

THE VERY WORDS OF GOD...FOR YOU!



THEOLOGICAL QUESTION

Is the Bible really God's Word, and how does it affect my life?

BIG IDEA

The Bible is the Word of God. It has the power to change lives, and when we have questions about the Bible we should confidently pursue their answers, because Scripture is reliable and helps us grow in wisdom and truth.

SCRIPTURE USED

Job 5:9: *He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be counted.*

Mathew 5:17: *Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose.*

Matthew 5:18: *I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God's law will disappear until its purpose is achieved.*

John 17:17: *Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth.*

For this lesson you will need:

- Bibles (enough for each student to have one)
- Paper and pens for the opening game, "Is It In There?"
- Card stock (preferred) or paper for printing out the Bible cards found at the end of this lesson
- OPTIONAL: Scissors for your group to use; Prizes for the game winners

OPENER

Play "Is It In There?" Use the questions below to play this true or false game. Make sure that the general "sentiment" is not what you are talking about. Students should only mark "true" if it is actually what the Bible says. Here are a few suggestions / ways you could play the game. Just be sure to read the explanations for each answer (or the verse references) when you move through the answers and "grade" them:

1. You can ask students to take out a sheet of paper because it is "Quiz Time" and have them number their paper from 1-15. You read the statements and ask them to write down if they believe it is true or false.
2. You can partner students up, and ask them to write a large capital "T" on one sheet of paper and a large capital "F" on another sheet of paper. You will read the statements, then ask each team to decide (in no more than 5-10 seconds) and then when you say, "answers, please" every team should hold up their choice. Prizes for the team(s) with the most correct answer are optional.
3. If your group enjoys physical activity, you can incorporate the opening True / False game into a pickup game of basketball or dodge ball. Instead of traditional points, anytime a team "scores" they win the opportunity to earn a point by answering one of the True / False statements (while the other team remains silent). However, if they are incorrect, automatically award the point to the other team!

Is It In There? Bible True or False Game

1. **This too shall pass.** While the Bible does provide a lot of encouragement during trials and this whole world is temporal anyways, this is NOT a direct quote from the Bible. In Corinthians Paul mentions that Jesus' grace is sufficient for our weaknesses. Still, this statement is not in the Bible. FALSE
2. **Cleanliness is next to godliness.** Nope, it is just an old adage that has been used for centuries. Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, however, so they are worth taking care of. FALSE
3. **Money is the root of all evil.** First Timothy 6:10 is often misquoted, and unfortunately this dramatically changes its meaning. The verse says that the love of money is "the root of all kinds of evil." Meaning, that the love of money can lead you to several different sins. That is not the same as saying money causes all evil! FALSE
4. **There is a talking donkey in the Bible.** Actually, when Balaam tried to disobey God and his donkey resisted, Balaam got angry and beat the donkey. God allowed the donkey to speak to Balaam asking why he was beating him when Balaam was in the wrong! (Numbers 22:20-29) TRUE
5. **God helps those who help themselves.** This is borrowed from Greek literature, and there are several theological problems with a lifestyle that is all about "helping oneself!" FALSE