



BIG PICTURE  
**QUESTIONS  
& ANSWERS**  
FOR KIDS

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**Beginning with  
Moses and all the Prophets,  
he [Jesus] interpreted  
for them the things concerning  
himself in all the Scriptures.  
Luke 24:27**







# BIG PICTURE & QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR KIDS

Preschoolers and elementary kids can learn important doctrines of the Christian faith, systematically. To help kids learn theological concepts, the following 76 questions and answers are organized around six overarching categories.

<b>GOD</b> . . . . .	1
<b>PEOPLE</b> . . . . .	3
<b>JESUS</b> . . . . .	5
<b>THE BIBLE</b> . . . . .	7
<b>THE CHURCH</b> . . . . .	9
<b>CHRISTIAN LIFE</b> . . . . .	11
<b>SEEING JESUS IN THE BIBLE</b> . . . . .	13
Prophecies about Jesus . . . . .	14
Appearances of Jesus . . . . .	15
Images of Jesus . . . . .	16
Pictures of Jesus . . . . .	17
Gospel Truths . . . . .	18
God's Salvation Story . . . . .	19

# GOD

1

**K** **WHO IS GOD?** God is our Creator and King of everything.

**P** **WHO IS GOD?** God is our Creator and King.

2

**K** **WAS GOD CREATED?** No, God has always existed and will always exist.

**P** **WAS GOD CREATED?** No, God has always existed.

3

**K** **HOW MANY GODS ARE THERE?** There is one true God who alone deserves worship.

**P** **HOW MANY GODS ARE THERE?** There is one true God.

4

**K** **WHAT IS THE TRINITY?** The Trinity is the one true God existing in three Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

**P** **WHAT IS THE TRINITY?** The Trinity is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

**K**=KIDS **P**=PRESCHOOL

5

**K** **WHAT IS GOD LIKE?** God is holy, good, and loving.

**P** **WHAT IS GOD LIKE?** God is holy, good, and loving.

6

**K** **IS GOD PERFECT?** Yes, God is perfect in every way. No one and nothing compares to God.

**P** **IS GOD PERFECT?** Yes, God always does what is right.

7

**K** **IS ANYTHING OR ANYONE GREATER THAN GOD?** No, God is greater than everything and everyone.

**P** **IS ANYTHING GREATER THAN GOD?** No, God is greater than everything.

8

**K** **WHAT DOES GOD KNOW?** God knows everything about the past, present, and future.

**P** **WHAT DOES GOD KNOW?** God knows everything.

9

**K** **WHO IS IN CONTROL OF EVERYTHING?** God is in control of everything in heaven and on earth. Nothing is outside of God's good plan.

**P** **WHO IS IN CONTROL OF EVERYTHING?** God is in control of everything.





10

**K** **IS THERE ANYTHING GOD CANNOT DO?** God can do all things according to His character. God cannot sin.

**P** **IS THERE ANYTHING GOD CANNOT DO?** God can do all things.

11

**K** **DOES GOD KEEP HIS PROMISES?** Yes, God always keeps His promises because He is faithful.

**P** **DOES GOD KEEP HIS PROMISES?** Yes, God always keeps His promises.

12

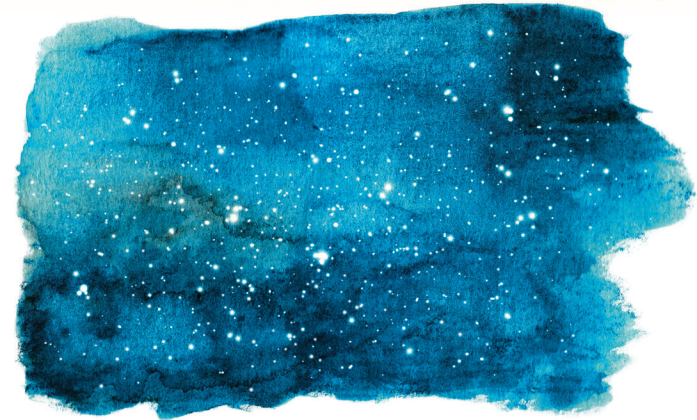
**K** **WHO CREATED EVERYTHING?** God created the universe, even things we cannot see.

**P** **WHO CREATED EVERYTHING?** God created everything.

13

**K** **WHY DID GOD CREATE EVERYTHING?** God created everything for His glory and our good.

**P** **WHY DID GOD CREATE EVERYTHING?** God created everything for His glory.



14

**K** **WHAT WAS GOD'S CREATION LIKE?** God created everything perfectly good.

**P** **WHAT WAS GOD'S CREATION LIKE?** God created everything perfect.

15

**K** **HOW DOES GOD CARE FOR HIS CREATION?** God loves and rules over His creation according to His perfect plan.

**P** **HOW DOES GOD CARE FOR HIS CREATION?** God loves and rules over all He made.

# PEOPLE

**16** **K** **WHY DID GOD CREATE PEOPLE?** God created people to worship Him, love Him, and show His glory.

**P** **WHY DID GOD CREATE PEOPLE?** God created people to love Him and give Him glory.

**17** **K** **WHAT MAKES PEOPLE SPECIAL?** People are special because we are made in God's image, as male and female, to know Him.

**P** **WHAT MAKES PEOPLE SPECIAL?** People are special because God made us in His own image.

**18** **K** **WHO WERE THE FIRST PEOPLE GOD CREATED?** God created Adam and Eve as the first man and woman.

**P** **WHO WERE THE FIRST PEOPLE GOD CREATED?** God created Adam and Eve.

**19** **K** **HOW DID SIN ENTER THE WORLD?** Adam and Eve did not trust God's plan and they disobeyed God.

**P** **HOW DID SIN ENTER THE WORLD?** Adam and Eve disobeyed God.

**20** **K** **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SIN?** To sin is to think, say, or behave in any way that goes against God and His commands.

**P** **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SIN?** To sin is to go against God and His commands.

**21** **K** **WHAT HAPPENED BECAUSE OF ADAM AND EVE'S SIN?** After sin entered the world, God's world was corrupted, and all people were born sinners.

**P** **WHAT HAPPENED BECAUSE OF ADAM AND EVE'S SIN?** All people were born sinners.

**22** **K** **WHY DOES SIN SEPARATE US FROM GOD?** Because God is holy, sin has broken our relationship with God.

**P** **WHY DOES SIN SEPARATE US FROM GOD?** Because God is holy.

**23** **K** **WHAT IS THE FAIR PAYMENT FOR SIN?** The fair payment for sin is death.

**P** **WHAT IS THE PUNISHMENT FOR SIN?** The punishment for sin is death.





24

**K** **HOW DID GOD PLAN TO FIX WHAT SIN BROKE?** Before He created the world, God planned to send the Messiah to save sinners.

**P** **HOW DID GOD PLAN TO FIX WHAT SIN BROKE?** God planned to send Jesus.

25

**K** **HOW CAN WE BE SAVED?** We are only saved through faith in Jesus.

**P** **HOW CAN WE BE SAVED?** We are only saved by trusting in Jesus.



26

**K** **HOW WERE PEOPLE SAVED BEFORE JESUS CAME TO EARTH?** People were saved by faith in God's promise to send the Messiah.

**P** **HOW WERE PEOPLE SAVED BEFORE JESUS CAME TO EARTH?** People were saved by faith in God's promise to send a Rescuer.

27

**K** **WHO WILL BE SAVED?** Anyone who repents of sin and trusts in Jesus will be saved.

**P** **WHO WILL BE SAVED?** Anyone who repents of sin and trusts in Jesus will be saved.

28

**K** **WHAT IS REPENTANCE?** Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.

**P** **WHAT IS REPENTANCE?** Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.

**K**=KIDS **P**=PRESCHOOL



# JESUS

29

**K** **WHO IS JESUS?** Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, who came to earth to save us.

**P** **WHO IS JESUS?** Jesus is the Son of God who came to earth to save us.

30

**K** **IS JESUS GOD OR A HUMAN?** As the Son of God, Jesus is both fully God and fully human.

**P** **IS JESUS GOD OR A HUMAN?** Jesus is both fully God and fully human.

31

**K** **WHY DID JESUS BECOME HUMAN?** Jesus became human to obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.

**P** **WHY DID JESUS BECOME HUMAN?** Jesus became human to rescue sinners.

32

**K** **HOW DID JESUS COME TO EARTH?** Jesus was born of a virgin.

**P** **HOW DID JESUS COME TO EARTH?** Jesus was born as a baby.

33

**K** **DID JESUS EVER SIN?** No, Jesus never sinned.

**P** **DID JESUS EVER SIN?** No, Jesus never sinned.

34

**K** **WHAT DID JESUS TEACH WHEN HE WAS ON EARTH?** Jesus taught about God and His kingdom. He taught that all Scripture is about Him.

**P** **WHAT DID JESUS TEACH WHEN HE WAS ON EARTH?** Jesus taught about God and His kingdom.

35

**K** **WHY DID JESUS PERFORM MIRACLES?** Jesus performed miracles to glorify God, to show He is the Son of God, and to care for people.

**P** **WHY DID JESUS PERFORM MIRACLES?** Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

36

**K** **HOW IS JESUS THE PERFECT PROPHET?** Jesus perfectly reveals God the Father and fulfills what the prophets spoke.

**P** **HOW IS JESUS THE PERFECT PROPHET?** God speaks to us through Jesus.



37

**K** **HOW IS JESUS THE PERFECT PRIEST?** Jesus was the perfect sacrifice for sin, and He speaks to God the Father for us today.

**P** **HOW IS JESUS THE PERFECT PRIEST?** Jesus gave His life as the perfect sacrifice for sin.

38

**K** **HOW IS JESUS THE PERFECT KING?** Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of kings.

**P** **HOW IS JESUS THE PERFECT KING?** Jesus perfectly rules over everything.

39

**K** **WHAT DID JESUS DO TO SAVE US?** Jesus lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead.

**P** **WHAT DID JESUS DO TO SAVE US?** Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

**K**=KIDS **P**=PRESCHOOL



40

**K** **WHERE IS JESUS NOW?** Jesus ascended to heaven where He is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**P** **WHERE IS JESUS NOW?** Jesus is in heaven.

41

**K** **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO TRUST IN JESUS?** To trust in Jesus means believing that Jesus' death and resurrection paid for our sin.

**P** **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO TRUST IN JESUS?** To trust in Jesus means believing that Jesus took the punishment for our sin.

# THE BIBLE

42

**K** **WHAT IS THE BIBLE?** The Bible is God's Word that tells us what is true about God and ourselves.

**P** **WHAT IS THE BIBLE?** The Bible is God's Word.

43

**K** **WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?** The Holy Spirit inspired certain men throughout history to write the Bible.

**P** **WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?** The Holy Spirit inspired certain men to write the Bible.

44

**K** **IS THE BIBLE TRUE?** Yes, the Bible is true and has no error.

**P** **IS THE BIBLE TRUE?** Yes, the Bible is true.

45

**K** **WHAT IS THE BIBLE ABOUT?** The Bible is the story of God's plan to save people through Jesus.

**P** **WHAT IS THE BIBLE ABOUT?** The Bible is about God's plan to save people through Jesus.

**K**=KIDS **P**=PRESCHOOL



46

**K** **WHAT DO THE TEN COMMANDMENTS TEACH US?** The Ten Commandments teach us to love God and love people.

**P** **WHAT DO THE TEN COMMANDMENTS TEACH US?** The Ten Commandments teach us to love God and love people.

47

**K** **WHAT IS THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT LAW?** God's Law shows us God's holy nature, our sinful nature, and our need for a Savior.

**P** **WHY DID GOD GIVE THE OLD TESTAMENT LAW?** God's Law shows us our need for a Savior.



48

**K** **WHAT DID JESUS SAY IS THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT?** Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love God with your whole being.

**P** **WHAT DID JESUS SAY IS THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT?** Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love God.

49

**K** **WHAT DID JESUS SAY IS THE SECOND GREATEST COMMANDMENT?** Jesus said the second greatest commandment is to love others as yourself.

**P** **WHAT DID JESUS SAY IS THE SECOND GREATEST COMMANDMENT?** Jesus said the second greatest commandment is to love others.

50

**K** **WHY DOES GOD GIVE US COMMANDS IN THE BIBLE?** God's commands show us how life works best.

**P** **WHY DOES GOD GIVE US COMMANDS IN THE BIBLE?** God's commands show us how life works best.

51

**K** **CAN WE OBEY ALL OF GOD'S COMMANDS?**  
We cannot obey all of God's commands because we are sinners.

**P** **CAN WE OBEY ALL OF GOD'S COMMANDS?**  
We cannot obey all of God's commands because we are sinners.



# THE CHURCH



**52** **K** **WHAT IS THE CHURCH?** The church is all Christians everywhere, who gather together in their communities to worship and serve God.

**P** **WHAT IS THE CHURCH?** The church is all Christians everywhere.

**53** **K** **WHO IS THE HEAD, OR LEADER, OF THE CHURCH?** Jesus is the head of the church.

**P** **WHO IS THE HEAD, OR LEADER, OF THE CHURCH?** Jesus is the head of the church.

**54** **K** **WHY DOES THE CHURCH EXIST?** The church exists to glorify God by worshiping Him, showing His love, and telling others about Jesus.

**P** **WHY DOES THE CHURCH EXIST?** The church exists to glorify God.

**55** **K** **WHAT ARE THE ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH?** Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the ordinances Jesus commanded His followers to do.

**P** **WHAT ARE THE CHURCH EVENTS JESUS COMMANDED HIS FOLLOWERS TO DO?** Jesus told His followers to baptize believers and eat the Lord's Supper.

**56** **K** **WHAT IS THE LORD'S SUPPER?** The Lord's Supper is when Christians eat the bread and drink the cup to remember Jesus' death and resurrection.

**P** **WHAT IS THE LORD'S SUPPER?** The Lord's Supper is when Christians eat the bread and drink the cup to remember Jesus.

57

**K** **WHAT IS BAPTISM?** Baptism is how Christians show others that Jesus has forgiven their sin and given them new life.

**P** **WHAT IS BAPTISM?** Baptism is how Christians show others that they have trusted in Jesus to save them.

58

**K** **WHAT IS OUR MISSION AS CHRISTIANS?** Our mission is to make disciples of all nations by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**P** **WHAT IS OUR MISSION AS CHRISTIANS?** Our mission is to make followers of Jesus from every nation by the power of the Holy Spirit.

59

**K** **WHY DOES GOD COMMAND CHRISTIANS TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS?** We tell others about Jesus so they will hear and believe the good news.

**P** **WHY DOES GOD COMMAND CHRISTIANS TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS?** We tell others about Jesus so they will hear and believe the good news.

60

**K** **WHAT IS THE HOPE OF THE CHURCH?** The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.

**P** **WHAT IS THE HOPE OF THE CHURCH?** The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.

61

**K** **WHAT WILL HAPPEN FOR ALL CHRISTIANS IN THE FUTURE?** One day all Christians will see Jesus in His glory and live with Him forever.

**P** **WHAT WILL HAPPEN FOR ALL CHRISTIANS IN THE FUTURE?** One day all Christians will see Jesus in His glory and live with Him forever.

**K** = KIDS **P** = PRESCHOOL



# CHRISTIAN LIFE

62

**K** **WHY SHOULD WE GLORIFY GOD?** We should glorify God because of who He is and what He does.

**P** **WHY SHOULD WE GLORIFY GOD?** We should glorify God because of who He is and what He does.

63

**K** **HOW CAN WE GLORIFY GOD?** We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.

**P** **HOW CAN WE GLORIFY GOD?** We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.

64

**K** **WHY SHOULD WE OBEY GOD?** We should obey God because He made us, He loves us, and His plans are good.

**P** **WHY SHOULD WE OBEY GOD?** We should obey God because He made us, He loves us, and His plans are good.

65

**K** **WHY CAN WE TRUST GOD?** We can trust God because He is faithful and does everything for His glory and our good.

**P** **WHY CAN WE TRUST GOD?** We can trust God because He does what He says He will do.

66

**K** **WHY DO CHRISTIANS CONTINUE TO SIN?**

Christians continue to sin because we still have a sin nature, but when Jesus returns, He will make us sinless like Him.

**P** **WHY DO CHRISTIANS CONTINUE TO SIN?**

Christians continue to sin because we still have hearts that want to sin..

67

**K** **HOW CAN CHRISTIANS SAY NO TO SIN?**

Christians can say no to sin by asking the Holy Spirit for help, knowing God's Word, and confessing our sin to other believers.

**P** **HOW CAN CHRISTIANS SAY NO TO SIN?**

Christians can say no to sin by asking God for help.

68

**K** **HOW DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT HELP**

**CHRISTIANS?** The Holy Spirit comforts us, shows us our sin, and guides us as we live for God's glory.

**P** **HOW DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT HELP**

**CHRISTIANS?** The Holy Spirit comforts us, shows us our sin, and guides us as we live for God's glory.



69

**K** **WHAT IS PRAYER?** Prayer is talking with God to praise Him, ask Him for help, and confess our sins to Him.

**P** **WHAT IS PRAYER?** Prayer is talking with God.

70

**K** **WHY DO WE PRAY?** We pray because we trust God, and we know He hears us.

**P** **WHY DO WE PRAY?** We pray because we trust God, and we know He hears us.

71

**K** **WHAT IS WORSHIP?** Worship is celebrating the greatness of God.

**P** **WHAT IS WORSHIP?** Worship is celebrating the greatness of God.

72

**K** **WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?** The gospel is the good news that God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to rescue sinners.

**P** **WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?** The gospel is the good news that God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to rescue sinners.



73

**K** **WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN JESUS RETURNS?** Jesus will judge the world; and all who have trusted in Him will receive resurrection bodies, be fully free from sin, and live with God forever.

**P** What will happen when Jesus returns? Jesus will get rid of sin, and believers will live with God forever.

74

**K** **WHAT IS JUSTIFICATION?** Justification is when God declares that our sins are forgiven and we are righteous.

**P** **WHAT IS JUSTIFICATION?** Justification is when God says that our sins are forgiven and we are righteous.

75

**K** **WHAT IS ADOPTION?** Adoption is when God welcomes us into His family as His children.

**P** **WHAT IS ADOPTION?** Adoption is when God welcomes us into His family as His children.

76

**K** **WHAT IS SANCTIFICATION?** Sanctification is the process of becoming more like Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**P** **WHAT IS SANCTIFICATION?** Sanctification is how God makes us more like Jesus.



# SEEING JESUS

## IN THE BIBLE

Recognizing the centrality of Jesus in the overall narrative of the Bible is an important part of understanding Scripture.

With the incarnation of God the Son as told in the Gospels, we can benefit from exploring both the Old and New Testament and the different references to and appearances of the Son of God. In doing so, we are able to understand the gospel and God's story of salvation.

PROPHECIES  
ABOUT JESUS

APPEARANCES  
OF JESUS

IMAGES  
OF JESUS

PICTURES  
OF JESUS

GOSPEL  
TRUTHS

GOD'S  
SALVATION  
STORY







# PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS

## DEFINITION

God promised His people that a Rescuer, the Messiah, was coming and told them some of what would happen when He came so they would be able to recognize Him. These prophecies—also called Messianic Prophecies—gave hope to the people in the Old Testament and give confidence to us today that Jesus is the Promised One.

## EXAMPLES

- Virgin birth (Isaiah 7:4)
- Suffering Servant (Isaiah 52–53)
- Eternal kingdom (Daniel 7:14)
- Born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)
- Ride on a colt (Zechariah 9:9)

## WHAT DOES A PARENT OR LEADER NEED TO KNOW?

- The Old Testament includes more than 300 prophecies about Jesus.
- Old Testament prophecies about Jesus are confirmed in the New Testament.
- Jesus' fulfillment of these prophecies proves God sent Jesus as the promised Messiah.

## WHAT DOES A PRESCHOOLER NEED TO KNOW?

- The Bible teaches us about Jesus.
- Long before Jesus was born, God made a plan to send Jesus.

- Prophets gave messages from God to His people.
- God told His people how they would know Jesus is the Messiah.
- We can trust God.
- God keeps His promises.

## WHAT DOES AN ELEMENTARY KID NEED TO KNOW?

- All of the Bible teaches us about Jesus.
- Long before Jesus was born, God made a plan to send Jesus to forgive us of our sin.
- God told His people how they would know the Messiah by describing what He would be like and what He would do.
- Prophecies gave God's people hope and prove to us that Jesus is the Messiah.

## WHAT DOES A PRETEEN NEED TO KNOW?

- Both the Old Testament and New Testament teach us about Jesus.
- God made a plan to send Jesus before He created the world.
- God provided Jesus as the only way to be saved from our sin.
- God told His people how they would know the Messiah by describing what He would be like, including details no one could control.
- Jesus' fulfillment of prophecies give us confidence that the Bible is true.



# APPEARANCES OF JESUS

## DEFINITION

The Son of God has always existed, and there are several times in the Old Testament where He may have appeared on earth before He was born.

## EXAMPLES

- Melchizedek (Genesis 14)
- Abraham's visitors (Genesis 18)
- Jacob's wrestling opponent (Genesis 32:22-32)
- The commander of the army (Joshua 5; cf Exodus 3)

## WHAT DOES A PARENT OR LEADER NEED TO KNOW?

- God the Son has always existed.
- There are times when someone appeared in the Old Testament who demonstrated the authority of God or spoke as God.
- Unlike prophecies about Jesus, appearances of Jesus are not clarified in Scripture, so take care when teaching them.

## WHAT DOES A PRESCHOOLER NEED TO KNOW?

- The Bible teaches us about Jesus.
- Jesus came to help us understand what God is like.

## WHAT DOES AN ELEMENTARY KID NEED TO KNOW?

- God has always existed as three Persons—Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- No one has seen God the Father. (John 1:18; 4:24)
- Appearances of God in the Old Testament may have been of God the Son, to show what God is like and what He would do.

## WHAT DOES A PRETEEN NEED TO KNOW?

- While God the Son may have appeared as a human in the Old Testament, He actually became a human in the New Testament.
- In the Old Testament, the phrase the angel of the Lord instead of an angel of the Lord is another clue that the Bible may be referring to the Son of God.



# IMAGES OF JESUS

## DEFINITION

The story of the Bible centers on God's plan to provide a Rescuer to deliver people from sin. God reminded His people of this promise through repeated patterns of real people and objects in the Bible that point to Jesus. Each image helped His people better understand Jesus and recognize Him when He came.

## EXAMPLES

- The tabernacle and veil (Hebrews 10:19-20)
- The sacrificial system (Hebrews 9:19-28)
- The Passover lamb (1 Corinthians 5:7)

## WHAT DOES A PARENT OR LEADER NEED TO KNOW?

- Images are real people and real objects.
- Old Testament images of Jesus are sometimes clearly taught in the New Testament.
- What we learn about Jesus through the image is greater than the image itself.

## WHAT DOES A PRESCHOOLER NEED TO KNOW?

- The Bible is one big story about Jesus.
- Many Bible stories sound the same (e.g. God rescues someone in distress, God wants His people to trust Him, etc.).

## WHAT DOES AN ELEMENTARY KID NEED TO KNOW?

- The Bible repeats key themes.
- The Bible includes images and symbols that point to Jesus.
- Images convey one major idea.

## WHAT DOES A PRETEEN NEED TO KNOW?

- Many images in the Old Testament connect with New Testament teachings.
- Images convey one major idea but may connect to Jesus in other ways as well.







# PICTURES OF JESUS

## DEFINITION

The stories in the Old Testament are stories of real people and events, and God used many of the stories to show us what He would do through Jesus. These stories are pictures, or shadows, of the bigger story of Jesus.

## EXAMPLES

- Noah and the flood (Genesis 6–9)
- Abraham and Isaac (Genesis 22)
- Moses' rescue of the people (Exodus 1–14)
- Boaz's redemption of Ruth (Ruth 1–4)
- David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17)

## WHAT DOES A PARENT OR LEADER NEED TO KNOW?

- Pictures of Jesus are broader than images of Jesus and concern story themes and ideas, not just people and objects.
- Pictures of Jesus are not always confirmed in the New Testament.
- Pictures of Jesus are not allegories. Individual stories matter, but their connections to Jesus can easily be recognized.

## WHAT DOES A PRESCHOOLER NEED TO KNOW?

- Some Old Testament Bible stories remind us of what Jesus did. (e.g. Just like Moses led the people out of slavery in Egypt, Jesus leads us out of slavery from sin)

## WHAT DOES AN ELEMENTARY KID NEED TO KNOW?

- Some Old Testament Bible stories show us pictures of Jesus.
- All Bible stories are true and important.

## WHAT DOES A PRETEEN NEED TO KNOW?

- Some Old Testament Bible stories show us pictures of Jesus in order to help us know how to live.
- Pictures of Jesus are true stories and should not be seen as allegories.





# GOSPEL TRUTHS

## DEFINITION

The Bible is not just a story that helps us learn about Jesus; it is a story that helps us know Him and have a relationship with God through Him. The Old Testament helps us understand who God is, who we are, our need for forgiveness and salvation from God, and what God has done to save us through Jesus.

## EXAMPLES

- The flood and God's grace (Genesis 6–9)
- The priests and their incomplete sacrifices (Leviticus 16)
- Israel's failures to obey time and time again (Judges 1)
- David's sin and God's mercy (2 Samuel 11; Psalm 51)
- God's faithful love (Hosea 1–3)
- God's patience and mercy (Jonah 1–4)

## WHAT DOES A PARENT OR LEADER NEED TO KNOW?

- Every story connects to Jesus, but not every story connects to Him through prophecy, appearances, images, or pictures. We should not force Jesus into a story.
- Many Old Testament stories teach or reinforce basic truths about the gospel (e.g. God's holiness, God's justice, God's love, man's sinfulness).
- All of these gospel truths are fulfilled in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

## WHAT DOES A PRESCHOOLER NEED TO KNOW?

- The Bible teaches us about sin and God's forgiveness.
- Jesus is God's answer for our sin.

## WHAT DOES AN ELEMENTARY KID NEED TO KNOW?

- The Bible teaches us about sin and about God's grace and forgiveness.
- The gospel exists so that we can have relationship with God.

## WHAT DOES A PRETEEN NEED TO KNOW?

- The Bible teaches us about our sin and God's holiness, grace and forgiveness.
- The gospel exists so that people can have relationship with God.
- The gospel invites us to have a personal relationship with God.



# GOD'S SALVATION STORY

## DEFINITION

The Bible is one big story of God and His rescue mission through Jesus to restore what was lost in Eden. Many stories in the Bible advance this story.

## EXAMPLES

- The first mention of the gospel (Genesis 3:15)
- The tower of Babel (Genesis 11)
- The Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 12:1-3)
- The lineage of Jesus (Matthew 1; Luke 3)

## WHAT DOES A PARENT OR LEADER NEED TO KNOW?

- The Bible is one big story.
- The Bible is not compiled in chronological order.
- Individual Bible stories connect to the bigger story of the Bible.

## WHAT DOES A PRESCHOOLER NEED TO KNOW?

- The Bible teaches that God loves us and is in charge of everything.
- The Bible is one big story of how God rescues us.

## WHAT DOES AN ELEMENTARY KID NEED TO KNOW?

- God's salvation story consists of three big movements—creation, fall, and rescue.
- God created Adam and Eve to be in relationship with Him and to worship and serve Him.
- God's salvation story brings people into a family of believers.

## WHAT DOES A PRETEEN NEED TO KNOW?

- Israel plays a role in God's salvation story.
- The Church plays a role in God's salvation story.
- Jesus' return—when He will make all things new—is the completion of God's salvation story.



**These are written  
so that you may believe  
that Jesus is the Messiah,  
the Son of God, and  
that by believing you may  
have life in his name.**

**John 20:31**





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