



Need to Know: *What the Bible Says, God Says*

Bible Story: *The Bible Is God's Word (2 Peter 1:20-21; 2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

Circle Up



1. WELCOME kids to our series, "Mystery Manor," and TELL them your name. Then SAY: *In this series, we're like detectives, searching for clues that will help us solve a mystery and find answers to questions we have about God! The first step in solving today's mystery is to get to know each other. We'll go around the circle and when it's your turn, share your name and the name of the best book you've ever read.*
2. ALLOW each child to share.
3. SAY: *Those are all great books! But there is one book that is a bigger deal than all the rest! It's such a big deal because God, Himself, wrote it using the hands of people! Who thinks they know what book I'm talking about? (ALLOW responses) That's right! It's the Bible, and today we're learning that what the Bible says, God says! So say this after me:*

What the Bible Says, God Says

Read the Bible



1. SAY: *To help us solve today's mystery, let's look for clues in the Bible and find out why it's such a big deal!*
 2. GIVE each child a **Detective Notes Sheet** and PLACE the **drawing utensils** in the center of the group.
 3. READ the **Bible Story Sheet** to the group, allowing them to fill in their **Detective Notes** as you read. Then, ASK:
 - *True or False: the Bible is God's way of speaking to us. (True) Yes! Reading the Bible helps us to know who God is and what He wants to say to us! It's one of the ways we can listen to God and hear His voice.*
 - *We used God's Word to help us solve a mystery, and now we know that the words we find in the Bible are so special because what the Bible says, God says!*
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Let's Practice



Option 1: Guess Who

1. SAY: *Let's play a game called "Guess Who"! You may have played this on your own before, but we're playing it a little differently today. We're going to play with real people!*
2. DIVIDE kids into two teams. HAVE teams secretly choose one child to be "it." Then HAVE teams stand in a line, facing each other.
3. HAVE teams take turns asking the other team a yes or no question, just like in the traditional game of Guess Who. For example: "Does your person have blonde hair?"
 - If the team answers "Yes," then every member who does not have blonde hair will sit.
 - If the team answers, "No," then every member who does have blonde hair will sit.
4. PLAY until one team guesses who "it" is on the other team. Then ASK the winning team a question from the **Leader Guide**.
5. PLAY again, having teams pick someone new to be "it." Each time a team guesses who "it" is on the other team, HAVE them answer a question from the **Leader Guide**.
6. PLAY at least 3-5 rounds as time allows.
7. SAY: *We don't ever have to "Guess Who" God is because He tells us all about Himself in the Bible. All we have to do is read it. Let's say what we need to know today one more time:*

What the Bible Says, God Says

Option 2: Group Discussion

1. SHARE with the group about your favorite scripture and what it means to you. **MAKE SURE** what you share is appropriate for the age group.
 2. GENERATE additional group discussion by asking:
 - *Why is it so important to read God's Word?*
 - *What are some things you know about God's Word?*
 - *Do you think knowing God's Word makes a difference in your every day life? Why?*
 3. Then REVIEW the Need to Know together: *What the Bible Says, God Says*
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Memorize It 4

1. SAY: *When we have questions about who God is, we can look in the Bible for answers! There's a verse in the Bible that tells us what we'll find when we search for clues about God! Say it after me:*
"But without faith (cover eyes)
no one can please God. (shake head)
We must believe (hand over heart)
that God is real (two thumbs up)
and that He rewards everyone (hand out in front)
who searches for Him." (make binoculars with hands)
Hebrews 11:6 (make book with hands)
 2. PRACTICE saying the verse with the group two times, having them repeat each line.
 3. ALLOW each child to roll the **die**. Whatever number the **die** lands on, HAVE the child choose that number of people to say the memory verse with him or her.
 4. CONTINUE playing as time allows.
 5. TELL kids that they have this entire series to learn this verse, and if they do, they will win a prize!
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Let's Pray 5

ASK your group for any prayer requests. Then PRAY the following for your group:

- Thank God for giving us the Bible
 - That they would grow to love and understand God's Word
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Stay Together 6

KEEP kids engaged in Small Group until they are checked out by doing the following activities:

- PLAY "I Spy" by allowing one child to spy something in the room and describe it to the group. ALLOW the group five guesses to see if they can determine what it is. CONTINUE playing, allowing different kids to spy an object.
- PLAY "Clue Collectors" using the **die**.
 - CHOOSE a category. (Example: Animals, Movies, Places)
 - ALLOW kids to take turns rolling the **die** and naming that number of things from the category. ENCOURAGE them to help each other when needed.
 - CONTINUE playing until everyone in the group has had a turn.
 - COUNT how many clues the group collects in a category.