

3

KNOWING GOD 2

Section: Knowing God

Unit: The Second Person of the One God –
The Son Through Whom We Live, unit 2 of 3

ASSIGNMENTS

- **MISSION** – Your JG should be preparing for the upcoming service project.

EXERCISES

- Review memory verse of the week and discuss how it relates to the **TRUTH** section.

DISCUSSIONS

- **TRUTH** – Discuss any of the **IN BIBLE** questions you choose, but don't take time to discuss them all. Ask your JG to share their personal applications of the verses you do discuss. Their personal applications should start with the word "I" – e.g. "I will (with God's help) ..." If they haven't written down personal applications, or if their applications aren't specific and measurable, coach them on doing this. Application is the hardest thing the student of the Bible has to learn. Here are some tips for discussion:
 - **DANIEL 7:13-14** – The phrase "son of man" simply means that the person Daniel saw was a man, so it is certain that this figure is a human being. On the other hand, no human being has ever been ushered into the presence of God because of man's sinfulness. The fact that this figure appears before God in this way indicates that he is perfectly sinless at the least. In addition, the fact that this figure is pictured coming on the clouds is an indication of deity. Clouds and smoke are frequent Old Testament indications of the manifest presence of God.
 - **ISAIAH 9:1-7 & MATTHEW 4:12-17** – Isaiah's prophecy hints that the child to be born would more than human by the image of light shining on those in darkness, the divine titles (e.g. "Mighty God"), and the promise of an eternal reign on David's throne. This person would bring the blessings of spiritual prosperity, deliverance from oppression, a just and righteous rule, eternal peace, all of which signal the arrival of the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 4:17).

- **MATTHEW 1:18-25** – The name **Jesus** – *He will save* – indicates that the Christ would be a Savior from the power of sin. The name **Immanuel** – *God with us* – shows that Mary's son would be the human manifestation of God, thus He would perfectly represent God to humanity.
- **JOHN 1:1-5, 14** – The Word is the agent of God's creative power. When God created everything (visible and invisible) out of nothing, it was by the agency of the Second Person of the Trinity. Genesis 1 tells us that God "spoke" all things into being. John 1 parallels Genesis 1, telling us that the Word (meaning Jesus) was the member of the Trinity who did the speaking. In the incarnation, the Word became visible to human eyes and audible to human ears, revealing the glory, grace and truth of the Father.
- **JOHN 10:1-18** – Encourage your JG to think about what Jesus is promising with this analogy – spiritual protection and safety from the enemy of our souls. The enemy won't be able to secretly steal any of Jesus' followers away from Him, nor can he prevent the increase of Christ's followers from every nation. Jesus has authority to lay down His life *in exchange for His follower's lives*, and to take His life up again. He received this authority from the Father. If Jesus did not have this authority there could be no redemption of His followers.
- **EPHESIANS 1:3-14** – Redemption was planned "*...before the foundation of the world*" (v 4) but the plan lay hidden or foreshadowed. It was not fully revealed until it was made manifest "*...according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ...*" (v 9). The Father chose and predestined the people of God. The Son accomplished redemption by the shedding of His blood. The Spirit is the seal, or stamp, guaranteeing that we will receive an eternal inheritance of glory.

- **COLOSSIANS 1:13-20** – The idea of an “image of God” communicates both Christ’s humanity (“image...”) and divinity (“...of God”). Paul describes the Christ as accomplishing creative acts outside of time emphasizing His deity, and the work of redemption within time emphasizing His humanity.
- **HEBREWS 1:1-4** – God’s ultimate revelation of His will came by speaking to us through His Prophet Jesus (v 2). Jesus, our Priest, made complete and final purification for sins (v 3). Now our King is enthroned with God above all powers, even angels (vv 3-4).
- **TRUTH** – Review the **TO SUMMARIZE** section. Make sure your JG understands that the second Person of the Trinity is the agent of both creation and redemption. Discuss the diagram of the incarnation emphasizing that Jesus is fully divine and human and why this is important for our redemption.
- **EQUIPPING** – Discuss how Christ’s continued work as Prophet, Priest and King is relevant for our individual spiritual journeys.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY** – allow time for smaller groups of 2 or 3 to ask accountability questions and pray for one another.
- **MISSION** – Continue planning and discussing your upcoming mission service project. It is vital that you emphasize the purpose of this project as an exercise in developing a missional life. Discuss how your service project can be an opportunity to make the gospel known through deed – a demonstration of Christ’s compassion.