**Week 3** Bible **Basics: Night at the Museum**

**Bible Story:** Jonah 1, James 1: 22-25

**Bottom Line:** We should read God’s Word and do what it says.

Location: Primary location is the Bible in Different Languages exhibit on the 4th floor

(“Previously on…” 30 second recap)

(Two hosts run into frame, clearly out of breath, having narrowly escaped the night guard.) They should be near the Bible in Different languages exhibit on the 4th floor

**Alyssa:** Wow,that was close! If they catch us, they’ll probably never let us back in here again!

**Cael:** But honestly, what’s that night guard’s problem?? I mean, they’re probably the one who locked us in here I the first place!

**Alyssa:** (laughing) Good point! Hey, you’re pretty fast, by the way!

**Cael:** Thanks! I actually ran in Middle School.

**Alyssa:** Oh really? Cross Country? Track and Field?

**Cael:** No, from the lunch ladies. They did NOT like me taking extra chicken tenders in the lunch line.

**Alyssa:** Why am I not surprised… Anyway, let’s try not to stay in one place too long.

**Cael:** Agreed! That’s how you avoid a mad lunch lady too!

**Alyssa:** \*\*rolls eyes\*\*

**Cael:** It’s also a great way to keep learning more about the Bible! We may have needed to dodge a night guard here or there, but it’s been worth it for how much we have already learned tonight!

**Alyssa:** I agree. We have learned so much ABOUT the bible. Speaking of, look at all those Bibles!

(hosts walk together into the Bible in Different Languages exhibit, and look around in awe)

**Alyssa:** Like how it’s a library of books written by 40 authors over 1600 years!

**Cael:** 66 books to be exactly and they are divided into two parts… the Old Testament and the New Testament. And we’ve learned that the whole Bible is the story of God and what He has done for us!

\*\*Potentially add here about the specific exhibit\*\*

**Alyssa:** Exactly! I feel like we’ve learned so much ABOUT the Bible, but it makes me wonder about what is IN the Bible. I’ve read a few things here and there. I know there are some instructions and rules, but I wonder…

(stops mid-sentence as they camera slowly pushes in and water mist and air hit the patrons, the shot then switches to a perspective behind the patrons, with a slow camera push in, as we realize they are on the shores of an animated beach)

**Alyssa:** (Looks around confused) What was that! (gets hit by another droplet)

**Cael:** Hey man, do you mind taking a shower somewhere else?

**Jonah:** Sorry about that! I should have warned you there was a splash zone! Did I hear someone asking about rules and instructions?

**Alyssa:** That was me!

**Jonah:** Well, you could say I know a thing or two about those. I have some advice on what TO do and what NOT to do… The name’s Jonah, by the way! (waving)

**Cael:** Oh yeah! Like Jonah and the whale! From the Old Testament!

**Jonah:** Technically, it was a “big fish,” but let’s not get caught-up on that…

A long long time ago, God told me to go to a HUGE city called Nineveh and tell them that God was not pleased with them. God wanted me to tell them to change their ways. I figured they wouldn’t be very thrilled to hear that message and was terrified of what they might do to me, so I ran away and headed to a town called Tarshish instead.

There I was, on a big ship out in the ocean, when suddenly a huge storm rolled-in, and our ship was about to sink. I knew it was my fault since I had disobeyed God. I told the sailors to just throw me overboardand they would be saved. So… they did.

You’ll never believe what happened next!

**Cael:** A giant fish swallowed you!

**Jonah:** Ok… maybe you will believe it...

Yes, God provided a huge fish to swallow me. That fish kept me from being lost at sea. It saved my life, but it also made me re-think my life. I was in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights, and I spent most of my time inside the fish praying to God, asking for His help and admitting my mistakes.

Then, He commanded the fish to spit me out onto dry land. This time when the Lord said to me, “Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach”. I obeyed!

My advice, when God gives you instructions, don’t hesitate to obey right away. Being in the belly of a fish is no fun! And having a hurt relationship with God, because of disobedience, is even worse!

My advice, when God gives you instructions, don’t hesitate to obey right away. Being in the belly of a fish is no fun! And having a hurt relationship with God, because of disobedience, is even worse! My friend James can tell you more about that...”

(Camera swipes to right or left to reveal Jame sin a different setting for his teaching portion)

**Alyssa:** Wow, that was great advice from Jonah! I definitely want to be someone who obeys God’s instructions!

**Cael:** Me too! I mean, what’s the point of reading about what God says, if you’re not going to actually do anything about it??

**James:** (Enthusiastically) I couldn’t agree more!! The name’s James! You may recognize my name from the book of the Bible that I wrote.

**Cael:** Is it the book of James?? In the New Testament!

**Alyssa:** You’re quite the Sherlock, aren’t you? (laughing to herself) James! It’s so great to meet you! We were just talking with Jonah about… (gestures back to Jonah, but turns around and realizes he’s not there anymore… slight pause of confusion/thinking, and then continues) We were just talking to Jonah about how important it is to listen to, and obey God.

**James:** That is SO important! In fact, I wrote about it in my book, let me show you!

(There are a couple options for the backdrop of this animated world. I could see it being a classic Bible setting (village, town, etc.). I could also see the backdrop as a large animated Bible that they are flipping through. The Bible could be turned to the specific passage in James they are talking about.)

I wrote the book of James to highlight how important the teachings of Jesus are! In fact, you may not know this, but Jesus is actually my brother! Even though we grew up together as brothers, when we were adults I slowly started to realize that he was special. He wasn’t like anyone else I have ever known. I realized that Jesus is God!

Especially after witnessing his death and resurrection, I couldn’t help but believe and became a leader of the church. People started to respect the advice I was giving, so I decided to write down my best teachings and send out these letters to the Jewish believers. When you all were talking about listening and obeying God, it made me think of something I wrote in James chapter 1 verses 22-25. Check this out! I wrote…

*Don’t just listen to the word. You fool yourselves if you do that. You must do what it says.****23****Suppose someone listens to the word but doesn’t do what it says. Then they are like a person who looks at their face in a mirror.****24****After looking at themselves, they leave. And right away they forget what they look like.****25****But suppose someone takes a good look at the perfect law that gives freedom. And they keep looking at it. Suppose they don’t forget what they’ve heard, but they do what the law says. Then this person will be blessed in what they do.* James 1:22-25

**James:** See! Knowing ABOUT the Bible is one thing, but knowing what’s IN the Bible and then actually DOING what it says is how reading the Bible can change your life! That’s why we should read God’s word and do what it says!

(Swipe Transition back to the real world in the Bible in different languages exhibit)

**Alyssa**: That made me think of our theme verse, Hebrews 4:12, when it says, “The word of God is alive and active. It is sharper than any sword that has two edges. It cuts deep enough to separate soul from spirit. It can separate bones from joints. It judges the thoughts and purposes of the heart.” It sounds like God is able to make an impact on our lives through the Bible because it can pierce us.

**Cael:** I don’t know… My parents always said I’m not allowed to get anything pierced…

**Alyssa:** (laughing) Not like that! I just mean, it’s like the Bible knows what’s going on inside of us… in our minds and our hearts… and it can speak to where we need to learn and grow! Does that sounds right, James? (speaking out into the distance, as if James could hear him)

**Cael:** Why do these Bible characters keep disappearing on us?

**Alyssa:** More importantly, why are they appearing in the first place?? Maybe the museum has an old scroll with some kind of magical powers??

**Cael:** (wide-eyed) Yeah! And it’s like it opened-up some kind of portal in the space/time continuum! Or maybe the Chicken Tenders at the Manna restaurant are so delicious that Bible characters are traveling through space and time to eat them (cheesy smile)!

**Alyssa:** Both seem unlikely… Especially the second one. Or maybe there is some kind of passage way in these book shelves (pulls one of the Bibles off the shelf)

(Immediately an alarm starts to blare)

**Cael:** (over dramatically) What have you done?!?!

**Alyssa:** It was an accident!

**Cael:** Oh really?? You just “accidentally” picked up that book??

Alyssa: No, I just mean I didn’t know it would set off an alarm… (frustrated)… What are we doing?? We gotta get out of here!

(Two characters run off, even more panicked than in previous episodes)