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LEGEND of SYMBOLS

- Optional
- Worksheet
- Activity
- Visuals
- Note to teacher
- Recite from memory together
Introduction

Grow Bible-smart kids

• Kids who have a sense of ease and familiarity in using the Bible; reading it and finding information in it.

• Kids who understand the organization of the Bible; chapter and verse, order of books and categories of books.

• Kids who know the content of the Bible; main characters and stories, literary genres and themes.

Ultimately, the goal is that children will learn to know God and Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Savior. And I pray they will remember that the Bible speaks to their lives when they become teenagers and adults.

Children use the Bible. To do what?

• Find verses—a lot!
The teacher asks questions and provides references to find answers. References should be assigned to specific students in turn to ensure that everyone participates.

Never locate a verse for a student! Adopt a hands-off policy: do not touch your student’s Bible. The teacher may talk students through the process but students must find verses themselves.

• Read the Bible.
Initially students take turns reading out loud to answer questions. After the reading the teacher may give the specific answer or ask the question again to elicit the specific answer from the student.

After students have become comfortable reading the Bible aloud, the teacher should encourage silent reading when the answer is straightforward. This will stimulate comprehension of biblical language.

• Find information.

Worksheets generally should be completed individually, not as a group. Worksheets are opportunities for individual children to find information in the Bible at their own pace, without being hampered or intimidated by classmates. Not every student needs to finish every worksheet. The goal is not to pass a test: the goal is to develop skills.

• Recite the order of books.

Start every class by reciting together from memory the books of the Bible already studied. (Prompts are found at the beginning of each book.) This gathers the attention of the class while reviewing the material. After a few classes, the teacher need not announce the recitation: just start reciting the books and the children will join in.
Vary the method occasionally. Some possibilities: (1) alternate the boys with the girls, (2) change positions for each category (for example; sit for Law, stand for History, sit for Poetry, etc.) (3) go around the class with each child saying one name, or (4) ask for volunteers for solo recitation.

**ORGANIZATION**

- *Bible Orientation* is linear, not dated or graded. This curriculum is appropriate for all children who can read, typically grades 2-6. A class hiatus does not require any adjustments. When you resume, simply continue where you left off.

- Start at the beginning and go to the end. *Bible Orientation* covers books in the order they are found in the Bible, beginning with Genesis in Volume 1 and ending with Revelation in Volume 4. The order is crucial because lessons are cumulative: History lessons refer to the Law, and Poetry books look back to both History and Law, etc.

- There is a lesson for every book, all 66 of them. Because Bible books vary in length, so do the lessons. Many lessons incorporate worksheets and activities. Some of the worksheets and activities are optional. Omitting them can help you move along more quickly. *Bible Orientation* is a survey of the entire Bible so you don’t want to stay on one book too long.

- All worksheets have accompanying answer sheets. Some worksheets are designed specifically for the New International Version (NIV) or the New Living Translation (NLT). Version designations are located on the top line of worksheets.

- Both the Old and New Testaments are organized into 5 categories. Do one or more reviews at the end of each category. Always do the Sword Drills.

- Visuals are objects that symbolize the content of each book. These visual aids engage the tactile learning and imagination of the children. Their use is optional.

**FORMAT**

**Question and Answer**

- Teacher’s questions and comments are in regular type. Questions are followed by Bible references for students to find answers. These references consist only of chapter and verse. The book is assumed to be the book under investigation unless otherwise indicated.

To keep the class moving, routinely assign a series of references at one time, one per child. (You will see occasional prompts in the lessons.) This strategy has high efficiency impact on questions with more than one reference and on groups of questions, especially when references are from different chapters. When students have found their verses, ask the question again and repeat the references one at a time to get each answer.
• Students’ answers are in italics.
Whenever the NIV and NLT use different words, both versions will appear with a slash between them: words (NIV)/words (NLT). Words following (NLT) are found in both versions. Words in only one version appear inside <words (NIV)> with the version indicated.

• Gray boxes incorporate lesson items and provide directions.

• VISUALS are named on the right side of the page in bolded upper case at the moment of reveal. Until then the objects are hidden in a bag or box, adding suspense and mystery to your class.

Lists of all the visuals for this volume are provided in appendices 1 and 2.

• NOTES TO TEACHER are instructions for the teacher and are not shared with the class.

• The PREP box at the head of each book outlines all preparation that should be done before class.

Make decisions regarding optional activities or worksheets. When choosing between worksheets, you may assign different worksheets to different students according to their abilities.

Copy the worksheet pages cited, 1 copy per student. Choose either the NIV or NLT when worksheets are version specific.

Provide extra materials if they are listed. Sometimes you will see a directive to read instructions or a Note to Teacher.

Gather visuals. The objects must be small enough to fit into a bag or box. Lego and other building kits, craft and dollar stores, toys and ornaments are great sources. Objects are listed for every book but feel free to modify the lists. Visuals are intended to animate scripture, not to be display-worthy, so do not hesitate to fashion them yourself. Comments in PREP boxes offer ideas for improvising or constructing some obscure items.

Visuals are optional but their use or disuse should be consistent. For this reason, the does not accompany “Visuals” in the PREP box.

MATERIALS

• An NIV or NLT Bible for each student
  (Teaching the class is easier if all students have the same version.)

• Pencils

• On rare occasions colored pencils, paper, scissors and glue
The Bible is like a library of books inside 1 book.
Find the table of contents.
The Bible is made up of 2 parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament.
Count the number of books in the Old Testament.
—39
Count the number of books in the New Testament.
—27
Which division is bigger?
—The Old Testament

What is the name of the first book of the New Testament?
—Matthew
On what page does Matthew start?

—p. ________
Open your Bible there.
Now hold your Bible open flat in front of you with 2 hands and lift it up to eye level. Look at the bottom of the spine to see where the New Testament starts.
Close your Bible. Now try to find the beginning of the New Testament without the table of contents. Hint: Look for “Matthew” on the top line of the page.
Close your Bible and practice finding the beginning of the New Testament a few times.

Turn back to the table of contents.
The books in the Bible are grouped into categories. The first category is called Law.
Law contains 5 books, the first 5 books of the Bible.
Let’s read the names of the first 5 books in the table of contents aloud.
—Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
Find each book in turn by looking at the names of the books on the top line of each page.
Find the end of the Law category. It is at the end of Deuteronomy.

Each book is divided into chapters.
Open your Bible anywhere.
Find a big number in the text. That is a chapter number.
Chapter numbers also are found on the top of each page, next to the name of the book. Look at those numbers first to find the right page; then look in the text to find exactly where the chapter starts.
Worksheet: Abraham’s Descendants
“Like the Stars in the Sky”

Write the names of the people who fulfilled the promise in the stars.
Hint: Some verses contain more than 1 name. Put a different name in each star.

Genesis 21:3

Genesis 31:53

Genesis 35:23

Genesis 35:23

Genesis 35:23

Genesis 35:23

Genesis 35:23

Genesis 35:23 (cont.)
Worksheet Answers: The 12 Tribes of Israel

Genesis 49

Write the name of the tribes, as revealed in the following verses. Hint: Verse 5 has 2 names.

Verse 3: _____________________________
Verse 5: _____________________________ _____________________________
Verse 8: _____________________________ Verse 13: _____________________________
Verse 14: _____________________________ Verse 16: _____________________________
Verse 19: _____________________________ Verse 20: _____________________________
Verse 21: _____________________________ Verse 22: _____________________________
Verse 27: _____________________________

Bonus: Unscramble these letters to find the names of the 12 tribes again.

TPIANLAH _____________________________ IRACASHS _____________________________
EBUNER _____________________________ HSARE _____________________________
ZULENBU _____________________________ EJBMAINN _____________________________
DUHAJ _____________________________ AND _____________________________
DGA _____________________________ ENSMIO _____________________________
EPJHOS _____________________________ EVIL _____________________________
Worksheet Answers: The Ten Commandments

Find the commandments in Exodus 20 and number them in order:

#1. Verse 3  #2. Verses 4–5
#3. Verse 7  #4. Verses 8–11
#5. Verse 12  #6. Verse 13
#7. Verse 14  #8. Verse 15
#9. Verse 16  #10. Verse 17

“I am the LORD your God...”

# 8 Don’t take and keep anything that isn’t yours.
# 5 Treat your mom and dad with respect.
# 7 Don’t cheat on your husband or wife.
# 9 Don’t tell lies about other people.
# 2 Don’t make your own gods, because you must not worship anyone or anything except God.
# 10 Don’t want other people’s things.
# 3 Don’t say God’s name unless you are talking about God or talking to God.
# 6 Don’t kill a person on purpose.
# 4 Rest on the 7th day because it is the Sabbath, God’s holy day.
# 1 You must have only one God.
Deuteronomy consists of 3 sermons that Moses preached at the end of his life.

**Sermon 1 (Chapters 1–4)**

Moses tells the story of the journey from Egypt to Canaan.

What is the theme of Sermon 1?

4:9 — *Do not forget.*

**Sermon 2 (Chapters 5–26)**

Find the theme in 14:2.

— *You are holy people, and you are chosen people.*

Look up the highlights of this sermon.

5:7–21: These verses are familiar. What are they called?

— *the Ten Commandments*

6:4 — “Hear, O Israel: the LORD our God, the LORD is one” (NIV)/ “Listen, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone” (NLT).

This is called the Shema, the central doctrine of the Jewish faith.

Moses gives practical advice on how to remind themselves to think about God.

When?

6:7 — *when they sit, walk, lie down, get up* (NIV)/ *at home and on the road, going to bed and getting up* (NLT)

Where?

6:8 — *tie on hands, forehead*
Worksheet Answers: Jesus Quotes from Deuteronomy (NLT)

Fill in chapter and verse numbers.

“My must not test the LORD your God.”

Matthew \textbf{4:7} \hspace{1cm} Deuteronomy \textbf{6:16}

“All you say may [The facts of the case must] be confirmed by [established by the testimony of] two or three witnesses.”

Matthew \textbf{18:16} \hspace{1cm} Deuteronomy \textbf{19:15}

“You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul and all your mind [strength].”

Matthew \textbf{22:37} \hspace{1cm} Deuteronomy \textbf{6:5}

“People do not live by bread alone, but [rather, we live] by every word that comes from the mouth of God [the LORD].”

Matthew \textbf{4:4} \hspace{1cm} Deuteronomy \textbf{8:3}

“Honor your father and mother.”

Matthew \textbf{15:4} \hspace{1cm} Deuteronomy \textbf{5:16}

“You must worship [fear] the LORD your God and serve [him] only him.”

Matthew \textbf{4:10} \hspace{1cm} Deuteronomy \textbf{6:13}

[Deuteronomy words] that change in the Matthew version.

References to check: Matthew 4:4, 4:7, 4:10, 15:4, 18:16, 22:37
Deuteronomy 5:16, 6:5, 6:13, 6:16, 8:3, 19:15
This is a list of the 12 sons of Israel, who fathered 12 tribes.

Strike out the name of the tribe that will receive no land inheritance (Joshua 13:14).

Strike out a name that will be replaced by his sons’ names (Joshua 16:4).

Write the 2 sons’ names in the blanks.

Count the tribes now. How many get land? ________

Write the names of the tribes on the map.

Reuben
Simeon
Levi
Judah
Zebulun
Issachar
Dan*
Gad
Asher
Naphtali
Joseph
Benjamin

* These names appear on the map twice.
The book of Judges tells the same story over and over. Read the pattern of the story in 2:18–19.

—Whenever the LORD raised up a judge...he saved [NIV]/ rescued [NLT] the people...But when the judge died, the people returned to their corrupt ways.

Find the theme of Judges.

17:6 —Israel had no king, so the people did as they saw fit (NIV)/ whatever seemed right in their own eyes (NLT).
Worksheet: Sin in Judges (NIV)

Before the Israelites entered Canaan, God set some rules.

God said,

Exodus 20:3  “You shall have

__________ __________ __________ ____________ __________.”

BUT the people

Judges 2:12  “______________ the LORD, the God...”

Judges 2:13  They “served __________ and the ________________.”

***THEY DISOBEYED GOD.***

About the nations in Canaan: God said,

Numbers 33:52  “__________ __________ all the inhabitants of the land.”

BUT the people

Judges 1:21, 27, 29, 30, 31, 33  “did not __________ ________” the Canaanites.

***THEY DISOBEYED GOD.***

About marriage: God said,

Deuteronomy 7:3  “Do not ____________________ with them.”

Deuteronomy 7:4  Why not? “For they will turn your children...

to serve __________ __________.”

BUT the people

Judges 3:6  “took their daughters __________ ______________...”

The result? They “served __________ __________.”

***THEY DISOBEYED GOD.***
Worksheet Answers: Spiral in Judges (NIV)

Start at the outside and work your way in, filling in the blanks.
Hint: Whenever you see “King of ___” on the worksheet, the answer will be the name following “of” in the verse.


* A single 4-letter name.
Worksheet: Ruth

List the characters in Ruth 1:2 and 1:4.

_______________________________
_______________________________
_______________________________
_______________________________
_______________________________
_______________________________

Strike out those who died or left Naomi (Ruth 1:3, 5, 14).

“REDEEM”: What does it mean?
Color the right answers and cross out the wrong answers.
(Hint: there are only 3 wrong answers.)

To buy back
To pay ransom
To make something
To give something away
To rescue
To get something for free
To pay the penalty of something
To make up for the faults of something

RUTH (4:17)

Mother of _____________________

Grandmother of _____________________

Great-grandmother of _____________________

(Matthew 1:16) Ancestor of _____________________
Worksheet: Elisha’s Miracles in 2 Kings (NLT)

**Elisha, the Chef**
- 20 individual loaves fed how many men?  
  4:43 _____________
- What did Elisha put into bad water to make it good?  
  2:21 _____________
- What did he put into poisonous stew to make it good?  
  4:41 _____________

**Elisha, the Grump**
- What attacked boys who made fun of his bald head?  
  2:24 _____________

**Elisha, the Financial Advisor**
- How did he advise the widow who had nothing except a little oil?
  4:3  Borrow as ___________ empty _________ as you can.”
  4:4  “Pour olive ___________ ...into the __________.”
  4:7  “Sell the olive ___________ and pay your __________.”

**Elisha, the Prophet**  
Draw lines to match the reference with the prediction.
- A baby     8:13
- The next king     3:17–18
- Cheap food     4:16
- Appearance of water as a weapon of war     7:1

**Elisha, the Informant**
- 6:9  In wartime, Elisha told the plans of the ________________
  to the king of ________________.

**Elisha, the Diplomat**
- 6:18  He asked God to handicap an enemy army with ________________.
  Then he led them to his king.
- 6:23  The king made them a great ________________.
  What was the result? Circle the correct answer:
  It made the fighting worse or  It stopped the fighting.

**Elisha, the Magician**
- He made it float. What was it?  
  6:5–6 _____________

**Elisha, the Physician**
- What cure did he prescribe for leprosy?
  5:10 _____________ How many times? ___  
  Where? _____________________________
  How did he raise the boy from the dead?  
  4:34 _____________

**Elisha, the Superman**  
What did Elisha’s super-vision see?
- 6:17 _____________ and _____________ of fire.
Worksheet Answers: Twin Books Review 1

Match the facts with the books using letters.

a. Israel splits into 2   e. 1 Samuel
b. Temple is built   g. 1 Samuel
c. David confesses sin   c. 2 Samuel
d. Exile begins   a. 1 Kings
e. Samuel anoints the first king   d. 2 Kings
f. Names, names, names...   f. 1 Chronicles
g. David and Goliath   h. 1 Chronicles
h. Preparing for the Temple   b. 2 Chronicles

References to check:

1 Samuel 10:1   1 Samuel 17:50   2 Samuel 12:13
1 Kings 12:20   2 Kings 17:6
1 Chronicles 6:1   1 Chronicles 29:2   2 Chronicles 5:1

BONUS QUESTIONS: Circle the correct answers.

These books were written to show why the people had to go into exile. They report the sins of the rulers.

1 and 2 Kings   OR   1 and 2 Chronicles

These books were written to show that God still loved his people even though they had sinned. They record the family tree and report good history.

1 and 2 Kings   OR   1 and 2 Chronicles
Worksheet: Comprehensive History Review 2  
(Genesis-Esther)

**Famous Children in the Bible**

This boy was only 7 when he became king.  
(2 Kings 11:21) _____________

This boy was born holding on to his twin brother’s heel.  
(Genesis 25:26) _____________

This boy liked to tell riddles.  
(Judges 14:12) _____________

This boy was left to die in the desert, but God made him into a great nation.  
(Genesis 16:15, 21:18) _____________

This girl babysat her baby brother, who was floating in a basket on the Nile River.  
(Exodus 2:4, 15:20) _____________

This boy thought his boss was calling him at night when it actually was God.  
(1 Samuel 3:4–5) _____________

This young woman went with a servant to marry a man she had never seen.  
(Genesis 24:58) _____________

This boy was his Dad’s favorite and that made his brothers hate him.  
(Genesis 37:3-4) _____________

This boy grew up in the palace of Pharaoh.  
(Exodus 2:10) _____________

This boy was prepared as a burnt sacrifice and saved just in time.  
(Genesis 22:9-12) _____________

This boy killed a giant.  
(1 Samuel 17:50) _____________

**Great Pray-ers of the Old Testament**

This king prayed when the Temple was finished.  
(2 Chronicles 6:1–2) _____________

This man prayed, and fire fell from heaven.  
(1 Kings 18:36, 38) _____________

This tribe of worship leaders led the Israelites in prayer after the Temple was rebuilt.  
(Nehemiah 9:5) _____________

This man prayed, and the sun stood still.  
(Joshua 10:12–13) _____________

This man saved the Israelites by persuading God to relent.  
(Numbers 14:12–13, 20) _____________

This man prayed a great prayer for forgiveness for the people.  
(Ezra 10:1) _____________

This king prayed for victory over invincible enemies, and the angel of the LORD took care of it.  
(2 Kings 19:15–16, 19, 35) _____________