

DISCOVERY

2 TIMOTHY 3:16



WEEK 1

BIBLE STORY

The Old and the New
2 Timothy 3:16-17 NIV

TODAY'S TAKEAWAY

I should dig into all of God's Word.

SERIES VERSE

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching,
rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,"
2 Timothy 3:16 (NIV)

WEEKLY VERSE

"Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us.
And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait
patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled."
Romans 15:4 (NLT)



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SKIT INFORMATION

OVERVIEW

The skits will require two people. One person will play themselves (the straight character), and the other person will play the funny character. It works best if you can find a person willing to commit to being the character for the entire series.

CHARACTER BIO

The character's name is Australia Jones. It is suggested to have a male play this character, but a female could be substituted if desired. Australia Jones is an adventurer searching for the greatest treasure on Earth. The character should speak with an Australian accent at all times and will use many Australian slang words/phrases. Consider putting your character in a brown hat, tan or brown button up shirt, tan pants or shorts, and brown boots. Extras: Add a brown belt, brown leather jacket, binoculars, whip, or brown satchel.

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SKIT

- Leader:** I'm excited to start digging into our new Discovery series today.
- Australia Jones:** *(Comes in quickly, while the leader is speaking, carrying a shovel and binoculars.)* Did I hear someone say something about digging?
- Leader:** Well, yes...
- Australia Jones:** Australia Jones, adventurer extraordinaire, at your service. What do you need dug up? Fossils, bones, buried treasure?
- Leader:** Huh? I think you might be a little confused. I wasn't talking about literally digging anything up. I was talking about digging into our new series in Kid's Church called Discovery. As in getting started, not digging it up with a shovel.
- Australia Jones:** Well, now I'm a bit devvo. I really wanted to dig something up. I had my shovel ready to go and everything.
- Leader:** Excuse me, did you say devvo? What does that mean?
- Australia Jones:** Oh that's just how Aussies say devastated.
- Leader:** Well, I'm sorry to devastate you, Australia Jones, is it?
- Australia Jones:** No worries mate! I am on a bit of an adventure myself that I need to get back to anyways. It's pretty much the biggest, most exciting adventure I have ever set out on.
- Leader:** That sounds exciting! Can you tell us more about it?
- Australia Jones:** Only if you promise not to tell any other adventurers what I'm about to tell you.

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Leader: I don't think I really know any other adventurers so that should be easy.

Australia Jones: Alrighty Mate. I am searching for the greatest treasure on Earth!

Leader: Wow. That does sound like a pretty big adventure. If you don't mind me asking, what is the greatest treasure on Earth?

Australia Jones: I'm not really sure. That's why I'm looking for it. When I find it, I will be the richest, most famous adventurer ever to live.

Leader: I have no idea how you are going to find the greatest treasure on Earth if you have absolutely no idea what you are looking for, but I hope you find it.

Australia Jones: Mark my words mate, I will find that treasure. Speaking of that, I must get back to exploring.

Leader: Ok, you do that. It was nice to meet you, Australia Jones. Good luck on your adventure.

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GAME: DECIPHER THE VERSE

SUPPLIES

- Paper or pieces of butcher paper (optional: distress paper to look like an old map by burning the edges)
- Pens or markers

SETUP

- Create a secret message and cipher key for each group on paper or distressed butcher paper. For example: 1 = A, 2 = B and so on. Make it more difficult for older kids by assigning symbols to each letter. Make it easier for younger kids by assigning numbers or symbols to entire words, or shorten the verse.
- The secret message should reveal the theme verse for the series: "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness," 2 Timothy 3:16 (NIV)

HOW TO PLAY

1. Everyone can play. Separate kids into small groups of 2-5 kids.
2. Give each group of kids the secret message, a cipher key, a blank piece of paper, and a pen.
3. Groups will have 5 minutes to try to decipher the secret message.
4. The first group to correctly decipher the verse wins.
5. Optional: Use this game to introduce the theme verse to the kids.

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MESSAGE

SUPPLIES

- A Bible in your preferred version (this curriculum uses the NLT version primarily)
- A large padlock and key
- Optional: treasure chest filled with chocolate coins/candy

INTRODUCTION

Today we will start digging into our Discovery Series. In this series, we are going to discover how important the whole Bible is to our journey as Christians. We are going to discover how the Old and New Testaments are both important and more connected than we could ever realize. Many people prefer reading the New Testament because it is more understandable and relevant to our lives today. Some people even believe that the Old Testament isn't important at all, and we can just throw it out entirely. The Old Testament may seem boring and confusing at times, but it doesn't have to be. If we take the time to dig into all of God's Word, we will discover why God decided to include the Old and New Testaments in the Bible. Let's get started right now.

BIBLE STORY

If you have a Bible, turn with me to 2 Timothy 3:16-17. **Allow time for the kids to turn to the passage in their Bibles.** It says, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." Notice that it says ALL Scripture, not some of Scripture, not the New Testament, but all of Scripture is inspired by God. That means that God Himself breathed or gave each of the words to

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the writers he selected for the entire Bible. God gave us the Bible to prepare us and equip us to do what He has called us to do. So, why do we need both the Old and New Testaments? If we were to throw out the Old Testament we would be missing giant chunks of the New Testament. If we were to throw out the New Testament we would never see many of the prophecies and stories from the Old Testament fulfilled or completed.

The New Testament brings into focus teachings that were only alluded to or mentioned in the Old Testament. The writers God chose to write the New Testament books make it clear that the Old Testament Scriptures were very important and valid. The New Testament writers included approximately 250 direct quotes from the Old Testament and more than 1,000 indirect quotes or mentions of the Old Testament. In fact, 90-95% of the New Testament is information from or about the Old Testament. That's a lot! Any time you read "it is written" or the term "Scripture" in the New Testament, it is talking about the Old Testament. "It is written" is found over 70 times and "Scripture" is used 48 times in the New Testament, all referring to the Old Testament. Jesus, Paul, and many of the early preachers in the New Testament used Scripture from the Old Testament to teach people, and they encouraged them to search or dig into the Scriptures to verify that the teaching they were receiving was true and from God.

The more we search the Scriptures the more likely we are to find hidden treasures in them. Footnotes can help you find some of these treasures. The small letters at the bottom of your Scripture pages are called footnotes. When you see a small letter next to a word in a verse, look at the bottom of the page and find the verse and letter in the footnotes. This will help you find scriptures that give you more information about what you just read. Often times, footnotes will help you connect the Old Testament to the New Testament. It's like a treasure hunt in your Bible. You will get a chance to practice using footnotes during small groups.

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LIFE APPLICATION/OBJECT LESSON

Hold up the padlock and key; if desired have the padlock locking a treasure chest filled with candy. The Old and New Testaments are similar to this padlock and key. You need this key to help you unlock the padlock. We need the New Testament Scriptures to help us unlock the Scriptures in the Old Testament so we can understand what God wants to teach us through all of His Word. Let's pray and ask God to help us spend more time digging into our Bibles and receive what He has for each of our lives.

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GAME: COIN SEARCH

SUPPLIES

- Coins (plastic, chocolate, paper)

SETUP

- Before the kids enter the room, hide coins all around the room.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Everyone can play.
2. Kids will have two minutes to find as many coins as possible.
3. At the end of the two minutes have everyone count up their coins.
The kid with the most coins wins.
4. Optional: Play more rounds allowing the winner from the previous round to hide the coins.
5. Optional: If playing with chocolate coins, allow the kids to keep the coins.

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SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Do you prefer reading the Old or New Testament? Why?
2. Have you ever read the entire Bible? Which parts have you read/not read?
3. What is something you have read in the Bible that you didn't understand?
4. Have you ever used footnotes before? Reminder: Footnotes are the small letters at the bottom of your Scripture pages. You will see them next to some words in verses.

Footnotes Treasure Hunt: Make sure the kids have Bibles available with footnotes. Some Bibles do not include footnotes. Give the kids the verse to find and have them race to see who can find it first. When they find it, have them read it for the group. Notice the small letter in the verse, the footnote. Have the kids find the verse in the footnote. Read that verse aloud for the group. If your group is younger, give them more assistance or pair them up.

- Romans 15:21 (footnote will lead to Isaiah 52:15)
- John 4:26 (footnote will lead to Exodus 3:14)

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REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the name of our current series?
Answer: *Discovery*
2. What are the two parts of the Bible called?
Answer: The Old and New Testaments
3. Are both the Old and New Testaments important?
Answer: Yes
4. What is Today's Takeaway?
Answer: I should dig into all of God's Word.
5. Our theme verse says all Scripture is what?
Answer: God-breathed (inspired by God)