

Memory Verse Games

MISSING WORDS

You will need a chalkboard, white board, or paper for this activity.

Write the memory verse on a chalkboard or marker board. Ask the children to recite the verse. Choose a volunteer to go and to erase one word. Lead the children as they recite the verse again (including the missing word). Continue this until all the words disappear. If a chalkboard or marker board is not available, write each word of the verse on a separate piece of paper, and ask the children to remove one word at a time.

BIBLE PASS

You will need a Bible and a source of music for this activity.

Have the children sit in a circle. Give one child the Bible. When the music starts, tell the children to pass the Bible around the circle. When the music stops, the child holding the Bible says the Bible verse. Strategically stop the music so each child has an opportunity to say the verse.

BIBLE VERSE RACE

Before the lesson, write each word or phrase of the Bible verse and the reference on a piece of paper. Make two sets.

Divide the class into two teams. Scramble the cards so that the words are out of order. Place a set of word cards on the floor in front of each team. At your signal, the first child on each team will find the first word of the verse and run to a goal line. He or she places the card on the floor and races back to the second player. The second child finds the second word of the verse and races with it to the goal line, placing it in order next to the first word. Continue until one team completes the verse in perfect order. Allow time for the second team to complete its verse. Then have both teams recite the verse together.

BIBLE VERSE LINE

Before the lesson, write each word or phrase of a Bible verse on a separate piece of paper.

Distribute the words to different children, and scatter them throughout the room. Choose one child to arrange the words in order by tagging each individual child holding the words. Then have the class read the verse together.

HIDE AND SEEK

Before the lesson, write each word or phrase of a Bible verse on a separate piece of paper. Then, hide the pieces of paper around the room before the children arrive.

Have the children search the room for the pieces of paper and bring them back to the front. Arrange the words in order, and then ask the class to recite the verse together.

CHAMPION & CHALLENGER

Choose two children who think that they know the memory verse. Stand them back to back in front of the group. One child will start by saying the first word of the verse. Then, the other child will say the second word. Continue back and forth until one child makes a mistake. The other child is the "champion." Ask the whole class to say the memory verse. Then, select a new "challenger," and repeat the game. Soon, both children will be able to complete the memory verse without error.

MEMORY VERSE TOSS

You will need a small ball for this activity.

Ask the children to stand and arrange them in a large circle. Tell the children that whoever catches the ball has to say the next word in the memory verse. Toss the ball to one child to start. He or she recites the first word and then tosses the ball to another child until the entire verse is recited properly. Repeat the game and encourage the children to complete the verse faster each time.

THE REPEATER

Write one or two words of the verse on a small piece of paper.

Instruct students to sit in a circle, and distribute the papers around the circle in correct verse order. Prepare more than one set of memory cards for large classes, and work in groups. The student with the first word of the verse says the first word. Then the next student says the first word and the new word. The third student says the first, second and third words, and so on. Keep repeating the verse from the beginning, adding a new word each time. After you complete the verse, have students pass their card to the person on their left and begin the game again.

BALLOON POP

You will need balloons, a permanent marker, and tape. Blow up the balloons and write one word of the Bible verse on each balloon. Attach the balloons to the wall in correct order.

Let the children read the verse together. Select one child to pop one balloon. Have the children recite the verse again, and remember to say the missing word. Select another child to pop a balloon. Let the children say the verse again. Continue until all the balloons are gone, and the children can recite the verse from memory.

BIBLE VERSE UNSCRAMBLE

Write each word or phrase of a Bible verse on a piece of paper.

Distribute the word cards in mixed order. Let the children arrange themselves in a circle in the correct order according to the portion of the verse they received. Have the children say the verse together. Then ask one child to turn the card around, so the other children cannot see his or her word. Have the children say the verse again. Continue in this manner until all the cards are turned around and no words are visible. This could also be played as a race between two or more teams to see which one is the first to arrange themselves with the words of the verse in the correct.