



Pathway Kids Spring 2026

Leader Guide

January 26, 2026



Psalm 119- God's Word is like a light that helps us see the right way to go. When we read the Bible, it shows us how to make good choices and follow God's path. Psalm 119:105
Bible- Jan 26- Mark 12:28-43- Jesus teaches the most important commandments by using God's Word. We can know what to do from God's Word.



At a Glance



The Code



Gospel Page



**Psalm 119- Leader
Devos**

Group Schedule

Leaders Arrive: 6:15 PM
Snack: 6:30 PM – 6:45 PM
Outside Play: 6:45 PM- 7:15 PM
Small Group: 7:20 PM- 8:00 PM
Dismiss: 8:00 PM- 8:05 PM



Opening Game:

Supplies:

- Bible
- sticky notes- draw an arrow on one sticky note
- crayons

Easy Prep

Ensure your Bible is open and sitting where kids can reach it. You will leave this in place through all three lessons on Psalm 119. Draw a circle on a sticky note.

Welcome

- Thank kids for coming.
- Introduce new kids.

Introduce the Lesson

Say: Today we'll find out God's Word shows us what to do. Hold up the arrow. This arrow directs us to go this way (point in the direction the arrow is pointing). It's like it shows us where to go or what to do. It can remind us that God shows us what to do. Have each child draw an arrow on a sticky note.

- Allow time for kids to pair up and take turns pointing their arrows to show which way their partners should walk.
- Let's add arrows to this Bible, which is God's Word, to remind us that God's Word shows us what to do.
- Have kids stick their arrows to the Bible.

Share

Say: Our Bible story explains that, like a light can guide us in the dark, God's Word shows us what to do. Let's begin by talking about times we've been in the dark. Share about a time you were somewhere really dark. You might've been camping or in a room with no windows.

Have kids share about times they've been somewhere that was really dark.

After small groups have discussed, have adult or teen helpers share with the whole group what they talked about in their small groups.

Summarize

Open a Bible, and say: The dark can be scary, but we don't need to worry because God is always with us, taking care of us. Let's learn more about how the Bible says God guides us like a light guides people in the dark. God's Word shows us what to do.

Pray, thanking God for his Word, which shows us what to do.

Talk About Video:

Discuss and Watch Mark 12:28-44

We're learning that God's Word shows us what to do. It's kind of like following the directions to build something.

Ask: • Tell about something you wouldn't want to try to make if you didn't have directions. Share your own idea first, like a car, computer, or airplane.

Say: Sounds like you all do a good job following the directions.

Watch "Mark 12:28-44"

Ask: • Why do you think this mentions that Jesus gave a good answer? Do you think the teacher was trying to trick Jesus?

• Why is following the Bible hard sometimes?

• What can go wrong if we don't do what God's Word shows us to do?

Say: God's Word shows us what to do. In a world of instant answers from Google and Siri and advice from friends and YouTube stars, kids are bombarded with messages of what to do, how to live, and how to be cool. Help them see that the best source of guidance for the choices we make is God's Word.

Think About: When has the Bible led you to make a choice or think differently about something?

Deeper Bible:

Supplies

- Bible
- 2 sheets of paper
- permanent marker
- painter's tape

Easy Prep

- Use the permanent marker to draw a large heart on one sheet of paper and a large X on the other. Use the painter's tape to hang the sheets of paper on opposite sides of the room.

Talk About It

Say: Today we're learning that God's Word shows us what to do. The Bible helps us make good choices, and Jesus gave us a way to remember the things the Bible says to do. Listen to this! Read aloud Galatians 5:14.

Say: The Bible says that the most important thing to do is love God and love others. Let's play a game to help us think about that. I'll say something we might want to do. If what I say is a way to love God or others, head to this side of the room (point to the side of the room with the heart paper). If what I say is not a way to love God or others, walk to this side of the room (point to the side of the room with the X paper).

Deeper Bible: cont

Play a Game

Once kids understand how to play, have kids gather in the center of the room and begin the game.

Say: Imagine a friend got a new toy for his birthday, and it's one you really wanted. You might want to take it and hide it under your bed. If you think that's loving, go stand by the heart (point to the heart paper). If you think it's not loving, stand by the X. Give kids a moment to make their choices.

Say: The Bible tells us not to take things that don't belong to us. That's not a loving thing to do.

Ask: • What is something loving we could do instead? Give kids a moment to shout out ideas. If they have trouble getting started, encourage leaders to make some suggestions like asking the friend if they could play with it together or sharing one of their favorite toys.

Say: Those are great ways to show love to our friends. If we do these loving things, we follow two things the Bible says: Don't steal, and love others. Let's hop on one foot while we all move over to the side of the room with the heart. Encourage kids to hop on one foot to the side of the room with the heart.

Say: Let's think about another choice. Encourage kids to come back to the center of the room.

Say: When you have a yummy meal with your family, you can stop to thank God for the good food. If you think that's a way to show love to God, walk backward over to the heart. If not, walk backward to the X. Encourage kids to make their choices.

Say: Saying "thank you" to God is a great way to show him love. Way to go!

Encourage kids to come back to the center of the room, and say: What if your friend wants to play with your favorite toy? You could share the toy with her. If you think that's a way to love others, dance over to the heart. If not, dance to the X. Encourage kids to make their choices.

Say: Sharing our things is a great way to show love. God's Word tells us to share and to show love—great job! Encourage kids to move back to the center of the room.

Say: If our friends say something mean, we might want to say something mean back or hit them. If you think hitting a friend would be loving, hop over to the heart. If you think it wouldn't be loving, hop to the X. Encourage kids to make their choices.

Say: It isn't loving to hit someone.

Ask: • What's something loving we could do instead? Give kids a minute to call out ideas. If kids need help getting started, ask leaders to suggest things like choosing to play somewhere else or saying something kind.

Say: Those are great ways to love our friends. Let's grab a friend's hand and walk over to the heart. Encourage kids to take a friend's hand and walk to the heart.

Say: Being kind is a great way to love others. God's Word shows us what to do. It tells us to be loving, to not steal, to share, to be kind, and to thank God for all he gives us! These are all good choices that make our lives the best they can be. Lead kids to pray and thank God for helping them make good choices.

Memory Verse:

“Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and light for my path.” Psalm 119:105

Play a Traffic Light Game

Say: In today's Bible story, Jesus gives a helpful guide for obeying all God's commandments. Love God and love others. God's Word shows us what to do—including how to do those two most important things. Let's learn a Bible verse that celebrates how God's Word guides us!

Every part of the Bible is there for a reason, showing us God's loving plan for us and leading us to live in the ways God says are best.

Psalm 119:105 says, “Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.” Lead everyone in repeating the verse once more.

Ask: • What are some other things in our lives that guide us in doing everyday activities—things that keep us safe or help us do something correctly? Share a couple of simple examples, such as recipes that guide us in making food. If no one brings up traffic lights, share that example as well.

Say: Psalm 119:105 says God's Word is like a guiding light. Let's explore how lights can signal what to do in a game!

- Grab the three pieces of colored construction paper, and stand at one end of the room.
- Have kids go as far as they can to the opposite end of the room, while still being able to hear you.
- Explain that kids will follow the cues of the colored paper as they would a traffic light.
- Review the traffic light colors by inviting kids to call out what each color means as you hold up the different pieces of paper.
- Hold the papers behind your back, and bring one at a time forward so kids can start making their way toward you quickly for green, in slow motion for yellow, and then stopping for red.
- When kids are stopped with the red paper, lead everyone in repeating Psalm 119:105 once before moving on to another color of paper.
- Play as many rounds as time allows, leaving time for a quick wrap-up.

Talk About It

Ask: • How well do you think the traffic lights showed you what to do?

• Name some ways following the “lights” in this game is like following what the Bible shows us to do.

Say: Traffic lights signal what to do when we're moving on a path. God's Word shows us what to do as we're trying to stay on God's path by obeying his commandments. It tells us when to go do something good, stop doing something bad, or slow down our anger. God's Word is a light to our paths!

Activity Page with a Point:

Younger Kids: Color a Coloring/Activity Page

Supplies Needed: Coloring Page, pencils, crayons,
Distribute the coloring pages and crayons.

Say: Psalm 119 is about how amazing God's Word is. God's Word shows us what to do, like a flashlight or lantern shows us our next steps on a dark path. Let's color that path with a bright lantern.

Allow time for kids to complete their coloring pages. Optionally, have kids use highlighters to illuminate the lanterns.