

MIGHTY MESSAGES

“Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.” (Proverbs 30:5, NKJV)

The Bible is full of God’s amazing *Mighty Messages* - promises that He will always keep, and truths that will never fail. Young children are more than ready to receive God’s *Mighty Messages*. We have an opportunity and a responsibility to help children move along a path that starts with a general understanding of God (what nature reveals) towards a special, deeper understanding (knowing about God’s love, forgiveness, and the promise of eternal life). Knowing God exists is just the first step. Children need to and are capable of understanding what God did to demonstrate His love for us (*But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8, NIV)*).

In order to build this solid foundation, we must have a clear understanding of how young children learn and apply that knowledge to the methods we use to present God’s Truth to children. When we are aware of how young children learn, how the brain develops, and how to use different teaching techniques, we have equipped ourselves with the knowledge and tools we need to help children learn about and truly know God.

“GOD CREATED YOU & ME” (September)

Then God looked over all He had made, and He saw that it was very good! And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day. (Genesis 1:31, NLT)

God saw that all He had created was very good. We are each a part of God’s creation, and He is pleased with how He made us. If ever we’re feeling worthless or of little value, remember that God made each of us for a reason and we are of value to Him.

“GOD’S LOVE LIVES IN US” (October)

No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and His love is brought to full expression in us. (1 John 4:12, NLT)

When we love one another, the invisible God reveals Himself to others through us, and His love is made complete. Our job is to love faithfully the people God has given us to love, whether there are two or two hundred of them. If God sees that we are ready to love others, He will bring them to us. No matter how shy we are, we don’t need to *be afraid of the love commandment*. *God provides us the strength to do what He asks.*

“GOD DESERVES OUR THANKS” (November)

Then I will thank You in front of the great assembly. I will praise You before all the people. (Psalm 35:18, NLT)

When we come to Christ and accept Him as our Savior, all of the sins that we have ever committed in the past and will ever commit are forgiven. God loves us so much that He gave His Son to us so that our sins would be forgiven. What a wonderful gift to thank God for each and every day. However, it does not stop there. God continues to give to us and bless us every day in so many ways. God always deserves our thanks.

“GOD’S GREATEST GIFT” (December)

“And she will have a Son, and you are to name Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21, NLT)

The greatest gift we have ever been given or will ever be given is that of our salvation through Jesus Christ. We celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas because God sent Jesus to us to save us. God’s great big plan to save the whole world came in the small, innocent package of a newborn child.

“GOD’S WORD IS THE TRUTH” (January)

Make them holy by Your Truth; teach them Your Word, which is Truth. (John 17:17, NLT)

The WHOLE Bible is God’s inspired Word. We should trust in His truth, read His Word and apply it to our lives. The Bible is our standard for testing everything else that claims to be true. God wants to show us what is true and equip us to live our lives for Him.

“LOVE ONE ANOTHER” (February)

Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. (1 John 4:7, NLT)

Love is not a feeling – it is a choice and an action. God is the source of our love – He loved us enough to sacrifice His Son. The Holy Spirit gives us the power to love; He lives in our hearts and makes us more & more like Christ. How well do we display our love for God in the choices we make and the actions we take?

“JESUS IS THE WAY, THE TRUTH & THE LIFE” (March)

For God loved the world so much that He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16, NLT)

There is no sin in heaven so we need Jesus, God’s one and only Son, to take away our sins so we

can go to heaven some day and live with God forever. Jesus tells us in the Bible that He is the way, the truth and the life—no one comes to the Father except through Him. When we tell Jesus we are sorry for our sins and ask for His forgiveness, His love lives in our hearts.

“CALL GOD, HE’S LISTENING” (April)

Then you will call on Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. (Jeremiah 29:12, NIV)

ANY time we pray, EVERY time we pray, God listens to us. He wants to hear from us. He wants to fellowship with us. Pick up the phone, God is waiting for your call.

“THE HOLY SPIRIT IS OUR HELPER” (May)

“John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 1:5, NLT)

The Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity; sent to each one of us from God. The Holy Spirit teaches us, guides us, and gives us comfort and peace.

“HAVE FAITH: GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES” (June)

God also bound Himself with an oath, so that those who received the promise could be perfectly sure that He would never change His mind. So God has given both His promise and His oath. These two things are unchangeable because it is impossible for God to lie. (Hebrews 6:17-18a, NLT)

We believe in God’s promises even when we can’t or don’t immediately see those promises being fulfilled. We believe God is who He says He is and will do what He says He will do.

“WE CAN WORSHIP GOD ANYWHERE AND ANY TIME” (July)

“For God is Spirit, so those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth.” (John 4:24, NLT)

“God is spirit” means that He is not a physical being, limited to one place. God is everywhere and can be worshipped anywhere. It’s not where we worship God that is important but how we worship Him.

“JESUS IS A SPECIAL PERSON” (August)

So the Word became human and made His home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen His glory, the glory of the Father’s One and Only Son. (John 1:14, NLT)

Jesus, God's One and Only Son came to us as the perfect teacher (through His life we can see how God thinks & therefore how we should think) and the perfect example (He shows us how to live and gives us the power to live that way). He is one of a kind there is no other like Him. Jesus is fully God and fully man.