

GOD'S WONDERFUL WORD



**BEFORE
YOU BEGIN**

A FEW MOMENTS TO PREPARE.

*USE THESE ICONS TO HELP YOU
NAVIGATE THIS WEEK'S LESSON*



TALK TOGETHER

Family conversations
with God's Word.



MORE TO EXPLORE

Answers to kids' questions.



THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

Post it on the fridge.
Use it all week.



COLORING PAGE

Keep little hands busy
before, during and after your
family conversation.

TALK
TOGETHER

WHAT IS THE BEST BOOK YOU HAVE EVER READ?

We each have favorite books we enjoy reading.

Some books are so good we read them again
and again. But God's Word, the Bible, is the only perfect book
ever written!

The Bible is an extraordinary book. What makes God's Word the
best and most important book ever written? It is God's message
directly to each one of us. God doesn't talk with us face to face,
but He has given us His words in the Bible so we can know what
God wants us to know.

Every one of the 66 books of the
Bible was written with the very
words of God, Himself! In the
Bible, God tells us who He is,
what He's done, what He's doing
and what He will do. We learn
who God created us to be. We
learn about ourselves and who
God wants us to become.



CONT. →

TALK
TOGETHER

When the Bible was first written down, the books were written on scrolls made from either animal skin or papyrus, which grew by the Nile River. The scrolls had to be unrolled to be read. Can you imagine how many scrolls it would have taken to write down the entire book of Psalms?

But where did the Bible come from? **Who do you think actually wrote it down?**

God didn't sit down one day and write the Bible the way you might sit down and write a letter to a friend. Instead, God chose around 40 different men to write down what He wanted to say in the Bible. **The Holy Spirit*** told those men what He wanted them to write, and they wrote down the words exactly the way God wanted them to, without any mistakes or errors. Most of these men never met one another. They lived at different times and in different places. In fact, it took over **1,500 years to write the whole Bible.***



Some of the men God used were wealthy; others were poor. Some had gone to school; others did not. The jobs these men had varied between shepherd, king, farmer, doctor, tax collector, priest, fisherman, government leaders and more!

Even so, we can be confident the Bible is from God.

Can you help me find 2 Peter in the Bible? The book 2 Peter is in the back of the New Testament and was written by Peter, one of Jesus' disciples. Let's read chapter 1, verses 20 and 21.



TALK
TOGETHER

KNOWING THIS FIRST OF ALL, THAT NO PROPHECY OF SCRIPTURE COMES FROM SOMEONE'S OWN INTERPRETATION. FOR NO PROPHECY WAS EVER PRODUCED BY THE WILL OF MAN, BUT MEN SPOKE FROM GOD AS THEY WERE CARRIED ALONG BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

2 PETER 1:20-21



Prophecy*, or messages from God, did not come from the writer's imagination or interpretation. A man did not create the Bible. Instead, men wrote the words God led them to write. Sometimes we see the writer's personality in their writing. But it's important to remember that nothing they wrote came from their imagination. God is the divine author and uses His words in the Bible to give us everything we need to know about Him. God's voice speaks to us through a person's writing.

Since God told the men what to write, it is important to remember that reading the Bible is like reading a letter from God, telling us everything He wants us to know about Him. The Bible is God's direct message to us; and even though men wrote these words down, they are just as important as if He said them out loud to our face. **We need to listen to what He is saying to us!**

END OF TALK TOGETHER



MORE TO EXPLORE

WHAT DID IT MEAN TO BE A MESSENGER OR PROPHET OF GOD?

Prophets were men or women who heard and shared a message directly from God. At times the prophets spoke or wrote about events in the future. Other times they had a specific message about what God was doing in the present. Deuteronomy 18:20-22 tells us the consequence of being a false prophet was death. A prophet of God was never mistaken in their message because the message was from God Himself.

WHO DECIDED WHICH BOOKS TO PUT IN THE BIBLE?

God decided exactly what words and stories He wanted to be part of His written Word. When early Christians began gathering these texts into one book, the Bible, they used three principles to confirm these books came from God:

1. A recognized prophet or apostle wrote the book.
2. The book could not disagree with what was already considered Scripture.
3. There had to be agreement that God, the Holy Spirit, inspired the writing.

When Jesus lived on Earth, the Old Testament was already the 39 books it is today. The New Testament books were determined 350-400 years after Jesus' birth. Ultimately, the gathering of the books of the New Testament simply confirmed the books the Holy Spirit had already preserved within the Church throughout the first few centuries.

WHICH LANGUAGES WAS THE BIBLE ORIGINALLY WRITTEN IN?

The three different languages used in the original texts were Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic. Hebrew was the language of the Hebrew people. Almost the entire Old Testament is written in Hebrew, while most of the New Testament is written in Greek. Aramaic was the everyday spoken language of the Jewish people, while Greek was the common language spoken throughout the Roman Empire.

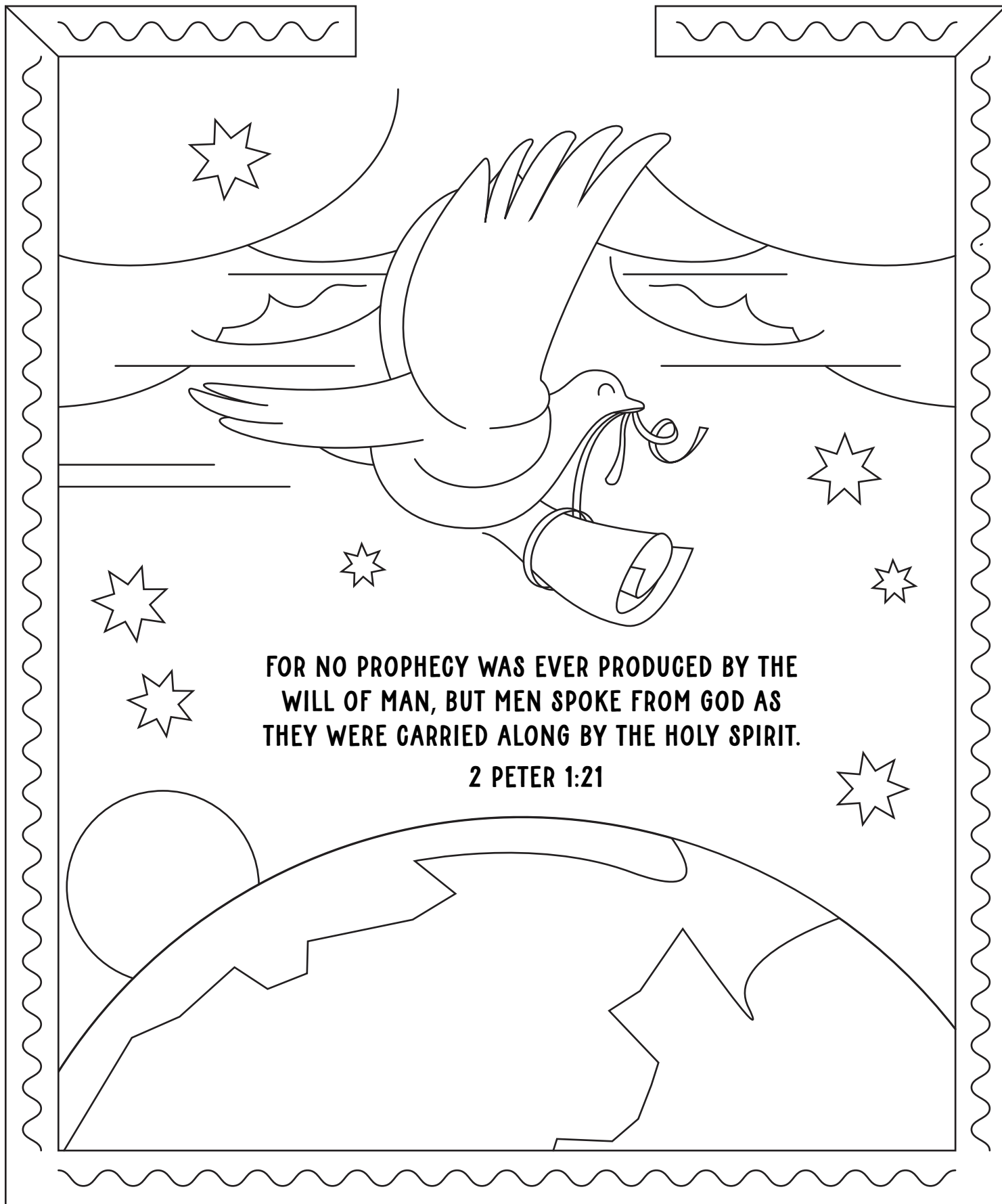
WHY AREN'T ALL BIBLES THE SAME?

Words are different in some Bibles. Sometimes the words are different because the Bible is translated into a different language. Sometimes the words are different because faithful translators want God's Word to be accessible to people who aren't familiar with older translations. When the Bible is translated from Hebrew or Greek, some translators work towards a word-for-word translation. Other translators try to translate thought for thought. There are good translations of both styles. Reading different versions of the Bible might give you a better understanding of the meaning of the text.

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Today we learned that God's Word was written by men who were carried by the Holy Spirit. In the Bible, we read about the one true God (Deuteronomy 6:4), who shows who He is in three different persons in the Bible. We call this the Trinity, and it includes God the Father, God the Son (Jesus) and God the Holy Spirit. In John 16:7-15, the Bible tells us more about the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin, guides us to truth in God's Word and glorifies God. The Trinity is hard to explain and something we don't completely understand, but we can believe what God says is true!





**FOR NO PROPHECY WAS EVER PRODUCED BY THE
WILL OF MAN, BUT MEN SPOKE FROM GOD AS
THEY WERE CARRIED ALONG BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

2 PETER 1:21

NAME _____

★ THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

♥ MEMORIZE

*"FOR NO PROPHECY WAS EVER PRODUCED BY THE WILL OF MAN, BUT MEN SPOKE FROM GOD AS THEY WERE CARRIED ALONG BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. **

2 PETER 1:21

Q: WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?

A: MEN SPOKE FROM GOD AS THEY WERE CARRIED ALONG BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

SHARE

Share with your children a time when God spoke to you through Scripture. Read the verse or passage out loud that God used in your life.

**ON THE GO? TALK ABOUT THIS WHILE DRIVING TO SCHOOL OR PRACTICE.*



PRAY

DEAR GOD, THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORD. HELP US TO PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO WHAT YOU HAVE SAID IN IT AND HELP US NOT FORGET YOUR TRUTH. WE LOVE YOU. AMEN.

READ

Encourage your children to read **Psalms 19:7-11**. What do these verses teach us about God's Word?

COMMIT

Create a realistic Bible reading plan with your children. Be as creative as you want by creating a chart, writing it out, using sticky notes or setting reminders on your devices.

HIDE AND SEEK!

Write down verses on small pieces of paper. Roll up the pieces of paper like little scrolls and hide them around your home. Once your family has found the scrolls, gather back together and read the verses aloud. What is God telling you in each verse?

VERSE EXAMPLES: JOSHUA 1:9, EPHESIANS 4:32, JOHN 3:17, 1 JOHN 4:11

GUIDING HAND

Have your child hold a pencil or marker in their hand. Put your hand on theirs and guide their hand to write or draw something.

Ask your child, "Who did the actual writing? Who decided what you were going to write?" God used men to write His Word, but the Holy Spirit guided their hands and told them what to write.



SCAN HERE TO LISTEN WHEREVER YOU ARE!

SING

Listen to this playlist throughout the series to praise God for His wonderful Word!