



Books of the Bible - Lesson 3

All Grades

Principle: The Bible is God's Word for us. His Word should be what shapes our view of Him and what informs every aspect of our lives.

Scripture Reference: 2 Timothy 3:16



PERSONAL PREPARATION: The challenge for us this week is to tell God's story to our campers in its entirety. We want our campers to leave these lessons knowing that the Bible is one story, God's story. It's all connected and shows us who He is and points to Christ, our hope and Redeemer. The one who paid the price for our sin so that we could be called children of God.

PLUG IN TIME - 5-10 minutes as the kids begin to arrive

Arrive early to check the supplies in the bin and review the lesson. Write today's principle on the whiteboard. Remember to greet all campers upon arrival; meet their parents; welcome and introduce all visitors. Create a welcoming cabin for all campers!

Books of the Bible Board Game

Over the course of the three-week *Books of the Bible* series we will learn more about God's Word and practice practical ways to increase our knowledge of the Bible. Start class each week by playing the Books of the Bible Board Game to help your campers learn the names of the books of the Bible. (Teachers – At the end of the game, please use the binder clips to clip the two sets of cards (Old Testament and New Testament) back together and put the pawns, die, and timer back in the orange container or bag so that everything is set for the next class.)



BIG GROUP TIME - 35-40 minutes

As you line up, remind campers we are going to have fun as an entire Camp Grace group! We are going to live out GRACE by **Glorifying God** through worship, **Respecting All Leaders**, and **Accepting Responsibility** to listen with attentive ears, minds, and hearts – fully **Celebrating Christ** with passion! We should **Encourage Others** to do the same, by not distracting them from their worship of God.

Small Group Time - 25-30 minutes

Getting Started

If your cabin did well in Big Group, acknowledge it. If not, take a couple of minutes to talk about how they can do better next time.

Our third and final lesson on the books of the Bible is going to be a review. We will spend our small group time reviewing by doing the following activities.

Memory Verse Telephone



The purpose is for campers continue working on memorizing the memory verse and to be reminded that the Bible was inspired by God.

Who was here for the first week of the Books of the Bible lessons? Do you remember when we played the “Telephone” game, where we went around the circle, and whispered Bible passages to each other? It was pretty funny to see how bad we were at getting the message to the last person, wasn’t it? But we learned that the reason we couldn’t get it right is because we are imperfect people. We’re not like God, who is perfect and holy. We know that the words in the Bible are exactly what God wants us to know because God told the writers what He wanted to say. He *inspired* them.

Our memory verse from the past two weeks uses that word – *inspired*. How many of you have been working on memorizing our memory verse? Can anyone say it out loud now? (Allow volunteers to recite it. If no one volunteers, do it together as a group.)

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.” 2 Timothy 3:16

Let’s play a round of “Telephone” right now. I’ll start. (Whisper the memory verse into the ear of the camper beside you. Have the campers go around the circle, whispering the verse into the next person’s ear. When the passage reaches the last person in the circle, have him or her say it out loud. You may need/want to break the verse into shorter phrases and do a few rounds instead of one long one. Since this has been the memory verse for the last couple weeks, they should be able to relay it better than a verse they’re not familiar with. If they do not get the passage correct, work on the memory verse a little longer.)

Bible Timeline



The purpose is for campers to look at the Bible as one complete story – God’s story.

Supplies:

Set of timeline images (1 set of 15 per bin)
Bag of 20 clothespins (1 per bin)
Painter’s Tape (if campus without clothesline)
Clothesline

What is the Bible? (Allow time for answers. The responses will likely be broad in nature. We want to get to a point where the campers know and understand that the Bible is GOD'S STORY. It's not our story – it's not about us. Help steer the responses and conversation to that end.) **The Bible is God's story. We can read the Bible to learn more about God and in doing so, we can learn about what He wants for us in our lives. The Bible is true – it's not a fairy tale that God made up, but it's His account of His own story.**

Scatter the images face-up in the middle of the table. Explain to the campers that you are going to walk through the narrative, or story, of Scripture and as you do so, they should find the image that represents that part of God's story. When the correct picture is spotted, have a camper hang it on the clothesline. Move from left to right to create a timeline of pictures and Scripture. Start by just saying the event (below), but if they're having a hard time finding the right picture, you can read the related verse which is the same as the one on the card. (If you don't have to read the verse, you could have the camper who is hanging the card read the verse aloud.)

As images are hung (taped to wall or lined up on table or floor), have the class share what they know about each event. Help them dig in further into what we learn about God through these different parts of His story. Help them see that this is about GOD and what we can learn from and about Him, not about US. See the "some key points" below to use as prompts, if need be.

1. God created the world and everything in it: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." Genesis 1:1

Some key points: God spoke everything into existence (Gen 1:3, 6, 9, 14, 20, 24); God existed before the world (and us); Father/Son/Holy Spirit were all there when the earth began (Gen 1:1); He created the world in six days and rested on the seventh (Gen 2:1-3); etc.

2. God made man and woman: "So God created human beings in his own image...male and female he created them." Genesis 1:27

Some key points: God breathed life into Adam and Eve and into each of us (Gen 2:7); He loves us greatly and created us to live in relationship with Him and with others (Gen 2:18); etc.

3. God gave man and woman one rule and they disobeyed: "So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too." from Genesis 3:6

Some key points: Because God is holy, Adam and Eve were separated from Him when they disobeyed (Gen 3:8); disobeying God is called sin; when we sin, we are separated from God because He is holy (Gen 3:23); etc.

4. God was saddened by all the sin and told Noah He was going to flood the earth: "Look! I am about to cover the earth with a flood that will destroy every living thing that breathes. Everything on earth will die. But I will confirm my covenant with you..." Genesis 6:17, 18

Some key points: God saw all the terrible sin and corruption on earth and it broke His heart (Gen 6:5); God saw that Noah was a righteous man (Gen 6:9) and chose to save him and his family (along with two of every animal) (Gen 6:17-21); Noah obeyed God's commands (Gen 6:22) to build an ark and he was saved; etc.

5. God gave Noah and all creatures on earth a sign of His promise: "I have placed my rainbow in the clouds. It is the sign of my covenant with you and with all the earth." Genesis 9:13

Some key points: God promised He'd never send a flood to destroy all life (Gen 9:15); when God makes a new covenant the old one is no longer in place (Heb 8:13); God always keeps His promises; etc.

6. God made a promise to Abraham: "...Look up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That's how many descendants you will have!" Genesis 15:5

Some key points: God promised to protect Abraham, give him many descendants (sons and daughters), and the entire land of Canaan (Gen 15:4, 17:8); Abraham believed God and God called him righteous because of his faith (Gen 15:6); etc.

7. God heard the cries of the Israelite slaves and knew it was time to rescue them: "...the Israelites continued to groan under the burden of slavery [to the Egyptians]. They cried out for help, and their cry rose up to God. God heard their groaning and he remembered his covenant promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He looked down on the people of Israel and knew it was time to act." Exodus 2:23-25

Some key points: The Egyptians made the Israelites their slaves (Ex 1:11) and treated them without mercy (Ex 1:13) – they worked them tirelessly; they were slaves for many years; they cried out to God and He heard (and answered) their cries (Ex 2:23-25); etc.

8. God appeared to Moses in a burning bush and instructed him to lead the people out of Egypt: "You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt." "God answered, 'I will be with you. And this is your sign that I am the one who has sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at this very mountain.'" from Exodus 3:10, 12

Some key points: God spoke to Moses through a burning bush (Ex 3:1-4); Moses covered his face because he was afraid to look at God (he feared God) (Ex 3:6); God called Moses to lead the people out of Egypt (Ex 3:10); Moses was afraid, wasn't sure if he could do what God was asking, and wasn't sure if the people would believe him, that he'd been sent by God to lead them (Ex 3:11-13); God promised to be with Moses and the people and gave Moses what he needed to convince the people that he was called by God (God provided) (Ex 3:14-15, 4:2-6); etc.

9. God gave the people the 10 commandments: "Then God gave the people these instructions." Exodus 20:1

Some key points: The 10 commandments are... (Ex 20:1-17); God loves His people so much and wanted to be with them, He gave them these rules to keep them from sinning so they could be in communion with Him (and keep the covenant) (Ex 20:20); etc.

10. God sent Jesus to be born and live a perfect life: "For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders..." from Isaiah 9:6 // "She gave birth to her first child, a son..." from Luke 2:7

Some key points: Jesus was conceived and born in a supernatural way (Isa 7:14, Matt 1:18); He lived a perfect, sinless life; He was pure and holy and lived unlike all the other people, so that He could be the sacrifice for our sins (an imperfect lamb was not a suitable sacrifice) (Ex 12:5, Rom 3:25); etc.

11. Jesus (God) performed many miracles: "The disciples saw Jesus do many other miraculous signs in addition to the ones recorded in this book." John 20:30

Some key points: Have campers name some of the miracles (water to wine, feeding 5,000, walking on water, healing the sick, raising the dead, calming the storm, giving sight to the blind, etc); Jesus was fully God and fully man – He lived and walked on earth like we do (except without sin!), but had supernatural powers as God; etc.

12. Jesus took our sins upon Himself and died on the cross: “He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By his wounds you are healed.” 1 Peter 2:24

Some key points: Crucifixion was a terrible way to die; Jesus was fulfilling God’s will by taking on our sin and being our sacrifice (John 19:28-29); things that were told in the Old Testament happened in the New Testament (Isaiah 53:4-5, John 19:31-37); the sins of the world were placed on Jesus while He hung on the cross and for that moment He was separated from God, as we are when we sin (Matt 27:46, 2 Cor 5:21); because of His sacrifice, we can be “dead to sin” and be in communion with God (1 Pet 2:24); etc.

13. Jesus conquered death and rose from the grave: “He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying.” Matthew 28:6

Some key points: Jesus had been laid to rest in a tomb with a large stone (Mark 15:46) and the tomb was sealed (Matt 27: 62-66); on the third day (Sabbath), Mary Magdalene and Mary went to visit and an angel told them Jesus wasn’t there – He’s risen, just as He said He would (Matt 28:6); they went to tell the disciples; Jesus met with the disciples and gave them “The Great Commission” (Matt 28:19-20) – ask campers what that is; etc.

14. Jesus ascended (went up to) Heaven: “...He was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him.” Acts 1:9

Some key points: Jesus blessed the disciples and was lifted up to heaven (Luke 24:51); Jesus ascended into heaven but will someday return in the same way He left (Acts 1:11, Matt 24:30-31)

15. God creates a new world and those who believe in Christ Jesus will be in communion with Him: “I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them.” Revelation 21:3

Some key points: God will defeat Satan forever (Rev 20:10); God will cast final judgment (Rev 20:11-15); those who believe and trust in Jesus are written in the Book of Life and will live with God in the new world (paradise) forever (Rev 21:3-7); etc.

True or False



The purpose is for campers to review some of the facts we’ve learned about the Bible.

Supplies:

“True” and “False” signs (1 of each per bin)

Establish a “True” and a “False” side of the room by hanging the “True” and “False” signs on the walls. Explain that after you read something about the Bible, campers need to decide whether your statement is true or false and run (if the class is too large, have them walk to avoid chaos and injury!) to the corresponding side of the room.

Tip for 3rd-4th grade: Let older kids take turns being the caller. Could also encourage them to think of different true and false statements to make about Bible.

1. The Bible has two main sections – the Old Testament and the New Testament. [TRUE]
2. “Gospel” means “Good News.” [TRUE]
3. The Bible is a collection of fairy tales. [FALSE]
4. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are the first four books of the Old Testament. [FALSE]
5. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are the first four books of the New Testament and tell about Jesus’ life on earth. [TRUE]
6. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are collectively known as “the Gospels.” [TRUE]
7. Genesis, the first book of the Bible, means “the beginning.” [TRUE]
8. The Bible is God’s Word. [TRUE]
9. David liked to listen to music on his phone. [FALSE]
10. The book of Acts tells us about the early church. [TRUE]
11. The book of Exodus tells us about Moses leading God’s people out of Egypt. [TRUE]
12. Noah’s sons Shem, Ham & Japheth water-skied behind the ark. [FALSE]
13. Revelation is the last book of the Bible. [TRUE]
14. Mary Magdalene and Mary found Jesus’ body in the tomb and laid flowers on His grave. [FALSE]
15. Jesus came back to life after He died on the cross. [TRUE]

Tie It Together



Remember, the Bible is one big story (even though it’s divided into lots of smaller books and events). Whose story is it? (God’s.) That’s right. It’s God’s story – and it’s a great one, isn’t it? Yeah, there’s some scary and sad stuff in it – sin, the flood, people dying...but overall, it’s a story of God’s incredible power, love, mercy, and grace. You can see through the different parts we’ve talked about (point to the images on the clothesline) that everything in the Bible is connected – the smaller parts weave together to make up one big story and it all shows us who God is and points to Christ, our Savior and Redeemer who paid the price for our sin so that we could be called children of God. And as we read in Revelation, anyone who believes in Him is written in the Book of Life and will live with God in new world forever. That is GREAT news!

End-of-Class Activity Ideas – As Time Allows

- Review some of the helpful guides in the [Hands-On Bible](#) and how they work.
- Make sure campers who were not here for Lesson 2 have a Books of the Bible bookmark. Remind campers to use their new bookmarks to mark places in their Bibles at home, but also to help them learn the books of the Old and New Testaments.
- Go over the memory verse and the books of the Bibles again. Make up hand motions, chants, beats – things that will help them memorize the verse and the books once they’re outside of class.

Prayer Time

Spend a few minutes in prayer to finish small group time. Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and pay the punishment of our sin. Ask Him to help us to love others as God loves, by living in a way that brings glory to His name.



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