



## WEEK ONE – AUGUST 2019 – PRETEEN

**Bible Story:** *I'll Remember (What Is the Bible?) • Psalm 119:105*

**Key Question:** *Why is the Bible important?*

**Memory Verse:** *“The way we show our love is to obey God’s commands. He commands you to lead a life of love. That’s what you have heard from the beginning.” – 2 John 6 (NIRV)*

**Life App:** *Obedience—trusting who’s in charge by doing what you’re asked to do.*

**Basic Truth:** *I can trust God no matter what.*

**Summary:** We start the month by helping kids understand the importance of the Bible. In Psalm 119:105 we read that God’s Word can guide us in the way we should go. The Bible is made up of 66 books that include history and wisdom, letters and parables, even poems and promises that make up God’s One Big Story. When we dig into the Bible, we find out about God’s plan to rescue the world through Jesus.

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## PRE-SERVICE ACTIVITY

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### 1. Get Your Head in the Game

*Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** “Book Charades” Activity Page, stopwatch on mobile device

**What You Do:**

- Form two teams.
- Ask a member from one of the teams to draw a “Book Charades” card.
- Explain that he will have 30 seconds to silently act out clues to help his team guess the book written on the card.
  - If the team fails to guess correctly, the card is given to a member of the other team who will then have 30 more seconds to give silent clues to his team.

**What You Say:**

*“There are a lot of books in the world. Some books help us learn stuff we didn’t know. Other books take us on adventures, make us laugh or cry, and give us something fun to do on a rainy day. You probably enjoy some books more than others. But there is one book that is unlike any other. We call it the Bible. It helps us know God and why we should worship him. Let’s go to Large Group and take some time to look into this amazing book God has given us.”*

**Lead your group to the Large Group area.**

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## LARGE GROUP

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**OVERVIEW:**

**Key Question:** *Why is the Bible important?* Maybe they’ve seen the Bible sitting on a shelf at home. Maybe they have one of their own. Or maybe they have no idea what a Bible is. Preteens are all over the map when it comes to understanding why they should take the time to dig into the Bible. As we kick off a school year of going through the Bible, we’re starting with a key question to help them realize how the Bible can impact their world.

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## SMALL GROUP

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### 1. Take a Snapshot

[Bible Story Review]

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** Pens, notecards, “Include This Word” Activity Page

**What You Do:**

- Give each student a pen, notecard, and one of the “Include This Word” cards from the Activity Page.
- Ask everyone to do the following:
  - Write a short definition of the Bible and why it’s important.
  - Use the random word on their card somewhere in their answer.
- Invite students to write on the back of their notecards one or two questions they have about the Bible.
- Collect the notecards for use in “Bible Story Extension.”

**What You Say:**

*“The Bible is the best place to go to learn about the plan God has for us and how Jesus fits into that plan. We spend time reading, memorizing, studying, and discussing the Bible because it points us to God. There’s nothing special about the paper it’s written on or whether the cover is made of cardboard or leather. The thing that makes the Bible different from any other book is that God helped men write what He felt we needed to know in order to follow Him.”*

## **2. Bible Story Extension**

**[Application Activity]**

*Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing*

**What You Need:** Bibles, markers, paper, notecards from “Take a Snapshot,” mural paper

**What You Do:**

- Provide Bibles for students who don’t have one.
- Read Psalm 119:105 together, sharing different translations if available.
- Give each person a sheet of paper then set out markers.
- Invite the group to draw a simple shape or “doodle” somewhere on their papers.
- Exchange papers.
- Ask students to create a picture from the markings on their papers that illustrates Psalm 119:105 in some way or something they remember from Large Group.
- When finished, let students share what they drew.
- Return to Psalm 119, verses 105–112 and let students take turns reading verses.
- With each verse, ask:
  - How is the Bible described in this verse?
  - What information does this verse tell you about the Bible?
  - How does this verse help you know and follow God better?

- If your students wrote questions about the Bible in “Take a Snapshot,” allow time for reading and answering their questions. Draw answers from Psalm 119 whenever possible. If there are questions you’re not confident answering, suggest ways they can research the answer using other resources, safe internet sites, or by talking with other leaders at MISSION.

### 3. Discussion Questions

#### [Application Activity]

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** N/A

#### What You Do:

- Ask:
  - Why can we trust the Bible?
  - Why is the Bible an important book? What makes it different from any other book?
  - Why do you think some people don’t enjoy or want to read the Bible? What would you say to encourage them to give it a try? What’s one verse or part of the Bible you could suggest they read?
  - If you have questions about the Bible, where can you go to find answers?

#### What You Say:

*“I hope you’ll use these bookmarks in your Bibles this week as a reminder that we show God we love Him when we obey Him and follow His commands. He wants us to trust that His way is the best way. He made you and loves you more than you could ever imagine. **[Bottom Line]** When you learn about God, it’s easier to follow Him.”*

***[Make It Personal]** (Tell your few about something you’ve learned from Scripture that has helped you follow God in obedience. You can point to a specific story or favorite verse. Share how following that command has made your life better and helped you grow in your relationship with God.)*

### 4. Make It Personal with Prayer

#### [Prayer Activity]

*Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application*

**What You Need:** Bible

#### What You Do:

- Invite students to imagine what their day might look like if it had a “Flight Plan.” Suggest that perhaps it would go something like this:
  - LAUNCH out of bed in the morning.
  - TAKE OFF and SOAR through their day.
  - Make a CRASH LANDING back in bed at night.
- Remind students that spending time in the Bible is one of the ways we get to know God.
- Read Joshua 1:8 to the group then ask:
  - What part of this command would you say is the most important part?
  - What can you do this week to make sure your Flight Plan includes time reading the Bible and talking to God each day?
- Close in prayer by reading Joshua 1:8 again and allowing students to respond in silent prayer whenever you pause.

**What You Say:**

*“Dear God, help me to keep this Book of the Law always on my lips (pause). Help me meditate on it day and night (pause). Help me to be careful to do everything written in it (pause). Help me to be prosperous and successful in obedience to what I know You want me to do (pause). In Jesus’ name, amen.”*

***As adults arrive to pick up, don’t forget to hand out this month’s content overview to each parent!***