Designing Your Own School Program

History of the Word

A "True Education" Language Series
“The word is nigh thee,
even in thy mouth,
and in thy heart....”
Romans 10:8
Student Section
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The Printing Press  
Johannes Gutenberg  
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Long before books, scribes, and the printing press men used their strong memories for a record of things. Do you remember, how, in the very beginning, before sin, Adam and Eve talked with God and angels face to face? Adam and Eve had alert, strong minds that could remember each word and gesture. Later they could recall without forgetting one detail of what they had been taught.

"And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites:

"And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them" (Deuteronomy 17:18-19).
Each day at a certain time God (Christ) would come and visit Adam and Eve. “And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day...” (Genesis 3:8). At other times angels visited them to instruct and teach them. Angels had warned them to be careful because of Satan’s fall. “Are they [angels] not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister...?” (Hebrews 1:14).

*Patriarchs and Prophets 82

Reinforce
Place I - II color this picture of the garden.
Add animal and flower seals.

After man sinned each generation began to lose some of the keen, alert abilities of the mind. People forgot the instructions from heaven as the mind deteriorated. However, Adam’s alert and strong mind recalled heavenly instructions and he “carefully treasured what God had revealed to him, and repeated it to succeeding generations. To his children, and children’s children, to the ninth generation [about 1,000 years]...”*

*Patriarchs and Prophets 82
“And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”

Genesis 6:5

“The antediluvians [people before the Flood] were without books, they had no written records; but with their great physical and mental vigor, they had strong memories, able to grasp and to retain that which was communicated to them, and in turn to transmit it unimpaired [not losing anything] to their posterity [children]. And for hundreds of years there were seven generations living upon the earth contemporaneously, [at the same time] having opportunity of consulting [asking counsel] together and profiting each by the knowledge and experiences of all.” *

*Patriarchs and Prophets 83

“The advantages enjoyed by men of that age to gain a knowledge of God through His works have never been equalled since. And so far from being an era of religious darkness, that was an age of great light. All the world had opportunity to receive instruction from Adam, and those who feared the Lord had also Christ and angels for their teachers. And they had a silent witness to the truth, in the garden of God, which for so many centuries remained among men. At the cherubim-guarded gate of Paradise the glory of God was revealed, and hither came the first worshippers. Here their altars were reared, and their offerings presented. It was here that Cain and Abel had brought their sacrifices, and God had condescended [come down] to communicate with them.

In the beginning men were more intelligent and had stronger minds than men today have.

This is just the opposite to what the world teaches.

They wrongly think man has grown in intelligence.

Evolution is not true.
“Skepticism [doubtfulness] could not deny the existence of Eden while it stood just in sight, its entrance bared by watching angels. The order of creation, the object of the garden, the history of its two trees so closely connected with man’s destiny, were undisputed [not questioned] facts. And the existence and supreme authority of God, the obligation of His law, were truths which men were slow to question while Adam was among them.

“Notwithstanding the prevailing iniquity [wickedness], there was a line of holy men who, elevated and ennobled by communion with God, lived as in the companionship of heaven. They were men of massive intellect, of wonderful attainments. They had a great and holy mission—to develop a character of righteousness, to teach a lesson of godliness, not only to the men of their time, but for future generations. Only a few of the most prominent are mentioned in the Scriptures; but all through the ages God had faithful witnesses, truehearted worshipers.”

*Patriarchs and Prophets 83-84

Truth

With truth more precious than golden ore She sought her youthful mind to store. No earthly prize she cared to gain If God’s Word she could learn and retain.

—A.S. Hutchins

*Patriarchs and Prophets 83-84
Review
Place I - II

1. Adam and Eve had __________.

____________ minds that could remember each
____________ and ____________.

Later they could recall without___________
one detail of what they had been taught.

2. Who visited Adam and Eve in the garden and taught
them?_____________________________________________

3. “...There was a line of __________

____________...” in each
generation who communed
with God.
Review
Place II - III

1. Describe the memories of Adam and Eve.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. Who taught Adam and Eve?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3. Who instructed man before the Flood?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

4. Who did God have in each generation to witness of righteousness to the ungodly?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Reinforce
Place I - II - III

1. Practice memorizing Scripture to improve your memory. The Holy Spirit will help you. Remember to ask for help.

2. Listen attentively to the instructions of your elders, do not be like the people before the Flood.

3. Post your memory verses at your garden gate during these lessons that you might not forget God’s word but be alert to it.

Research
Beginning to Write the Word
REVIEW of History

“During the first twenty-five hundred years of human history, there was no written revelation. Those who had been taught of God, communicated their knowledge to others, and it was handed down from father to son, through successive generations. The preparation of the written word began in the time of Moses. Inspired revelations were then embodied [collected within] in an inspired book. This work continued during the long period of sixteen hundred years—from Moses, the historian of creation and the law, to John, the recorder of the most sublime truths of the gospel.

Moses wrote Genesis.
John wrote Revelation.

The Bible

If we just heed its heavenly truth
’Twill be a guide unto your youth;
’Twill keep us from the paths of sin,
Then through life’s gate we’ll enter in.
“The Bible points to God as its author; yet it was written by human hands; and in the varied style of its different books it presents the characteristics of the several writers. The truths revealed are all ‘given by inspiration of God’ (II Timothy 3:16); yet they are expressed in the words of men. The Infinite One by His Holy Spirit has shed light into the minds and hearts of His servants. He has given dreams and visions, symbols and figures; and those to whom the truth was revealed have themselves embodied [collected within] the thought in human language.

“The Ten Commandments were spoken by God Himself, and were written by His own hand. They are of divine, and not of human composition [put together]. But the Bible, with its God-given truths expressed in the Language of men, presents a union of the divine and the human. Such a union existed in the nature of Christ, who was the Son of God and the Son of Man. Thus it is true of the Bible, as it was of Christ, that ‘the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us’ (John 1:14).

The Bible points to God as its author; yet it was written by human hands.

“The Bible Was Expressed in the Language of Men

Written in different ages, by men who differed widely in rank and occupation, and in mental and spiritual endowments [given by God], the books of the Bible present contrast in style, as well as a diversity [difference] in the nature of the subjects unfolded. Different forms of expression are employed by different writers; often the same truth is more strikingly presented by one than by another. And as several writers present a subject under varied aspects and relations, there may appear, to the superficial, [on the surface] careless, or prejudiced [close-minded] reader, to be discrepancy or contradiction, where the thoughtful, reverent student, with clearer insight, discerns the underlying harmony.
“As presented through different individuals, the truth is brought out in its varied aspects. One writer is more strongly impressed with one phase of the subject; he grasps those points that harmonize with his experience or with his power of perception and appreciation; another seizes upon a different phase; and each, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, presents what is most forcibly impressed upon his own mind—a different aspect of the truth in each, but a perfect harmony through all. And the truths thus revealed unite to form a perfect whole, adapted to meet the wants of men in all the circumstances and experiences of life.

“God has been pleased to communicate His truth to the world by human agencies, and He Himself, by His Holy Spirit, qualified men and enabled them to do this work. He guided the mind in the selection of what to speak and what to write. The treasure was entrusted to earthen vessels, yet it is, nonetheless, from Heaven. The testimony is conveyed through the imperfect expression of human language, yet it is the testimony of God; and the obedient, believing child of God beholds in it the glory of a divine power, full of grace and truth.

“In His Word, God has committed to men the knowledge necessary for salvation. The Holy Scriptures are to be accepted as an authoritative, infallible [not erring] revelation of His will. They are the standard of character, the revealer of doctrines, and the test of experience. ‘Every Scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness; that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work’ (II Timothy 3:16-17, R.V.).

“Yet the fact that God has revealed His will to men through His Word, has not rendered needless the continued presence and guiding of the Holy Spirit. On the contrary, the Spirit was promised by our Saviour, to open the Word to His servants, to illuminate and apply its teachings. And since it was the Spirit of God that inspired the Bible, it is impossible that the teaching of the Spirit should ever be contrary to that of the Word.

The Holy Scriptures are to be accepted as an authoritative, infallible revelation of His will.
“The Spirit was not given—
nor can it ever be bestowed—to
supersede the Bible; for the Scrip-
tures explicitly state that the Word
of God is the standard by which all
teaching and experience must be
tested. Says the apostle John,

‘Believe not every spirit,
but try the spirits
whether they are of God:
because many false prophets
are gone out into the world.’
1 John 4:1

And Isaiah declares,

‘To the law
and to the testimony:
if they speak not
according to this word,
it is because
there is not light in them.’
Isaiah 8:20”*

“Be
always vigilant
[alert];
there are
many snares
for the good.”

—Accius, C. 100 B.C.

*The Great Controversy Introduction v-vii
1. What is this father teaching his son?_________________________________

2. M_ __ __ __ __ was the first writer of Scripture.

   J_ __ __ __ was the last writer of Scripture.

3. An author is a person who writes a book. Holy men wrote the Bible but __ __ __ is the real author.

4. Read from your Bible I John 4:1 and Isaiah 8:20 and tell what they mean.
God who created light and who must therefore be the source of light, gave His Word to be a lamp unto our feet. The Bible is like an old-fashioned lamp, from which light may be dispersed; but an antique-type lamp without oil or a wick has no light to throw off. Now the anointing of the Holy Spirit is the oil, and faith is the wick. When once lighted, living faith draws the Spirit’s aid, and a constant flame is the result. So long as there is a supply of oil, pure oil, and the wick is kept free from specks, the light is bright, clear, and beautiful.

—Adapted from M. M. Osgood

1. Psalm 119:105
2. I John 2:27
### Review
**Place II - III**

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<th>Response</th>
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<td>2. When did the writing of the Word begin?</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Who was the first writer of the Scriptures and the last writer of the Scriptures?</td>
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<td>4. How many years did it take to write the Scriptures?</td>
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<td>5. Who is the Author of the Bible? Who wrote it?</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Finish this statement: “The Holy Scriptures are to be accepted as an______________________________, of His will.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. What counsel do I John 4:1 and Isaiah 8:20 give to us?</td>
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</table>
1. Ask your earthly father to teach you more about how the Bible was written.

2. Copy verses from Genesis, Deuteronomy, and John to give to other family members.

3. Visit a person who writes books or articles for magazines. Ask them to tell you how they write, how long they spend writing each day.

4. When you are reading a recipe, or road instructions, think how the Bible is like a recipe book or a road map.

5. When writing a letter to a family member be reminded how holy men who wrote the Scriptures were guided by God. Always have prayer before you write a letter asking God to help you by His Holy Spirit.

God says:

“Take thee a roll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken....”

Jeremiah 36:2

“Write the vision and make it plain upon tables [tablet of stone, wood, or metal], that he may run that readeth it.”

Habakkuk 2:2
There are uninspired writings that date back before the time of Moses. There were Egyptian inscriptions about 4000-5000 B.C., and the writings of King Sargon I in Babylon (2350 B.C.).

Some of the first writings were carved on stone. The Ten Commandments were written on tables of stone. “And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God” (Exodus 31:18). This reminds us that the law of God is as durable as stone, and the importance of it being written “...Not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart” (II Corinthians 3:3). In Deuteronomy 27:3 and Joshua 8:30 -32 the law was written on stones and set up for a memorial that men might be alert to obey the law of God.

In 1868 the Moabite Stone was discovered; it dates from about 850 B.C. and tells about the overthrow of Israel in II Kings 3:4-27. It was written in a language similar to the Hebrew of the Old Testament.

Large libraries of clay tablets have been dug up from very ancient Assyrian and Babylonian remains. Ezekiel 4:1 says “take thee a tile [clay] and lay it before thee, and portray upon it the city, even Jerusalem.” Tablets that were dried in the sun were used for less important writings. Permanent or more important writings were baked in kilns. Kilns were used around 3100 B.C. to A.D. 100. The tablets were then stored on shelves, or in jars. “…Take these evidences...and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may continue many days” (Jeremiah 32:14).

“...Take these evidences... and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may continue many days.”

Jeremiah 32:14

“And he gave unto Moses....two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.”

Exodus 31:18
The Talmud, the Jewish book of laws, commanded that Scriptures be copied on the skins of animals such as sheep, goats, or calves with great carefulness. Only skins from “clean” animals were used. Their skins were soaked and scraped, stretched on a frame, then polished with pumice to get a smooth writing surface that would hold ink. Only one side of the skin was used, making a long bulky roll. One hand was used to unwind, while the other hand would rewind. When a scroll was written on both sides it attracted special attention. “...And it was written within and without...” (Ezekiel 2:10).

Read Leviticus 11 for a list of clean animals.

Reinforce
Place I - II - III

Write a “C” for clean, or a “U” for unclean by each animal below.
Writing Materials
Continued

Original scrolls written by the hand of Moses do not still exist, however, copies of original manuscripts of the Old Testament, some on leather scrolls, can be found in Jewish synagogues and museums.

Most common were papyrus scrolls. The papyrus reed plants grew along the marshy areas of the Nile delta and in Syria. Below are the steps in making papyrus:

1. Workman go to the marshes, cut and carry papyrus plants away in bundles.

2. In the workshop, the long reeds are cut into shorter lengths.

3. The green outer skin is peeled away.

4. A workman cuts the white pith inside lengthwise into thin strips using a knife.

5. The thin strips are placed on a pounding block in two layers. The first was crosswise, then the second lengthwise.

6. The workman places a linen cloth over them, then pounds them with stones or a mallet into sheets. The strips weld together in their own sap.

7. They are then laid in the sun to dry.

8. To make the sheet smooth they are rubbed smooth with a polishing stone.

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7. They are then laid in the sun to dry.

8. To make the sheet smooth they are rubbed smooth with a polishing stone.
9. Reed brushes were used to write with. They were dipped into ink and words and sentences were inscribed on the papyrus sheets.

Sheets were joined together to make a roll (scroll), about 9-10 inches (22.86-25.40 centimeters) wide, and 30 feet (9 meters) long. (Compared with the length of the gospel of Matthew). On the upper part of the first page the responsible governing officials would write their names and titles. The Greek word for this page, protokollon, preceded our English word “protocols.” During the time of Rome these scrolls were kept in a cylindrical base called a “capsa.” Papyrus is called “book” (biblion) in the New Testament. (See Mark 12:26; Luke 4:17-20; Philippians 4:3; and Revelation 13:8.)

Protocol = original copy
of any writing or a record
or registry.
Papyrus

Papyrus means to absorb; or bulrush; a marsh rush, called because it absorbs and drinks moisture. Job 8:11 says, “Can the rush grow up?”

Papyrus is a triangular, stemmed reed which grows about 6-12 feet (1.8-3.6 meters) tall. It is used also to make boats, baskets, sandals, and rope.

Papyrus was called byblos, or Bible (bibliography, bibliophile) in Greek. In Hebrew, papyrus is gome, pauperous; in Greek, papyrus; in Latin, papier, also in French and German; and paper, in English.

Rome controlled the papyrus trade in the days of Jesus.

Papyrus was an expensive paper. A poor person would use broken bits of pottery for writing material. There were always notes, lists, bulls and receipts to be written. So broken pottery pieces were the note pads of the day.

Writing boards were used by the Assyrians, Greeks and Romans. They were made of wood or ivory, covered with a wax surface for writing. Many were hung together.

Another ancient paper was parchment. We will learn more about it.
About the 2nd century the scroll was replaced by the codex. The codex was made from folded sheets called quires (like today’s signatures), which were stitched together. The codex was bound and protected by covers. It was similar to a notebook for writing rough drafts or private journals. The final work was still written on a scroll. But as time went on the codex replaced the scroll. It is thought the Christians were pioneers of this early book as it was easier to handle and carry when they traveled. A four-verse fragment from John’s gospel was found as part of a codex (about A.D. 150).

1. Codex = the pages of writing material were folded, then fastened together at one side, and a cover was put on most of the time.

2. Signature = a large sheet printed with four or a multiple of four pages. When folded it becomes a section of the book.

John Wycliffe translated the Holy Scriptures into English.
Review
Place I - II

1. The T __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ were the most famous ancient writings carved on stone.

2. Three ancient papers were:
   1. L __ __ __ __ __ __ __
   2. P __ __ __ __ __ __ __
   3. P __ __ __ __ __ __ __

3. Draw the steps in making papyrus.
4. How were papyrus rolls stored?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
5. The poor people wrote notes on __ __ __ __ of __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __.

Review
Place II - III

1. What were some early writings before the time of Moses?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. A. What famous writings were carved in stone and by what means?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
B. What lesson does it teach us?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Describe a clay tablet library.</th>
<th>6. List the steps in making papyrus, the most common “paper.”</th>
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<td>(1) ___________________________</td>
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<td>(2) ___________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. What does Jeremiah 36:23 tell us about?</td>
<td>(3) ___________________________</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(4) ___________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Describe how leather was made into writing material.</td>
<td>(5) ___________________________</td>
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<td>(6) ___________________________</td>
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<td>(8) ___________________________</td>
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<td>(9) ___________________________</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
7. How were long scrolls made?
_________________________________
_________________________________
_________________________________

8. How were papyrus rolls stored?
_________________________________
_________________________________
_________________________________

9. Because papyrus was expensive, what would a poor person use to write on?
_________________________________
_________________________________

10. What was the codex? Describe it.
_________________________________
_________________________________

---

Do you know who the first paper maker was?

---

**Reinforce**

Place I - II - III

1. Make a scroll.

A. Cut a piece of plain paper into a long, thin strip (4” x 6” wide).

B. Tape or glue one end to a knitting needle, dowel, or stick. Then fix the other end to another knitting needle, dowel, or stick.

C. Roll the paper around the needles, dowels, or sticks.

D. Copy one of your memory verses on the scroll. Roll up the scroll and tie it with a ribbon.

2. Make a grocery list for mother on a broken piece of pottery (like a flower pot).

3. When reading your Bible verses during private devotions or family worship be **alert** to the great amount of time that was put into preparing the Bible as it was preserved for us.

4. As a family, read from *The Great Controversy* the chapter, “John Wycliffe.”
Sometime around A.D. 350, parchment began to replace papyrus. “Parchment” comes from the city Pergamum in Asia Minor. The story is told that Ptolemy at one time would not allow papyrus to be shipped out of Egypt because the rival library at Pergamum, he feared, would become larger than the one in Alexandria, Greece. Because of this, other writing material was needed. Alert people began to make parchment. It is different than leather. How? The animal skin was stretched and dried; the flesh from one side was removed, and the hair from the other side. The skin was scrubbed clean with a stone. Like papyrus, the sheets (called vellum), were gathered into 24 sheets each having a single fold.

Pergamum may mean “citadel;” a fortress or castle, in or near a city intended for its defense; a place of arms, “acropolis.”

What is a scribe? The word comes from a root meaning to write. A scribe was a public writer. To be a scribe or secretary was an important position. He was highly respected. The scribes often had the best jobs at the court of the king. He looked after the public records needed for the government. He needed to be alert!

Later, more people learned to read and write but the scribes were still needed by the government to keep records.

When the Dead Sea Scrolls were found it showed how accurate the alert scribes had been in their work. There were hardly any changes over a period of over a thousand years of copying the Bible. This helps us to understand one of the ways God used to keep the Bible safe for us today.

The scribe had many chores and was much like a lawyer of today. He often had an “office” near the town gate, which is where most business was done. He might be hired to make up a legal document, a will, write an important letter, or to prepare other legal forms for people.
Some scribes worked for the government as we mentioned earlier. They kept the records, prepared accounts, and were involved in census taking and tax collections. A man high in a government office might hire a scribe as his personal secretary.

“...David’s uncle was a wise counsellor, a wise man, and a scribe.”

1 Chronicles 27:32

The most important job of the scribes was to copy manuscripts like the Scriptures. This was considered a sacred task. They were alert and careful about how it was done as to avoid making any mistakes. There were some strict roles which were: count the number of lines and compare with the original, count letters in a line, etc. Sometimes a second scribe would check the whole copy, the pen was wiped clean or a new pen used when the name of God was written.

As time went on people longed to have their own copies of the Bible that they could read and study. The invention of the printing press changed the method of hand copying.

The most important job of the scribes was to copy manuscripts like the Scriptures.
Review
Place I - II

1. A scribe is a ______________________ ________________.

2. Find these words that describe a scribe in the word search below.

CHECK DOCUMENTS MANUSCRIPTSCRIBE
CITY GATENUMBERWILL
CLEAN LEGALPENWIPE
COPY LETTERSPUBLICWRITER
COUNT LINES RECORDS

Word Search
MY T I C S Y L C R I B E R
A U T S W T R A I T E R P U
N S N D I O C G A T E R E N
U E S C R I B E P E N E U M
S W R I T E R L L I W B T N
C L C L C I E E E P I W M U N
R E L B O C C O P Y K U C O
I H E U U D O C U M E N T S
P C A P N F R L E T T E R S
T I N I T N D E S S E N I L
S C H E C K S L E T T E R S
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. What is a scribe?</th>
<th>3. Describe the strict rules for a scribe copying the Bible.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. What jobs did a scribe usually have in an ancient country and where was his office?</td>
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<td>4.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. What is parchment?</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Why was it used in place of papyrus?</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reinforce
Place I - II - III

1. As you address envelopes for your parents when they are sending payments for bills think how you are like a scribe.

2. Make a beautiful copy of one of your memory verses. Try using calligraphy if you have had some practice with it.
   
   A. Draw a fancy letter and color your work.
   
   B. Copy the verse(s).
   
   C. Decorate the edges of the page and color it.
   
   D. Frame it and hang it on the wall or send it to a special person.

Research
The Printing Press

In China, about A.D. 105, Cai Lun invented paper. The Chinese also carved characters and pictures on wood blocks, inked the raised images, then pressed the block onto the paper. But modern printing began only about 500 years ago with the use of movable type by Johannes Gutenberg and his helpers in Germany. God ordained this invention, for it would be a means of spreading the Word of God throughout the world. It was with “slow and wearisome labor that copies of the Bible could be multiplied. So great was the interest to obtain the book, that many willingly engaged in the work of transcribing it, but it was with difficulty that the copyists could supply the demand. Some of the more wealthy purchasers desired the whole Bible. Others bought only a portion. In many cases several families united to purchase a copy.”*

Around the year 1045, a Chinese printer, Bi Sheng made the first movable type. A separate piece of clay type was made for each character. The using of the movable type did not develop in China because the Chinese language has thousands of different characters. It would have required too many

*The Great Controversy 88-89
Johannes Gutenberg and his helpers, Johnannes Fust and Peter Schoffer, began using the movable type in about 1440 A.D. in Manz, Germany. He developed a printing press from a machine used to press grapes or cheese. The pieces of type were assembled in a form. The mold was developed and was one of the earliest precision instruments. The type could be set in even lines of composition. Then, they were locked firmly in place. A number of pages containing thousands of type could easily be put on and taken off the press. After printing, the type could be separated and reset, using them again on other papers.

In the late 1300’s, block printing was discovered.

Johannes Gutenberg
Printer

Gutenberg was born in Mainz a member of the aristocratic Gensfleisch family.

In Europe the people were still hand copying books. Many spent their lives laboriously copying books with quills and reeds. In the late 1300’s, block printing was discovered.

Alert people began to have a great desire for learning and books were in great demand. The hand copying the block printing could not satisfy the need. Movable type would solve the problem.

pieces of type to be made. It was easier to print from the wood blocks for the Chinese.
Once in the form the type was then inked. The ink for his press came from material of early Flemish painters. Next, he placed paper on the type and by turning a huge wood screw on the press, the wood block was brought down against the paper. The Gutenberg press could print about 300 copies in one day. By 1456, the 42-line Gutenberg Bible was completed. Each column had 42 lines of type.

From Gutenberg’s humble beginning, printing spread rapidly. By 1500, there were more than 1,000 print shops in Europe. From these shops several million books were made.

How appropriate that a grape press would be the first machine to print a Bible.
Review
Place I - II

1. Orally describe to your teacher who Johannes Gutenberg was.


3. The__________ was the first book printed on the Gutenberg printing press.
Review
Place II - III

1. Where and when was paper and block printing first invented?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

2. Who began the development of modern printing, and where did it take place?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

3. What one thing led to the development of printing?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

4. Describe the printing press made by Johannes Gutenberg.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

5. What was the first book printed on this press?

________________________________________________________________________
Reinforce

1. Make a printing block.
   A. Print the words *Holy Bible* on a piece of tracing paper. Turn it over and trace these words backwards onto a block of wood.
   B. Glue string along the pencil lines.
   C. Press your “printing block” onto an ink pad.
   D. Stamp a sheet of paper with the words. A book could be made by folding several pieces of paper together in book form. Stamp *Holy Bible* on the outside and copy your favorite Bible promises inside like a scribe.

2. Visit a print shop and observe a modern press at work. Make proper arrangements with the shop.

3. When using old papers to help father build fires, be reminded of how they were printed on presses. A long time ago, some Roman church leaders would burn copies of the Bible because they did not want the people to read them.

4. When helping your parents pack a box for mailing, you can put paper around the items so they will not be damaged. Remember how paper was made so that the Bible could be printed.

Block Printing

A.  B.  C.  D.
Research
The Languages of the Bible

Many years after all the Bible was written, few people knew how to read. Usually the leaders in the church were the ones who could read. They would publicly read the Bible to the people and explain what it meant.

Complete copies of the whole Bible were written in Greek or Latin, the language used by the scholars. But the common people spoke German, French, English, and other languages. Very few people used the old languages, and it was difficult for the common people to understand the Latin or Greek words being read to them from the Bible.

Some alert church leaders led by God felt the Bible should be translated into the language of the people. Others were against the idea. They thought only church leaders should be the ones to interpret the Bible to the common people. God desired His Spirit to be the Interpreter.

“If there be a messenger with him, an interpreter, one among a thousand, to shew unto man his uprightness:

“Then he is gracious unto him, and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit: I have found a ransom.”

Job 33:23-24

Scholar = person who seems to know a great deal about one or more subjects.

Interpret = explain the meaning of words to a person who does not understand them.
The early Christians took great pains to multiply the Bible, and dearly prized its precious truths. But after a while the church became corrupt, and the people were satisfied with what the priests told them: and the priests discouraged the reading of the Bible in order to keep the people under their power. Darkness and superstition prevailed for many long years, and few people could read or write. The few Bibles that were in existence lay neglected in monasteries, churches, or large libraries, and the priests themselves were very ignorant of what the Scriptures taught.

But God would not suffer His Word to be lost or forgotten. He raised up faithful preachers of the gospel, who exhorted the people to study the Word of God. Learned men began to translate the Scriptures into different languages; then came the art of printing, and then the Reformation, all preparing the way according to prophecy, for a more general diffusion of knowledge on the Scriptures of truth.

The first translations of the whole Bible into English were made by an alert man of God named John Wycliffe. Though wicked men tried to destroy his writings his translation was preserved until the time came when ministers were required to place a Bible in every church for the use of the people. But it was so valuable but one Bible was in each church, and that was frequently chained to a desk. Then about a hundred and fifty years after Wycliffe made his translation William Tyndale made a new English translation of the New Testament. When William Tyndale made his translation of the Bible, which he stated on the title page was out of the original Hebrew and Greek, the priests undertook to convince the common people that Hebrew and Greek were languages that Tyndale had invented himself! But finally some of the great men of England, even Cranmer, then a Catholic, saw that the Bible enjoined upon men to search the Scriptures, and they
Martin Luther made a translation into German, and others made translations into additional languages of the people. The people learned to read because they were eager and hungry for the Word of God.

The people who had Bibles thought up unusual ways to hide them. One man, a gentleman of high standing, sent for a brick layer who built up a high wall in his chamber against the place where all his books were and so enclosed them in secret. Sometimes Bibles were put in the hollow, wooden bottoms of arm chairs, and when they thought no one was around, many friends of the Bible would come together, take if from its hiding place, and read aloud while someone stood on the watch.

Reflect
German Translation

Martin Luther
made a translation into German, and others made translations into additional languages of the people. The people learned to read because they were eager and hungry for the Word of God.

Read the story on page 63.
Opposition from church leaders increased against the people translating the Bible and against those reading it. Tyndale was put to death for printing and spreading the Bible in English. But nothing could stop the distribution of the Bible to the common people.

After many years, the meanings of some words and the spelling of some words in the English language changed. As an example of how English has changed here is the way Hebrews 11:8 read in Wycliffe’s translation: “Bi Feith he that is clipid Abrahm: obeid to go out into a place which he schulde take into eritage: not witynge whidir he schulde go.”

God ordained that an updated English translation be made that was as accurate as possible, and that all English-speaking people could use. King James I of England authorized the translation to be made. Forty-seven alert translators worked on it. This project began in 1604. They checked all the old manuscripts they could find and tried to give the most perfect meaning to every word and passage. The version was published in 1611. It became known as the authorized “King James Version.” For hundreds of years, and even today, it has been the most commonly used, and most accurate Bible translation in the English language.

The words of the Bible have been translated into more languages than any other words or books in all the world. It is also the most widely read book in history.

Authorize = to give authority; to give a right to act. Authorized means to be supported by an authority.

Version = the act of translating; the rendering of thoughts or ideas expressed in one language, into words of like signification in another language.
God has a plan to make Himself known to man. In the beginning He spoke to man face to face, then sin separated man from God. In His divine plan, the Bible was one way God chose to communicate with man.

“The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thine heart…”
Romans 10:8

Alert men, chosen by God, wrote the Bible, translated it into other languages, and printed it for the world to have. Many gave their lives that we might have this book called the “Holy Bible.”

Are you reading and studying it every day? Are you alert to its true value? Once, those who read it, if found, were punished with imprisonment, and often with death. And then it cost so much, but few were able to own one. Wycliffe’s translation sold for about two hundred dollars. Now we can buy one for a reasonable amount and are allowed to read it openly, and as often as we choose. Oh let us prize the Bible more! The church of God has carried the Bible through the flames of persecution and rivers of blood. They toiled, suffered, and died in its defense. We can show our love and zeal for the Bible by obeying its gentle commands.

The Word of Truth

Prize, little friends, the word of Truth,
And read it every day;
’Twill keep you from the snares of youth,
And guide you on your way.
## Review

### Place I - II

1. Look at the front of your Bible at the title page. Read it for teacher. Explain how the King James Bible was translated.

2. Teacher, dictate the spelling words.

   ___________________________________
   ___________________________________
   ___________________________________
   ___________________________________
   ___________________________________
   ___________________________________

3. Can you tell your teacher the literal and symbolic definition of the above words?

4. Give oral sentences using the spelling words.

5. Draw a picture showing the meaning of the definitions on a separate piece of paper.

## Reflect

The Bible was not written in English! It was originally written in several languages.

**Hebrew**
Most of the Old Testament was written in Hebrew, the language of the family of Abraham.

**Aramaic**
Parts of the book of Daniel were written in Aramaic. This language is closely related to Hebrew. It was the official language of the Persian Empire.

**Greek**
The New Testament was written in everyday language of the eastern part of the Roman Empire.
1. Write a paragraph telling how the King James Bible became the most accurate and popular translation of our time.

2. Teacher, dictate the spelling words. Give definitions and sentences.
William Tyndale

"Tyndale was betrayed into the hands of his enemies, and at one time suffered imprisonment for many months. He finally witnessed for his faith by a martyr’s death; but the weapons which he prepared have enabled other soldiers to do battle through all the centuries even to our time.”

_The Great Controversy_ 247-248

John Huss

Rector of the University of Prague, Bohemia (Czechoslovakia). He reads the Bible for himself creating civil unrest. Summoned to appear before the Council of Constance.

1414

Peter Waldo

A wealthy merchant of Lyons, France and leader-founder of the group called the _poor men of Lions_, or of the Waldenses.

The Waldenses live in the mountains in poverty. Copying portions of the Bible, they distribute it to the people in the towns and cities. The Waldenses were excommunicated by Pope Lucius III in 1184.

---

Reflect
Place I - II - III

Wanted

Wanted
John Wycliffe, theologian at Oxford. Translated the Bible into English. Wycliffe’s followers, called the Lollards distribute it to the common people.

A synod of the church has met in Oxford, and the translation and study of it is officially banned.

1408

Martin Luther, a priest and doctor of theology at the University of Wittenberg.


1521
Make up two more posters below of men involved in the Reformation or in translating the Bible. Use the encyclopedia, *The Great Controversy*, or other history books.

**Wanted**

Draw a picture of the man.

**Wanted**

Draw a picture of the man.
1. With great reverence use your Bible as you learn more about how to serve God.

2. Check with a museum or library; sometimes they have old Bibles on display, or your family may know someone that has a very old Bible that they may let you look at. If they do not have a Bible they may have some old books that are made of vellum.

3. Sing one or all of the following hymns:

   “Give Me the Bible”

   “Break Thou the Bread of Life”

   “Holy Bible, Book Divine”

   “Sing Them Over Again to Me”

---

**Get Acquainted With Your Bible**

1. By what names is the Bible called? (Hebrews 4:12; Acts 7:38; Isaiah 8:20)

2. What else is the Bible called? (II Timothy 3:15)

**The Table of Contents**

3. Compare the table of contents in your Bible with other family members’ Bibles.

4. Are there any differences?

   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
5. Find the Old Testament.
Find the New Testament.

Have you ever had difficulty finding a book, chapter, or verse? Remember, it just takes practice to locate books.

Some keys to remember:

**Genesis** is the first book,
**Psalms** is in the middle of the Bible,
**Revelation** is the last book.

As you memorize the books between these three they will be easier for you to find. You will soon learn where each book is, like you know where each book is in your bookcase. Notice how chapters and verses are listed on the next page.


Books of the New Testament

The New Testament books are by Matthew begun
With the story of Christ, David’s Lord and his son.

Mark tells how by multitudes Jesus was sought,
For the blessings He gave, and the healing He wrought.

And from Luke comes the tale of the Babe at His birth;
With the griefs that attended His sojourn on earth.

While John has recorded His Godhead and love,
And the glory he had with the Father above.

In the Acts Luke has told us how apostles did preach,
By the Spirit sent forth, in all places to teach.

Then in Romans, by Paul, there is brought to our view,
The plan of salvation for Gentile and Jew.

The Corinthian letters were written by Paul,
First to chasten that flock, then to comfort them all.

So he sent the Galatians his earnest appeal,
To correct some false views, and to stir up their zeal.

While imprisoned at Rome for the sake of the Lord,
The Ephesians he wrote, and God’s grace did record.

The Philippian church then his message received,
With thanks for the gifts which his wants he relieved.

In Colossians the greatness of Jesus he’s shown,
And the duties of parents and children made known.
In the two *Thessalonians* he twelve times has said, Christ will come to redeem both the living and dead.

Ere Paul finished his course, unto *Timothy* twice He wrote letters of caution, and parting advice.

So to *Titus*, his son, in the faith of the Lord, He died also direct a brief counseling word.

To *Philemon* he wrote for Onesimus’ sake, That this master and slave an agreement might make.

Of the law and its meaning in *Hebrews* we read, And of Christ our High Priest, who in Heaven doth plead.

Then comes *James*, who condemns evil speaking and pride, And exhorts us in patience and faith to abide.

Next are *Peter’s* epistles, which faithfully tell Of a promised new earth, where the righteous shall dwell.

Then follow three letters from gentle saint *John*, Breathing forth the deep love of the Crucified One.

To “contend for the faith” was the message of *Jude*, whose epistle so brief, doth with blessings conclude.

*Revelation*, our Lord by His angel did send, Who has testified things that shall be at the end.

Thus the Scriptures do close with the holy command, “*Thou the prophecy seal not; the time is at hand.*”

For “*Behold, I come quickly, and bring, my reward;*” Amen; even so; we await Thee, O Lord.
The Symbols Help To Find The Verses

: = divide  - = or  -- = through  , = and  ; = repeat

Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Verse</th>
<th>Book</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Chap.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Genesis</td>
<td>49 :</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Genesis</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>- 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Verse</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Verse</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>3 :</td>
<td>11 -</td>
<td>4 :</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- A comma (,) is used between two or more chapters or verses in a series as shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I John</td>
<td>3 ,</td>
<td>4 ,</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Verse</th>
<th>Verse</th>
<th>Verse</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I John</td>
<td>4 :</td>
<td>7 ,</td>
<td>8 ,</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- When reading the reference, pause briefly at commas or say “and.” This could be read Psalm 1, 12, and 100. First John, chapter 2, verse 15.

- Notice the difference in how a comma and a hyphen are used.
Symbols Continued

- The semicolon (;) has two meanings.

  A. Tells you to repeat the title already stated. – I John 3:11-12; 4:7-8

  B. It separates a series of references.

  Genesis 49:10; Isaiah 61:1-3; John 3:16-17; Acts 3:22; Galatians 4:4-5.

- The following small books have only two references—book and verse, because there are no chapter divisions.

  Obadiah
  Philemon
  II John
  III John
  Jude

**Example:** II John 6
Steps in Finding a Verse

1. Look up the book.
2. Find the chapter.
3. Look for the verse which is listed in numerical order. The first verse in a chapter only has the chapter number, verse, then verse 2 is listed.
4. How many verses do the following chapters have?
   - Genesis 49
   - Isaiah 61
   - John 3
   - Acts 3
   - Galatians 4
5. Notice that some sentences are simple, others continue through several verses. When quoting what a person said quotation marks are not used as usual, but a capital letter begins the quote. Find Luke 1:28-30. What words begin the quote of the angels?
6. Be alert! Practice finding these books, chapters, and verses.

   Genesis 49:10
   Isaiah 61:1-3
   John 3:16-17
   Acts 3:22
   Galatians 4:4-5

   Genesis 49:10 was found on page_____________________.
   Isaiah 61:1-3 was found on page_____________________.
   John 3:16-17 was found on page_____________________.
   Acts 3:22 was found on page_____________________.
   Galatians 4:4-5 was found on page_____________________.

   (Especially notice the top of the pages in your Bible while you are looking for the verses above.
   What does it tell you?
   Notice how each verse is numbered in the chapters.)
Abbreviations

Abbreviations: Below are listed abbreviations for all the books of the Bible as found in *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance*:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<td>Ge</td>
<td>Genesis</td>
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<td>Ex</td>
<td>Exodus</td>
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<td>Le</td>
<td>Leviticus</td>
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<td>Nu</td>
<td>Numbers</td>
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<td>De</td>
<td>Deuteronomy</td>
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<td>Jos</td>
<td>Joshua</td>
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<td>Jg</td>
<td>Judges</td>
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<td>Ruth</td>
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<td>I Sa</td>
<td>I Samuel</td>
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<td>II Sa</td>
<td>II Samuel</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Ezra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Re</td>
<td>Revelation</td>
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</table>
7. Match these books with their abbreviations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Ru</td>
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<td>Ezr</td>
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<td>Pr</td>
<td>James</td>
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</table>

Reduce the abbreviation list on a copy machine and put it in the front of your Bible.
Review
Place I - II

1. List the steps in finding a verse.

_________________________________
_________________________________
_________________________________
_________________________________
_________________________________

2. What do these mean?

: ________________________________
- ______________________________
- ______________________________
, ______________________________
; ______________________________

3. List a reference for two of these small books.

Obadiah
II John
Philemon
Jude


_________________________________

Find a Bible verse that has the words,”search” and ”Scripture” in it.
### Review

**Place II - III**

1. Write the abbreviations for the books of the Bible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Testament</th>
<th>New Testament</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Genesis</td>
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<td>Leviticus</td>
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<td>Joshua</td>
<td>Malachi</td>
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<td>I Samuel</td>
<td>Luke</td>
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<td>John</td>
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<td>Question</td>
<td>Answer</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) Which books are mostly records of wars?</td>
<td>(11) What record is found in the book of Acts?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Which book is full of promises of peace?</td>
<td>(12) What is unusual about the books of Thessalonians?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Which book is full of sorrow?</td>
<td>(13) Which book in the Bible is the most touching?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) In which book is there a verse containing every letter of the alphabet except 1?</td>
<td>(14) And what makes it so?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) What do the books of the prophets contain?</td>
<td>(15) What words of remembrance for the children are there in this book?</td>
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<tr>
<td>(6) Which books are mostly in poetry?</td>
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<tr>
<td>(7) In which book is the Bible compared to a lamp?</td>
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<tr>
<td>(8) Where is the Bible called a fire and a hammer?</td>
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<tr>
<td>(9) Is it anywhere said that the Bible is like a mirror?</td>
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<tr>
<td>(10) What story is told through the first four books of the New Testament?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
About 40 authors wrote the Bible from about 1500 B.C. to A.D. 100.

The authors have different backgrounds, interests, and personalities, but not one book is in contradiction with another.

About 30 authors wrote the books of the Old Testament over a period of about 1,200 years.

The New Testament was written by 8 men over about 50 years. They are Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Paul, Peter, James, and Jude. Six of these men were known to be disciples of Jesus.

Early Bibles were hand-written on rolls of papyrus, leather, or parchment. The pens were finely beaten reed brushes, or sharp-pointed reeds. Ink was made from soot, gum, and water.

Sometimes Bible writers wrote themselves and sometimes they used scribes to whom they dictated.

Until the fifteenth century, copies of the Bible were written by hand.

In the fourth century A.D. the Bible became one complete volume.

Chapter divisions were done in the middle of the thirteenth century by Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury.

Robert Stephanus, a Paris publisher of the Greek-Latin edition of the New Testament was the first to use verse divisions in 1551.

While David wrote most of the Psalms, eight others are known to have written Psalms. The ninetieth Psalm was written by Moses.
Printing

The Library of Congress bought the Gutenberg Bible for $350,000 which was printed in 1455.

In the year 1382 the first English Bible was completed by Wycliffe.

In 1663 the first Bible was printed in America. It was a translation into the Mohican Language by John Eliot. He was a missionary to the Indians. As the Indians took the Holy book, they kissed it and rubbed it over their bodies, supposing the virtue of the Christian’s God was in the book and would by this act be imparted to them.

In Scotland, in 1670, was printed the “Thumb Bible,” being one inch (2.5 cm.) square and 1/2 inch (1.25 cm.) thick.

The organization in the United States called the American Bible Society has distributed about 900 million Bibles, or portions of the Bible, since 1816.

Go through pages 5-6 in the booklet, Bible Study.

Reinforce

Why is your Bible special to you?

1. _______________________________

_________________________________

_________________________________

_________________________________

_________________________________

_________________________________

The Bible

“Oh may the Bible be to us a rock, a pillar, a compass, a chart, a statute, a directory, a polestar, a traveler’s guide, a pilgrim’s companion, a shield of faith, a ground of hope, a history, a chronology, and armory, a store-house, a mirror, a closet, a prayer-book, an epistle, a love letter, a friend, a foe, a revenue, a treasury, a bank, a fountain, a cistern, a garden, a lodge, a field, a haven, a sun, a moon, a star, a door, a window, a light, a luminary, a morning, a noon, an evening, an hour-glass, a daysman, a servant, a handmaid.

“It is meat, food, drink, raiment, shelter, warmth, heat, a feast, fruit, apples, pictures, wine, milk, honey, bread, butter, oil, refreshment, rest, strength, stability, wisdom, life, eyes, ears, hands, feet, breath; it is a help to hearing, seeing, feeling, tasting, smelling, understanding, forgiving, loving, hoping, enjoying, adorning, and saving; it teaches salvation, justification, sanctification, redemption, and glorification; it declares condemnation; destruction, and desolation; it tells what we were, are, and shall be; begins with the beginning, carries us through the intermediate, and ends only with the end; it is past, present, and to come; it discovers the first great cause, the cause of all effects, and the effects of all causes; it speaks of life, death, and judgement, body, soul, and spirit, heaven, earth, and hell; it makes use of all nature as figures to sum up the value of the gospel, and declares itself to be the Word of God.

“And your friends and brother believes it.”
—William Miller

Read the stories, “Didn’t Think,” and “The Boy Who Didn’t Think.”

Studying the Bible improves the mind.
Remarkable Facts

The longest chapter: Psalm 119, with 176 verses.

The shortest chapter: Psalm 117, with 2 verses, 33 words.

The longest verse: Esther 8:9, with 90 words, or 426 letters.

The shortest verse: John 11:35, with 9 letters

The shortest book of the Bible: Obadiah.

The shortest book, OT: Obadiah.

The shortest book, NT: II John

The shortest verse, OT: I Chronicles 1:1.

The shortest chapter, NT: Revelation 15.

The middle chapter of the Bible: Psalm 117.

The middle chapter, OT: Job 29.

The middle chapter, NT: Romans 13.

The middle book of the Bible: Micah.

The middle book, OT: Proverbs.

The middle book, NT: II Thessalonians.

The middle verse of the Bible: Psalm 103:2.

The middle verse, OT: II Chronicles 20:18.

The middle verse, NT: Acts 17:17.
“Didn’t Think!”

Many children in this unfortunate world of ours are troubled with short “thinks” or at least they make poor use of the mental powers which they have been given. Now, while I am ready to admit that mistakes and accidents happen with children as with those of older years, and that some of them do really have bad, very bad, memories, I am not so ready to admit that they are a hundredth part as bad off as they imagine. In fact, so much of the problems arise because someone is not alert. I have heard children excusing their mistakes to their parents and about all the reason they thought necessary to give for this or that fault, was, “I didn’t think,” or “I forgot.” Not paying attention or failing to be alert can have serious consequences.

But all this is a very bad habit, too. The fact is, everyone who would be useful has to think carefully. The great object of life is to think, and to bring our thoughts to good account. We cannot do anything well without thinking—whether it is to build a ship, or plan a kite, or run an errand, it all requires being alert and thinking out the best way to do the job at hand. A great prophet once said, “I thought on my ways” (Psalm 119:59).

The following true story will show how important it is to be alert in whatever you are doing.

6 Essentials for Bible Study

- Pray
- Search
- Meditate

Compare
Believe
Obey

Bible Study Improves the Mind.
“The Boy That Didn’t Think?”

“I didn’t think,” said a smart-looking boy, one day, as he stood, with downcast eyes, in the presence of a grave-looking gentleman. “You didn’t think, eh! And now my business is ruined because you are a thoughtless boy. You are fired,” replied the gentleman, in a tone of voice which expressed both sorrow and sternness.

The boy silently left the room. He, too, seemed sad, and a tear glistened in the corner of his eye. What was the matter? What had he done? I will tell you. He was an apprentice. His trade was that of a carpenter. It had been a part of his duty to light the fire in the shop half an hour before the men came to work. One cold, windy morning he lighted the fire as usual; but, in doing so, he unthinkingly left a wood shaving burning out side the door of the stove. It was only one shaving. But a puff of wind from beneath the door of the shop blew the shaving on to the floor. There it set fire to another shaving: the boy was not alert to the spreading fire until it reached a pile of shavings and blazed up in the room. Then he tried to put the fire out. But he was too late. It was beyond his control. He rushed out, and shouted “fire!” and alarmed the people. They came, but could not save the shop. It burned down, and its owner, not being insured, was ruined financially. He was ruined simply because that boy was not paying attention (or being alert) to what he was doing.
“Baking Her Bible”

A good woman was making some bread one day, and what do you think she put into the middle of the lump of dough which was ready for the oven? She put her Bible there! Strange place for her Bible, wasn’t it? Why did she do it? Because the wicked men were having her house searched for the Bible, that they might burn it. They never thought of looking into the heart of a loaf for it, and so it was saved to instruct and comfort its owner. This happened nearly 270 years ago. The Bible was inherited by a grandson who lived in Ohio during the last century.

Draw a Bible inside the loaf of bread. Color the picture.
Remember the Bible is a collection of sixty-six books, containing history, poetry, prophecy, and letters to churches and individuals. Answer the questions by using the following list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ecclesiastes</td>
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<td>Luke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Esther</td>
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<td>Jeremiah</td>
<td>Philemon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hebrews</td>
<td>Job</td>
<td>Revelation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Which book was written by a medical doctor? ______________
2. Which book was written by the “gospel prophet?” _____________
3. Which is the longest book in the Bible? _________________
4. Which book is written largely in symbolic language? _________
5. Which book is a short letter to a slave owner? ______________
6. A lengthy discussion of the question, “Why do the innocent suffer?” is found in the book of _________
7. Which is the book of beginnings? _________________________
8. Which book bears the name of the “weeping prophet?” __________
10. Which book contains the reflections of a man disillusioned by luxury and materialism? _________
11. The book which insists that good works must accompany faith is the epistle of ____________________.
“Also Jonathan David’s uncle was a wise counsellor, a wise man, and a scribe....”
1 Chronicles 27:32
Each booklet in the series, “Designing Your Own School Program,” is planned for a family to study together for their homeschool curriculum; yet versatile enough to be used in the conventional classroom. Learn the principles of the subject matter from the Scriptures; discover more academic information; then apply it to your daily life.

Other titles in the language series are available in the following subjects:

1 - What is Language?
2 - Your Bible, The Word
3 - History of the Word
4 - Understanding the Word
5 - The Word Explains Words
6 - Books Full of Words
7 - Pure Words
8 - Figurative Words
9 - Synonyms, Homonyms, and Antonyms
10 - Development of Words (Prefixes, Suffixes, Root Words)

Mark 4:29