

10 WAYS TO TEACH A BIBLE VERSE

by Katie James

1. VISUALIZED BIBLE VERSE

- Prepare a display card, poster, or power point projection of the Bible verse with visualizations. Read through the Bible verse several times with the children. Explain the context and meaning of the visualizations.

2. REMOVE A WORD

- Write each word of the verse on a whiteboard. Read through the Bible verse several times with the children. Invite a child to come and erase a word from the verse. Read through the Bible verse again with all the children. Repeat the process until there are no words left, and the children are reciting the verse by memory.

3. GUESS THE WORD

- Write out each word of the verse on a whiteboard. Then erase several words and draw pictures instead. For example, "I will make you fishers of men" could be written (picture of an eye) will make (letter U) (picture of man fishing) of (stick figures). Have the children guess the correct meaning of the pictures. Read through the verse several times with the children.

4. DRAMATIC GESTURES

- Think of large, active gestures for words in the verse. You will also need a written or visualized copy of the verse to display. Lead the children in reciting the verse, teaching them the gestures. Make it as dramatic and exciting as possible.

5. ECHO

- Say the verse in small portions, having the children repeat each portion after you. For example "I will make you" (I will make you), "fishers of men" (fishers of men). Do this several times. Then use different voices or accents, having the children repeat after you. For example: whisper, shout, squeaky, deep, British accent, Southern accent, etc.

6. STICKY SITUATION

- Write each word of the verse on sticky notes and arrange them in order on a whiteboard. Read through the Bible verse several times with the children. Invite a child to come and take down a sticky note. Read through the Bible verse again with all the children. Repeat the process until there are no sticky notes left, and the children are reciting the verse by memory.

7. BALLOON POP

- Write each word of the verse on blown-up balloons and tape them in order on a whiteboard. Read through the Bible verse several times with the children. Pop a balloon word. Read through the Bible verse again with all the children. Repeat the process until there are no balloons left, and the children are reciting the verse by memory.

8. SING ALONG

- Set the words of the verse to a popular tune. You will also need a written or visualized copy of the verse to display. Lead the children in singing the verse, by having them sing each line after you. For example, Genesis 1:1 can be set to the tune "Frere Jacques" (Are You Sleeping, Brother John). "In the beginning" (In the beginning) "God created" (God created) "The heaven and the earth" (The heaven and the earth) "Genesis 1:1" (Genesis 1:1).

9. HANGMAN

- Draw a hangman stand on a whiteboard. Write out spaces for each word of the verse. (The children will be guessing words instead of letters.) Let the children take turns guessing a word of the verse. If they guess a word that is in the verse, write it in the correct space. If they guess a word that is not in the verse, draw a part of the hangman.

10. BIBLE CHALLENGE

- Make several paper cutouts of each word of the verse and provide pieces of colorful construction paper. There should be enough for each child to have one piece of construction paper and a cutout of each word of the verse. The children should then compete to glue the words of the verse in the correct order on the construction paper.