



# Books of the Bible – Types of Books and Review Lesson

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:** We want to begin the new year with a “Books of the Bible” review for our campers.

In the fall we taught three lessons covering the following topics:

Week One: We learned how the Bible came to be, how it is laid out, why it’s important, and how we can use it to learn more about God and how to live our lives.

Week Two: We explored the features found in the Bible and how to use them.

Week Three: We walked through the story of the Bible in its entirety.

This week we are going to learn the types of the books in the Bible. Then we will spend the remainder of our lesson time rotating through review stations that will help campers engage in active learning and review. There will be no Big Group today so that we can rotate through the review stations. Your coach will give campus specific directions about where stations will be set up.

## 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

Start class by playing the Books of the Bible Board Game to help your campers review the names of the books of the Bible. (Teachers – Use binder clips to clip the two sets of cards (Old Testament and New Testament) back together at the end of the game.



## NO BIG GROUP TODAY

Instead of Big Group today, we are going to spend time together working through stations that will help us review the books of the Bible together.

### Small Group Time - 25-30 minutes

#### Getting Started

##### Supplies:

Bibles

Bible Bookshelf Coloring Sheet (one per camper)

Books of the Bible Bookmark (one per camper)

Markers or Crayons

Hand out Bibles to the campers – have campers pair up and share as needed. Spend a few minutes reviewing what we have learned about the Bible. Show your campers the Table of Contents located at the beginning of the Bible. Point out the Old Testament in the front, and the New Testament in the back. Ask them to count the (or tell you if they remember) books in the OT and the NT. Ask them how many books there are total. (66)

Who remembers the Books of the Bible lessons we did in the fall? Well, today we are going to have some fun reviewing what we learned. Who remembers how many books are in the Bible total? That's right, 66 books in all. Who remembers how many OT books? (39) And how many books are there in the NT? (27). But did you know that we can also sort the Bible into types of books? Let's look at this Bible poster handout together. (Each camper gets a poster. You can also pass out the extra bookmarks for reference if needed). Notice that the books are bundled together in groups. And under each group is the type of book. Let's read them together. (Read the types of books out loud together). How many types of books are there in the Old Testament? (5) How many types of books are in the New Testament? (5)

The first type of books in the Old Testament are books of the Law. Let's call these *"The beginnings."* These books tell how God made the world, chose His people, and gave them rules to help them live His way. Let's read the names of the books of the Law together. Color the books of the Law a shade of green.

The next type of book are the books of History. We can call these *"The story of God's people."* These books tell what happened to God's people—battles, kings, adventures, and how God took care of them. Who can read the names of the books of History for us? Color the books of History any shade of blue.

Poetry and Wisdom books are next. These can be called *"Songs and wise words."*

These books are songs, prayers, and poems that help us worship God and learn how to make good choices. Can someone read the books of Poetry and Wisdom for us? Color the books of Poetry and Wisdom another shade of green.

The Major Prophets books are next. They can be called *"Big messages from God."* These prophets told God's people messages straight from God—warnings, hope, and promises about the Savior. Let's read the books of the Major Prophets together. Color the Major Prophets orange.

And the last type of book in the Old Testament is the Minor Prophets. These are *"Short messages from God."* These prophets also shared God's truth, but their books are shorter. They remind us to follow God with our whole hearts. Let's take turns reading the books of the Minor Prophets. Color the Minor Prophets red.

The first type of books in the New Testament is the Gospels. The best way to describe these books is *"The story of Jesus."* These four books tell about Jesus' birth, life, miracles, teachings, death, and resurrection. Someone read the names of the Gospels. Let's color the Gospels red.

The New Testament also has one book of History called Acts. This is where *"The church begins."* Acts tells how Jesus' followers shared the Good News and how the first churches were started. Color Acts orange.

The next twenty-one books are all "Letters" but we can divide them into two groups. The first group we can call "Letters of Paul". Who do you think wrote these letters? That's right. It was Paul! We can call these *"Letters to churches and friends from Paul."*

Paul wrote these letters to help believers learn about Jesus, grow in their faith, and live in a way that honors God. Let's take turns going around the table reading each book Paul wrote. Color Paul's letters any color you choose.

The next group of letters are called the "General Letters". These were *"Letters from other church leaders."* These letters were written by leaders like Peter, James, John, and others. They teach us to trust God, love others, and stand strong in our faith. Color these letters any color you choose.

And the very last book in the bible is Revelation. It is a book of Prophecy. We can call it *"The end of the story – and the beginning."* Revelation gives hope. It tells us that Jesus is King and that one day He will come again to make everything new. Color Revelation red.

## Book Type Sort



**The purpose is to review the types of books and sort them onto bookshelf posters**

Supplies:

Set of bookshelf posters with blank book bindings (one per class)

Set of book names (one per class)

Scissors (one per child)

**Let's practice sorting the types of books on the bookshelf posters.** Pass out the sheets with the list of book names. Have the campers help neatly cut them out so that they can be placed on the blank book binding on the poster. Please keep these in the baggie in your bin for the next class. Once all the books are cut out, lay each bookshelf sheet in order on the table. Spread out all the book names and have campers use their coloring sheet to help sort the books into types. For more practice (if time allows), try to sort them without looking at the coloring sheets.

## Tie It Together



The Bible is one big story, but it's made up of many different kinds of books—stories, songs, letters, laws, and prophecies. When we know what kind of book we're reading, it helps us understand what God is trying to teach us.

Knowing the type of book helps us read the Bible the *right way*—just like we read a storybook differently from a song or a letter. It helps God's Word make more sense, and it helps us see how every part fits into His big story.

## Review Stations:

The following is an overview of the review stations. Each station will have a card that explains the review game. If you are playing the review games in your room, the cards are in your bin.

### Station One: Old or New?

#### Supplies:

Two baskets labeled "Old Testament" and "New Testament."

Cards with book names or key stories/people ("David," "Paul," "Creation," "Jesus feeds 5000").

**Directions:** Kids take turns choosing a card and sort them into the right basket.

**Variation:** Divide into teams. Race to see which team can sort fastest. Use your phone for a timer.

### Station Two: "The Big Story Match-Up"

#### Supplies:

15 event description cards

15 matching picture cards

**Directions:** Kids match them, then arrange them in order to tell the story of the Bible. Encourage them to retell the story in their own words.

### Station Three: Find it Fast!

#### Supplies:

Bible for each child

## Verse cards

Directions: Review how to use the table of contents and chapter/verse structure. Call out verses on the verse cards (start easy: John 3:16, Genesis 1:1, Psalm 23:1, etc.). Kids race to find them and read aloud

**Variation:** Younger kids can work with a partner or on a team with an adult. Team competition—earn points for finding the verse correctly.

## Tie It Together



Gather together in your classroom and allow the campers to share which game they enjoyed the most.

Today was fun! We have learned so much about the Bible this year. Today we learned that the Bible is one big story made of many different kinds of books. Each part—stories, poems, laws, letters—helps us know who God is and what He has done.

Even though the Bible was written by many people over hundreds of years, it all fits together perfectly because it comes from God. That means we can trust it. God's Word is true, and it shows us the way to live."

When we understand how the Bible is organized and what kind of book we're reading, it helps us understand God's message even better. And the more we understand God's Word, the more we can know Him, love Him, and follow Him."

God gave us the Bible because He loves us. It's His way of showing us His rescue plan, His promises, and His hope. Every time we open the Bible—whether we're in Genesis or John or a letter from Paul—God is speaking to us.

## Prayer Time

Spend a few minutes in prayer. Ask campers to pray, thanking God for his Word.



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