

WEEK 1

GOD IS TRUTH

GOD GIVES HIS WORD

PRIMARY LESSON GUIDE

THE FOUR KEYS

KEY VERSE

And you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free. John 8:32

KEY IDEAS

1. The Bible is God's Word and it is good.
2. The Bible is the source of all truth.
3. The Bible shows us God's plan to save the world.

KEY PASSAGE

Psalms 19:7-11

KEY PRINCIPLES



EVERY CHILD SHOULD KNOW . . .

God is truth and His Word is right and true and good. The Bible tells us who we are and who He is.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD FEEL . . .

eager to search for truth in God's Word.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO . . .

trust God's Word as truth and tell the truth to others.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD WANT . . .

to know and share truth from God's Word with others.

INTRODUCTION

God is the creator of the universe, and He gives meaning to everything He creates. God alone has the authority to define what is true and false. In the Old Testament, God gave His people truth by speaking to them and by revealing His Word through His chosen messengers. In the New Testament, the disciples who followed Jesus recorded the true things He said and did. We can know truth today by reading God's Word. The Bible tells us who God is and what His purpose is for all of His creation. God wants us to know Him and know truth by reading His Word and living it out for His glory!

OPENING ILLUSTRATION

Prepare for class by hiding Smarties or another candy underneath the classroom table where children will not see it without searching. Begin class by sending the children on a treasure hunt. First, read them a note that says, "A treasure is hidden in the treehouse!" When they check the treehouse, they will discover that nothing is there. Ask, "Did the person who wrote this note tell us the truth?" After they respond, read them another note that says, "A treasure is hidden under the table in the classroom." When they go back to the classroom and check, then ask, "Did the person who wrote this note tell us the truth?" Use this activity to demonstrate to the children that truth is what is real.

STORY

Read Psalm 19:7-11.

What is something that is really sweet? What is something that you really desire or want (toy, etc.)? Did you know that the Bible is even better and even sweeter than that?? Not only is it better, but it lasts forever! Our favorite toy won't last forever or that bowl of ice cream we love to eat won't last forever, but God's Word lasts forever and ever!

The Bible says that God's Word is perfect and revives our souls. God's Word makes us wise and our hearts rejoice! God's commands are pure and help us to see clearly. God's rules are true and always right. The Bible also tells us that God's Word is more desirable than gold and much sweeter than honey and by keeping His Word, we will receive a reward! This reward is heaven, where we will one day live forever with God if we have placed our trust in Him.

We should always be looking for what God's Word says because it is true and good. Just like in our game earlier, we can be looking out for the things that God's Word says is true and what is false! The next time you watch tv or hear a song or read a book, ask yourself, "Is this true or is this a lie? What does God say about it?"

ACTIVITY

Provide each child with a wooden treasure chest from the teacher's bin. Allow the kids some time to decorate their boxes with crayons and/or stickers. Ask the kids if they know what normally goes into a treasure chest. Explain that gold is a very precious metal people dig through the earth to find because it is very valuable. Explain that God's Word is far more precious than gold. Help the children write their key verse on a piece of paper and put it in the chest. Talk about how our hearts are like a treasure chest, holding the Word of God that we memorize so that we can pull it out whenever we need to remember what is true.

PRAYER

Thank God that His Word is true and never fails. Ask Him to help you memorize it and hold it in your heart, so that you might remember it and be reminded of what is true and what is false.

SONG

The B.I.B.L.E

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Psalm 119:11, John 1:1

ACTIVITY

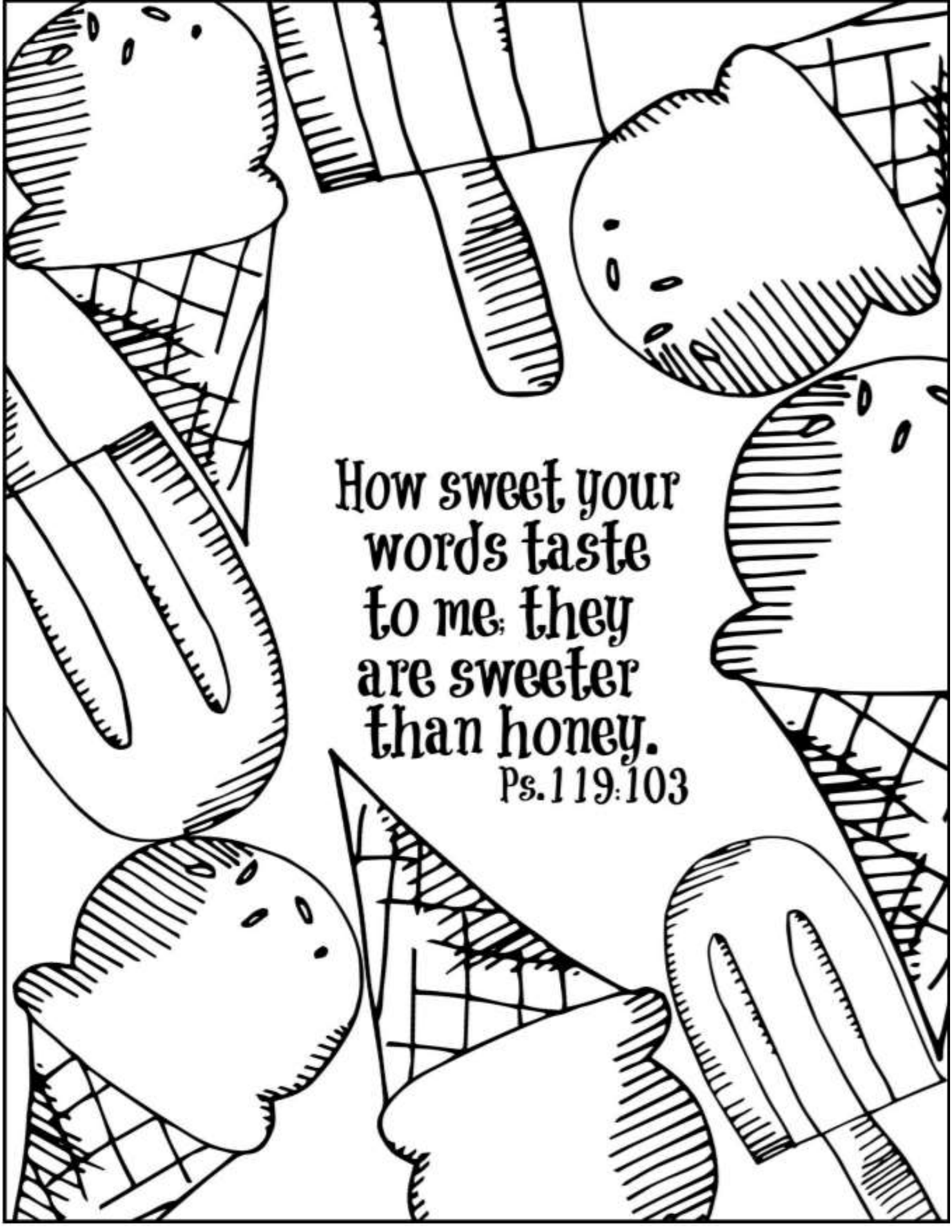
Using the coloring sheet in your take home packet, talk with your child about how God's Word is sweeter than honey and more precious than gold. Refer back to their treasure chest made in class and the memory verse tucked inside. Feel free to add more memory verses or refresh on previous ones so far this year. Read Psalm 119:11 with your child and talk about how memorizing Scripture helps us hide God's Word in our hearts like a treasure in a chest. Explain that when we memorize Scripture, it helps us remember it when we need it to guide and encourage us on what is true and what is false. God's Word also keeps us from sin and helps us obey God.

DISCUSSION

- Why did God give us His Word?
He gave us His Word so the we might know Him and understand His plan for the world and for us.
- Why is it important to know God's Word?
God is the source of all that is good, holy, and true. Having a relationship with God allows us to have joy, and to know truth, and to live forever with Him one day in the place He has prepared for us, heaven.

PRAYER

Thank God that He is truth and He gives us His Word so that we might know truth. Ask God to help you know Him better through His Word, recognize what is true and what is false, and believe in Him.



How sweet your
words taste
to me; they
are sweeter
than honey.
Ps. 119:103