

Bible Skills Review

This lesson does not have a Bible text since the purpose is to review and build Bible skills.

Memory Verse

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true.”

--2 Timothy 3:16 (NLT)

Message

The Bible is there to help you...use it!

Lesson

The Old Testament

The first book of the Bible is the book of Genesis and it is in the **Old** Testament. The Old Testament is broken down more, in a way that is easy to understand. *(Have the children repeat after you: “Five, twelve, five, five, twelve...five, twelve, five, five, twelve”)*

The Old Testament is divided into 5 parts:

1. **5 books of law** – Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Number, and Deuteronomy. They are called the books of law because they contain the laws of God to His people, the Ten Commandments, etc. They talk about the creation, Noah and the flood, Abraham, Moses and more.
2. **12 books of history** - Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther. They tell the History of Israel from the Promised Land to the return to Jerusalem. They cover Joshua, Caleb, the judges like Sampson, Saul, David, etc.
3. **5 books of poetry** - Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon. They are written largely in a poetry form.
4. **5 books of Major Prophets** - Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel.
5. **12 books of Minor Prophets** - Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi.

The difference between major and minor prophets is mostly the length of the books, with the Major Prophets books being longer than most of the Minor Prophet books of the Bible.

HINT: When you think “Old Testament” – think “5 – 12 – 5 – 5 – 12”.

The Apocrypha

There was a period of time that passed between the Old and New Testaments. There were about 400 years that went by for which the Bible is silent. There are writings from that period, but they have never been included in many Bibles. If they are included, they are called “the Apocrypha”. They are factual with history, but they are not considered either Old Testament or New Testament books.

Then, after about 400 years, the events of the New Testament started to unfold, beginning of course with the birth of Jesus.

Lesson - Continued

The New Testament

The New Testament is divided into 5 parts:

1. **4 gospels** – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. “Gospel” means good news, or truth, and the gospels are four versions of the same things including Jesus’ life, teaching, death and resurrection. Each version is written from a different perspective.
2. **1 book of history** – Acts. It traces the history of the church from the ascension of Christ to the arrival of the apostle Paul in Rome. It is written by Luke, and combined with the book of Luke, he wrote more than half of the New Testament. Events such as the Pentecost, the call of Saul, etc. are in this book.
3. **13 letters from Paul** – Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon. These books are letters that were all written by Paul. He wrote to churches and individuals, instructing them on how they might live out their faith more completely.
4. **8 letters from others** – Hebrews, James, 1 and 2 Peter, 1, 2, and 3 John, and Jude. They are letters written by people other than Paul. The authors are James, John, Jude, Peter, and one unknown. We do not know who wrote the book of Hebrews.
5. **1 book of prophesy** – Revelation. This is the last book of the Bible and it is the only book of prophecy in the New Testament. It tells us about the events leading up to the end of time. It was written by John.

Talk About It

Help your child review the books of the Bible. Can he say them in order? See how far he can get and have fun with it. Remind your child how important the Bible is in our lives today. The Bible is a tool that we have to help us know God’s Truth. It is important to spend a few minutes each day reading in it and learning more about Him and His ways. Talk about it.