

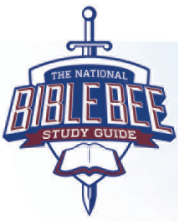
2015

# Believe



## PARENTS GUIDE

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WEEK 1

National Bible Bee Study Guide  
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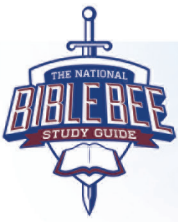
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When a pebble hits a pond, its impact sends out  
a ripple effect that spreads over a wide area.  
So it is with each of our lives.

Shelby Kennedy's life, though short-lived, was like that pebble.  
Her love for God and His Word led her to invest herself fully in following Him.  
She knew the renewal and refreshment of being immersed in His truth.  
She was not "dipping her toes" in the ways of God.  
She was "all in."

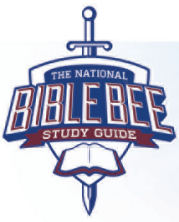
And so, her life impacted others.

This bible study is dedicated to that life fully lived for the glory of God.

It would be Shelby's desire, not to see monuments to her memory, but for the ripple effect –  
the gospel of Jesus Christ – to spread farther and wider.

As Shelby inspired us, may this study of the the book of John inspire you and transform your life.

*Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,  
but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again.  
The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water  
welling up to eternal life.  
John 4: 13, 14 NASB*



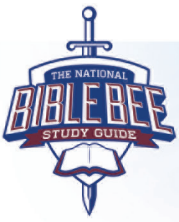
# WEEK 1

Dear Parents:

We are so excited that you and your family are wading and diving into God's Word this summer by studying John 1-6 with us. We realize that it might not always be possible for you to do the Senior Bible Bee Study Guide each week with the family so we have provided this parent's guide to give you an overview at what children learned each week. If you and your family are not able to do all the lessons each week, do not get discouraged. God's Word never returns void so whatever you study He will use in your life.

If you or your children ever get stuck on how to memorize a verse, mark a certain Scripture reference, or use any of the tools listed in the study, refer to the Introduction of the study. There is all sorts of helpful advice and tips written there.

Included in this parent guide are questions to ask that will reinforce what the student learned each week and family activities that go along with the study. Be encouraged to open and close your time in prayer and song. The questions have been divided between Wading In and Diving In just like the Sword Study. The Wading In questions are content questions that cover the overall picture of the study for the week. The Diving In questions are a bit deeper and relate more to a specific concept. It would be good to do the Wading In questions together first and then cover the Diving In questions together if you have time. We hope that we enjoy getting to "swim" in God's Word together.



## WEEK 1/JOHN 1

### Review Questions:

### *Wading In:*

What were some of the key words in the study and what were the meanings discussed?

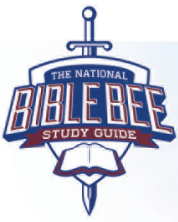
Possible answers for discussion could be:

- Word
- Light
- Life
- Testify/Witness
- Believe
- Messiah/Christ
- Lamb of God
- Fullness
- Law
- Grace
- Truth
- Flesh
- Spirit

Who wrote this book and what was his purpose?

- Author:
  - John, the Disciple
  - Sometimes called “John the Beloved”
  - Part of the inner circle of Jesus’ disciples along with Peter and James.
  - Before becoming a disciple he was a fisherman with his father Zebedee (Mat. 4:21)
- Purpose
  - John 20:31
  - That we would believe that **Jesus** is the Christ
  - That we would have life in His name.





What are some of the names and attributes of Jesus in John 1 that you put on your Jesus list?  
Possible answers for discussion could be:

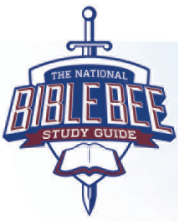
- Names for Jesus:
  - Word (v. 1)
  - Light (v. 4, 7-9)
  - God (v. 1)
  - Life (v. 4)
  - Christ (v. 41)
  - The Lamb of God (v. 29, 36)
  - Messiah (v. 41)
  - Son of God (v. 49)
  - King of Israel (v. 49)
  - Son of Man (v. 51)
- Attributes:
  - He was in the beginning (v. 1-2)
  - He was with God (v. 1-2)
  - He was God (v. 1)
  - All things were made through Him (v. 3)
  - Became flesh and dwelt among us (v. 14)
  - All knowing (v. 47-48)

What were the three main subjects in this chapter? (Students will probably share the summary titles that they wrote down on Day 1 under the Look! Section so answers may vary).

- John 1:1-18 – The Word Became Flesh
- John 1:19-34 – The witness of John
- John 1:35-51 – Jesus calls His disciples

What were your two memory passages? Have each family member try and remember their verses from memory. Have another family member check them as they recite.

- John 1:1-5
- Acts 10:42-43



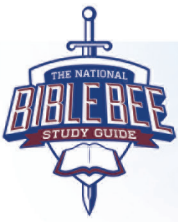
## Diving In:

What was the attitude of the people who were questioning John in John 1:19-27? Were they asking questions to really know the **truth** or were they asking to try and find fault with the **truth**?

- Answer: The attitude reflected in chapter 1 and throughout the Gospel by most of the Jews, Pharisees, and Levites was a spirit of disbelief. It is possible that they asked questions not because they truly wanted to believe but because they wanted to find fault with the Truth or with the messenger.
- Are there ever times when you ask questions that are meant to find fault with the **truth** or with the messenger rather than truly seeking the **truth**? For example, if your mom tells you that you cannot go and spend the night with your friend and you ask "why not?" are you asking because you want to understand your mom's wisdom or because you want to find fault with her and her answer?
- When we seek the Truth we need to make sure that we are approaching it with the right heart attitude.

The Old Testament contains many events that foreshadowed (indicated) that Christ was coming and what He would be like. What are some of the foreshadowings that you studied in your cross-references that are referenced in the book of John? Possible answers for discussion could be:

- Lamb of God – John 1:29, 36
  - Abraham obediently goes to sacrifice Isaac and God intervenes and provides the sacrifice (Gen 22:1-18).
  - The Passover lamb (Exodus 12:1-13)
  - The institution of animal sacrifice for sins.
- Messiah – John 1:41
  - David (2 Samuel 7:12-13)
  - A King (1 Samuel 24:6, 2 Samuel 23:1)
- The Greater Prophet – John 1:21-27
  - Moses (Deut. 18:15)
  - Moses' prophecy that a greater prophet like he would be coming from among the Jewish people. (Deut. 18:15)
- King of Israel – John 1:49
  - The coming King (Isaiah 9:6-7)



## Family Activity:

### To Tell the Truth

Before your family devotion time together, have Dad or the oldest sibling dress up like John the Baptist. Suggestions for a costume might be a beard, a leather belt, or a jar of honey (Matthew 3:4). Then during the family devotion time, have the children “interview” John from John 1, have “John” respond according to the verses in John, and have the children try and figure out who he is. A sample script from John 1 could be:

**John:** “...He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.” [Jhn 1:15 ESV]

**Child 1:** “Who are you?” [Jhn 1:19 ESV]

**John:** “I am not the Christ.” [Jhn 1:20 ESV]

**Child 2:** “What then? Are you Elijah?” [Jhn 1:21 ESV]

**John:** “I am not.” [Jhn 1:21 ESV]

**Child 2:** “Are you the Prophet?” [Jhn 1:21 ESV]

**John:** “No.” [Jhn 1:21 ESV]

**Child 1:** “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” [Jhn 1:22 ESV]

**John:** “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.” [Jhn 1:23 ESV]

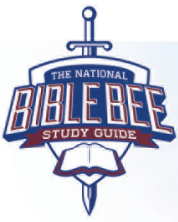
**Child 3:** “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” [Jhn 1:25 ESV]

**John:** “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” [Jhn 1:26-27 ESV]

John: **Who am I?**

**Children:** John the Baptist!





## Guess Who

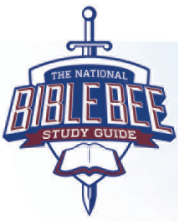
Cut out the different “Guess Who” cards found at the end of this Parent Guide and have each person read their Guess Who card. Have the family member to the right of the reader try and guess who the person is trying to represent.

Here is another variation of this game.

1. Each family member chooses to be one of the Guess Who characters (John the Baptist, John the Beloved, Andrew, Nathanael, or Jesus). Children are welcome to dress up like their character or create a sign to wear so that the other players know who they are supposed to be.
2. One family member is the scorekeeper and holds on to all the Guess Who cards. They do not let the other family members see the cards.
3. Each family member must go around the circle and share one fact about their character at a time. The scorekeeper will check the facts with the Guess Who cards or with the Bible.
4. 1 point is to be awarded for each true fact shared about their “character.” To make things more challenging the score keeper could award 2 points for facts shared that are not on the Guess Who cards or are not in John 1 but that were learned about in the cross-references or in extra study. Or 1 point could be awarded to an opponent if the “character” cannot think of any other facts about their character and the opponent can.
5. The game is over when the character cannot think of any more facts to go with their character and neither can the opponents.

## Discussion after To Tell the Truth and the Guess Who game:

Each of these characters in John 1 demonstrated the character trait of truthfulness. Each character accurately testified to the truth whether it was concerning their identity of who they were, who they were not, or who the Savior was. It would have been wrong if the characters misrepresented the truth or told a lie to deceive people or because of pride in their own life. What if John would have lied about being the witness of the Light and claimed to be the Light because he wanted to be the center of attention? It is important that we testify about Jesus with humility and honesty to point to Christ not to ourselves. What if John the disciple would have written down stories about Jesus but distorted the facts? It is necessary that we, as Christians, walk in the truth of Jesus so that we can earn the trust of others. Then when we present the truth of God’s Word, hopefully there is nothing that we have done that causes a person to stumble.



## Be like Andrew and Philip

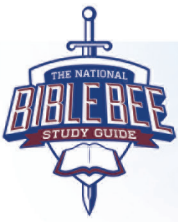
After meeting Jesus, Andrew and Philip were one of the first disciples to go and bring others to Jesus (John 1:41, 45). This week be like Andrew and Philip by inviting someone to church.

## Be like John the Baptist

John the Baptist was a witness who testified that the Christ had come (John 1:29-36). Here are some suggestions to be like John.

- Pray, as a family, and ask the Lord to reveal someone who needs to hear the Gospel.
  - Purchase some tracts and pass them out to people. You could pass them out to your unsaved neighbors, friends, family members, or people you might meet at the store.
  - As a family, prepare yourself to be a witness for the Lord. You could learn a method like the Wordless Book or sharing the Gospel using the 10 commandments. Check out the following resources to learn methods to share the Gospel.
- The Wordless Book:
    - English - <https://online.cefcmi.com/course/view.php?id=162>
    - Spanish - <https://online.cefcmi.com/enrol/index.php?id=337>
    - To make your own Wordless Book cut out squares, 2" X 2", of yellow, black, red, white, and green paper. Punch a hole in the top left corner and thread a loose piece of string through it.
  - The 10 Commandments:
    - <http://www.wayofthemaster.com/index.shtml>
    - <http://www.livingwaters.com/>
    - As a family, keep each other accountable to practicing the message of the Gospel and actually sharing it with someone.

Remember to ask Him to help you be joyful, loving, and to reflect God's light as you share the message that the Lamb of God has come into the world. If the person is not receptive to the Gospel, do not be discouraged. It is our job to be faithful in sharing the message and His job to open the hearts of the people. The Lord is pleased with your joyful obedience.



## Guess Who Cards

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I am not the Christ</li><li>• am not Elijah</li><li>• I am "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness 'Make straight the way of the Lord.'"</li><li>• I baptize with water.</li><li>• I am not the light but I bear witness to the Light.</li><li>• I wear clothes of camel hair, a leather belt, and eat wild honey and locusts</li><li>• I was eventually taken by Herod and was beheaded</li> <li>• Who am I? (<i>John the Baptist</i>) I baptize with the Holy Spirit.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I am the Light.</li><li>• I am the Word.</li><li>• I am the life.</li><li>• I am the Messiah.</li><li>• I am the Lamb of God.</li><li>• I am God in the flesh.</li> <li>• Who am I? (<i>Jesus</i>)</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I brought my brother to see Jesus.</li><li>• I told my brother that Jesus was the Messiah.</li><li>• I was a fisherman before coming to Jesus.</li><li>• My brother's name is Peter.</li> <li>• Who am I? (<i>Andrew</i>)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I was brought to Jesus by my friend Philip.</li><li>• When Philip found me I was sitting under a fig tree.</li><li>• At first, I didn't believe that Jesus was the Messiah.</li><li>• Jesus knew who I was before I met him.</li><li>• In the other Gospels, I may also be referred to as Bartholomew.</li><li>• I proclaimed that Jesus was the Son of God and the King of Israel.</li> <li>• Who am I? (<i>Nathanael</i>)</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I wrote the Gospel of John.</li><li>• I was a disciple of Jesus.</li><li>• I was a part of Jesus' inner circle.</li><li>• I was a fisherman before being a disciple.</li><li>• My father is Zebedee.</li><li>• My brother's name is James.</li><li>• I am also called "The Beloved" or "The Disciple whom Jesus Love"</li> <li>• Who am I? (<i>John the Disciple</i>)</li></ul>	<p>Score Card</p>