

Lesson #4 – Chapters and Verses

Teacher Prep: Virtual Bibles and search engines have drastically reduced the reasons for us to have to memorize the locations of our favorite Bible verses. Often, we can just “search” for them online and find them. (That is, if we already know what’s in them!) But online searches can’t take the place of us memorizing verses. As our memory verse today reminds us, we are to treasure God’s Word in our hearts, that we might not sin against Him. Even at our worst possible moment, the Holy Spirit may bring to mind a Bible verse that we have learned in the past. For this reason, we need to take every opportunity to speak the Truth of God’s Word into the lives of our students. God bless you!

Major Points: **The Bible is Made up of 66 Different Books**
These Books are Divided into Chapters and Verses
We Can Learn God’s Word from the Bible
The Holy Spirit Reminds us of All that Jesus Said

Scripture Ref:

Psalm 119:11 *Your word I have treasured in my heart,
That I may not sin against You.*

Psalm 119:105 *Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path.*

John 14:26 *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.*

Before Class: Bring your Bible, provide Bibles for the children (if possible), and consider writing down the Scripture verses (from the lesson) on slips of paper for children to read out loud during the lesson.

You may also need materials for the activities you choose.

Lesson:

The Bible is Made up of 66 Books

- *(Start with the Bible out so everyone can see it.)*
- Last time we learned that the Bible is made up of 66 different books. You can think of the Bible as a “Library” of Books.
- The Bible is made up of two large divisions: The Old and New Testaments.
- There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 Books in the New Testament.
- We are memorizing the Books of the Bible

- *Discuss Bible Book memorization and how it is going. Explain that you will all practice together again today. (If anyone was not here last time, make sure that they get the activity sheets from lesson #3 today.)*

Bible Books are Divided into Chapters and Verses

- As we discussed last time, originally the books of the Bible were written on scrolls that were rolled up.
 - The scrolls were kept at the synagogue (or church).
 - Now we have printed Bibles (as well as Bibles online).
- Back then, there were no chapters or verses marked out.
- That made it harder to talk about exactly where a verse of Scripture was found.
 - People of that time would say things like... “It is written” and then go on to quote what the verse said.
 - They could tell you which book the verse was in, but that was about it.
- Eventually, people decided to divide up the various Books of the Bible into chapters; and the chapters into verses.
 - This made it easier to find verses, and to refer to them in other writings.
- So, it is a fairly modern thing to have chapters and verses.

We can Learn God’s Word from the Bible

- There are many words in the Bible and all of them are important, because they all come from God.
- If we are wise, we will want to learn as much of the Bible as we can. Do you know why? (*Wait for answers.*)
- Remember our verse from last week: **2 Timothy 3:15-17**
*...from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom **that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.** All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; **so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.***
 - If we are not yet Christians, the Scriptures are able to give us the wisdom that leads to salvation
 - If we are already Christians, the Scriptures help us be adequate and equipped for every good work.
- Our Bible verse for today reminds us of another good reason to learn what is in the Bible:
- **Read Psalm 119:11** *Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You*
- We don’t want to sin against God. So, it’s a good idea for us to learn God’s Word.

The Holy Spirit Reminds Us of All that Jesus Said

- We can read and study the Bible. We can learn all of the Books of the Bible and we can memorize lots of verses. BUT.... Unless we can apply the meaning of those verses to our lives, they do us no good at all.
- The Holy Spirit is there to help us remember truths from the Bible when we need them most.
 - In **John 14:26**, Jesus told His Disciples: *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.*
- This reminding by the Holy Spirit helps us remember (and hopefully to apply) the Bible verses we have learned or heard in the past.
- Without the Holy Spirit, it is impossible for us to understand or correctly apply God's Word to our lives
- The Good News is that the Holy Spirit calls to each of us and He lives in the heart of each Believer.
- He is always faithful to remind us of all that Jesus said!

Let's pray and thank God for His Word and for His Holy Spirit.

Prayer: Dear God,
Thank you for giving us your Word, the Bible.
Thank you for sending us your Holy Spirit.
Thank you that the Holy Spirit reminds us of all that Jesus said.
Thank you for loving us.
We love you back!
Amen.

Suggested Activities: Pick 1-2 activities to do that will work well with your group

Bible Skills – Chapters and Verses – *The children will practice finding certain books, chapters and verses in the Bible.*

Before Class: Provide Bibles for students to work either alone or in teams of 2 with one Bible between them. Also have a Bible for yourself.

During Class: Show your Bible and review some of the things we have already learned about the Bible. (Ex: One book, but made up of many books. OT/NT. Chapters and verses in each book.) Ask the children to find the start of the OT and find the first book in the Bible ("Genesis" means "beginning") Have them find the first chapter and the first verse and read it. (Genesis 1:1) Ask the children to find the last book in the NT (Revelation) and read the last chapter and verse in Revelation. (Revelation 22:21) Have the children open their Bibles at the "middle", where they will find the Book of Psalms. The word "Psalms" basically means "songs." It contains many songs, poems, and prayers. Ask the children to find Psalms 119, which is the longest chapter in the whole Bible. Have them find the first and last

verses of this chapter. Remark about how many pages this one chapter takes up. Find Psalms 117. It is the shortest chapter in the Bible. Read through it.

Famous Scriptures – *The children will learn where some of the most well-known verses in the Bible are found, by looking them up and playing a matching game.*

Before Class: Provide Bibles and 24 index cards. On half of the index cards write part or all of the well-known Bible verse and on the other cards write the references. Bring tape or Sticky Tack to put the cards up next to each other for matching.

During Class: Allow the children to work together in teams of two, with one Bible between them. Put the index cards with the verses on them up on the wall or chalk board. Divide up the cards with the references on them among the teams of children. Have them find the Scripture verses in the Bible and read them. Then let them match their references to the correct verses. (They can tape theirs up next to the correct one.) When they are done, check their work with them. Read the verses and talk about them. Who had heard them before? Which ones do they like the best?

- John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.
- Luke 6:31** Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.
- Genesis 1:1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
- John 10:10** I came that they may have life, and have *it* abundantly.
- John 8:32** "...you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."
- Luke 2:11a** "...for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."
- Psalms 23:1** The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
- Deuteronomy 6:5** You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.
- Matthew 5:5** Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.
- Exodus 20:12a** Honor your father and your mother,
- Luke 22:42b** "... yet not My will, but Yours be done."
- John 19:30** ..."It is finished!" ...
- Philippians 4:7** And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Bible Book Trivia – *The children will match several books of the Bible with their descriptions.*

Before Class: Provide a copy of the “Bible Book Trivia!” Activity Sheet for each child in class. Also provide Bibles and pencils for the students to use.

During Class: Distribute activity sheets, Bibles and pencils to students. Ask them to follow the instructions; looking up different books in different parts of the Bible and choosing from the list that is provided to fill in the blanks with the correct answer.

Answers: 1) Genesis 2) Psalms 3) Matthew 4) Malachi 5) Revelation

NT Bible Book Puzzle - *The children will practice putting the Books of the Bible in order on a sheet of paper, after creating their own puzzle.*

Before Class: Provide one copy of the Bible Book Puzzle Activity Sheet for each child. Also provide scissors.

During Class: Pair the children in groups of two. Give each group two copies of the Activity Sheet. Ask the children to cut up ONE of the sheets, dividing up the Books of the Bible, by cutting on the lines. Then have them work together to place the cut-up pieces over their remaining intact copy of the Activity Sheet, putting the names of the Books of the Bible in the right places. After the children have done this successfully, have them take turns trying to place the names in the right order, using the intact sheet only to check their work.

Have them practice saying the names of the Books of the Bible as they put them in place. Help them with their pronunciation of the words. Keep these puzzles in class (in envelopes or plastic bags) for other times of practicing or for other projects.

Books of the Bible Memorization – *The children will continue to practice memorizing the Books of the Bible in order. (See information in Lesson #3.)*

Before Class: Make sure to have some copies of the Books of the Bible lists available in your classroom. Consider a reward system for memory work. At the end of the 12 lessons, consider having an Open House or Party for families to come and view the children’s work during this study. You could hand out certificates to the children at that time for memorizing the Books of the Bible.

During Class: Encourage the children to work together in pairs to memorize the Books of the Bible. Hand out copies of the Activity Sheets from Lesson #3 as needed to people who didn’t receive a copy last time. Ask the children to place their copies in their Bible Replicas.

Bible Book Trivia!

From the list below, choose the word that goes in each blank.

GENESIS

MATTHEW

MALACHI

REVELATION

PSALMS

This book is the first one in the Old Testament. Its name means Beginning.

This book has the most chapters in it. Its name means Songs. It is found more or less in the middle of the Bible.

This book is the first one in the New Testament. It was written by one of the Disciples of Jesus.

This book is the last one in the Old Testament. It is named after one of the Old Testament prophets.

This book is the last one in the New Testament. It talks about the things that will happen in the future.

New Testament Bible Book Puzzle!

MATTHEW	1 TIMOTHY
MARK	2 TIMOTHY
LUKE	TITUS
JOHN	PHILEMON
ACTS	HEBREWS
ROMANS	JAMES
1 CORINTHIANS	1 PETER
2 CORINTHIANS	2 PETER
GALATIANS	1 JOHN
EPHESIANS	2 JOHN
PHILIPPIANS	3 JOHN
COLOSSIANS	JUDE
1 THESSALONIANS	REVELATION
2 THESSALONIANS	