

LESSON OVERVIEW

Big Idea: Thinking right can help you live right

Key Question: Why do our thoughts affect our actions?

Memory Verse: *Lead me by your truth and teach me, for you are the God who saves me. All day long I put my hope in you.* **Psalm 25:5**

Overview: We're finishing our series today about what it really means to be a Christian. A Christian is just another name for a follower of Jesus. We've already learned what a "kinda sorta" Christian is like- they say they believe in God but they don't make him a priority in their life. We learned that God doesn't want us to be this way. He wants to be our best friend. We've also talked about how we should relate to God. We shouldn't treat him like he's our favorite restaurant where we order exactly what we want from him. We don't tell God what we want. He tells us what we **should** want. A true Christian trusts that whatever God gives us is good for us. Last week, we talked about what it means to be strong for God. A true Christian will stand up for God in a world that doesn't really care about God's opinion. We need to be strong enough to say "No" to our friends when they encourage us to do wrong and "Yes" to God's way. Today, we're going to talk about the right way to think. A "kinda sorta" Christian thinks that whatever makes them happy is a good thing. But that's not always true. There are a lot of things that might make us happy for a moment but in the end are bad for us. For example, it may seem really fun to eat all the candy we want. For a moment it's yummy and delicious. But, later on we get a terrible stomach ache and our teeth are full of cavities! That's why we need to know the right way to think about life. That's why God gave us the Bible- so we can think right and live right!

CLASSROOM AGENDA

- 5 min **PLAY:** Begin working on Activity Page #1.
- 5 min **WARM UP:** Make a list of silly things people might believe. (ie yellow snow is good for you, candy is a vegetable, unicorns are real)
- 5 min **PREVIEW:** Write out the Big Idea and Memory Verse and Key Question on a whiteboard. Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1. (if applicable)
- 20 min **LARGE GROUP:** Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to small group to finish this guide.
- 5 min **RECAP:** Read the **Lesson Overview** from the Teacher's Guide to the class and then **answer** the KEY QUESTION.
- 5 min **EXPLORE:** Read 2 Corinthians 10:5. What should we take captive? Who should we choose to obey?
- 10 min **PLAY:** Do the group activity from Activity Page #2.
- 5 min **CLOSE:**
 - Share something you learned from this lesson.
 - Share prayer requests and pray as a class.

TEACHER TIPS

Don't forget that you set the tone for your kids. Smile. Have fun. Pursue God together.

Allow each kid to share. The point: We can believe some silly things that might lead us down the wrong path. We need to think right in order to live right.

Answer: Because everything we do starts with a thought.

How we think affects everything we do. If in your mind you think everything should go your way, then you will be a selfish person who never thinks about anyone else. If you think about how Jesus loves you and has forgiven you of your sins, you will likely be very forgiving of your friends when they disappoint you. See how it works? How you think affects how you live. And, if you want to know the right way to think, then you have to read your Bible because it will teach you how God wants you to think.

Bonus Questions: Why do our thoughts matter? What book tells us the right way to think?

4-5th: Give an example of a thought that honors God. Give an example of a thought that wouldn't honor God.

We need to take captive or pay attention to every thought we have and make sure that it honors God. We have to play the Brain Game everyday! We do that by **keeping** the thoughts that honor God and **throwing away** the thoughts that don't. We know the thoughts that are good by measuring them against what the Bible says. And, we should always choose to obey Jesus.

Allow each kid to share.

ACTIVITY PAGE #2

Classroom Activities **2nd-5th**

Option #1

Think Right Craft

- Give each kid a Thoughts template (**page 5**)
- Give each kid a piece of construction paper
- Have kids cut out the head and thought bubbles
- Have kids draw their face on the head
- Have kids glue their head to the middle of the construction paper
- Then have kids glue each thought bubble around the top of the head
- As the kids work, remind them that they need to think right in order to act right.

Supplies needed

- Thoughts template (pg 5), one set per kid
- construction paper, one sheet per kid
- crayons
- scissors
- glue

Bonus Activity:

Play **Find the Book in the Bible**

Have kids get into pairs. Give each pair a Bible. Have them race to see who can find the book. First to find has to say if it's in the OT or NT.

Books: Colossians, Luke, Exodus

Option #2

Brain Game

- On the whiteboard, write "Right Thinking" on one side and "Wrong Thinking" on the other
- Put the words from the Brain Game template (**page 6**) in a bowl
- Invite a kid forward to draw a thought from the bowl and have them read it to the class
- As a class, decide if it's right thinking or wrong thinking. Once decided, have the kid tape the thought onto the whiteboard under the correct heading
- If time, brainstorm more thoughts to put under right thinking and wrong thinking.

Supplies needed

- brain game template (pg 6), pre cut, one set per class
- bowl
- tape
- whiteboard/markers

Bonus Activity:

Play **Bible Hangman**

Words or phrases: think right, Bible, Jesus loves you

1 Discover Truth

Watch this week's lesson video as a family (see link above) and fill in the blanks.

1. Thinking _____ can help you _____ right.
2. If you _____ in silly stuff, you'll end up _____ silly.
3. The _____ tells us what is true and what is false.

2 Talk about it

Answer these questions together as a family.

1. Make a list of silly things people might believe. (ie yellow snow is good for you, candy is a vegetable, unicorns are real)
2. Why do our thoughts affect our actions?
3. What are some consequences for thinking the wrong way about something?
4. What book tells us the right way to think?
5. Read [2 Corinthians 10:5](#). What should we take captive? Who should we choose to obey?

3 Live it out

Memorize this week's Bible verse:

"Lead me by your truth and teach me, for you are the God who saves me. All day long I put my hope in you."

Psalm 25:5

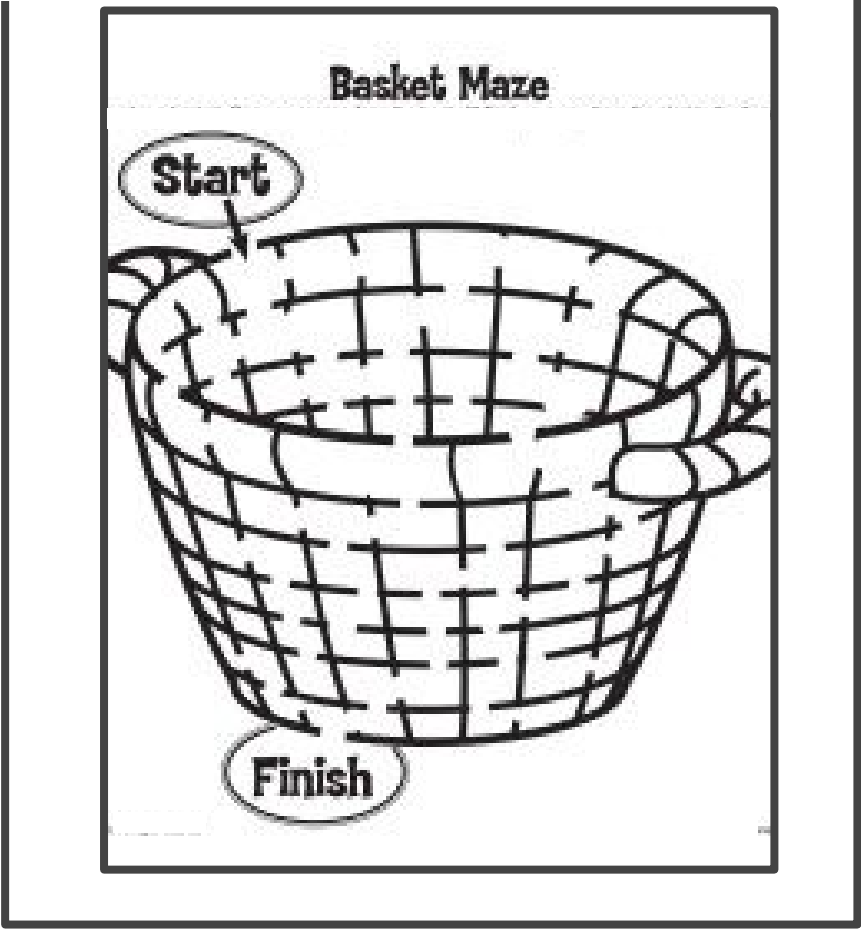
Bonus: Read these additional passages as a family this week

- Read [Isaiah 55:9](#). Whose thoughts and ways are higher and better than our ways?
- Read [Philippians 4:8](#). What are some examples of good and lovely thoughts?
- Read [Psalm 104:34](#). What book tells us how to think in a way that honors God?

Parent Signature _____



PUZZLE # 1



BIG IDEA →

KEY QUESTION →

MEMORY VERSE →

PUZZLE #2

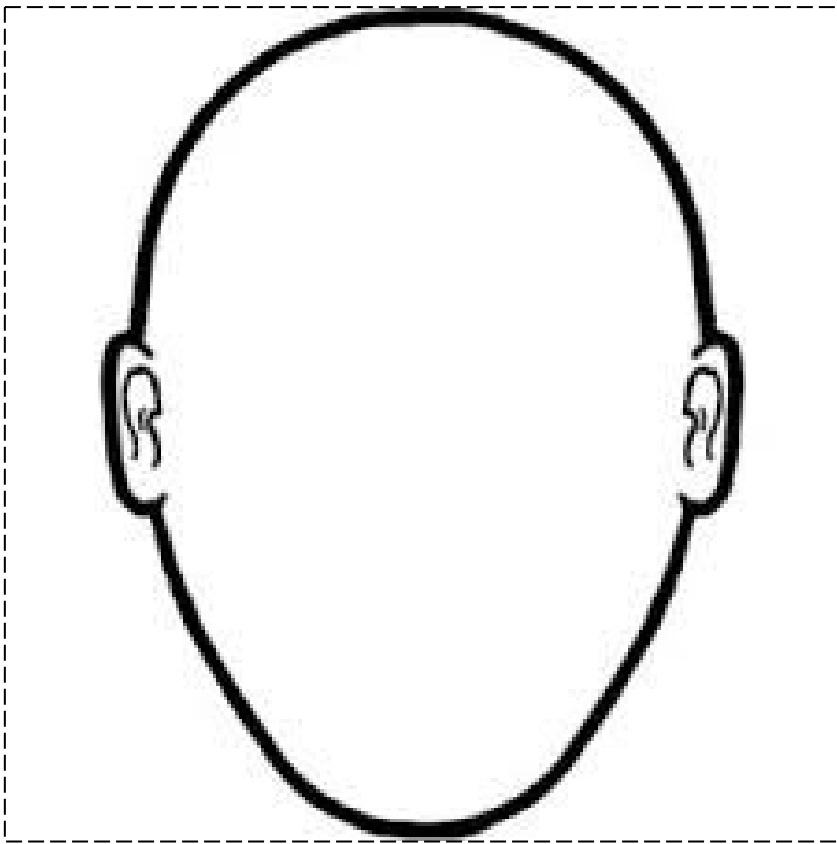
Bible Puzzle

See how many times you can find the word Bible

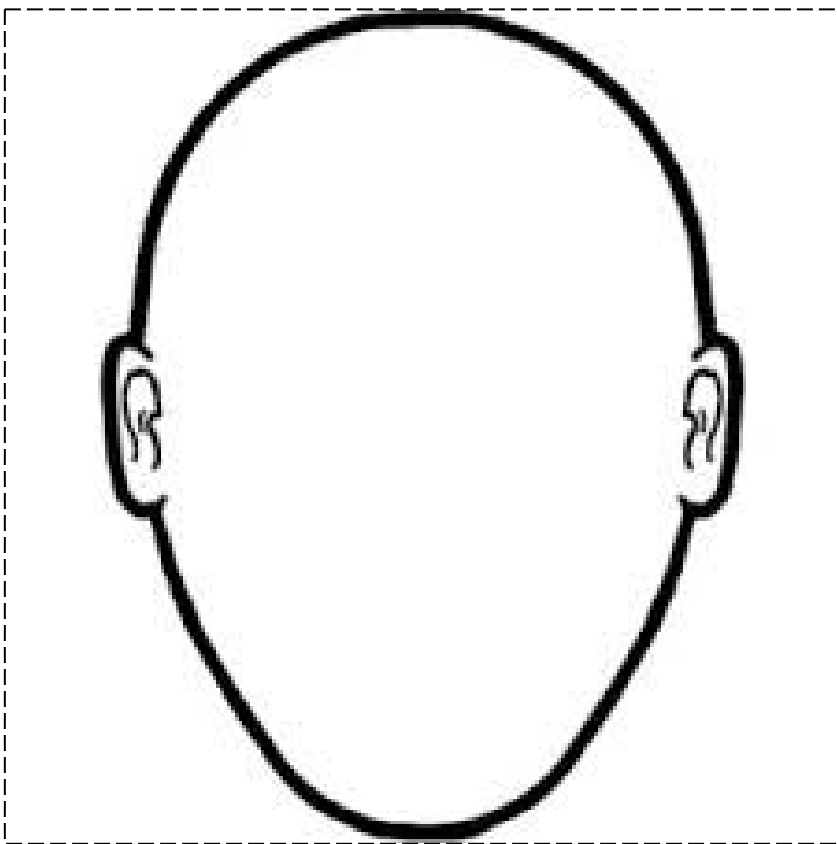
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W	B	I	B	L	E	X	Y	Z	B	I	B	L	E	A	B	C	E
B	I	B	L	E	D	E	F	G	B	I	B	L	E	H	I	J	K

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THOUGHTS TEMPLATE



- LOVE OTHERS
- FORGIVE OTHERS
- SERVE OTHERS



- LOVE OTHERS
- FORGIVE OTHERS
- SERVE OTHERS

Jesus forgave me so I should forgive others

I don't care about God's opinion

I should help my younger siblings

I should love others

Life is all about me

Reading my Bible is important

God doesn't care about me

I should share with my friends

I can be mean if someone's mean to me

I should obey my parents

I should always honor God

God doesn't care what I do