

brite*

Volunteers

NOVEMBER

This month's
BIBLICAL  *Theme*
God is greater than anything

I was never good at math. I still am not good at math. But in math, there are three ways to measure something: less than, equal to and greater than. The largest number is always greater than all the others. I am rarely tempted to think that God is less than me, but I'm often tempted to believe He is equal to me. I go through life thinking that I have this with God's help, and it's just not true.

God has me, holds me and fights for me. Israel often forgot the mercy and justice of our perfect God. In the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal, we see God as greater than every false hope. In the story of Jonah, we see God's mercy far greater than Jonah's desire for judgment.

The basis for our comfort and confidence is His greatness. What a kind reminder this month of how great our God is.

-Sam Luce childdiscipleship.com

THROUGHOUT THE MONTH WE WILL BE LEARNING...

WEEK 1

Elijah and Mt. Carmel

(1 Kings 18:16-45)

Brite Idea: The Lord is the one true God.

WEEK 3

Isaiah's Call

(Isaiah 6)

Brite Idea: God is holy.

WEEK 2

Jonah

(Jonah 1-4)

Brite Idea: God gives grace.

WEEK 4

The Fiery Furnace

(Daniel 3)

Brite Idea: Only God is worthy of worship.

WEEK 5

The Exiles Return

(Ezra 1-3; 7; Nehemiah 1-2)

Brite Idea: God works through His people.



MONTHLY Memory Verse

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable.

(PSALM 145:3)





Sharing the Gospel

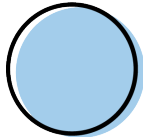
TEACHING KIDS ABOUT THE GOSPEL

The Gospel is the good news. God wants everyone to know this good news and not miss out on this invitation! Here's the Gospel in five main words: God, Us, Jesus, Trust, Share.

LET'S DRAW IT!

Use this simple illustration as you explain the Gospel and teach kids to draw it too!

GOD



God is a loving God who is all-powerful and holy. He knows and sees everything, and rules over everything. God created all people in His image, and we are valuable to Him. (*Psalms 103:19, Genesis 1:27*)

US



But we have sinned, and our sin separates us from God. What is sin? Sin is anything we think, say, or do that disobeys God. The penalty for sin is death and separation from God forever. (*Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23*)

JESUS



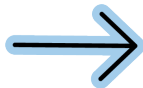
But because God loves us so much, He sent His one and only Son, Jesus, to pay the penalty for our sin. Jesus died in our place. But He did not stay dead—He rose again three days later. Because of Jesus, we no longer have to be separated from God and we are offered the free gift of eternal life! (*John 3:16, Romans 5:8*)

TRUST



God gives salvation, rescuing us from our sin, to everyone who places their trust in Jesus as their Savior. What is trust? It means that we rely on what Jesus did. You cannot be saved from sin by doing good things, but only through what Jesus did for you. (*Ephesians 2:8-9*)

SHARE



We can choose to follow Him and share His love with others! The Holy Spirit helps us grow to be more like Jesus. He gives us the power and boldness to share God's good news with the world. (*Galatians 5:22-23, Acts 1:8*)

Prayer

Kids pray some of the most beautiful and authentic prayers. But just like with any spiritual discipline, we don't need to just talk about prayer; we need to practice praying.

PRAYER - BEING STILL

Today's kids are often overscheduled and constantly on the go. It is hard for them to grasp the discipline of being still and quiet. How are they ever to learn how to settle themselves and pray if they can't even be still?

1. **Practice Still.** At the beginning of class or as a transition activity before the lesson, invite kids to find their own space in the room. Turn on some worship music and challenge kids to be still and quiet for one minute. As kids learn about stillness, you can extend this time to allow them to practice it further.
2. **Return to Still.** After the lesson, take a moment to help kids return to a state of stillness and quietness as they reflect on what they learned. Invite kids to talk silently to God about things they understood, things they didn't understand and what they learned about Him.
3. **Still Song:** Play a worship song and invite kids to sit still and listen for all the things they learn about God during the song.

PRAYING ALOUD

Not all kids are comfortable praying aloud. Some will be unsure what to do when called on to pray. Here are some ways for kids to practice praying so they become more comfortable praying aloud.

1. **Fill in the Blank.** During prayer time, read a statement and invite kids to fill in the blank aloud together. For example: "God, today we thank You for _____. After today's lesson, would You help us to _____?"
2. **All at Once.** Invite kids to spread out around the room and pray aloud at the same time. Remind kids that they are not listening to each other, they are all talking to God at once.
3. **Praying Scripture.** Select a Scripture verse or passage from the day's lesson or the unit's theme and invite kids to fill in their name or pray that Scripture aloud.
4. **Praying for Others.** Invite kids to call out the name of someone they need to pray for. For example: "God, we bring to You all these people who are sick." (Kids would then say someone's name aloud together.)

BEING RESPECTFUL DURING PRAYER

Until we begin to understand who God is, we can't grasp how respectful we should be as we approach Him in prayer.

1. **Who You Are Praying To.** Before you pray, take time to list things you know about God on the board in your space (e.g., "He is holy," "Creator," "kind," "perfect," etc.). Ask kids how they would react to their pastor, the U.S. president or a famous person if they walked into the room. Explain to kids that God is greater than any of those people and He deserves our respect. While we may not see Him, He sees us, hears us and knows our every thought.
2. **Prayer Positions.** Practice different prayer positions to demonstrate how we can approach a holy God. Start by having kids close their eyes and grasp their hands together to minimize distractions. Invite kids to lift their hands in praise as they praise God. Challenge kids to get down on their knees as they silently confess their sins to God. Lead kids to pray with their hands open as they pray for themselves.

Prayer

PRAYER REQUESTS

Kids are amazing intercessors, but sometimes can widen the prayer requests so wide that sometimes their prayer requests could benefit with more focus.

1. **Whiteboard Requests.** Draw four circles on the board and label each accordingly: "Myself," "People Living at My House", "My Family" and "My Friends." As kids share their requests, explain that they must fit into one of the four circles.
2. **Family Requests.** When taking prayer requests, ask kids to share requests for their immediate family, church family or mission's family.
3. **20-Second Request.** When sharing prayer requests, explain to kids that each person gets 20 seconds to share their requests so all kids have time to share what they would like the class to pray for that day.
4. **Answered Prayers Closing.** So often we bring request after request to God but never return to thank Him for how He answers our prayers. At the end of each week, circle back and ask the kids to share their answered prayers, then have a praise party thanking Him.

PATTERN OF PRAYER

Kids become more comfortable with prayer as they begin to understand the pattern of prayer. Practice stillness. Begin with praise. Confess your sins. Thank God. Pray for yourself and others. Practicing this pattern each week will help kids know what to expect and be prepared to pray.

1. **Sitting Still.** Turn off the lights and invite kids to sit still and focus on God.
2. **Popcorn Praise.** Call out a letter and invite kids to stand up and praise God for who He is, using a word that starts with that letter (e.g., "God, you are Amazing").
3. **Confession.** Encourage kids to sit quietly and reflect on things they need to confess to God. Ask them to ask His forgiveness for those things silently.
4. **Thanksgiving Together.** Set a timer and see how long your group can thank God for specific things.
5. **Pray for You/Me.** Encourage kids to pray for themselves, asking God to help them live out the lessons they learn. Next, challenge them to pray for someone else.

brite* *Ministry* LEADERS

NOVEMBER

THIS MONTH'S ATTRIBUTE OF GOD IS: *God is greater than anything*

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THIS MONTH'S UNIT THEME IS: *Beyond*

Space stretches farther than we can travel. It's filled with stars, planets and endless wonder, but God is beyond even that! Through our stories this month, kids will see that God's power, mercy and holiness go beyond every fear, mistake or obstacle. God is beyond all creation, all limits and anything we could ever face! Check out our Pinterest page for decorating ideas: <https://www.pinterest.com/britecurriculum/beyond/>

BRITE in Action

This month, as we learn that God is greater than anything, invite families to look beyond their own communities and care for the nations. Host a "Beyond Our City" missions night where families come together to support missionaries or global ministries that your church partners with. Set up stations where families can write encouragement letters, draw pictures for missionary kids and assemble small care packages with simple treats. Display a large world map so kids can see exactly where their support is going, reminding them that God's power and love reach far beyond what we can see. Talk about how Elijah, Jonah, Isaiah and Daniel all show us that God reveals Himself to the nations. Close by praying together for the people in that country to know that the Lord is the one true God.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION:

Thank your team this month for serving in a way that truly goes beyond! Print the attached cards and pair each one with a MILKY WAY® or MARS® bar for a fun, space-themed touch. Simply tape or staple the candy wrapper to the card for an easy, affordable gift that feels thoughtful and on theme. As you hand them out, take a moment to remind your volunteers that their faithfulness launches kids toward lasting faith in Jesus. Their love for God shines brighter and farther than they may ever see.