

Bible—Fact or Fiction



How Is the Bible Different From Other Books?

Key Faith Foundation: The Bible Is a Message From God

Key Scriptures: Psalm 19:7-11; John 20:30-31; Romans 1:16-17

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** [507 points]: **Discover an important message God spoke to someone in the Old Testament.**
- CLUE 2** [992 points]: **Find a parable in Matthew that talks about hearing God's Word.**
- CLUE 3** [498 points]: **Find out who in your Grapple Team has read an entire book of the Bible.**
- CLUE 4** [620 points]: **Discover who in our class currently has the most books checked out from the library.**

Lead the entire class in the following:

In Teams  Have kids get into their Grapple Teams.

Let's play a game called Different but Alike. I'll call out two things that are similar, and you'll have one minute as a team to come up with a list of ways they are different.

Call out these sets one at a time: pen and pencil, purse and wallet, car and truck, iPod and stereo. If you have extra time, let the team with the longest list call out a set of similar objects.

Now we're going to mix it up. I'll call out two very different things, and you'll have one minute as a team to come up with a list of ways these two things are alike.

Call out these sets one at a time: elephant and mouse, grown-up and child, winter and summer, book and Bible. If you have extra time, let the team with the longest list overall call out a set of different objects.



What things were you surprised to find so different? What things were you surprised to find so similar?



What things are the same with a book and the Bible? Do you think the Bible and a book are more alike or unlike? Explain. If a book and the Bible are basically the same thing, is the Bible any better than other books? Explain.

Wow! A book and the Bible do seem to have a lot in common. Remind kids of what makes them similar. **Is the Bible just a good story with pages and words like the other books we read? If so, is the Bible really different from any other book? Let's grapple with that.**

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 47-48. 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 48. 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: Note Prayers

Write God a note to express your thanks for the message he gave us in the Bible.

Option 2: Ear Prayers

Close your eyes, cup a hand under each ear, and listen quietly for God's voice. Reflect on what you discovered about God's message for you in the Bible.

grapple dare

The Bible isn't like any other book—it's a message directly from God that shares his love for each of us. Here's your Grapple Dare: This week I dare you to spend time in God's Word learning about the message God gave you in the Bible. I dare you to take that message and tell one friend how God demonstrated his love for each of us by sending Jesus to die for our sin.

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.

What makes the Bible different from any other book?

Read John 20:30-31.

What do these verses say about why the Bible was written? What does it mean to you that God wrote the Bible to give you an important message? How does that make the Bible different from other books?

Read Romans 1:16-17.



What is the good news from the Bible? What would your life be like without this good news? Why do we need the Bible to deliver this message? How can you share this message with people around you?

Think of two people you need to share this message with, and write their names here.

Read Psalm 19:7-11.

List five things these verses say the Bible can do for you.

Cross through the things on your list that other books (don't include Christian books) can do for you. Circle the things that only the Bible can do for you.



Tell how God has used the Bible to do one of the things on your list for you.

Let's think about the different ways God could have communicated this message to us. Form two groups, and take turns trying to communicate this message: God loved the world so much he gave us his Son, Jesus, to save us from our sin.

Group 1: Communicate this message through charades with no words or sounds.

Group 2: Communicate this message by writing a short phrase on paper. Let each person read it.

Which way was the easiest to communicate the message? to understand it? Why do you think God chose to record his message to us in the Bible?

The Grapple logo, which consists of several overlapping, swirling lines that form a circular, tangled shape.

grapple team reports

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

Option 1: Auctioneer Style

Choose the member of your Grapple Team who talks the fastest, and have that person "speed talk" your report in 30 seconds or less.

Option 2: Charade Fun

Have each member of your team act out a different part of your report.