

Thinking about God's Word

By Frieda Nossaman

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 3**Focus:**

Think about what God has said.

Lesson 3**Bible Basis:**

Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:2;
119:11, 15, 47, 97, 165;
1 Timothy 4:15

Lesson 3**Memory Verse:**

“Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”
—Joshua 1:8

Students will think about what God has said and why they should follow Him.

Materials:

- Internet access
- Comic strip printout (1 per student; template found here)
- Pencils

Before class, print out enough comic strip templates so that each of your students has one (1) page. The pages are different, so each of your students can get creative. The template is found here.

Cool Comic Book Templates for Kids

<https://growingbookbybook.com/comic-book-template-for-kids/>

As your students arrive, hand them a comic book page asking them to draw a cartoon but leave speech (or thought) bubbles blank (if the printed sheet they receive does not have pre-printed speech/thought bubbles, they should add their own BLANK ones). After you have allowed students time to think and draw, have them pass their cartoon to a person near them. Let that person fill in the speech/thought bubble(s) with what they think the cartoon character is thinking. Caution students to keep drawings and speech/thought bubble remarks appropriate. Invite several students to share their final cartoon—giving the written version as well as the version the original artist had in mind when they drew the cartoon.

➤ **Why can't we know what a person is really thinking?** (Answers may include: We aren't him or her, individuals all feel differently about various topics, it is impossible to get into someone's mind, we might have an idea of what someone would think, but we'll never really know, because we aren't that person.)

People love to assume that they know everything about everyone. But the truth is, we only can know something about a person if we have taken the time to get to know that person.

➤ **What are some ways we can get to know someone?** (Answers may include: spend time talking, hang out, play games, have a meal together, go for a walk and talk, ask questions and invite

responses, talk to that person's friends and family about his or her likes and dislikes, etc.)

Today we're going to talk about thinking about what God has said in His Word. You can't think on what you don't know...and thinking about what God has said is the best kind of "in the know" we can know!

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

Lesson 3 / June 17, 2018

Thinking about God's Word

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 3**Focus:**

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1 Timothy 4:15

Lesson 3**Memory Verse:**

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—Joshua 1:8

Materials:

- Internet access
- Index cards
- Pencils

One way we can know God better is to know what He says. That happens from reading God's Word and applying it. Let's watch this video clip by a Christian hip-hop artist named Odd Thomas. Odd Thomas came to his conclusions about God when he spent time in God's Word, believed that God's Word is true, and thought deeply about what God has said.

Share this clip with your students [2:12]:

Why read the Bible?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q!THR_hqH9I

Invite students to answer the following questions.

➤ **Why does Odd Thomas believe that it is important to actually read the Bible instead of just coming to our own conclusions about what it says?** (Answer will vary. Most students will mention that we can misrepresent the Bible or follow false conclusions if we aren't in the Word ourselves.)

➤ **Do you think Odd Thomas struggles at times to find time to be in God's Word? Why or why not?** (Answers will vary. Most students will say being a Christian hip-hop singer doesn't make you automatically a good Christian or knowledgeable in the things of God's Word. It's easy for things to crowd out time in God's Word.)

➤ **Today we talked about God's law and the importance of meditating or thinking on it. According to the passages we studied today, what are some good things that can happen when we do this?** (If necessary, direct students to their Bibles or the lesson Scripture in *The Rock*. Answers include: You will be prosperous and successful. You will not sin against God. Nothing can make you stumble.)

➤ **What are some things that happen to people when they think about what God has**

said? (Answers include: You will be careful to do everything written in them, you will delight in God's law, you will hide God's Word in your heart, you will consider God's ways, you will delight in them and love them, and will have great peace.)

Sounds like thinking about what God has said to us in His Word has tremendous benefit for our lives, doesn't it? If we don't know what God's Word says, then it is hard to follow it. Living without God's direction is a sure way to fail in life. Being in His Word promises the opposite of failure—success!

Encourage students to take time this week from their busy schedules for Bible reading, meditation on the words they read, and prayer. Hand each student an index card and have them write down each day of this week ahead. Next to each day have students calculate a plan that includes Bible reading, meditation, and prayer. Encourage them to start small; they will be much more likely to follow through on one verse than trying to spend an hour in prayer and the Bible. Students can spell out specific times of the day, general ideas to reflect on, and include places where they might read their Bibles as well as passages they want to study. (Books of the Bible listed are fine. Specific verses can be found later.) Encourage your students to keep a journal or record of their weekly time with God and share about it with the group next week.

Follow up with students next week to see how their Bible study time went. If possible, encourage with a call, text, or email during the week to remind students to be in God's Word.

Close in prayer.

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