

REVIEW

December 2003

Volume 7, Issue 12

available through this ministry contact Daryl Dale.



Memory Verses

Instead of having a new memory verse each week, consider teaching only one or two verses each unit. Review the same verse in different ways each week. If you use prizes for learning verses, require children to say the same verse three or four weeks in a row before receiving their prize. They are more likely to place it in long-term memory if studied over several weeks.



Assignments

At the close of each lesson give the children an assignment that will enable them to "do the Word." For example, if you have taught the children how to have a personal quiet time with Jesus provide quiet time ideas for them to use during the coming week. Also provide a days of the week calendar where they can note whether or not they did participate in a quiet time. They are to return the calendars to you the following week. When they bring the calendars back be sure to allow time for them to share about their quiet time experiences.



Projects

Projects are somewhat different from assignments because they may require several weeks to complete. For example, if you are teaching on giving, design a giving project. Encourage each child to find a way to give without asking his parents then to follow that plan

Ministry Direction

"If it is important enough to teach, it is important enough to review. If it is important enough to learn, it is important enough to remember." Daryl Dale

The average child attending children's ministries today usually hears three lessons per week- one in Sunday school, one in Children's Church, and one on Wednesday night. Often, each of these lessons is accompanied by a memory verse which the child is asked to recite the next week. The entire process is then repeated the next week. If this pattern continued, in the course of a year, a child would hear 155 separate Bible lessons and be asked to remember 155 separate Bible verses. While there is no arguing that we must train our children weekly, it might be a good idea to examine the way in which we teach. Are the children truly remembering the lessons taught?

This became very clear to me one year while playing a review game with a group of children that I was teaching. Although most of them had been in church all of their lives, they could not remember basic Bible stories. We went on

a quest to rediscover the Bible.

As the quote above implies, we want children to truly make God's Word the core of their lives. For this to happen, they must remember His word- not just hear it over and over.

"It is a proven fact that there is little accumulation of Bible knowledge without systematic review." Daryl Dale

IDEAS you can use



Units of Study

Instead of presenting a different lesson each week, consider having a unit which lasts a month or two. For example, you might study the prayer.

- Week 1: Jesus prayed and taught His helpers to pray.
- Week 2: A prayer pattern.
- Week 3: God answers prayer.
- Week 4: Review

Spiritual Formation Ministries provides creative units on twelve discipleship issues including prayer, stewardship, missions, devotional habits, etc. To find out more about the resources

Children's Ministry Newsletter is published monthly by the Children's Ministries Department of the Church of God of Prophecy.

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faithfully for a designated amount of time. Provide containers that the children can place their offerings in then return to you at the end of the project. ("Helping Hands for Kids" provides banks for the children to use. The money given to "Helping Hands for Kids" provides training and materials to children's ministers around the world.)

Bible Lesson Review Activities

Remember: the object of review is to help children remember Bible truth that has been taught. When evaluating the effectiveness of any review activity ask: "Does the game merely review isolated Bible facts or does it enable the children to remember the Bible truths that have recently been taught?"

Four Corners:

Materials needed: A, B, C, D Signs placed in each corner of the room, Questions related to unit of study
Label each corner of the room with the letters A,B,C,D. Create several multiple-choice questions related to the Bible truths taught in the unit of study you have just completed. Start with all children in the middle of the room. Read the questions and the four answers. Each answer has a letter that goes with it. Children decide which answer is correct and move to the corner of the room that has that letter displayed. Set a time limit so that children have to move quickly. Don't worry about who wins and who is "out." Children love the challenge of trying again with each new question, so everyone continues to play whether they were right or wrong.

Bible Story Review:

Materials needed: Pictures of Bible stories taught during unit of study, beanbag
Place all the pictures on the floor, picture side up. Let the children take turns throwing the beanbag. Whatever picture the beanbag lands on, that child must tell one thing about that picture. If another child lands on the same picture, he must say something different about the picture. The game

continues until all the pictures are landed on numerous times and the Bible stories are reviewed adequately.

Names, Questions, Treats

Materials needed: Label brown paper lunch bags: Name, Questions, Treats. In the "Names" bag put the name of each child. In the "Questions" sack put review questions related to the previous lesson or unit of study. In the "Treats" sack put small treats. Draw a name from the "names" sack. That child draws a question from the "Questions" sack. If he is unsure of the answer he may ask others in the class to help him. When the question is correctly answered, the child may draw a treat from the "Treats" sack then draw the next name from the "Names" sack.

Scripture Memory Review Activities


For Scripture verses to remain in our memory there must be consistent review. Here are some creative ways to help students review Bible verses they are learning.

Object Reminders

Materials needed: An object that illustrates each verse that is to be reviewed. For example, for Matthew 15:16 you might want to use a light bulb or candle. Place the objects in a bag.

Let a child choose an object from the bag and repeat a verse that object illustrates.

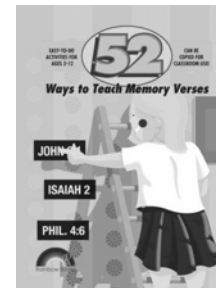
Truth Match Concentration

 Materials needed: You will need at least 8 Bible truths and corresponding Scripture verses that the children have recently studied. Write a Bible truth on one square and the corresponding Scripture verse on another square. For example: a Bible truth is "I am a sinner." A Scripture verse that illustrates that truth is Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Number the back of

each square. Place the squares number side up on a poster board forming a large square.

Choose a child to begin the game. The child may choose 2 numbers. These numbered squares are turned up revealing the truth or verse. If a matching truth and verse are turned up, these squares remain turned up. And the child continues playing. When he fails to match a truth with a verse, the unmatched squares are turned back over to the numbered side. Play continues with another child. The game is over when all truths and verses have been matched.

Resource Review



52 Ways to Teach Memory Verses
Rainbow Publishers
P.O. Box 261129
San Diego, CA 92196
ISBN 0-937282-65-0

For memorization to be effective and lasting, students must be able to understand and relate the verses to their own lives. This book provides effective ideas to make the verses interesting and meaningful, and therefore effective. Sports fans recite batting averages. Teens dial number after number by memory. To Christians, God's Word should be even more vital and meaningful. The reproducible pages in this book are filled with 52 exciting ways to assure that children age 2-12 will remember, understand, and know how to practice verses in their lives.