

**Notes for How to Teach Your Children
to Love and Understand God's Word**
Session 4 Friday 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

- God's Word
 - 66 books and letters, at least 50 authors, span of 2000 years!
 - 39 books in the OT - history, law, poetry, and prophecies of God's people, the Israelites.
 - 27 books in the NT - history and teaching of Jesus and the early Church.
 - OT written in Hebrew; NT Greek.

1. Exemplify for your children a love for and understanding of God's Word (Deut 6:5; Prov 23:26).

2. Teach your children why God's Word is so important.

- The Bible contains knowledge that we can only know because God has revealed it.
- The Bible is inspired by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:19–21).
- The Bible is trustworthy (inerrant).
- The Bible is authoritative.
- The Bible is sufficient (2 Timothy 3:16).

3. Teach your children the benefits of knowing and obeying God's Word

- We are blessed (Psalm 1:1–3).
- We are vibrant and fruitful (Psalm 1:1–3).
- We become wise for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:14–17).
- We become mature, equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:14–17).
- We are built up (Acts 28:32).
- We are given the inheritance among the sanctified (Acts 28:32).
- Our souls are revived (Psalm 19:7–11).
- We are made wise (Psalm 19:7–11).
- We have joy in our hearts (Psalm 19:7–11).
- Our eyes are enlightened (Psalm 19:7–11).
- We are warned (Psalm 19:7–11).
- We have great reward for keeping it (Psalm 19:7–11).
- We are kept pure (Psalm 119:9–11).
- We are given power in prayer (John 15:7).

4. Teach your children to pray God's Word (John 5:39–40).

- Praying the Bible means immediately responding to the words and ideas in the Bible through prayer.
- Talk to God about what you are reading.
- Whitney, Donald S. 2015. Praying the Bible. Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway.

5. Teach your children to read God's Word.

- Expose yourself to the entire Bible.
- Ask specific questions.
 1. Summarize the story or teaching in one to three sentences.
 2. What can I learn about the character and ways of God from these verses?
 3. What examples of obedience or faith do I find in these verses ?
 4. Do I have any questions that require further study?

5. How is God speaking to me through this Scripture?
 6. What am I going to do in response to his leading?
 7. Write or voice a prayer to God in response to what he has shown you.
- Journal as you read the Bible.
 - Study a topic.

6. Teach your children to memorizing God's Word (Luke 4:1–13)

7. Teach your children to study God's Word.

- There are three basic steps to understanding the Bible:
 1. Find out what the author was originally saying to his audience. This is sometimes called "exegesis."
 2. Identify the truth principles. A truth principle is something that is always true for all people. This is sometimes broadly called "theology," which means "the study of God."
 3. Identify appropriate ways to apply the truth principles to our lives. We will refer to this as "application."
- Identify the original meaning
 - Study Words
 - Study the structure of sentences and paragraphs
 - Write down observations and questions
 - Study the structure of a book
 - Study the history of a book.
 - Summarize the message: What is the author trying to say to his audience?
- Identify the Truth Principles (Romans 15:4; 1 Corinthians 10:11)
 - Compare Scripture with Scripture
- Apply Truth to Your Life