

# 🖕 🏠 Introduction 🏠 🌩

Welcome to the INTRUTH Bible Study on the God's Gifts!

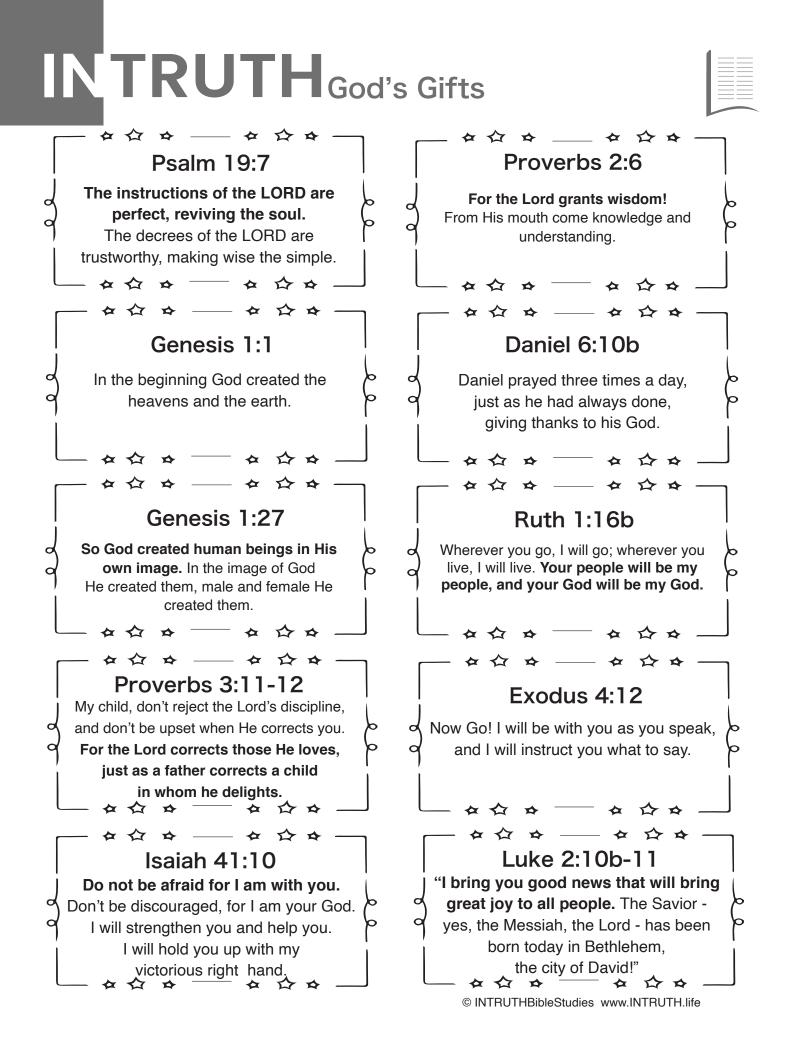
We believe that studying the Word of God transforms lives!

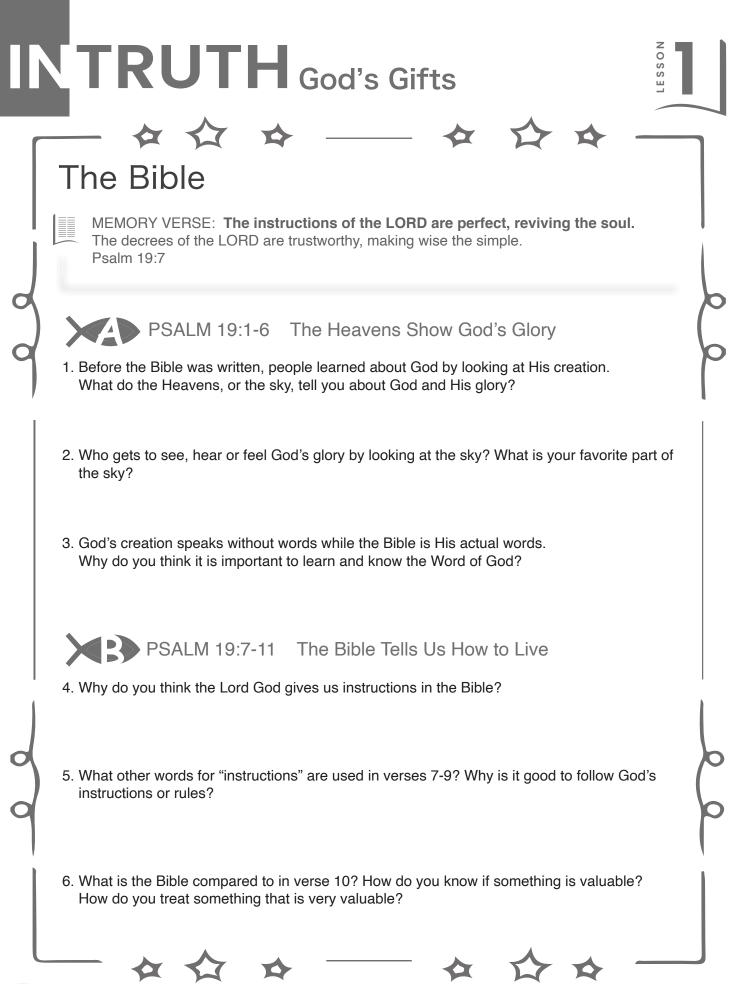
The Bible is God's message of redemption, as well as our instruction book for life. God wants us to search the Bible so we can understand the TRUTH of His character and His desire for us. Each lesson has 9-10 questions, a memory verse, a Believe the TRUTH, Pray the TRUTH, and a Walk in TRUTH application section.

These lessons teach foundational Scriptural truths all age groups can enjoy but adjust them to make them work for your group. Younger children may need help to read and answer the questions or understand certain words or concepts. Older students might need help to dig in deeper.

God has given us wonderful gifts! In this study you will learn about the Bible, creation, our life, rules and discipline, courage, wisdom and direction, fellowship and prayer, friendship and family and purpose in life. And these gifts all come together in the best gift of all, Jesus. There is none like Him! He is the greatest gift!

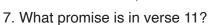
These gifts from God are for you!





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PSALM 19:12-14 The Bible Protects Us From Sin

8. What is sin? How do we know what sin is? Who can forgive our sins?

9. How can studying and listening to the Bible keep us from acting sinfully?

10. Why is verse 14 a powerful prayer?

### BELIEVE THE TRUTH

God has blessed us with an amazing creation. Think of Him when you see His handiwork. We also have God's Word, the Bible. It is full of explanations of the secrets of life, of exciting stories of real people with real adventures, and of promises God has made to us. It also warns us of things not to do. The Bible is a loving gift from God to His people!

### PRAY THE TRUTH

Dear Father, thank you for Your beautiful creation. Thank you even more for giving us the Bible. Please help me to treasure Your commands and to follow them every day. Help my works and thoughts to be pleasing to You. Amen.

### WALK IN TRUTH

Why are the words we say, and what we think about, important to God?

Every word of God is flawless; He is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Proverbs 30:5

## Psalm 19

#### Psalm 19:1-6

- 1 The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship.
- 2 Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known.
- 3 They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard.[a]
- 4 Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world.
- God has made a home in the heavens for the sun.
- 5 It bursts forth like a radiant bridegroom after his wedding. It rejoices like a great athlete eager to run the race.
- 6 The sun rises at one end of the heavens and follows its course to the other end. Nothing can hide from its heat.

#### Psalm 19:7-11

- 7 The instructions of the Lord are perfect, reviving the soul.
- The decrees of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.
- 8 The commandments of the Lord are right, bringing joy to the heart.
- The commands of the Lord are clear, giving insight for living.
- 9 Reverence for the Lord is pure, lasting forever.
- The laws of the Lord are true; each one is fair.
- 10 They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold.
- They are sweeter than honey,
- even honey dripping from the comb.
- 11 They are a warning to your servant, a great reward for those who obey them.

#### Psalm 19:12-14

12 How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults.

13 Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me.

Then I will be free of guilt

- and innocent of great sin.
- 14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you,
  - O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.



## Creation

MEMORY VERSE: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1



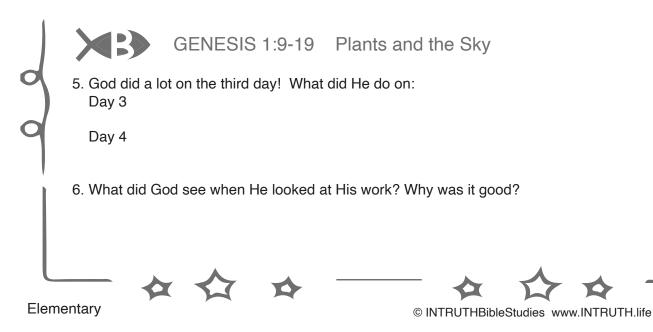
GENESIS 1:1-8 Water and Light

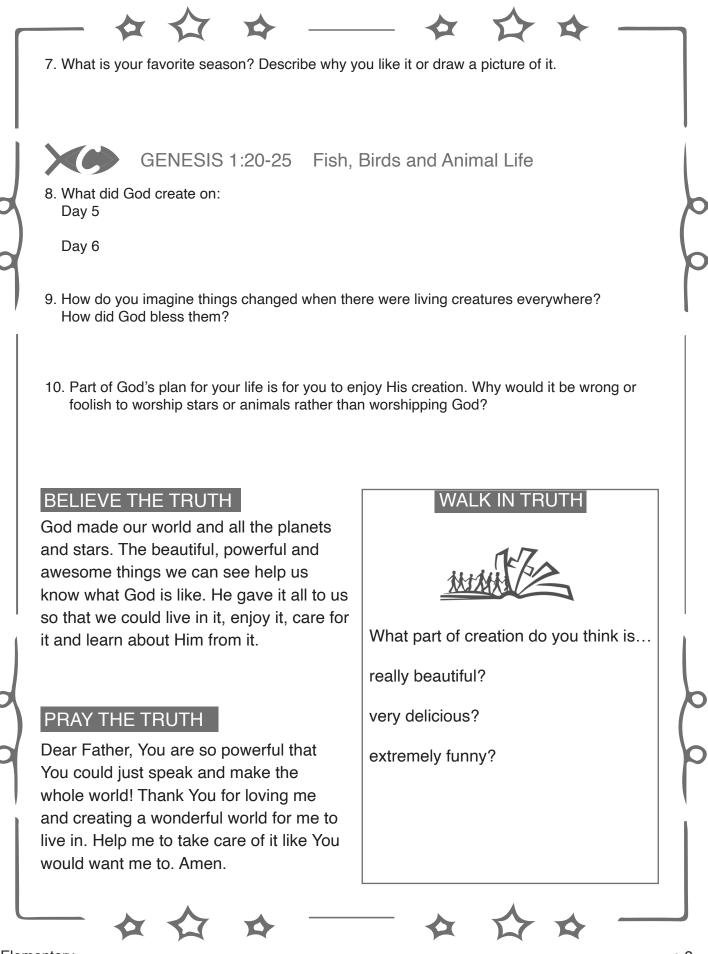
1. God organized everything perfectly when He created the heavens and the earth. What do you think it was like before God did this? Could anyone live here?

2. What were the first things God did in creation on: Day 1

Day 2

- 3. How did God cause these things to happen? What does this tell you about God's power?
- 4. Why is this important for you to know?





## Genesis 1:1-25

#### Genesis 1:1-8

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

3 Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good. Then he separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light "day" and the darkness "night."

And evening passed and morning came, marking the first day.

6 Then God said, "Let there be a space between the waters, to separate the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth." 7 And that is what happened. God made this space to separate the waters of the earth from the waters of the heavens. 8 God called the space "sky."

And evening passed and morning came, marking the second day.

#### Genesis 1:9-19

9 Then God said, "Let the waters beneath the sky flow together into one place, so dry ground may appear." And that is what happened. 10 God called the dry ground "land" and the waters "seas." And God saw that it was good. 11 Then God said, "Let the land sprout with vegetation — every sort of seed-bearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. These seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came." And that is what happened. 12 The land produced vegetation — all sorts of seed-bearing plants, and trees with seed-bearing fruit. Their seeds produced plants and trees of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

13 And evening passed and morning came, marking the third day.

14 Then God said, "Let lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them be signs to mark the seasons, days, and years. 15 Let these lights in the sky shine down on the earth." And that is what happened. 16 God made two great lights — the larger one to govern the day, and the smaller one to govern the night. He also made the stars. 17 God set these lights in the sky to light the earth, 18 to govern the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

19 And evening passed and morning came, marking the fourth day.

#### Genesis 1:20-25

20 Then God said, "Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind." 21 So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that scurries and swarms in the water, and every sort of bird — each producing offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good. 22 Then God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply. Let the fish fill the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth."

23 And evening passed and morning came, marking the fifth day.

24 Then God said, "Let the earth produce every sort of animal, each producing offspring of the same kind — lvestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and wild animals." And that is what happened. 25 God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to produce offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.







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# Your Life

MEMORY VERSE: **So God created human beings in His own image.** In the image of God He created them, male and female He created them. Genesis 1:27

GENESIS 1:26-27 God Created Humans

1. You were created to be in the image of \_\_\_\_\_\_. Because God made us like Him, we are different from the rest of creation. What do you think it means to be made in God's image?

2. What responsibility did God give to human beings? What does this mean?

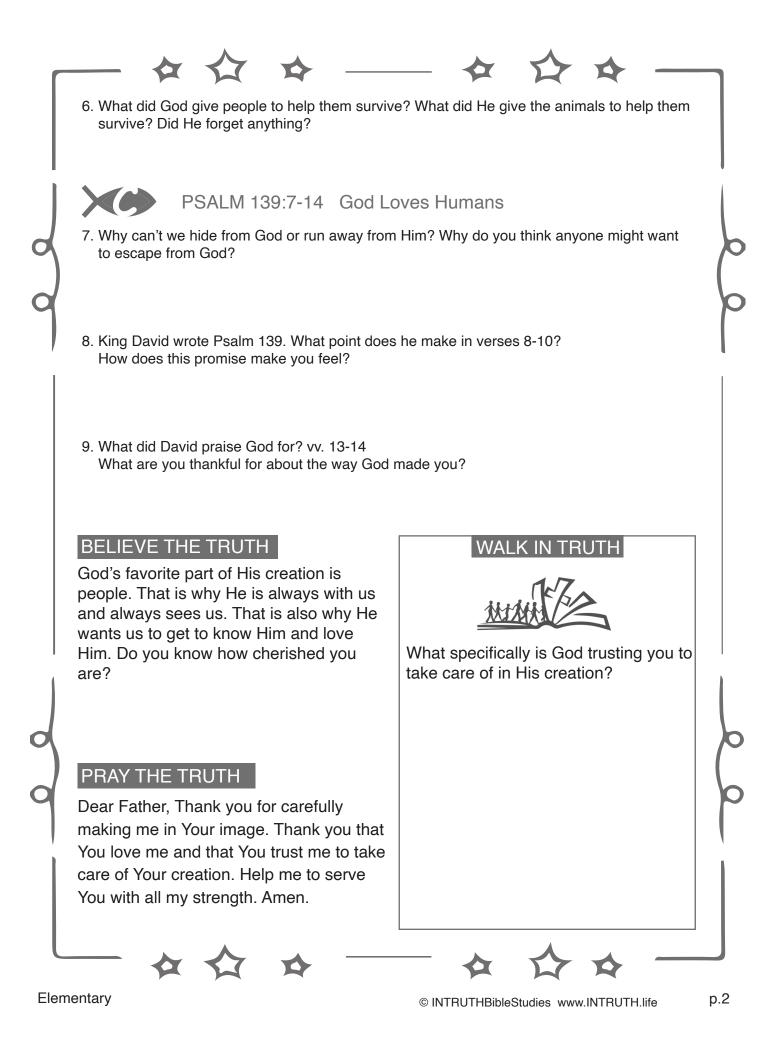
3. When you have bad thoughts about the way you look or the way you do something, what does that say to God? If we make fun of someone else, what does that say to God?



GENESIS 1:28-31 God Provided for Humans

- 4. What did God do for the people He created? What did God want them to do with His creation? v. 28
- 5. What do you think it means to "reign" over the the earth?

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## Genesis 1:26-31

#### Genesis 1:26-27

26 Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground." 27So God created human beings in his own image.

In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

#### Genesis 1:28-31

28 Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

29 Then God said, "Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. 30 And I have given every green plant as food for all the wild animals, the birds in the sky, and the small animals that scurry along the ground — everything that has life." And that is what happened.

31 Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good! And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day.

#### Psalm 139:7-14

7 I can never escape from your Spirit!
I can never get away from your presence!
8 If I go up to heaven, you are there;
if I go down to the grave, you are there.
9 If I ride the wings of the morning,
if I dwell by the farthest oceans,
10 even there your hand will guide me,
and your strength will support me. 11 I could ask the darkness to hide me
and the light around me to become night —12 but even in darkness I cannot hide from you.
To you the night shines as bright as day.
Darkness and light are the same to you.
13 You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body
and knit me together in my mother's womb.
14 Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex!
Your workmanship is marvelous — how well I know it.





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Rules and Discipline

MEMORY VERSE: My child, don't reject the Lord's discipline, and don't be upset when He corrects you. For the Lord corrects those He loves, just as a father corrects a child in whom he delights.

Proverbs 3:11-12

JONAH 1:1-7 Jonah Tries to Escape From God

1. What did God tell Jonah to do? Why do you think God wanted Jonah to do this?

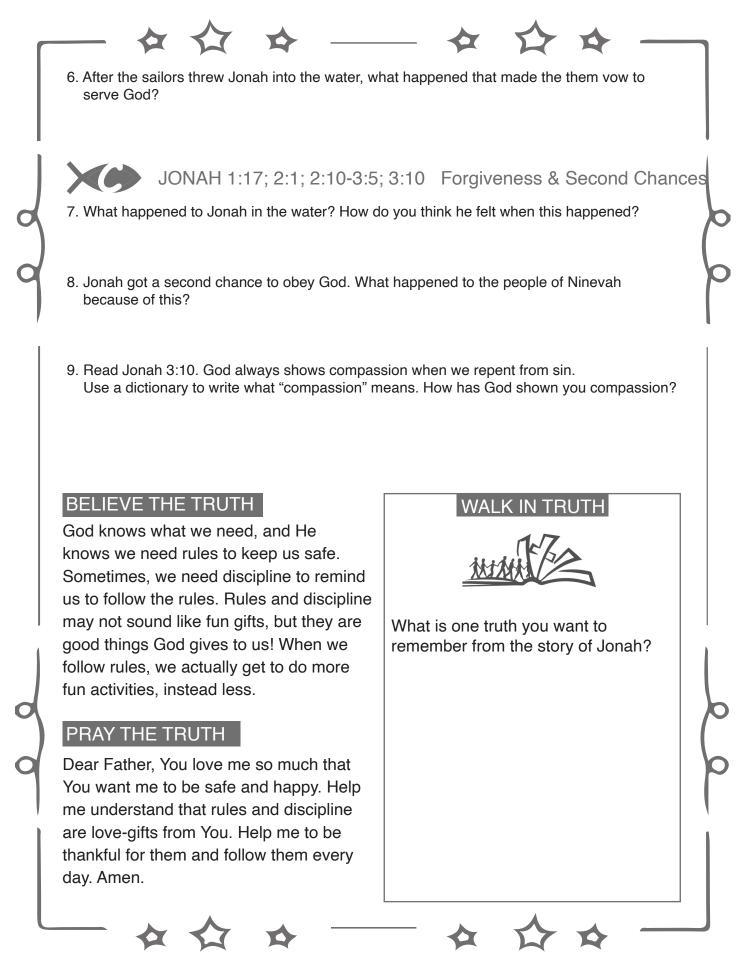
- 2. What did Jonah do instead? How did Jonah's disobedience affect the other people on the ship?
- 3. Give some other examples of ways one person's disobedience could hurt other people.



JONAH 1:8-16 Jonah Admits His Sin

4. In verse 12, what did Jonah tell the sailors to do? Did the sailors want to follow Jonah's orders? How do you know?

5. When have you disobeyed God, your parents or a teacher on purpose? What happened?



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Jonah 1:1-17; 2:1; 2:10-3:5, 10

#### Jonah 1:1-7

Jonah Runs from the Lord

1 The LORD gave this message to Jonah son of Amittai: 2 "Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh. Announce my judgment against it because I have seen how wicked its people are." 3 But Jonah got up and went in the opposite direction to get away from the LORD. He went down to the port of Joppa, where he found a ship leaving for Tarshish. He bought a ticket and went on board, hoping to escape from the LORD by sailing to Tarshish.

4 But the LORD hurled a powerful wind over the sea, causing a violent storm that threatened to break the ship apart. 5 Fearing for their lives, the desperate sailors shouted to their gods for help and threw the cargo overboard to lighten the ship. But all this time Jonah was sound asleep down in the hold. 6 So the captain went down after him. "How can you sleep at a time like this?" he shouted. "Get up and pray to your god! Maybe he will pay attention to us and spare our lives."

7 Then the crew cast lots to see which of them had offended the gods and caused the terrible storm. When they did this, the lots identified Jonah as the culprit.

#### Jonah 1:8-16

8 "Why has this awful storm come down on us?" they demanded. "Who are you? What is your line of work? What country are you from? What is your nationality?" 9 Jonah answered, "I am a Hebrew, and I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the land." 10 The sailors were terrified when they heard this, for he had already told them he was running away from the LORD. "Oh, why did you do it?" they groaned. 11 And since the storm was getting worse all the time, they asked him, "What should we do to you to stop this storm?"

12 "Throw me into the sea," Jonah said, "and it will become calm again. I know that this terrible storm is all my fault." 13 Instead, the sailors rowed even harder to get the ship to the land. But the stormy sea was too violent for them, and they couldn't make it. 14 Then they cried out to the LORD, Jonah's God. "O LORD," they pleaded, "don't make us die for this man's sin. And don't hold us responsible for his death. O LORD, you have sent this storm upon him for your own good reasons." 15 Then the sailors picked Jonah up and threw him into the raging sea, and the storm stopped at once! 16 The sailors were awestruck by the LORD'S great power, and they offered him a sacrifice and vowed to serve him.

#### Jonah 1:17; 2:1; 2:10-3:5,10

1:17 Now the LORD had arranged for a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was inside the fish for three days and three nights.

2:1 Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from inside the fish.

2:10 Then the LORD ordered the fish to spit Jonah out onto the beach.

3:1 Then the LORD spoke to Jonah a second time: 2 "Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh, and deliver the message I have given you." 3 This time Jonah obeyed the LORD'S command and went to Nineveh, a city so large that it took three days to see it all. 4 On the day Jonah entered the city, he shouted to the crowds: "Forty days from now Nineveh will be destroyed!" 5 The people of Nineveh believed God's message, and from the greatest to the least, they declared a fast and put on burlap to show their sorrow. 3:10 When God saw what they had done and how they had put a stop to their evil ways, he changed his mind and did not carry out the destruction he had threatened.



## Courage

MEMORY VERSE: **Do not be afraid for I am with you.** Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.

Isaiah 41:10



1 SAMUEL 17:8-11 God's Children Face a Giant

1. If you have ever been bullied, how did it make you feel? Why do you think bullies have so much power and influence?

2. What kind of deal did Goliath want to make with the army of Israel?

3. The Israelites were terrified. What kind of person do you think they were looking for to go fight against Goliath?

1 SAMUEL 17:32-39 David Offers to Fight Goliath

4. What was David's plan? Why did King Saul think this was a bad idea?

5. Why did David think he could defeat Goliath? What did David believe that helped make him brave and courageous?

6. Saul told David to use his armor to be like a soldier, but it wasn't right for David. What did David do instead?

### 1 SAMUEL 17:40-50 The Lord Gives David Victory

- 7. How did Goliath react to David and his choice of weapons? How do you think the other soldiers might have felt about this?
- 8. In verses 45-47, underline every time David mentions God in some way. How many did you find? What does this tell you about what David believed?
- 9. What do you learn from David that can help you when you face Goliath's in your own life?

### BELIEVE THE TRUTH

Sometimes it takes a lot of bravery or courage to do the right thing. David was brave because he trusted in God, while Goliath trusted in his own strength. When God wants us to serve Him by doing something hard or scary, He promises to give us courage. We just have to ask Him to help us and trust Him to keep His promise. He will do it!

### PRAY THE TRUTH

Lord God, you are awesome and powerful! Help me to remember to trust in you when I am afraid of what you want me to do. Thank you that you can use me just as I am, no matter how difficult something is, because You are always with me. Give me the courage I need to be Your servant and do your will. Amen.

### WALK IN TRUTH



Have you ever tried to do something someone else's way instead of trusting the way God made you?

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## 1 Samuel 17:8-50

The army of Israel was camped across from the Philistine army. Goliath, a nine-foot tall giant was their best soldier. He came out to tease the men of Israel every day for forty days! Then young David came to visit.

#### 1 Samuel 17:8-11

8 Goliath stood and shouted a taunt across to the Israelites. "Why are you all coming out to fight?" he called. "I am the Philistine champion, but you are only the servants of Saul. Choose one man to come down here and fight me! 9 If he kills me, then we will be your slaves. But if I kill him, you will be our slaves! 10 I defy the armies of Israel today! Send me a man who will fight me!" 11 When Saul and the Israelites heard this, they were terrified and deeply shaken.

#### 1 Samuel 17:32-39

32 "Don't worry about this Philistine," David told Saul. "I'll go fight him!"

33 "Don't be ridiculous!" Saul replied. "There's no way you can fight this Philistine and possibly win! You're only a boy, and he's been a man of war since his youth."

34 But David persisted. "I have been taking care of my father's sheep and goats," he said. "When a lion or a bear comes to steal a lamb from the flock, 35 I go after it with a club and rescue the lamb from its mouth. If the animal turns on me, I catch it by the jaw and club it to death. 36 I have done this to both lions and bears, and I'll do it to this pagan Philistine, too, for he has defied the armies of the living God! 37 The Lord who rescued me from the claws of the lion and the bear will rescue me from this Philistine!"

Saul finally consented. "All right, go ahead," he said. "And may the LORD be with you!"

38 Then Saul gave David his own armor—a bronze helmet and a coat of mail. 39 David put it on, strapped the sword over it, and took a step or two to see what it was like, for he had never worn such things before.

"I can't go in these," he protested to Saul. "I'm not used to them." So David took them off again.

#### 1 Samuel 17:40-50

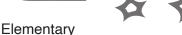
40 He picked up five smooth stones from a stream and put them into his shepherd's bag. Then, armed only with his shepherd's staff and sling, he started across the valley to fight the Philistine.

41 Goliath walked out toward David with his shield bearer ahead of him, 42 sneering in contempt at this ruddy-faced boy. 43 "Am I a dog," he roared at David, "that you come at me with a stick?" And he cursed David by the names of his gods. 44 "Come over here, and I'll give your flesh to the birds and wild animals!" Goliath yelled.

45 David replied to the Philistine, "You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of Heaven's Armies — the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 Today the LORD will conquer you, and I will kill you and cut off your head. And then I will give the dead bodies of your men to the birds and wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel! 47 And everyone assembled here will know that the LORD rescues his people, but not with sword and spear. This is the LORD'S battle, and he will give you to us!"

48 As Goliath moved closer to attack, David quickly ran out to meet him. 49 Reaching into his shepherd's bag and taking out a stone, he hurled it with his sling and hit the Philistine in the forehead. The stone sank in, and Goliath stumbled and fell face down on the ground.

50 So David triumphed over the Philistine with only a sling and a stone, for he had no sword.





Wisdom and Direction

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MEMORY VERSE: For the Lord grants wisdom! From His mouth come knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 2:6



1 KINGS 3:5-9 Solomon Asks For Wisdom

- 1. God said He would give Solomon whatever he asked. What did Solomon ask God to give him? What reason did he give for asking this? v. 9
- 2. Another name for wisdom is an "understanding heart." Why do we need God's wisdom?
- 3. Where can you get God's wisdom?

1 KINGS 3:10-14 God Blesses Wisdom Seekers
4. Why was God pleased that Soloman asked for wisdom?

5. Why is it better to ask God for an understanding heart (wisdom) than anything else?

	<ul> <li>6. What other gifts did God give Solomon? How wisdom?</li> </ul>	have you seen God bless you for seeking	
	for insight, and for understanding.	andmy commands. on understanding them like hidden treasures about how our attitude should be towards	0
0	9. What does our memory verse, Proverbs 2:6, s <b>BELIEVE THE TRUTH</b> We need God's help to be wise and to make good choices, and all we have to do is ASK! Seek God every day and you will grow wiser. You will also learn to love His ways. He will protect you and tell you which way to go. Best of all, He will fill you with joy. <b>PRAY THE TRUTH</b> Dear God, You know everything! Please help me remember to ask You for directions. Help me to learn Your ways	way? What does this mean to you?	0
	and treasure Your words. I want You to lead me as I grow up. I have never been years old before, so I need Your help to be wise. Amen.		

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1 Kings 3:5-14; Proverbs 2:1-10

Solomon asks for wisdom

#### 1 Kings 3:5-9

5 That night the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream, and God said, "What do you want? Ask, and I will give it to you!"

6 Solomon replied, "You showed great and faithful love to your servant my father, David, because he was honest and true and faithful to you. And you have continued to show this great and faithful love to him today by giving him a son to sit on his throne.

7 "Now, O LORD my God, you have made me king instead of my father, David, but I am like a little child who doesn't know his way around. 8 And here I am in the midst of your own chosen people, a nation so great and numerous they cannot be counted!

9 Give me an understanding heart so that I can govern your people well and know the difference between right and wrong. For who by himself is able to govern this great people of yours?"

#### 1 Kings 3:10-14

10 The LORD was pleased that Solomon had asked for wisdom. 11 So God replied, "Because you have asked for wisdom in governing my people with justice and have not asked for a long life or wealth or the death of your enemies — 12 I will give you what you asked for! I will give you a wise and understanding heart such as no one else has had or ever will have! 13 And I will also give you what you did not ask for — riches and fame! No other king in all the world will be compared to you for the rest of your life! 14 And if you follow me and obey my decrees and my commands as your father, David, did, I will give you a long life."

#### Proverbs 2:1-20

1 My child, listen to what I say, and treasure my commands. 2 Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding. 3 Cry out for insight, and ask for understanding. 4 Search for them as you would for silver; seek them like hidden treasures. 5 Then you will understand what it means to fear the LORD, and you will gain knowledge of God. 6 For the LORD grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding. 7 He grants a treasure of common sense to the honest. He is a shield to those who walk with integrity. 8 He guards the paths of the just and protects those who are faithful to him. 9 Then you will understand what is right, just, and fair, and you will find the right way to go. 10 For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will fill you with joy. Scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright ©1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission

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MEMORY VERSE: Daniel prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God. Daniel 6:10b



DANIEL 6:6-11 A Trap is Set

- 1. What law did the men want King Darius to make? Why did they want the king to make this law?
- 2. What did Daniel do? Why do you think Daniel disobeyed that law?
- 3. What 2 things did Daniel pray about? vv. 10-11
- 4. Do you have any good habits like Daniel? What habit would you like to have?



- 5. How did King Darius feel when he realized he was trapped? How did he feel about Daniel?
- 6. What do you think of the men who were supposed to give King Darius good advice? How can you know if someone is giving you good advice or bad advice?

7. Daniel did not try to defend himself or argue. He trusted God. How do you think Daniel learned to trust God so much? DANIEL 6:19-23 God Protects Daniel 8. Imagine how the king felt when he saw the lion's den the next morning. Write about it or draw a picture of what the king's face might have looked like when he realized Daniel was alive. 9. What did Daniel tell the king about God? How did King Darius respond? 10. How did God bring good out of this terrible situation for: Himself? Daniel? King Darius? BELIEVE THE TRUTH TRUTH What an awesome privilege it is to be able to talk to God in prayer. Even though we do not see God with our eyes, He is always with us and He always hears us. When do you talk to God? Sometimes we have to choose to please God instead of people, and this can make them disappointed or even angry. But the Where do you enjoy talking to Him the Holy Spirit helps us do the right thing in most? the right way when we ask. PRAY THE TRUTH Are you becoming good friends with Him in Lord God, thank you that I can talk to You praver? any time, whether I am happy, sad, lonely, confused or scared. Help me form a habit of prayer like Daniel so I too can have great trust in You. Help me remember that You are with me and want to spend time with me no matter what. I love You. Amen. Elementary p.2 © INTRUTHBibleStudies www.INTRUTH.life

Daniel 6:6-23

Some wicked men who did not like Daniel wanted to get him in trouble with the King, so they tricked the king into making a new law.

#### Daniel 6:6-11

6 So the administrators and high officers went to the king and said, "Long live King Darius! 7 We are all in agreement — we administrators, officials, high officers, advisers, and governors — that the king should make a law that will be strictly enforced. Give orders that for the next thirty days any person who prays to anyone, divine or human — except to you, Your Majesty — will be thrown into the den of lions. 8 And now, Your Majesty, issue and sign this law so it cannot be changed, an official law of the Medes and Persians that cannot be revoked." 9 So King Darius signed the law.

10 But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God. 11 Then the officials went together to Daniel's house and found him praying and asking for God's help.

#### Daniel 6:12-18

12 So they went straight to the king and reminded him about his law. "Did you not sign a law that for the next thirty days any person who prays to anyone, divine or human — except to you, Your Majesty — will be thrown into the den of lions?"

"Yes," the king replied, "that decision stands; it is an official law of the Medes and Persians that cannot be revoked." 13 Then they told the king, "That man Daniel, one of the captives from Judah, is ignoring you and your law. He still prays to his God three times a day."

14 Hearing this, the king was deeply troubled, and he tried to think of a way to save Daniel. He spent the rest of the day looking for a way to get Daniel out of this predicament.

15 In the evening the men went together to the king and said, "Your Majesty, you know that according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, no law that the king signs can be changed."

16 So at last the king gave orders for Daniel to be arrested and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to him, "May your God, whom you serve so faithfully, rescue you."

17 A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den. The king sealed the stone with his own royal seal and the seals of his nobles, so that no one could rescue Daniel. 18 Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night fasting. He refused his usual entertainment and couldn't sleep at all that night.

#### Daniel 6:19-23

19 Very early the next morning, the king got up and hurried out to the lions' den. 20 When he got there, he called out in anguish, "Daniel, servant of the living God! Was your God, whom you serve so faithfully, able to rescue you from the lions?"

21 Daniel answered, "Long live the king! 22 My God sent his angel to shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, for I have been found innocent in his sight. And I have not wronged you, Your Majesty."

23 The king was overjoyed and ordered that Daniel be lifted from the den. Not a scratch was found on him, for he had trusted in his God.





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# Friends and Family

MEMORY VERSE: Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. **Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.** Ruth 1:16b



RUTH 1:1-7 Tragedy Strikes

1. Why did Naomi and her family go to live in Moab?

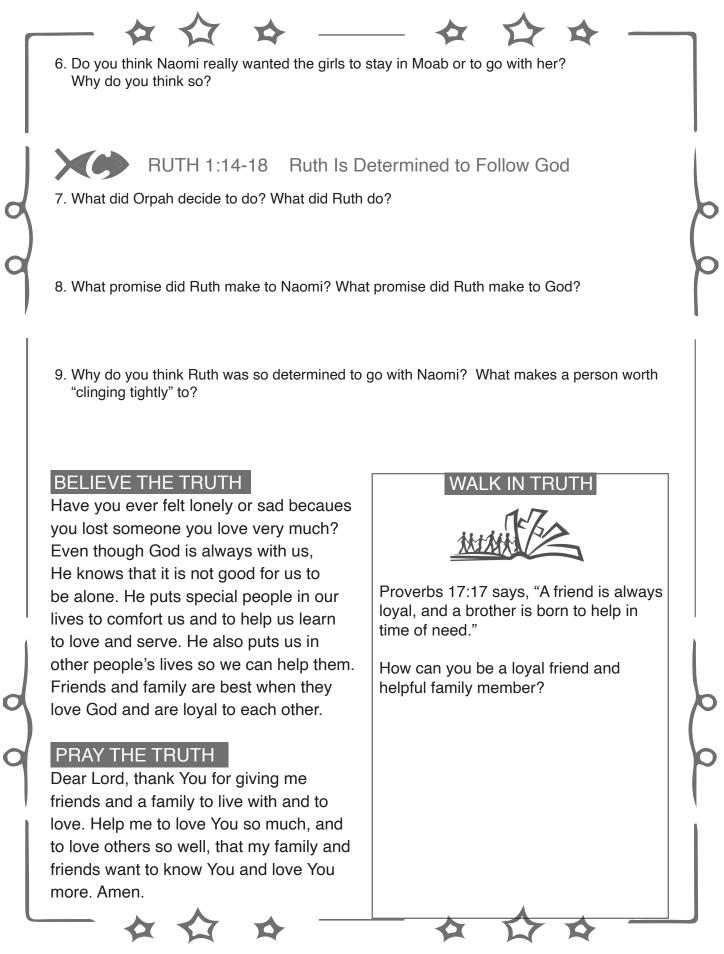
2. What sad things happened to Naomi while she lived in Moab?

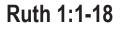
3. Have you ever lost someone you love very much? How can friends or family members help each other when something bad happens?

4. Naomi decided to go home to Judah. What did Naomi tell the girls to do?

5. What do you think would be easier for the girls to do — stay in Moab or go with Naomi? Why?

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#### Ruth 1:1-7

1 In the days when the judges ruled in Israel, a severe famine came upon the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah left his home and went to live in the country of Moab, taking his wife and two sons with him. 2 The man's name was Elimelech, and his wife was Naomi. Their two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in the land of Judah. And when they reached Moab, they settled there.

3 Then Elimelech died, and Naomi was left with her two sons.

4 The two sons married Moabite women. One married a woman named Orpah, and the other a woman named Ruth. But about ten years later, 5 both Mahlon and Kilion died. This left Naomi alone, without her two sons or her husband. 6 Then Naomi heard in Moab that the Lord had blessed his people in Judah by giving them good crops again. So Naomi and her daughters-in-law got ready to leave Moab to return to her homeland. 7 With her two daughters-in-law she set out from the place where she had been living, and they took the road that would lead them back to Judah.

#### Ruth 1:8-13

8 But on the way, Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back to your mothers' homes. And may the Lord reward you for your kindness to your husbands and to me. 9 May the Lord bless you with the security of another marriage." Then she kissed them good-bye, and they all broke down and wept.

10 "No," they said. "We want to go with you to your people." 11 But Naomi replied, "Why should you go on with me? Can I still give birth to other sons who could grow up to be your husbands? 12 No, my daughters, return to your parents' homes, for I am too old to marry again. And even if it were possible, and I were to get married tonight and bear sons, then what? 13 Would you wait for them to grow up and refuse to marry someone else? No, of course not, my daughters! Things are far more bitter for me than for you, because the Lord himself has raised his fist against me."

#### Ruth 1:14-18

14 And again they wept together, and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-bye. But Ruth clung tightly to Naomi. 15 "Look," Naomi said to her, "your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods. You should do the same." 16 But Ruth replied, "Don't ask me to leave you and turn back. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.

17 Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord punish me severely if I allow anything but death to separate us!" 18 When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she said nothing more.



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# A Plan For You

MEMORY VERSE: Now Go! I will be with you as you speak, and I will instruct you what to say. Exodus 4:12



EXODUS 3:1-10 God Calls Moses

1. What happened to Moses while he was out tending the flock of his father-in-law? vv.1-4

2. What happened when Moses moved to get a closer look? vv.5-6

3. Why did Moses cover his face? What does this encounter tell you about God?

4. What purpose, or plan, did God have for Moses?

EXODUS 3:11-12; 4:1 Moses is Afraid to Fulfill His Purpose

- 5. Moses "protested" about God's plan. What was he afraid of? Why do you think he was so afraid?
- 6. Tell about a time you were asked to do something important that you thought was too hard.

	7. What did God promise in verse 12 that would him?	have helped Moses fulfill God's purpose for	
d	<ul> <li>EXODUS 4:2-17 God Giv</li> <li>8. What 3 miraculous signs did God give Moses that God has sent him?</li> <li>vv. 2-5</li> </ul>	ves Moses Miraculous Signs the power to do in order to convince people	6
q	vv. 6-8		þ
	v. 9 9. What do you think God wanted to show Moses		
	10. How did Moses show fear? vv. 10-17		
	BELIEVE THE TRUTH God made you on purpose for a special purpose! Your purpose is to love Him and serve Him, and nobody else can serve Him just the way you can. As you pray and read the Bible, God will show you how He wants you to serve Him, but don't let fear get in the way! Carrying out God's purpose for you makes your life fulfilling!	WALK IN TRUTH	
0	PRAY THE TRUTH Dear Jesus, I trust you! I know that my purpose in life is to love You and help other people to know You. I may not know what you want me to do next but you are bigger than any of my weaknesses. I love You! Amen.	What might help you better understand His amazing power?	0
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Exodus 3:1-12; 4:1-17

#### Exodus 3:1-10

Moses and the Burning Bush

1 One day Moses was tending the flock of his fatherin-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian. He led the flock far into the wilderness and came to Sinai, the mountain of God. 2 There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire from the middle of a bush. Moses stared in amazement. Though the bush was engulfed in flames, it didn't burn up. 3 "This is amazing," Moses said to himself. "Why isn't that bush burning up? I must go see it."

4 When the LORD saw Moses coming to take a closer look, God called to him from the middle of the bush, "Moses! Moses!" "Here I am!" Moses replied.

5 "Do not come any closer," the LORD warned. "Take off your sandals, for you are standing on holy ground. 6 I am the God of your father — the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." When Moses heard this, he covered his face because he was afraid to look at God.

7 Then the LORD told him, "I have certainly seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their cries of distress because of their harsh slave drivers. Yes, I am aware of their suffering. 8 So I have come down to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians and lead them out of Egypt into their own fertile and spacious land. It is a land flowing with milk and honev-the land where the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites now live. 9 Look! The cry of the people of Israel has reached me, and I have seen how harshly the Egyptians abuse them. 10 Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh. You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt."

#### Exodus 3:11-12

11 But Moses protested to God, "Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?" 12 God answered, "I will be with you. And this is your sign that I am the one who has sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at this very mountain."

#### Exodus 4:1

1 But Moses protested again, "What if they won't believe me or listen to me? What if they say, 'The Lord never appeared to you'?"

#### Exodus 4:2-17

2 Then the Lord asked him, "What is that in your hand?" "A shepherd's staff," Moses replied. 3 "Throw it down on the ground," the Lord told him. So Moses threw down the staff, and it turned into a snake! Moses jumped back.

4 Then the LORD told him, "Reach out and grab its tail." So Moses reached out and grabbed it, and it turned back into a shepherd's staff in his hand.

5 "Perform this sign," the LORD told him. "Then they will believe that the LORD, the God of their ancestors-the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob-really has appeared to you."

6 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Now put your hand inside your cloak." So Moses put his hand inside his cloak, and when he took it out again, his hand was white as snow with a severe skin disease. 7 "Now put your hand back into your cloak," the LORD said. So Moses put his hand back in, and when he took it out again, it was as healthy as the rest of his body.

8 The LORD said to Moses, "If they do not believe you and are not convinced by the first miraculous sign, they will be convinced by the second sign. 9 And if they don't believe you or listen to you even after these two signs, then take some water from the Nile River and pour it out on the dry around. When you do, the water from the Nile will turn to blood on the ground."

10 But Moses pleaded with the LORD, "O LORD, I'm not very good with words. I never have been, and I'm not now, even though you have spoken to me. I get tongue-tied, and my words get tangled."

11 Then the LORD asked Moses, "Who makes a person's mouth? Who decides whether people speak or do not speak, hear or do not hear, see or do not see? Is it not I, the LORD? 12 Now go! I will be with you as you speak, and I will instruct you in what to say."

13 But Moses again pleaded, "LORD, please! Send anyone else." 14 Then the LORD became angry with Moses. "All right," he said. "What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he speaks well. And look! He is on his way to meet you now. He will be delighted to see you. 15 Talk to him, and put the words in his mouth. I will be with both of you as you speak, and I will instruct you both in what to do. 16 Aaron will be your spokesman to the people. He will be your mouthpiece, and you will stand in the place of God for him, telling him what to say. 17 And take your shepherd's staff with you, and use it to perform the miraculous signs I have shown you."

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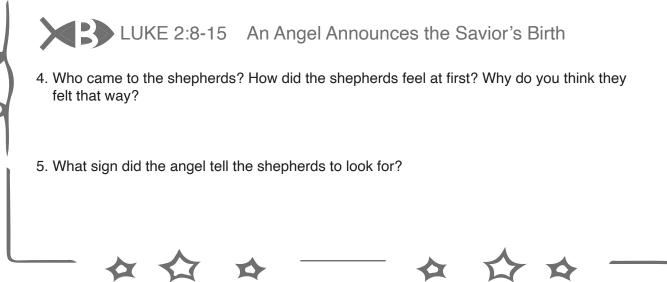
## Jesus

MEMORY VERSE: "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior - yes, the Messiah, the Lord - has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! Luke 2:10b-11

LUKE 2:1-7 The Birth of Jesus

1. Why was Joseph required to go to Bethlehem?

- 2. Over 600 years earlier Micah (5:2) prophesied that the Messiah (Jesus) would be born in Bethlehem. What does this tell you about how God?
- 3. Jesus was God's beloved son, and yet He did not arrange for a comfortable place for Jesus to be born. Why do you think God allowed this to happen to His child?



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6. Why do you think God chose lowly shepherds to be the first to hear the news of Jesus' birth?

LUKE 2:16-20 The Shepherds Tell Others About Jesus' Birth

7. How do you think the shepherds felt as they hurried to see Jesus?

- 8. After seeing Jesus, the shepherds went and told everyone what had happened and what the angels had said to them. (v. 17) Why are both messages nimportant?
- 9. What did the shepherds do as they went back to their flocks? How can we do the same?

### BELIEVE THE TRUTH

God has given us wonderful gifts! We have learned about the Bible, creation, our life, rules and discipline, courage, wisdom and direction, fellowship and prayer, friendship and family and purpose in life. And these gifts all come together in the best gift of all, Jesus. Praise the Lord, our awesome God! There is none like Him! He is the greatest gift!

### PRAY THE TRUTH

Dear Jesus, thank You so much for coming to earth to give me life and to show me how to live. Help me remember that You are the greatest gift of all. Help me to tell others about You - about what you have done in my life and what the Bible says is true about you. I love You, Lord! Amen.

### WALK IN TRUTH



Why do you think we need to tell people about Jesus?

Why is it good for us to tell people what has happened to us and also what the Bible says about Him?

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Luke 2:1-20

#### Luke 2:1-7

1 At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire.

2 (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) 3 All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census.

4 And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. 5 He took with him Mary, his fiancée, who was now obviously pregnant.

6 And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. 7 She gave birth to her first child, a son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

#### Luke 2:8-15 The Shepherds and Angels

8 That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. 9 Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, 10 but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. 11 The Savior — yes, the Messiah, the Lord — has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! 12 And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." 13 Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others — the armies of heaven — praising God and saying,

14 "Glory to God in highest heaven,

and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."

15 When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

#### Luke 2:16-20

16 They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. 17 After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. 18 All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, 19 but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often. 20 The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.





