

Large Group



I Wonder...

LESSON 3: LARGE-GROUP

How do I know the Bible is true and why is it such a big deal?

MAIN IDEA

God has given us the Bible. Because God is the author of the Bible, it is the most reliable and trustworthy book. The Bible shows us the best way to live our lives—by faith and in obedience to God’s commands.

BIBLE PASSAGES

- Psalm 119:5
- Psalm 33:4
- 2 Peter 1:20-21

BIBLE VERSE

The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known.

Psalm 19:1–2, NLT



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.



Introduce the story of the Gospel.
(10 – 15 minutes)



Play large-group games.
(25 minutes)

Prepare



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.

QUESTIONS

- How can you be praying for the students this week? Are there any specific students or requests you can pray for?
- Are any changes and additions needed for the Large-Group Lesson?
- Is there anything specific you need to communicate to the small-group leaders?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- (Optional) judge's robe
- (Optional) gavel

Large Group



Introduce the story of the Gospel.
(10 – 15 minutes)

REVIEW

Quickly review last week's lesson and Bible verse.

- God is all around us. He also fills us and changes us when we invite him into our lives.
- God allows bad things to happen because he gives us the ability to freely make choices—even bad choices. Bad choices lead to bad results: suffering, isolation and nastiness.

HOW DO I KNOW THE BIBLE IS TRUE?

Say, **Today we are going to be talking about the Bible—how can we know that it is true? And if it is true, why is it important for us?**

Ask, **Has anyone ever told you a lie?** (Listen for the answers the children give.)

- How did you know they were lying?
- How do you know when something is true?
- Can you believe everything you see on TV? In the movies? In the news?

Explain, **Today you are going to be talking about the Bible, which is the main tool we have for getting to know God and what he is like. Say, I believe the Bible is 100 percent true, but how can we know that the Bible is true?**

One of the best ways to know something is true is to verify whether what it says is true. Say, Today we will be considering how we know the Bible is true. One type of person whose job it is to decide if something is true is a judge. Judges have to listen to evidence and decide what's true based on the information presented to them.

OBJECT LESSON: EYE WITNESS ACCOUNT

In this activity, you will ask one person to go outside of the room while you act out a story or event for the kids in the room to witness. After this, you will have the group serve as eyewitnesses to what they saw and heard.

Send one person out of the room (a leader or an older, articulate student). Now that they are gone, ask the other students to pay careful attention to what they will see or hear because they will need to be witnesses for the next part of the activity.

(Optional) Use a judge's robe for the person in the hallway to wear and/or give them a gavel as a prop. You might even ask a lawyer to come in and share about evidence/legal ideas of truth. The "judge" will have to weigh the eyewitness accounts and decide what is true.

Act out a scene or some activity including significant details (e.g., Leader A woke up early today and came downstairs to get a cup of coffee and read the paper. After she had breakfast of (her favorite cereal . . . Honeycombs!), the doorbell rang. It was the police, who said that her dog had run away. She thought this was odd since she doesn't have a dog. She told the police that she doesn't have a dog and they left. After she finished getting ready, she went to work. It took her twenty-two minutes to get there because there was a lot of traffic. She arrived at work on time.) Alternatives for this part, besides using the scenario above, include the following three options:

- Show a video clip of an activity.
- Show a detailed poster with lots of activity on it.
- Read a story from the newspaper with a detailed situation that is out of the ordinary.

Use the same methods afterwards for the debriefing.

Have the person come back into the room. Say, **Can anyone tell me what they witnessed while [person's name] was out of the room?** Continue along this line of questioning as a lawyer in court would, trying to get details out of the witnesses.

Have the person who was in the hallway try to determine the truth of what happened as a judge would. He or she might also get to choose a witness and ask them questions about what happened while they were out of the room. The one who was outside the room can then share what they think was true about what happened while they were outside of the room and why they believe that to be the truth.

WRAP IT UP

Say, **Witnesses may say things in different words, but when they share similar concepts we know they are true accounts. Witnesses saw many of the things take place that are written in the Bible. Sometimes these same witnesses were the ones who wrote them down for us to learn of later. Multiple people witnessing something helps us to know that it is true.**

Read 2 Peter 1:20–21. **The Bible is 100 percent accurate because God is the author and eyewitnesses were the writers. God is completely reliable, and we can trust him.**

Pray with the students and dismiss them to small groups.