



Children's Bible Drill

Leaders' and Judges' Guide

What Are the Levels of Participation in Children's Bible Drill?

Children's Bible Drillers pass through at least three levels of participation*:

Church Drill

Schedule a church drill one or two weeks before the associational drill. A church drill should be conducted at the church before an audience of interested persons.

Children who participate in a church drill and give 12 or more correct responses are eligible to participate in an associational drill.

The person in charge of the church drill should notify the associational office of the names of the children who qualify for the associational drill.

Every child who participates in a church drill should receive some kind of recognition such as a certificate from the church.

Associational Drill

The associational drill is held at a time and place designated by the associational Discipleship Training council. The leader of this drill may be the associational Discipleship Training children's leader. Children who give 16 or more correct responses in an associational drill may advance to the state drill.

The associational Discipleship Training director should send to the state Discipleship Training department the names and addresses of all participants and the name of each sponsoring church.

Every child in an associational drill should receive some kind of recognition such as a certificate.

State Drill

The state drill is held at a time and place designated by the state Discipleship Training Department.

Each child who participates in the state drill will receive some kind of recognition.

*Some states also sponsor a regional drill. Contact your state office for the requirements of your state. See www.sbc.net/stateconvassoc.asp for links to the state Web sites.

How Are Children's Bible Drills Administered?

- The Children's Discipleship Training director, a director or leader in a Children's Discipleship Training department, or another worker may be asked to coordinate and lead the drill.
- The following leaders are needed for a drill: a caller, a timekeeper, and three judges. One of the three judges serves as chairperson. The chairperson checks the math and averages the scores given to each participant by the three judges.
- No more than 12 children should participate in a drill. If more children are involved, plan multiple drills.

How Do You Call and Judge a Children's Bible Drill?

BEFORE THE DRILL

- Prepare and write a drill. (See page 6, "How Do You Prepare and Write a Church Drill?")
- Put a strip of masking tape on the floor. The children should stand behind this line.
- Judges should meet to read aloud and discuss the five mistakes that will be recorded. Give judges their score sheets.
- Judges should sit in front of the drillers, facing the drillers.
- Make a set of cards numbered 1 through 12. Pin a number on each child's shirt or blouse. Line the children up in sequential order, facing the audience. (Judges record children's responses on the score sheet under the corresponding number.)

DURING THE DRILL

- A drill should be preceded by instructions to children and at least one practice call to acquaint the children with the voice and timing of calls by the caller.
- All judges should watch all the children.
- Judges should watch for the mistakes listed under "How Is Children's Bible Drill Judged and Scored?" on page 3.
- Only one mistake can be scored against a child on any one call.
- Some judges find it helpful to slide a piece of paper down the page so they do not lose their places on the score sheets. The line across the top of the score sheet represents the order (left to right) in which the drillers stand. The numbers top to bottom represent the calls to be given.
- The person calling the drill should go slowly enough for the judges to record the scores.
- Every child should be called on during the drill.
- Do not always call on the child who is first to step out.
- Wait the full 10 seconds after the "Start" command has been given before calling on a child.
- Judges should give the benefit of doubt to the drillers but should not lose credibility. The rules are the standards.

AFTER THE DRILL

- In a church drill, a child who gives 12 or more correct responses can advance to the associational drill. In an association drill, having 16 or more correct responses qualifies a child to participate in the state drill.
- Following a drill, the three judges go immediately to a private room. Each judge will add the mistakes made by each child.
- One of the three judges should serve as chairperson. This judge checks the math of the other judges. He or she then adds the three scores for each child and divides the sum by three to get the average number of errors. Then the chairperson subtracts the errors from 24 to get the child's final score. (Example: $4+4+4=12 \div 3=4$. $24-4=20$. The child's final score is 20.)
- Judges should resolve all questions and come to final decisions before they leave the room.
- Judges should not have scores announced to the audience. To let children know if they will advance to the next level, judges can put a seal on their certificates. All children should receive certificates no matter what their scores.
- Judges should not discuss the scores. The decisions of the judges should be final.
- Encouragement should be given to children who qualify for the associational drill to continue their training in preparation for the drill. Following the associational drill, encourage those who qualify to continue their training for the state drill.

How Is Children's Bible Drill Judged and Scored?

- Judging is based on the verses and Key Passages printed on the current *Verse Card* and the books of the Bible.
- Mistakes are marked on the score sheet.
- Only one mistake may be scored for a child on any single call.
- While mistakes are scored, only the number of correct responses are reported to each child.

Print out Score Sheets. Free downloadable Score Sheets are available at www.lifeway.com/childhood.

The mistakes are:

1. The child fails to step out within 10 seconds.
2. The child gives the incorrect response. This includes any child who raises his or her hand, indicating an error.
3. The child fails to stand straight or keep his eyes on the drill caller until the command "Start" is given.
4. When the Bible is used, the child steps forward before the index finger is on the correct response.
5. The child fails to handle the Bible according to instructions or obviously misuses the Bible. The Bible should be parallel to the floor with one hand flat on the top and one hand flat on the bottom with no fingers extending over the edges.

What are the Drill Commands?

Attention

- Stand straight, one foot not extended in front of the other.
- Keep your eyes focused on the caller until the command “Start” is given.
- Hold your Bible at your side (in either hand) with the Bible’s spine down.

Present Bibles

This call is used only in the Book Calls and Key Passage Calls.

- Bring your Bible to your waistline, parallel with the floor.
- Following the “Present Bible” command, the caller announces the call.

If you search with your right hand, hold the Bible in your left hand with Genesis down and with your right hand resting flat on the back of the Bible and no fingers extending over the edges.

If you search with your left hand, hold the Bible in your right hand, Genesis up, with the left hand resting flat on the front of the Bible and no fingers extending over the edges.

Start

This command is the signal to step forward or begin searching in your Bibles.

- For the Book Call and Key Passage Call, begin searching in the Bible when the command is given. It is a mistake to begin before this command is given.
- In the Book Call, your index finger must be placed upon any part of that book.
- In the Key Passage Call, find any part of the reference, place your index finger on any portion, and step forward.
- In the Quotation Call and the Completion Call, step forward when you know the verse.

Time

- The timekeeper calls out “Time” at the end of 10 seconds. No one may step forward after this command, and you should stop searching in your Bible.
- The caller calls on one child by number who will give a response.
- You will remain quiet while the one called upon responds. If the child called on does not give the right response, the caller calls on another child.

Attention

Close your Bible, return it to its original position, and take one step back.

A four-color poster that illustrates these commands is available in the *Bible Skills, Drills, & Thrills Leader Pack, Grades 4–6*.

What Are the Four Kinds of Calls?

Book Calls—6 calls (Bible is used.)

- The leader says the name of any book of the Bible (Example: *Exodus*).
- After “Start” is called, the child finds any page in the book called, places his or her finger on the page, and steps forward.
- If called on by the leader, the child gives the name of the book preceding the book called, the name of the book called, and the name of the book following the one called. (Example: *Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus*).
- After a correct response, the leader says, “Attention.”

Key Passage Calls—6 calls (Bible is used.)

- Only the Key Passages listed on the current *Verse Card* are used.
- The leader states the title of the Key Passage (Example: *The Beatitudes*).
- The child finds the passage in his or her Bible, places a finger on any portion of the passage, and steps forward.
- When called on, the child states the title of the Key Passage and the reference (Example: *The Beatitudes—Matthew 5:3-12*).
- After a correct response, the leader asks the child to read one verse from the passage. Then the leader says, “Attention.”

Quotation Calls—6 calls (Quoted from memory)

- All verses are taken from the current *Verse Card*.
- The leader gives the reference (Example: *John 3:16*).
- If the child knows the verse, he or she steps forward one step after “Start” is called, prepared to quote the verse as it is stated on the *Verse Card* and to give the reference. NOTE: The child can state the reference before and/or after quoting the verse.
- After a correct response, the leader says, “Attention.”

Completion Calls—6 calls (Quoted from memory)

- All verses are taken from the current *Verse Card*.
- The leader reads the part of the verse that is underlined on the *Verse Card*. (Example: *“God is our refuge and strength”*).
- If the child can complete the verse, he or she steps forward one step after “Start” is called, prepared to quote the verse as it is stated on the *Verse Card* and to give the reference. NOTE: The child can state the reference before and/or after quoting the verse.
- After a correct response, the leader says “Attention.”

The four kinds of calls can be completed in any order. Complete one kind of call before proceeding to another.

A demonstration video of a drill is included on the CD-ROM in the Leader’s Guide of *Bible Skills, Drills, and Thrills, Grades 4–6*.

How Do You Prepare and Write a Church Drill?

Each drill should be written out completely for or by the caller. The four kinds of Calls (Book, Key Passage, Quotation, and Completion) have six calls each. The four kinds of calls can be completed in any order. Complete one kind of call before proceeding to another.

Below is the format to follow in writing each of the four parts of a drill. Every word to be spoken by the drill caller and all the correct answers should be written, including some reminders as shown in parentheses below.

Attention.

We will now have the *Book Call*. I will give the name of a book in the Bible, and you will find the book. Place a finger on any verse in the book named and step forward. When called upon, you will say the book before the one named, the book named, and the book that follows.

Present Bibles.

Exodus. (Pause to give time for the children to think.)

Start.

(Call on a child after *Time* [10 seconds] has been called.)

Number _____.

Answer: Genesis–Exodus–Leviticus.

Attention.

We will now have the *Key Passage Call*. I will give the title of a Key Passage. You will find the passage, place a finger on any verse in the passage, and step forward. If called upon, I will ask you to state the Key Passage title and reference and then ask you to read a verse within that passage.

6

Present Bibles.

Love Chapter. (Pause.)

Start.

(Call on a child after *Time* [10 seconds] has been called.)

Number _____.

6

Answer: Love Chapter—1 Corinthians 13.

(After the child called upon responds, ask him or her to read a verse from the Key Passage.)

Thank you, number _____. Please read verse 1.

Answer: “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.” (KJV)

Attention.

We will now have the *Quotation Call*. I will give the reference of a verse. If you know the verse, step forward. When called upon, give the verse and the reference.

John 3:16. (Pause.)

Start.

(Call on a child after *Time* [10 seconds] has been called.)

Number _____.

Answer: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16. (KJV)

Attention.

We will now have the *Completion Call*. I will give you a portion of a verse of Scripture. If you know the entire verse and reference, step forward.

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God” (Pause.)

Start.

(Call on a child after *Time* [10 seconds] has been called.)

Number _____.

Answer: “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15. (KJV)

Attention.

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