

God makes Himself known

Lesson Overview

Help the children notice creation's witness, hear God's good instruction, and use a colouring-and-comparison page to explain why they need His Word and mercy.



Passage

Psalm 19:1–14



Focus statement

God shows His glory through creation and teaches us through His trustworthy Word, so we should listen to Him and ask for His cleansing help.



Age-focused objective

Compare the sky and Scripture panels to explain creation's witness and God's instruction; recognise that the Bible tells the saving message about Jesus.



Memory verse

 SCRIPTURE

The instruction of the LORD is perfect,
renewing one's life;
the testimony of the LORD is trustworthy,
making the inexperienced wise.

Psalm 19:7, CSB

Before learners arrive

Read Teacher preparation with Psalm 19 open. Print Printable Resources single-sided at actual size: pages 1, 3 and 4 for shared display, page 2 for each child and one teacher sample. Have a Parent take-home page for each child, crayons, a collection tray and a scrap of paper for covering memory words. No cutting or glue is needed. On your sample, colour one sky detail and draw one remembered creation detail below it; leave the Scripture panel clear. With your helper, practise pointing from the creation picture to the printed words and your actual Bible. Agree who will distribute the pages and how both of you will hear children compare the two sides.

How the lesson unfolds



Transition – 5 minutes

Notice creation and open the Bible together.



Lesson – 20 minutes

Follow the sky's witness, trustworthy instruction and David's prayer; practise Psalm 19:7.



Application – 12 minutes

Colour selected details, add one creation reminder and compare what the two panels tell us.



Prayer – 8 minutes

Thank our Maker, bring voluntary requests and pray for one another's listening and trust.

Transition – 5 minutes

Welcome the children to this course. Explain that we will be learning about the God who made us and has made Himself known. No previous lesson is needed. Hold up page 1's large picture. Point first to the sky and then to the open book in the foreground; hold up your actual Bible beside it.



Ask

"What can we notice in the sky? Where can we hear God's words?"



Listen for

Sun and clouds, or other observed sky details. We hear God's words in the Bible as it is read and explained.



If needed

Point first to the sky picture and ask, "What made thing can you see?" Then point to the open-book picture and your actual Bible: "Where do we hear God's words?" Supply "in the Bible" if needed.

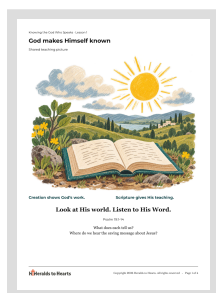
 SAY (SUGGESTED WORDING):

The sky can help us notice God's great work. The Bible tells us His teaching. Today we will listen to a Bible song called Psalm 19. It helps us understand what each gives us, and why we need God's help.

Lesson — 20 minutes

Interactive Bible teaching — 15 minutes. Use the 15 minutes across the three connected points, giving the longer explanation the time it needs. Include the readings and questions; give children thinking time and hear more than the quickest answer.

1. The sky shows God's great work



Use God makes Himself known picture, page 1. Point to the sky above the open book. Ask children to notice something God made; keep your actual Bible open as you read the psalm.

Explain that *glory* here means God's beautiful greatness. Read the opening lines of David's song.

 READ ALOUD

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the expanse proclaims the work of his hands.

² Day after day they pour out speech;
night after night they communicate knowledge.

³ There is no speech; there are no words;
their voice is not heard.

⁴ Their message has gone out to the whole earth,
and their words to the ends of the world.
In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun.

Psalm 19:1–4, CSB

 SAY (SUGGESTED WORDING):

David says the sky tells of God's glory. It does not have a mouth speaking to us. The sun and sky show the work of the Maker. This song uses pictures: later it describes the sun like a runner on a course. The sun is not really a person. We thank God for His world and recognise His greatness.



Ask

A child says, "The sun is God because it is so great." What would you help them understand?



Listen for

God made the sun. Its greatness helps us recognise His great work; the sun is not God.

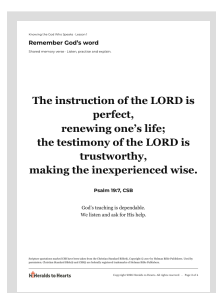


If needed

Point to the sky on page 1 and say, "A made thing shows its Maker's work." Then ask, "Who made the sun, and who should we thank?" Let the child explain the difference in their own words.

The world tells us truly about its Maker. Now listen to the words by which that Maker teaches us.

2. God's instruction teaches us what is true



Use Remember God's word poster, page 3. Point to "instruction" and "trustworthy" as you explain them. The printed verse supplies God's teaching; the picture alone cannot tell it.

Explain that *instruction* means teaching, and *testimony* means trustworthy witness. We are still learning, so we need someone dependable to teach us.

⁷ The instruction of the LORD is perfect,
renewing one's life;
the testimony of the LORD is trustworthy,
making the inexperienced wise.

⁸ The precepts of the LORD are right,
making the heart glad;
the command of the LORD is radiant,
making the eyes light up.

⁹ The fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the LORD are reliable
and altogether righteous.

Psalms 19:7–9, CSB

 SAY (SUGGESTED WORDING):

God's teaching is good and true. It can make people wise: it helps us know what is right and how to live before Him. The song uses different names for His teaching. We do not need to invent God from what we wish. We listen to the words He gives. Even when His word corrects us, that correction is good.

**Ask**

What can God's written Word teach us that the sky picture cannot tell us by itself?

**Listen for**

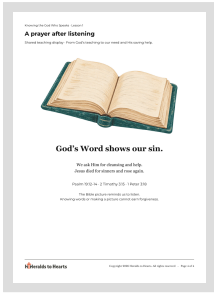
God teaches what is right, corrects our sin and tells us about salvation through Jesus. Creation truly shows His greatness but does not tell the whole saving message.

**If needed**

Point to "trustworthy" on page 3 and your open Bible. Explain, "God tells us the truth about Himself and our need." Then ask, "Where can we learn why Jesus died and rose again?" Listen for the Bible, with a reason rather than just its name.

God's good teaching also helps us recognise our own wrong. David's next words are a prayer for help.

3. We ask God for cleansing and help



Use A prayer after listening display, page 4. Point first to “God’s Word shows our sin”. Read David’s prayer below, then follow the display from our need to God’s saving help.

Explain that *sin* means wrong thoughts, words and actions against God. *Wilful* means choosing to do wrong. David knows God’s teaching and still asks for His help.

READ ALOUD

¹² Who perceives his unintentional sins?

Cleanse me from my hidden faults.

¹³ Moreover, keep your servant from wilful sins;

do not let them rule me.

Then I will be blameless

and cleansed from blatant rebellion.

¹⁴ May the words of my mouth

and the meditation of my heart

be acceptable to you,

LORD, my rock and my Redeemer.

Psalm 19:12–14, CSB

SAY (SUGGESTED WORDING):

David asks God to cleanse him from wrong and keep him from choosing sin. He wants his words and thoughts to please God. Knowing a Bible verse does not make us good enough. We need mercy. David calls God his rock and Redeemer: God is dependable and can rescue His people. He is not a stone. We can ask Him for forgiveness and help too.

 SAY (SUGGESTED WORDING):

The Bible tells us that Scripture makes us wise for salvation through trusting Jesus. We have disobeyed God and cannot remove our sin by knowing facts. Jesus is God's Son. He became truly human and lived without sin. He died bearing the punishment our sins deserve and rose again; His body was alive. We receive forgiveness as His gift, not a reward for our work. We turn from our wrongdoing and trust Him for forgiveness. Looking at the sky does not tell us that whole story; God's Word does. We listen because it makes our Saviour known.

Invite children to listen or quietly ask God for His help. No one needs to tell the class a private thought or wrongdoing.



Ask

Why does David ask God for cleansing even though he knows God's teaching? Where do we find saving help?



Listen for

David still has sin—wrong thoughts, words and actions—and needs God's mercy. Scripture makes Jesus known; He died for sinners and rose again. Knowledge or colouring cannot earn forgiveness.



If needed

Point to page 4's first two lines. Explain, "Cleansing here means God forgiving our sin; water cannot wash guilt away." Recall Jesus' saving work, then ask, "Could a beautifully finished page forgive us? Who can?" Invite a fresh explanation.

Remember with understanding — 5 minutes

Show page 3's memory-verse poster. Explain *renewing one's life*: God's teaching restores and strengthens us as we receive it. Say, "His teaching helps us turn back to Him and live as His people." Explain *inexperienced* as someone who still needs to learn. The verse gives us a reason to listen to Him.

 READ ALOUD

The instruction of the LORD is perfect,
renewing one's life;
the testimony of the LORD is trustworthy,
making the inexperienced wise.

Psalms 19:7, CSB

Point to each printed phrase on page 3 as you say it and let the class echo: "The instruction of the LORD is perfect,"; "renewing one's life,"; "the testimony of the LORD is trustworthy,"; and "making the inexperienced wise." Say the complete verse with "Psalms 19:7". Ask, "What does *trustworthy* mean?" Listen

for “We can depend on God’s true teaching”; supply that answer if needed. Keep the poster visible for support; the short recall below follows this first practice. A hesitant learner may listen and point to the Bible picture on page 2.

Try remembering: On page 3 cover only “making the inexperienced wise”. Read the first three phrases together and invite the class to supply the ending; give the first word if needed. Uncover it, read the complete verse and reference, then ask, “Who still needs God’s teaching?” Include teacher and children. A child may listen or join one phrase.

Application — 12 minutes

The comparison page helps children distinguish what creation shows from what Scripture teaches, then ask for the mercy Scripture makes known. You and your helper listen during making as well as the final explanation. Ask the question below while children work, hear children you have not yet heard, and offer help with the actual operation.

Demonstrate and distribute — 2 minutes

Give children page 2 and crayons. Show your example before they begin. Read the complete verse as you point to the Scripture panel.

READ ALOUD

The instruction of the LORD is perfect,
renewing one’s life;
the testimony of the LORD is trustworthy,
making the inexperienced wise.

Psalms 19:7, CSB

The two parts have different jobs; the Scripture words stay clear.

Demonstrate. Colour one sky detail. After reading the Scripture panel, point to its printed verse and say, “This picture helps me notice God’s work. These Bible words tell me His teaching is trustworthy.”

Make and explore — 7 minutes

1. **Notice and mark.** Children choose sky details to colour. Ask them to point to the sun or clouds they have noticed. They need not fill every space or follow your colours.
2. **Add a creation detail.** In the space below the sky, draw one remembered thing God made, such as a plant, bird or land creature. A few marks and a spoken explanation can identify it. Keep the adjacent Scripture words unobscured.
3. **Compare.** Use both sides: ask children to point to the creation picture, then the words the teacher reads. Their explanation, rather than a fully coloured page, completes the task.

While children compare their two panels during making, ask:

**Ask**

“What does your creation picture help us know? What does the Bible tell us that the picture cannot tell by itself?”

**Listen for**

Creation shows the Maker’s great work. Scripture teaches us what is true and right and tells the saving message about Jesus.

**If needed**

Point to the remembered creation detail and name its Maker. Then recall Jesus’ death and resurrection as the message the teacher has explained from Scripture.

Explain and respond — 2 minutes

Invite neighbours to take turns showing and explaining their work. Use your sample if work is unfinished. Give a child time to point and speak; you and your helper listen for the connection to Scripture.

**Ask**

“What can we ask God for when His Word shows us our need?”

**Listen for**

Forgiveness through Jesus and help to listen and live before God, as David prayed.

**If needed**

Point to Psalm 19:12 and repeat David’s request, “Cleanse me”. Ask, “Could knowing a verse or colouring this page pay for forgiveness?” Supply “No; we need God’s mercy through Jesus.”

Do not make the sun speak, use a glowing Bible as a magical object, or promise sunny weather as a reward. Respect a child’s questions. The teacher reads all required words; there is no separate reading-level activity. Keep private disclosures out of the discussion and follow the church’s safeguarding procedures if a concern is raised.

Clear materials — 1 minute

Return crayons to the tray and put comparison pages beside the children. Clear scraps before settling for prayer.

Prayer — 8 minutes

We can speak honestly to God and listen while others pray. Children may pass, ask an adult to pray for them or listen. Speaking aloud is not a test of faith.

Model a prayer — 1 minute

Offer this short prayer for the children to hear:

Father, thank You for Your world and Your trustworthy Word. Forgive our sins through Jesus, who died and rose again. Help us listen, and make our words and thoughts pleasing to You. Amen.

Hear voluntary requests — 2 minutes

Invite a few brief, voluntary thanks or requests. This is not a round in which everyone must speak. They may thank God for something He made or ask for help to understand His Word, speak truthfully or care for someone. Do not ask for private wrongs, family details or another person's story. A child may simply pass.

Pray for one another — 4 minutes

Invite short prayers for the requests freely shared. Give thinking time. Offer "Father, please help..." or "Thank You for..." when a child wants help beginning. No one must take a turn or repeat your words. You and your helper may pray for requests children would like you to carry; if nobody wishes to speak, pray gently for the shared concerns yourself, pausing between them.

Close — 1 minute

Thank God for making Himself known and for the Saviour Scripture reveals. Send the work and Parent take-home page with each child; invite them to explain the picture to a parent or caregiver without requiring homework.

After teaching

Notice whether children distinguished the Maker from the sun, understood why Scripture is needed, and connected cleansing with Jesus rather than with being clever or finishing a task. Compare what you and your helper heard: what children explained without help, what needed prompting, and what needs teaching again. Keep brief anonymous notes of understanding and actual timings, without recording private disclosures. Finished work, accurate recitation and spoken prayer do not establish faith. If harm is disclosed, listen without investigating or promising secrecy and follow the church's actual safeguarding arrangements.

At the next meeting: Before showing a picture, ask, "What can the sky help us know? What does the Bible tell us that the sky cannot?" Give thinking time, then show the two panels if needed. Recall "the testimony of the LORD is trustworthy" together before introducing Scripture's saving purpose in 2 Timothy.

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