust Him with all of your fears and challenges.

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Take Home Page: E7. Moses Disobeys God

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that God's wants us to <u>faithfully follow His commands!</u> The children explored the story of Moses and the water in the rock. They also talked about the consequences that were given to Moses and Aaron for choosing not to obey God's commands, and what consequences we face when we also choose not to follow God's commandments.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"Blessed is the man who always has respect for the Lord." --Proverbs 28:14 (NIRV)

Ask me...

- 1. Why were the Israelites complaining and what did Moses do about it?
- 2. Did Moses follow God's commands? How do you think God felt about Moses' choice?
- 3. Why do you think God wants us to follow His commandments, no matter what?

Live Your Faith...

Make a simple treat with your child, but the first time you attempt making it, make it incorrectly. (i.e., use salt instead of sugar.) Let your child taste the result and see what reaction you get. Then try to make the treat again, this time following a written down "recipe". As you work, talk about how important it is to follow the recipe so that the end result is what it should be. God also wants us to be obedient to Him and His commandments. Talk about what "obedient" means. Pray together and ask God to help you have a desire in your hearts to be obedient to Him no matter what.

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Take Home Page: E8. Thanksgiving

Today I learned...

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

Help me learn my memory verse...

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

Ask me...

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

Live Your Faith...

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

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Take Home Page: E9. Balaam and the Donkey

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that we should <u>let God guide us</u>. The children explored the story of Balaam and the donkey. They also talked about the importance of allowing God to guide us by following His instructions and obeying His commandments.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"The Lord will quide you always." -- Isaiah 58:11

Ask me...

- 1. What happened to Balaam in today's lesson?
- 2. Why didn't Balaam listen?
- 3. Do you think it's important to let God guide us each day? Why or why not?

Live Your Faith...

Give your child 3 things to do and ask him/her to do those things "just as you asked". See how well he does with following your instructions. Let your child have a turn giving you 3 things to do and see how well you can follow their instructions. Then talk about how God gives us a lot of instruction through the scriptures we read in our Bible, and in Sunday School and the Divine Services. Remind your child that when we follow God's "instructions" we will have a life that is blessed by God. Pray together and ask God to give you courage to follow Him completely each day.

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Take Home Page: E10. Joshua, Rahab and the Spies

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that <u>God always looks at the heart</u>. The children explored the story of Joshua, Rahab and the spies. They also talked about how God always knows and sees what lives in our hearts.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"Put your love into action." --1 John 3:18

Ask me...

- 1. How did Rahab help the spies in today's lesson?
- 2. Would you have chosen to help the spies? Why or why not?
- 3. Do you think Rahab had a good heart? Why or why not?

Live Your Faith...

Play a game of hide and seek. After a few rounds, meet at the table for a yummy snack and talk about how easy/hard it was to hide from each other. Remind your child that we can never hide from God, because He sees us all the time. He also sees everything that is in our hearts. Pray together that God would help you to have a heart that loves God more than anything or anyone else.

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Take Home Page: E11. Crossing the Jordan River

Today I learned...

Today your child learned that <u>God takes care of those who are obedient</u>. The children explored the story of the Israelites crossing the Jordan River. They also talked about hos God protects and provides for those who choose to obey His commandments.

Help me learn my memory verse...

"...the hand of the Lord...is mighty." -- Joshua 4:24 (NIRV)

Ask me...

- 1. What happened at the Jordan River in today's lesson?
- 2. If you were there, would you have been afraid to cross the river? Why or why not?
- 3. Why do you think it can be difficult sometimes to be obedient to God?

Live Your Faith...

Play a game of "red light, green light" outside. Play a few rounds, taking turns who gets to call out the commands. Then enjoy a treat together and talk about how we don't follow the commands properly during the game, we have to go back to the start. God also wants us to follow His commandments exactly as they are. Pray together and ask God to help you to have a heart that wants to follow God and His commandments each day.

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Today I learned...

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

Help me learn my memory verse...

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

Ask me...

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

Live Your Faith...

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

Take Home Page: E12. Christmas

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