

# I LOVE MY BIBLE!

8

## God's Word is Our MEASURE

(standard of measurement)

All Staff  
Pre-Class

MEMORY WORK -  
LARGE GROUP

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Leader/Teacher)

\_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_  
(15 min.)

- 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.

- **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).

## MEMORY WORK - SMALL GROUP

All Staff

\_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
(15 min.)

- Break into smaller groups, one teacher with each group, and work with students on individualized memory work.
  - 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.
  - 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.
  - 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.

## REVIEW

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(Leader/Teacher)

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(10 min.)

- Ask review questions from previous lessons. See "I LOVE MY BIBLE! Review Questions." Ideas (keep in mind that you only have about 10 minutes):
  - Toss out candy for correct answers.
  - Form teams and play Bible baseball.
  - Form teams and play tic-tac-toe. (A correct answer allows a team to place its "X" or "O.")
  - Play musical chairs. If student answers a question correctly, he/she is NOT out.

## RULES & PRAYER

(Leader/Teacher)

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(5 min.)

- 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.)

## BIBLE LESSON

(Leader/Teacher)

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(15 min.)

Teacher Prep: Read Deuteronomy 25:14-16, Exodus 20:1-17, Matthew 22:37-39, Luke 6:31, and 2 Corinthians 10:12-13. Pray for anointing.

Items Needed: Various measuring devices such as a ruler, yardstick, tape measure, protractor, scale, balance, thermometer, clock, barometer, etc.; Bible; Ten Commandments display board (or other Ten Commandments visual); "Golden Rule Ruler"; "Measure" visual.

**Demonstrate the various measuring devices by asking questions such as:**

- What is this device?
- What does this measure?
- Can you show me how to use this?

When people first started measuring length and width, they often used their fingers, palms, arms, and feet. For example, they might say, "The table is 3 arms long."

- What's the problem with measuring things this way? (*people's fingers, palms, arms, and feet come in all different sizes*)  
Briefly compare the size of your hands, arms, and feet with a couple of students'.

Eventually, in order to make things fair for buyers and sellers, governments set up official *standard* measurements for things such as inches, centimeters, feet, miles, ounces, pounds, cups, gallons, liters, etc.

- What are some occupations (jobs) in which accurate, standard measurements are especially important?  
(*construction worker, grocer, carpenter, baker, architect, carpet layer, scientist, engineer, designer, seamstress, pilot,*

*meteorologist , etc.)* Briefly discuss the consequences of inaccurate measurements in some of these occupations.

Accurate and honest measurements are very important to God! Listen to what He says about this in Deuteronomy 25:14-16 (NIRV®):

<sup>14</sup> And don't have two different sets of measures. You must not have one set that measures things larger than they really are and another that measures them smaller than they are. <sup>15</sup> You must use weights and measures that are honest and exact. Then you will live a long time in the land the Lord your God is giving you. <sup>16</sup> He hates anyone who cheats."

God Himself always measures honestly and accurately. And He measures our lives by His Word.

- Can you think of some measures or rules in God's Word?

Discuss the following:

- The Ten Commandments (*show display board*)
- The Greatest Commandments (*read or have a student read Matthew 22:37-39 from your Bible*)
- The Golden Rule (*show "Golden Rule Ruler"*)

We should never measure ourselves by *other people* or by what we *think* we should do or by what we *feel* is right. That's like using fingers, arms, and feet to measure things. Measure your life, your behavior, by God's Word.

Read 2 Corinthians 10:12-13 from the "Measure" visual and have a student attach it to the board.

Let's pray right now and thank God that His Word is the true and accurate Measure for our lives. Let's ask Him to help us obey His Word so that our behavior will measure up to the Golden Rule.

Lead the kids in prayer—response to lesson.

## BIBLE SKILLS

(Leader/Teacher)

(15 min.)

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"*)
- **What are the divisions of the Old Testament?** (*Law, History, Poetry, Prophecy*)
- **What are the names of the books of Law?** (*Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy*)

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.

During the Bible Lesson we talked about the Ten Commandments. These are found in two of the books of Law. Let's find them first in Exodus, chapter 20. (Some of you may have memorized these, but we're still going to look them up so that you can see where to find them in your Bible.)

Have various students read Exodus 20:3, 4, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 to the class. The teacher should read verse 17, substituting "donkey."

Now turn the pages of your Bible through the rest of Exodus, past Leviticus and Numbers, and to the book of Deuteronomy, chapter 5.

Have various students read Deuteronomy 5:7, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 to the class. The teacher should read verse 21, substituting "donkey."

You can see that both lists are in the same order with minor changes in wording. Remember that God gave us the Ten Commandments as a Measure for our lives: rules to live by.

Briefly quiz the students on a few of the Commandments, asking them what the first or fifth (etc.) Commandment is. You can use the Ten Commandments display board as a visual aid.

Choose a couple of students to carefully collect the Bibles.

## ACTIVITY/SNACK

(Leader/Teacher)

(15 min.)

Supplies: "God's Word is Our Measure Activity Page"  
"Golden Rule Ruler"  
Crayons and pencils  
Fruit by the Foot snack

Before class, make copies of the "God's Word is Our Measure Activity Page," one per student. Copy the "Golden Rule Rulers" onto cardstock and then cut the rulers apart so that you can give one to each student (there are seven rulers on the page).

Remind students: **The Bible is our Measure. We shouldn't compare ourselves to other people, only to God's Word.**

Give each student a "God's Word is Our Measure Activity Page" and a "Golden Rule Ruler," along with crayons and pens/pencils. Help them complete the page. They may also wish to color their ruler yellow/gold.

Give each student some "Fruit by the Foot" to snack on while completing the activity page.

**OTHER IDEA:** Post a growth chart and measure everyone's height. In a few weeks or months (end of quarter or year), re-measure everyone so they can see how much they've grown. Remind them: **Though we may compare our height to others, we should only compare our lives to God's Word. That is the true Measure.**

If time remains, play a game from "Memory Work—Large Group" or sing some memory work songs.