

WEEK 1

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL



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ONE SMALL STEP



ONE SMALL STEP



**TAKE THE FIRST STEP —
BELIEVE IN JESUS.**

ACTS 1:1–11:1 | JOHN 5:1–6

Ready to launch into a new series? “One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.” Neil Armstrong said these words as he took his first steps on the moon and today we will talk about how believing in Jesus is the first step — the very beginning of our life with God!

In this week’s Bible story (Acts 1:1–11), we got to hear what it was like on the last day Jesus was on earth. Up until this point, his disciples have had an out-of-this-world experience. They had seen him do miracles and teach large crowds about following God. They also saw him get arrested and sentenced to death. But then Jesus came back to life!

He was now telling them moments before he went up to heaven that even though he was no longer going to be on the Earth, he would always be with them . . . through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit would be with them and give them power to go tell everyone about what Jesus had done!

Then, as they were trying to wrap their minds around this, Jesus began floating away! He went up to heaven to be with God. They were all still staring up into the sky when they were told by the men in white (probably not astronauts) that Jesus would come back.

They probably had a lot of figuring out to do, but the disciples did what Jesus told them. They waited for the promised Holy Spirit and then they went everywhere to spread the good news about Jesus. They didn’t need to know all the details first . . . they started by believing in Jesus. They took that one small step that became a giant leap for the world to know God!

When we believe in Jesus, that doesn’t mean that we stop having questions about God. Sometimes, the more you know God, the more questions you might have! But that’s completely okay. God wants to hear your questions and even wants you to voice doubts you have — like when it’s hard for you to believe something about God.

Whether you have a small question or a question the size of a meteorite, that doesn’t mean you can’t believe in Jesus. Take the first step — believe in Jesus . . . and you’ll discover how amazingly loving and patient God is!

Sometimes taking the first step towards something can be hard and even a bit scary — even if we are really excited about it. When the first astronauts got in a spaceship and took off to the moon, they must have been at least a little scared — but they did it.

Read 1 John 5:1–6.

To follow Jesus, you have to take the first step and choose to believe. Believing in Jesus means knowing that he, the son of God, came to Earth to save the world from the power and consequences of our wrongs. Because of this, we have forgiveness and a way to be connected to God. We also know that the power of Jesus is still at work in our lives.

The cool thing is, like this Scripture reminds us, as soon as you take that first step, you are a part of God’s family forever!

Just like how you can overcome a fear when you take the first step toward facing it or healing from it, you can overcome your doubts and worries when you take your first step toward Jesus and remember all the ways he loves you.

So, don’t be shy . . . take the first step — believe in Jesus!



SCRIPTURE/APPLICATION

- What did Jesus tell the disciples would happen when they were filled with the Holy Spirit?
- What do you think it means to be a witness for Jesus?
- What promise were the disciples given after Jesus went up to heaven?
- Read 1 John 5:5
 - How do we overcome the world?
 - What do you think it means to overcome the world?
- What are some questions you have that would help you believe in Jesus?
 - What is one thing you love about Jesus?
- How can you help others take their first step and believe in Jesus?



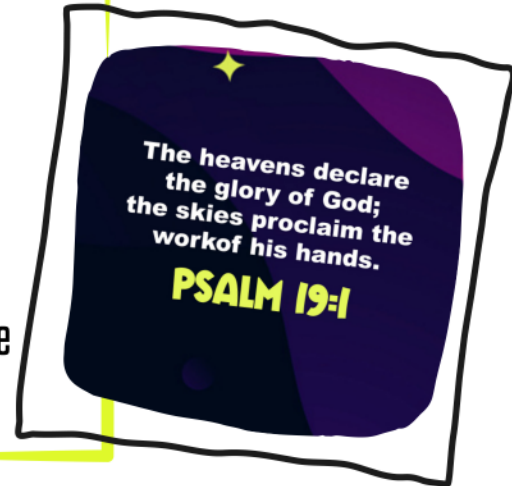
WORSHIP

“Space”

Mack Brock

“Out Of This World”

Yancy



ELEMENTARY

When we look into the sky we see stars. A space telescope goes far into the galaxy and captures things we can't see or would even know to exist. The Bible is kind of like our telescope to see Jesus up close and personal because the people who spent time with Jesus left a record of their life with him.

When we examine the things they learned and then went on to do, we can be encouraged to take the first step — believe in Jesus. Scan QR code for a tutorial for kids to make their own cardboard tube telescope.



PRESCHOOL

Space explorers like Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin took the first steps on the moon. It showed us that our world was a lot bigger than we knew. The disciples took the first step to trust Jesus and follow him. It showed them that God was a lot bigger than they knew.

Show a video that describes the moon landing for littles, like this one. Set out trays with white clay. Have the children step into the clay with a spare shoe to create shoe prints. An alternative is to set out trays with white paint. Have the children use a spare shoe to press into the paint and stamp onto black paper.

