

Benjamin West and His Cat Grimalkin Treasure Chest

Words are the keys that unlock the treasure chest of ideas!



Words are the building blocks of ideas. Man cannot think without words. As Christians, we need a noble and biblical vocabulary that will wisely guide our thinking, reasoning, and decision-making. We also need a noble and a biblical vocabulary with which to communicate in the marketplace and persuade others with our words of faith, just as Jesus and the Apostle Paul did in the first century. Words are spirit, Jesus said (John 6:63). Words have the power to create or destroy (Proverbs 18:21). Through the study of the Word of God, a child's vocabulary is greatly enhanced as you, the teacher or reader, mediate the language and begin using the words to create new realities within your students (Numbers 14:28).

Following are the student Key Vocabulary Words

from the lessons of the *Benjamin West and His Cat Grimalkin* literature unit. The definitions are taken from many dictionaries. They are meant to be used daily in the curriculum by pinning the Key Word Vocabulary Card that you have printed for each lesson onto the classroom bulletin board. Leave all the words out on the bulletin board until the next lesson—the literature word, the Bible reading word, and the Christian history word. When replaced with the next lesson's vocabulary cards, store them in your treasure chest. We have printed ours on card stock, but plain paper works just as well. Use these words throughout the weeks as you teach and reason with the children. Help build their thinking and reasoning skills by asking them to include the words in their conversation and in answering questions.

An illustration of an open treasure chest filled with gold coins, with several coins scattered on the floor in front of it.

Words to Treasure

“Good words are worth much and cost little.”
~George Herbert

potential
noun

Anything that may be possible; the inborn capacity for coming into being.

literature
noun

Learning.
The expression of life in words of truth and beauty.

liberty
noun

Freedom from restraint or control in mind or body.

Words to Treasure

1. **purpose** (n.) That which a person sets before himself as an object to be accomplished.
2. **peacemaker** (n.) One who seeks to restore friendship with God and one another.
3. **hospitality** (n.) The practice of cheerfully receiving strangers or guests with kindness and generosity.
4. **delight** (v.) To receive great pleasure in; to be greatly pleased.
5. **selfless** (adj.) Putting the welfare of others before self.
6. **creative** (n.) The use of the imagination, especially in the production of an artistic work.
7. **responsibility** (n.) 1) The state of being accountable. 2) A moral duty to behave in a particular way.
8. **wise** (adj.) 1) Having knowledge and discernment. 2) Being skillful.
9. **content** (adj.) Having a mind at peace; being satisfied with what you have.
10. **resourcefulness** (n.) The ability to find the “hidden” assets that God has already provided.
11. **happy** (adj.) Experiencing pleasure and joy; satisfied; enjoying well-being and contentment.
12. **diligence** (n.) Constant effort to accomplish the task; industry.
13. **conscience** (n.) That little spark of celestial fire that tells me right from wrong.
14. **opportunity** (n.) A time or circumstance favorable for the end purpose desired.
15. **welfare** (n.) Health, happiness, and good fortune; well-being.
16. **guidance** (n.) The act of leading or directing in a specific way.
17. **steward** (v.) To carefully manage the property of another as if it were your own.
18. **fulfill** (v.) To bring into actuality; to make real.
19. **record** (n.) An account or memorial of past events and individuals.