Here’s what’s inside your Bible Blitz™ Free Sample

A complete Bible Blitz lesson
(Pages 4-13)

Pages from the Hands-On Bible® that coordinate with the Blitz lesson pages
(Pages 14-17)

What’s special about the Hands-On Bible?
(Pages 18-31)

Cool fundraising ideas
(Pages 32-33)

What the experts say about the Hands-On Bible
(Pages 34-35)
### You Asked for It... We’re Giving It to You!

#### Getting kids to dig into their Bibles
- Kids open up the Bible, learn how to use it, and apply it to every aspect of life
- Kids actively explore their Bibles for Truth
- Bible study is fun, fresh, and creative
- The Hands-On Bible is the ONLY gizmo required!

#### Flexibility
- Works in any program format you have: midweek, Sunday school, children’s church, 1st or 2nd hour
- Can be used for any elementary age level, combined or separated
- Works with any group size
- Even works great for an intergenerational group!

#### Less time spent preparing
- All comes in one easy-to-order kit
- Leader guide has complete lesson outline and an easy checklist to get ready for a lesson
- Supply-light

#### Easy for volunteers
- Lesson format is step-by-step and easy to follow
- All supplies go in Blitz Kits so groups have what they need right away: no wait time to hand them out
- Clear, concise, easy-to-follow leader guide
- Leader is simply a facilitator

#### Easy to find volunteers
- Can be led by only one leader or by as many as you want!

#### Fresh ideas
- Worship and prayer are a response to what kids learn, rather than the opening
- Dynamics of large group are simultaneously combined with the interaction and relationships of small groups
- Exciting audio skits and music videos
- Different ways to dig into the Bible and learn Bible skills (such as role-playing, looking at passages from different perspectives, using creativity, and many others)
- Easy decorating themes provided to enhance each quarter

#### Solid Bible Truth
- Each quarter focuses on an aspect of God and our relationship with him
- Kids discover Bible Truth for themselves
- Kids learn and strengthen Bible skills

#### Variety
- Each lesson engages every learning style
- “For-Extra-Time” activities allow the leader to pick different experiences to teach the point and help the leader fill time

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How Do I Get to Heaven?

Bible Focus: Revelation 21:1—22:5

Discovery Point: Jesus is the way to heaven.

Worship Response: Students will praise and thank Jesus for making it possible for them to live with him in heaven.

Key Verse: “If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9).

A Look at the Session
Mix and match to meet your needs. For more ideas, see “For-Extra-Time Activities” on page 9.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session Sequence</th>
<th>What Children Will Do</th>
<th>Supplies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welcome! (up to 15 minutes)</td>
<td>Create vacation destination sculptures, and think about heaven as our ultimate destination.</td>
<td>Hands-On Bible Blitz CD, Hands-On Bible Blitz DVD CD player, TV/DVD player</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bible Blitz! (up to 20 minutes)</td>
<td>Explore Scripture, and try an impossible feat to discover what heaven is like and how to get there.</td>
<td>Hands-On Bibles Magazines, newspapers, catalogs, newsprint, safety scissors, poster board, markers, glue sticks, photocopy of “Scripture References” handout (p. 10), tape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Let’s Praise! (up to 15 minutes)</td>
<td>Praise God for creating heaven and a way to get there.</td>
<td>Hands-On Bible Blitz CD, Hands-On Bible Blitz DVD CD player, TV/DVD player</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Let’s Pray! (up to 10 minutes)</td>
<td>Talk with God about heaven and getting there.</td>
<td>Hands-On Bible Blitz CD, Hands-On Bible Blitz DVD CD player, TV/DVD player, posters from Bible Blitz! section, sticky notes, pencils</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Before This Session

- Photocopy the “Scripture References” handout on page 10, and cut apart the sections.

- Assemble Blitz Kits (one per four to five students): one section of the “Scripture References” handout; several magazines, newspaper pages, and catalog pages; two safety scissors; a box of markers; two glue sticks; sticky notes; pencils; and one sheet of poster board.

- Hang a blank sheet of newsprint in a prominent spot.

- Review the “Heaven” full-color page found just before page 1035 in your *Hands-On Bible*. **See page 14!**

- Cue the *Hands-On Bible Blitz* CD (1) and the *Hands-On Bible Blitz* DVD (1).

- Huddle briefly with any volunteers before the session. Answer any questions they have. Encourage them and pray for the session, the volunteers, and the students.

- **Easy for volunteers—All supplies can go in “Blitz Kits” so groups have what they need right away: no wait time to hand them out.**

  **TEACHER TIP**
  A Blitz Team can be as small as one or as large as five students. It’s best if they include a range of ages so older kids can help younger ones.

  Find fun decorating ideas at www.Group.com/BibleBlitz
Welcome!

Supplies: CD player | TV/DVD player

1. Play: "Into Us" (1)

2. As students arrive, have them form Blitz Teams of four or five students. Each team should choose a vacation destination and figure out a way to include all team members’ bodies in forming a statue to represent something they would find there. It could be a ride at their favorite theme park or a tent for camping.

3. After five minutes, start the “Questions Countdown” (1), turn up the volume, and lead students in cheering along.

4. SAY: I’m so glad you made Bible Blitz one of your destinations! A destination is somewhere you want to go. On the count of three, show me your statue creations of your favorite vacation destinations. One, two, three! Give each team one minute to re-create its statue and tell what it is.

ASK:
• What is the best thing about going to your favorite vacation destination?
• How long would you want to stay there?
• There are so many great places to visit, but none of these compares to our ultimate destination. Who knows where that is?
• Have you ever wondered what it’s like or, more important, how to get there?

SAY: Heaven is a wonderful place, and JESUS IS THE WAY TO HEAVEN.
Kids open up the Bible, learn how to use it, and apply it to every aspect of life.

**Bible Blitz!**

**Supplies:** Blitz Kits | newsprint | tape | marker

1. **Say:** This is going to be a heavenly time! Hand each Blitz Team a Blitz Kit you assembled before the session. Find the slip of paper with the Scripture reference in your Blitz Kit. Then look up the Scripture in your Bibles, and read your passage together to see what you can discover about heaven. Summarize what you find on the back of your paper in 12 words or less. Give teams three minutes, and then ask a representative from each Blitz Team to stand up and read its summary. Record responses on the blank newsprint.

   **ASK:**
   - Who lives in heaven?
   - What is it like there?

2. **Have Blitz Teams turn to the “Heaven” page found just before page 1035 in the *Hands-On Bible.* Ask teams to use their supplies to complete instructions 1 through 3. After 10 minutes, ask each team to present its poster, and hang the posters in separate places around the room.

3. **Have students look at the picture on the “Heaven” page.**

   **ASK:**
   - How do you feel when you know your family is going to an amusement park?
   - How do you feel when you think about going to heaven?
   - How do you think you get to heaven?

4. **Say:** Heaven’s going to be a wonderful place, no doubt about it. But you can’t ride a roller coaster to get there. There’s only one way to get to heaven. In a little while, we’ll find out what the Bible says about getting to heaven. Right now I want everyone to line up along one wall. Your goal is to get to the other side of the room without touching the floor in any way. See if you can make it happen. Are you set? Go! If students haven’t

**SIMPLE STRATEGY**

Running low on magazines or newspapers? Let students draw their own pictures to add to the poster.

Get kids into the Bible—Kids discover Bible truths for themselves.

Large group dynamics are simultaneously combined with the interaction and relationship building of small groups.

figured anything out after 30 seconds, give them some hints such as “If you can’t touch the floor, can someone else? Is there a way to put something between you and the floor?”

After three minutes, call students together.

ASK:
- How did it feel to try to make it across the room without touching the floor?
- What did you need to make it across the room?

SAY: You couldn’t cross the room by yourself. You needed the help of someone else to make it possible. Getting to heaven is the same way.

Ask one volunteer to read aloud the “Jesus Connection.” Then ask another volunteer to read aloud ROMANS 10:9.

ASK:
- What is the only way we can get to heaven?
- How does Jesus help us get there?
- How does this Scripture relate to our “getting across the room” activity?

SAY: Heaven’s going to be wonderful, and JESUS IS THE WAY TO HEAVEN. In our “getting across the room” activity, the way to get across without touching the floor in any way would be for me to carry you. Let’s take a minute to help everyone get across the room just this way. Let older students carry younger ones as you and other volunteers carry students. The only way you can get to heaven is by believing in what Jesus did on the cross.
Let’s Praise!

Supplies: TV/DVD player | CD player

1. SAY: Turn to a partner, and tell your partner three things about what heaven is like. Pause.
   ASK:
   • Who can tell me how to get to heaven in three words or less?
   SAY: Now everyone tell me how you’re going to get there!
   Pause, and then ask:
   • What do you think will be the first thing you’ll do when you get to heaven?
   Accept several responses.
   SAY: I don’t know what I’m going to do, but it will certainly include worshipping God, the creator of heaven. I’m sure I’ll be very grateful that Jesus provided the way for me to get there, too! Let’s take some time now to show God our thanks and praise for Jesus, the way to heaven!

2. PLAY:
   • “Confess With Your Mouth” (Romans 10:9) (7)
   • “To God Be the Glory” (6)
   • “Jesus Loves Me Rock” (5)
   SAY: Thanks for praising God with me. I’m so glad that JESUS IS THE WAY TO HEAVEN. And we’ll be able to praise him together when we are in heaven.
Let’s Pray!

Supplies:  
- CD player
- TV/DVD player
- posters from Bible Blitz! section
- sticky notes
- pencils

1. Ask students to return to their Blitz Teams and sit close to the posters they created. Say: Take turns telling the rest of your team one new thing you learned about heaven today. Pause. Everyone take a sticky note and a pencil. Write your name on the sticky note, and then put your pencil away. Pause. We’re going to take several minutes to quietly reflect on what we’ve learned today. During this quiet time, I’ll play soft music. You may walk around the room and look at the different posters, or you can sit wherever you want. Either way, it will be a time to talk to God, not to each other. Talk to him about what you’ve learned about heaven. Talk to him about getting there! Talk to him about how it feels to wait to get there. When you’ve finished, if you have faith in Jesus, place your sticky note on your poster, because you know you will also be in heaven. You’ll know when our prayer time is finished when I turn off the music. Please respect others until you hear the music stop.

2. Play: “Prayer Time Sound Effects 1” (17). Give students a time to pray and place their notes on their pictures of heaven.

High Fives

1. SAY: I’m looking forward to spending forever in heaven with all of you! How do you suppose we’ll greet each other in heaven? It’s probably not anything we can imagine, but what if it were high fives? Create a “heavenly” high five, and give it to as many people you can. Tell them that JESUS IS THE WAY TO HEAVEN and you are looking forward to seeing them there!

2. Play: “To God Be the Glory” (6) as students high five and leave.
For-Extra-Time Activities

YOU ARE NOW FREE TO MOVE ABOUT HEAVEN...

**Supplies:** none

Have students form groups of seven and turn to page 1297 in their Hands-On Bibles. Have each group read a different verse in the “I’m Worried About Going to Heaven” section and decide how to explain the verse as a travel commercial for getting to heaven. The commercial must include everyone in the group. Give groups five minutes to work on their presentations, and then give all groups an opportunity to advertise the way to heaven.

HEAVENLY CRUISE

**Supplies:** white paper | crayons | markers | pencils

Ask students to form pairs. Give each pair a piece of white paper and crayons or markers. Ask pairs to create a travel brochure describing heaven and how to get there. Let students choose how to fold the paper and include all the important information (Scriptures and explanations) as well as illustrations. Provide time for students to share their brochures with at least one other pair.

FOCUS ON HIDING IT IN YOUR HEART

**Supplies:** CD player or TV/DVD player

Sing the song “Confess With Your Mouth” (Romans 10:9) (7). Talk about the meaning of words in the song, such as confess and saved. Sing it several more times.

BLITZ BIBLE DICTIONARY

**Supplies:** paper | markers | dictionary

Ask Blitz Teams to create one or more new pages, each with a new word, for the Blitz Bible Dictionary. Have students suggest new word(s) from today’s lesson—heaven and confess are two suggestions. Have them write each word on a sheet of paper in fun letters, add a definition, list Scripture references, and make illustrations. Add each page to a three-ring binder, and watch the dictionary grow!

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

**Supplies:** CD player

Ask students to read the intro page for any book of the Bible. Ask them to create a motion for that book in the Bible. For example, students could make a motion for rain for Genesis or do a beauty pageant wave for Esther. Each week add a new motion for another book. Play “The Books of the Bible Song” (8), and do all the motions the students have learned.

Isaiah 66:1-2

John 14:1-3

John 14:6

Romans 10:9-10

2 Corinthians 5:1

James 1:17

Revelation 21:3-4

Revelation 21:18, 21
Wanna Be Here?

What’s the very coolest place to be?

Did you say “heaven”? According to the Bible, heaven will be the most awesome place ever.

Check out Revelation 21:1–22:5 for just a glimpse!

Then Picture This!

Make a poster of how you think heaven will be.

1. Grab magazines, newspapers, and catalogs. Cut out things you’d like to see in heaven.

2. Make a collage on the top of a sheet of poster board.

3. On the bottom, make a collage of the things you’ll be glad to leave behind when you go to heaven.

FAMILY CHALLENGE

Talk as a family about going to heaven. How do you each feel about going to heaven?
Encourage each other about the joys of living here on earth as well as spending eternity together.

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Heaven’s going to be a wonderful place—no doubt about it. But do you have doubts about whether you’ll get to go there? There’s a way to be sure. Jesus says he’s the way. Jesus took the punishment for our sins when he died on the cross, and he rose again to make eternal life with him possible. Where? You got it—heaven! Check out ROMANS 10:9-10 for exactly how to get to heaven!
“Though the people of Israel are as numerous as the sand of the seashore, only a remnant will be saved. 28 For the LORD will carry out his sentence upon the earth quickly and with finality.”

29 And Isaiah said the same thing in another place:

“If the LORD of Heaven’s Armies had not spared a few of our children, we would have been wiped out like Sodom, destroyed like Gomorrah.”

Israel’s Unbelief
30 What does all this mean? Even though the Gentiles were not trying to follow God’s standards, they were made right with God. And it was by faith that this took place. 31 But the people of Israel, who tried so hard to get right with God by keeping the law, never succeeded. 32 Why not? Because they were trying to get right with God by keeping the law instead of by trusting in him. They stumbled over the great rock in their path. 33 God warned them of this in the Scriptures when he said,

“I am placing a stone in Jerusalem that makes people stumble, a rock that makes them fall. But anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.”

CHAPTER 10
Dear brothers and sisters, the longing of my heart and my prayer to God is for the people of Israel to be saved. 2 I know what enthusiasm they have for God, but it is misdirected zeal. 3 For they don’t understand God’s way of making people right with himself. Refusing to accept God’s way, they cling to their own way of getting right with God by trying to keep the law. 4 For Christ has already accomplished the purpose for which the law was given. As a result, all who believe in him are made right with God.

Salvation Is for Everyone
5 For Moses writes that the law’s way of making a person right with God requires obedience to all of its commands. 6 But faith’s way of getting right with God says, “Don’t say in your heart, ‘Who will go up to heaven’ (to bring Christ down to earth). 7 And don’t say, ‘Who will go down to the place of the dead’ (to bring Christ back to life again).” 8 In fact, it says,

“The message is very close at hand; it is on your lips and in your heart.”

And that message is the very message about faith that we preach: 9 If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved. 11 As the Scriptures tell us, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.” 12 Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. 13 For “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

14 But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? 15 And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, “How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!”

16 But not everyone welcomes the Good News, for Isaiah the prophet said, “Lord, who has believed our message?” 17 So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ. 18 But I ask, have the people of Israel actually heard the message? Yes, they have:

“The message has gone throughout the earth, and the words to all the world.”

19 But I ask, did the people of Israel really understand? Yes, they did, for even in the time of Moses, God said,

“I will rouse your jealousy through people who are not even a nation. I will provoke your anger through the foolish Gentiles.”

20 And later Isaiah spoke boldly for God, saying,

“I was found by people who were not looking for me. I showed myself to those who were not asking for me.”

21 But regarding Israel, God said,

“All day long I opened my arms to them, but they were disobedient and rebellious.”

CHAPTER 11
God’s Mercy on Israel
I ask, then, has God rejected his own people, the nation of Israel? Of course not! I myself am an
Genesis is all about beginnings. There’s too much to tell here, so you’ll just have to read the book yourself. **IT’S AWESOME!**

**FAMouS FIrSTs In GEnESIS**
- CREATION OF THE WORLD
- FIRST MAN
- FIRST WOMAN
- FIRST MARRIAGE
- FIRST SIN
- FIRST RESULTS OF SIN
- FIRST KIDS
- FIRST MURDER
- FIRST TIME GOD POINTED OUT HIS PLAN TO SAVE PEOPLE FROM THEIR SIN

**Trouble in Paradise**

Adam and Eve, the first people God created, got busted. After eating the forbidden fruit, God questioned them, and the finger-pointing began.

“She made me do it,” said Adam.

“The snake made me do it,” said Eve.

The snake could not be reached for comment. Read Genesis 3:14-24 to see God’s reply.

**Starting From Scratch**

In a shocking move, God created the whole universe by just speaking. God said, “Let there be light.” And there was light. It was the same way with the land, the animals—everything! All God had to say was “Let there be…”—and there was.

Not bad! In fact, according to God, it was all good. For details, see Genesis 1:1–2:3.

**Weather News**

Rain, rain, and more rain

Noah’s weather report from God was rain—and plenty of it. Forty days of rain, in fact. Enough rain to flood the whole earth. But God had a plan.

Read all about it in Genesis 6–8.

Colorful covenant…

God said the rainbow would be the sign of his promise to never destroy the earth by flood again. Remember that the next time you see a rainbow!

**How big?…** The ark was four stories high. Go outside and look at your house. How many stories (floors) does it have? Imagine a boat four stories high!
The Birth of Israel

God told Abraham to leave his home and go to a new land far away. He obeyed God (unlike some other people in Genesis). God promised to give Abraham many children. God gave Abraham a son (Isaac). Isaac had kids, who had their own kids, who had kids—you get the picture. That’s why Abraham is called the father of God’s people. Read the family history in Genesis 12–15.

Real Estate News

Abraham and Lot split land…

Abraham and his nephew Lot were involved in a real estate deal that made history. When God told Abraham to leave his home and travel, Abraham obeyed. He took all his stuff and family, including his nephew named Lot. Finally, they settled down, and that’s when the trouble started. See Genesis 13 for details.

Dear Blabby

Tricky situation…

Q: My brother Jacob pulled a mean trick on me. Here’s what happened. It all started one day when I was really hungry.

A: Find the answer in Genesis 25:19-34.

Timeline

God wanted to be with Adam and Eve, but their sin broke the relationship. But even back then, God had a way planned to take away people’s sin. That way is Jesus.

God gave a hint about Jesus in Genesis 3:15. “You will strike his heel” means that Satan tried to make Jesus sin during his time on earth. (It didn’t work.) “He will strike your head” means that Jesus defeated Satan. (It did work!) Check out 1 John 3:8 for proof.

Missing Person

Coat as clue?

Joseph, age 17, was last seen wearing a coat of many colors, a gift from his father. He disappeared while visiting his brothers, who were tending flocks away from home. For the complete story, turn to Genesis 37:12-36.
This Bible Rocks!

Let’s take a closer look at the award-winning Hands-On Bible® and how it works perfectly with Hands-On Bible Blitz™ to get kids into the Bible!
What’s special about the HANDS-ON BIBLE®

INTRODUCTIONS make kids want to read every book in the Bible!

You know it’s the one book your kids need. But how do you get them to read it?
Choose the one Bible that will engage, entertain, and enlighten your kids—the Hands-On Bible!
Check out why the Hands-On Bible is the book kids can’t put

These quick, funny overviews are written in a style kids can relate to.

COOL Facts!

What’s special about the HANDS-ON BIBLE®

VALUABLE INFO!

WHAT ELSE?
Every Introduction includes a TIMELINE to show kids when the action took place. Dates from world history add to the fun!

Timeline

Do you know when the first dome was used? Now you do!

Excite, ignite, and invite kids to experience the Bible as they read it. Science experiments, crafts, journals, snacks—kids do the Bible, which means they’ll learn the Bible and remember the Bible!

Here’s how the Hands-On Bible® shows them!

**REAL BIBLE LEARNING!**

**ACTIVE LEARNING!**

**BUILDS RELATIONSHIPS!**

**LIFE APPLICATION!**

Kids love mysteries and challenges! That’s why we’ve included **SECRET MESSAGES** throughout the Bible that send kids searching for other places in the Bible. Think of it as a Bible treasure hunt! Kids explore the Bible like never before, and discover that God’s Word is an amazing whole, not just disconnected books under one cover.

**Can you find the secret message in this activity?**

It’s just for kids, but you can look, too. Grab your magnifying glass and start searching!
Key Verse

“For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile.”—ROMANS 1:16

Pure Power

Read ROMANS 1:16 out loud a few times until you know it by heart. Whoever believes in Jesus will be saved and live with him forever in heaven. Now that’s power!

Believing in Jesus has the awesome power to save you, change your life, and let you live in heaven forever.

Here’s an experiment about SIMPLE POWER!

1. Zip a resealable gallon-size plastic bag closed.
2. Poke a hole in the side of the bag with a drinking straw. Tape around the straw where it’s poked inside the bag.
3. Place a heavy book on the bag. Now blow through the straw, and watch what happens.

AMAZING! You may not have thought the bag was powerful at first, but it turned out to be very powerful! You may not think at first that believing in Jesus is powerful, but it is. It’s the only thing that can get you into heaven!

Show this experiment to a friend, then explain the power of believing in Jesus!

Key Verse

“Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.”—JOHN 15:5

Chain Reaction

Find a friend, and read JOHN 15:5 a few times until you can say it to each other without reading it. Discuss these questions with your friend:

- Why can’t a branch survive if it’s not connected to the main vine?
- Why is it so important for us to be connected to Jesus?
- What are some ways to stay connected to Jesus?

Brainstorm with your friend ways to stay connected to Jesus. (You might say reading the Bible.) Then think of fruit you can produce by staying connected to Jesus. (You might say being loving.)
Like all of God’s heroes (except Jesus), I made some whopper mistakes. But I know I did at least one thing right. When the Lord told me to leave my home and friends, I obeyed. God just said “go” and promised that my children would become a strong nation. But many years went by, and my wife, Sarah, and I almost gave up on God’s promise. We still had no children, and we were old! Imagine your grandma and grandpa, or even your great-grandparents, having a baby. Well, that’s exactly what happened to us. I was 100 years old and Sarah was 90 when we had Isaac—my wife just couldn’t stop laughing! In fact, we picked a name for our son that showed our joy. Isaac means “laughter.” That’s no joke! When Isaac grew into his teens, I had the worst day of my life. Read Genesis 1:1-18 to find out what happened. During that frightening day, I obeyed God, and God took care of my son and me.

Hi, my name is Abraham (shepherd, parent of a nation).

I Know I’m Fast, but Is That Fast? You may be really fast when you run in soccer, but is that what the Bible means when it talks about fasting? Nah! In the Bible, fasting means going without food for a certain length of time so you can pray and focus on God. Jesus himself fasted for forty days when Satan was tempting him (Matthew 4:1-2).

Try fasting through one meal (ask your parents for permission first, and don’t pick the night you’re having liver and onions!).

While others are eating, spend time praying, reading your Bible, and focusing on God.

The facts are fun, true, and yup—hands-on!

Fun Fact
Noah had to build a big boat to hold the animals. (See what Noah was up to in Genesis 6:9-22.) The ark was as long as one and one-half football fields, as tall as a four-story building, and as wide as a city block.

If God had asked Noah to fill the ark with popcorn, he would have had to pop about 6 million bags. GOOD THING NOAH DIDN’T HAVE A MICROWAVE! Pop up a bag of popcorn to celebrate what God did to save the world.

70 Fun Facts
How big was Noah’s ark? How many steps did Abram’s journey take? 70 FUN FACTS help kids understand Bible-times culture, Bible story details, and key biblical concepts. Each Fun Fact helps kids see the Bible as true and amazing.

See pages 26 & 27!
BIBLE EXPERIENCES—
the biggest stories
kids absolutely have
to know. From Creation
to Heaven, these full-color
extravaganzas will wow
kids with the knowledge
that God has a master
plan, and it includes them!

See pages 24 & 25!

THE JESUS CONNECTION
We want kids to grow in their friendship with Jesus—it’s our main goal. That’s why
we’ve included a feature called THE JESUS CONNECTION in every book introduction
and on every Bible Bonanza page. We show kids how the focus of the Bible is Jesus!

God wanted to be with Adam
and Eve, but their sin broke
the relationship. But even
back then, God had a way
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Check out 1 John 3:8 for
proof.

One bolt of lightning can deliver 100 million volts and can be as hot as 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit. The power in nature is amazing, but it’s nothing compared to God’s power.

When the people of Israel worshiped false gods, Elijah held a contest to show who had the real power. Read all about it in 1 KINGS 18:16-39.

Elijah set up a contest with the prophets of the false god Baal. The prophets lost, and the whole nation of Israel saw, through God’s electrifying power, who was the one true God. Over 800 years later, Elijah (along with Moses) appeared to Jesus’ disciples to help them see that Jesus was God. You can read all about it in LUKE 9:28-36. Jesus was more than a good teacher or a great man; Jesus was also God on earth who came to save the world from sin.
God’s Master Plan

Jesus’ Birth:
Luke 2:1-20

Happy Birthday

God gave the best present of all time when he sent his Son, Jesus, to earth. Jesus’ birthday was the most important birthday ever because he came to save the whole world from sin. Even though Jesus is God, he didn’t come to earth with a huge parade or with a giant palace to live in. Check out Luke 2:1-7 to see how Jesus made his entrance.

Give back!

Read Matthew 25:37-40. Then make a plan to give back to Jesus by giving to others.

1. Think of three people you’d like to give gifts to.

2. For each person, make a gift certificate of one thing you can do for that person. (Like clean his or her room or make breakfast.)

3. Put the notes in boxes, and wrap the boxes. Let the three people open their presents.

Follow through with your gifts by doing the work.

God loves you and wants to be with you. That’s why God sent his Son, Jesus, to earth. If you put your faith in Jesus, your sins will be forgiven and you can have a friendship with God! Best of all, you’ll get to be with God forever in heaven. That’s the best gift of all time! Read John 3:1-21 to learn more about this awesome gift.

How can you follow Jesus?

My greatest claim to fame is being the one who prepared the way for Jesus’ coming. That doesn’t mean that I rolled out a red carpet or anything like that, but I did try to prepare peoples’ hearts for Jesus by encouraging them to repent of their sins.

I lived out in the country, away from the distractions of the city. I preached repentance, and people came to me to be baptized. That’s where I got my nickname, the Baptist. I baptized people in water, which symbolized washing away the sins. You might think my lifestyle was strange because I just lived out in the desert, eating whatever I could find—mostly locusts and wild honey. And I wore clothing made out of camel skins. But hey, it worked for me!

My strange dress and eating habits didn’t keep people from coming out to hear me preach though. In fact, I became so popular that some people actually thought that I might be the Messiah. But I was careful to set them straight! I was not even worthy to untie the sandals of the real Messiah, Jesus.

One of the finest moments of my life was when Jesus came to me to be baptized. There was no way I felt worthy—I would rather he baptized me! But Jesus insisted, so I baptized him. And God spoke from heaven when I did! Wow, what an experience!

I guess I’d have to say that the thing I look back on most fondly is what Jesus said about me. He once told a crowd of people that “of all who have ever lived, none is greater than John the Baptist” (prophet, baptizer, advance man for Jesus).
Oh, the stories I could tell! First, you need to know who I really am. (I’m not King Saul of the Old Testament.) I’m sometimes known as Saul of Tarsus, since Tarsus is where I came from. But after I became a follower of Jesus, I became known as Paul. Before I met Jesus, I thought Christians were trying to change our Jewish faith with wrong teachings. So I was all about trying to stop them.

But Jesus stopped me in my tracks—literally! I was on my way to Damascus to nab some more Christians, when Jesus stopped me. A light from heaven shone down on me, and I heard a man’s voice but couldn’t see anyone! The voice said, “I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting.” He told me to go into the city and wait.

When I stood up, I was blind! My friends led me into town, and I stayed there blind for three days. Then God sent a man named Ananias, a believer in Jesus, to restore my sight and get me started on the right path of telling others about Jesus.

God is amazing! Even though I had once tried to stop Christians, God changed my life and used me to spread the truth about Jesus. During my life I went on three big missionary trips. At God’s direction and with his inspiration, I wrote a whole bunch of letters to people and churches, many of which are in this very Bible you’re reading. I realized that nothing was more important than believing in Jesus!

Can God use you?

List the talents and abilities God has given you. Next to each talent, write a way you could use that talent to honor God. (Maybe you’re a good listener, or maybe you encourage people. Those are talents too!) Every time you notice God using you, write the date on your paper. Let God use you in big—and little—ways!
Jesus taught us the best way to pray. Read his recipe for prayer in Matthew 6:9-13.

**THEN MAKE YOUR OWN RECIPE.**

1. Gather five trail mix ingredients in separate bowls.
2. Put a small handful of each ingredient in a small plastic bag. Then zip the bag shut. Keep making bags.

The five ingredients in your trail mix can remind you of five ingredients in the Lord’s Prayer:

- **Praise** (honoring God)
- **Purpose** (wanting God’s will, not our own)
- **Provision** (trusting God to take care of us)
- **Pardon** (forgiveness from God and for others)
- **Protection** (from temptation and evil)

**GIVE YOUR BAGS AWAY TO FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS. TELL THEM TO READ THE LORD’S PRAYER TO LEARN THE WAY TO PRAY!**

God sent an angel to give an amazing message to a young woman named Mary. Read Luke 1:26-38 to see for yourself. The message must have seemed impossible!

**Try this “impossible” activity!**

1. Fill a drinking glass almost to the top with water.
2. Drop a small cork into the glass, and make the cork float in the center of the water without touching the glass.

**WHAT HAPPENS?**

The cork keeps floating off to the side. It seems impossible to keep it in the center!

**NOW TRY THIS!**

Slowly pour water from another glass until the water rises just above the rim without spilling. The cork will move to where the water is the highest—the center. It wasn’t impossible when you knew what to do.

With God, truly nothing is impossible!
FALLING WALLS

Read JOSHUA 6:1-20. In this story, the Lord knocks down a huge city wall without force. Sound impossible? Try it!

FIRST!
Break several graham crackers into fourths.

BUILD!
Build yourself a mini-wall by stacking the graham crackers on top of each other, using the marshmallow creme like cement. Once you’ve made a few stacks, line them up next to each other to form your wall.

NEXT!
Spread marshmallow creme on one side of each graham cracker section.

CRASH TEST!
Now shout at your wall. Play a musical instrument as loud as you can next to it. What happens? That’s right—NOTHING!

THINK ABOUT IT!
It’s not easy to bring down a wall with just noise, is it? But God did it! God’s awesome! As you eat each section of wall, think of a time you need God’s power. Ask God to help you, and he will—that is, he will!

Jars of Protection!

How did God use jars and trumpets to scare a whole army? Read JUDGES 7 to find out. Then come back for some fun!

1
God used jars, torches, and trumpets to win the battle for Gideon. Get an empty jar and some craft paint. Paint a torch and trumpet on your jar. (Leave room at the bottom for words.)

2
The army shouted, “A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!” Around your jar write, “A sword for the Lord and for [your name].”

3
Set the jar next to your bed. Write your prayer requests and put them in the jar.

Praise the Lord!
Gideon might have been scared, but he trusted God to help him. God beat a whole army for Gideon. He’ll take care of you!
No matter what’s happening in your life, the Bible can help! The Bible gives great advice—because it’s God’s advice. And he knows everything. God made you. He knows you. So it’s natural that he would know how to solve your problems.

The next time you’re upset, scared, or confused, let God help you. Read his words. Follow his advice. You’ll be glad you did!

Here are a few ideas to get you started. Add your own favorite verses whenever you want. Pretty soon, you’ll have your very own handy advice guide. Then you can start helping others follow God’s good advice!

**Where to Turn in My Bible When I Feel...**

**ANGRY**

- **PROVERBS 15:1** • “A gentle answer…”
- **19:11** • “Sensible people control…”
- **LUKE 6:27-30** • “But to you who are willing…”
- **6:31** • “Do to others…”
- **JOHN 13:34-35** • “So now I am giving you…”
- **6:31** • “And ‘don’t sin by...’”
- **4:31-32** • “Get rid of all bitterness…”
- **COLOSSIANS 3:8-10** • “But now is the time...”

**AFRAID**

- **JOSHUA 1:9** • “This is my command...”
- **PSALM 46:10** • “Be still, and know...”
- **91:11** • “For he will order his angels...”
- **118:6** • “The Lord is for me...”
- **ISAIAH 41:10** • “Don’t be afraid, for...”
- **ROMANS 8:28** • “And we know that God...”
- **EPHESIANS 6:11-12** • “Put on all of God’s armor...”
- **JAMES 1:2-3** • “Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come...”
Where to Turn in My Bible When...

**PSALM 19:1** • “The heavens proclaim the glory...”
46:10 • “Be still, and know...”

**LUKE 21:33** • “Heaven and earth will disappear...”

**JOHN 1:1** • “In the beginning the Word already...”
1:14 • “So the Word became human...”
3:16 • “For God loved the world so much...”
14:6 • “Jesus told him, ‘I am the way...’ ”
20:31 • “But these are written so that you may continue to believe...”

**HEBREWS 4:16** • “So let us come boldly to the throne...”
11:1 • “Faith is the confidence that what we hope for...”

**1 JOHN 4:10** • “This is real love—not...”

**DEUTERONOMY 6:6** • “And you must love the **Lord** your God...”

**ISAIAH 40:8** • “The grass withers and the flowers...”

**MATTHEW 19:19** • “Honor your father and mother...”

**LUKE 6:31** • “Do to others...”

**JOHN 14:26** • “But when the Father sends the Advocate...”

**ROMANS 12:1-2** • “And so, dear brothers and sisters...”

**GALATIANS 6:7** • “Don’t be misled—you cannot mock...”

**EPHESIANS 6:11-12** • “Put on all of God’s armor...”

**PHILIPPIANS 4:8** • “And now, dear brothers and sisters...”

**JAMES 1:5** • “If you need wisdom, ask...”

**PSALM 100:4** • “Enter his gates with thanksgiving...”
118:1 • “Give thanks to the **Lord**, for...”

**LUKE 6:27-30** • “But to you who are willing...”
11:9 • “And so I tell you, keep on asking...”

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18** • “Always be joyful...”

**JOHN 3:16** • “For God loved the world so much...”
3:17-18 • “God sent his Son...”

**ROMANS 6:23** • “For the wages of sin is death...”
10:9 • “If you confess with your mouth...”

**EPHESIANS 2:8-9** • “God saved you by his grace...”

**1 JOHN 4:10** • “This is real love—not...”
5:12 • “Whoever has the Son has life...”

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EASY FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN
FOR YOUR CHURCH!

Plant God’s Word in 
EACH Child’s Heart

We want to get the Bible into EVERY child’s hands!

We don’t have to tell you why that’s our vision. We’re sure it’s your vision too! But we do want to tell you why the

Hands-On Bible is the best Bible your kids can have. Because they’ll read it! A Bible won’t point a child to Jesus if the child never opens it. Or is bored by it. Or is intimidated by it. A Bible can help a child know Jesus if that child has fun reading it, is challenged by it, laughs and learns from it, and understands it.

If you’re in a church, we know money for purchasing multiple Bibles is a concern. So how can you best invest the resources God has given you? By choosing a Bible kids will actually read and use.

We want kids to grow in their friendship with Jesus. So do you. Let’s work together to make that happen.

GETTING STARTED

Get your entire congregation involved with this exciting campaign, designed to fund a Bible for each child in your church or community.

The Sunday before your campaign begins, have every elementary class paint handprints on terra cotta pots. Set out paper plates of brightly-colored acrylic paint. Let kids each press their palms into the paint, then wrap their hands around the pots. Set the pots aside in cardboard flats to dry. Make a pot for every family in your congregation. Write the following note and place it into each flower pot.

Plant God’s Word in 
each Child’s Heart
Drop your change into this flower pot…and watch kids’ lives change! Bring in the filled flower pot on (date) and we’ll use your contribution to purchase a Bible for each child in our church!
Keep It Growing!
Plan for your campaign to last at least 6 weeks. During the six-week campaign, use the following ideas to remind people of the importance of getting God’s Word into each child’s hands.

GIANT POSTERS
A few weeks before you’re ready to begin, take digital photos of the elementary kids in your church. (Go for those great close-up shots!) Print out the photos as large as possible. Make several large posters that simply say, “Ready to Help Kids Grow?” Post these giant signs throughout your church, along with the photos of kids. (This is a super way to get everyone’s attention!)

BULLETIN BOARDS
Make an eye-catching bulletin board that looks like this: On each flower, write the name of a child in your church (you might even take pictures of several children and use each photo at the center of a flower). Place a wheelbarrow full of real flowers near your display!

TISSUE FLOWERS
Make simple tissue paper flowers and tape them to plastic drinking straws. Write “Plant God’s Word in Each Child’s Heart” on strips of green paper, then tape the papers to the lower portion of the straws (like leaves). Have children distribute the flowers before church.

SEED PACKETS
Use a computer printer to print Ephesians 3:17 on adhesive labels. Place each label on a packet of seeds. Slip the seed packets into each church bulletin as a simple way to share your vision.

WHEELBARROWS
Place wheelbarrows full of real flowers near each entryway. Tuck a couple of Bibles into the wheelbarrow, too. Make simple garden signs, attached to wooden dowels, that read “Plant God’s Word in Each Child’s Heart.” Press the garden signs into the soil.

GARDEN DRESS-UP
Have your children’s ministry team dress in overalls, floppy gardening hats, gardening gloves, and old shoes (as if they’ve been gardening). They can distribute seed packets, flowers, or simply slips of paper with your goal written on them.

We think this Bible is going to make a BIG difference in the lives of kids! But don’t just take our word for it.

We asked the real experts what they thought.

In fact, every activity in the Hands-On Bible® has been tested with real kids. Here’s just a few of their comments:

“I like it because you can do a lot of activities and you wouldn’t be bored.”
Deanna (age 8)
Sunday School Enthusiast

“I like it because you can do a lot of activities and the activities in this Bible make it more fun!”
Maria (age 8)
Racecar Driver Hopeful

“It was fun doing the science stuff with my dad.”
Madilyn (age 6)
Dance Aficionado

“I like looking up all those verses.”
João (age 7)
Aspiring Builder

“I love the cool graphics!”
Scott (age 11)
Future NFL Fullback
Here’s what people who really know children’s ministry say about the Hands-On Bible®:

“This baby rocks. It’s designed to put a hunger for God’s Word in the heart of kids. It’s funny, interesting, and relevant to today’s kids. This is the first children’s Bible I’ve ever felt good about recommending. It’s not only kid-friendly, it’s kid-usable. I highly recommend it.”

Jim Wideman
Christian Education Director, Church On The Move, Tulsa OK
Author of Children’s Ministry Leadership: The You-Can-Do-It Guide (Group)

“I can’t help but highly recommend this Bible for your church or your own children at home. This Bible will reach out and draw your child into an incredible world of learning and life change.”

Craig Jutila
Children’s Pastor, Saddleback Church
Author of Leadership Essentials for Children’s Ministry and The Growing Leader (Group)

“The colors, design and layout make the Hands-On Bible fun and easy to read while serving as an effective catalyst to get kids into God’s Word. This is a must-have for any classroom and home with kids!”

Chris Robinson
Executive Director, International Network of Children’s Ministry

“The Hands-On Bible gives new meaning to the phrase, the ‘Living Word.’ The activities, fun facts, and creative additions in the Hands-On Bible will bring the Bible to life for children of all ages. I can’t wait to get one for my children!”

Christine Yount
Executive Editor of Children’s Ministry Magazine
Author of With All Their Heart: Teaching Your Kids to Love God (Moody Press)

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