



# I Wonder...

## LESSON 5: INTERMEDIATE SMALL GROUP

### How can the Bible be good for us when it is so old?

#### MAIN IDEA

Even though the Bible is an ancient book, it is important to people at all times. Not only has it lasted a long time already, but God promises that his Word will last forever. Since it is sure and secure, we can build our lives on the foundation of God's Word, which gives us stability in difficult and changing circumstances.

#### BIBLE PASSAGES

- Psalm 19:7-11
- Matthew 24:35
- Hebrews 4:12
- Isaiah 40:8
- Matthew 7:24-27
- Psalm 119:9
- Hebrews 2:14-1

#### BIBLE VERSE

But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

1 John 1:9, NLT



Prepare your heart to teach.  
Plan for the lesson.



Connect with the kids, and help them feel heard and cared for. (15 minutes)



Facilitate activity and study to help kids know and love Jesus. (20 – 25 minutes)



Lead kids to live out the mission of the Gospel. (5 – 10 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 there any adaptations that you can make to the lesson this week to better serve the kids in your small group or make your small group more effective?

## MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Bible
- Handful of pennies (any coin will work)
- Trick candle
- Matches or a lighter
- Flashlight or battery-operated candle (alternative to candle)
- Set of dominos
- Container of sand
- Cookie pan
- Bible Verse Cards, 1 per child

## Connect



Connect with the kids, and help them feel heard and cared for.  
(15 minutes)

## Small Group Session 1

### ICEBREAKER

Distribute name tags and snacks. Choose one of the following icebreaker activities to do together while children eat their snack:

- Option 1: Ask the children to share their highs and lows (the best and worst things that happened to them either today or from the past week).
- Option 2: Ask the children to take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the "How Are You Feeling?" chart (from the CKC Games Bag).

### PRAY TOGETHER

Collect prayer requests from the students. The leader or a student can pray for the entire group, or a leader can pair up students and invite them to pray for one another.

#### ACTIVITY:

Say, **Today we have been talking about the Bible. Is it a very old book, isn't it?** Ask, **How old is the Bible?** (Almost 2,000 years old)

Put the pennies in the middle of the small group. Allow students to search through the pennies to find the oldest one.

Once students find the oldest one say, **This is the oldest penny that we could find.** Ask, **Is this penny worth any less than the others?**

**Just because this penny is older than the others it doesn't make it any less valuable than the others.**

The Bible is old but it is still valuable. It is much more valuable than a penny and has been around much longer.

**Why is it still helpful for people today?** (It provides spiritual nourishment [vitamins] to people.)

**Will it continue to last into the future?** (Yes)

Look up and read Matthew 24:35 and Isaiah 40:8 with the students.

**What difference do you think it makes in a child's life that the Word of God remains and never changes?** (It is constant. So many things change, but we can depend upon God and his Word because they never change and will always remain.)

## Heart



Facilitate activity and study to help kids know and love Jesus.  
(20 – 25 minutes)

## Small Group Session 2

### OBJECT LESSON: THIS CANDLE WON'T GO OUT

Show the children the trick candle, but do not let them know that it is a trick candle. Light the candle and explain that God's Word is like a light.

**The Word of God, the Bible, shows us what is right and what is wrong. It is a guidebook for life and it provides nourishment to our souls. Throughout the years, many people have tried to put out the light of God's Word (blow on the candle, which will go out and then re-light). It has been outlawed and burned. In the United States, we cannot teach the Bible in public schools. But no matter what laws are made to try and get rid of the Bible, it keeps on shining—because God says that his Word endures forever.**

### THE BIBLE IS AN ENDURING FOUNDATION

Read the story of the wise and foolish builders in Matthew 7:24–27. Ask these questions:

- **Why did one house stand firm in the storm?** (It was built on rock.)
- **What is the rock?** (The Word of Jesus.)
- **What is the sand that the other house was built on?** (Any other philosophies or religions.)
- **Is it enough to know what the Bible says in order to survive the storms of life?** (No, Jesus said we had to put what it says into practice in our lives.)

**We have seen that the Bible is reliable because God is the author. It tells us what God expects of us. It also is good for us and lasts for all time. We can count on it, and build our lives on it.**

**ACTIVITY: BUILDING A STRONG TOWER**

Divide the small group into two groups. Provide one group with some dominos, and allow them to build on a flat surface such as the floor or table. Provide the second group sand placed on a cookie pan (to contain the mess) and some dominos. Instruct each group to build a tower as high as they can.

After each group has finished, gather them together and ask,

- **Which tower is taller?**
- **Which tower is sturdier?**
- **Do any of you live in a house with sand as the foundation?**
- **Why is it important to build your house on a solid foundation?**

**It's important to have a solid foundation or a house won't last long. Many people think they get to choose for themselves what is right and wrong but then there is not a solid foundation.**

**It is important that we use the Bible as our foundation for right as wrong because it doesn't change. Through the Bible, God tells us what is right and wrong. If we aren't using the Bible as a solid foundation for truth then we aren't building our beliefs on something that will last long.**

## Hands



Lead kids to live out the mission of the Gospel.  
(5 – 10 minutes)

## Small Group Session 2

### WRAP IT UP

**Jesus said that the Scriptures pointed to him. If we want to build our lives in God’s way, we need to come to Jesus and ask him to forgive us for our sins and to be the leader of our life.** Explain the Gospel story:

**God created us to be with him. But our sins separate us from God.**

**Sin cannot be removed by good deeds or works. Paying the price for sin Jesus died on the cross and rose again from the dead.**

**Everyone who believes in Jesus alone has eternal life!**

**Life with Jesus starts now and lasts forever!!!**

Ask if any of the students want to invite Jesus to be their Savior. Pray with those who do that they might receive him as their Savior.

### RESPONSE & REFLECTION

Ask the students for any additional prayer requests and pray with them.

(Optional) If time permits, review the Bible verse with the students.