

BIBLE PASSAGE

Acts 17:1-12

LIFE POINT

People at church read and learn from the Bible.

CHRIST FOCUS

The Bible tells about Jesus.

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

People at church worship by singing, talking to God, and listening to Bible stories.

SUGGESTED USE DATE: July 16**BIBLE VERSE**All God's words are true.
Psalm 119:160 (*Paraphrase*)The entirety of your word is truth.
Psalm 119:160 (*CSB*)Thy word is true from the beginning.
Psalm 119:160 (*KJV*)All your words are true.
Psalm 119:160 (*NIV*)The sum of your word is truth.
Psalm 119:160 (*ESV*)The entirety of Your word is truth.
Psalm 119:160 (*NKJV*)**UNIT 2: PEOPLE AT CHURCH***Session 3: Bereans Studied the Scriptures***SCHEDULE AND PROPS****Huddle Ups** (*optional; time varies*)
Supplies (*for each small group*):

- "I See a Bible"—several Bibles (*different colors and sizes*)
- "Bereans Studied the Scriptures"—crayons, coloring sheets (*1 per child*)
- "Spell Bible Words"—index cards, marker, magnet letters or letter blocks

Countdown Video (*3 minutes*)
Props: none**Worship Song** (*3 minutes*)
Props: none**Welcome and Prayer** (*5 minutes*)
Props: none**Connection Point Game**
(*10 minutes*)
Props: painter's tape**Worship Song** (*3 minutes*)
Props: none**Bible Story** (*10 minutes*)

Props: Bible, child's fiction book, child's nonfiction book

Worship Song and Offering
(*3 minutes*)
Props: none**Connection Point Bible Verse**
(*5-8 minutes*)
Props: none**Connection Point Missions**
(*5-8 minutes*)
Props: none**Real Life Connections**
(*3-5 minutes*)
Props: none**MUSIC AND MEDIA**

- **Countdown:**
Countdown video
- **Worship Song:**
"Church, Church, Church, Let's Go!"
- **Welcome and Prayer:**
Life Point and *Bible Verse* slides
- **Connection Point Game:**
Connection Point Game slide
- **Worship Song:**
"Just Like Jesus"
- **Bible Story:**
Bible Story and *Christ Focus* slides; *Bible Story Time* video (*optional*)
- **Worship Song and Offering:**
Worship song of your choice
- **Connection Point Bible Verse:**
Connection Point Bible Verse and *Bible Verse* slides
- **Connection Point Missions:**
Connection Point Missions and *Connect to Missions* slides
- **Real Life Connections:**
Real Life Connections and *Life Point* slides

HUDDLE UPS (OPTIONAL)

Huddle Ups are for churches that have a drop-off time before the session begins or a pick-up time as parents arrive at the end of the session. It's a great time for interaction with a small group leader through games, conversations, or review questions. Play the countdown video to signal the end of Huddle Ups and the beginning of the session.

- ➔ Estimated time: varies according to schedule
- ➔ Tech: none
- ➔ People: Small Group Leaders
- ➔ Supplies (for each small group):
 - "I See a Bible"—several Bibles (different colors and sizes)
 - "Bereans Studied the Scriptures"—crayons, coloring sheets (1 per child)
 - "Spell Bible Words"—index cards, marker, magnet letters or letter blocks

HUDDLE UP (BEFORE THE SESSION)

"I SEE A BIBLE"

Prep: Hide several Bibles of different colors and sizes around the Huddle Up area.

- Tell the preschoolers there are several Bibles hidden around the Huddle Up area.
- Say: "I see a Bible. Its color is _____, and its size is _____. Do you see what I see?"
- Challenge preschoolers to find the Bible that you describe.
- Lead preschoolers to bring the Bible back to you.
- Continue the game until preschoolers find all of the Bibles.
- Gather the children and open the Bibles.
- Explain that the words in the Bible are from God.
- Tell preschoolers that the stories in the Bible are true—they really happened!
- Mention that people at church worship by singing, talking to God, and listening to Bible stories.
- If time allows, hide the Bibles and play again.

HUDDLE UP (BEFORE OR AFTER THE SESSION) "BEREANS STUDIED THE SCRIPTURES"

Prep: Print this session's coloring sheet (available on the DVD-ROM).

- Tell preschoolers that Paul and Silas went to a town called Berea (*buh-REE-uh*). The people heard Paul teach about Jesus, and they read God's Word.
- Distribute crayons and coloring sheets.
- Invite preschoolers to color on their pages while they wait for the session to begin.

HUDDLE UP (AFTER THE SESSION) "SPELL BIBLE WORDS"

Prep: Write 1 word per index card: Bible, God, Paul, Silas, true, read, Jesus.

- Review the Life Point: **People at church read and learn from the Bible.**
- Invite preschoolers to tell what they remember about today's Bible story.
- Say: "The people heard Paul and Silas teach about Jesus! The people read God's words. Many believed that Jesus is God's Son."
- Show an index card and read aloud the word.
- Point to the letters and lead preschoolers to name them. (*Assist as needed.*)
- Pour the magnet letters or letter blocks onto the floor or a table.
- Challenge preschoolers to work together to find the letters that spell the word.
- Show a new word and play again.
- Continue until preschoolers spell all of the words.
- Remind preschoolers that all of the words in the Bible come from God.

COUNTDOWN VIDEO

- ➔ Estimated time: 3 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Countdown* video
- ➔ People: none
- ➔ Props: none

(Play the Countdown video to signal the beginning of worship time. Kids will count aloud as they join the large group.)

WORSHIP SONG

- ➔ Estimated time: 3 minutes
- ➔ Tech: Music video, mics for singers, lights *(optional)*
- ➔ Music: “Church, Church, Church, Let’s Go!” *(lead sheet available on DVD-ROM)* or download a worship song of your choice
- ➔ People: Worship Leader and/or Worship Team
- ➔ Props: none

WORSHIP LEADER

Who is excited to be at church today? Let me hear you shout! *(Allow kids to respond.)* Wow! You sound VERY excited! Let’s stand and sing about going to church!

(Show the music video.)

(Kids stand to sing.)

WELCOME AND PRAYER

- ➔ Estimated time: 5 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Life Point* and *Bible Verse* slides
- ➔ People: Bible Story Leader
- ➔ Props: none

BIBLE STORY LEADER

Hi, everyone! I’m happy to see you at church! What are some things that people do at church? *(Allow for responses.)* Nice thinking! People at church sing songs, give money, and pray. Today we will hear that people at church also read and learn from the Bible.

(Show Life Point slide.)

People at church read and learn from the Bible.
Let’s say that together: **“People at church read and learn from the Bible.”**

The Bible is not like other books. The Bible is special because the words are from God.

All of the words in the Bible are true. That means they really happened! Listen as I say today’s Bible verse, and then we will say it together.

(Show Bible Verse slide—select preferred version.)

(Say the verse. Lead kids to repeat it after you.)

BIBLE VERSE (SELECT PREFERRED VERSION):

- All God’s words are true.
Psalm 119:160 *(Paraphrase)*
- The entirety of your word is truth.
Psalm 119:160 *(CSB)*
- Thy word is true from the beginning.
Psalm 119:160 *(KJV)*
- All your words are true. Psalm 119:160 *(NIV)*
- The sum of your word is truth. Psalm 119:160 *(ESV)*
- The entirety of Your word is truth.
Psalm 119:160 *(NKJV)*

We can hear Bible stories and learn the things that God wants us to know. Let’s thank God for the Bible as we pray.

God, thank You for the Bible. We love to hear Bible stories and learn about Jesus. Please help us listen and learn from Your words in the Bible. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.

CONNECTION POINT GAME

- ➔ Estimated time: 10 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Connection Point Game* slide
- ➔ People: Connection Point Leader, 6 kids
- ➔ Props: painter’s tape

GAME INSTRUCTIONS:

- *Tape a start line on the floor.*
- *Tape a second parallel line several feet away from the start line.*
- *Choose 6 kids.*
- *Instruct kids to stand along the start line.*
- *Make 1 of the following statements.*
 - *Jesus is God’s Son. (true)*
 - *The words in the Bible are true. (true)*
 - *Cats moo. (Not true; cats meow or purr.)*
 - *The Bible only has pictures. (Not true; the Bible contains God’s words.)*

- *The sun shines in the daytime. (true)*
- *The Bible teaches about Jesus. (true)*
- *Most birds fly and build nests. (true)*
- *People cannot read the Bible. (Not true; people at church read and learn from the Bible.)*
- *The Bible is special because its words are from God. (true)*
- *The Bible tells how to play “Hide and Seek.” (Not true; the Bible tells about Jesus.)*
- *Lead players to take 1 step forward if the statement is true or stand in place if the statement is false.*
- *Play until a child reaches the second line.*
- *If time allows, choose new players and play again.*

CONNECTION POINT LEADER

(Show Connection Point Game slide.)

Let’s think about things that are true and not true. If something really happened, it is true. Is it true that you came to church today? *(Allow for responses.)* Yes! It is true because it really happened.

If something is not true, then it did not happen. Is it true that I have ice cream on my head? *(Allow for responses.)* No, that didn’t happen! It is not true.

Let’s play a game and decide if things are true or not true. Who would like to play? *(Choose six kids. Lead kids to stand along the start line.)*

Players, I will say something, and you must decide if it is true or not true. If it is true, take one big step. If what I say is not true, stand very still. The first person to move all the way to the second line will be the winner!

Does everyone know what to do? *(Answer any questions and play the game.)*

Today’s Bible verse says that all of God’s words are true. We can know that the words in the Bible are right and good. **People at church read and learn from the Bible.**

Let’s sing another worship song. After we sing, we will hear how Paul and Silas taught people about God’s true words.

WORSHIP SONG

- ➔ Estimated time: 3 minutes
- ➔ Tech: Music video, mics for singers, lights *(optional)*
- ➔ Music: “Just Like Jesus” *(lead sheet available on DVD-ROM)* or download a worship song of your choice
- ➔ People: Worship Leader and/or Worship Team
- ➔ Props: none

WORSHIP LEADER

You did a good job deciding what words were true and not true! I know something that is true. Would you like to hear it? *(Allow for responses.)* I like to sing about Jesus! That is true! I know that you like singing about Jesus, too. Let’s all stand together and sing. After we sing, we will hear today’s Bible story.

(Show the music video.)

(Lead kids to sit as song ends.)

BIBLE STORY

- ➔ Estimated time: 10 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Christ Focus*, and *Bible Story* slides; *Bible Story Time* video *(optional)*
- ➔ People: Bible Story Leader
- ➔ Props: Bible, child’s fiction book, child’s nonfiction book

Option 1: *Show the Bible Story Time video and conclude with a short prayer.*

God, thank You that Your Words in the Bible are true. Thank You that we can read the Bible and hear Bible stories. Please help us learn the things that You want us to know. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.

Option 2: *Tell the following Bible story.*

BIBLE STORY LEADER

(Show Bible Story slide.)

Do you like to read and look at books? *(Allow for responses.)* I do, too! I’ve brought some of my very favorite books to show you. Two of these books are about things that could really happen. They are

about things that are TRUE. One book is fun to read, but it's about things that can't really happen. It is NOT TRUE.

Let me show you. *(Show the nonfiction book.)* This book is called _____. It is about _____. Do you think this book is true or not true? *(Allow for responses.)* You are right! This book is true.

Here's another book I like to read. *(Show the fiction book.)* It's called _____. This book is about _____. Can those things REALLY happen? *(Allow for responses.)* No, this story is just for fun. It's not true.

This next Book is my very favorite. *(Show the Bible.)* It's called the Bible. All of the words in the Bible are from God. Do you think the Bible is true or not true? *(Allow for responses.)* The Bible is true! The stories in the Bible really happened! People at church read and learn from the Bible.

Let's read a true story from the Bible, right now! Today's story is about a group of people who heard God's words and believed in Jesus.

(Open the Bible to Acts 17.)

Paul and his friend, Silas, went from place to place and told people about Jesus.

One day Paul and Silas went to the city of Thessalonica (*theh-suh-lo-NAI-kuh*). Just like always, Paul went to the church and taught about Jesus. Some people believed what Paul said about Jesus, but other people became angry. They didn't like the things that Paul said.

(Read Acts 17:8.)

The crowd and city officials who heard these things were upset.

That night Paul and Silas went to another town where they would be safe. They went to a town called Berea (*buh-REE-uh*).

Can you guess what Paul and Silas did when they got to Berea? *(Allow for responses.)* They went to the church and taught about Jesus. The people in Berea listened to Paul and wanted to learn more about Jesus. They heard Paul teach, and they read God's words.

(Read Acts 17:12.)

Many of them believed, including ... women as well as men.

(Close the Bible.)

Paul and Silas wanted everyone to know that God's words were true! They read God's words and told people everywhere about Jesus.

How do YOU learn about Jesus? *(Allow for responses.)* You have parents and church leaders who teach you about the Bible!

(Show Christ Focus slide.)

The Bible tells about Jesus. You can read about the things Jesus said and did. You can hear stories about Jesus' friends and the places where Jesus went. Hearing Bible stories helps you learn about Jesus and be more like Him!

Do you hear Bible stories at church? *(Allow for responses.)* Yes, you do! Do you hear Bible stories at home? *(Allow for responses.)* You can read the Bible at home with your family! If your Bible has pictures, you can look at your Bible all by yourself. As you keep growing and learning, you'll soon be able to READ God's words, too!

I really like books, but the Bible is my very favorite! Thanks for letting me read a Bible story to you. Let's pray together.

God, thank You that Your Words in the Bible are true. Thank You that we can read the Bible and hear Bible stories. Please help us learn the things that You want us to know. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

WORSHIP SONG AND OFFERING

- ➡ Estimated time: 3 minutes
- ➡ Tech: mics for singers, lights *(optional)*
- ➡ Music: Use a favorite song or download a worship song of your choice.
- ➡ People: Worship Leader and/or Worship Team
- ➡ Props: none

WORSHIP LEADER

All of the words in the Bible are true, and they really happened. It's important to read and learn from the

Bible. You can read the Bible and hear Bible stories at church, at home, and everywhere you go!

Optional Giving Segment:

It's time to give an offering. Some of the money that people give at church helps others hear and learn from the Bible. If you would like to give an offering today, ...

(Give your own directions for how the kids can give their offerings. After you collect the offering, guide kids to stand for the worship song.)

CONNECTION POINT BIBLE VERSE

- ➔ Estimated time: 5-8 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Connection Point Bible Verse* and *Bible Verse* slides
- ➔ People: Connection Point Leader, all kids
- ➔ Props: none

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

- *Select your preferred version of the Bible verse.*
- *Say the verse and lead kids to repeat it after you.*
- *Lead preschoolers to stand around the perimeter of the room.*
- *Name 1 of the following descriptions:*
 - *Boys*
 - *Girls*
 - *Kids with pets*
 - *Kids with brothers or sisters*
 - *Kids with no brothers or sisters*
 - *Kids who can tie their shoes*
 - *Kids who like carrots*
 - *Kids who can ride a bike*
 - *Kids who sleep with a doll or stuffed animal*
- *Lead all kids who fit the description to quickly move to the center of the room, say together the Bible verse, and return to their places.*
- *Occasionally, call the word: "All," leading all of the children to move to the center of the room and say together the verse.*
- *Play as time allows.*

BIBLE VERSE (SELECT PREFERRED VERSION):

- All God's words are true.
Psalm 119:160 (*Paraphrase*)
- The entirety of your word is truth.
Psalm 119:160 (*CSB*)
- Thy word is true from the beginning.
Psalm 119:160 (*KJV*)
- All your words are true. Psalm 119:160 (*NIV*)
- The sum of your word is truth. Psalm 119:160 (*ESV*)
- The entirety of Your word is truth.
Psalm 119:160 (*NKJV*)

CONNECTION POINT LEADER

(Show Connection Point Bible Verse slide.)

It's time to say our Bible verse! Listen as I say the verse, and then we will say it together.

(Show Bible Verse slide—select preferred version.)

(Say the verse. Lead kids to repeat it after you.)

The verse tells us that ALL of the words in the Bible are true. They are God's words! God's words teach us how to do what is right. The Bible tells us the things that God wants us to know.

(Lead the activity.)

CONNECTION POINT MISSIONS

- ➔ Estimated time: 5-8 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Connection Point Missions* and *Connect to Missions* slides
- ➔ People: Connection Point Leader
- ➔ Props: none

CONNECTION POINT LEADER

(Show Connection Point Missions slide.)

Amer and Victoria Safadi tell people in Cincinnati, Ohio about Jesus. Many people who live in Cincinnati do not go to church.

(Show the Connect to Missions slide.)

(Direct attention to the slide.) This is a picture of Cincinnati. It is a big city! Let's pretend to take a trip to visit Cincinnati.

- First, we need to pack a suitcase! (*Pretend to pack.*) Put everything you'll need in your suitcase, and don't forget your toothbrush!
- How should we get to Cincinnati? Should we drive a car or fly in an airplane? (*Pretend to drive or fly.*)
- We're here! (*Put hands to eyes like binoculars.*) What do you think we'll see in Cincinnati? (*Allow for responses.*)
- (*Cup hand around ear.*) What do you think we'll hear in the big city? (*Allow for responses.*)
- What can we tell the people about Jesus? (*Cross arms over chest.*) We can say: "Jesus loves you!"

What a fun trip! Maybe one day we can really go to Cincinnati. That's what Amer and Victoria did! They started a new church there, and they invited people to come and learn about Jesus. Let's pray for Amer and Victoria.

God, we pray for the people in Cincinnati. Please help Amer and Victoria tell people the good news about Jesus. We pray that the people will read and learn from the Bible. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

REAL LIFE CONNECTIONS

- ➔ Estimated time: 3-5 minutes
- ➔ Tech: *Real Life Connections* and *Life Point* slides
- ➔ People: Bible Story Leader
- ➔ Props: none

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:

- Name 1 of the following times that preschoolers can hear Bible stories:
 - *I can hear Bible stories at church.*
 - *I can hear Bible stories while in my bed.*
 - *I can hear Bible stories while riding in the car.*
 - *I can hear Bible stories before I play outside.*
 - *I can hear Bible stories while I look at the stars.*
- Explain that if you name a time to hear Bible stories in the daytime, kids should hold their arms above their head to make a sun. If you name a time to hear Bible stories at nighttime, kids should pretend to sleep.

- Make a statement and lead preschoolers to respond. (Note that some statements may refer to both day and night.)
- Play until preschoolers respond to each statement.
- Emphasize that people can hear Bible stories and read the Bible anytime!

BIBLE STORY LEADER

(Show *Real Life Connections* slide.)

I'm thinking of a special Book. Its words are from God, and all of the stories are true. What is the Book? (*Allow for responses.*) That's right! It's the Bible!

People at church worship by singing, talking to God, and listening to Bible stories. The Bible tells about Jesus and teaches us the things that God wants us to know. Let's play a game to think about the times when we can hear Bible stories.

(Lead the activity.)

(Show *Life Point Slide*.)

People at church read and learn from the Bible.

Let's say that together: "**People at church read and learn from the Bible.**"

I'm excited that you came to church and heard a Bible story! I hope you'll come to hear another story very soon. See you next time!

Leader note: *If you plan to utilize the after-session Huddle Up, dismiss kids to their small groups.*