

Get Ready!**Text**

2 Timothy 3:16; Psalm 119; 2 Peter 1:19-21; Hebrews 4:12

**Key Quest Verse**

“I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against You” (Psalm 119:11).

**Bible Background**

God has provided us with a written revelation of His will to men - the Bible. The central theme throughout the Scriptures is salvation through Jesus Christ. There are 66 books in the Bible, written by 40 authors. They cover a period of approximately 1600 years.

For the most part, the Old Testament was written in Hebrew. There are a few passages in Aramaic. The New Testament was written in the Greek language. The Greek word *biblios* is where our word “Bible” comes from. The word “testament” means covenant or agreement. The covenant of grace which came through Jesus Christ in the New Testament. Books of today are soon out of date, but the Bible spans the centuries. The Bible is a progressive revelation of God to man.

Get Ready!

**Lesson Quest**



What I want my students to:

- Know:** How the Bible was written.
- Feel:** Show special respect for God's Word.
- Do:** Commit to reading their Bibles daily.

**Leader's Devotion**

Do you ever go to bed at night thinking, that you didn't have time to do this or that today? Do you often think that you didn't get a chance to spend time in God's Word? How much do you treasure the Bible? Pray that the Lord will use you as His tool to teach these young children the importance of His Word in their daily lives. Read the Key Quest Verse from various translations of the Bible. Make it your priority to hide the Word in your heart.

Get Set!



Option A



Materials: Grocery sack, markers, Bible

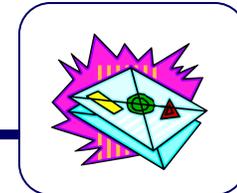
Procedure: (Before class prepare a “mystery sack.” Put question marks on it and place your Bible inside it. Put question marks on it and place your Bible inside it.)

Now play 20 questions. Give the students plenty of hints. For example: This bag contains the most valuable thing I own. It doesn't cost as much as a car, television, or even a lot of toys. It tells about God's love. We can hear many stories about God's son Jesus, etc. Be sure to let all the students guess at what is in the bag. “Now it's time for you to listen to the story carefully so you'll learn more about this wonderful book.”

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY



Option B



Materials: A variety of letters that you have received in the mail (bills, cards, advertisements, etc.)

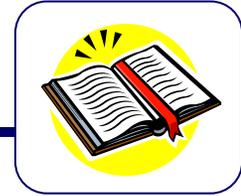
Procedure: (Begin a discussion with the class on how letters get to you.) “How is a letter a message? Let's look at the postmarks on each envelope. What information does a postmark give us? Some letters were sent 3 days ago, some 2 days ago, and some just one day ago. But even though they were sent on different days, they all arrived together on the same day in the mailbox. The Bible is somewhat like this. It is a collection of books, a collection of messages about God and His plan for us. Some of these messages or books were written and sent out before others, but they all arrive together in the Bible. However, there is one big difference between the collection of messages brought by the mail carrier and the collections in the Bible. The ones brought by the mail carrier have nothing to do with each other.” (Illustrate from the collection of letters that you previously have shown.) “However, the Bible is essentially all about Jesus. I want to tell you a little more about the most important book in the world – the Bible!”

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY

Get Set!



Bible Story



Materials: Use different Bibles, pictures of Bibles, and a homemade scroll to illustrate the story. You could use some of the symbols found in the Teacher Resources, or laminate symbols and add felt or magnets to the back of each card. When reading the story let children add each card to a flannel board or large cookie sheet as you go.

Procedure: “How did we get the Bible? God did not actually, write the Bible Himself, but He told men what to write and they wrote it for Him. God chose 40 different men to, write the Bible for Him. Some of these men were shepherds, farmers, fishermen, kings, a tentmaker, a doctor, and a tax collector. They did not all live at the same time. It took 1,600 years from the time the Bible was begun until it was finished. Even though it took a long time and many different men helped write it, it all makes sense and has the same message because these men wrote what God told them to, not what they might have wanted to write.

Think about how you take a spelling test in school. You, write down the words as the teacher says them. You don't write a different word than what your teacher says. That's the way it was with the 40 men who wrote the Bible down for God. God told them what to write, and they wrote it.

Though the Bible is one book, it contains 66 separate books. It's like having a library all in one book. The Bible is divided into two main parts. The first part is called the Old Testament. There are 39 books in the Old Testament, and they were written mostly for the Jews, God's special people, but also for us today. These books told the Jews how someday Jesus would come. The second part is called the New Testament. There are 27 books in the New Testament and these were written mostly to the Church or Christians. They tell how Jesus did come. Jesus is the most important part of the whole Bible. The Bible has mystery and adventure stories, songs, and many other good things to read. Some parts make us sad, and other parts might make us laugh. The more we read the Bible, the more we will understand it.

Long ago the Bible didn't look like it does now. It was written on large rolls of paper called scrolls, and men had to copy every word of it by hand. That's why there were not many copies of the Bible back then, and few people had them. Each of us can own a Bible today, but in some countries, the leaders try to keep the Bible away from the people. In other countries, people do not have a Bible written in the words they speak. We should be very thankful for our Bibles, and want to read them often to learn what God says.”



MUSIC: This would be a great song to have the class perform for the rest of the Congregation!

Go!



Bible Books



Materials: None

Procedure: Sing to the tune of the theme song to the “Adam’s Family.”

There’s Mathew and there’s Mark
There’s Luke and John
There’s Acts and then there’s Romans
And Two Corinthians

Chorus: The New Testament, (snap, snap)
The New Testament (snap, snap)
The New Testament, New Testament,
The New Testament (snap, snap)

There’s Galatians and Ephesians
Philippians, Colossians
First and Second Thessalonians
And Two Timothy’s

Chorus

There’s Titus and Philemon
There’s Hebrews and James
Two Peters and Three Johns
Jude and Revelation!



Quest Connection

“The Bible is a valuable tool for our daily life. A tool isn’t useful unless one knows how to use it properly. It really helps to know the order of the books of the Bible. We are going to learn a song today that will help us remember the order.”



Close

“If you can’t remember the order of the books of the New Testament, try singing this song! Try to spend time in God’s Word everyday!”



FOOD: *Be aware of food allergies!*

Go!



Edible Scrolls



Materials: Small flour tortillas (one per student), peanut butter, jelly, Alpha-bits cereal, plastic or butter knives

Procedure: Give each student a tortilla, a knife, and a tablespoon of peanut butter. Have them carefully spread the peanut butter over the tortilla. Give them a small amount of jelly to spread on top of the peanut butter.

Give each student a handful of Alpha-bits to “spell out” words from the Key Quest Verse on top of the peanut butter and jelly. Help them carefully roll their tortilla like a scroll.

Let them enjoy eating their scrolls!



Quest Connection

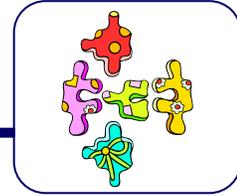
“Do you remember what they wrote on in Bible times?” (Scrolls.) We are going to make some scrolls that you can actually eat!”



Close

“We know that we are just eating pretend scrolls. The real scrolls long ago were like a book, something that you would read. Our Bibles today look much different than those of a long time ago! Let’s pray and thank God for His Word, the Bible!”

Go!

**Putting the Pieces Together**

Materials: A boxed jigsaw puzzle, sack and table for the puzzle

Preparation: Before class take the pieces out of the box, place them in a bag and put the box out of sight. Show one of the pieces.

**Quest Connection**

“This is a jigsaw puzzle piece. Guess what the completed jigsaw scene will be?” (Let students respond.) Add a few more pieces and continue to let students guess. After several pieces have been put on the table say, “It going to be a _____. Here is the picture on the box. Show the picture on the package to let them see the completed jigsaw puzzle.”

**Close**

“It was difficult to know for certain what the puzzle scene was going to be from only one piece. As we added more, it may have become clearer for you. I want us to consider how this shows us something about God’s nature. God has so many wonderful characteristics. He is: (take pieces of puzzle and place out as you list these traits) loving, kind, caring, full of compassion, righteous, truthful, always there for us, generous, merciful, faithful, all-powerful, the King of all the earth and holy . . . As you see, God is all of these things and much more. We begin to discover who He is through the scriptures that He gives us in the Bible. We also learn who He is by having a relationship with Him. We learn to appreciate the way He works in our lives. We can talk with Him about everything in our lives including our temptations and worries. Through prayer, we can ask for His power and His Spirit, which enables us to live a life that pleases Him. God wants a relationship with us; He wants to be our Father. He is the One True God. Let’s discover more about this perfect God who wants us to become His children.”

*Teachers Hint: You may want to purchase the puzzle from a Christian Bookstore. If the students seem interested, you can let the students work on the puzzle for a few minutes before class or for a few minutes during class over a few weeks. The project will teach them to work together, and if it has a Christian theme the image on the puzzle will really become imprinted on their minds. You can use it as a teaching tool by asking the students to relate what this beautiful nature scene, picture of a person in the Bible, etc. reveals to us about the nature of God.



ARTS AND CRAFTS: Any type of stick or a very thin paint brush may be used to dip into the paint.

Go!



Modern Scribes



Materials: Sand paper, sticks, watercolor paints, water, long pieces of paper

Procedure: Your students can pretend to be scribes by using sticks that have been sharpened at one end and watercolors. (Use sandpaper. Just rub the end across the sandpaper until it is sharp.) Have them dip the stick in a glass of water and then in the watercolor to make it moist. (It's basically painting with a stick.) Use a long piece of paper that they can write their memory verse on. Talk about Bible scrolls and how they were made. When their verse is dry, roll up the ends to make a scroll. You can tape craft sticks or straws at the ends to make it easy to roll up.



Quest Connection

“Do you remember who it was that actually wrote the Bible? How many different men wrote the Bible? (40.) We know that those men didn't have computers back then to write their books of the Bible with a word processor. We are going to use a method somewhat like the writers who wrote the Bible did.

Scribes used pens made by sharpening reeds with their knives. They made ink by mixing soot with other substances to form a dried cake of ink. When the scribe was ready to write, he would moisten his pen by dipping it in water and then dipping it on the cake of ink to mix the ink and then he would write.”



Close

“We can write down our memory verse and other verses from the Bible many times. It is more important to use the words of the Bible as our instruction book for our lives.”



OBJECT LESSON : *For an additional activity, roast the pumpkin seeds for the class to enjoy!*

Go!



Bible Seeds



Materials: Large pumpkin and a New Testament Bible sealed in a Ziploc bag, a knife, plastic gloves, a bowl, and paper towels

Procedure: Cut a small slot in the side of the pumpkin, reserving the piece so you can put it back in the pumpkin. Place the Bible inside the pumpkin. Then, replace the piece in the pumpkin and keep it turned away from children. Cut open the pumpkin from the top. Dig out all the seeds and place them in a bowl. Pause and tell the children that you see one more rather unusual seed inside the pumpkin. Show children the Bible and take it out of the bag. Then read aloud Luke 8:4-15.



Quest Connection

“What’s on the inside of this pumpkin? What are the seeds used for?”



Close

“How is the Bible like a seed? How do we ‘plant’ the Bible? Where does God want us to plant the seeds of His Word?”



GUEST QUEST: This activity is a wonderful way for students to get to know other members of the church body!

Go!



Treasure Bibles



Materials: Invite someone from your congregation who owns many different Bibles or a very special one (different translations, old, family, etc.)

Procedure: Ask your guest to share the following information:

1. Tell us about the Bibles that you own and why are they valuable to you.
2. Do you have a special place that you keep your Bible in your home?
3. What method do you use to study your Bible?
4. Do you have a favorite book of the Bible? (Have class look it up.)
5. Do you have a favorite verse in the Bible? (Have class look it up.)
6. What is your favorite translation of the Bible?
7. Have there been special times in your life that a certain verse has had a special meaning to you?



Quest Connection

“We know the Bible is valuable; it is our treasure. I have invited _____ (guest’s name) to show us a few of his/her Bibles today.”



Close

“I can see where _____ (guest’s name) has really made the passage Psalm 119:11 a big part of his/her life. Who remembers that verse?”

Ask the special guest to dismiss class with prayer.



FILL IN THE BLANKS:

1. The Bible is divided into _____ parts.
2. There are _____ books in the Old Testament.
3. There are _____ books in the New Testament.
4. God chose _____ different men to write for Him.
5. The Bible was first written on large rolls of paper called _____.
6. It took _____ years to write the Bible.

Fill in the missing words for the memory verse:

“I have _____ Your _____ in my heart, so that I might _____ sin
_____ You.” _____ 119: _____.”

Journal Page

Draw a picture of you doing something that shows that God's Word makes a difference in your life!



Cut along the lines and put the books in the correct order.

John	Philippians	Luke	2 Corinthians
Colossians	Philemon	Hebrews	
Mark	2 Thessalonians	1 John	
James	2 Peter	Jude	Revelation
3 John	2 John	1 Peter	
Galatians	1 Thessalonians	1 Timothy	
1 Corinthians	Romans	Matthew	
Acts	Ephesians	2 Timothy	Titus