



NEW YEARS

GRADES
K-6

Printable *Bible-Based* Lesson Kit



M **GHTY MESSAGES**

THANK YOU

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LESSON OVERVIEW



MIGHTY MESSAGE

This Lesson on the celebration of New Year's will help students understand that ours is the God of second chances. And he gives us New Year's as a symbol of his forgiveness and desire for us to gather spiritual maturity in him.



How to Use the Lesson Kit:

This kit includes a variety of activities that you can select from to customize your perfect lesson. We suggest beginning with the Scripture Reading & Lesson followed by the Discussion Questions. From there, feel free to mix & match the activities to build your lesson plan based on the time you have allotted and the age level/interests of your kids.



WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Scripture Reading & Lesson
- Discussion Questions
- Printable Craft
- Game
- Coloring Page
- Wordsearch
- Crossword Puzzle
- Learning Lookups Journaling
- Parent Handout
- Quiz
- Reference Sheet
- Certificate of Completion
- Answer Page



MATERIALS LIST:

- Crayons
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Hershey's Kisses (game)
- Bowl (game)
- Pencils or pens
- Bibles (electronic or hardcopy)



SCRIPTURE & LESSON

PASSAGE (NIV): VARIOUS SCRIPTURES RELATED TO NEW YEARS AND STARTING OVER

Read the following excerpts as shown (NIV translation), or read from your chosen Bible translation:



Isaiah 43:18-19

¹⁸“Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.
¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

Revelation 21:5a

He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!”

Philippians 3:14

I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Lamentations 3:22-24

²²Because of the LORD’s great love we are not consumed,
for his compassions never fail.
²³ They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
²⁴ I say to myself, “The LORD is my portion;
therefore I will wait for him.”

Ephesians 4:22-24

²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self,
which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;
²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds;
²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and
holiness.

2 Corinthians 6:2

“In the time of my favor I heard you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you.”
I tell you, now is the time of God’s favor, now is the day of salvation.

Hebrews 12:1-2a

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us,
² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith...

Questions for Children about New Years

11. The scriptures we read are all about joy. What brings us that joy? ***The idea of starting over, that we can always start over with our God of forgiveness.***
2. Philippians 3:14 says God has drawn us heavenward. We aren't there yet. What can we do while here to make our planet, our relationships, very pleasing to God? ***Take care of the planet; take care of others; do unto others, not as they've done to us, but how we would want them to do to us.***
3. Hebrews 12:1 refers to us having a "great cloud of witnesses." This means that the Old Testament heroes are watching for us and cheering us on as we pursue a life of love in Christ. Who are some of those heroes who watch us regularly? ***Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Noah, Moses, Joshua, David, all the prophets including Ezekiel, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Daniel as well as Jesus himself.***



TEACHER'S MIGHTY MESSAGE

New Year's is the best time to celebrate one of the greatest gifts of God. It is the forgiveness for things we didn't get right last year, with a chance to start afresh this year. We are children of the God of forgiveness. Let's use this year to start fresh. But what is the best way to do it?

Is there anything God cannot do? **No.** Is there any spiritual gift he will not give to people who really seek him out? **No.**

No matter what other goals we have for the New Year, we need to make it our foremost goal to get to know him better.

How do we do that? **Take answers.**

The foremost is speaking to God lots in prayer. We need to speak to God lots.

When we speak to God, we become connected to him and to all his wonderful attributes. And whether we have storms or sun, good-times or bad, great joy or great disappointments, in the New Year, we need to remember this thing:

Let's remember that God is always loving, always giving, always understanding, never leaves us, and as we are talking to him, we are soaking up his most precious gifts.





PRINTABLE CRAFT

NEW YEAR'S PRAYERS BOOKMARK

For this simple and useful craft, use the included bookmark template to have students create a list of prayers for the New Year, as well as create a commitment to find a time and place for daily prayer.



MATERIALS:

- White paper or card stock
- Coloring utensils
- Scissors
- Writing utensil
- Hole punch
- Decorative ribbon



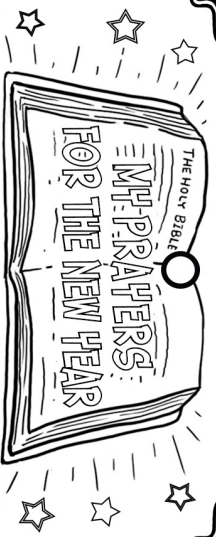
Preparation:

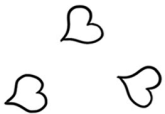
1. Print the New Year's Prayers Bookmark templates on white paper or cardstock.
2. Cut out the individual bookmarks.
3. Cut approximately 18" lengths of ribbon.

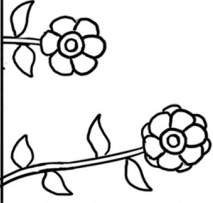


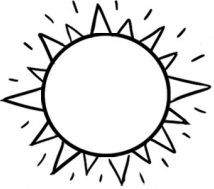
INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Provide the New Year's Prayers Bookmarks to each student.
2. Color as desired.
3. In the boxes, have them write three behaviors they would like to improve over the New Year. If they need triggers, use the examples that Jared wanted to change from the lesson.
4. Have them fill in the time of day when they will have the best chance of taking time to pray to God: upon awakening, upon going to bed, walking to or from school, after dinner, etc.
5. Next, have them write a place where they will go to pray each day. As it is easiest to pray in private, their room would be good or their porch or yard.
6. Punch a hole through the marked area at the top of the bookmark.
7. Thread the ribbon through the hole and tie to secure.
8. Take it home and leave it on the nightstand, in a Bible, or hanging on a hook in plain site, where they will be sure to see the list and use it to speak to God daily.



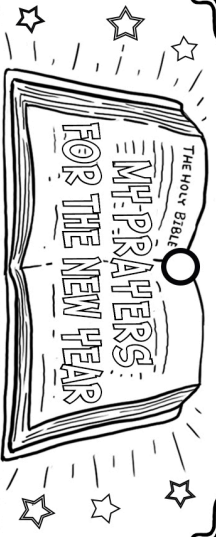
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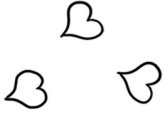
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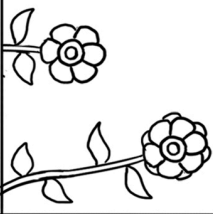
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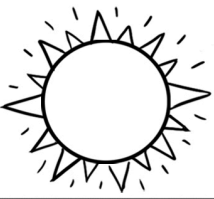
WHEN I CAN BEST PRAY:

WHERE I CAN BEST PRAY:



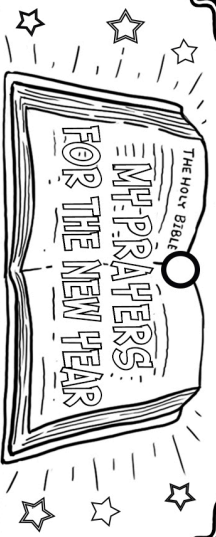
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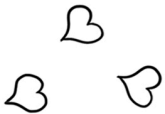
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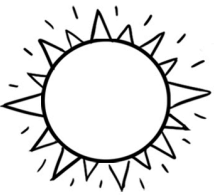
WHEN I CAN BEST PRAY:

WHERE I CAN BEST PRAY:



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2. 

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WHEN I CAN BEST PRAY:

WHERE I CAN BEST PRAY:



GAME

UNWRAPPING THE KISS RELAY!

Not only does this game provide a sweet treat, but it will also teach students about starting fresh. This game will cause many giggles as students unwrap candies quickly and in a silly way.



MATERIALS:

- Hershey's Kisses
- Bowl

Objective:

Be the first to unwrap two Hershey's Kisses using only one hand.



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Have students stand around a table.
2. Give them each a bowl and a pile of Hershey's Kisses.
3. When you say "Go!" the students will put one hand behind their backs and will pick up a Hershey's Kiss with the other.
4. They will unwrap the Hershey's Kiss one-handed.
5. Once unwrapped, the student can eat the Kiss.
6. The first student to unwrap and eat two Kisses wins.

Conclusion:

Look at all of the wrappers scattered around. Try to think of the little pieces of wrappers as things that we did wrong this past year. Now what about the chocolate? It's something fresh and new!

When it comes to our relationship with God, we must realize that we can always start fresh. 1 John 1:9 says that if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. We have the new year to remind us and the new year to create a new starting point. Let's all start afresh and make a new commitment to get closer to God this year!



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

"Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland."

Isaiah 43:18-19



WORD SEARCH

A new year is a chance to start over! Below are all sorts of words that relate to starting over in Christ. They all start with the letters RE, which means to do over and/or do better. Find as many as you can in the puzzle - and think about them throughout the week!

R	E	A	C	T	I	V	A	T	E	H	N	S	N	W	R
V	T	J	V	W	N	R	G	U	S	I	C	R	Q	Z	E
V	E	C	U	L	Q	E	E	E	M	C	F	E	R	A	L
Q	B	S	Y	U	D	J	R	F	K	A	O	L	E	P	I
R	R	C	Y	X	I	F	R	R	U	W	Z	E	C	L	N
S	E	E	J	U	E	H	E	Y	E	R	D	N	O	N	Q
E	R	V	F	R	G	B	S	W	K	C	B	T	R	C	U
U	E	D	I	U	E	I	T	D	A	R	H	I	D	U	I
R	L	R	S	S	T	N	O	W	X	Q	E	A	S	U	S
E	E	E	J	P	I	E	R	Y	O	K	H	V	R	H	H
N	A	F	F	L	M	T	E	V	O	I	B	W	I	G	V
O	S	I	N	E	G	C	R	E	Q	U	I	T	E	E	E
V	E	N	R	Z	E	A	M	Y	R	E	P	E	N	T	W
A	P	E	J	R	E	V	I	T	A	L	I	Z	E	V	K
T	W	R	E	I	N	V	E	N	T	C	R	E	N	E	W
E	D	R	E	L	I	V	E	T	C	J	S	Z	X	E	L

Words to Find:

REPENT
REFRESH
RENEW
REVITALIZE
RECORD

REVIEW
RESTORE
RENOVATE
REACTIVATE
RELIVE

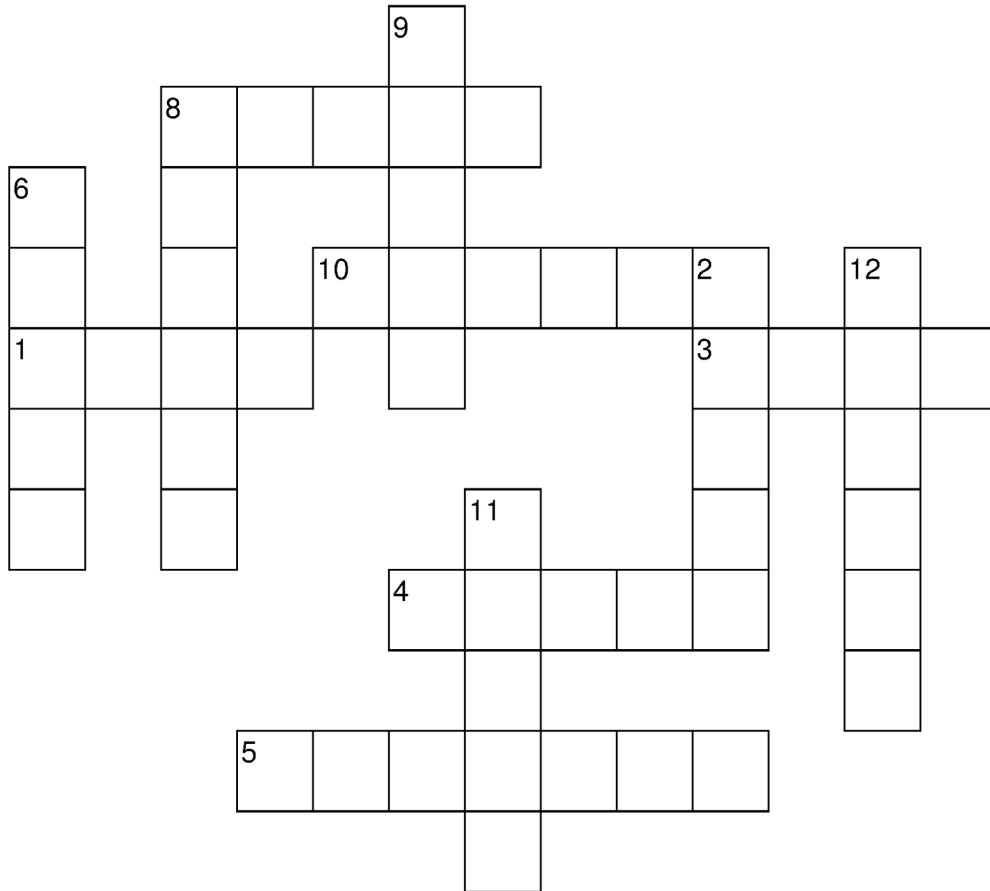
REINVENT
REFURBISH
REFINE
REFUTE
RELINQUISH

REQUIRE
RELENT
REVISIT
RELEASE
RECHARGE



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Fill in their names with the description of each one's faith in the crossword puzzle below. Remember, they are all cheering you on as you walk with God! Use the "Everyone in the Great Cloud of Witnesses Reference Sheet" (page 14) to help you solve the puzzle.



Across

- 1. Brought God a better offering than Cain
- 3. Built the Ark because God told him to
- 4. Was too old to have a baby, but believed what God had promised her
- 5. Offered his son Isaac as a sacrifice, though God stopped it
- 8. Blessed his grandsons from Joseph who were special to God
- 10. Passed through the Red Sea and were not killed like the Egyptians who followed them

Down

- 2. Did not experience death because he was so good
- 6. Blessed his sons Jacob and Esau the way God wanted him to
- 8. Foresaw the Exodus of Israel some 400 years later and shared his vision
- 9. Was adopted by Pharaoh's daughter but refused to live like royalty
- 11. Welcomed the spies because she believed in their God, not the fake gods of her town
- 12. One of the six mentioned in Verse 32 who was king of Israel



PARENT HANDOUT



Scriptures to Read: Proverbs 31:10-31, Lamentations 3:22-24, Ephesians 4:22-24, 2 Corinthians 6:2



This Week We Learned About ...

... celebrating New Years. The lesson helped students understand that ours is the God of second chances. And he gives us New Years as a symbol of his forgiveness and desire for us to gather spiritual maturity in him.



✓ Questions for Kids:

1. The Lord's compassions are new every what?
A. Morning
2. Ephesians says we should put off our old what?
A. Self
3. When is the time of God's favor?
A. Now

✓ Dinner Table Discussion:

God says he can make all things new. What are some things you would like to see made new, or changed, in your own life? Can you think of anything going on in the world you would like to see made new? Discuss.

Scripture Notes (tuck in lunchboxes, tape to mirrors, etc.):



I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 3:14



He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!"
Revelation 21:5



*Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed,
for his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
I say to myself, "The LORD is my portion;
therefore I will wait for him."
Lamentations 3:22-24*



EVERYONE IN THE GREAT CLOUD OF WITNESSES

As spoken of in Hebrews 11:4-32, all the heroes of the Bible are part of the Great Cloud of Witnesses who watch us every day and cheer us on at the New Year. Circle the ones you know below and see if you can recite the stories of their faith!

⁴By faith **ABEL** brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

⁵By faith **ENOCH** was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God..

⁷By faith **NOAH**, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family.

⁸By faith **ABRAHAM**, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

¹¹And by faith even **SARAH**, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise.

¹⁷By faith **ABRAHAM**, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice.

²⁰By faith **ISAAC** blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.

²¹By faith **JACOB**, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.

²²By faith **JOSEPH**, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones.

²⁴By faith **MOSES**, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.
²⁵He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

²⁹By faith the **PEOPLE** passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

³¹By faith the prostitute **RAHAB**, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

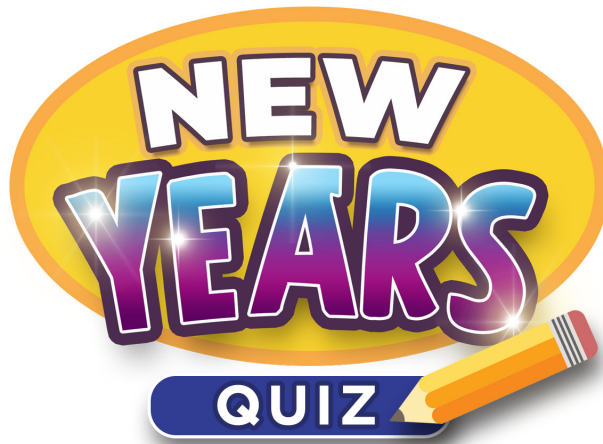
³²And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about **GIDEON, BARAK, SAMSON AND JEPHTHAH, ABOUT DAVID AND SAMUEL AND THE PROPHETS!**

Lookup: 2 Corinthians 6:2 and write it down.

Lookup: J2 Peter 1:5-8. Write down every noun associated with wisdom in the list (starting with “virtue”).

Question: The verse first speaks of God’s willingness to grow us spiritually this year. The second verse gives us some virtues to pursue. Name some acts you will commit to doing this year:

Create a prayer below. Speak to God and write it. Ask God to help you stay committed to him, using your own words:



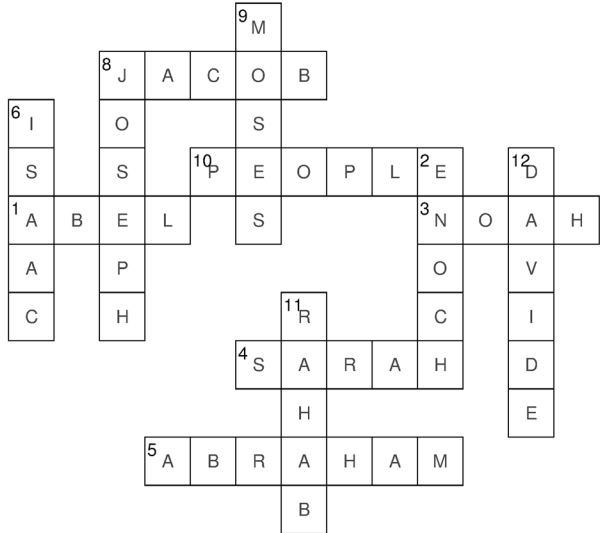
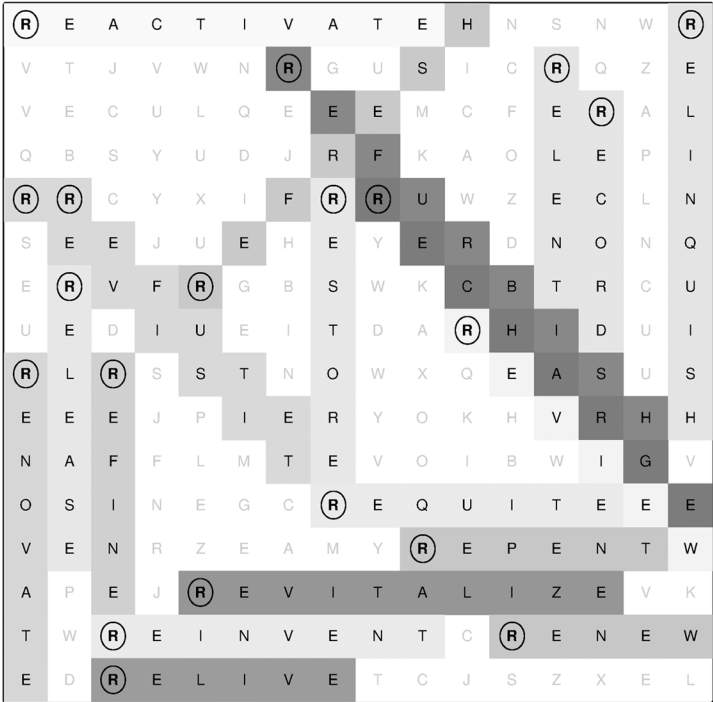
Instructions: To start the New Year off right, learn some of the most famous words of Jesus to help you through the year. His quotes are below. Use an NIV Bible to fill in the blanks.

Bible Lookups for New Years

1. Jesus said to her, "I am the _____ and the life. The one who believes in me will _____, even though they die..." **John 11:25**
2. Therefore do not worry about _____ for _____ will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. **Matthew 6:34**
3. "Jesus said to him, 'I am the _____, the _____, and the _____. No one comes to the Father except through me.'" **John 14:6**
4. By this everyone will know that you are my _____, if you love one _____." **John 13:35**
5. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in _____ shall not perish but have _____ life. **John 3:16**
6. Blessed are those who _____, for they will be _____. **Matthew 5:4**
7. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not
a. _____ them, for the _____ of heaven belongs to such as these." **Matthew 19:14**
8. For those who exalt themselves will be _____, and those who _____ themselves will be exalted. **Matthew 23:12**
9. "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be
a. _____." **Matthew 5:14**



ANSWER KEY



QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1) resurrection/live
- 2) tomorrow/tomorrow
- 3) way/truth/life
- 4) disciples/another
- 5) him/eternal
- 6) mourn/comforted
- 7) hinder/kingdom
- 8) humbled/humble
- 9) hidden
- 10) testifies

NEW YEARS

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION TO

Date

Signature

