WEEK #4 (8-15-21) Means of Grace #2 -The Bible

KEY WORDS: God's Kids are all family

MEMORY VERSE: John 1:14 *And the Wordbecame flesh (Jesus), and dwelt among us; and we saw His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: John 1:1-18

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him ¹⁰not even one thing came into being that has come into being. ⁴In Him was life, and the life was ³the Light of mankind. ⁵And the Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not grasp it.

The Witness John the Baptist

A man came, one sent from God, and his name was John. He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light.

⁹
This was the true Light that, coming into the world, enlightens every person. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him, and yet the world did not know Him. ¹¹He came to His own, and His own people did not accept Him. ¹²But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name, ¹²who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of a man, but of God.

The Word Made Flesh

**And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us; and we saw His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. **John testified about Him and called out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who is coming after me has proved to be my superior, because He existed before me.'" For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. **For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. **No one has seen God at any time; God the only Son, who is in the arms of the Father, He has explained Him.

APPLICATION/MESSAGE One of the beautiful truths of the Bible is how Jesus allows us to be part of God's family when we ask God to forgive us and to come into our hearts. We are adopted as children of the most holy Heavenly king, which is reason to rejoice and be glad! Regardless of blood relations or appearances, we can know we can be forgiven and through the Grace of God, become brothers and sisters in Jesus.

Adoption is special because once you are in someone's family, you get to keep that mommy and daddy forever, no matter how you started off. Some families might look a little different on the outside, and may not even share the same color of skin. But the parents choose to take young kids as their own and they take care of them.

Did you know that this is what GOD does for us? When He sent Jesus, He made it so we can be part of His family. God chose to take us as His beloved children. When we are forgiven, Jesus' grace and love make it so that we can be adopted as God's kids! This means a lot of neat blessings come along with that adoption. For one thing, we know that we will live with God in Heaven one day. We also know He promises us His kingdom. Another spectacular bonus is that, if we are all sons and daughters of God, that makes us all brothers and sisters in Christ! It's like we have one big family of believers. All we have to do is accept His love and adoption, and we can be with Him and other believers in the family of God. That is pretty special! So because we are all in God's family, it's even more essential to love and care for one another. We look different, and we all have different earthly families. But because God chose to adopt us as His children, we are His and we have fellowship with one another. Jesus came to live and die so that we can be HIS brothers and sisters, too! Let's thank God for that, and remember to live in that gratitude, too!

(Thanks to ministry-to-children.com for wonderful lesson ideas)

PRAYERS: Dear God, Thank you for your son Jesus. Thank you for adopting us into your family. Help us to love one another And remember we are brothers and sisters in Christ. Thank you for your love. We love you, God! In Jesus's name, Amen!

SONGS Family sing-along - "The Family of God" (Gaithers Trio) words and music https://youtu.be/bj97unXda6c

Contemporary - Newsboys - "Family of God" words and music at https://youtu.be/V6kOkIJV-0M

Younger kids: "The B-i-b-l-e" muppets sing at https://youtu.be/E2fPTpdW As

CHILDREN AND/OR GROUP ACTIVITIES:

<u>Create an ABC Prayer list.</u> Get a paper and pencil. Fold the paper in half lengthwise, like a hot dog bun. Write the letters in the alphabet down the side and down the center crease. Think of someone whose name begins with each letter who needs God's forgiveness, grace, and love. Write their name down beside the letter that starts their name. Think of how wonderful it would be if they were adopted into God's family! Pray that if they don't already know and accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior, that they will read the Bible and discover what an amazing gift God gave us in His son< Jesus. Invite them to church. Pray it always in Jesus' holy name.

As family, create an "idea acrostic" from the first letters of GOD'S KIDS that tell about being a kid of God.

do, you'll soon $\mathbf{D} - \underline{\mathbf{D}}$ is cover why having Jesus $\mathbf{S} - \mathbf{S}$ aves us from sin and gives us eternal life.
<u>G</u>
<u>o</u>
<u>D</u>
<u>s</u>
<u>K</u>
<u>L</u>
D
<u>s</u>
*Now make an acrostic from the letters of YOUR name. Tell about what God is to you, or what He has done in your life. You can go to the Bible and read John 3:16-17. (see Ms. Pam)
<u>M</u> any times I have disappointed God by <u>S</u> inning and not reading the Bible to learn what He wants me to do.
$\underline{\mathbf{P}}$ lease, God, forgive me $\underline{\mathbf{A}}$ nd $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$ ake me who You want me to be.

The lines do NOT need to rhyme. Example: $\mathbf{G} - \underline{\mathbf{G}}$ od loves His kids! $\mathbf{O} - \underline{\mathbf{O}}$ pen your heart to Him. $\mathbf{D} - \underline{\mathbf{D}}$ o you want forgiveness? $\mathbf{S} - \underline{\mathbf{S}}$ ure! $\mathbf{K} - \underline{\mathbf{K}}$ eep reading about God in the Bible. $\mathbf{I} - \underline{\mathbf{I}}$ f you

NEW TESTAMENT WORDSEARCH

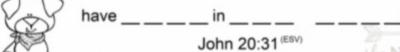
Find the books of New Testament in the wordsearch below. Then, use the left over letters to find the reason that John wrote the Gospel of John. Use the letters from the left to right, starting on the top line and working down.



Matthew Mark Luke John Acts Romans Corinthians Galatians **Ephesians** Philippians Colossians Thessalonians Timothy Titus Philemon Hebrew James Peter Jude Revelation

".	but	these	are	written	SO	that	you	may		,
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____, and that by believing



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Tesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." —Matthew 4:4