

# Bible Sunday Children's Lesson Plan

## Introducing the Bible

Leaders: \_\_\_\_\_

Leading children's time in church: \_\_\_\_\_

Theme for children's time: Introducing and sharing the bible (see sample children's talk at the end of this document)

### **Lesson Objective:**

- To share your love of the bible with the children.
- To help children know more about the bible ie who wrote it, what's in it, how to navigate/use it
- To inspire children to use and love the Bible.

### **Set up:**

- ☺ Arrive early or do the day before.
- ☺ Turn on lights to create warm atmosphere and lay out room as you need it. If you are doing crafts set up the tables at the back of the room and cordon them off until craft time to create anticipation.
- ☺ Prepare children's altar table (at front) with world globe, cloth, candle, prayer wheel etc according to what you need.
- ☺ Check room is tidy and notice boards looking good.
- ☺ Set up welcome table in front foyer (with rolls, stickers, prize box, registration forms, welcome packs).

9.30 am – child worship assistant leads kids out of church to Sunday School rooms.

Invite all children and leaders to sit on carpet in a circle. (If you prefer chairs that's fine, but sit in a circle with them and invite all other adults in the room to join you in the circle. It's much easier to manage behaviour this way and get away from the teacher/student culture and promote a philosophy that we are all learners together.)

### **Kids Friendly Ritual:**

Ask Worship Assistant to bring bible up and place on special table. Invite a child to light Christ candle. Try to include someone who doesn't do it in church because they are too shy or new etc. Always ask and if necessary explain why we light the Christ candle ie because Jesus shows us the way to live. He is like a light guiding us. (you'll be surprised how few children know the answer to this, so we need to keep reminding them of Jesus mission on earth!)



## **Welcome:**

- ☺ Ask if any child is new and if so buddy them with a regular attendee and welcome them.
- ☺ Check if they received welcome pack and if not give one to them.
- ☺ Introduce leaders.
- ☺ Ask if anyone has had birthday the week before, sing happy birthday and present bookmark or they can choose something from the prize box.
- ☺ Notices – announce forthcoming children's events

**Getting to know you game:** I like to do this if I don't know all the kids but it's up to you. It can be necessary if you don't have leader continuity. For ideas see "**Getting to know you games**" below.

## **Prayer time:**

Choose what kind of prayers you'd like to do this week eg prayers for the world (use the globe), prayer wheel prayers, thank you prayers (see our Kids Friendly resource "**Praying with Children**" for lots of ideas). Remind the children how much God loves us to talk to him (and listen to him) and that prayer is one way we build a deep and lasting relationship with God (Jesus).

## **What's in the Bible?**

**What's in the bible** DVD. We played the first 5 minutes of this DVD (created by Phil Vischer) and told the children there would be a quiz after this so they should listen carefully. They love the puppet characters. You could play more but we only have 30 minutes with the children.

## **Quiz:**

We put children into two's – one was the buzzer and one the person willing to answer questions. Each team had to come up with their noise for the buzzer and then we had a practise round so everyone knew just what to do. The person answering the questions stands behind their buzzer with their hands on the buzzer's shoulders. If they know the answer, they squeeze their buzzer who makes the appropriate noise. First buzzing team gets to answer the question. If it's wrong it goes to next buzzing team. If you have a large number of children you could put them into larger teams with a chosen answer person and buzzer. Quite a lot of fun and it prevents kids calling out the answers and dominating.

## **Our little bible book craft:**

We made little bible books with lots of interesting facts in it. (see attached). We printed the template onto A3 paper and then showed the kids how to fold and cut it to make a book (google "how to make an 8 page booklet out of one page" to get instructions on how to do this.)

After everyone had made their books we had a chat about the contents and I encouraged them to show their parents and read a page each night at bedtime.

## **Closing**

**Grace:** As we always end our time together with morning tea we sing grace together. We talked about why it's so important to thank God for food before we eat and shared different ways kids do that in their homes. I taught them a new one: "We will, we will thank you" (see our Kids Friendly resource "Praying with kids").

Release for morning tea.

## BIBLE QUIZ

1. What book is the world's best selling book?
2. The bible has lots of books inside it. How many books are in the bible? Is it
  - A: 69
  - B: 66
  - C: 56
3. Who wrote the bible?
  - A: God
  - B: Over 40 different people
  - C: 10 important people
4. The old testament was written before Jesus was born – **true or false?**
5. The new testament is all about Jesus coming to earth to teach us how to live – **true or false?**
6. About how many pages has the bible got?
  - a. 500
  - b. 10,000
  - C. 1-million
7. The bible has been translated into how many languages:
  - a. 200
  - b. 2000
  - C. 2-million



# WHAT'S THE BIBLE ALL ABOUT? QUEST

**4**

**THE BIBLE**

**START**

What's the Bible all about? It's a collection of stories, laws, and teachings from God. It's the Word of God, and it's the most important book ever written. It's the one and only God! Let's have a look at this awesome book - THE BIBLE.

**9**

THE BIBLE IS REALLY A COLLECTION OF SMALLER BOOKS, ALL PUT TOGETHER OVER 1,500 YEARS! NOW! SEE IF YOU CAN CORRECTLY COUNT THE NUMBER OF BOOKS IN THE BIBLE.....

1. GENESIS  
2. EXODUS  
3. LEVITICUS  
4. NUMBERS  
5. DEUTERONOMY  
6. JOSHUA  
7. JUDGES  
8. RUTH  
9. 1 SAMUEL  
10. 2 SAMUEL  
11. 1 KINGS  
12. 2 KINGS  
13. 1 CHRONICLES  
14. 2 CHRONICLES  
15. EZRA  
16. NEHEMIAH  
17. ESTHER  
18. JOB  
19. PSALMS  
20. PROVERBS  
21. ECCLESIASTES  
22. SONG OF SONGS  
23. ISAIAH  
24. JEREMIAH  
25. LAMENTATIONS  
26. EZEKIEL  
27. DANIEL  
28. HOSSEA  
29. JOEL  
30. AMOS  
31. OBADIAH  
32. JONAH  
33. MICHAEL  
34. NAHUM  
35. HABAKUK  
36. ZEPHANIAH  
37. HAGGAI  
38. ZECHARIAH  
39. MALACHI

THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD. IT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT BOOK EVER WRITTEN. IT IS THE ONE AND ONLY GOD! LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THIS AWESOME BOOK - THE BIBLE.

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**GOES TO THE**

**1**

THEY GUY'S I'VE NEVER EVEN READ A BIBLE.... WELL I'VE TRIED TOO, BUT I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT IT ALL MEANS. HOW ABOUT YOU GUYS?

Well Guys, it is a BIG BOOK! And sure some parts are hard to understand, BUT between the covers of the BIBLE are some of the most exciting and amazing stories ever written! There's shipwrecks, kings, plagues of locusts, love and hate, wars, giants and most important of all... the one and only GOD! Let's have a look at this awesome book - THE BIBLE.

**2**

**LOOKING BACK THE QUEST SO FAR...**

WHERE DID THE BIBLE COME FROM??  
From GOD Himself. God chose various people to write down what He wanted them to write.  
"All scripture is given by God."  
"Inspired by the Holy Spirit spoke words from God."  
2 Timothy 3: 16  
2 Peter 1: 21

CAN WE TRUST WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS??  
Yes. God's Word is true and all its promises will surely be fulfilled.  
Jesus said "Your (Bible) teaching is true."  
John 17: 17  
"Nothing will happen from the Law until heaven and earth are gone."  
Hebrews 8: 13

ISN'T THE BIBLE TOO OLD TO BE OF ANY REAL HELP TO US TODAY??  
Not at all! The Bible is a living book which speaks to the hearts of all people in every age, culture and place.  
"That's Word is alive and working... sharper than a sword sharpened on both sides... it judges the thoughts and feelings in our hearts."  
Hebrews 4: 12

HOW CAN THE BIBLE HELP US IN OUR EVERYDAY LIFE??  
The Bible teaches us how to live a joyful and meaningful lives that are pleasing to God.  
"All scripture is given by God and is useful for teaching and showing people what is wrong in their lives. It is useful for correcting faults and teaching how to live right."  
2 Timothy 3: 16

Why is the Bible regarded as the world's greatest book??  
The answer is simple: Because the Bible is the Word of God! When you read the Bible, you are reading a message from God Himself! When the Bible speaks, GOD speaks!!!

"Your Word is like a lamp for my feet and a light for my way." Psalm 119: 105

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30. AMOS  
31. OBADIAH  
32. JONAH  
33. MICHAEL  
34. NAHUM  
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37. HAGGAI  
38. ZECHARIAH  
39. MALACHI

**4**

THAT'S INCREDIBLE! 66 BOOKS AND 1,500 YEARS TO WRITE! BUT HOW MANY WRITERS DID IT TAKE?

GOOD QUESTION HAS. THERE WERE 40 WRITERS... FISHERMEN, KINGS, FARMERS, SLAVES, DOCTORS... ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE.

I THOUGHT GOD WROTE IT? ISN'T THE BIBLE SOMETIMES CALLED 'GOD'S WORD'?

The Bible is often called 'GOD'S WORD'. But God did not write it down Himself. Instead He chose ordinary men and women who believed in Him and passed on His Word through the things that happened to them. The Bible does say that God inspired them to write the book. (The Bible word for inspired is 'God-breathed').

**Check it out for yourself!**  
Read 2 TIMOTHY 3: 16 and 2 PETER 1: 21

So the Bible is a special book. IT'S SPECIAL POWER TO SPEAK TO PEOPLE OF ALL AGES AND CULTURES. WHAT IT SAYS CAN BE TRUSTED.



## Bible Sunday Children's Talk (in church)

Written by Jill Kayser, Kids Friendly (2014)

- Who knows what this is? (show them the big Bible sitting on the pulpit).
- And who knows what this is? (show them a children's storybook Bible)
- And who knows what this is? (show them a miniature version)

Yep they are all bibles.

Did you know that the bible is the biggest selling book of all times?

And the bible has been translated into more than 2000 languages?

Today is known as Bible Sunday – it's the day where millions of churches all over the world thank God for giving us this very special book that teaches us about God's love and how he wants us to live.

I have brought my bible with me today. I got this bible when I was 17 years old - which makes it quite old. Sometimes I think I probably should get a new one, but the thing about the bible is that it is like an old and much loved friend. And when our friends get old and a little wrinkly (like my bible) we don't replace them with young new smooth ones do we? So I'm keeping my bible.

(Open to a particular highlighted and scribbled page) You'll see if you look in my bible that there's writing in it and some bits are underlined or highlighted. There are also favourite bookmarks in it and notes that I've used in the past. Now your mum and dad may have told you that you shouldn't write in books, but I think the bible is one book you should be able to write in because you need to mark all your favourite readings so you can find them whenever you need them.

You see the bible is like a guide book for living. And a well used guide book always has lots of writing in it and some pages are marked with dog ears.

I drove past Glendowie Presbyterian Church one day and there was a big sign outside that said:

(Powerpoint Slide 1)

B – Best  
I – Instructions  
B – Before  
L – Leaving  
E - Earth



Pauline asked me to share my favourite bible verse with you today. When I was little. I was a real worry bug. I worried I might miss my bus, I worried my mum would die, I worried my dog would get lost. I worried about just about everything. Then one day when I was reading my bible I discovered that I don't ever need to worry because God is watching over me and has everything in hand.

(Powerpoint Slide 2)



(Powerpoint Slide 3)

Let's read it together.

25"I tell you this: Do not worry about your life. Do not worry about what you are going to eat and drink. Do not worry about what you are going to wear. Is not life more important than food? Is not the body more important than clothes? 26Look at the birds in the sky. They do not plant seeds. They do not gather grain. They do not put grain into a building to keep. Yet your Father in heaven feeds them! Are you not more important than the birds? 27Which of you can make himself a little taller by worrying? 28Why should you worry about clothes? Think how the flowers grow. They do not work or make cloth. 29But I tell you that Solomon in all his greatness was not dressed as well as one of these flowers. 30God clothes the grass of the field. It lives today and is burned in the stove tomorrow. How much more will He give you clothes? You have so little faith! 31Do not worry. Do not keep saying, 'What will we eat?' or, 'What will we drink?' or, 'What will we wear?' 32The people who do not know God are looking for all these things. Your Father in heaven knows you need all these things. 33First of all, trust God. Be right with Him. All these other things will be given to you also. 34Do not worry about tomorrow. Tomorrow will have its own worries. The troubles we have in a day are enough for one day.

Download the PPT slides <http://www.kidsfriendly.org.nz/bible-sunday/>



## MORE RESOURCES TO HELP YOU:

### GETTING TO KNOW YOU GAMES

1. Children stand in line across end of room. One is leader and calls out a letter. If the letter is in a child's name he takes a leap forward and so on until he/she reaches the other end and touches the leader and shouts his name. First one there gets to take over the letter calling and so on until last one has reached the end line.
2. Sit in circle and throw a ball, cushion or soft toy to person whose name you know. As you throw object say "hi Jill" and so on until everyone knows each others' name.
3. Kids sit in circle. Leader starts by crossing arms over chest and saying: "I'm Jill and God loves me, pass it on" and taps person on left or right of her to pass it on, until it has gone around the room. You can get them to repeat this faster and faster each time you go around the circle.
4. Create hangman on a white board. Give each child a turn to place dashes for as many letters of her name and get other kids to guess the letters for her name. First one to guess her name, gets to rub out hangman and start again with his name (best for small groups).

### GRACES

Teach children graces to share before morning tea and to take home to share with their families

#### Superman Grace

Thank you Lord for giving us food (one arm up)  
Thank you Lord for giving us food (other arm up)  
Thank you Lord, Thank you Lord (wave arms)  
For giving us food (circle arms around and take off)

#### The Adams Family

Diddle dee dum (click, click), Diddle dee dum (click, click)  
Diddle dee dum, Diddle dee dum, Diddle dee dum (click, click)

We're hungry and we're thirsty,  
We're rumbly in our tummy  
We know the food is yummy  
And so we thank you Lord (Repeat chorus)

#### Thank you for the world so sweet (hum hum)

Thank you for the food we eat (yum yum)  
Thank you for the birds that singalingaling  
Thank you God for everything.



### **Row Row Row the Boat**

We thank you Lord for happy hearts  
For rain and sunny weather  
We thank you Lord for this our food  
And that we are together.

### **Oh the Lord's been good to me**

And so I thank you Lord  
For giving me the things I need  
The sun and the rain and the apple seed  
Thank you thank you Lord.

### **We will we will thank you (tune: We will rock you – Queen)**

God you are a good God  
Please accept this grace  
As we sit and feed our face  
We've got food on our plates  
We think that's great  
And pretty soon we'll be putting on weight  
Singing we will we will thank you (clap clap)  
We will we will thank you (clap clap)

### **Other Kids Friendly Resources:**

- Planning a Kids Friendly Children's Programme
- Praying with children

### **ORGANIC RESOURCES**

*All our Kids Friendly resources are ever-evolving "works in progress". So if you have ideas, websites, resources and stories to share or add please let us know. And if you notice any mistakes in this resource please alert us.*

#### **Contact:**

To contact a Kids Friendly Coach or Advisor check our website:

<http://www.kidsfriendly.org.nz/about/contact-us/>