

BIBLE BASICS FOR BEGINNERS

Preschool FOUNDATIONS Home Lesson

Month 4–Week 1



The Bible tells us how much God loves us.

PREPARATION/SUPPLIES

If possible, gather a pile of different kinds of books, including a Bible or Bible storybook for the introduction of this lesson. Read the “Love and Respect for God’s Word” activity and plan what will work at your house. Gather paper for the paper airplane activity.

START WITH PRAYER

Dear Jesus, we love You and we thank You for the wonderful gift of the Bible and for all the ways it tells us about Your love for us. Help us to listen and learn, and especially help us to love You more and more. Amen.

Lesson

Looking at the variety of books you have gathered:

There are many different kinds of books, but one of these is different from all the rest. [Pick up the Bible/Bible picture book] The Bible teaches us about God. The Bible is a book full of the messages that God has written to us. It is written by people who were guided by God many, many years ago, but the words are just as important today as they were long ago when it was first written.

A FLYOVER VIEW OF THE BIBLE

All the pages of the Bible tell us one great story of how much God loves us, but in that One Big Story there are lots of little stories to help us understand better.



Family Formation
FOUNDATIONS
Building Our Family On The Rock



The first part of the Bible (the Old Testament) tells us about the time before Jesus was born and the second part (the New Testament) tell us about after Jesus was born. [Show the two parts to your child.] In both parts, God is “talking” to you, sharing words of love, encouragement, and instruction:

⇒ Jesus said, “I am with you always.” *Matthew 28:20*

⇒ “Love one another.” *John 13:34*

⇒ “When I am afraid, in you I place my trust.” *Psalms 56:3*

⇒ “We love because he [God] first loved us.” *1 John 4:19*

⇒ “This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad.” *Psalms 118:24*

⇒ “Do to others as you would have them do to you.” *Luke 6:31*

⇒ “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” *Genesis 1:1*

God’s love is planted in your heart when you listen to His Words!



ACTIVITY: Paper Airplanes

Grab some paper and make paper airplanes with your child. Write “Old Testament” and “New Testament” on each wing. Imagine God’s Words “flying over” the room giving you encouragement and teaching you.

Every time we attend Mass we hear readings from the Bible. Our response to hearing these special words is to say thank you for this great gift!

When we come to Mass we can see how special the Bible is. The priest or deacon will hold the beautiful book high so we can all see it, he will always go to a special place to read the words aloud so everyone can hear and candles are lit nearby to remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World, and he will even kiss the page at the end of the reading!

Our response after the Second Reading is “Thanks be to God” and after the Gospel we say “Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ”

PARENTS: next time you are at Mass with your preschoolers, be sure to point out this special reverence for God’s Word.

But we do not have to wait until Mass to listen to the Bible. When we have a Bible in our home, we can hear God’s Word anytime! Reading or listening to the Bible each day will help us know of Jesus’ love and help us to follow Him.



ACTIVITY: Love and Respect for God’s Word

Last month we invited your family to set up some kind of prayer center in your home. This month, we invite you to find a special place for your family’s Bibles, including Bible storybooks. A book stand, cookbook holder, or an easel can work well, but a nice basket or a special place on your bookshelf can also be just right for your space. You could also mirror what you see at Mass by placing a candle nearby. Once you have decided, enlist your little one’s help in treating your family Bibles with reverence. This would be a good time read a favorite Bible story from a Children’s Bible or Bible storybook, and then have your child draw their favorite part.



Family Formation is designed to help parents respond to the Church’s call to be “the first and foremost educators of their children”¹ and to help families grow in the transforming love of God by understanding and living the Catholic Faith. ¹Gravissimum Educationis, 3

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