

Lesson 38

-The Bible-

The Bible

2-5 Years:

Opening Prayer: To welcome the start of the class. For example:

"Dear God. As we once again come together, help us to learn more about your work and how we can be better Christians. Amen"

Bible Story:

Tell any bible story in basic language that this age group can understand. If you can't find an illustrated copy of this in the library for use in your class, use the bible use simple language.

Discuss:

What is the bible? Do the children know? Show them a bible. Let them feel how special it is. Tell them the bible is a collection of books that are put together to make one big book about God and man.

Game:

Create some memory cards with images on them that are for the various books of the bible. Try to match the image with the book name if possible but keep the images different so that they are easily identifiable for the children. Write the name of the book on the card with the image. Make two identical cards for each book/image.

First of all, show the children the cards and say the name of the book that it represents. Then turn the cards face down on the table and one at a time have the children turn over 2 cards looking for pairs. As they turn the cards, read the name of the book aloud to the class so that they get used to hearing the names of the books of the bible. If you have a large class, you may have to play this twice so that everyone has a turn, rather than having too many different books for them to remember the location of.

Song: (To the tune of "What a friend we have Jesus")

Tell me stories from the Bible
 Tell me of what God has said
 Tell me how Jesus healed the people
 Tell me what God's hands have made

Teach me how to be a Christian
 Teach me how I ought to pray
 Tell me all that God created
 Help me follow in his path



Activity 2:

On a large piece of paper, draw the outline of the front of a Bible. Supply this along with some small pieces of different shades of the same colored paper, and some glue. Write "THE BIBLE" on the front in large letters.

Create a mosaic book cover by having the children stick the colored shapes onto the outline but not covering the title. Pin this on the wall as a constant reminder of Gods' book.

Closing Prayer: Thanking God for the Bible which teaches us how much he loves us.

6-8 Years:

Opening prayer: To welcome students to class and introduce the theme. Keep the prayer simple and easy for the children to learn so that it can be said as a group prayer rather than one that the leader says. For example:

"Dear God. We thank you for the chance to meet once again in your presence. Help us to learn more about your work and to understand how we can follow in your footsteps. Amen"

Bible Story:

Today choose any story from the bible that you like which teaches something about how we, as Christians, ought to behave. Tell this story at a level of vocabulary that the children will understand.

Drama:

Let the children act out the bible story.

Discussion 1:

What is the Bible? What do they know about it? How many of them have read from a Bible? How many of them have held a Bible outside of Sunday School/Church? How is it set out - Testaments, books, chapters, verses.

Activity:

Some of the Books of the New Testament are listed here. Rearrange the letters to find them.

Teper	Karm
Eduj	Smaje
Solosnicas	Nhoj
Amosrn	Lteevoniar
Scat	Wethmta
Webrehs	Kule

Discussion 2:

Why should we read the Bible? It's about the past, what can we learn from it that will help us today? Did the first Bibles look as they do today? Show pictures of scrolls.

Activity 2:

Choose a verse from the Bible story you told earlier. Write this out so that the class can see it to copy it down. Supply them each a sheet of construction paper, some art materials and a piece of ribbon, plus tape or glue to secure.

The children should copy the Bible verse onto their construction paper so that it fills almost the whole page. They can decorate a border around it with the art supplies if you have time to allow for this. When they are finished, have them roll their piece of paper up like a scroll, and then show them where to secure the ribbon to the paper so that when the scroll is rolled, they can tie the ribbon to keep it in place.

Closing Prayer: Thanking God for his book, the Bible. For example:

"Dear God, thank you for providing us with your book, the Bible. Through the stories within it we can learn more about you and your love for us, and we can learn how we should act in order to be better Christians. Amen"

Word Jumble:

Some of the Books of the New Testament are listed here. Rearrange the letters to find them.

Teper

Karm

Eduj

Smaje

Solosnicas

Nhoj

Amosrn

Lteevoniar

Scat

Wethmta

Webrehs

Kule

9-11 Years:

Opening prayer: To welcome students to class and introduce the theme. Keep the prayer simple and easy for the children to learn so that it can be said as a group prayer rather than one that the leader says. For example:

"Dear God. We thank you for the chance to meet once again in your presence. Help us to learn more about your work and to understand how we can follow in your footsteps. Amen"

Bible Story:

Today choose any Bible story that you enjoy which has a message about how God would like to us behave. Make sure that you read out the Bible location clearly - for example Matthew 13: 24-30.



Matthew
13: 24-30

Discussion 1:

What does the class know about the Bible. What is its purpose? How important is it? What is the structure? How did the first Bibles look? Were they in English? Who wrote the Bible?

Activity 1:

Give each student a piece of construction paper, a pen, and a piece of ribbon. You will also need something to secure the ribbon to the paper.

Ask the students to create a table that illustrates how the Bible is structured. This could be something like a family tree with the Bible centered at the top of the page, then dividing into two branches for the Old and New Testaments, and then each of those dividing down again. You can make this as simple or complicated as you think your class can manage (ie have them write the name of each of the books on the table, or not). Once they have completed this, show them how to secure the ribbon so that when they roll up the paper, they can keep it in a scroll shape by tying the ribbon around it.

Discussion 2:

The Bible, above all else, is a book of instructions for Christian. It shows how God wants us to be. Why is it important to have a book of instructions? Why is it even more important to read and understand what that instruction book says?

Activity:

Copy the puzzle and provide each student with a pen or pencil with which to complete it by finding all of the books of the bible that are listed below the grid.

Word Search: The Bible

N	H	A	I	R	A	H	C	E	Z
S	U	C	I	T	I	V	E	L	P
R	E	V	E	L	A	T	I	O	N
Y	H	T	O	M	I	T	S	Q	S
S	K	S	L	U	K	E	E	L	I
E	N	W	F	S	T	H	E	R	S
M	H	A	I	M	E	H	E	N	E
A	J	S	N	D	M	A	R	K	N
J	O	N	A	H	N	H	O	I	E
O	B	A	D	I	A	H	G	B	G

Daniel
 Esther
 Genesis
 John
 Jonah
 James
 Leviticus

Luke
 Mark
 Nehemiah
 Obadiah
 Timothy
 Revelation
 Zechariah

Closing Prayer: Thanking God for giving us an instruction book so that we can learn how to become better Christians. For example:

"Dear God, thank you for your book the bible. Help me to use it as it was intended, as a book of instructions on how to live my life. Amen."

12-14 Years:

Opening prayer: To welcome students to class and introduce the theme. Keep the prayer simple and easy for the students to learn so that it can be said as a group prayer rather than one that the leader says. For example:

"Dear God. We thank you for the chance to meet once again in your presence. Help us to learn more about your work and to understand how we can follow in your footsteps. Amen"

Bible Reading:

Use any Bible story that illustrates how the Bible is to be used as an instruction book to show how Christians ought to live their lives.

Discussion 1:

How important is the Bible in the life of a Christian? Why is it important? Who wrote the Bible? What language was it originally written in?

Activity 1:

Some of the lessons in the Bible are written as parables. Tell your own parable that would be understood by your peers, and that teaches them that they should love their neighbor.

Discussion 2:

The Bible is an instruction book, a map, a way of teaching how we, as Christians ought to live our lives according to the will of God. Think about the people you know, does it show from how they act that they have read the book of instructions? Have you read it? Would you start to use something new, such as a digital camera without reading the instruction book? Learning to walk God's path is far more important than that, and yet many people think that reading the instruction guide is un-necessary. Just like a user guide for equipment in your home, when things go wrong in your life, the Bible will have an answer as to how you should deal with it - but if you don't read the Bible, how will you know where to find this?

Activity 2:

Supply each student with a pen and paper. Ask them to write "The Bible - A User Guide" at the top of the page, and then instruct them to write step by step instructions as to how someone who isn't familiar with the Bible should start to use it as a way of learning how to live as God commands.

Closing Prayer: Thanking God for giving us a book that shows us exactly how we should live our lives. For example:

"Dear God, thank you for your book, the Bible. Teach me the patience to read and understand your words so that I may learn how to become a better Christian. Amen."