

CONFIDENTIAL

Scripture
Files



Week 1

BIBLE STORY

The Bible – What's the Big Deal?

Romans 10:13-17; 1 Peter 3:15

TODAY'S TAKEAWAY

I should know the Bible and be ready to explain it.

APOLOGETICS QUESTION

What makes the Bible different from other books?

SERIES MEMORIZATION GOAL

Kids will learn all 66 books of the Bible and be able to locate them in the Bible.

WEEKLY MEMORIZATION GOAL

Kids will learn there are 66 books in the Bible, 39 books in the Old Testament, and 27 books in the New Testament.



Week 1

Large Group SKIT

OVERVIEW

The skits will require two people. One person will play himself or herself (the straight character), and the other person will play the funny character. It works best if you can find a person willing to commit to being the character for the entire series.

CHARACTER BIO

The character's name is Detective Anita Clue. If using a male for the character, Detective Cornelius Clue. Detective Anita is a true skeptic who is determined to find out if the Bible is the real deal, one question at a time. The case will be difficult to solve since Anita is easily distracted and forgetful. Consider putting your character in a trench coat, fedora, and sunglasses. Anita always carries her magnifying glass and her trusty brief case full of top secret files and "detective equipment." Optional: Set up a portion of your stage/room as Anita's office. The office could include a messy desk with files, stamps, a typewriter, magnifying glasses, Bibles, etc., a desk chair, filing cabinet, and a hat/coat rack.

Week 1

SKIT

- Leader:** I can't wait to get started with our new series, "Scripture Files," today.
- Anita Clue:** *Sitting at her desk reading a file onstage, or creeps into the room quietly if she doesn't have an office onstage.*
- Leader:** *Speaking to the audience* Who is that? And where did all this stuff come from?
- Anita Clue:** Shhhhh... Can't you see I'm in the middle of an important investigation?
- Leader:** Um... no! What's going on here?
- Anita Clue:** What do you mean, what's going on? This is my office and you guys are being really noisy and disruptive to my case.
- Leader:** Excuse me, this is not your office. This is our kid's ministry room. And who are you anyways?
- Anita Clue:** Detective Anita Clue at your service. This did seem like an odd place for the agency to send me to set up my temporary office, but this is the address. *See? Anita comes out from behind her desk to show the file to the Leader.*
- Leader:** Well, you're right! That is the address of the church, but why are you here?
- Anita Clue:** I told you that already. I'm in the middle of an important investigation.
- Leader:** What could you possibly need to investigate here?
- Anita Clue:** *Grabs Bible off of her desk* This Book!

Week 1

Leader: The Bible?

Anita Clue: That's it! It's my job to find out if this Book, the Bible, is the real deal.

Leader: Are you saying that you don't believe the Bible is the Word of God?

Anita Clue: I'm not saying anything just yet. My investigation has just begun! I hope you are prepared to be interviewed.

Leader: Interviewed about what? You are kind of making me nervous.

Anita Clue: About the Bible of course! Each week I will be uncovering clues and will ask you one question that will bring us one step closer to solving this investigation and closing the case for good.

Leader: Wow! This sounds like a really big deal. I hope I can answer all of your questions. I guess I'd better start studying up. Takes the Bible from Anita and begins furiously reading through it as quickly as possible while muttering.

Anita Clue: *Takes the Bible back abruptly.* Question number 1: What makes the Bible different from other books?

Leader: Oh, I know this one! There are actually a lot of things that make it different. The Bible was written over a 1,500 year time period, by more than 40 authors, in a bunch of different places and times, on three continents, in three different languages, but all the books work together to tell one unified story about God saving mankind.

Anita Clue: That does sound like a pretty amazing Book, but how could all of those authors, over all of that time, write books that make up one big Book, the Bible? It doesn't sound possible?

Week 1

Leader:

Well, it is possible because God called, inspired, and gave the right words to all of the authors to create one amazing Book, the Bible. There is no other book out there that even comes close to comparing to it.

Anita Clue:

I'm impressed, but definitely not convinced yet. I will be investigating everything you just told me this week and will bring my next question for you to answer. *Walks out of the room, reviewing the file.*

Leader:

I sure am glad that I have been studying about the Bible for this series. It looks like I'm really going to need to know my stuff to convince Detective Anita that the Bible really is the Word of God.

Week 1

Large Group Game: Old, New, or Imposter?

SUPPLIES

- Small pieces of paper
- Pen
- Small container or bowl
- Two large dice

SETUP

- Write different books of the Bible on the small pieces of paper, fold them up and put them in the small container/bowl. You will want to have a similar amount of Old and New Testament books. Write a similar amount of "imposter" books that are not included in the Bible.
- "Imposter" book options: Thomas, Nicodemus, Paul, Clement, Barnabas, 2 Macabees, Tobias, Judith, Wisdom, Susanna, Laodiceans

HOW TO PLAY

1. Choose two kids to play in each round. Give each kid a large dice.
2. Pull a piece of paper out and read the book aloud for everyone to hear.
3. Have the kids roll their dice. The kid who rolled the highest number will get to answer if they think the book is from the Old Testament, New Testament, or an "imposter".
4. Choose two new kids for each round. Play as many rounds as you like or until you

Week 1

Large Group Message

SUPPLIES

- A Bible in your preferred version (This curriculum primarily uses the NLT version and occasionally NIV.)
- Three pieces of poster board (Write "Believe" on one, "Hear the Message" on the second one, and "God's Word" on the third.)
- Apron
- Chef's hat
- Spatula or whisk
- Musical accessory (scarf, pin, necklace, hat, etc.)
- Small musical keyboard
- Video game controller
- Video game console

INTRODUCTION

Today, we are launching into a full on investigation of the Bible. Over the next twelve weeks we will learn the books of the Bible and tackle some hard questions to uncover the truth. We will ask: "How do we know the Bible is from God?" "Where did the Bible come from?" "Why were the 66 books chosen to be in the Bible and not other books?" "Who chose the books that are in the Bible?" What does "the Bible is inspired" mean?" and many others. **Optional: Ask your kids to submit questions**

Week 1

they have about the Bible and address their specific questions during the series.

Before we dive into learning about the different sections found in the Bible, we are going to talk about why we should learn about it in the first place. Why is it important for us to study the Bible? What's the big deal? What makes the Bible different from all the other books in the world? Well, we already know from our conversation with Anita Clue that the Bible was written over a 1,500 year time period, by more than 40 authors, in a bunch of different places and times, on three continents, in three different languages, but all the books work together to tell one unified story about God saving mankind. There are 66 books that make up the entire Bible, and the Bible is broken up into two major sections. Does anyone know what the two major sections of the Bible are called? **Allow kids to respond.** The Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament contains 39 books and the New Testament contains 27 books. That sounds like a whole lot of information, and it is. The Bible has been read by more people and put out in more languages than any other book in history! It has been translated into over 2,000 languages, and there are over 40 different versions in English alone! The Bible is an incredible Book that God has given us to use as a tool in our lives every day.

BIBLE STORY

Let's look at what the Bible itself has to say about why it is such a "big deal" that we know the Bible. Turn with me to Romans 10:13-17. **Allow time for the kids to find it.** Let's read it together: "For, 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent?" Let's skip down and read verse 17. "Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message,

Week 1

and the message is heard through the word about Christ.”

We need to break this down. I need three volunteers to come up and help me.

Choose three kids and have each of them hold one of the poster boards so everyone can read them. The Scripture tells us that we need to believe in God

and call on him to be saved. **Point to the first poster board that says “Believe.”**

However, how can someone believe in God unless they have heard the message

about who He is and how Jesus died for them? **Point to the second poster board**

that says “Hear the Message.” Who can they hear that message from? **Allow kids to respond.** All of us who have already chosen to believe in God! Where do we

learn about what the message is? **Allow kids to respond, then point to the third**

poster board that says “God’s Word.” We have to open up God’s Word, study it,

know what it says, and be able to explain the Message to others. 1 Peter 3:15 says,

“And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it.”

Week 1

LIFE APPLICATION/OBJECT LESSON

I need a volunteer to come up who loves cooking/baking. **Choose a kid to come up and put the apron and chef's hat on him/her and have him/her hold the spatula/whisk. Insert kid's name here** says he/she loves cooking and baking so much. What is your favorite thing to bake? **Allow kid to respond.** Wonderful! **Insert kid's name here** loves baking **the food the kid mentioned** so much, but there is a problem. He/she doesn't know how to turn on the oven! That doesn't make any sense.

I need another volunteer who loves playing a musical instrument. **Choose a kid to come up and put the musical accessory on him/her and give him/her a small keyboard. Insert kid's name here** say he/she loves playing music on his/her keyboard. It's one of his/her favorite things to do. What's your favorite song to play? **Allow kid to respond.** That's awesome! Unfortunately, if I asked **insert kid's name here** to find a C note on the piano he/she couldn't find it. That's weird.

I need one more volunteer who loves playing video games. **Choose a kid to come up and give him/her a video game controller. Insert kid's name here** says he/she is the best video game player in the whole world. What is your favorite video game to play? **Allow kid to respond.** That's great, but there is a huge problem. **Pull out the video game console.** He/she doesn't even know how to turn on the video game console. How could he/she become the best video game player without even knowing how to turn the game on?

Let's give a big hand for our volunteers. **Allow kids to remove their accessories and props and find their seats.** It wouldn't make any sense for someone to love baking and not know how to turn on an oven, or for someone to love playing piano and not be able find middle C, or for someone who claims to be the best video game player in the world to not know how to turn on the console. Raise your hand if you would consider yourself a Christian, you believe in God, and you have made the decision to follow Him. **Allow kids to raise their hands.** That's awesome. If you didn't raise your

Week 1

hand, we are going to give you an opportunity in just a moment to make that decision today. If you are a Christian, would it make sense for you not to know the Bible?

The Bible is our tool as Christians just like an oven is a baker's tool, a keyboard is a musician's tool, and a controller is a gamer's tool. We have to know how to use it and explain it to others. That starts with learning how the Bible is made up, learning the books of the Bible, memorizing key verses, and spending time reading it every day. Let's pray and ask God to help us spend more time in His Word and learn how to explain it to our friends.

Optional: Offer a prayer of salvation for any kids who have not accepted Jesus into their lives.

Week 1

Large Group Review Questions

1. What is the name of our series?
Answer: Scripture Files
2. How many books are in the Bible?
Answer: 66
3. How many books are in the Old Testament?
Answer: 39
4. How many books are in the New Testament?
Answer: 27
5. What is Today's Takeaway?
Answer: I should know the Bible and be ready to explain it.

Week 1

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. What is one new thing you learned about the Bible today?
2. Why do you think the Bible is such a popular Book with so many different types of people?
3. Why is it important to spend time learning about God's Word?
4. What is one question you would like to ask about the Bible? *It is ok if the leaders don't know the answers to the kids' questions off the top of their heads. They can write down the questions and turn them in to the Kid's Pastor.*
5. Look up these verses and discuss them as a group.
1 Peter 3:15, Romans 10:17, Hebrews 4:12

Week 1

Small Group

Game: Old to the Left, New to the Right

SUPPLIES

- Tape (for the floor or small group rug)

SETUP

- Put a line of tape on the floor down the center of the room or small group rug.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Include everyone in this game.
2. Have all the kids stand in the center of the room at the beginning of each round.
3. Yell out a book of the Bible.
4. Have kids jump to the left of the tape if they think the book is in the Old Testament and jump to the right of the tape if they think it is in the New Testament.
5. Keep playing as long as you want or until you have said all of the books of the Bible.
6. Optional: Change the game up by throwing different actions in.
I.e. crawl, hop on one foot, do jumping jacks, slow-mo walk, crab walk, etc.