

Scripture Reading

Psalm 1:1-3

¹God blesses those people who refuse evil advice and won't follow sinners or join in sneering at God.
² Instead, they find happiness in the Teaching of the LORD, and they think about it day and night.

³ They are like trees growing beside a stream, trees that produce fruit in season and always have leaves. Those people succeed in everything they do.

Jeremiah 17:7-8

⁷But I will bless those who trust me, the LORD.
⁸They will be like trees growing beside a stream— trees with roots that reach down to the water, and with leaves that are always green. They bear fruit every year and are never worried by a lack of rain.

Memory Verse Challenge

Memorize the highlighted verses. *Who will be first to commit these verses to memory?*

KINDA SECRET
MILITARY FAMILY MISSION

HEROSQUAD

MISSION
MANUAL

ISSUED FOR
FALL MISSION

Activity Instructions

Step 1: As a family, read the key Scripture (back) and “The Beauty and Color of God’s Word” (below).

Step 2: Discuss the Scripture using the Family Discussion Questions (right) to apply it to your lives.

Step 3: Take the Memory Verse Challenge and complete the “Beleaf in God Experiment” family activity to understand how God’s Word brings color to our lives!

The Beauty and Color of God’s Word

Think about a bush in the middle of a desert on a scorching summer day. You can imagine it would be brittle and dusty, because it does not have much water.

Now picture an apple tree in a lush field next to a flowing stream on a sun-filled spring day. It’s not hard to imagine its roots are strong, its branches are tender, and its leaves are vibrant shades of green. There may be blossoms on it!

In the Bible, God compares our lives with a tree planted by a steady stream of water. God’s Word is like a flow of

living water that nourishes our mind, heart, and spirit. When we’re not filling ourselves with God’s Word, we are like the desert bush—alive, but not thriving. But when we discipline ourselves with a regular rhythm of God’s Word, we become like the tree growing next to the water—resilient and vibrant with the fullness of God’s grace.

Even when troubles come or there’s no refreshing rain—when we’re lonely or struggling with a parent a world apart—we can rest in knowing God is our strength and his Word fills our lives with beauty and color.

Family Discussion Questions

Eagle Squad

- What is it like to drink a glass of water when you’re thirsty on a hot day?
- How does reading the Bible help you to stay strong and healthy?

JV Squad

- What is your current relationship with the Bible? How would you like to grow?
- In what ways is God filling your life with beauty? What fruit do you expect?

Varsity Squad

- How does the image of a tree nourished by a stream motivate you to grow in the spiritual discipline of reading his Word? What season are you in?
- What are your hang-ups to spending more time in God’s Word?



Don’t Forget!

Have you checked out our **Digital Resource Library** yet? Just scan the QR code with your phone to access it.

There you will find all of our Hero Squad children’s devotionals and family activities available for download. Check it out today for Bible-based fun on the go!



Beleaf in God Experiment

Materials Needed

- Rubbing alcohol
- White paper coffee filters
- Paper plates or wax paper
- Large glass jar(s)
- Green leaves
- Metal spoon for muddling/mashing

Instructions

1. Take a walk and collect several green leaves from a tree. Choose one or two different kinds of trees.
2. Tear the leaves into small pieces on the plate or wax paper, then muddle or crush the leaves with the spoon.
3. Place the crushed leaves in the jar and have an adult pour in just enough rubbing alcohol to cover the leaves. Use a separate jar for each kind of leaf you collect.
4. Cut a 1 × 8 inch strip out of a coffee filter. Place the strip in the jar so the bottom touches the alcohol. Fold the top over the rim of the jar and tape down the fold to secure.
5. Allow the jar to sit overnight. Once the strip is dry, remove it to observe.
6. Observe all the vibrant colors within the green leaves!

How does this experiment remind you of how God's