**october 31st, 2021: Elementary Ages sunday school
THE BIBLE lesson 1: the inspired word of God**

***After completing this Sunday school lesson, the children will learn that that the Bible is the inspired Word of God.***

**OPENING PRAYER AND PRAISE AND MEMORY WORK:**

**Print: pdfs of Old Testament Books of the Bible** and **New Testament Books of the Bible**
During this series, the children will begin to memorize the books of the Bible. In order to memorize all of the books, this challenge will be continued for one or more additional lesson series. Give each child copies of the "Old and New Testament Books of the Bible handout sheets". These are worksheets to help them memorize the books of the Bible, and will be kept in their folders. Today, start by having the children look in their Bibles and write down the names of the first five books of the Old Testament on their handout sheets. Then have them memorize the first five books; Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. Also encourage the kids to continue memorizing the other books of the Bible at home. Suggest they seek help from parents or older brothers or sisters.

**SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION**

**Introduction:** The Bible is also known as the Word of God. Do you believe the Bible? Why? Has anyone ever told you that they don't believe the Bible? Many people unfortunately think the Bible is just another long boring book. But of course the Bible is not just another book, it was given to man from God to reveal Jesus Christ as our savior.

From Genesis, the very first book, to Revelation, the last book, the purpose of the Bible is Jesus. In John 5:39 Jesus himself says, "These are the Scriptures that testify about me." But what can we say to people who just don't believe the Bible is the word of God? Let's look up some scriptures that may help us understand the significance and truth about the Bible. Help the children find the following verses and have someone read each one. Then discuss each verse.

**Verses and Discussion Questions:**
**2 Timothy 3:16-17**
1. Where does all Scripture come from?*(From God.)*
2. What is Scripture good for? *(Teaching, rebuking, correcting, training and equipping.)*

**2 Peter 1:20-21**
1. Does Scripture come from the will of man? *(No, from the Will of God.)*
2. Who "inspired" or "carried" men to write the Bible?*(The Holy Spirit.)*

**Psalm 12:6**
1. Does the Bible contain any mistakes? *(No, it is flawless.)*
2. What does "pure" gold or silver mean?*(Without any impurities.)*

**Psalm 119:160**
1. How can you respond to someone who says the Bible isn't true? *(All of God's words are true, so the Bible is also true because it is the Word of God.)*
2. Does God ever need to come up with new rules or laws?*(No, His laws are eternal.)*

**1 Corinthians 2:14**
1. Why is it difficult for some people to understand the Bible? *(Because they do not have the Holy Spirit to guide them.)*
2. How does God reveal the Bible to us? *(By the Holy Spirit.)*

**CLASS EXERCISE: BIBLE WORD SEARCH (Materials: printed puzzle, pencils)**

***The Word of God, the Bible, was written by over 35 people, each coming from a different background. This word search lets the kids find key words about the people who wrote the Bible.***

**WHAT YOU WILL DO:** Have the children read the paragraph at the top of the word search page. Then give them enough time to find the hidden words according to the instructions. After everyone is finished, discuss how it is truly a miracle that the different books of the Bible are in so much harmony with each other, given the fact that so many different people and backgrounds were involved. Have the children acknowledge that it could not happen without the direction of the Holy Spirit working through the authors of the Bible.

**SONG: THERE IS A BOOK (Materials: printed songsheet)**

***There is a book that has good news, the BIBLE. Sung to the tune of “Bingo.”***

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| **WHAT YOU WILL DO:** While singing this song, the \* replaces a letter & represents a single hand clap.**VERSES**There is a book that has Good News, the Bible is its na-me.B.. I.. B.. L.. E.. B.. I.. B.. L.. E.. B.. I.. B.. L.. E.. the Bible is its na-me.There is a book that is our guide, the Bible is its na-me.\*.. I.. B.. L.. E.. \*.. I.. B.. L.. E.. \*.. I.. B.. L.. E.. the Bible is its na-me.There is a book that gives new life, the Bible is its na-me.\*.. \*.. B.. L.. E.. \*.. \*.. B.. L.. E.. \*.. \*.. B.. L.. E.. the Bible is its na-me.There is a book that has the truth, the Bible is its na-me.\*.. \*.. \*.. L.. E.. \*.. \*.. \*.. L.. E.. \*.. \*.. \*.. L.. E.. the Bible is its na-me.There is a book that gives us wisdom, the Bible is its na-me.\*.. \*.. \*.. \*.. E.. \*.. \*.. \*.. \*.. E.. \*.. \*.. \*.. \*.. E.. the Bible is its na-me.There is a book that talks of Jesus, the Bible is its na-me.B.. I.. B.. L.. E.. B.. I.. B.. L.. E.. B.. I.. B.. L.. E.. the Bible is its na-me. |

**APPLICATION:** We know with certainty that the Bible is the inspired Word of God. The prophet Isaiah said that the earth was round (Isaiah 40:22) long before man believed it to be true. Man thought the world was flat! And not too long ago a young shepherd boy found scrolls that were over 2,000 years old. What was written on the scrolls was almost exactly like what we find today in the book of Isaiah. Moreover, numerous archaeological discoveries are proving that from an historical perspective the Bible is accurate. But, the Bible is more than just facts and history. The Bible brings us to a saving faith in God through His Son Jesus Christ. And we know this is true because the Holy Spirit makes us feel good about it.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**What we learned:** Today, the children began a lesson series about the Bible. In this first lesson, your child learned that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, meaning it did not come from man, but from the Will of God to bring us to a saving faith through Jesus. (Scripture used: 2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21, Psalm 119:160, 1 Corinthians 2:14)

**Memory Work:** Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy Instead of Bible verses, during this series the children are learning the books of the Bible in order. This week, help your child memorize the first five books of the Old Testament. The Books of Law. If your child already knows these, continue on further with the Old Testament books. Practice several times with your child so he or she is ready to go further with the next lesson.

**Suggested Parent/Child Activity:** One day this week put together a puzzle with your child, one that requires a little time to finish. As you are working on it, relate how a puzzle is like the Bible, in that it is made up of many pieces, but they all fit together to make a complete picture. The Bible, like a puzzle was written by many different people, from many different backgrounds and over vast periods of time, yet the words all go together to become the complete and powerful Word of God.

**Daily Prayer:** Father God, thank You for giving Your Word, to be a constant comfort and guide to me every day of my life. Your Word is the absolute truth, it teaches me Your Will, it holds all the answers I need. Dear Lord Jesus, help me keep Your Word close to me, close to my heart, so I will never stray. Amen.