

CITY SG – September 19th- 20th, 2026

Bible Story: How to Read the Bible • *Matthew 6:11; 2 Timothy 3:16-17*

Bottom Line: I can learn to know God through the Bible.

Monthly Memory Verse: *My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.* • John 10:27 NIV

PRE- SERVICE ACTIVITY

What You Need: puzzle (one box per bin)

What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name with a high-five, fist bump, smile, or wave as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Scatter the puzzle pieces in the center of the group.
- Explain that you are all going to work together to put the puzzle together.
- Encourage them to talk to each other as they work. They can say things like, "I think this piece goes here!" or "Can you help me find the edge pieces?"
- Work together until the puzzle is complete.
- Celebrate your amazing teamwork!

Say:

Great job working together! You took all those little pieces and put them together to make one big picture. In a way, the Bible is like a giant puzzle. It has lots of different parts, but they all fit together to show us one big, amazing picture of who God is. Let's go learn more!

SMALL GROUP TIME

1. Puzzle Piece Review

Bible Story Review

What You Need: "Puzzle Piece Review" Activity Page (print on cardstock and cut out, 1 set per small group)

What You Do:

- Place the mixed-up puzzle pieces in the center of your area.
- Say: "Today we're going to build something together. It's a puzzle, but not just any puzzle! Each piece tells us something true about the Bible. As we put the pieces together, we're going to see a bigger picture of what the Bible is and why it matters."
- Let each kid pick one to two puzzle pieces or pair up with a buddy, depending on the number of kids in the group.
- Say: "Take a look at your piece. If you can read it, try reading it quietly to yourself. If you're not sure what it says, that's okay – I'll help you."
- Go around the group and help each kid read their piece
- Say: "Now let's work together to put all the pieces together. Each piece is important, just like every part of the Bible is important."

- Invite kids to begin assembling the puzzle
- As they work, you may guide with prompts such as:
 - “Where do you think your piece might go?”
 - “Does anyone see pieces that might fit together?”
 - “Let’s help each other. This is something we’re building together!”
- Keep the focus on collaboration over speed. If kids finish quickly, invite them to go back through the pieces and choose one truth to share or explain in their own words.

Say: “That’s what the Bible is like. It’s made up of many parts, but they all connect to tell one big story. God used different people, at different times, to give us the Bible, and every part helps us understand more about Him. Some parts are stories, some are instructions, some are prayers, but all of it helps us see who God is and how He works. And when you read the Bible, you’re not just learning information – you’re getting to know God Himself!”

2. God Help Me Learn

Application Activity

What You Need: Sticky notes, Markers, small poster board or foam board (one per small group)

What You Do:

- Write at the top of the poster board: “God, help me learn...”
- Place the poster board where all kids can reach it.
- Set out sticky notes and coloring supplies.
- Say: “Today we’ve talked about how the Bible helps us learn who God is. And when we pray, we can ask God to help us understand and learn more.”
- Hold up a sticky note. “Each of you will have a sticky note where you will finish the sentence: ‘God, help me learn...’ You can write or draw something you want God to help you learn from the Bible this week.”
- You can give examples such as:
 - “God, help me read my Bible this week.”
 - “God, help me learn more about You.”
 - “God, help me listen to You.”
 - “God, help me make good choices.”
- Hand out sticky notes and coloring supplies.
- Say: “Take a couple of minutes to write or draw your prayer.”
- Walk around and offer support if needed.
- Say: “When you’re ready, come stick your prayer on the board.”
- After all sticky notes are posted, you may read them aloud.

Say: “These are all great prayers. You’re asking God to help you learn and that’s exactly what He wants to do. When you read the Bible, you’re not doing it alone. God is with you, and He helps you understand what you’re reading. And you can talk to Him anytime. You don’t need special words. You can talk to God like a friend – honest, simple, and from your heart. This week, when you read the Bible, you can ask God, ‘Help me understand. Show me who You are.’ Then take a moment to read and listen. Even if it’s just a few minutes, that time matters. God can use it to help you grow and to help you hear His voice more clearly.”

3. Scripture Stack

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, Plastic cups with one word on the verse on each one. (one set per bin)

What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
 - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - Read the memory verse to the group.
 - *"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."* • John 10:27
- Repeat the Memory Verse out loud together several times.
- Hold up the stack of cups. Say: "These cups have the words of our Memory Verse – but they're all mixed up! We're going to work together to stack them into a pyramid in the correct order. We'll start with five cups on the bottom, then four, then three, then two, and one on top."
- Unstack and spread cups out where kids can see all of them.
- Say: "Let's find the very first word of the verse. Does anyone think they might know which word is first?"
- Invite kids up one at a time as they recognize the right words. Allow kids to use their Bibles if they wish.
- Continue building left to right until five cups form the base.
- Say: "Great! Now let's build the next row with four cups."
- Invite kids to continue placing cups in order.
- Continue pattern. Say: "Let's keep building three on this row. Now two more. And one on top to finish it!"
- Keep reinforcing the verse as you go.
- Once finished, point from bottom to top. Say: "Let's read the whole verse together from the bottom to the top."

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL:

PRAY

- Ask, "Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? (*Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises*)"
- "Dear God, thank You for giving us the Bible. Thank You that it teaches us what is true and helps us know who You are. Thank You for each of these prayers. You know what every person here wants to learn. Please help us understand Your Word. Help us keep reading, keep asking questions, and keep listening to You. We want to know You better. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."
- Remind the kids that when they leave, their parents should get a text message on their phones telling them what we learned this week. AND they will get a link to an activity they can do at home and bring back for a PRIZE!

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive, remind kids to make time to read the Bible and listen for God's voice this week!