

Welcome and Play Time 10 Min

If you talk to a mom of a newborn about raising kids, she'll say, "Will this ever end?" If you talk to a mom who's just sent her kid off to college about raising kids, she'll say, "It just flew by!" As much as we love to think that we'll always be there for our kids to protect and guide them, it is just not guaranteed. We need to make the most of every opportunity to expose our kids to the powerful Word of God. Last week we looked at what we need to be modeling so that they can learn from our lives. This week we are going to look at what we need to be encouraging our kids to be reliant upon - God's Word. How do kids learn to be desperately dependant on God's Word if they are not familiar with the Word? How do they know where to go when they are alone and unsure if we do not teach them the path to seeking truth? Our most important job as parents and teachers of kids is to teach them the Word!

Use this time as people are arriving for the kids to get comfortable with each other and settled in so that Mom and Dad can enjoy small group.

Bible Lesson Activities 20 Min

Activity 1 - Bible Investigators - Bring Bibles for the kids to look through. Open to the Table of Contents. Talk about how the Bible is divided into two Testaments, the Old and the New. Read through the names of the books of the Bible. Talk about how to find verses in the Bible. Discuss how each book is divided into chapters and each chapter into verses. Have them find the book of John and start looking for the word "God." Talk about some of the neat kinds of stories that are in the Bible like floods, wars, giants, kings, queens, miracles and heaven. Teach them as if this is the first time they've ever seen the Bible. This is a remarkable and fascinating book! Enjoy the discovery!

Activity 2 - What does it say? Verse 16 talks about God's Word being useful for teaching - *what is right (thumbs up)*, reproof - *what is not right (thumbs down)*, correction - *how to get right (thumbs pointing right)*, training in righteousness - *how to stay right (hands out for "stay")*. As you read the verses have the kids think about what the verse might be teaching and use the hand motion that represents the truth.

Ephesians 4:31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. (how to get right - correction)

Exodus 20:12 Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you. (what is right - teaching)

Colossians 3:1 Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. (how to stay right - training in righteousness)

Romans 1:25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. (what is not right - reproof)

1 John 3:23 This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us. (what is right - teaching, how to stay right - training in righteousness)

Proverbs 17:4 An evildoer listens to wicked lips; A liar pays attention to a destructive tongue. (what is not right - reproof)

Bible Reading Time & Scripture Memory 10 Min

Have a small snack for the kids like pretzels or cheerios to help encourage quiet mouths and listening ears. Pray and thank God for giving us His Words so that we may share it with others. Read the Word straight through and then give yourself time to discuss after you've read the whole passage.

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17 (NASB) Read from a Bible if you have one available

10 Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance, 11 persecutions, and sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium and at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me! 12 Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. 13 But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14 You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, 15 and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Discuss with the children what the verses mean. Paul is like Timothy's spiritual dad. Timothy has had Paul to teach him, reprove him, correct him and train him in righteousness. The time is coming when Timothy will have to continue without Paul by his side. Paul reminds Timothy that before they even met, he had the Word of God to learn from and depend on. **What are some things that Scripture is good for?** ("teaching - what is right, reproof - what is not right, correction - how to get right, training in righteousness - how to stay right") **Who wrote the Bible?** (God) **What parts of the Bible are useful?** (All of it! God meant every word written in the Bible to equip us for the work he wants us to do!)

Memorizing scripture is an excellent way to develop a desperate dependence on God and His Word. It keeps us familiar with the Word, gives us direction by the Word, reminds us of instruction from the Word, corrects us and continues to educate us as the Holy Spirit continues to teach us and remind us of the things we've learned. (John 14:26) Does anyone know the verse from last week? (2 Timothy 3:12 Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted..)

Lets learn another one!

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 2 Timothy 3:16

Coloring Sheet 10 Min

Have older children help the younger children with their coloring sheet. Talk about the Bible reading as you color. Help reinforce the Bible verse and what it means as they color.

Closing/Clean Up 5 Min

Clean up and make sure everyone has shoes on, coloring sheets in hand and everything is put back in the room. Encourage them to ask their Mom or Dad to read to them from the Bible. Pray for them throughout the week to have a hunger and thirst for the Word of God.



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TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS;**

2 TIMOTHY 3:16