I LOVE MY BIBLE!

God's Word is a MAP

- Arrange tables and chairs.
- Pray for today's class.
- Have music playing.
- Welcome kids as they arrive and begin taking attendance.

- Chose activities to help students begin learning the books of the Bible. To aid in memorization, use the Books of the Bible Demonstration Board. Several of the following activities use Books of the Bible Cards.

  - **Book Order Races**
    Form teams and have them race using the Old or New Testament book cards to see which team can put them in order more quickly.
    OR
    Deal out the Old or New Testament book cards to all the students. Time the class to see how long it takes them to put the cards in order (on the floor at the front of the room). Repeat and have them try to beat the previous time. (Record their best time so that they can try to beat it next week.)

  - **Old or New**
    Have a student draw a random card from the deck and call out the name of the book. Then choose a student to say whether the book is in the Old or New Testament. If correct, he/she gets to draw the next card.
    OR
    Display the Books of the Bible Demonstration Board at the front of the classroom. Have students stand in a line (or if you have a larger class, just have them stand at their seats) facing the board. Make sure cards are mixed up, and then have a student begin turning cards and calling out their names. If the book called is from the Old Testament, students take a step toward their left; if it is from the New Testament, they take a step toward their right (since, as they are facing the Books of the Bible Demonstration Board, the Old Testament is on their left and the New on their right). Let the student-caller draw and call several cards; then choose a new caller. Continue in this manner as you have time or until you have gone through all the Bible book cards.
    OR
    Form two teams. Have a member of each team come to the front of the class. Randomly chose a card from the deck and call out the name of the book. As quickly as possible, each team member calls out "Old" or "New." Award a point for the speediest correct answer (or award each correct answer a point). Continue, having a new player from each team come to the front.

  - **Musical Books**
    Seat kids in a circle. Choose cards of consecutive books of the Bible equal to the number of players. Mix up the cards and give one to each player. As the music plays, players pass the cards around the circle. When the music stops, whoever has the first book in the series places his card in the center of the circle and is out of the game. Play resumes until all the cards have been placed in order. The last person to place a card gets to choose the next cards used in the game.
Lesson 6 – God’s Word is a MAP

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- **Callout-Repeat**
  Call out 3-5 books (e.g., "Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus") at a time and have students repeat them. Repeat the callout-response several times. Then call out the next 3-5 books and have them repeat those.
  VARIATION: Have a student lead the callout.

- **Pass the Beanbag (or Ball)**
  Have students stand or sit in a circle. Pass a beanbag (it can’t roll away like a ball). As each person receives the beanbag, he/she names the next book of the Bible (start wherever you’d like).
  OR
  Have the entire group call out the next book as each person receives the beanbag.
  VARIATION: From time to time call out “Freeze.” The person holding the beanbag must name the next three books in order.

- **Before or After**
  Randomly choose a card from either the Old or New Testament deck. Don’t let the students see the card. Have them try to guess the name of the book on the card by randomly naming a book. If the card you’re holding comes before the book guessed, say “Before.” If it comes after the book guessed, say “After.” Keep narrowing it down until someone guesses the correct book.

- **Memory (Concentration) Game**
  Choose several pairs of identical book cards from two Old or New Testament decks. Mix the cards and lay them out in a grid on the floor or a table. Have students take turns turning over two cards at a time, trying to find matches. If a match is found, the student gets to hold the cards. (Although in normal “memory game” rules the player gets another turn after finding a match, we usually have play pass to the next player.) The player with the most pairs at the end wins. Variation: Break into several smaller groups instead of playing with the whole group.

- **Sing the Books**
  Sing the “Old Testament Song” and/or the “New Testament Song.” Have a student point (with a pointer or play sword) to the names of the books as the group sings. Repeat several times with different students pointing.

- **Sing Memory Work Songs**
  Several of the verses students are memorizing (during small-group memory work time) have been set to music. From time to time, sing these songs during large-group time. (Visuals can be found in the tubs with the students’ memory work folders.)

- **Memorize Psalm 1 by repeating it together each week before going to small-group time. Display a posterboard with the words. Use actions to aid in memorization (see back of Psalm 1 posterboard).**

From time to time discuss the overall meaning of the passage and what specific words mean, such as: *blessed* (happy), *counsel* (advice), *ungodly* (without God, sinful), *scornful* (those who mock and are disrespectful), *delight* (enjoyment, happiness), *meditate* (think about, ponder), *wither* (dry up, die), *whatsoever* (whatever), *prosper* (succeed, do well), *chaff* (dry outer covering that is separated from grain), *judgment* (time when God judges), *congregation* (gathering of people), *righteous* (right with God), and *perish* (die, come to nothing).
• Break into smaller groups, one teacher with each group, and work with students on individualized memory work.
  o For our class, we divide into four groups: two each for 5- to 7-year-olds and 8- to 10-year-olds. (To cut down on noise and confusion, two groups may leave the room to practice verses in another classroom, the hallway, etc.)
• Work with each student on a list of Bible verses that you would like him/her to memorize. Allow students to work at their own pace (e.g., older kids not held back by younger), keeping track of their progress on charts or in workbooks.
  o We use workbooks entitled *Quick and Powerful Scriptural Concepts for Children* by Valda Johnson and Ilene Sargeant, ordered through Pentecostal Publishing House. In these, students memorize a set of six verses at a time, quoting them one at a time, then two at a time, then three at a time, etc., until they are ready to test on all six at once.
• Also allow time for the kids to quote the names of the books of the Old and Testaments in order as they learn them, as well as Psalm 1.
• Remind students that there will be prizes for those who memorize.
  o Students must pass with a score of 80 percent or better when working in their *Quick and Powerful* workbooks.
• Remind students that during Bible Memory Work time, everyone must be working! Encourage them to work together to memorize verses, as opposed to distracting each other.
• Coloring pages are available to help occupy visitors (or younger/distracted students) while their classmates are quoting verses.
• As students achieve memory work goals, reward them during a large-group time so that everyone can congratulate them on their accomplishments.

• Ask review questions from previous lessons. See “I LOVE MY BIBLE! Review Questions.” Ideas (keep in mind that you only have about 10 minutes):
  o Toss out candy for correct answers.
  o Form teams and play Bible baseball.
  o Form teams and play tic-tac-toe. (A correct answer allows a team to place its “X” or “O.”)
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RULES & PRAYER

(Leader/Teacher)

_____ - _____:____
(5 min.)

BIBLE LESSON

(Leader/Teacher)

_____ - _____:____
(15 min.)

Play musical chairs. If student answers a question correctly, he/she is NOT out.

• Go over rules (Power Hour Promises) by calling on students to read/remember the rules.
• Pray together for the class. (Take individual requests from students only as time allows.)


Items Needed: Various maps (including a local city or state map) and GPS devices; Me on the Map by Joan Sweeney (check library); Bible; “Map” visual.

Show students the maps and discuss the following questions.

• Can you show me where you live on this map? (allow time for the students to show you things on the map, as well as for you to point out things to them)
• Why do we need maps? (to figure out how to get where we want to go, to keep from getting lost, to help us get back on track after we get lost, etc.)

Read Me on the Map by Joan Sweeney to the class, showing them the pictures.

• Could you make a map to show someone the way from the church to your house? (discuss)
• What if you made a mistake on your map and drew your house south of the church when it was really north? What would happen to me if I tried to follow your map to get to your house? (I would get lost)
• Have you ever been lost? How did it make you feel?

It’s important for maps to be accurate. If they’re not, we can’t trust them to get us where we want to go.

• How is the Bible like a map? (Allow responses and then discuss the following.)
   God’s Word shows us that there are two destinations: “death” and “eternal life.”
Read from your Bible or have a student quote Romans 6:23.
- God’s Word shows us where we are: sin has separated us from God.

Read from your Bible or have a student quote Romans 3:23.
- God’s Word shows us the way God made for us to get to our desired destination: eternal life—Heaven:
  Read Romans 5:8 from your Bible.
  Read Acts 2:36-37 from your Bible and then have students quote verse 38 with you.

We can trust that the Bible is an accurate map. We will not be lost if we read and follow it.

Read Psalm 18:30 from your Bible.
- What does it mean when it says, “the word of the LORD is tried”? (God’s Word has been tested and found to be true and accurate)

Have a student attach the “Map” visual to board.

Are you following God’s map to eternal life? If you need to repent, let’s do so right now. If you need to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, let’s discuss it with your parents as soon as possible. If you need to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, let’s ask Jesus for it as we pray right now.

Lead the kids in prayer—response to lesson.

Familiarize students with the structure of the Bible and the names of all the books, using the Books of the Bible Demonstration Board.

- How many books are in the Old Testament? (39—3 letters in “OLD” and 9 letters in “TESTAMENT”)
- How many books are in the New Testament? (27 = 3 letters in “NEW” x 9 letters in “TESTAMENT”)
- How many books are in the entire Bible? (66)
- What are the divisions of the Old Testament? (Law, History, Poetry, Prophecy)
- What are the books of Poetry? (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon)
Hand out Bibles. Remind students to handle Bibles carefully and to help younger students find verses. Teachers will need to assist students until they become familiar with finding verses in the Bible.

The books of Poetry are in the middle of your Bible. Open your Bible in the middle and find Proverbs 14:12.

Have a student read Proverbs 14:12 to the class.

Sometimes we think we know the right way, but then it leads to death. We can’t trust ourselves to know the way. To find out whom we can trust, turn back 11 chapters to Proverbs 3:5-6.

Have a student(s) read Proverbs 3:5-6 to the class.

- Who is the only one we can trust to know and show us the right way? (the LORD)

Choose a couple of students to carefully collect the Bibles.

ACTIVITY/SNACK

Supplies: A “Map Drawing Page” for each student
Pencils, crayons, etc.
Me on the Map by Joan Sweeney
Snacks and/or drinks, if desired
Cups, plates/bowls, and napkins as necessary

(Before class, make copies of "Map Drawing Page." Also, draw a map of your own to serve as an example for the students.)

Remind students: God’s Word is a true and accurate map to show us the way to eternal life.

Briefly show the students Me on the Map (which was read during the Bible Lesson). Using the examples in the book, encourage each student to make as accurate a map as possible of his/her room, house, street, town, state, country, or world. Show students your example map, and then give them “Map Drawing Pages,” pencils, crayons, etc., so they can draw.

Serve snacks and/or drinks if desired.