

WELCOME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Getting to know our way around the Bible

BEFORE THIS LESSON

Review the following verses in your Bible and put a bookmark or sticky note so you can easily turn to it.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- Bibles
- Envelopes
- Pens
- Postage stamps

As students arrive, give each of them a blank envelope. Ask them to address the envelope to themselves by writing their home address on it. Then instruct students to introduce themselves to as many other students who have finished as they can by shaking hands and telling where they live.

LEAD YOUR LESSON

SAY: Preee Looys! I'm so glad you found your way here to Sunday school today.

ASK:

- **How could you use the information that you just learned from the friends you introduced yourself here today?**
- **Why is knowing an address helpful?**

SAY: Let's pretend you want to send a letter to Der Hayr. You know what our church looks like, so how about if you draw a picture of it on the envelope, hoping the mail carrier will deliver it. Kind of like this, (take an envelope and draw a picture of a church on it).

- **Why do you or don't you think the card will get to our church?**
- **What else is needed to mail something to church?**

Did you know that you need the same thing to find your way around your Bible? If you know the "address" for the verse you are looking for, it's easy to find it in the Bible. Collect students' envelopes!*

Put students into pairs or small groups and give each group a Bible. Then, at the front of the room, hold up your Bible.

SAY: Today we are going to learn how easy it is to find things in the Bible. The Bible is the most important book. The Bible is divided into 2 parts. Do you know what they are called? (Pause) The 2 parts are called the OLD TESTAMENT and the NEW TESTAMENT. The Old Testament is the first part of the Bible and the New Testament is part 2. (Open your Bible and show the 2 parts.) The Bible is a big book, full of lots of words and chapters. But if you know the "address" of the verse you're looking for, it's easy to find it in the Bible! Let's give it a try.

ASK:

- **Who can tell me the first book in the Bible? (Pause) The first book is called Genesis.**
- **Is the book of Genesis in the Old Testament or the New Testament? (Pause) Correct! The book of Genesis is the first BOOK of the OLD Testament.**

SAY: Together, let's find Genesis 1:1. Write "Genesis 1:1" on the board.

SAY: **Genesis 1:1 – Here’s the book (Genesis), the chapter (1), and the verse (1).** Pause and guide students to find Genesis 1:1 in their Bibles. Once everyone has found the verse,

SAY: **See? We just found the verse for the book of Genesis, chapter 1, verse 1. This is kind of like the address for this scripture.** Ask for a volunteer to read the verse aloud to the class.

SAY: **Let’s try another one. Let’s look up a verse about when Jesus was born.** On the board write: **Luke 2:7. First, find the book of Luke. Next, find chapter 2. Finally, look in chapter 2 for the little number 7 . . . that’s verse 7.** Pause while everyone finds Luke 2:7. Ask a volunteer to read aloud.

SAY: **See? You just found a verse that tells an important part of the history of the world! Good work.**

SAY: **The Bible also has verses that also help us find solutions to all kinds of problems. The Bible teaches us to do what’s right.**

ASK:

- Do you every have tough times with a brother or sister?
- Maybe a friend at school?
- Do you ever have times when you feel said? Lonely?

SAY: **Let’s see what the Bible says to help us figure out some of the “tough situations” in our lives.**

SAY: **Now it’s your turn to try finding a scripture in your Bibles on your own. Each group will get a paper with a “Tough Situation” and an “address” to find the Bible’s solution. Find the scripture in your Bibles and be ready to *(write on the board)*:**

1. Read the “Tough Situation”
2. Report the page number in your Bible where you found your scripture
3. Tell if the Chapter is found in the Old Testament or the New Testament
4. Read the scripture “address” and what it says as a Solution to the tough situation.

Hand out the sections of the “Tough Situations” handout (to follow) and allow groups a few minutes to find the verses. Allow each group to give their reports as directed above to the class.

ASK:

- What was hard about finding these verses? What was easy?
- Does the Bible offer good solutions to these problems?
- Would you follow the Bible’s advice if you encountered one of these tough situations?

SAY: **There is so much for us to learn from the Bible this Sunday school year. I’m looking forward to each Sunday with you when we will have this time together to learn great things from the Bible.**

Have everyone place their hand on their Bibles.

SAY: **Let’s end our lesson today with a prayer. Make the sign of the cross saying, “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Men. Dear God, we thank You for giving us the Bible. We know this instruction book is your way to speak to us to help us to live a good, Christian life. Amen.**

“Hayr Mer” (sing or recite)

**Write a short note to each of your students this week telling them how happy you were to see them in Sunday school. Put the letter into the envelope that the student addressed to themselves in class today and put it in the mail so they receive it before next Sunday. They will LOVE receiving your special note!*

Tough Situations & The Bible's Solutions

Tough Situation: Your friends are encouraging you to pick on a new student at your school.

The Bible's
Solution:

John 13:34

Tough Situation: Someone makes fun of you a lot for being a Christian.

The Bible's Solution:

Romans 1:16

Tough Situation: You get jealous when your friend gets the newest and best game system.

The Bible's Solution:

Matthew 6:19-21

Tough Situation: You're angry with your brother or sister for touching your things without your permission.

The Bible's Solution:

Proverbs 15:1

Tough Situation: You did something you know you weren't supposed to do, and your mom found out about it.

The Bible's Solution:

Matthew 19:19