

Large Group



I Wonder...

LESSON 5: LARGE-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.



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:

- Bible
- Bottle of vitamins
- Piece of poster board
- Printouts 1A, 1B, 1C
- Marker
- Tape OR an easel to display poster board

Large Group



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

REVIEW

Quickly review last week's lesson and Bible verse:

- Sin is doing things against God's law or not doing things that God asks us to do.
- Sin makes a mess of our lives and separates us from God.
- When we confess our sins to God and ask for forgiveness through Jesus, he forgives us and cleanses us.
- Review 1 John 1:9, which was last week's Bible verse.

HOW CAN THE BIBLE BE GOOD FOR US?

Tell the students that the Bible is a very old book. **The Bible was written over a period of 1,600 years and was completed about 2,000 years ago. The oldest parts of it are over 3,500 years old!**

Ask, **How can a book that is so old be helpful to us today?**

OBJECT LESSON: VITAMINS

Show the students the bottle of vitamins. (Note: Do NOT give the children any vitamins!) Ask the children to explain what vitamins do and how they help us. For your reference, here is some helpful information about vitamins:

- Vitamin C (like in oranges) helps you heal if you get a cut.
- Vitamin A (like in carrots) helps your eyes to be healthy and to see at night.
- Vitamin D (like in milk) helps your bones to be strong.
- A group of vitamins called the “B vitamins” (found in leafy vegetables) helps your body to have energy.

(Optional) Bring in the healthy food options (i.e., an orange, a carrot, milk, a leafy vegetable) to show students as you explain the vitamins. This could be in place of the bottle of vitamins or in addition to it.

Say, **Vitamins are very important for having a healthy body.**

- **Do you think that people who lived a long time ago needed the same vitamins that we need today? (Yes.)**
- **Do you think that people in the future will still need the same vitamins? (Yes.)**
- **So, vitamins give our body some essential things for it to be healthy and to grow, right?**

God’s Word, the Bible, is a lot like vitamins for the invisible parts of us—our minds and hearts. People long ago benefitted from hearing and reading the Bible, and people today benefit just as much. In fact, the Bible says that it is alive and active!

Read Hebrews 4:12 aloud together.

Ask, **How often do people usually take vitamins?** (Usually every day.)

- **How often should we spend time reading God’s Word?** (Every day.)
- **Why?** (It helps us to grow strong and healthy on the inside.)
- **What can the Bible do for us?**

Tell the students that as a group, you are going to make a list of ways that the Bible benefits us.

ACTIVITY

Have students split into three groups with at least one leader in each group. Give each group a printout, and have them read their assigned portion of Psalm 19:7–12. Read the passage aloud as a group and then ask the students to name some of the benefits described there. List these benefits on paper so that all the children can see the list. After a few minutes have the groups come back and share their list with the whole group. You may want to have a separate poster board to write the list for all students to see. Consider labeling the benefits of “Vitamin W” (as in “Word”). Here are some of the benefits:

- It refreshes our souls (Verse 7).
- It makes us wise (Verse 7).
- It gives us joy (Verse 8).
- It shows us the way to go (gives light) (Verse 8).
- It shows us what is right and wrong (Verse 9).
- There is a great reward for those who obey God’s Word (Verse 11).
- It helps us see our own hearts as they are (Verse 12).

WRAP IT UP

Read Psalm 119:9.

Say, **This Scripture was written by King David, who was one of the most famous kings in the Bible. He understood that if he was going to rule God’s people well, he would need the wisdom and purity that come from knowing God’s Word well.**

You may wish to play some Bible verse games to help the students remember the verse, if time allows.

Pray with the students and dismiss them into small groups.