

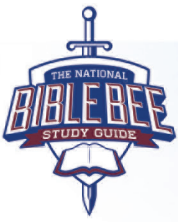
2015

# Believe



## PARENT GUIDE

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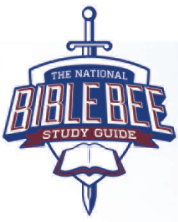
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There are many parents of participants across the country who use the *Senior Level Bible Bee Study Guide*. We would like to encourage you to do the same. We pray you will grow in the Lord seeing His marvelous truth displayed as you study the book of John. You will also be better equipped to have fruitful discussions with your children based on what you are learning together. Many of the references in this Parent Guide are based on the *Senior* level study, but also provide a broad overview for you as a parent regardless of what level your child might be doing. May God continue to bless your family as you study His Word..

## WEEK 4/JOHN 4

Begin your family discussion time in praise to the Lord using Psalm 135:1-7. Ask Him to bless your time together and give you insights into His Word. You could also start off by singing songs of praise to God. Below are possible song suggestions for your family worship time.

- *Crown Him with Many Crowns* (Hymn by Matthew Bridges)
- *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* (Hymn by Edward Perronet)
- *Enough* (By Chris Tomlin)

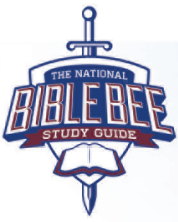
### Review Questions:

Try and remember the answers before looking them up in the study.

### Wading In:

1. What were some of the key words in the study and what did you learn about them?  
*Possible answers for discussion could be:*

- Bread/loaves/manna
- Life/live/eternal life
- Heaven (from Heaven, down from Heaven, down out of Heaven)
- Eat/ate
- Flesh
- Blood
- Signs/miracle



2. What are some of the things that you put on your **JESUS**, **TESTIFY**, and **BELIEVE** lists?  
*Below are some of the answers your children may have put down from John 6 or the cross-references but answers will vary:*

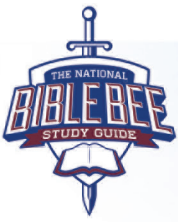
- Jesus:
  - He is the Prophet who came into the world (John 6:14).
  - Jesus is the Bread of Life (John 6:35, 48).
  - Jesus came down from Heaven to do the will of His Father (John 6:38).
  - Jesus knew the future and who would betray Him (John 6:70-71).
  - Jesus often withdrew to solitary places to pray (Luke 5:16).
  - Jesus is our great High Priest. He saves us and makes intercession for us (Hebrews 7:25-27).

While discussing the things on your **TESTIFY** list, try and remember the 4 things that bear witness to Jesus in John 5.

- Testify:
  - Peter testified that Jesus was the Holy One of God and that Jesus had the words of eternal life (John 6:69).
  - Paul testified that Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again according to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).
- Believe
  - The work of God is to believe in the one He has sent (John 6:29).
  - Whoever believes in Jesus will never thirst (John 6:35).
  - Whoever looks and believes on the Son has eternal life and will be raised on the last day (John 6:40).
  - Whoever believes in Jesus also believes in Him who sent Jesus (John 12:44).
  - He who believes in Jesus does not remain in darkness (John 12:46).

3. What were the three main subjects in this chapter? (Students will probably share the summary titles that they wrote down on *Day 1 – Look - Wading In* and possibly *Day 5 – Look - Diving In* so answers may vary).

- John 6:1-21 Jesus' miracles
- John 6:22-59 Jesus is the Bread of Life
- John 6:60-71 The disciples response to Jesus' teaching



4. 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 6:37-40
- I Peter 1:3-5

### **Diving In:**

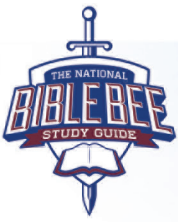
1. Discuss what you learned during your Greek studies and the words you looked up in your Bible dictionary. Possible discussion words include:

- Greek Words
  - Propitiation (*Day 3 – Look - Diving In*)
- Dictionary Words
  - Manna (*Day 2 – Look - Diving In*)

2. Last week in the *Diving In* question section of the Parent Guide you were asked to consider different religions that claimed to believe in God, but didn't believe in Jesus. This week consider these beliefs again from a different angle. Some people say that many religions are essentially the same, especially concerning their belief in God. People will say that Muslims, Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, and Christians all worship the same God. Therefore, religions that reject Jesus also reject God the Father. They are not worshipping the true God. They are worshipping a god that they created in their mind that they attribute to the God of the Bible. Discuss this with your family and how you can use God's Word to show the truth about God to someone who believes a lie about God's character based on what you learned from the study and the facts listed on your JESUS chart.

3. At the end of John 6, many disciples turned away from following Jesus because of the truth that He was sharing. Often times He was popular because of the signs that He performed, but when He presented the truth people grumbled against Him, turned away from Him, or even tried to kill Him! Sometimes God's truth isn't popular. Sometimes we will not be liked for giving it, but that should not matter. We should always give the truth with grace, gentleness, and respect, just like Jesus did (John 1:14, 1 Peter 3:14-17). Discuss pertinent matters that need God's truth but that need to also be discussed with God's grace. Examples could include: salvation, sin, homosexuality, abortion, evolution, other religions, and Hell.





4. At your family discussion time have your family consider this point. The little boy in John 6:9 gave what he had to Jesus. It wasn't a lot and he wasn't sure what Jesus was going to do with it but he was willing to give it. What does each family member have that they could give to Jesus? Maybe it is one's time, talents, or material possessions? Everything we have ultimately comes from God and we should yield everything to Him. Have each member seriously think about one specific thing that they can yield to God. Have each family member write this down and share it during this family discussion time. Encourage your children to make a conscience effort this week to demonstrate to God how they have yielded this thing, remembering that faith (believing the truth) without works (doing the right thing) is dead (James 2:14-26). Throughout this week's study, we encouraged your child to think about some personal application questions. These application questions might be good to discuss during your family time. These topics include:

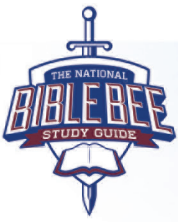
- Trusting Jesus in the "storms" of your life (*Day 2 – Live*).
- Jesus is the only one that can satisfy your needs both physically and spiritually (*Day 3 – Live*).
- You should desire to tell others about the Bread of Life (*Day 3 – Live*).
- Believing in Jesus for salvation, He is the Bread of Life (*Day 4 – Live*). Feel free to refer back to the invitation at the end of Week 3 under the section labeled "Do you know Him? Do you believe?" for more advice on what to share with your child about believing in Jesus.
- Being grateful for the things that God has given you (*Day 4 – Live*).

## Family Activity:

### Fish, Bread, and Math

A fun activity would be to have your family discussion while eating a picnic outside in your yard like the setting of John 6:1-14. At your meal you would of course have bread and fish (real fish or fish crackers) to remind you of Jesus' miracle. Or you could just serve these items as a snack during your family discussion. Based on the amount of fish and bread that your family eats, estimate how much food would have been eaten by over 5,000 people. Investigate how big the baskets might have been that were used to gather the leftovers and how much would have been left over to fill 12 baskets.

You could calculate how many semi-trucks of bread loaves and/ or fish it would have taken to feed over 5,000 people. You could also do a math problem to figure out how many semi-trucks of bread loaves and/or water would have been needed to sustain all the Israelites for the time they wandered in the wilderness. God is so powerful!



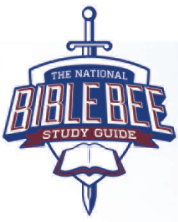
### Manna—What is it?

Numbers 11:7 says that *“Now the manna [was] like coriander seed, and its color like the color of bdellium”* (NKJV). It might be beneficial to show your children what a coriander seed and bdellium look like to help your children understand what manna might have looked like. Sometimes children imagine giant tortillas falling from the sky to represent manna if they don’t understand what the Bible says about it. Other references describing manna are Exodus 16:14, 31. You could also discuss with your children what they learned about manna when they looked it up in their Bible dictionary on *Day 2 – Look -Diving In*.

### Count your Blessings

**Option 1:** Have your children list different gifts they have received and who gave it to them. Then have them read John 6:32. After reading the verse, ask your children if they have a different answer now concerning who gave them the gifts. The Jews thought that Moses had given them the manna but it was really God. God is the one that gives us all things yet we do not stop to tell Him thank you. During your family prayer time at the end of your discussion have your children tell God thank you for the different things He has give them.

**Option 2:** At the beginning of the week challenge your children to write down 100 different things that they are thankful for by the end of the week. This would be about 15 things each day for seven days, or 20 things each day for five days. To make this activity easier you could have your children write down a few items before each meal until they have reached the appropriate amount for the day. Although this may be challenging it will remind your children to thank God for things that they might not normally think of like thanking God for air, one’s family, the ability to walk, for joy and good memories, and other unique gifts from God. Then at your family discussion time have your children share their lists and what they learned from this activity. Have your children use this list to thank God at the end of your family discussion time.



## Bread of Life

On *Day 3* in the *Live* section the student is encouraged to write down the main points of the Gospel based on John 6. Then they are encouraged to share this message with someone else and to give them a loaf of bread as a gift. This bread is to be used to talk about the true Bread of Life. Below is a simple bread recipe and Gospel outline that can be used. The Gospel outline below is very basic so please encourage your student to write their own in greater depth.

### Begin With:

- 3 1/2 cups warm water
- 2 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 1/2 Tbsp yeast
- 1/2 cups sugar or honey
- 1/2 cups butter or oil

Mix all together.

### Then Add:

- 1 cup more flour
- 1 1/2 Tbsp salt

Mix all together.

### Finally:

Add flour 1/2 cups at a time (mixing it together with the dough in your bowl) for a total of 9-11 cups until dough pulls away from sides of bowl.

Shape into two loaves.

Let rise for 30 minutes.

Bake at 350 for 35-45 minutes.

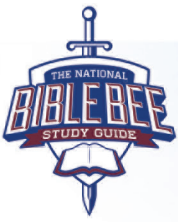
### Note:

There is no kneading involved in making this bread. A *KitchenAid* mixer is a good one to use for this recipe but is not mandatory.

### Variation:

Usually this recipe calls for using all whole wheat flour but it does work with a whole wheat flour/white flour combination. If a person does the honey and butter option one should melt the honey and butter together in a pot and then add it to the recipe, being careful not to heat it too much as this will kill the yeast.





## Gospel Outline:

- Our sins have separated us from God. If one does not eat of the true Bread, when they die, they will be forever separated from God. They will not experience life in Heaven with God. (John 6:50).
- God sent Jesus to be the true Bread from Heaven; Jesus is the way to eternal life (John 6:32).
- Whoever believes in the Son will have eternal life and will be raised on the last day (John 6:40).

## Family History

During this chapter Jesus uses the account of Moses and the Israelites in the desert to share with them about God's truth. Discuss some of your own family history. Maybe get an old family album out to look at together. Tell your children about their ancestors and how God has worked throughout your generations just like He did in the Israelite's history. Give them a vision for their influence on future generations by the choices they make now. What effect has believing in Christ had on your life as a parent? Share this with them. During your family discussion time you could write a Family Statement or Pledge together that family members sign. Frame it and hang it on your wall. Make family business-size cards to give to others as an introduction to your family with a family Bible verse or statement. Consider designing a family T-shirt to wear as you travel to the National Bible Bee that includes your family statement or pledge. When you end your family discussion time pray a prayer of thanksgiving for your family.

## Prayer

End your family devotion time in prayer based on the things that you discussed during your family activity. Below are some suggestions based on the P-R-A-Y model:

- P** Praise God for His goodness.
- R** Ask the Lord what you might need to repent of, 1 John 1:9.
- A** Ask the Lord to reveal someone to you whom you could share the Gospel with and let them know that Jesus is the Bread of Life.
- Y** Yield to Him as you meditate on Colossians 3:12-17.

*Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. Colossians 3:17 NASB*