



Kids Club

Elementary Leader Guide

Jan.
Week 4
Jan. 26, 2024

Leader Info

Each week kids will learn about a few books of the Bible along with some simple hand motions to help them remember what each book is about. The goal is that by the end of the 12 weeks, kids will be able to say all 66 books of the Bible from memory and have a general idea of what each book is about.

Memory Verse:

"God has breathed life into all Scripture. It is useful for teaching us what is true. It is useful for correcting our mistakes. It is useful for making our lives whole again. It is useful for training us to do what is right." - 2 Timothy 3:16 (NirV)

Lesson 5: Better Than Shakespeare

Scripture: Proverbs 1:1-7

Bottom Line: The books of poetry are full of praise and wisdom.

Synopsis: God's books of poetry are not simply pretty verses. They are filled with praise to our God and wisdom for daily living.

Objective: Kids will memorize the next 5 books: Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon

Schedule:

20 minutes- Set out 2-4 rotations of seated activities for kids to play. Sit with them, play with them. Ask questions about their past week, pets, family, and other things that are important to them. This is important relation-building time!

10 minutes- Lesson intro and discussion (page 1)

10-15 minutes- Activities (page 2)

15-20 minutes- Games // Free play

MEMORY VERSE

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"God has breathed life into all Scripture. It is useful for teaching us what is true. It is useful for correcting our mistakes. It is useful for making our lives whole again. It is useful for training us to do what is right." - 2 Timothy 3:16 (NirV)

Have all the fifth graders (whatever the oldest age in the room may be) read the verse first. Then add the next grade down and repeat. Add the next grade down, and repeat. Keep repeating until everyone is reading together.

Divide into 2 groups and have the kids sing the memory verse in the style of their favorite pop/rock singer.

TEACHING TIME

BOTTOM LINE:

The books of poetry are full of praise and wisdom.

SAY:

"We've approached the half way point, not only of the Old Testament, but the Bible itself. The books of history make up a big chunk of the Bible, and they're full of stories, history, laws, and hard lessons for us all. Let's see if you can remember those 17 books with me.

Review the books as a group from Genesis through Esther, with the hand motions.

So far, the books of the Bible have given us the story of God and man from the beginning up to the time when the Israelites returned from exile. That's a lot of time, and that's a lot of hard lessons learned. Right after the 17 books of history we've covered, the Bible takes a break to give us not more history, but poetry!

The Bible doesn't give us just one type of poem either. It gives us five distinct books of poetry that are filled with wisdom and praise to our God!

Some people think that poetry is hard to understand. Poetry can be very symbolic and pretty. It can also be hard to follow. But other people say poetry is better at helping us understand big ideas than regular writing. God's books of poetry are filled with lovely praise to our God, but they're also full of something we all need: God's wisdom. Listen to the words of King Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived, as he starts the book of Proverbs.

READ PROVERBS 1:1-7

Main Point:

"One of the great things about poetry is that it is easier to learn and remember than regular writing. The way poetry is written makes it easier for all of us to memorize than long paragraphs.



The wisdom found in Proverbs and the other books of poetry can help us to live the way God wants us to live. We find advice in Proverbs for spending money, for getting an education, for loving others, for loving God, and so much more.

God wants us to be wise, and he wants us to praise and honor his name. The books of poetry can help us do both. They can teach us about living for God, and they can fill our hearts with songs of praise.

Drive it Home:

"The first book of poetry is a narrative poem, a poem that tells a story. The book of Job tells the story of a man who loved God very much. He was extremely wealthy, and he had a huge family. Then God allowed Job to be tested, to see if his faith was true. Everything Job possessed was taken away from him, and his friends told him to forget about God, but Job held true to his faith. Job's story is a great tale about perseverance and keeping our faith in bad times.

The next book is the one we think of as the longest book in the Bible because it has the most chapters. It's the book of Psalms. King David wrote many of the Psalms, and every one of them is a song of praise to God. The Psalms can lift our hearts when we feel down, and they can help us praise God in good times and bad.

David's son Solomon wrote most of the next book, Proverbs, and the entire fourth book, Ecclesiastes. These books are filled with Solomon's collected wisdom. Proverbs is mostly the wise sayings of the wise king, while Ecclesiastes is Solomon's reflection on his life. Solomon tells us in Ecclesiastes that everything apart from our faith in God is meaningless, and he urges us to focus on God and enjoying the blessings we have.

Solomon also wrote the fifth book of poetry, Song of Solomon. This is a love poem, a poem that teaches us about the amazing love of a husband and a wife. It's a beautiful poem that shows us God's design for a happy, loving marriage.

Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon are books of poetry that have more to offer us than pretty words. The books of poetry teach us to praise God and to follow his wisdom. If we learn the words of these books and apply them to our lives, we will be wiser and more grateful people.

HAND MOTIONS:

"Today we're learning about the books of poetry. There are only five poetry books in the Bible, and each one has something unique to say.

Job is the first book of poetry, and it tells the story of a man who had everything and lost it all. God allowed Job, a faithful man, to be put to the test. Job was left with nothing - no property, no children, not even his health. He was scratching himself with broken pottery to relieve the painful sores on his body, but through it all, he kept his faith in God. Let's scratch our arms to help us remember the story of Job.

Psalms is the longest book in the Bible (most chapters), a book filled with songs and poems of praise. Let's lift our hand high to God to help us remember Psalms.



Proverbs is a book filled with wisdom in which the wise King Solomon says, "My son, listen to my teaching!" Let's point our finger like Solomon to remember Proverbs.

Ecclesiastes is another book of Solomon. Solomon tells us that everything in this world is meaningless because only God is eternal. Let's shrug our shoulders as if to say, "It's all meaningless!" when we remember Ecclesiastes.

And finally, Song of Solomon is a poem about the love between a husband and a wife. Pretend to put a wedding ring on your finger, and let that be a reminder about the Song of Solomon.

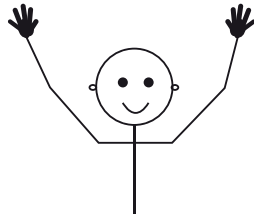
Let's review these one more time!"

Repeat the twelve books and their hand motions with the kids 2-3 times, then review all the books from Genesis to Song of Solomon to wrap up the lesson.



JOB

Scratch your arm



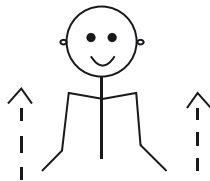
PSALMS

Lift up your hands in praise.



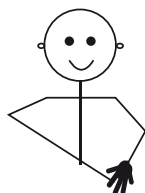
PROVERBS

Point like a teacher.



ECCLESIASTES

Shrug, to remember it's meaningless without God.



SONG OF SOLOMON

Put a "wedding ring" on your finger

ACTIVITIES

ICEBREAKER:

What's the best piece of advice you've ever received, and how did it help you?

GAME: GUESS WHO

SUPPLIES: no supplies needed

Have children sit in a circle. Select one child and have them leave the room. When that child has gone, select a second child to be the leader. The leader will start a movement (EX: clapping, snapping, arm circles, etc.) and the rest of the group will follow. Let them practice a couple times.

Call the first child back into the room. That child will have to stand in the center of the circle and try to guess who the leader is. The leader will have to change the group movement every ten to fifteen seconds or so. The rest of the group will follow whatever movement the leader does. If the Guesser makes an incorrect guess, the person whom they guessed will say "Tricked You!".

The game is over when the child guesses correctly. Repeat with new leaders and guessers as many times as you like.

"We had to put out our powers of observation not to be fooled, didn't we? Someday we will work with people who are well intentioned and good Christians. We will also work with people who are not so honest and would like to take advantage of us. Keep your eyes wide open! Proverbs 1:5 says, "let the wise observe and increase in learning!" "



REVIEW: ALL THAT HISTORY

SUPPLIES: Books of the Bible Key Chain Cards(1 set/kid), metal binder rings (1/kid)

PREP: Cut out the books of the bible sets so each kid has a set. Punch a hole in the top left corner of each card.

Each week, kids will add the books they are studying each week to their key chain. Make sure their names are on their keychain somewhere. They will leave it at church and take home at the end of the Books of the Bible Unit.

Add the history books from today: Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.

Recite the books and practice the motions as kids add to their keychain. Have volunteers read the clues on the back of each card.

PRAYER:

Go around the room asking kids to name one way they can practice obedience to God this week. Try to help each kid come up with a practical action.
Invite a volunteer to pray over everyone.