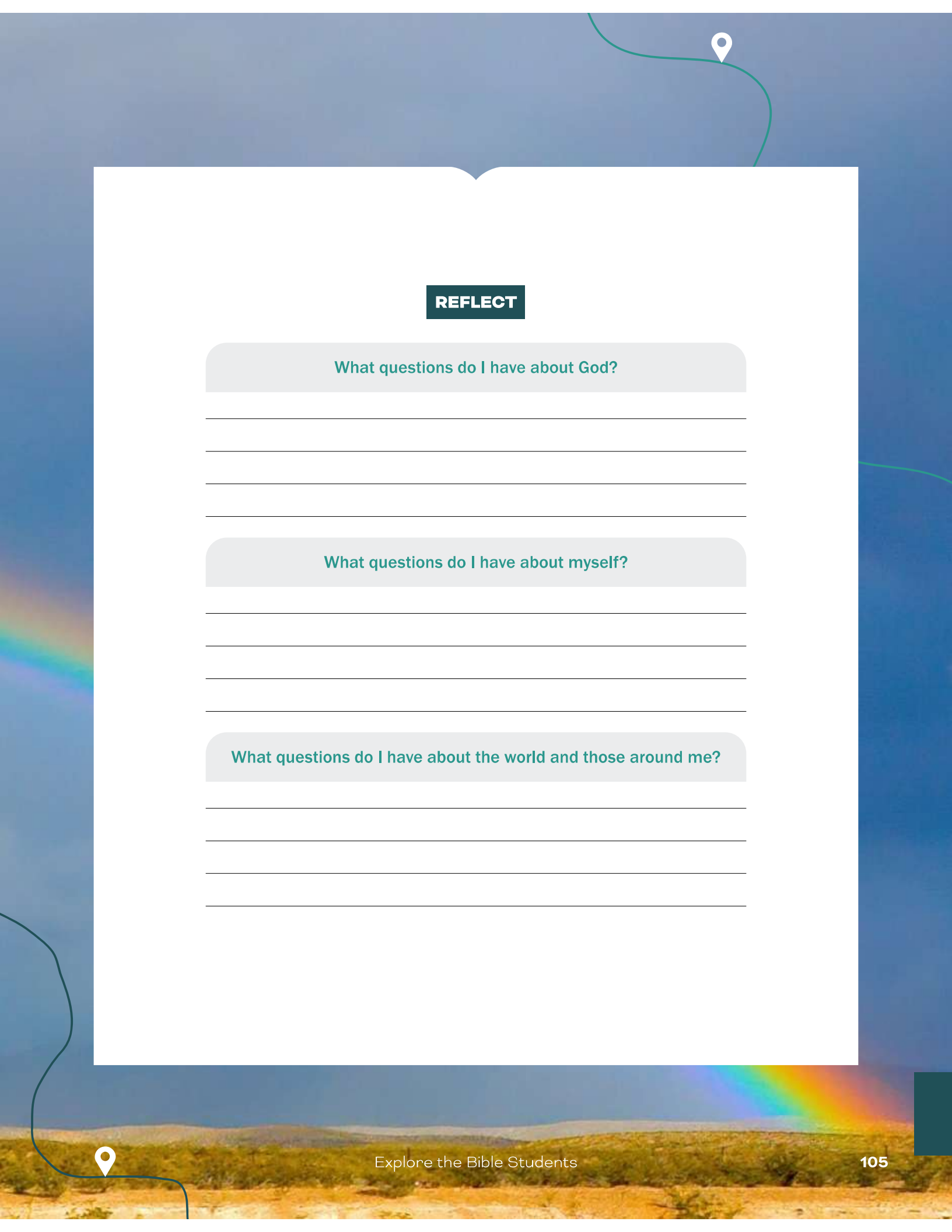


Session 13

Stay VIGILANT

CENTRAL TRUTH | False teachers will be judged, but believers will be sustained and protected by God.

Has someone you trust ever told you a story you later found out wasn't true? Or maybe they played a prank on you, and because you trusted them, you went along with whatever they said. While some of these stories and pranks are harmless fun and don't keep us from trusting that person again in the future, some stories and actions are meant to harm us or, at the very least, spin us in the wrong direction. Not only do we need to be cautious about who we trust in our daily lives, but we also have an added layer: We need to make wise choices about who we follow online. All the messages we hear will influence us in some way. Jude gives his readers a similar warning in today's passage. The good news is, false teachers will be judged, but believers will be sustained and protected by God.

The background of the page is a photograph of a landscape with a rainbow arching over hills under a blue sky. A white card is overlaid on the image, containing a reflection exercise. The card has a dark green header with the word 'REFLECT' in white. Below the header are three sections, each with a light gray header and four horizontal lines for writing. The sections are titled 'What questions do I have about God?', 'What questions do I have about myself?', and 'What questions do I have about the world and those around me?'. There are also two location pin icons: one in the top right corner and one in the bottom left corner, connected by a green line.

REFLECT

What questions do I have about God?

What questions do I have about myself?

What questions do I have about the world and those around me?

JUDE 12-19

¹² These people are dangerous reefs at your love feasts as they eat with you without reverence. They are shepherds who only look after themselves. They are waterless clouds carried along by winds; trees in late autumn — fruitless, twice dead and uprooted. ¹³ They are wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shameful deeds; wandering stars for whom the blackness of darkness is reserved forever. ¹⁴ It was about these that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied: “Look! The Lord comes with tens of thousands of his holy ones ¹⁵ to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly

concerning all the ungodly acts that they have done in an ungodly way, and concerning all the harsh things ungodly sinners have said against him.” ¹⁶ These people are discontented grumblers, living according to their desires; their mouths utter arrogant words, flattering people for their own advantage. ¹⁷ But you, dear friends, remember what was predicted by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ They told you, “In the end time there will be scoffers living according to their own ungodly desires.” ¹⁹ These people create divisions and are worldly, not having the Spirit.

JUDE 20-23

²⁰ But you, dear friends, as you build yourselves up in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting expectantly for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ for eternal

life. ²² Have mercy on those who waver; ²³ save others by snatching them from the fire; have mercy on others but with fear, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

JUDE 24-25

²⁴ Now to him who is able to protect you from stumbling and to make you stand in the presence of his glory, without blemish and with great joy, ²⁵ to the only God our Savior,

through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority before all time, now and forever. Amen.

Day01

JOHN 15:9-10



Refer to page 5 for a description of the 7 Arrows of Bible Reading.

📍 READ & RESPOND

Talking to the disciples, Jesus shared His deep love for them (and us). Jesus's love for us is as powerful as the love between God the Father and Jesus the Son. Think about that! He then says to remain in His love, meaning we're to stay intimately connected to Him in this powerful love. How do we do this? Keep His commandments—be obedient to Him. This is how we respond to His overwhelming, great love. When we follow His commands, we mirror the obedient relationship Jesus has with the Father. When we choose to be obedient, we stay closely connected to the perfect and powerful love that comes from the Father through Jesus.

🔄 According to verse 9, whose love is the source of the love Jesus has for His followers?

↓ What does it tell you about our hearts that Jesus has to command us to remain in His love?

→ What's a practical step you can take this week to "remain" in Jesus's love?

📍 MEMORIZE

On a piece of paper, write down **Jude 21** five times. Doing this makes all the different parts of your brain turn on at the same time, which forces you to think about the information in a much deeper way.

📍 PRAY

Jesus, Your powerful love is overwhelming and so undeserved. Help me remain in You and be obedient to Your commands.

Day02

JUDE 12-19

📍 READ & RESPOND

Jude wrote this short, powerful book to warn Christians about false teachers who had slipped into the church unnoticed. In this section, he uses several vivid images to describe these dangerous people. Some of these include “dangerous reefs” that wreck ships, “waterless clouds” that promise rain but deliver nothing, and “wild waves” that stir up trouble. These false teachers are selfish and self-serving and create division. Jude tells believers to remember the predictions of the apostles, who warned that such scoffers would appear in the last times. Their behavior proves they do not have the Holy Spirit. Your job is to stand firm and recognize these ungodly people.

🔄 What is the imagery Jude uses to describe these false teachers?

↑ The strong warnings show that God cares deeply about His people's safety. What does this tell you about God's desire to protect your faith?

↓ What does it look like when someone lets his or her own feelings and wants become more important than God's truth?

📍 MEMORIZE

Using your phone, tablet, or computer, write out **Jude 21** in a notes app using emojis. Be creative! Send the emojis to a few friends or family members and see if they can decipher the verse.

📍 PRAY

Father, thank You for Your protection. Give me the wisdom to recognize false teaching and the courage to hold fast to the truth of Your Word.

Day**03**

JUDE 20-23

📍 READ & RESPOND

Jude wrote his letter to warn believers about false teachers who were sneaking into the church. While he assures us those deceivers will be judged, his focus shifts to how we can stay strong and protected in our faith. He tells us to build ourselves up in faith. We must actively exercise our faith in order to grow it. We do this by praying in the Spirit, staying connected to God's love in obedience, and confidently knowing that Jesus's mercy and kindness lead to eternal life. As we grow in faith, we are also called to show mercy to others who are struggling or doubting. We must help rescue those who are being dragged toward destructive teaching.

🔄 What are the three things you must do to build up your faith?

↓ What does the image of "snatching [others] from the fire" tell you about how dangerous sin is?

→ What are some spiritual habits you need to begin to help you build up and exercise your faith?

📍 MEMORIZE

Let's map out this week's verse. Write out **Jude 21**. Underline the important nouns in the verse. Circle the important verbs. Put an appropriate symbol next to any word that might be important.

📍 PRAY

Heavenly Father, thank You for sustaining and protecting me. Protect the church from false teachers. Help me discern Your truth from false teachings.

Day04

JUDE 24-25

📍 READ & RESPOND

Jude ends his letter with a powerful statement of confidence in God. These verses remind us that our security doesn't depend on how well we fight temptation or how perfectly we live; it depends entirely on God's power. It is His power that keeps us from stumbling and preserves us for His presence. While false teachers will face judgment, believers are sustained and protected by God's constant strength. He is the only wise God, and He deserves all the glory, majesty, power, and authority—both now and forever.

← How does this passage remind us that the influence of false teachers is temporary?

↑ Why do you think Jude focuses on God as our only God and Savior?

↓ This passage starts by proclaiming what God is able to do. What does that mean we aren't able to do for ourselves?

📍 MEMORIZE

Go for a walk! Recite **Jude 21** aloud while walking. Assign one phrase to a set number of steps (for instance, walk five steps while saying the first phrase).

📍 PRAY

Lord, You protect me from stumbling and make me unblemished so I can stand in the presence of Your glory one day. You deserve all glory, majesty, power, and authority—now and forever!

Day**05**

2 PETER 3:17-18

📍 **READ & RESPOND**

Jude wasn't the only one to deal with false teachers in the early church; Paul, John, and Peter addressed the issue in their letters as well. Today's passage is from Peter. He warns the churches scattered throughout the world to be on their guard so that they wouldn't be led astray by false teachings. But how were they to combat these teachings? By growing in grace and knowledge of Jesus. When we study God's Word, we grow in our relationship and knowledge of who Jesus is and what His character is. And when someone attempts to teach something against His character, we will quickly be able to identify the falsehoods because we know Him well.

🔄 Why does Peter say we should be on guard?

➔ What are some practical ways we grow in our grace and knowledge of Jesus?

↔ How should the command to guard yourself against false teachings change the way you choose your friends or what you follow online?

📍 **MEMORIZE**

Once you know **Jude 21**, teach it to someone else—a sibling, a parent, or a friend. Explain what it means and why it's important.

📍 **PRAY**

Jesus, I praise You for being my Lord and Savior. Help me to grow in grace and knowledge of You so that I will not be led astray by false teachings. Guard my heart against error and help me to always give You the glory, both now and forever!