

Bible—Fact or Fiction



How Do I Know if the Bible Is True?

Key Faith Foundation: The Bible Is Alive and Powerful

Key Scriptures: Matthew 4:1-11; Hebrews 4:12-13; 2 Peter 1:16-19

grapple schedule (see pages 4-5 for descriptions)

5 minutes	grapple community
10-15 minutes	grapple games and clues
10 minutes	grapple time
15 minutes	grapple team time
10 minutes	grapple team reports
5 minutes	grapple prayer and dare

Supplies ▶ Bibles, *Grapple* DVD, DVD player, Christian music CD, CD player, copy of the Grapple Team Guide for each person, paper, pencils

grapple community: 5 minutes

Play Christian music as kids enjoy snacks and friendship, and then play an opening countdown from the *Grapple* DVD.

grapple games: 10-15 minutes

Lead kids in the games they chose ahead of time at mygrapple.com.

grapple clues

Have kids write the answers to this week's Grapple Clues. Award points for each correct answer. The winning team gets the Grapple Button (see page 5).

- CLUE 1** [147 points]: Find a verse that compares the Word of God to a sword.
- CLUE 2** [878 points]: Name something in the Bible that seems too amazing or unusual to be true.
- CLUE 3** [100 points]: Find out who in your Grapple Team has ever told the truth even when it was hard, and discover what happened.
- CLUE 4** [499 points]: Discover who each person in our class thinks is the most honest person.

Lead the entire class in the following:

Sometimes it's really hard to know whether something is fact or fiction. What's true? Find a partner, and we'll play a game called Two Out of Three to find out how good we are at realizing when something is fact or fiction. Pause. Tell your partner three things about yourself. Two things should be fact, and one should be fiction. For example, you might tell your partner that you have a dog named Rex (fact), your favorite movie is *Spiderman* (fact), and you have a grandma in Florida (fiction). See if your partner can tell which statement is fiction.

Give kids a minute to play, and then have kids switch partners and play a couple more times.



How hard or easy was it to figure out fact from fiction? What helped or didn't help you find the facts?

Now I'll tell you a couple of facts and one fiction, and you'll tell me which one is fiction: I know of a man who stopped the sun from setting for a whole day. I know of a woman who leapt over an entire mountain. I know of a group of people who yelled and shouted so loudly, they knocked down the walls of an entire town.

Give kids a moment to guess which statement is fiction, and then tell them that the woman leaping over an entire mountain was fiction.

All of those things sounded too crazy to be true, didn't they? Did you know that the true things came from the Bible? Pretty hard to believe, huh? If someone came up to you on the street and told you those things were true, you probably wouldn't believe the person.



Have you ever read or heard about something in the Bible that seemed too crazy to be true? Tell about it.

So how do we know if the Bible is true? Let's grapple with that today!

grapple team time: 15 minutes

Break into Grapple Teams. Encourage Grapple Team leaders to check in with kids about their week. Grapple Team leaders will facilitate discussion, using the Grapple Team Guide on pages 41-42. Afterward, kids will report what they learned.

grapple team reports: 10 minutes

At the end of Grapple Team Time, match Grapple Teams that chose Option 1 with Grapple Teams that chose Option 2 from page 42. Have teams present their reports.

grapple prayer: 5 minutes

Read the Grapple Prayer options. Have the class choose one prayer option that everyone will do. Allow kids time to pray about what they discovered. Then close in prayer.

Option 1: *Bright Light Prayers*

Glance briefly at a light in the room or through the window at the sun, and thank God for providing the Bible as a light to direct your life.

Option 2: *Paper Prayers*

Play with a sheet of paper—mold it, squish it, create with it—as you talk to God about what you learned today about the Bible.

**grapple dare**

The Bible is alive and powerful. We know it's true because it makes a difference in our lives when we turn to it for truth. Jesus demonstrated how powerful the Bible can be when we hide God's Word in our hearts. You can remember God's Word and use it when you need it, just as Jesus did. This week, I dare you to hide God's Word in your heart. I dare you to memorize a couple of verses and then use them when you need to remember God's powerful word to you.

Remember to go to mygrapple.com this week to choose the opening games for next week, look for Grapple Clues to win the Grapple Button, play an online game, and connect with each other—and me.

grapple team guide

In your Grapple Team, use this guide to grapple with today's question.

How do you know if the Bible is true? Let's dig into the Bible and see what it says.

Read 2 Peter 1:16-19.

What reasons do these verses give as proof that the Bible is true? What does it mean to you that the Bible is like a "lamp shining in a dark place"? How can the Bible be a light in your life and the lives of the people around you?

Read Hebrews 4:12-13.

In Pairs

What does it mean to you that the Word of God is alive and powerful? How has the Bible been powerful in your life? Give some examples.

Think of ways the Bible can be alive and powerful for people who feel

sad

happy

mad

confused

lonely

Read Matthew 4:1-11.

List things Jesus quoted from the old Scriptures. How did Jesus demonstrate that the Word of God is alive and powerful? How can you imitate Jesus to make the Word of God alive and powerful in your life?



Name five things in the Bible that you believe are true.

If even one of those things weren't true, how would that affect your faith in God? the way you live your life?

A decorative icon consisting of several overlapping, swirling lines that form a circular shape.

grapple team reports

With your team, choose one of the options below to report what you discovered.

Option 1: Sword-Fight Charade

Stage an imaginary sword fight while you report what you discovered about the truth of the Bible.

Option 2: Power Pose

Strike a pose to represent that the Bible is alive and powerful as you share what you discovered.