Mar. 16, 2025

## **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 11: Heaven Sounds Awesome**

**Scripture**: Revelation 21:1-7

Bottom Line: The final books in the Bible remind us that Jesus is coming back and to keep the

faith.

**Objective**: Kids will memorize the last 9 books: Hebrews, James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2

John, 3 John, Jude, and Revelation.

**Summary:** The Bible ends with a few more books from Jesus' closest friends and followers, including a stunning book of prophecy about the end of times. These books encourage us to keep the faith and remember God is in control.

#### 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**

#### **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)

**SUPPLIES**: cardstock (1/every 2-3 words of verse)

At this point, most kids should be able to recite the memory verse. Spend a few minutes reciting it from memory together 2-3 times.

# **TEACHING TIME**

#### **BOTTOM LINE:**

The final books in the Bible remind us that Jesus is coming back and to keep the faith.

#### SAY:

"Can you guys believe we've come to the end of the Bible? After eleven long weeks, we've learned the names and hand motions for every single book - 39 in the Old Testament, and 27 in the New Testament!

Today we're learning the last nine books of the Bible, God's final messages to his people. Eight of these books are, like the books we've learned the last two weeks, letters to God's people. The final book is a book of prophecy, a mysterious book called Revelation.

The Bible is a unique book in many ways. For one, it's one big book broken into two parts and sixty-six smaller books. Each book was written to a different audience for a unique purpose, and the books were written over the course of thousands of years. Yet all of these books point to one central message. God created us. God loves us. God sent his son Jesus to save us.

The Bible is also unique because the end of the Bible isn't really an ending. It's a cliffhanger, an open ending with the promise of more stories to tell. In the New Testament, Jesus comes to die for our sins, and his followers establish the church that continues to this day. And the last book of the Bible, Revelation, tells us we have much to look forward to!

**READ REVELATION 21:1-7** 



#### **Main Point:**

"The Bible doesn't end with more stories or another letter. It ends with a book of prophecy. Revelation tells us that God isn't done with us yet.

One of these days, Jesus is going to return. God is going to judge the world, and the world that we know will come to an end.

The Good News for those who know Jesus is that we will be going to a better place. Jesus is preparing a New Heaven and a New Earth where we will live forever! John, the author of Revelation, describes gates made of pearl and streets made of gold. He describes a paradise where there is no need for sunlight or electric light because God is there, and he is the only light we need.

The Bible ends with the promise that one day, we will be with Jesus. One day we will walk on streets of gold. The Bible ends by telling us to keep the faith so that we can live forever with Jesus.

#### **Drive it Home:**

"The last nine books of the Bible all teach us that we need to keep our eyes on Jesus. Over and over, these books remind us what Jesus did for us and why. They teach us to love others and live holy lives that will be pleasing to God. And they teach us to keep the faith as we wait for Jesus to come back.

Hebrews is the first of these books and the first letter in the New Testament not written by Paul. The author of Hebrews points to the Scriptures to show that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and he encourages the early church to keep their faith in Jesus.

James also writes to the church, urging Christians to live godly lives. He teaches us to be good witnesses for Christ so that others will believe in Him.

Peter, the disciple turned apostle, wrote two letters to the early church. He wrote one letter to encourage the believers to stand strong when they are persecuted, and he wrote a second to warn them about false teachers.

John wrote three letters that are included in the Bible. John was also concerned about false teachers, and he didn't want believers to fall for their lies. John points the believers back to Jesus, urging them to test what they are taught and to keep their faith in Christ.

Jude is one of the shortest books in the Bible and the last of the letters. Jude wrote about the salvation we can have in Jesus, and he too warned about false teachers.

The Bible concludes with Revelation, John's book of prophecy. Revelation tells us that one day, the false teachers will be called to account, and the sin that has made a mess of our world will be no more. All those who believe in Jesus will live forever with Him, and all the suffering of this world will come to an end.



# **HAND MOTIONS:**

"The Bible ends with several more letters to the new church. These letters were written by other leaders and not by Paul, and each one has a special message for us.

Hebrews was written to the Jewish believers and uses the Old Testament to show that Jesus is the Messiah. Pretend to sip a "brewed" cup of coffee to remember Hebrews.

James also wrote to the Jewish believers and warned us that our tongues are dangerous, like a spark that starts a huge fire. Point to your tongue to remember James.

1 & 2 Peter were written by Jesus' disciple Peter, and 1, 2, and 3 John were written by the disciple John. Count 1 and 2 with your fingers and throw your fishing line for Peter. Then 1, 2, 3 fingers for John.

Jude is the last letter in the Bible. It's a short book, and we can remember it's short by holding two fingers up to show us just how short it is.

Finally, put on your binoculars and get ready to peer into the future. Revelation is the last book of the Bible. It's a book of prophecy that tells us Jesus is coming back and preparing a New Heaven for us.

Great job, guys. Now let's review these letters a few more times.

Repeat the last books of the New Testament 2-3 times then try to do all 66 books with their hand motions to wrap up the lesson.



#### **HEBREWS**

Pretend to sip "brewed coffee from a cup



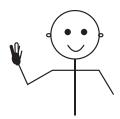
#### **JAMES**

Point to your tongue



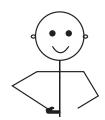
#### 1 & 2 PETER

Count 1 and 2 with your fingers, then throw in your fishing line



# 1, 2, and 3 JOHN

Count 1, 2, and 3 fingers



# **JUDE**

Hold two fingers up (thumb and index) to show Jude is a short book



# **REVELATION**

Hold your hands over your eyes like a pair of binoculars looking toward the future.

## **ACTIVITIES**

## **ICEBREAKER:**

If you could design the perfect world, what would it look like?

This encourages kids to think about the beauty and perfection of God's new creation while engaging their imagination. It also provides a natural transition to discussing how God's plan for the new heaven and earth is even greater than anything we could dream up.

# **GAME: BOOKS OF THE BIBLE RELAY**

**SUPPLIES**: index cards(132), 2 baskets or containers

- 1. **Set Up:** Prepare two sets of cards or slips of paper, each with the name of one book of the Bible. Shuffle them well. Place each set in a basket or container. Divide kids into 2 teams(Be sure to mix younger and older kids together).
- 2. **Goal:** Teams will work together to put the books of the Bible in order. Say them aloud together one more time before beginning.
- 3. **The Relay:** One child from each team runs to the basket, grabs a card, and runs back. The team then works together to place the book in the correct order on a large poster or table. After placing the card, the next child goes and gets another card.
- 4. **Debrief:** Discuss how just as Paul encouraged Philemon to forgive Onesimus, we can let go of hurts instead of carrying them.

Keep the cards! Keep these cards until next week, they will be used next week!



## **REVIEW: KIND OF A BIG DEAL**

#### 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 books from today: Hebrews, James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude, and Revelation.

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:

Invite kids to circle up. Instruct kids to go around the circle saying a simple prayer. We will pray for each other and the church. Here are some prayer prompts:

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1. "God, please help my friend when they feel sad or worried about"
2. "Lord, thank You for my friends. Help me to be kind and encouraging to
today."
3. "Jesus, please help to feel better if they are sick or hurt."
4. "Father, help to be brave and trust You in hard times."
5. "God, thank You for making each of us special. Help to know how much You
love them."

## **Praying for the Church:**

- 1. "Lord, bless our pastors and leaders as they teach us about You."
- 2. "Jesus, help our church to love and serve others well."
- 3. "God, bring new people to our church so they can learn about You."
- 4. "Father, help our church to be a place where everyone feels welcome and loved."
- 5. "Lord, show us how we can help people in need through our church."