

Small Talk

JUNE 2011

Key Question:

How do I know what to do?

Memory Verse:

"I will teach you
the way you should go."
Psalms 32:8, NIRV

Basic Truth:

God loves me.

Bottom Line:

God will teach me.

BIBLE STORY SUMMARIES

WEEK 1

Exodus 20

God gives the Ten Commandments to Moses and the Israelites.

WEEK 2

2 Timothy 3:14-17; Joshua 1:8

The Bible is true. It has God's words in it. God gave it to us so we can know Him. It is important that we read it so we will know what God wants us to do.

WEEK 3

1 Kings 5:1 – 6:38

God gives King Solomon instructions for how to build the temple. Solomon obeys and does what God tells him to do.

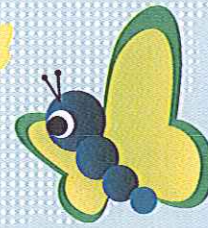
WEEK 4

Ephesians 6:1-3

God teaches children that obeying their parents is the right thing to do.

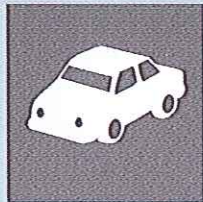
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PLAY TIME

How did your child learn to walk? *Practice*. How did your child learn to feed himself? *Practice*. We practice everything else with our children, why not practice obeying? Tell him you're going to help him practice obeying, since obeying parents is something God wants him to do. Tell your child to stand at one end of the hallway while you're at the other end. Say, "Come to mommy/daddy." When he comes toward you, reward him with a big hug and a high five. Continue with other simple commands for about 15 minutes. When you are finished playing, tell your child how proud you are of him for obeying. The more your child practices, chances are, the better he will get.



CAR TIME

As you see opportunities to do what God says, do it with your preschooler. Pray together for safety, food, a thankful heart, whatever comes to mind. Tell your preschooler: "God teaches us to pray. Let's pray together." As you help your preschooler get in the car, say: "I'll help you. God teaches me to be a helper." When you hug your preschooler, say: "God teaches me to love people. I love you!" If you share a snack with your preschooler, say: "God teaches me to share. Here's some for you." As you serve your preschooler, say: "Let me serve you. God teaches me to serve others." The best way to teach your child to obey God is to model it for him.



BATH TIME

When bath time rolls around announce in your best soldier voice that it is bath time. Tell your child to follow you as you march to the bathroom. Once your child is in the tub, tell him you are going to teach him how to bathe himself. Pick one thing to focus on each bath. Teach him how much shampoo to use, how to wash his hair, how to wash his body, etc. As you help your child, remind him that God wants to teach us what to do too.



CUDDLE TIME

Cuddle up with your child and pray with him. "Dear God, thank You for loving us. Thank You for teaching us. Thank You for giving us the Bible so we can know You better. Help us to listen and obey what You say. You are so wonderful, God. We love You. Amen."

IMAGINE THE END:

Preschoolers learn more in their first five years of life than they will in all of their other years combined. The change from early infancy to that first day of kindergarten is mind blowing! Parents are constantly teaching their children so that they have a strong educational foundation, but what about a strong spiritual foundation? Will your child know that God has a TON He wants to teach him too? So much so, that He wrote it all down in a book just for him? The day will come sooner than you want when your child will need to know what to do and you won't be around to help him. God will be the only one who can, could or would be able to tell your child the right thing to do. Those are the days when it's not about what you know but Who you know. So, in the midst of learning to read and tie shoes, make sure your child knows God and is always there to teach him what he needs to know.

MAKE IT PERSONAL:

When was the last time you asked God what you should do through prayer? When was the last time you read the Bible to hear what God says? When was the last time you did what God said even though you didn't want to do it? Okay, what about this one? When was the last time you asked God what to do and then you actually waited until you got an answer before doing anything? Ah—waiting. That one is really hard! When you, as parents, live this kind of life in front of your child, you are teaching him to seek God, obey God, trust God and wait on God. There is no better gift you will ever give your child than a life truly surrendered and dependent on God.