

KIDMUNITY | God's Word, My Life

Lesson 02: One Big Story, Many Different Books

Small Group Guide

Bottom Line:

The Bible is one big story made of many books.

Memory Verse:

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. Psalm 119:105

Activity One: Piece by Piece

Introduction for Leaders

This activity helps kids understand that the Bible is made up of many different parts, written by different authors over many years, but together it forms one big picture of God's story. Just like puzzle pieces, the books of the Bible might seem separate on their own – but when put together, they show how God is rescuing the world through Jesus. The goal is for kids to see the Bible as a unified story, not a confusing collection of random writings.

Supplies Needed

- A simple jigsaw puzzle (about 16 pieces – large pieces are best for groups)
- A flat surface for building (table or floor)
- Stopwatch or phone timer

Game Instructions

Round One (All Ages)

- Give each child 1–2 puzzle pieces.
- Place the rest in the middle.
- Work together as a group to assemble the puzzle.
- Celebrate once the picture is complete.

Round Two (Time Challenge)

- Take the puzzle apart.
- Start the timer and let the group rebuild the puzzle as fast as possible.
- Celebrate their time.
- Try again to see if they can beat their record.

Upside-Down Challenge (Older Kids 2nd–5th)

- Mix up the puzzle and flip all the pieces upside down so the picture is hidden.
- Challenge the group to put it together without seeing the image.
- Once complete, flip it over to reveal the picture.
- Celebrate how even when it seemed unclear, the pieces still fit together perfectly.

Teaching Connection

Say: “The Bible has 66 different books. At first, it can feel like a bunch of random pieces. Sometimes when you only look at one piece, it’s hard to see how it connects to the bigger picture. But when you put all the pieces together, you see one clear story: God’s story of rescuing the world through Jesus.

The Bible is also really diverse. It has poetry, history, letters, wisdom, and more. Different parts of the Bible may resonate with different people – some might love the Psalms because they’re full of prayers and songs, others might love Proverbs because they offer wise advice. In contrast, others might really connect with the stories of Jesus or the letters that explain how to live out their faith. But no matter what kind of book you’re reading, it’s all part of the same big story pointing to God’s rescue through Jesus.”

Discussion Questions (Age Specific)

Kinder / 1st

- How many pieces did we need to finish the puzzle?
- How many books are in the Bible?
- What makes the Bible different from other books?

2nd / 3rd

- Why do you think God used so many different people to write the Bible?
- How does this puzzle help you understand how the Bible fits together?
- What’s one part of the Bible you’d like to read more of – stories, poems, or letters?

4th / 5th

- Why is it powerful that 40 authors, in 3 languages, over 1,500 years all told the same story?
 - If a friend said the Bible feels confusing, what could you say to explain it's really one big story about Jesus?
 - Which kind of Bible book do you connect with most — poetry, history, wisdom, or letters? Why?
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Activity Two: One Sentence Sketch

Introduction for Leaders

This activity builds on the Large Group teaching that the Bible can be summarized in one sentence: *God made it, we broke it, Jesus fixes it*. Kids will use dry-erase boards to draw one part of the story, and then the group will guess which part it is. The goal is to help kids remember that every book of the Bible connects to one of these three big truths.

Supplies Needed

- 1 dry-erase board per child (or per pair if needed)
- Dry-erase markers
- Timer

Game Instructions

- Assign each child (or pair) one phrase: “God made it,” “We broke it,” or “Jesus fixes it.”
- Set a timer for 3 minutes. Kids draw a picture to represent their phrase.
 - Examples:
 - God made it → animals, trees, people, stars
 - We broke it → someone lying, fighting, sadness, broken world
 - Jesus fixes it → cross, empty tomb, helping hands, joy
 - After time is up, kids hold up their boards.
 - The group guesses which phrase each drawing represents.
 - Play another round, giving kids a new phrase each time.

Teaching Connection

Say: “You just showed the Bible’s big story in pictures. No matter where you turn in the Bible, it connects to one of these truths: God made the world, sin broke it, and Jesus came to fix it. Every book, every chapter, is part of this one big story.”

Bottom Line Connection

The Bible is one big story made of many books.

Discussion Questions

Kinder / 1st Grade

- Who are some different kinds of people God used to write the Bible? (Kings, fishermen, farmers, doctors, etc.)
- Do you think it's amazing that people who lived so far apart all wrote the same story? Why?
- What does it mean when we say, "God made it"? What did God make?
- How does Jesus fix what was broken?

2nd / 3rd Grade

- Why do you think God chose so many different types of people to write His story?
- The Bible was written across three continents. What does that tell you about God's story?
- If the whole Bible can be summed up in one sentence, which part (God made it, we broke it, Jesus fixes it) do you think is most important for people to know first? Why?
- How does it help you to know that every part of the Bible connects to Jesus?

4th / 5th Grade (4 Questions)

- How does the diversity of the authors (kings, prophets, fishermen, doctors, farmers) show us that the Bible really is for everyone?
- The Bible was written over 1,500 years. What does that teach us about how carefully God planned His story?
- "God made it, we broke it, Jesus fixes it." Which part of that sentence feels most real to you right now? Why?
- If someone told you the Bible is just a collection of random stories, how would you explain that it's actually one big story that points to Jesus?