

THE BIBLE: GOD'S WORD

Aim

To show the young person that God speaks to us in many ways, one of which is through the Bible.

To assist the young person in investigating the various parts of the Bible, especially the Gospels.

Resources

Leaders

- Catholic Youth Bible
- Prayer cloth, cross, candle
- Electronic device – laptop/tablet for YouTube links
- At Home with God's People

Young People

- Catholic Youth Bible
- Journal
- Fuel – The Daily Catholic App

Materials for this session

- Download [Activity Sheet: Scripture Quotes](#) from www.crossroadsrcia.org (copy on page 19)

Preparation for Catechist

Spend some time in prayer for the young person.

How do you reflect on the scripture?

Think of your own stories and be ready to share these.

Pre-pick a scripture passage yourself and reflect on why you chose it?

Background

Information for Catechist

The Bible is the living word; it is not stuck in history but it is alive today.

The Bible is still the world's bestselling book. It is a library of many different books, divided into two parts: The Old Testament stories tell about the covenant between God and God's people; The New Testament beginning with the four Gospels about Jesus, followed by the Acts of the Apostles and the various letters gives us an understanding of the birth of the early Church and earliest Christian communities. For over four thousand years the Bible has sustained people in times of sadness and of joy. It is a life-long journey to explore the Bible. We are nourished by reading the word of God.

What does the priest do at Mass after reading the Gospel? He kisses the book because of the words it contains. This shows us the importance of reverence for the Bible as the word of God.



Reflection

As we gather, we light a candle to remember that Jesus is the light of the world.

Sit quietly and listen to the guided meditation. Think back over your day and the week since we last met.



Video

"Quietly" - A new Instrumental Piano Album from Scripture Lullabies:

https://youtu.be/e06_n9m9jbA

Video **Link 2.1**



Thinking back over your day, is there something you would like to pray about? You can pray out loud or in your own mind.



Follow up from last session

In the last session we looked at the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and the Baptism of Jesus.

Do you have any questions from the last session or from the Journal?



Exploring

In what ways does God speak to us? To you?

What are some ways you can get to know God more?

Where do you think we can find messages from God?

- Explore the contents page of your Bible.
- Explore the Old and New Testaments. Compare the size of each.
- There is a difference between the Old and the New Testament. The Old Testament can also be called the Hebrew Scriptures or the First Testament. The New Testament tells the stories of Jesus and his followers.
- Explore the books in the Bible. Which of these names have you heard before?
- Can you find Matthew, Mark, Luke and John?
- Notice how each book of the Bible is divided into numbered chapters. Smaller numbers in the chapters are for verses. For example the first book of the Bible is the Book of Genesis and the first verse is: "In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth ..." (Genesis 1:1).

Activity

Tell the young person that finding references in the Bible is a bit like reading a secret code! Demonstrate how to read a Bible reference. For example, Matthew 6:34 means the book of Matthew chapter 6 verse 34.

The **Activity Sheet: Scripture Quotes** contains the following scripture quotes that can be cut out. This can be downloaded from the crossroadsrcia website: www.crossroadsrcia.org (copy on page 19).

Print and cut out the quotes and put them on the table/ground for the young person to see.

- In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth. **Genesis 1:1**
- The Lord bless you and keep you. **Numbers 6:24**
- Do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength. **Nehemiah 8:10**
- Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord. **Psalms 31:24**
- When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul. **Psalms 94:19**
- For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings. **Hosea 6:6**
- See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. **Matthew 10:16**
- Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. **Matthew 24:35**
- And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. **Mark 15:38**
- The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God". **Luke 1:30**
- After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs. **Luke 10:1**
- My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. **John 10:27**
- Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. **John 14:1**



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- Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 8:38-39
- And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. *1 Corinthians 13:13*
- Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.
2 Corinthians 12:10
- So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God. *Galatians 4:7*
- Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. *Philippians 4:6*
- As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. *Colossians 3:12*
- Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword. *Hebrews 4:12*

Have the young person select a quote that they like and ask them why they chose that verse.

Have the young person find the quote that they chose in their Bible. The young person can copy it into their Journal to read and reflect upon during the week.



Scripture and Prayer

Listen closely to the following music and scripture passage.

We begin with the sign of the Cross:



In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Music

Ancient Words Acappella - by Christy Poff Maxwell,
written by Michael W. Smith

https://youtu.be/VIc6I_51O3Y

Video **Link 2.2**



Word of God Speak - MercyMe

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4JK_6osCH74

Video **Link 2.3**



Scripture

Use the Gospel from the following Sunday.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to...



Glory to you, O Lord

(At the end of the Gospel)

The Gospel of the Lord



Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Following a couple of minutes of silence to reflect on the scripture, invite the young person to share a word or two from the passage that was particularly meaningful for them.

What is one important message for you in this scripture passage?

How can you respond to this scripture passage in the coming week?

Prayer

Let us pray the words that Jesus gave us.



*Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.*

Let us offer each other the Sign of Peace.



Living it out in the everyday

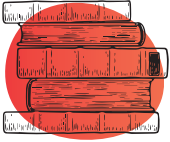
Journal Activity

Why does the passage you chose today speak to you?

This week in your Journal write, draw, or create a musical or artistic response to the scripture passage chosen and reflect upon how you could use this in your life.

Challenge activity

This week find your selected passage in the Bible and read the passage before and after your selected scripture. This will help you see your scripture passage in context.



For those who want to know more

The following is a short YouTube clip which summarises the Old Testament.

YouCat – Old Testament told in only 5 minutes
<https://youtu.be/I400jhY2DF0>

Video **Link 2.4**



Or

The Word became flesh... this is called the 'Incarnation'.



John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.



John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

What are your thoughts about these scripture quotes?

Who do you think the Word is?

Let's break this down:

The Word is God.

The Word became flesh.

Therefore God became flesh.

God became human.

Jesus Christ was human and Jesus Christ is God.

Activity Sheet: Scripture Quotes

The Bible: God's Word

↓ Cut out the below cards.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth.
Genesis 1:1

The Lord bless you and keep you.
Numbers 6:24

Do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.
Nehemiah 8:10

Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord.
Psalm 31:24

When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul.
Psalm 94:19

For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.
Hosea 6:6

See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.
Matthew 10:16

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
Matthew 24:35

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.
Mark 15:38

The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God".
Luke 1:30

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs.
Luke 10:1

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.
John 10:27

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.
John 14:1

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 8:38-39

And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.
1 Corinthians 13:13

Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.
2 Corinthians 12:10

So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.
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Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
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As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.
Colossians 3:12

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword.
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