

Large Group



I Wonder...

LESSON 3: LARGE-GROUP

How do I know the Bible is true and why is it such a big deal?

MAIN IDEA

God has given us the Bible. Because God is the author of the Bible, it is the most reliable and trustworthy book. The Bible shows us the best way to live our lives—by faith and in obedience to God’s commands.

BIBLE PASSAGES

- Psalm 119:5
- Psalm 33:4
- 2 Peter 1:20-21

BIBLE VERSE

The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known.

Psalm 19:1–2, NLT



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.



Introduce the story of the Gospel.
(10 – 15 minutes)



Play large-group games.
(25 minutes)

Prepare



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.

QUESTIONS

- How can you be praying for the students this week? Are there any specific students or requests you can pray for?
- Are any changes and additions needed for the Large-Group Lesson?
- Is there anything specific you need to communicate to the small-group leaders?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- (Optional) judge's robe
- (Optional) gavel

Large Group



Introduce the story of the Gospel.
(10 – 15 minutes)

REVIEW

Quickly review last week's lesson and Bible verse.

- God is all around us. He also fills us and changes us when we invite him into our lives.
- God allows bad things to happen because he gives us the ability to freely make choices—even bad choices. Bad choices lead to bad results: suffering, isolation and nastiness.

HOW DO I KNOW THE BIBLE IS TRUE?

Say, **Today we are going to be talking about the Bible—how can we know that it is true? And if it is true, why is it important for us?**

Ask, **Has anyone ever told you a lie?** (Listen for the answers the children give.)

- How did you know they were lying?
- How do you know when something is true?
- Can you believe everything you see on TV? In the movies? In the news?

Explain, **Today you are going to be talking about the Bible, which is the main tool we have for getting to know God and what he is like. Say, I believe the Bible is 100 percent true, but how can we know that the Bible is true?**

One of the best ways to know something is true is to verify whether what it says is true. Say, Today we will be considering how we know the Bible is true. One type of person whose job it is to decide if something is true is a judge. Judges have to listen to evidence and decide what's true based on the information presented to them.

OBJECT LESSON: EYE WITNESS ACCOUNT

In this activity, you will ask one person to go outside of the room while you act out a story or event for the kids in the room to witness. After this, you will have the group serve as eyewitnesses to what they saw and heard.

Send one person out of the room (a leader or an older, articulate student). Now that they are gone, ask the other students to pay careful attention to what they will see or hear because they will need to be witnesses for the next part of the activity.

(Optional) Use a judge's robe for the person in the hallway to wear and/or give them a gavel as a prop. You might even ask a lawyer to come in and share about evidence/legal ideas of truth. The "judge" will have to weigh the eyewitness accounts and decide what is true.

Act out a scene or some activity including significant details (e.g., Leader A woke up early today and came downstairs to get a cup of coffee and read the paper. After she had breakfast of (her favorite cereal . . . Honeycombs!), the doorbell rang. It was the police, who said that her dog had run away. She thought this was odd since she doesn't have a dog. She told the police that she doesn't have a dog and they left. After she finished getting ready, she went to work. It took her twenty-two minutes to get there because there was a lot of traffic. She arrived at work on time.) Alternatives for this part, besides using the scenario above, include the following three options:

- Show a video clip of an activity.
- Show a detailed poster with lots of activity on it.
- Read a story from the newspaper with a detailed situation that is out of the ordinary.

Use the same methods afterwards for the debriefing.

Have the person come back into the room. Say, **Can anyone tell me what they witnessed while [person's name] was out of the room?** Continue along this line of questioning as a lawyer in court would, trying to get details out of the witnesses.

Have the person who was in the hallway try to determine the truth of what happened as a judge would. He or she might also get to choose a witness and ask them questions about what happened while they were out of the room. The one who was outside the room can then share what they think was true about what happened while they were outside of the room and why they believe that to be the truth.

WRAP IT UP

Say, **Witnesses may say things in different words, but when they share similar concepts we know they are true accounts. Witnesses saw many of the things take place that are written in the Bible. Sometimes these same witnesses were the ones who wrote them down for us to learn of later. Multiple people witnessing something helps us to know that it is true.**

Read 2 Peter 1:20–21. **The Bible is 100 percent accurate because God is the author and eyewitnesses were the writers. God is completely reliable, and we can trust him.**

Pray with the students and dismiss them to small groups.

Games



Play large-group games.
(25 minutes)

MATERIALS NEEDED:

None

LARGE-GROUP GAME: FREEZE TAG

Materials: None

Object of game: To be the last person to be frozen.

How to play: Choose one student to be “it.” This student has the power to freeze anyone in their tracks with a simple touch! As the “it” tags people, they must freeze where they are. Other students that are not frozen can touch the frozen students to unfreeze them. Play ends when all students are frozen or when time runs out.

LARGE-GROUP GAME: ANIMAL RELAY RACE

Materials: None

Object of game: To be the first team to have each person complete the relay.

How to play: All the players on each team form a line behind the designated starting line. On the “go” signal, each team will compete in the relay that you have told them. Players are to go to the turnaround point (which you designate) and back to the starting point. The animal relays are as follows: Chimp Relay (Each player grabs their ankles with their hands and makes chimp noises.) Kangaroo Relay (Each person must hop to the turning point with their hands out in front of them.) Armadillo Relay (Each person rolls in a ball to the turning point and then runs back.) Penguin Relay (Each person has to put their heels together and waddle to the turnaround point and back.) Snack Relay (Each person must lie on their stomach and slither to the turning point and then get up and run back.), Leapfrog Relay (The last person in the line hops over everyone else in line to become the new first person in line.)

LARGE-GROUP GAME: RED LIGHT, GREEN LIGHT

Materials: None

Object of game: To be the first person to get from one end of the room to the other.

How to play: One leader stands at one end of the space, and all the students will stand at the other end. The leader will yell out either “Green light,” “Yellow light,” or “Red light.” When yelling out “Green light,” the leader closes their eyes, and the students can run as fast as they want. The leader can then yell out “Yellow light” or “Red light” and open their eyes. On “yellow light,” students can only be walking, and any student that the leader sees running has to go back to the wall and start over. On “Red light,” students must stop, and if the leader sees anyone moving, they must go to the wall and start over. The student that gets to the leader’s side first is the winner.



I Wonder...

LESSON 3: PRIMARY SMALL GROUP

How do I know the Bible is true and why is it such a big deal?

MAIN IDEA

God has given us the Bible. Because God is the author of the Bible it is the most reliable and trustworthy book. The Bible shows us the best way to live our lives—by faith and in obedience to God’s commands.

BIBLE PASSAGES

- Psalm 119:5
- Psalm 33:4
- 2 Peter 1:20-21

BIBLE VERSE

The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known.

Psalm 19:1–2, NLT



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.



Connect with the kids, and help them feel heard and cared for. (15 minutes)



Facilitate activity and study to help kids know and love Jesus. (20 – 25 minutes)



Lead kids to live out the mission of the Gospel. (5 – 10 minutes)

Prepare



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.

QUESTIONS

- How can you be praying for the students this week?
- Are there any specific students or requests you can pray for?
- Are there any adaptations you can make to the lesson this week to better serve the kids in your small group or make your small group more effective?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- 1 plastic garbage bag
- 1 plate (paper or real)
- 1 butter knife (plastic or real)
- 1 jar of jelly
- 2 slices of bread
- 1 jar of peanut butter
(Note: Consider substituting this if any of your kids or leaders has allergies.)
- Printout 1, 1 per student
- Bible Verse Cards, 1 per child

Connect



Connect with the kids,
and show them that
they are heard and cared for.
(15 minutes)

Small Group

ICEBREAKER

Distribute name tags and snacks. Choose one of the following icebreaker activities to do together while children eat their snack:

- Option 1: Ask the children to share their highs and lows (the best and worst things that happened to them either today or from the past week).
- Option 2: Ask the children to take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the "How Are You Feeling?" chart (from the CKC Games Bag).

PRAY TOGETHER

Collect prayer requests from the students. The leader or a student can pray for the entire group, or a leader can pair up students and invite them to pray for one another.

INTRODUCTION

(Optional) Review the Bible verses: Psalm 19:1–2.

Ask, **What do you think the Bible is all about?** Accept the students' answers. Explain, **The Bible gives us instructions about how to live life, promises from God that give us hope, and stories and principles that help us understand God and the purpose of life.**

ACTIVITY: SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Instruct students to complete the Spot the Difference (Printout 1). Whoever finishes first gets a prize. Or, consider giving everyone who participates a prize (tickets or another prize).

Ask the students: **Do you think it is important to follow instructions? If you didn't follow the instructions the activity, do you think you would have received the prize?**

Say, **It is because we know that the Bible is true, we know the instructions in it are important.**

Heart



Facilitate activity and study to help kids know and love Jesus.
(20 – 25 minutes)

Small Group Session 2

OBJECT LESSON: FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE A SANDWICH

Tell the students that you are going to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

Ask if any of them has ever made a PB & J sandwich.

Ask for a volunteer to give you the exact directions for how to make a sandwich.

As they give you instructions, do the opposite of what they tell you. (For example, you could put the peanut butter on the crust or put the two covered sides facing out. The point is that you will make a complete mess of the sandwich.

Explain that God has given us the Bible to show us how to be forgiven of our sins and to live life in the way he has designed it to be lived. Many people make a huge mess of their lives when they don't listen to God's instructions in the Bible.

THE BIBLE IS A BIG DEAL

Read Psalm 119:105. Discuss with the students how the Bible can act like a guide for our lives.

Ask the students to look at Exodus 20:1–17. Explain that the rules God gives here are called the Ten Commandments. Discuss the commandments with the students and explain why they are important.

Ask, **Why do you think God gives us rules and commands in the Bible? Why would it be a good idea to obey them?**

Hands



Lead kids to live out the mission of the Gospel.
(5 – 10 minutes)

Small Group Session 2

WRAP IT UP

Conclude by reminding the students that they have seen that the Bible is 100 percent reliable and that living our lives according to its story, principles and commands helps us to honor God and keeps us from making a mess of our lives.

Ask the students for their prayer requests and pray with them.

If time permits, review the Bible verses with the students.

RESPONSE & REFLECTION

Print out the Bible verse.

On the back side of the card, encourage children to draw or write something they discover about God in the next week, as they put their trust in the fact that God created all things. Give an incentive if they bring it back next week (i.e., a ticket).



I Wonder...

LESSON 3: INTERMEDIATE SMALL GROUP

How do I know the Bible is true and why is it such a big deal?

MAIN IDEA

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BIBLE PASSAGES

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- Psalm 33:4
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BIBLE VERSE

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Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.



Connect with the kids, and help them feel heard and cared for. (15 minutes)



Facilitate activity and study to help kids know and love Jesus. (20 – 25 minutes)



Lead kids to live out the mission of the Gospel. (5 – 10 minutes)

Prepare



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.

QUESTIONS

- How can you be praying for the students this week?
- Are there any specific students or requests you can pray for?
- Are there any adaptations that you can make to the lesson this week to better serve the kids in your small group or make your small group more effective?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- 1 plastic garbage bag
- 1 plate (paper or real)
- 1 butter knife (plastic or real)
- 1 jar of jelly
- 2 slices of bread
- 1 jar of peanut butter
(Note: Consider substituting this if any of your kids or leaders has allergies.)
- Printout 2, 1 per student
- Bible Verse Cards, 1 per child

Connect



Connect with the kids, and help them feel heard and cared for.
(15 minutes)

Small Group Session 1

ICEBREAKER

Distribute name tags and snacks. Choose one of the following icebreaker activities to do together while children eat their snack:

- Option 1: Ask the children to share their highs and lows (the best and worst things that happened to them either today or from the past week).
- Option 2: Ask the children to take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the "How Are You Feeling?" chart (from the CKC Games Bag).

PRAY TOGETHER

Collect prayer requests from the students. The leader or a student can pray for the entire group, or a leader can pair up students and invite them to pray for one another.

INTRODUCTION

(Optional) Review the Bible verses: Psalm 19:1–2.

Ask, **What do you think the Bible is all about?** Accept the students' answers. Explain, **The Bible gives us instructions about how to live life, promises from God that give us hope, and stories and principles that help us understand God and the purpose of life.**

ACTIVITY: SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Provide students with Printout 2, but place them face down until you tell student to "Go." Instruct the students that whoever completes the tenth instruction first gets a prize (tickets or another prize). Then say go!

If students listened to your instructions carefully they would have heard you tell them to complete the tenth task on the paper, which instructs them to skip the first nine tasks and give the leader a high five.

Ask the students: **Do you think it is important to follow instructions?**

Say, **It is because we know that the Bible is true, we know the instructions in it are important.**

Heart



Facilitate activity and study to help kids know and love Jesus.
(20 – 25 minutes)

Small Group Session 2

OBJECT LESSON: FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE A SANDWICH

Tell the students that you are going to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

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Ask for a volunteer to give you the exact directions for how to make a sandwich.

As they give you instructions, do the opposite of what they tell you. (For example, you could put the peanut butter on the crust or put the two covered sides facing out. The point is that you will make a complete mess of the sandwich.

Explain that God has given us the Bible to show us how to be forgiven of our sins and to live life in the way he has designed it to be lived. Many people make a huge mess of their lives when they don't listen to God's instructions in the Bible.

THE BIBLE IS A BIG DEAL

Read Psalm 119:105. Discuss with the students how the Bible can act like a guide for our lives.

Ask the students to look at Exodus 20:1–17. Explain that the rules God gives here are called the Ten Commandments. Discuss the commandments with the students and explain why they are important.

Ask, **Why do you think God gives us rules and commands in the Bible? Why would it be a good idea to obey them?**

Hands



Lead kids to live out the mission of the Gospel.
(5 – 10 minutes)

Small Group Session 2

WRAP IT UP

Conclude by reminding the students that they have seen that the Bible is 100 percent reliable and that living our lives according to its story, principles and commands helps us to honor God and keeps us from making a mess of our lives.

Ask the students for their prayer requests and pray with them.

If time permits, review the Bible verses with the students.

RESPONSE & REFLECTION

Print out the Bible verse.

On the back side of the card, encourage children to draw or write something they discover about God in the next week, as they put their trust in the fact that God created all things. Give an incentive if they bring it back next week (i.e., a ticket).

Bible Verse Cards

BIBLE VERSE

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Printout 1



Printout 2

1. Write down the title of your favorite book: _____
2. Blink your eyes ten times.
3. Write a three-letter word: _____
4. On the back of this paper draw a smiley face.
5. Write down the current time: _____
6. Stand up and sit down three times.
7. Write down your favorite color: _____
8. Write down your favorite number: _____
9. Write down your favorite sport or band: _____
10. Skip the first nine steps and give your leader a high five.