



# The Nevers of God Moments



“Some, however, made fun of them and said, ‘They have had too much wine’ ”  
**(Acts 2:13).**

- What do you think the disciples who heard this sarcastic remark felt?
- How can our words help or hinder a child’s wonder of God?

## ▼ Training Session

As a teacher, God has blessed you with a child’s time—and special moments that only God can provide to teach children.

Kids experience life—and they wonder about lots of stuff! God brings those moments to you to help children understand—and to help them grow closer to him.

The worst thing teachers can do is squelch those God moments by correcting children’s thoughts, putting off their questions, or disregarding their feelings.

Here are the “nevers” of dealing with God moments:

- **Never rephrase a child’s thoughts.** This can be tempting when you want it to fit the lesson—or when you don’t think the child understands. But it only teaches a child that you’re not trying to understand. Instead, ask questions to draw the child out: “Can you tell me what you mean?”
- **Never rush children to finish a sentence—and don’t finish their sentences yourself.** It only shortens their sense of wonder—and puts a sudden end to their discovery. You may think you know what they’re trying to say (and you probably do). But let them say it.
- **Never treat your class as a lump, a mass, or a gang.** It’ll block any moments of connection you could have with your class. See children individually. As friends. They need you.
- **Never force a child to decide on a plan of action too quickly.** It will only short-circuit the path of understanding. It’s better to simply wonder why God lets something happen—to *imagine* how God responds—than to decide on a sure answer.
- **Never ignore or silence children.** Let them process. It may not fit in your lesson, but it’s important to *them*. Let the lesson go. A God moment is God’s lesson for now.

The moments God gives are little blessings. Use them wisely.





## Take this training deeper as you think over these questions:

- What have you wondered about God—or life? Why is it important to you?
- How is that like what's important to a child?
- When has a moment passed you by? How can you treat it differently in the future?

### ▼ Journal

*We affirm kids when we validate their comments and respond to them appropriately.  
Appropriately means... .*

## ▼ Application

**Children have a sense of wonder that should be mirrored! Find one like theirs. Never lose it!**

Write a story—it can be as short as a paragraph or as long as you want. Tell about a lesson you've learned in your life and how you learned it.

Then read your story aloud—yes, aloud. How's your story like (or not like) what happens in a child's life? How can you help children learn through their experiences? Through distractions in your classroom?

God works in unexpected ways. Expect him to.