## Look In!

Materials: a smudged and dirty mirror; a Bible; window cleaner; newspaper

"God's word is alive and working." Hebrews 4:12.

how the dirty mirror.] Look at this mirror! Can you see all the smudges? What happens when you press your hands against the mirror? It gets even more smeared. When we look **at** this mirror we see that it is a dirty mirror.

Now let's look **in** the mirror. We won't look at the smudges this time, we'll look at the face in the mirror. Who do you see? Is your face clean? Is your hair combed? That's what a mirror is for—so we can see how we look. A mirror is to look in.

[Show a Bible.] You know what this is! It's a Bible! There are different ways to see the Bible.



We can look **at** the Bible and see just a book. (Just as we looked **at** the mirror and saw only the smudges.)

Or we can look **in** the Bible and learn about God and how He loves us and helps us! (Just as we looked **in** the mirror and saw what we looked like.) The Bible is for us, right now. The Bible is to look in.

I want to look **in** the Bible and learn more about God, don't you? And I want to clean up this dirty mirror! Will you help? [Child sprays mirror with cleaner and wipes it with crumpled newspaper.]

Dear Jesus, thank You for the Bible. Amen.



## Message From God

Materials: a letter or e-mail message; a storybook; a parenting or women's magazine

"It really is God's message."
1 Thessalonians 2:13.

o you know what this is? It's a letter.

[The person who wrote it] couldn't come and talk to us, so he/she sent this message instead. It would be wonderful to see [this person] and talk together face-to-face, but we can't. It's a good thing we can send letters.

In the Garden of Eden, God talked to Adam and Eve face-to-face. After they disobeyed, sin separated them from God. They couldn't talk to Him face-to-face anymore. But God wanted to tell people that He loved them. He wanted them to know He had a plan to save the world from sin.

So God had people write about it. That's how the Bible was written.



The people who wrote the Bible did not write stuff they made up themselves. God told them what to write. Sometimes God sent these writers a dream. Sometimes He gave them ideas. They wrote down His messages.

The Bible is a special book. [Show story-book.] This book tells stories. So does the Bible. But they aren't the same. [Show magazine.] This magazine gives advice. So does the Bible. But the Bible is more than stories and advice. The Bible is full of words God has spoken. That's why we call it the Word of God.

Dear God, help me listen to Your words. Amen.



## Taste and See!

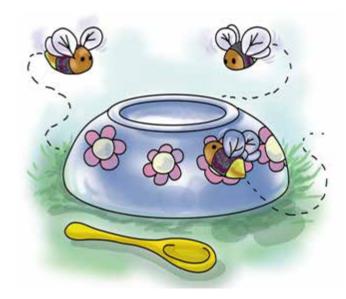
Materials: a small dish holding a little honey, covered by a larger bowl; a spoon

"Your promises are so sweet to me. They are like honey to my mouth!" Psalm 119:103.

here's a surprise under this bowl. Can you guess what it might be? Here is a hint: It tastes sweet. Close your eyes and open your mouth and I will put a little of it on your tongue. [Give them a taste of the honey.] Do you know what it is?

Honey is very sweet, isn't it? Sometimes when we like something we say it is "sweet." We might even call someone we love "honey"!

We can't see God. Just like we couldn't see the honey that was hiding under this bowl. But we can learn about God from the Bible. The Bible tells stories of the things God has done. The Bible gives us God's messages. The Bible



shows us what God is like.

David wrote a song about learning to know God. His song says, "O taste and see that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8, KJV). What does he mean? How can you taste that? You can listen to the words in the Bible! Then you will see that God is good. Then you will learn about God.

What do you think David's song sounded like? Can you make up a tune?

Dear God, I want to learn about You. Amen.

#3

## A Lamp for My Feet

Materials: a blanket; a flashlight; a long piece of yarn or string

"Send me your light and truth. They will guide me." Psalm 43:3.

et's play a game. We'll pretend it's a dark night and we want to walk through the forest. [Make the room as dark as possible.] This piece of yarn will be the path we want to follow. We'll put this blanket over our heads to make it seem darker.

How will we see in the dark? You hold the flashlight. Shine it down at the floor so we can see the yarn. The light will help us follow the path out of the forest. [Use the flashlight to help you see to walk along the yarn path.]

It's fun to play with a flashlight. A flashlight is useful, too. When it is night a flashlight helps us see. A flashlight can help us find our way.



The Bible is like a flashlight. A Bible writer wrote a song that says, "Your word is like a lamp for my feet and a light for my way" (Psalm 119:105).

The Bible can show you the way. When things seem dark and confusing, the Bible can help you see the right thing to do. You can think about the stories of Jesus and other people in the Bible. The Bible is like a light. It can help you make the right choices.

 $Dear\ Jesus,\ I\ want\ to\ follow\ Your\ light.\ Amen.$ 

