

1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> GRADE

JAN 24 – Unit 28.4

LIVING LIKE JESUS

### MEMORY VERSE:

“His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness.” 2 Peter 1:3

## PARENT BIBLE STUDY

Like his first letter, Peter’s second letter was written to believers in the early church who had experienced persecution and suffering. At this time, Peter was in a Roman prison. He was aware that his death was imminent. (See 2 Pet. 1:13-15.) Besides the outside threats to their faith, these believers were also confronted with false teachers within the church who tried to lead them away from the true gospel. Peter warned against false teachers. In the opening chapter of his letter, Peter’s exhortation to live like Jesus gives believers a measure for making sure they are following the truth. The best defense against false teachers is a dedication to a knowledge of the truth. As you prepare to teach from 2 Peter 1, consider these two questions: How do we live like Jesus? Why do we live like Jesus?

First, God’s people live like Jesus through the power of Jesus (2 Pet. 1:3-4) and through personal application (2 Pet. 1:5-7). Not only is the Christian life marked by faith in Christ, it is characterized by goodness, knowledge, self-control, endurance, godliness, brotherly affection, and love. These come from knowing Jesus, who calls us to Himself.

Second, God’s people live like Jesus to confirm their calling. (2 Pet. 1:8-11) If we claim to have faith but do not live like Jesus, we have forgotten what Jesus has done for us. Because God has credited to us Jesus’ righteousness, we strive to live in loving obedience to Him to show those around us that Jesus has truly changed our lives. Soon after writing this letter, Peter was killed in Rome as Jesus had predicted. (John 21:18-19) Help kids grasp that Jesus lived a perfect life and died the death we deserve for our sin. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sins and changes our hearts. Jesus calls and empowers His followers to live like Him.



## ACTIVITY FOLLOW ME

### WHAT YOU DO:

1. Start the game by performing one action, such as pointing to your nose. The next person will continue the action by pointing to his nose and then adding another action such as hopping one time.
2. The next family member next to him will do the previous two actions and then add one of her own. Continue around the circle, remembering each action in order. Play additional rounds as time allows.

### DISCUSSION:

**Say** • Great job! In order to be successful at this game, you needed to pay attention and copy the actions of the players in front of you. In today’s Bible story, we are going to learn how important it is for believers to know Jesus and live like Him and for Him.

### BIBLE VIDEO:

Play the Bible Story Video that goes with this lesson!



## DISTRIBUTE BIBLES AND HELP FAMILY MEMBERS FIND 2 PETER 1.

- Choose a volunteer to read 2 Peter 1:5-7.
- Point out that the key passage comes from this chapter.
- Remind the kids that Peter was a fisherman from Galilee; the Holy Spirit made him into a church leader.
- When Peter wrote this letter, he was in a Roman prison.

## DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TOGETHER:

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss:

1. What did Peter say God has given us? *(everything required for life and godliness, 2 Peter 1:3)*
2. What should we have along with faith? *(goodness, knowledge, self-control, endurance, godliness, brotherly affection; 2 Peter 1:5-7)*
3. Why did Peter want to remind believers of these things they already know? *(he knew he would soon die, and wanted to affirm the truth again before he did, 2 Peter 1:12-14)*
4. Why is it important to live for God? *Help kids think through the God's purpose for us. We were created to glorify and love Him. We cannot be truly happy apart from His plans for us. After faith in Jesus, our mission is to lead others to Jesus. If we say we love Jesus, and live as though we do not, our witness is ineffective.*
5. What are ways we can grow in godliness? *Guide kids to think about practical steps they can take to help them grow in their walk with Christ—such as reading their Bibles daily, gathering with other believers to learn about God, praying, and worshiping God. Remind kids that doing these things can't save them, but will help them grow in godliness if they are saved by grace through faith.*
6. Who does the work of growing us in godliness? *Discuss the combination between the Holy Spirit's power to change us, and our responsibility to live for God. Help kids see that we cannot change ourselves, but that with the Holy Spirit's power, we will be able to work towards loving and obeying God.*

Peter instructed believers to live like Jesus. We are called to live like Jesus, too!

PRAY as a family before you close your time together!