WHAT IS THE BIBLE

The Bible is the Word of God. In the Bible, God reveals who He is, which is fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. - **John 1:1-5, 14**

"In the sacred books, the Father who is in heaven comes lovingly to meet his children and talks with them." – Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) Paragraph 104

"God is the author of Sacred Scripture because he inspired its human authors: he acts in them and by means of them. He thus gives assurance that their writings teach without error his saving truth." – CCC Paragraph 136

BIBLE TIPS	The Bible Timeline (see handouts below) can help see the Bible as one whole story of God's love and mercy for all humanity. Here is a video summary of salvation history & the Bible on YouTube by Fr. Mike Schmitz from Ascension Press: <u>https://youtu.be/Y2d8n1tMmzg</u>
PARENT TIPS	Remember to relate the Bible stories to our lives - CLICK HERE for ideas & topics. Use online videos to help teach Bible stories. Here are some ideas: • Lego Bible Story Good Samaritan: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DMyGa5Z_wbl • Superbook - https://youtu.be/fn-wEOpPsMo • David and Goliath - Minecraft - https://youtu.be/lf39lefpgW0 • Get Up and Walk - Outside Da Box (older children or teens) - https://youtu.be/CrNJtFivICM • Bible Miniseries Trailer (older children or teens) - https://youtu.be/qkZ5NUAjuE4 • Son of God Trailer (older children or teens) - https://youtu.be/-Hsl5UG90_c
BIBLE VERSE: 2 TIMOTHY 3:16	All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work.
BIBLE STORY: JESUS TALKING ABOUT THE BIBLE (MATTHEW 5:17-19)	Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter will pass from the law, until all things have taken place. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
SAINT OF THE WEEK	St. Jerome : Patron saint of archaeologists, Biblical scholars, librarians, students and translators. To learn more about, click here
FAMILY FUN	Create a video of a Bible story as a family. Pick a Bible story, then use whatever you want to make a video: Legos, dolls, stuffed animals, people, etc. Be creative and have fun!
FAMILY PRAYER ACTIVITY	Bible Bookmark Worksheet (see below) Read a story from the Bible together as a family. Then, take time to thank God for revealing Himself to us and all the blessings in your lives.

Directions: Print out and color this bookmark. Use it to remind you of God's love and mercy for you through God's gift of the Bible.

Bookmark THO He will teach us His ways, so that we may walk in His paths. Isaiah 2:3 He will teach us His ways, so that we may walk in His paths. Isaiah 2:3

BIBLE TIMELINE OVERVIEW

Outline of God's Covenants with Mankind

Purpose of the Covenants:

- Covenants are not just a promise, they are stronger. Covenants are eternal. In the Old Testament, God did not create the world and then back off to let us figure everything out on our own. Instead, God wanted us to be a part of His family. In order to create that "family bond" God made a covenant with His people. Marriage is like that. A man and a woman come together to make a covenant – a family.
- Jesus is the fulfillment of the covenant God made with mankind.
- Connect the Dots: The covenants in the Old Testament help us to connect the history of God's people. Each covenant comes from God. God tells us that He wants us to be in His family, but we must be faithful and obedient to His law.
 Unfortunately, mankind broke our end of the covenant by sinning.
- These are the main covenants of the Old Testament:
 - Adam and Eve: The first covenant is with a man and woman, husband and wife. They are to give completely of themselves as a sign of God's love.
 - Noah and his family: The second covenant expand to include Noah and his family. During Noah's time, most of the world had turned away from God, but Noah was considered a "righteous man" and found favor with God. God establishes a covenant with Noah and calls his family to remain faithful. God promises to never flood the earth again.
 - Abraham and Sarah: What is bigger than a family? In the Old Testament it's a tribe. The third covenant God establishes is with Abraham, Sarah and their tribe. Again, Abraham was a faithful man who found favor with God. God promises Abraham that he will be the father of many nations and his descendants will outnumber the stars. With this covenant, God calls the people to be obedient and trust in Him.
 - Moses: Abraham's descendants become the Israelites and their numbers grow. They migrate to Egypt and are enslaved by the Egyptians. God calls Moses to lead His people out of slavery and into the Promised Land – their own nation. God reveals His name, I AM (Exodus 3) and gives them the Ten Commandments to follow. This covenant is to establish a holy nation that worships the One, True God.
 - David: The last major covenant in the Old Testament is with David and the Israelite Kingdom. After the Israelites are in their new land, they are governed by spiritual leaders called Judges. However, they soon begin to demand a king who has authority. God makes a covenant with David and the Israelite people that He will be their God and they will be His people. This covenant establishes a kingship that will be fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ, the King of kings.

BIBLE TIMELINE OVERVIEW

Quick Outline of the Whole Bible

(this is just a brief overview of Salvation history)

- Genesis:
 - The Creation of the Man and the Woman, Their Offspring, and the Spread of Civilization (2:4 4:26)
 - The Story of Abraham and Sarah (11:27 25:18)
 - The Story of Isaac and Jacob (25:19 36:43)
- Exodus:
 - The Call and Commission of Moses (2:23 7:7)
 - The Deliverance of the Israelites from Pharaoh and Victory at the Sea (13:17 15:21)
 - Covenant and Legislation at Mount Sinai (19:1 31:18)

• 1 Samuel/2 Samuel:

- Saul and David (1 Sm 13:1 2 Sm 2:7)
- The Reign of David (2 Sm 2:8 20:26)

• Matthew:

- The Infancy Narrative (1:1 2:23)
- The Proclamation of the Kingdom (3:1 7:29)
- Ministry and Mission in Galilee (8:1 11:1)
- Opposition from Israel (11:2 13:53)
- Jesus, the Kingdom, and the Church (13:54 18:35)
- Ministry in Judea and Jerusalem (19:1 25:46)
- The Passion and Resurrection (26:1 28:20)