

Making it Mine

A Bible study for kids ready to grow
a faith of their own.

Introduction

Are you ready?

The first
month we will
read the book
of John.

By the end
of the year we
will have read
through the
entire New
Testament, plus
bits and pieces
of the Old
Testament.

Look in this
column to find
the week's
reading
assignment.

What do you believe about God? _____

When do you think a kid becomes responsible for what they
believe? _____

Nehemiah 8:2,3 Who was part of the assembly that was
gathered to listen to Ezra read from the Book of the Law (the
part of the Bible that had been written so far)? _____

1 Samuel 3:1-4,10 What happened to Samuel when he was
only a young boy? _____

Who responded, the boy Samuel or the adult Eli? _____

Luke 2:41-52 How old was Jesus when He went to the temple
to listen to and ask questions of the teachers? _____
What explanation did He give to His parents? _____

Hebrews 5:7-9 Jesus was the Son of God, but that alone did
not “qualify” Him for what He became. What else was
necessary? _____

What is the importance of your parent’s faith? _____

GRAFFITO

You are probably familiar with graffiti. It is an illegal act of writing or drawing on public property.

It is not something that we want to imitate. But I do marvel at the lengths these “artists” will undergo to communicate their message. Sometimes it is gang related, claiming a territory or sending a message to another gang. It is used to say to the world “I was here and this is who I am.”

Another word that you might be less familiar with is **GRAFFITO**. It means little scratch, like you would make with some pointed tool on a tablet of something soft like wax. Let’s think about our hearts for a minute.

1 Samuel 16:7 What part of a person is important to God? _____

Ezekiel 36:26 Does God prefer a heart of stone or a heart of flesh? _____

Isaiah 49:16 How does God put our names on the palms of His hands? _____

Why? _____

Psalms 119:9-16 Where are we to put God’s words? _____

Heb. 4:12 What is God’s word like? _____

So, every month we will be memorizing a new verse. We will be hiding it in our heart, where it cannot be sand blasted off, or painted over. It will actually become part of who we are, our identity that we communicate by how we live.

MONTH 1 - HEART GRAFFITO:

Fill in the missing letters from John 4:42 (NIV translation):

**“W__ no lo__ger be__ieve just becaus__ of what __ou said;
n__w we have __eard for __urselves, and __e know that __his
m__n really __s the __avior of the __or__d.” John 4:42**

Who was saying these words? _____

What had just happened? _____

Why were these words important? _____

Why are they important to you? _____

Ephesians 1:18,19 and **Ephesians 4:12-15** What does Paul say is the purpose of the words he has written in the Bible? _____



ACTIVITY PAGE

KIDS WHO MATTERED!

M	A	K	I	N	G	I	T	M	I	N	E	B
J	O	S	E	P	H	J	O	S	I	A	H	D
V	L	I	K	E	Y	O	U	D	G	C	U	A
V	K	I	S	H	M	A	E	L	T	O	A	V
M	I	N	E	Q	N	S	U	O	Y	E	K	I
Q	D	K	I	D	S	B	W	H	C	S	I	D
F	S	W	U	J	K	V	T	Y	H	A	N	D
I	Q	O	T	S	Y	O	U	F	O	M	G	J
P	Y	O	U	M	M	A	K	Y	O	U	I	T
R	J	S	M	I	V	H	O	K	A	E	O	D
I	E	U	T	P	M	U	U	I	O	L	M	Y
J	X	M	O	S	E	S	E	D	J	B	I	L
K	I	D	S	L	I	K	E	Y	O	U	N	Q

CLUES

Look up these Scriptures to find the names of kids that mattered and then find the names in the Word Search above.

Genesis 21:17-20 _____

Genesis 37:2-7 _____

Exodus 2:10 _____

1 Samuel 3:1-4 _____

1 Samuel 17:33-36 _____

2 Kings 22:1 _____

Luke 2:41-49 _____

1 Timothy 1:2 & 4:12 _____

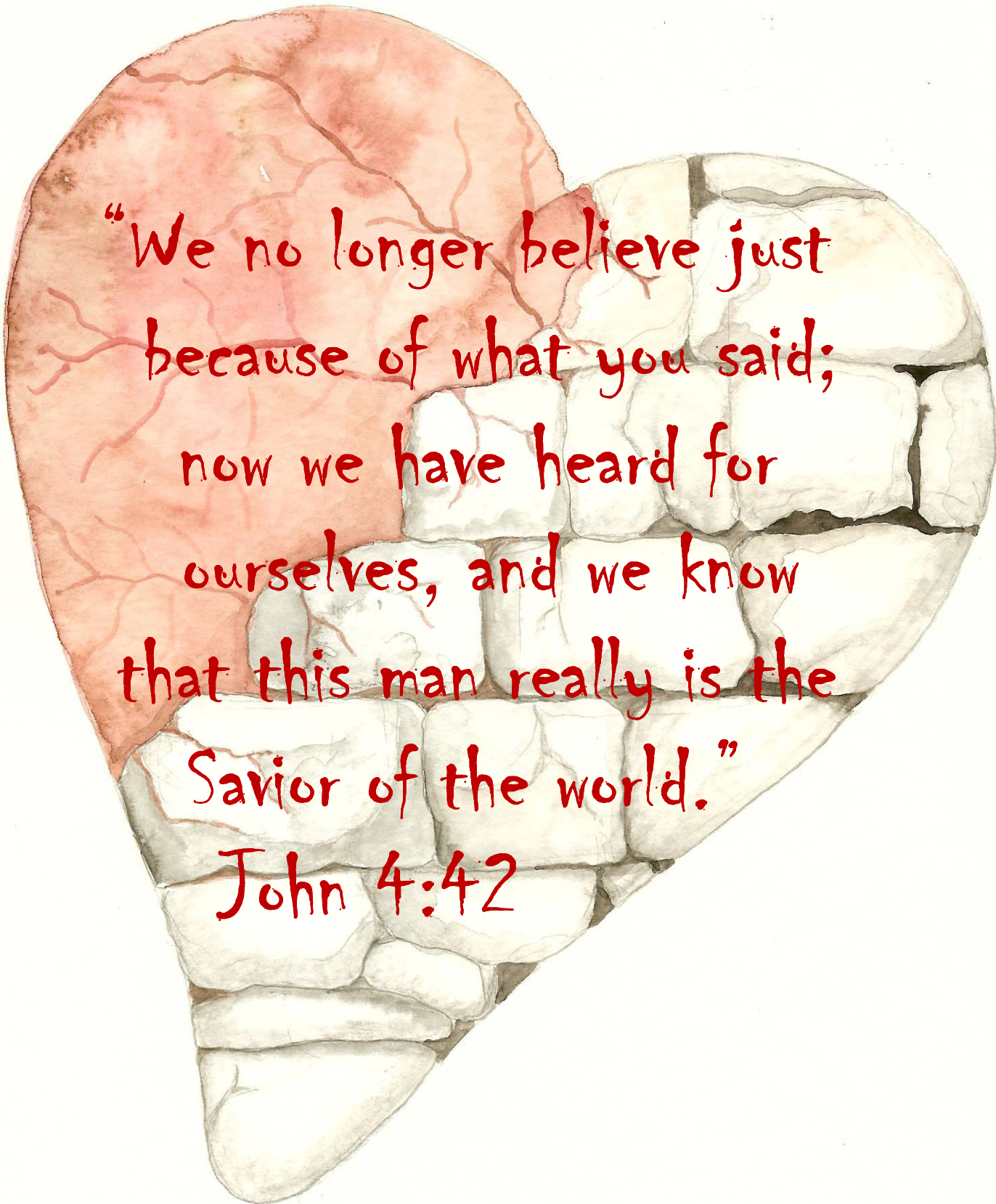
How many times did you find YOU? _____



NAME THE KIDS!

Girl _____

Boy _____



“We no longer believe just
because of what you said;
now we have heard for
ourselves, and we know
that this man really is the
Savior of the world.”
John 4:42

Getting started TIPS for parents and teachers

I began this class because my youngest three children will be in it. After years of parenting, and teaching this age group, I have come to see this as the greatest window of opportunity for these young people to come to a saving faith of their own. Most of the kids that will be in my class have gone to church all of their lives. They have had excellent teachers and are pretty familiar with God's word and the stories of His people. I want my children and yours to go a step farther. I want them to know how to make that faith their own and take it with them into the world they live in. Because of that I intend to follow Paul's example of stepping into that world and using it to show them Christ. If Paul could use Greek philosophy to help the Greeks understand life in the body of Christ, then we can use what is familiar to our kids in the same way.

GRAFFITO – throughout this year's course we will refer to our memory verse as heart graffito. No, I am not encouraging kids to deface public property, but I do want to give fresh meaning to the familiar "drudgery" of memorizing scripture. If you have ever sat waiting on a train, you've seen the sometimes simple, other times quite elaborate, artwork or graffiti on the sides of the freight cars. Have you ever wondered why it was there and who the artists/perpetrators were? I recommend to you, and shared with the kids, a great little book called Freight Train Graffiti by Roger Gastman, Darin Rowland, and Ian Sattler. We discussed in this introductory class how graffiti is used for communicating and expressing one's identity and why people will go to such great lengths to do so. Graffito differs from graffiti in that it actually means to use a sharp tool to scratch the message in. We discussed how God's words in their hearts does much the same thing. Think about the possibility of a field trip to the train yard. Look at how the paint fades in time, or gets painted over or even sand blasted off. Lots of good analogy here! We took turns scratching the memory verse into a block of wax.

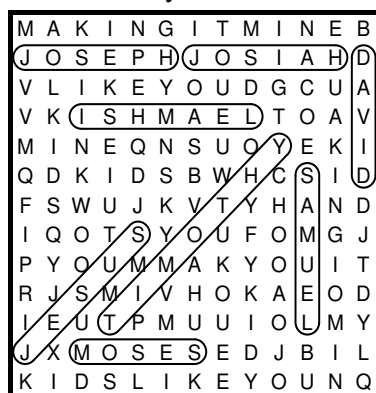
BINGO CARDS- I printed out bingo cards with the books of the New Testament that I found at a helpful website called eBibleTeacher.com. Go to Sunday School-Children and under Books of the Bible you will find Bingo Game. Rather than use them in the traditional way however, each student will have a card in their class binder. Each time we cover a book of the New Testament that is on their card, they will be able to mark it off. The first to get a Bingo – it will be at least a few months down the road, will get an inexpensive New Testament of their own.

CEREAL BOX BOOKS- For each book of the New Testament that we complete, we will cover and label a cereal box to put on our "bookshelf". It will be a fun way to keep track of how much ground we have covered, and will help us visually put each book in the place it is found in the Bible.

ATTENDANCE CHARTS- Use mine or make your own. On mine I have a page for each child by the quarter. They earn points for being present, bringing their Bible, having their homework completed, and knowing their memory verse. Bringing a friend will earn points for the entire class since we want to encourage the idea of working together to build the kingdom. Eventually we will make some t-shirts, again to promote the idea that this is a team effort, and as a place to put the star patches that they earn.

FUN STUFF- Do whatever you can think of to keep things fun. I got some inexpensive reading glasses in bright colors and outdated styles and took the lenses out. We put these on whenever we need to take an extra careful look at a Scripture, or try to see things with God's eyes. The kids enjoy it and it adds emphasis and importance to whatever we are looking at. I also bought funky pencils, markers and erasers. Group Publishing has a nifty beach ball with different questions on it that you can toss to each other and use for review at the end of class. The biggest thing here is that I want to leave kids with a positive taste in their mouth, and an enthusiasm for more.

LOOKING AHEAD- Wrigley's has come out with a new gum that comes in a cool black box with a 5 on it. Start chewing and save an empty box for each of your students. We will use them for prayer reminders down the road a ways.



PUZZLE ANSWERS I included names of kids in my class for the puzzle we used. For your class use the puzzle on page 3, or make your own!

Since this was our first meeting, we did the work together in class. Week 1 worksheet and reading assignments were sent home with them to complete on their own.



Would you like to receive this study guide by email, or make comments? Contact me at kayannausherman@hotmail.com