

Year 1 • Quarter 1

We Can Trust the Bible

Family Devotional

*Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.
Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You
established the earth, and it abides.—Psalm 119:89–90*



Answers
BIBLE CURRICULUM

GOD'S WORD FOR ALL GENERATIONS

Answers Bible Curriculum

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Introduction

Welcome to the *Answers Bible Curriculum* family devotional. It is our prayer that God will use this guide as a tool to help you as parents to train and disciple your children. We encourage you to take time in the evening (or morning) during the week to have an intentional time of family Bible study, worship, and Scripture memory. You could do this every night or a couple nights each week. Make it a habit, and don't let the to-do's and pressures of our busy lives rob you of this precious time together.

While it's true that the church has a God-given responsibility to teach God's Word and lead in worship, God gives the primary responsibility for a child's spiritual development to his or her parents. Below are just a few of the Scriptures that admonish parents to be actively involved in training and teaching their children the things of the Lord:

Only take heed to yourself, and diligently keep yourself, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. And teach them to your children and your grandchildren, especially concerning the day you stood before the Lord your God in Horeb, when the Lord said to me, "Gather the people to Me, and I will let them hear My words, that they may learn to fear Me all the days they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children." (Deuteronomy 4:9–10)

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and

they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.
(Deuteronomy 6:4–9)

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. (Proverbs 22:6)

And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.
(Ephesians 6:4)

We suggest you read the lesson summary out loud, and then read each of the Scriptures and discuss the answers among yourselves. Of course, you'll want to adjust the questions based on the ages of your children. If you plan on having a family devotional time each night of the week, you will want to read ahead and split up each lesson into five or six smaller pieces.

We have included space for family prayer requests. It is important to spend time in prayer, lifting up the needs of each family member and praying for each one's spiritual growth. You can also use this time to lift up the needs in your church, any missionaries you know or support, etc. Record the prayer requests, and then review them from time to time to be encouraged as to how God has answered.

As parents, God has given you a great responsibility and a great privilege to train the next generation. You may not feel up to the task, but remember, our sufficiency is from God (2 Corinthians 3:4–6), and He delights in using the weak and foolish things of the world so that His wisdom and power may be manifest (1 Corinthians 1:26–31).



God's Word Is Our Foundation

1

Lesson Summary

The Bible is the starting point from which we discern truth and make decisions. We need to learn to use it to guide our every thought. Psalm 19 tells us that God's Word is perfect, sure, right, pure, true, righteous, more to be desired than gold, and sweeter than honey! It is like no other book ever written.

God's Word can also change us. It changes our soul, it makes us wise, it brings joy to the heart, and it allows us to see more clearly—like light in the darkness.

We might think we know all the answers, but we don't know anything compared to God. God is the only one who is omniscient—He knows everything! But He has left us with a guidebook—the Bible—to help us understand better. If we refuse to use His Word to guide us, we will never see things clearly. We need to look at all of life through biblical glasses, using the Bible as our foundation in everything.

First and foremost, God's Word reveals who He is and what He has done for us in sending His Son Jesus as Savior. The Bible exhibits God's plan throughout history to save a people for Himself.

God's Word is also a guide—helping us make wise choices that will honor God and glorify Him. His Word will help us to determine what is true and what is not as we hear and learn things. This is very important because most people do not stand on the authority of the Bible. We need to know what it says so we know who is telling the truth and who is not. Wearing our biblical glasses is vitally important. It takes commitment to read the Word in order to know what it says.

Read and Discuss

Read the following passages and discuss the questions together.

Psalm 19:7-11

1. How did the psalmist view God's Word? What are some of the adjectives he used to describe it?
2. What are the Scriptures good for? What are some ways that they can change us?
3. Share a specific example with your family of a time when God's Word made you wise or enlightened your eyes.

2 Peter 1:20-21; 2 Timothy 3:16

4. According to these verses, how was the Bible written? Who is its author?

5. What was the role of God and what was the role of the human author in writing the Bible?

6. Look up the following passages and note the synonym used for the Bible.
 - 1 Peter 2:2 –
 - Hebrews 4:12 –
 - Colossians 3:16 –
 - James 1:18 –
 - 2 Timothy 3:15 –
 - Daniel 10:21 –
 - Isaiah 34:16 –
 - Nehemiah 8:3 –
 - Isaiah 30:9 –
 - Ephesians 6:17 –
 - Romans 3:2 –
7. What do these verses tell us about God's Word? Why can we trust it?

Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

Psalm 19:7–9 The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;
the statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;
the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

Prayer

Take time to thank God for His Word. Ask Him to accomplish His will in and through you as you submit to His Word and seek to obey Him in everything.

FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS:



2 Studying the Bible

Lesson Summary

Last week we learned that the Bible is God’s Word and can be trusted. It should be the foundation for our lives—and guide us in all of our decisions. This week we discussed how we can interpret the Bible. God has communicated to us in a clear manner. This is not to say that there is nothing in Scripture that is difficult to completely grasp or that we will ever fully understand God, but we can understand God’s revelation to us and relate to Him. The Bible is a rich soil in which we can grow as Christians. But we must understand how to dig into that soil.

In class we examined and applied the inductive Bible study method. The goal of this method is to help us draw meaning out of the text of Scripture rather than bring our own ideas into the words we find there.

1. What are the three steps we talked about this week that will help us study God’s Word carefully—the way He wants us to?
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2. What questions should we ask when we observe a Bible passage?

4. Why is it important to understand the Bible and hold to “sound doctrine”?

Memory Verse

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