

## HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

### CALEB'S STORY

### SELAH'S STORY

Each week begins with a story from my own kids: Caleb and Selah. The stories alternate and help to introduce the topic or theme that will be discussed that week in a relatable and engaging (and often funny) manner.

After the story there is a short teaching to help expand and flesh out the topic that was introduced. This was designed to either be a family teaching time (you can read to the students) or to be done independently by the child.

### TALK ABOUT IT

This section has some questions to help apply the lesson to the student and get them thinking about what it means to them. This section has a space for them to write their response or they can journal their thoughts in their optional notebook or just think about/orally answer the questions. Adapt it however it works best for your family and your student!

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?



### MEMORY WORK

Each week students will be working on their memory work flashcards which are provided at the back of the book. There are blank cards for them to write the verse in their own translation or they can use the provided ones in the ESV translation. Every lesson will prompt them to work on their flashcards and quarterly reviews are built in to help them really master the verses they memorize throughout the year. A Bible Verse Log beginning on page 389 helps you track your progress.

### DEAR GOD...

There are opportunities throughout the lessons for your child to write a prayer. This is an optional place to respond to the lesson through prayer. Feel free to adapt it with group/family prayer, silent prayer, or to have them journal their prayers in a notebook instead.

### MORE THAN WORDS MISSION

Every single day has a secret (and totally optional) mission. Throughout the year, this is an opportunity for your kids to further grasp the concepts being taught through hands-on and adventure-based activities. These can be done totally independently, and the only recommended resource is a journal to use as a log book (there are journal prompts throughout the missions) as well as some sort of box or container to collect things throughout the year.

## COPYWORK

Each week there is copywork built in to help them

further practice and learn their memory verse. It always recommends that they either use the verse below or look it up in their own Bible translation. They can also write their memory verse in their translation on the blank cards at the back and use those throughout the week.

Before we begin our Scripture study for the week, students will be prompted to take a few minutes to ask God to help them understand and hear what He has for them that day.

OPEN  
MY EYES



## SCRIPTURE STUDY

Each week students will begin to learn the inductive Bible

study method where Scripture interprets Scripture. They are taught to look at the context of their memory verse and ask questions to help them see and better understand their memory verse for the week. They will most often ask the 5 W's (who, what, where, when, why) about the passage, through simple circle the correct answer, and write or narrate through discussion how they think the passage applies to them or how they feel they should respond.

Day 3 alternates between poetry studies, hymn studies, and picture studies. Students will learn about rhyme and rhythm, different types of poems, and analyzing poems that help expand on the topic. They will be learning about the history of popular hymns and listening to/interpreting hymns to help them understand what they are saying and learn more about the topic being taught in the lesson. (Additional verses are available in the back for all the hymns except for "Wonderful Words of Life" and "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus.") They will also be looking at beautiful, classical paintings throughout the year. They will discuss shadows and light, symbolism and meaning, and different art techniques, continuing to tie in these amazing Charlotte Mason principles with the lesson being taught.

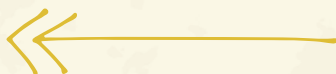


Each week students will respond to the lesson through art drawing, performance, painting, and other artistic expressions. These will challenge your students to learn more about different art forms but also to express and respond to the various things they are learning about. Consider these optional.

POETRY  
STUDY

HYMN  
STUDY

PICTURE  
STUDY



## CHARACTER STUDY >>>>

Every week will have a character study. Students will begin to learn how to use a dictionary OR they can use the provided definitions and thesaurus at the back of the book for the purposes of the word study. They will begin to define in their own words to help them better understand the word. They finish their character study with choosing two or more verses to look up to see what the Bible has to say about this character trait.

## NOT ON MY OWN STRENGTH

After each character study, there is a prompt to pray and ask God to help us grow in this area of our life. This section can be used as a place to write their prayer in the space provided or simply as a prompt for silent or group prayer depending on how you are using the book. It is intentionally placed to help students remember that it is not through striving or works that we become like Jesus or get into heaven, but through God's grace and relationship with Him.

## COURSE SUPPLY LIST

There are a few items you will want to have handy each week, which include:

- Colored pencils or crayons
- Bible
- A pencil or marker
- Scissors

A few items throughout the course are used for optional projects, which would include:

- Journal or notebook for your mission log (spy notebook)
- Dictionary
- Thesaurus
- Shoebox or empty bin/container for spy kit
- Spy kit stuff (string, binoculars, duct tape, magnifying glass, etc.)
- Computer to listen to various hymns
- Highlighters
- Post-it notes
- Tape
- Poster board
- Paint and art supplies (pastels, watercolor, etc.)
- Paint brushes

# CALEB'S STORY

Week One: God is 3 in 1

Day: ① 2 3 4

My name is Caleb and I am 11 years old. I love adventure and stories, ice cream and food (lots and lots of food). I have 1 brother and 3 sisters, and I am homeschooled. You might think that means I stay at home and work in my schoolbooks all day long. Maybe you think I stay in my pajamas and don't have any friends, but you would be wrong. I have so many friends sometimes I just want to stay home and sleep! I am the normal variety of kid that hates to go to sleep but doesn't want to wake up once I'm sleeping. I get dressed, though sometimes I wear the same clothes a few days too many (my mom is always getting after me to stop wearing pants with holes in them). I have a dog, her name is Penny, and she is a mutt — mixed with multiple different breeds and happy and slobbery and sometimes not too smart — but I love her.

This year mom gave me a journal and told me to write about what I learn in Bible time. I like to write, but only when I feel like it (mom rolls her eyes and tells me I'm normal as she thrusts a pencil into my hand). So instead of a normal journal I am going to create a top-secret spy journal. I will be secret agent "Lion Roar": careening through adventures and discoveries and making writing much more interesting!

This morning in Bible time we learned about the Trinity: God is 3 in 1. God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit. But only God can be all those persons individually and yet all one God. Mom says we are made in God's image with 3 parts: mind, body, and spirit.



I don't understand it, but I guess God is just like that: bigger than what we can understand. I may not understand everything about God, but I am going to go undercover to see what I can discover about Him from the world around me. Time to make my spy kit!

Caleb

This first part of the year we are going to start our journey with God by first learning more about who He is and those things we know about Him. The first thing we know about God is that He is three distinct people: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, but all one God. This is one of the mysteries of God. It is important to know that there are some things that are just bigger than our understanding. In our world it is impossible to be three separate people but all one person. But here's the thing — we don't have to understand it for it to be true! We call this attribute of God the Trinity or the Godhead.

## TALK ABOUT IT

Do you feel like you understand one part of God more than another? What is something about God that you want to learn more about (God the Father, Jesus the Son, or the Holy Spirit)?

WHAT DO YOU THINK? 

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In the back of the book, find your week 1 flashcard. As your memory verse collection grows, you can use the cards to play games to help you review, and/or to test your knowledge. Get your card out and read your verse a few times to help you start to learn it or look up our verse for the week in your own Bible translation: Matthew 3:17.

## MEMORY WORK

At the back of the book is an Optional Extended Memory Work chart if you want to challenge yourself even more!

DEAR GOD... Write or narrate a short prayer asking God to teach you more about who He is this week:

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## ★ ★ ★ MORE THAN WORDS ★ MISSION ★


Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to make a spy kit. You are going to be using this spy kit to observe your family, to write notes in your notebook, and to keep a log of different missions that you complete. Here are some ideas for your kit:

- A notebook (if you don't have a spare one, you can make one with a stapler and some paper! Cut out a cereal box for the cover to protect the pages).
- A pencil or pen
- Binoculars or a magnifying glass (or both)
- Flashlight
- String

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Day: 1 ② 3 4

Take a few minutes to go over your memory verse for the week: Matthew 3:17.

 **MEMORY WORK**

## COPYWORK

To help you learn your verse we are going to copy it. This will also help us to see what we are learning about. Copy the verse on the lines as neatly as you can. Say the words as you write.

And behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." ( Matthew 3:17)

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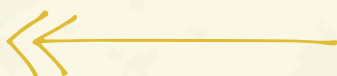
Before we ever begin studying the Word of God it is important to first ask Him to help us understand what we read. Before you begin, pray and ask Jesus to open your mind and heart to understand what He wants to say to you today.

**OPEN MY EYES** 

## SCRIPTURE STUDY

One of the most important things we are going to be doing this year is learning how to test everything with the Word of God and not just take a little bit without understanding the whole picture. We are going to learn how to study the Bible by reading the whole passage to know the context, taking note of important things, and thinking about what we can do or how we can put what we learned into practice. This is called inductive Bible study. Let's take our memory verse, Matthew 3:17, and go a little deeper.

Read Matthew chapter 3 in your Bible. As you read, take notes or underline anything that you have questions about or is very interesting to you. Each week we are going to ask some questions about the passage to help us see what is happening. We'll ask about the who, where, how, what, and when of the verses.



**WHO** is this chapter about?

- a. James and John
- b. Jesus and John

**WHAT** is happening in this passage?

- a. John is baptizing people and preaching
- b. Jesus is baptizing people and preaching

**WHERE** is Jesus baptized?

- a. The River Galilee
- b. The River Jordan

**WHEN** did God speak from heaven?

- a. When Jesus went into the water
- b. When Jesus came out of the water

**HOW** did the Spirit of God come on Jesus?

- a. In the form of a dove
- b. As tongues of fire



This passage of Scripture is really important because we see all three of the Godhead or Trinity together. Jesus is being baptized by John the Baptist. When He comes up out of the water the Holy Spirit comes upon Him like a dove and God speaks from heaven, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased."

→ HOW DOES IT APPLY? ←

Write or narrate to your teacher one thing you can take from this Scripture. It can be something you want to learn more about, something that interested you or seemed important to you, or something you think God wants you to do after studying it.

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★ ★ ★  
**MORE THAN WORDS**  
★ **MISSION** *update*

Your mission this week is to use your spy kit to observe and record characteristics of a good father to help us learn more about God the father. Write what you discover in your spy notebook.





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Day: 1 2 ③ 4

# PICTURE STUDY

*Homecoming into the Father's House*  
by Ferdinand Georg Waldmüller (1855)



Take a look at this painting of a father coming home to his family. First, let's look at the setting. The setting just means the scene in the background. Is it a city or a farm, a house or a barn, day or night? What season is it?

Notice how the

father is dressed; it looks like he is coming home from work. What do you think he does for a job? This painting was created in 1855. It is an oil painting on panel and is by an Austrian painter named Ferdinand Georg Waldmüller. Do the kids look happy to see him? This painting makes me think of when my dad would come home from work, we would all gather around him and want him to play with us or tell him about our day. I love how happy the father is to see his family, too! It reminds me of how God, my heavenly Father, feels about His children!

## → TAKE A CLOSER LOOK:

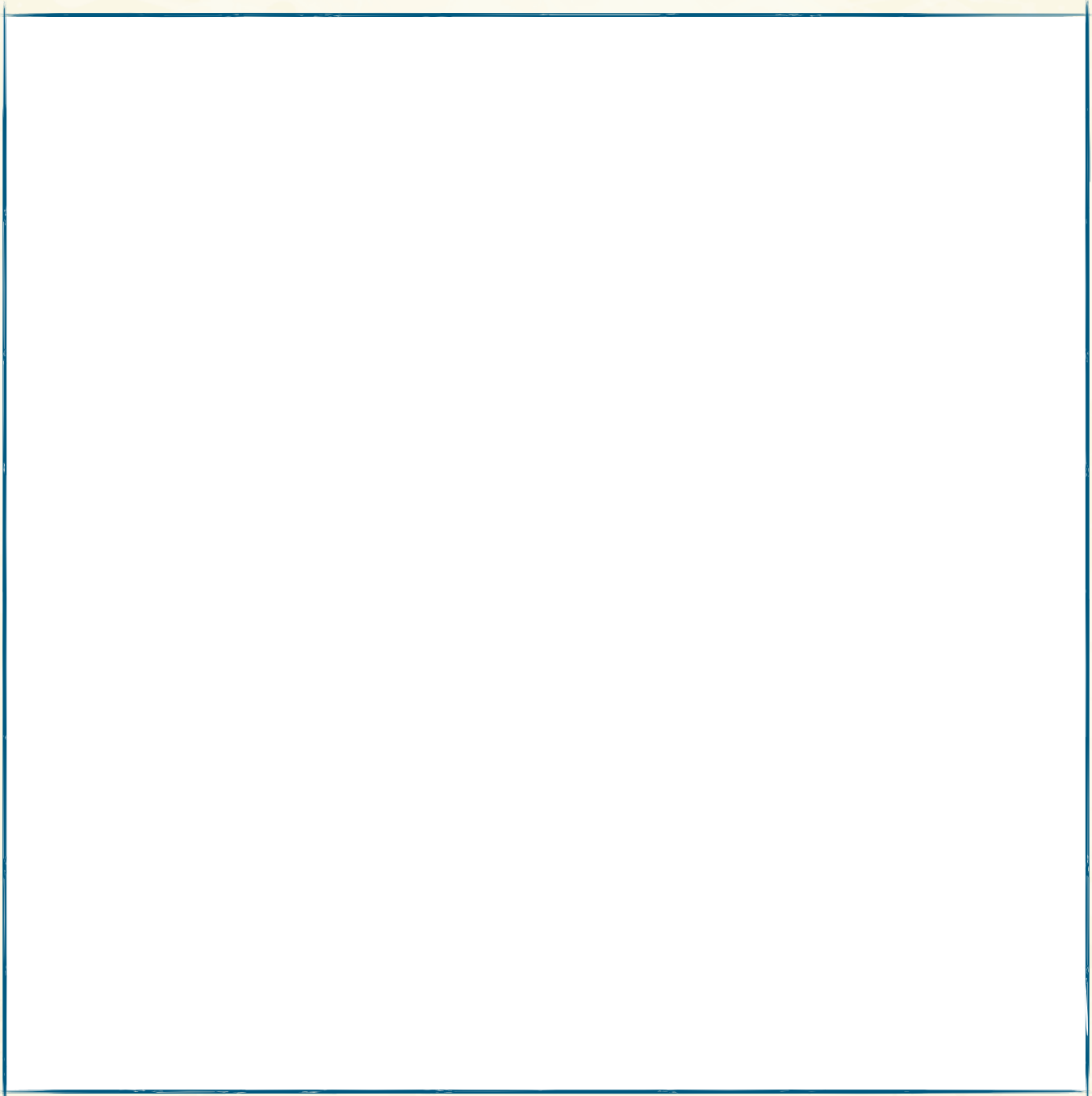
1. How does the family feel as they welcome Dad home?
2. How does it make you feel looking at it?
3. What are some of your favorite memories with your father or grandfather?
4. If we think of God as our Father, how do you think this painting relates to God and you?



Today you are going to draw a picture of what a good father looks like to you. It could be a picture of your father and something you do together. It could be a picture of God as your Father and how He takes care

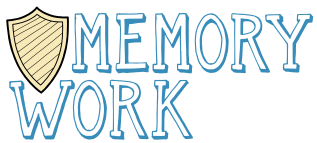
of you. You get to practice being creative, and remember, you can always ask God to give you inspiration (that means to give you an idea or help get you excited about doing it).

You can ask your teacher what medium you are allowed to use: pencils or pens. Make sure you get permission and then create a picture of a father to help you remember that God is your Father in heaven!



★★★  
MORE THAN WORDS  
★ MISSION *update*

Spies and secret agents often have to do a lot of research for their missions. Today you are going to research “characteristics of a good father” on the Internet and record some of your favorite words in your spy notebook. Make sure to ask a parent for permission for this mission. If you cannot use the Internet, keep going with your mission from yesterday.



Show your creative side as you work on your memory verse!  
Matthew 3:17

AND BEHOLD  
a voice from heaven said,  
THIS IS *my Beloved Son*  
IN WHOM I AM  
well pleased.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Day: 1 2 3 ④

# CHARACTER STUDY >>>> Humble

What do you think it means to be humble? Sometimes even though we kind of know what a word means, it can be hard to explain and put into words. Ask your parent or teacher if they want you to use a dictionary or the back of this book to do your word study. You are going to learn how to start researching and putting definitions into your own words.

Humility is viewing other people as just as valuable as we are so that we do not become proud. Look up the word *humble* in a dictionary (or the back of this book) and think about what it means.



Using a thesaurus (or the back of this book), look up a synonym and antonym of *humble*. Choose your favorite words and write them in the blanks below.

Synonym: \_\_\_\_\_ Antonym: \_\_\_\_\_

In your own words, humble means:

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## WHAT DOES THE SAY?

We can find what the Bible says about being humble. Choose two verses from the list below (or more) to learn more about humility.

Ephesians 4:2

James 4:10

Philippians 2:3

Colossians 3:12

2 Chronicles 7:14

Proverbs 22:4

**NOT**

## ON MY OWN STRENGTH

Write or say a prayer asking God to help you grow in humility and thanking Him for the good work He is doing in you.

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Can you recite your verse to your parent or teacher? Mark your Bible Verse Log in the back of the book to help you keep track!

 **MEMORY WORK**



## MORE THAN WORDS ★ MISSION *update*

We are going to take all the words we wrote down this week in our notebook and put them into a secret message. For this mission you will need a white crayon or a candle, your notebook or a piece of paper, and either watercolor paint or a dark juice like grape juice. Choose some of your describing words or adjectives for a good father and write them in a white crayon or a wax candle on the paper to make a secret message. You can reveal your message by using watercolor or dark grape juice and painting it over your paper to reveal your words.

