



IN THE BEGINNING...PART 2

Family Devotional/Adult & Teen Discussion Guide

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JANUARY 14, 2018

1. PRIMARY STATEMENT: God owns it all - the earth, and everything in it. He blesses us with many good things, and as His managers, He expects us to handle His resources His way. The first and the best of what we receive belongs to God; when we fail to do that, we open ourselves to unnecessary hardships and temptations.

2. BIBLE VERSE

Genesis 4:3-5 [NIV]

"In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord. And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor."



Q. Why did God receive Abel's sacrifice with favor, but not Cain's?

Q. Abel gave the first and the best of what he had to God. What would the first and the best look like in your life?

3. DISCUSSION

Genesis 4:6-7 [NIV]

"Then the Lord said to Cain... 'If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.'"

Cain's refusal to give God his first and best lessened his view of God as leader and Lord, and that weakened state left him vulnerable to temptation. Instead, he should have refocused on giving God what was right. When we learn to put God first in any area of life, it helps us to put Him first in all other areas.

Q. How are you honoring God with your possessions?

Q. Do your giving habits make it easier or harder to fully put God first in other areas of your life?



4. PRAYER FOCUS

Take a few minutes as a family: thank God for blessing you with life, and for meeting your needs. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you put Him first in your finances.



“THE LIGHTNING BUG”

Family Devotional/Overflow Kids Discussion Guide

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1. POWER VERSE: Matthew 5:16 “Let your shine before men...”

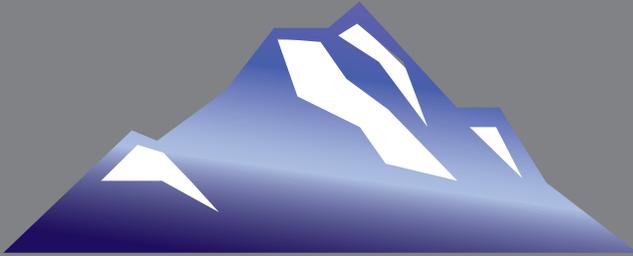
Watts Up: “I’ll Shine My Light In This Dark World!”

This week, we continue the series called, “Bugs”.

In this lesson, we learn that we can light up the world and make a huge difference!

2. BIBLE VERSE:

Read: Exodus 34



- Q. Why was Moses needing strength?
- Q. Where did he go for strength?
- Q. What happened after Moses had spent time on the mountain?

Jesus said, “I am the Light of the world.”
We, too, are supposed to duplicate that light.

This world is full of sin. Sin tries to choke out the Light that Jesus put inside each of us. Sometimes we try to hide that light and keep it from being seen for fear we may be made fun of or criticized.

3. DISCUSSION:

Jesus told us that we should be like a city on a hill with a light that can’t be hidden. We are to SHINE the light of Jesus all over the darkness. Even the smallest light can cut through the thick layers of darkness that sin brings into the world.

- Q. What does it mean to shine your light?
- Q. How can you shine your light?
- Q. Do you think it is easy to shine your light?



4. PRAYER FOCUS

Pray with your children that they will shine their light in their school and in their neighborhood so that all people will see Jesus in us.