

Alley Rundown - August 3-4, 2019

Bible Story: I'll Remember (What is the Bible) • *Psalm 119:105*

Key Question: Why is the Bible important?

Bottom Line: When you learn about God, it's easier to follow Him.

Memory Verse: "And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love." 2 John 6 (NIV)

CONNECT TIME: Bible Bowl

What You Need: 2 Bibles, buzzer (1 per Campus)

What You Do:

- Divide your group into two teams.
- Place the buzzer on a table.
- Select one kid from each team, and have them line up on each side of the buzzer. Place a Bible on either side of the buzzer on the table.
- The first player from each team will stand on either side of the buzzer with their hands on the Bible. Explain that they **MUST** keep both their hands on the Bible until you finish reading the question.
- Ask the questions below.
- The first kid to tap the buzzer has the opportunity to answer first. If correct, that team gets a point. If incorrect, the other team has a chance to answer and earn a point.
- If a child taps the buzzer first and then is unsure, he or she may get help from teammates!
- **Note: If you have kids who are visiting for the first time or may not have a background of Bible knowledge, many questions below are written so that they can look up the answer. For those kids, make sure you choose a question that "requires" them to look in the Bible for the answer. To ensure that everyone feels comfortable and no one is "put on the spot," you can change the game to require that kids use the table of contents and look up the answer to each question.**

Bible Bowl Questions:

1. What are the two main parts of the Bible? (*Old and New Testaments*)
2. When you want to find a book of the Bible, what should you check in the very front of the Bible? (*table of contents*)
3. True or False: We find the story of creation in the FIRST book of the Bible. (*true*)
4. True or False: The New Testament—the second part of the Bible—tells us about Jesus and the early church. (*true*)
5. Look in the table of contents. How many books are in the Bible? (*66*)
6. Name a book in the "Law" part of the Bible. (Hint: It's one of the first five books in the Old Testament.) Name one of them. (*Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, or Deuteronomy*)
7. Name one of the Gospels—the books that tell us about Jesus' life on earth. (Hint: It's one of the first four books in the New Testament.) (*Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John*)
8. Name the first book of the Bible. (*Genesis*)
9. Name the last book of the Bible. (*Revelation*)
10. Look up John 3:16. When you find it, tap the buzzer and read it aloud.
11. Who were the first two people God created? (Hint: The answer is found in Genesis 3:20) (*Adam and Eve*)
12. Look up Psalm 119:105. When you find it, tap the buzzer and read it aloud.
13. Look up Matthew 2:1. Where was Jesus born? (*Bethlehem*)
14. What is the last word in the Bible? (*Amen*)
15. Who defeated the giant Goliath? (*David*)
16. Who was swallowed by a big fish? (*Jonah*)
17. How many books are in the Old Testament? (*39*)
18. How many books are in the New Testament? (*27*)
19. Look up 2 John 6. When you find it, tap the buzzer and read it aloud.
20. Look up Jeremiah 29:11. What 2 things does God promise to give us? (*Hope and a Future*)

What You Say:

“Great job, Bible bowlers! There is SO much awesome, amazing, life changing truth in the Bible. It is like NO other book! **It’s God’s story—one BIG story—and it is epic. Great job everyone!**”

NOTE: Share an age-appropriate personal story about your first encounter with the words of the Bible. Be honest, open, and share what you did/did not understand.

Example Below:

“When I was about your age, I had a buddy named Mitch. He was the cool friend who was always in the know with all the latest social happenings around town. One day, Mitch came to me with a proposition: his parents were sending him off to a week-long camp, and he wanted me to come along as his buddy!”

“Did I know what kind of camp? Nope! Did I know where the camp was located? Nope! Did I even care? Nope! All I knew was cool Mitch was going, and I wanted to tag along. When we arrived to camp, I learned it was a Christian camp where you go to not only have fun but also to learn about God. I had never been to a Christian camp before, but that didn’t scare me too much because my buddy, Mitch, was with me.”

“At camp, we did all the typical camp activities. We made s’mores, we played tug of war, and we swam in the lake . . . it was a Grand Old Time. We even wiped out hardcore on the snow tubes. However, there was one part of camp that confused me a bit. The counselors kept making reference to this one book. During rec time . . . they talked about the book. Before lunch . . . they talked about the book. During team activities . . . they talked about the book. First thing in the morning, last thing before bed, they talked about this book! Mitch knew about the book and even brought his own copy. There was hardly a point during the day when they WEREN’T talking about this book, and it wasn’t long before I found myself asking, “Okay . . . what IS the BIG DEAL with this book they were calling the Bible?”

*“This was my first introduction to the Bible. Prior to this camp, my understanding of the Bible was very limited. I’d heard people like my grandparents say the Bible was important, but just because my grandparents valued it didn’t mean I did, too. But my perspective started to change while I was at camp. The leaders and even my friend kept implying this book—the Bible—was incredibly important. They didn’t just talk about its significance; they also **showed** its significance. They used what is written in the Bible to help answer really big questions. But it never really made sense to me. I did not place the same importance on the Bible as everyone else, mostly because it was something new to me that I didn’t fully understand.”*

[Transition]

“As I describe my experience with the Bible, I can’t help but wonder if there are others of you who have also wondered what makes the Bible such a big deal. The stories are thousands of years old. The main characters lived a life very different from what we see today with no space ships or even aluminum foil. On top of that, the sentences, or verses, aren’t always easy to understand.”

“You may even be wondering if the Bible is still relevant or even useful because of how old it is. If that’s you, I am so glad you’re here today because we are kicking off this month by exploring the significance of this book and how it can help us journey through life. Let’s take a look at this week’s episode!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 16:30)

“As you think about this book (*holding up Bible*), we want you to remember it’s not JUST a book. It’s THE story of God written down. All of our small group leaders and I want you to know that these are the words and stories and moments from history that God wants us to know for ourselves. These words are meant to be read, noticed, and used to help us grow in our relationships with God. Inside this book, we learn that God is powerful enough to make the entire universe. He is smart enough to help you with anything. But we also learn that this all-powerful, all-knowing God loves you more than anything. And the Bible is one of the best places to learn about God’s love and how that can change . . . well, everything!”

“Thousands of years ago, David—yep, that same David who defeated the giant—wrote songs, many of which we can still read in the Book of Psalms. Listen to how he describes how God’s Word can help us. He says, *(Read directly from Psalm 119:105) ‘Your word is like a lamp that shows me the way. It is a like a light that guides me.’*”

“The Bible can guide for us as we face the uncertainty of life. And ultimately the Bible is the story of Jesus. The proof of God’s love is the fact He sent His Son, Jesus, to earth to live a perfect life. When Jesus died on the cross, He did it because of His love for us. After three days, Jesus defeated death and came back to life! When we believe in Jesus, we receive life that lasts forever. The Bible lights the path that leads to Jesus!”

“All told . . . there’s a lot of stuff we can discover in the Bible! We want to challenge all of you to read it. Whether you read from your own Bible, a friend’s Bible, your grandmother’s Bible, or a Bible app, it is important to find time to read it. If you can, try to read from God’s Word every day. Don’t know where to start? Try those first four books of the New Testament, the Gospels, that help us know more about Jesus. Even if it is a short amount, reading the Bible can become a habit. And this daily routine can help you know God. And any time you’re not quite sure what you’re reading, be sure to ask your parents or leaders at church the questions you have about the Bible. They’d love to help you work through all of those.”

“For many in this room who grew up coming to church, you’ve likely heard it’s important to read your Bible. Maybe you can even rattle off all kinds of facts and stories found within it. If that’s you, keep reading! You can always learn something new about God or yourself by reading from the Bible. For the rest of you, you’re in good company. No one will ever know all there is to know about God. But the Bible is a great place to start.”

CG: Key Question Slide

"As you head out today, we have question for all of you to think about: **Why is the Bible important?** How does this book written thousands of years ago still play a role in people’s lives? Why do they continue to read it and talk about it? But it’s ok if you’re not sure how to answer those questions. You’ll get a chance to talk more about them in Small Group, but before you head there, let’s pray and thank God for inspiring all of those people to write down."

Lead group in a prayer related to what they just heard, lead offering, and then dismiss kids to Small Group.

OFFERING TIME:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

CG: Nairobi Facts JPEG

“Offering Time is important here in the Alley, because it gives you all an opportunity to worship God by giving your money generously. Here at *(your campus)*, we give our offering to help support *(your campus child)* in Kenya. Our offering goes to show kindness to them by buying clothes, and food, and other materials they may need. We have a picture of some facts about Kenya where *(campus child)* lives! If you brought an offering today, you may place it in our Alley Offering Bin *(point children to location of bin)*

CG: Alley Offering Bin JPEG

...when the video plays. If not, that's ok too. You can bring an offering next week. The Bible tells us this about bringing our offerings to Him..."

CG: Offering Verse JPEG (Acts 20:35)

(Invite students to place their offerings in bin)

NOTE: No Worship Experience this weekend due to Connect Time "Bible Quiz"

Dismiss to Small Groups.