



What is the Bible about? The Bible is the story of God's plan to save people through Jesus.

Week 28: February 22, 2025

Bible Story Point: John was sent by God as a witness to the coming Messiah.

Key Passage: But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name. (John 20:31)

Sunday Night: (Preschool & Children)

The Prophet Malachi (Malachi)

The book of Malachi reveals how people who have experienced God's miraculous works can quickly turn away from following Him. God had delivered His people from captivity and helped them restore Jerusalem and rebuild the temple. And yet, shortly after their promise to obey the Lord's commands, they were living in a way that was displeasing to Him. Complacency and corruption had replaced faithfulness to God's Word.

Malachi told the people they were offering blemished sacrifices. He revealed how their leaders—particularly the priests—were leading the people astray. Malachi also told the people they had dishonored God in their marriages in two ways: First, they married women of foreign descent who worshiped other gods. Secondly, men were divorcing their wives for unjust reasons that were selfish—treating marriage as if it were disposable.

Despite the unfaithfulness of God's people, God again remained faithful. In Malachi 3, God told them that He had not destroyed them because they are His people. He called them to return to Him. He promised that if they returned to Him, He would return to them. God invited them to repent and return to Him just as He did time and time again throughout the Old Testament.

As Malachi urged the people to return to God, he also foretold the coming Messiah—Jesus. Malachi spoke of the sun of righteousness who would bring healing—a picture of Jesus as the light of the world who would bring redemption. Specifically in Malachi 3, God shared His plan to send a messenger who would clear the way for the Messiah. In His sovereignty, God fulfilled this prophecy through the birth of John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus, as one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way for the Lord; make his paths straight" (Luke 3:4).

The book of Malachi serves to remind us of the dangers of growing apathetic in our walk with the Lord. Help kids see how Malachi also reminds us that when we do fall short, God is faithful and ready to restore us when we turn back to Him. Through Jesus, we see God's grace and mercy to redeem and restore all who trust in Him.

- Who was Malachi? A prophet of God to lead the Jewish people back to God after they turned away .
- What did the priests do wrong? Offered blemished sacrifices to God.
- What was God's promise? God is sending a Messenger and the Messiah.
- What were God's words to the people? "Return to me, and I will return to you."
- How has God shown grace and mercy to your family?
- How do you plan to demonstrate your love for God as your family grows?

Practice: Say (Memorize) Key passage

Pray: Thank God for His promise to save you. Ask God to help you live out your faith in the community.

Wednesday Night Awana Clubs—February 25th 6PM – 7:30PM (Awana Awards at 7:20)

Cubbies, Bear Hug 18— Psalm 147:5, “Great is the Lord and abundant in power.”
Core Truth—God is Mighty

Sparks,

Hang Gliders – Green Jewel 3.1 – Say the whole New Testament – Matthew – Revelation.

Wing Runners – Red Jewel 3:4 – 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalm, Proverbs

Sky Stormer – Green Jewel 3:1 – Philippians 4:4, Rejoice in the Lords always; and again, I say rejoice.

T & T’s, 3.7 Eternity:

Psalm 102:25-27, Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, but You are the same, and Your years have no end.

Saturday Night: (Preschool & Children)

Preview for Sunday, March 1st

The Old Testament Points to Jesus (Luke 1 & John 1)

- Who is Zechariah? A priest in the temple.
- What surprise did the angel reveal to him? Zechariah’s wife would have a child in her old age
- What happened for Zechariah’s disbelief? He could not speak until the child was born
- What is special about John who was born? He is fulfillment of prophecy to tell of Jesus coming into the world to save people from their sin.

Upcoming Activities:

February 22	Widow’s Banquet—Today
February 28	Paluxy Baptist Women’s Conference here at Acton
March 7	Family Retreat at Mt Lebanon Retreat Center
March 16-20	Granbury ISD Spring Break (No Awana Clubs this week)
March 19, 20, 21	Grandparenting Summit
March 22	Sunday Funday for 3 yr olds – 5th Grade 1st hour in the Gym
March 24	Women’s Night out at Riverbend
March 28	Easter Egg Hunt 10AM
March 29	Palm Sunday —Kids march in Big Church in Biblical costumes
April 3	Good Friday—Church office closed
April 5	Easter Sunday
April 10-11	Church Garage Sale
April 24	Men’s Prayer Breakfast and Church workday

