

Session Plans

Books of the Bible Trail

Parent/Catechist Formation Session

Explanation of Trail: Fr. Scott

Talk: Fr. Scott

Meditation: John

First Hiker Formation Session (Takes place at the same time as the Parent/Catechist formation session. The youth and the youth ministry core team members are the kids' catechists.)

1. Hand out the Faith Journeys cinch bags and the Faith Journeys binders which have the Trail Maps in them.
2. Review with the kids what a Trail is and how they will be recognized when they complete a Trail.

Show the kids the gear slings which they will receive at the Flames of Faith Ceremony and have them try them on (but don't hand them out).

3. Introduce the kids to the Navigating the Bible Trail and the purpose for hiking this Trail.
4. Introduce the kids to the mileposts for the Navigating the Bible Trail by using the Navigating the Bible Trail Map which is in their binder.
5. Hand out the Children's Bibles and familiarize the children with them. (If we don't have the Children's Bibles yet, we will do this next Sunday.)
6. Teach the children how to pronounce the names of the books of the NT.
7. Teach the children to sing the NT memorization song.

Second Hiker Formation Session (taught by parents and catechists)

1. **Practice the NT memorization song.** *Use the video online*
2. If we didn't have the Children's Bibles last week, hand out the Children's Bibles and familiarize the children with them.
3. **Teach the difference between the OT and the NT.**
 - Using the Children's Bible, show the children the OT and the NT. Then have the kids physically open the bible to the OT (p. 18) and the NT (p. 1443)
 - Making certain *to use children's words*, teach the children the following:
 - The OT tells the story of God's love for the world. It begins with creation in the Book of Genesis. Have the children go to Genesis and read the first few verses aloud with them. Show the children that this is chapter one and verse one.
 - Most of the OT tells the story of God's special relationship with the Jewish people, who are "the chosen ones."
 - The NT tells the story of Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension. The four Gospels tell this story in four different ways.
4. **Learn the books and divisions of the Bible.**
 - Show the children the table of contents (p.3) in the Children's Bible to show the children how the Bible is made up of books which are divided between the OT and NT.
 - Use the table of contents to explain to the children how the Bible is broken up into books and how books can be grouped into divisions. Use the multi-colored poster to show this as well.
 - Use the NT Books and Divisions note cards to help the children put the pieces together. Have the children put the Divisions cards at the top in order then, have them put the books that belong to each division under the Division card.
 - Be creative in how you engage the children with the Books and Divisions note cards.

Break the children into groups of 2-3 and have them work together to do this.

1. Throw the Divisions cards on the floor and have the teams put them in order (using the table of contents).
2. Then throw all the Book cards on the floor all over the room.

3. Next have the teams take one card at a time and figure out under which Division it belongs (by using the table of contents or the poster) and go to the catechist and tell the catechist.
4. If they get it right, the student gets one point. If they get it wrong, the catechist gets one point which is recorded on a piece of paper that the kids can see. The student then takes the card and places it under the proper Division card.
 - If the student gets it wrong, they have to go back and identify correctly which division it belongs under. They continue until all of the cards are picked up and put in the right place.
 - Then have the children name one of the divisions and one of the books under that division.
 - If extra time have the students build with legos a tower the names of the books of the bible in order.

Third Hiker Formation Session (taught by parents and catechists)

1. **Practice the NT memorization song.** *Use the video online*
2. **Continue with Books of the Bible Class VS Students Game**
Review the table of contents to explain to the children how the Bible is broken up into books and how books can be grouped into divisions. Use the multi-colored poster to show this as well.
3. **The Word of God and divine inspiration.**
 - Teach the children that when Catholics say, “the Sacred Scriptures” and “the Word of God,” we are referring to the Bible.
 - Teach them that the Bible is *more* important than any other books or other words written on paper because the *Bible is God’s Word*, God’s words of love for us. We meet and get to know God in the Bible. It’s like our instructional manual through life.

Fill out the “What is the Bible Worksheet” work in pairs –when done draw their favorite bible verse on the back while waiting for others.

- Familiarize the children with the term, *divine inspiration*, and teach them that it means that we can count on learning the truth about God in the Bible. (Use age appropriate words to explain)
4. **Teach the children about the Bible at mass.**
 - The Liturgy of the Word is the time during mass when we proclaim passages of the Bible at mass. We meet God in his Word.
 - Most all of the parts of the mass are taken from the Bible. Most of the words in the songs that we sing at mass are taken from the Bible.
 - a. 1st Reading: Old Testament
 - b. 2nd Reading: Old Testament
 - c. Responsorial Psalm:
 - d. Gospel: New Testament
 - Teach the children that we also use the Bible for personal prayer and study.
 4. **Practice the NT memorization song.** (see online video)
 5. **Build Towers with cups of NT in order. If there is time do OT too. Have kids build, than say them all before knocking them down for fun.**
 6. **Books of the Bible Drill Game-**
 - Give each group a list of books and verses to find which ever team works together to find all the books wins the game.

- Or pick a card out of a bag and whoever finds it first gets a prize.
- Or pick a card out of a bag and if everyone finds it within 1 minute the class gets a point. If not everyone has it than the teacher gets a point. They work together to help teammates learn the bible. If students get 10points they earn a class prize.

7. Closing-remember to review and hand out books of the bible cards to take home and practice.

8. Introduce the OT Bible song. (see online video)

If kids have mastered anything sign them off the mileposts!

See Attached sheet for extra activities if needed

Fourth Hiker Formation Session (taught by parents and catechists)

1. **Introduce & Practice the OT memorization song.** *see the video online*

2. **Review the books and divisions of the Bible.**

- Review with Books of the Bible divisions worksheet- partners
- Go through the table of contents again.
- **Play Find the Bible Book, Chapter and Verse as a team, partners or teacher vs class.** (never single out a child)

3. **Play Games to review the OT:**

- **Build Towers with cups of OT in order.**
Have kids build, than say them all before knocking them down for fun.
- **Books of the Bible Drill Game-**
 - a. Give each group a list of books and verses to find whichever team works together to find all the books wins the game.
 - b. Or pick a card out of a bag and whoever finds it first gets a prize.
 - c. Or pick a card out of a bag and if everyone finds it within 1 minute the class gets a point. If not everyone has it than the teacher gets a point. They work together to help teammates learn the bible. If students get 10points they earn a class prize.

4. **Closing-remember to review and hand out books of the bible cards to take home and practice.**

5. **OT song online**

See Attached sheet for extra activities if needed

Be creative in how you engage the children with the Books and Divisions note cards.

Mileposts Sign Off Time (See Navigating the Bible Mileposts Sign Off Sheet)

Take whatever time is necessary toward the end of this Fourth Hiker Session to work with each child individually to sign them off on their mileposts.(Have an activity for kids to do while signing kids off if haven't done this previously.) Remember that kids who don't complete the Trail can still have you sign them off at a later time once they have completed the mileposts.

Play any of the following games to practice finding the books of the bible.

- **Books of the *Bible* Sorting Game-See attached**
- **Books of the Bible *Categories* Sorting Game-See attached**
- **Quiz, Quiz Trade Card game-**
 1. give everyone one book of the bible card,
 2. students walk around the room while the music is on.
 3. When the music stops the students turn to the person closest to them.
 4. They read their card, tell them where there card is in the bible and what category it belongs too. Each kiddo has a turn.
 5. When they are done they switch cards and do this until the timer goes off.
- **Books of the Bible Line Order-Give kids random books and they have to quickly as they can line up in order of NT.**

Do OT if have more time.

- **Build lego towers with books of the bible.**
- **Build block towers as of books of the bible.**
- **Bible books Jenga (write the names of the books on the blocks)-**
 1. Play Jenga as normal.
 2. As a student takes a block they have to tell you where that block belongs
 3. If they get it wrong they have to add it back to the tower.
- **Snowball Books of the bible:**
 1. Everyone picks a book of the bible.
 2. Write it on a sheet of paper.
 3. Crumple up the paper
 4. Everyone throws the paper at once. Throw a few times for fun.
 5. Everyone picks up a snowball.
 6. Stand in a circle.
 7. Each student reads their Book of the bible paper and says where it is in the bible.

- **Play Kahoots on the Computer:**
 1. Make questions ahead of time.
 2. Kids are in teams
 3. Sign into computers or ipads
 4. Ask the questions
 5. Kids answer
 6. Give prizes for the winners!

Books of the Bible Sorting: Categories

Directions: Draw a Bible Book Card out of the envelope and decide which category it fits in.



Resource created by Jessica Lawler, Joy in the Journey



Directions: Cut out each shape and fold along the solid line. Cut along the dotted lines to create flaps. Glue down the left rectangle only. Beneath each flap, write the books of the Bible that fit in each category.

Sections of the Old Testament	The Pentateuch
	Historical Books
	Poetry/Wisdom
	Major Prophets
	Minor Prophets

Resource created by Jessica Lawler, Joy in the Journey

Sections of the New Testament	The Gospels
	Acts
	Pauline Epistles
	General Epistles
	Revelation

Books of the Bible OT or NT?

Put your **Bible** knowledge to the test in this fun sorting game

Game Directions:

1. Take out the sorting mat
2. One by one, draw a card from the envelope and place it in the correct category (either Old Testament or New Testament)
3. When you're all finished, check your card sorting against the answer sheet.

•Make sure to carefully put all of the Bible Book Cards back in the envelope

Books of the Bible Categories

Put your **Bible** knowledge to the test in this fun sorting game

Game Directions:

1. Take out the 2 sorting mats
2. One by one, draw a card from the envelope and place it in the correct category.
3. When you're all finished, check your card sorting against the answer sheet.

•Make sure to carefully put all of the Bible Book Cards back in the envelope

