

**Date:** July 2, 2017 (Poetry)

**Scripture Passage:** Psalm 1:1-3; Proverbs 1:5-6, 5:1,6; Isaiah 1:2-3

**Lesson Theme:** In this session, we learned how to properly interpret poetry in Scripture according to its use of language. Poetry uses figurative language and it is important to recognize that poetry uses words in a way that is not literal. One must recognize the figure of speech and discover how it is being used. Poetry also addresses the emotions and it is important to find out the tone that the author is using in order to understand the meaning. In addition, poetry uses similar expressions to communicate a central truth. The reader must find the central point and identify how the similar expressions reveal different aspects of that point. Overall, disciples of Jesus must highly value His written Word, and poetry is one type of passage for us to absorb the brilliance of God.

**Family Discussion Questions:**

1. How does the figurative language in poetry add to the meaning?
2. Do you find the poetry in Scripture easy or difficult to read and interpret? Why?
3. Why do you think some of the Scriptures were written in the form of poetry?

**Date:** July 9, 2017 (Gospels)

**Scripture Passage:** John 1:14, Mark 1:1-15, John 20:30-31,

**Lesson Theme:** In this session, we sought to understand where to identify the Gospels in the Bible and explain the purpose of the gospel message. The four Gospels in the New Testament (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) are critical for understanding who Jesus is and what He has done. This is the reason the word gospel means "good news." The good news of Jesus is that He came into the world fully God and fully man. Though the four Gospels have differences in their presentation of biographical material, the message is consistent. First they will look at the gospel through Mark and how he was sharing with the Roman crowd. They will then move onto John and believing His name. This book is showing the importance to believe and trust in the name of Jesus.

**Family Discussion Questions:**

1. Why would using the Old Testament be important when looking at the life of Jesus?
2. How many gospels are there in the New Testament?
3. What would you emphasize if you were to write a testament of Jesus? Who would your audience be?

**Date:** July 16, 2017 (Acts)

**Scripture Passage:** Acts 1:8, Acts 1:1-8, Philemon 24, Colossians 4:14, 2 Timothy 4:11, Luke 1:3, Acts 2:1-13, Acts 20:17-24, John 14:16-30

**Lesson Theme:** In this session, we sought to understand the importance of the book of Acts and identify characteristics of the piece. Acts begins as a sequel to Luke and writing a history of the early church. Also looking at the Day of Pentecost, the Apostle Paul, and the Holy Spirit. How we respond to this message is crucial to our witness. The gospel meets us where we are, but we do not remain there. After we are saved, we can expect change, growth, and especially going. The church is still going, making disciples of all nations.

**Family Discussion Questions:**

1. Why is the Holy Spirit important for the apostles?
2. What are some specific reasons Jesus promised the Holy Spirit?
3. How does the gospel story continue in your life?

**Date:** July 23, 2017 (Epistles)

**Scripture Passage:** John 1:1-12, Romans 12:1, Hebrews 12:1-3, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 1 John 1:5-7

**Lesson Theme:** In this session, we learned how the wide range of epistles in the New Testament address the church body. Although they were written to the early church, they speak clearly to the church today, addressing spiritual issues in the church both now and then. The letters call Christians to live disciplined lives, but the purpose is not to give a list of rules by which to gain God's favor. God already loves each believer with perfect love. Rather, each believer should desire to obey God out of gratitude for Christ's sacrificial death. Through



obedience, one grows in the process of sanctification and the letters should encourage us with the Gospel message.

**Family Discussion Questions:**

1. How are the messages in the epistles still relevant to the church today?
2. What does walking with God look like in your life?
3. In what ways can we as a family walk more in the light, as mentioned in John 1:1-12?

**Date:** July 30, 2017 (OT Application)

**Scripture Passage:** Ezra 7:10, Exodus 19:1-6, Exodus 20: 1-17, Deuteronomy 8:1-5

**Lesson Theme:** In this session, we sought to understand how to use basic resources to study using the Old Testament. We will look at the importance of not just reading the Bible, but studying it and applying it. Through a variety of different points, the students will practice this in today's lesson with the story of God leading his people out of Egypt.

**Family Discussion Questions:**

1. What is the value of studying the Bible rather than simply reading it?
2. What are some resources (both print and digital) you can use to study God's Word?
3. How does cross-referencing phrases in other biblical passages help us to more fully understand the meaning of the phrases?

