

Lesson 10 Focus:

The Bible is God's message to us.

Lesson 10 Bible Basis:

Deuteronomy 5:1-7; 6:5-9; Jeremiah 30:1-2; 2 Peter 1:21

Lesson 10 Memory Verse:

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. —2 Timothy 3:16

Students will discover God's Word gives specific answers and instruction for our lives.

Materials:

☐ Internet access

In 2011, NASA launched a spacecraft called Juno to travel to the planet Jupiter. In 2016, it arrived and began orbiting Jupiter. By studying Jupiter, we are learning how a gas giant affects the solar system around it. It is thought that then we will be able to understand the nature of other solar systems just by examining their gas giants.

There are billions of Jupiter-like planets in our galaxy, and they are easier to observe than any of the other smaller planets. A planet that large has a significant impact on a solar system and scientists believe that the messages that come back to us can tell us how these systems formed. Let's look at one small piece of what scientists are studying from the images and data being sent back to Earth from Juno.

Share the following video with your preteens [3:07]: See Nasa's spectacular new images of Jupiter | BBC Global https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bw0IxexIiIw

You and I may not be as brilliant as the NASA scientists studying the data, but we can understand they spent billions of dollars and years of waiting to get this data from space. Whether they interpret these messages and apply them correctly remains to be seen. In other scientific studies, scientists gather information from various sources and compare it before they come up with a theory.

- > Why do you think it is so important to scientists that they study Jupiter at this level? (Answers will vary but may include that they are trying to find out how the solar systems are formed and whether there is life on other planets.)
- ➤ What kind of messages do you give top priority and why are they important? (Answers may include social media messages from friends; some may give their parents top priority. Some may mention information from teachers, etc. as messages that contain important information that they need to respond to or act upon. Students might mention God's Word.)

We don't have to be NASA scientists to know and understand the answers to some of life's greatest questions. God gave us His Word, the Bible, to help guide us as well as give us His answers to the big and small questions in life. God's Word is His message to us that provides everything we need. Let's find out more.

Additional resources:

The Importance of Juno – Info graphic

https://www.forbes.com/sites/kevinanderton/2016/08/31/the-importance-of-juno-infographic/#47bce90449cd

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)



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Materials:

	Internet access
	Wide popsicle sticks (four per child)
	Ultra-thin tipped permanent markers
	Whiteboard and marker (or screenshared document)

Before class, write the following references on the board (or copy them onto a screenshared document): Deuteronomy 6:5; 30:19; Joshua 24:15; John 14:6; and 1 John 4:8. (If your class is meeting online, invite children to bring supplies with them to class. If they don't have popsicle sticks available, cut strips of cardstock or paper will also work.)

Today, we learned the Bible was written long ago to be preserved for people in generations to come. God had ordinary men record His message to us. We also learned how important it is to talk about His Word and write it down to be remembered. Today we're going to do just that.

Have a volunteer read Deuteronomy 6:4-8. Let's do as Deuteronomy 6 tells us and tie God's Word as symbols on our hands. We are going to make Scripture memory sticks. They will serve as reminders of God's Word to us every time we read them.

Distribute supplies (or invite students to have

supplies ready at home). Encourage them to write each Scripture reference from the whiteboard or screen onto separate popsicle sticks. On the opposite sides of the sticks from the reference, students can write key words or phrases from the verse (as an example, they might write: Deut. 30:19—Choose Life). Once students have finished the activity, encourage students to use a jar or cup from home to hold the sticks. They can keep the cup or jar in their room at home, and each time they walk past, they can choose a stick to read. Encourage students to continue adding sticks with new verses so they can commit more verses to memory.

- ➤ Why is knowing God's Word so important? (Knowing God's Word gives us direction in our lives, it changes us into who God wants us to be, it gives us answers to life's big questions, etc.)
- ➤ What are ways we can learn God's Word? (Having a quiet time with God each day, memorizing verses, listening to our teachers and pastors, etc.)

God has sent us His Word—His message directly to us—to let us know how much He loves us and how to best live our lives. His Word gives us direction. It answers the big questions and gives guidance in the details of our day. Let's take time to dig into the Scriptures God was careful to preserve for us. Read His Word, follow it, wear it! Do whatever it takes to personally know the Creator of the universe.

Pray to close.

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