

Adventures with GOD!

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE (C.3.SPRING.11)

Biblical Reference	Matthew 5:13-16, Matthew 6:25-34
Key Verse	2 Timothy 3:16-17
Key Concept	God's word is applicable to my life. As I read God's Word, the Holy Spirit works in my life.
Educational Objectives	At the end of this lesson, children will be able to: 1. Write a personal application for a Bible passage 2. Explain how to practice what they learned in their Bible study 3. Recite the books of the Bible in order.

Life Application

Learning how to study the Bible is a very valuable tool for every Christian. Children will learn that as followers of Jesus, the Bible is their foundation. It's important to develop a regular habit of reading and studying Scripture; the Holy Spirit uses Scripture to transform and make us more like Christ. Encourage children to find times to daily or regularly read their Bibles and practice steps they've learned for Bible study.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Review	Books of the Bible	5 minutes
Learning Centers		10 minutes
Bible Exploration	See instructions	15 minutes
Game	Game board and pieces	10
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review: As children enter, take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets, and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials at CovChurch.org/children/adventures-with-god.

Opening Prayer: Gather children around a candle. Light the candle, and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them, palms up, as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

Prayer Example: Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

Bible Reading: Explain we read the Bible first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out stretched, palms up, to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read Matthew 5:13-16 twice and ask children to respond.

Question Examples: What did you notice in this passage? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you though the passage?

Review: Spend time reviewing the books of the Old and New Testament. Also ask children to share what they learned during their devotional time this past week. Encourage children, again, to spend time daily or regularly reading their Bibles and studying different Bible passages.

Learning Centers: In the Learning Centers, children will reflect on the significance of the Key Verse. Prepare materials and instructions at each center. Explain to children that they can choose whichever activity, and explain what the different options. When they have finished invite them to come together and sit in a circle.



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Bible Exploration: After children shared what they learned in the Learning Centers, invite them to open their Bibles to Matthew 6:25-34. The past two weeks you studied this Bible passage and focused on both observation and interpretation. This week, you will focus on the application. Review the application questions with children. Have them get in pairs or groups of two or three to share their answers to the application questions. Then, in a big group, ask for volunteers to share how they will apply God's word to their lives in the next week. End by reviewing the five key words to remember when we study God's word (hand illustration) and the three steps in Bible study: Observe, Interpret, Apply. Ask a few volunteers to share why it's so important to study the Bible and how they can make it a habit in their lives.

On pages 14-15, you will find a devotional sheet for children to take home, along with tips for reading the Bible.

Game: Instructions can be found on page 8. This game also serves as a time for children to practice saying the books of the Bible in order so they can move up the ladder. Another game idea is to have cards printed out with three books of the Bible listed on them. As a team, they have to put the cards in order.

Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:

G=God's Word: What is the story? (Give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story).

R=Relationships: Is there anything in today's Bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the Bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others. Give children a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead).

O=Outward Action: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week).

W=Worship: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? What would you like to say to God?

Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle, explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, the candle

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reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

Prayer Example: Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen.

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CENTER OF INVESTIGATION

The focus of this center is on defining the words used in the Key Verse: 2 Timothy 3:16,17

Instructions:

1. To begin, read the Key Verse along with the verses surrounding it in order to get an idea of the context. Remember to ask questions like: What? Who? Where? How? Why?
2. Below is a list of some of the important words in the Key Verse. Use a Bible dictionary, other reference books, or another Bible (different version) to find the definition or synonym of the words. Write your findings on a large piece of paper.

Scripture

Inspired

Useful

Teach

Rebuke

Correct

Train

Righteousness

Equipped

Good work

3. Lastly, write the verses in your own words.

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CENTER OF EXPERIMENTS

The focus of this center is to reflect on how Scripture works in our lives according to 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

1. Read the Key Verse.

2. Talk about how Scripture functions in our lives to :

-teach us

-rebuke us

-correct us

-instruct us in righteousness

3. Find other Bible verses (using a Bible concordance) that illustrate the different ways God's word works in our life. Write them down.

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CENTER OF APPLICATION

You will make a Bible bookmark at this center. This bookmark can serve as a reminder of the importance of studying and meditating on God's word.

Instructions:

1. Read the Bible passage: 2 Timothy 3:16-17
2. How are your devotional times going? When are you reading your Bible? Has it been easy or difficult? What have you learned? How do you feel like it's helping you to know God more?
3. Make a bookmark using the materials provided (paper, cardstock, markers, sequins, ribbons, beads, etc.). Write the Key Verse on the bookmark.

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GAME

Before class, make two large game boards out of poster board or cardboard. On the following pages, you will find a model for what the game boards should look like. Next, cut out the game pieces (houses with names of the books of the Bible written on them) and put them in two envelopes (one for Old Testament and one for New Testament).

To play, divide the group into two teams. Have one team work on the Old Testament board and the other team work on the New Testament board. The idea is to work as a team to put the books of the Bible in order on the proper “streets.” The team that does it correctly in the shortest amount of time wins.

The following are the divisions:

The Law: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy

History: Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther

Poetry: Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon

Major Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel

Minor Prophets: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John

History: Acts

Paul’s letters: Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2

Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon

Letters: James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1, 2, & 3 John, Jude, Hebrews

Prophecy: Revelation

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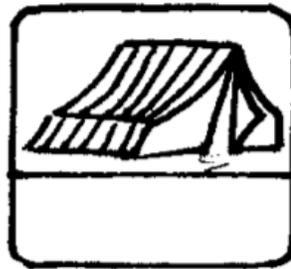
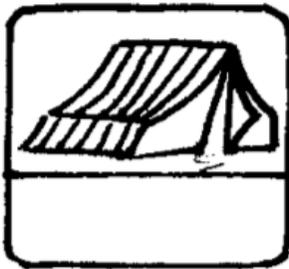
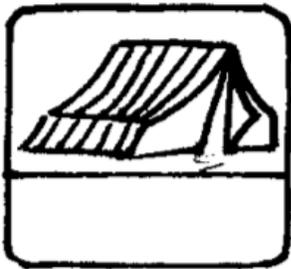
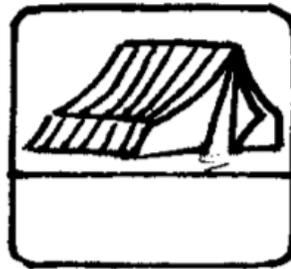
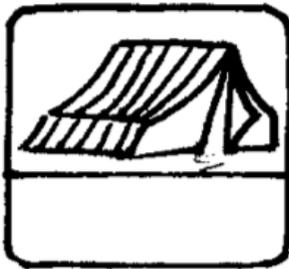
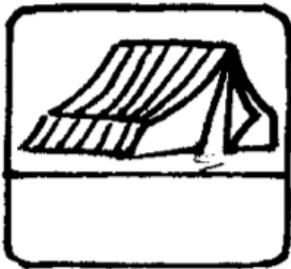
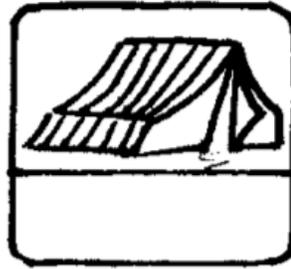
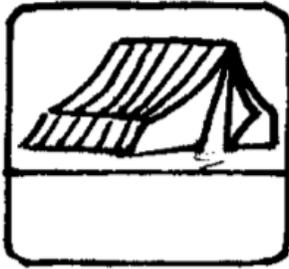
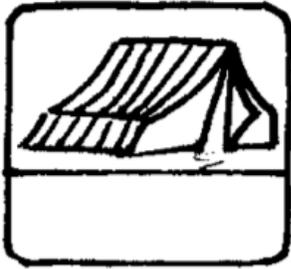


GAME PIECES

Make enough copies of the cards for both the Old Testament and New Testament. Cut all of the pieces out ahead of time, but allow children to help write the names of the books of the Bible on each of them.

Old Testament

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GAME PIECES

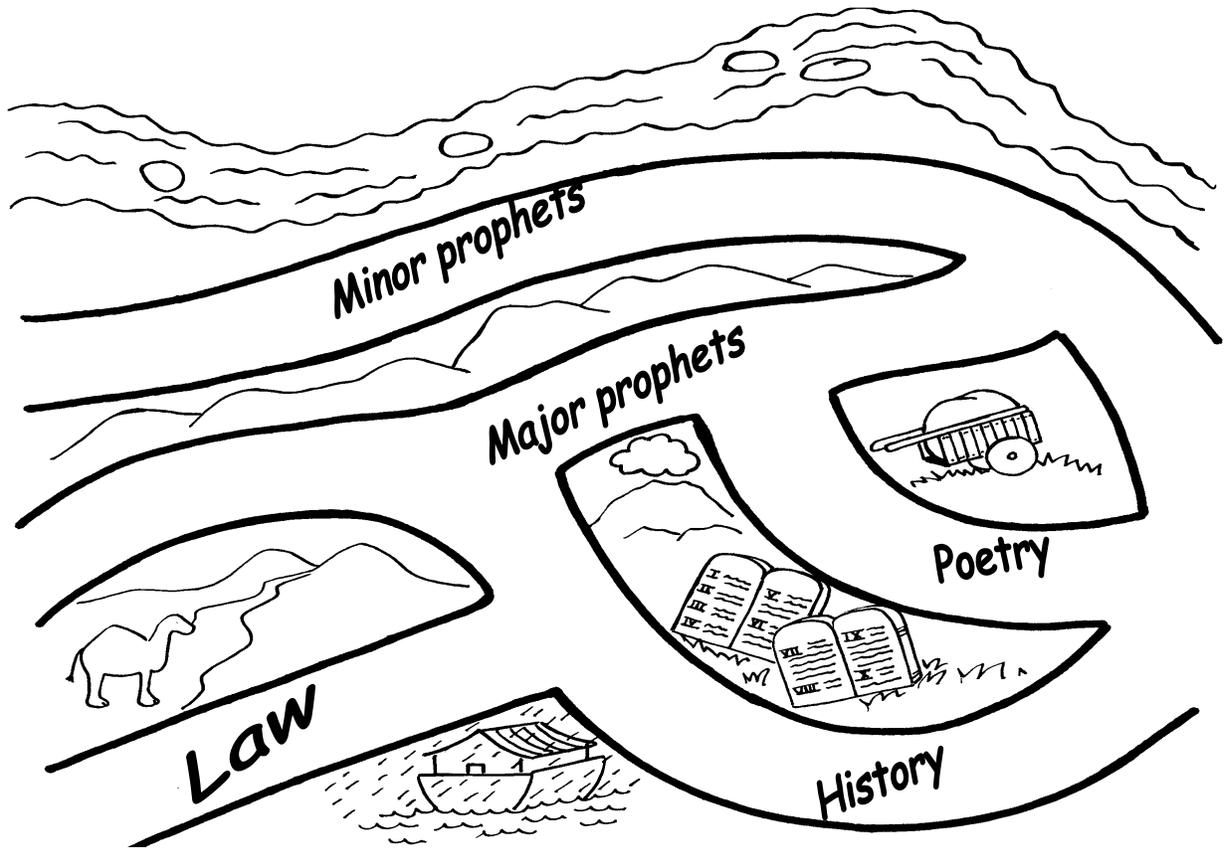
New Testament

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GAME BOARD

Old Testament

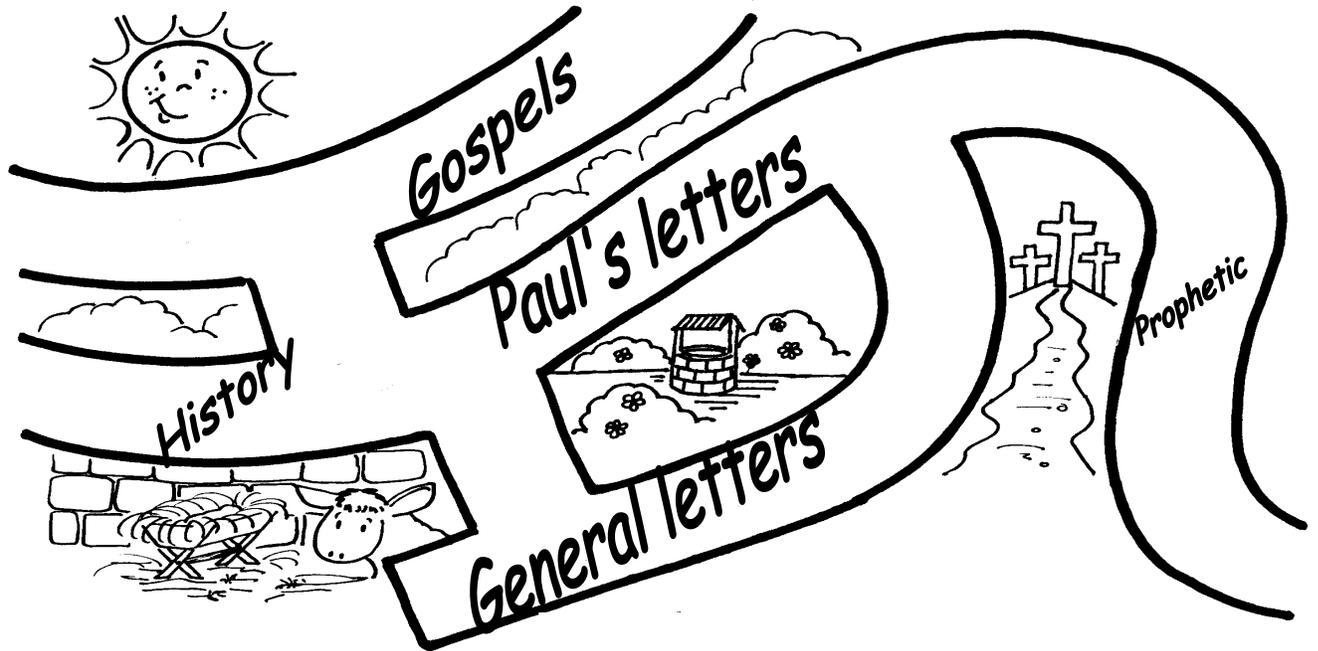
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GAME BOARD

New Testament



ACTIVITY SHEET

Devotional

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Matthew 8:23-27

Study this passage using observation, interpretation, and application.

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Set aside time to read your Bible. If it's helpful, choose a specific time every day.



Try to read one book at a time. Studying a whole book of the Bible helps you understand the big picture.



Ask yourself what the intentions of the author were.



Ask yourself who the audience was.



Keep a notebook to jot down your questions and notes.



Look up the things you don't understand. Use Bible dictionaries, commentaries, etc.