

Unit 6 The Promise of Heaven

Camp Venture Counselor's Guide

Letters to the Seven Churches

Aim: To know Jesus cares about our ongoing relationship with Him as shown in His letters to the seven churches.

PROPHETS AND PROMISES PART 1

THE WORSHIP, THE WORD, & THE WAY

At the Campfire

Worship the Spirit Who Shows Us
Camp Critter: Elephant

Tent Time

New Testament Letters: Revelation 3:14-16, 19-22
GOT TIME? Letter: Revelation 1:10-13 and/or Revelation 2-3
Christ Connection: Psalm 24:9-10

Bible Memory Verse

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."
Psalm 119:105 (NIV)
The Books of the New Testament

CAMPING SUPPLY CHECKLIST

- ☐ Set out mats or sit-upons in a semicircle, Counselor's camp chair
- ☐ Camp Venture Counselor's Guide on a clipboard and a Counselor's Bible
- ☐ Camp Games: 28 envelopes, paper, tape, marker
- ☐ At the Campfire: Lesson 30 Worship Illustration or Storybook, Bible Memory Verse Song "New Testament Overture" and other related music
- ☐ Mailbag: Create a list of today's New Testament letter scripture references, fold it and place it in the Counselor's Bible. Put the Bible, Pen Pal Letter, the text from Revelation 3:20 printed on scroll, and the A.B.C. Prayer of Salvation postcards in any bag.
- ☐ Got Time Gear: Any crunchy snack, drinks, napkins, plates, cups, Listening Match-Up Cards (available at www.childrensministrywarehouse.net), scissors, bag or box, seven different objects, twine or rubber bands, Teacher's Answers (available at www.childrensministrywarehouse.net), paper, large envelope, pens or pencils, crayons or markers, glue or tape, assorted craft supplies, colored paper, "New Testament Overture" song, player and poster, flashlight, Bible
- ☐ Today's New Testament Postcard with a stamp or sticker of a church
- ☐ Children's Guide for New Believers and A.B.C. Prayer of Salvation postcards (both available at www.childrensministrywarehouse.net)
- ☐ Daily Way Lesson 30

ADD-A-VENTURE

Use additional items to create the Camp Venture experience. For example: set up a camp tent, Camp Venture Photo Board or photo album including photos of each camper, fire logs surrounded with stones as a flameless campfire, etc.



Camp Games

(30 Minutes)

Welcome to Camp Venture! Each time before we worship, we get to know each other better and have some fun with our Camp Games. First, let's dedicate this day of camp to Jesus. (Pray.) Today, our New Testament letters are extra special. They were written by the apostle John as Jesus told him what to write!

GAME: SPEEDY DELIVERY

PURPOSE: Campers will run a race to introduce Jesus' letters to the seven churches.

SUPPLIES: 28 envelopes, paper, tape, marker

PREPARE: Create one sign for each location of the seven churches: Smyrna, Sardis, Philadelphia, Ephesus, Pergamum, Thyatira, and Laodicea. Create four sets of seven envelopes with each church name written on one of the envelopes. Display the signs in various places around the play area.

SAY> Let's pretend you are like the apostle John and Jesus has given your team seven letters. Each letter has a special message for one of the seven churches. How fast can you deliver the letters to the seven churches?

DIRECTIONS:

1. Point out each of the location signs and read the names.
2. Divide campers into four teams of equal size.
3. Have each team form a line in one corner of the play area.
4. Place each set of seven envelopes in a pile in front of each team's line.
5. On your signal, the first camper in line takes an envelope from the pile and races to deliver the envelope to the corresponding city and then back to tag the next camper in line.
6. That camper takes an envelope from the pile and repeats the process.
7. The goal is to be the first team to deliver all of the envelopes to the correct city.
8. If you have more than seven campers on each team prepare extra sets of envelopes or allow the campers to touch the envelope to the sign and bring it back to the pile. Once each camper on the team has delivered an envelope, that team has completed the task.
9. For added fun, as campers are racing to deliver the envelopes, call out different ways the campers must move to deliver the letters. (Crawl, hop, jump, skip, wiggle, dance, walk backwards, spin in a circle, etc.)

SAY> Now that we've delivered the letters, let's learn more about what was written in them! We can find the letters to the seven churches in the last book of the Bible called Revelation.

Option: Small group? Instead of playing in teams, all campers work together to deliver the envelopes.

Time the campers and challenge them to get a faster time during a second round of the game.

Non-readers? Color-code the envelopes and signs to match. Limited space? Deliver the letters by passing them from camper to camper in unusual methods (above the head, using feet only, using elbows only, etc.)

Play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song in the background as campers race.

***Counselor Clues:** For added fun, be very generous with points (For example: 100,000 points for 1st place; 75,000 points for 2nd place; 40,000 points for 3rd place; 30,000 points for 4th place. The teams will end up with point totals in the millions at the end of camp.) Prizes for points can range from a round of applause to a grand prize for the team with the highest total points at the end of camp. The grand prize can be an ice cream party, pizza party, etc. Before closing on the last day, have the winning team invite all of the other teams to join the party. Always encourage good sportsmanship and cheering for each other.



At the Campfire

(15 Minutes)

We worship the Holy Spirit who shows us what will happen one day in heaven. We will hear about some rewards Jesus promised to believers who stay faithful to Him. Let's thank Jesus for those rewards by giving our offering. (Sing: "Blessed Be The Name Of The Lord" as the offering is collected.)

The greatest reward in all of heaven is to be close with God. (Read Revelation 3:20.) It is as if Jesus is standing and knocking on the door to your heart. When you invite Him into your heart, He comes. He comes to give forever life to anyone who believes that He is the Lord. He comes with open arms of forgiveness for any believer who asks for it. If you have never invited Jesus to come into your heart, and you would like to do that now, let's pray the A.B.C. Prayer together. (Lead campers in A.B.C. Prayer.) When you pray a prayer like that to Jesus, His Holy Spirit comes into your heart and you belong to God's forever family. One day all of that family will worship Him together in heaven!

Worship Elements:

Designate a special corner or area for worship.

Collect and lead prayer for an offering.

Perform Worship Illustration or read Storybook:

- Prophets & Promises Unit 6, Lesson 30

Say the Camper's Code together.

Today's camp critter is an elephant. Elephants have huge ears—42 inches in diameter! They are today's camp critter because we are learning about listening to Jesus' encouragements, warnings and rewards.

Camp Critter Song

I spied a ELEPHANT overhead.
Here is what that ELEPHANT said,
"Just used your ears—God's warnings you'll hear!"
I spied a ELEPHANT,
who followed the KITTEN,
who followed the RACE HORSE,
who followed the DOVE,
who followed the LITTLE LAMB,
who followed the SERPENT,
who followed the MEERKAT,
who followed the LOVEBIRD
And the LOVEBIRD hollered,
"Yippee-kigh-yay!"
At Camp Venture today!"

Camper's Code

I will love God with all my heart.
I will love my neighbor as myself.
I will be a light wherever I go.

A.B.C. Prayer of Salvation

Lord Jesus,

I **A**dmit that I am a sinner.

I **B**elieve You are the Lord
who died to take my sins away.

Please **C**ome into my heart
and I'll follow You forever. Amen.

Bible Memory Verse Song

"New Testament Overture"

Psalm 119:105 (KJV)

The Books of the New Testament

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path!

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path!

Go to Matthew, to Mark, go to Luke and John.

Go to Acts and the letter to the Romans.

Go to First, go to Second Corinthians,
to Galatians and Ephesians!

Philippians and Colossians,
First and Second Thessalonians,
First and Second Timothy,
then Titus and Philemon!

Go to Hebrews and go to James.

Go to First, go to Second Peter.

Go to First, Second, Third John.

Go to Jude, then go to Revelation!

(Repeat three times going faster each time.)

Sheet music and recordings available at
www.childrensministrywarehouse.net



Tent Time

(15 Minutes)

(Tent time should take place in a corner of the classroom, under a tent or any covered space. Remove chairs and have campers sit on mats or sit-upons.)

New Testament Letters

Welcome to Tent Time! (Counselor holds up mailbag.) **Last time in our mailbag we found letters about how to be strong in the Lord. Today our mailbag letters are from the last book in the Bible. It is called Revelation and it shows us what will happen in heaven.**

In the book of Revelation we learn that Jesus told John exactly what to write in letters to seven different churches. The churches were from Smyrna, Sardis, Philadelphia, Ephesus, Pergamum, Thyatira and Laodicea. In those seven letters, Jesus gave the churches encouragements, warnings and the promise of rewards in heaven. (Hand out spare Bibles. Counselor opens mailbag and removes Bible, opens Bible and takes out list of today's New Testament letter scripture references: Revelation 3:14-16, 19-22.)

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds to His Word today. Who'd like to pray that for us? (Camper prays aloud.) **Be seated.**

Let's read the first part of the letter to the church in Laodicea. Listen for the warning from Jesus. (Read Revelation 3:14-16, 19.) **What do you think Jesus means when He talks about being lukewarm in our deeds?** (Respond.) **Jesus wants us to be strong in our actions and work hard for His kingdom instead of being lukewarm, or believing but not really caring about His kingdom.**

Remember that Jesus was writing this to people who went to church in Laodicea. In most churches there are some who believe and follow Jesus as well as some who have not yet decided to follow Him. Now let's read about the promise Jesus makes to those who want to be closer to Him. (Read Revelation 3:20-22.) **So, even after we have decided to follow Jesus and believe in Him, He continues to knock at the door of our hearts be closer with us every day.**



Tent Time **continued**

(15 Minutes)

Mailbag

(Print the Pen Pal letter on a sheet of paper. Fold the paper and place it in an envelope.) **Let's open our mailbag to see if our Pen Pal will give us a clue about what today's New Testament letter has to do with your life.** (Remove Pen Pal Letter from mailbag, open the envelope. Remove the letter and read.)

Hey Pals,

Today we get to talk about the best letters of all—the ones from Jesus Himself! My favorite letter from Jesus is to the church in Laodicea. In each of the seven letters, Jesus gives an encouragement or a warning. He warned the church in Laodicea to turn from being "lukewarm" in their actions. Jesus loves us so much that instead of being angry at us for our sins, He warns us to change our ways. He promises a reward in heaven to those who overcome and stay faithful to Him. Some of these rewards include the crown of life, the white stone with a new secret name, and the morning star, as well as the right to rule over nations, eat from the tree of life, walk with God in white robes, and sit with God on His throne. Which one of these rewards would you enjoy most? (Respond.)

(Remove the scroll from mailbag and read the text from Revelation 3:20 aloud.) **What did Jesus promise He would do if we open the door when He knocks?** (He will come in.) **He waits for us to invite Him into our hearts. That means choosing to believe in Jesus and to live His way every day instead of choosing to live our own way. If you have never invited Jesus to come into your heart, you can pray a special prayer to do that now. If you are not ready to pray that prayer, know that Jesus always stands at the door and knocks, so whenever you are ready, you can invite Him to come into your heart.** (Lead any camper expressing a desire to pray in repeating the A.B.C prayer located on the postcard in the mailbag. Give an A.B.C. Postcard to any camper who prayed the prayer today, has prayed it in the past, or would like to think about praying it in the future.)

Anyone who prays a prayer like the A.B.C. Prayer will have the Holy Spirit in his or her heart forever. But sometimes believers get too focused on other things and forget to put Jesus first. When that happens, remember He still stands and knocks at the door of your heart. Even after we belong to Him, it is important to keep inviting Him in to lead us in every choice we make, to forgive us, and to bring us closer to Him. Let's take 60 seconds of silence to do that now. If you don't want to pray, spend this quiet time thinking about who God is and what He has done.

Over one thousand years before Jesus said He will come in, David knew that the Lord would stand at the door to our hearts. Check it out!

(Read today's Christ Connection: Psalm 24:9-10.)

Remember, Jesus is always with us. He is always ready to come in to our hearts and our lives and bring us even closer to Him.

Believe and Belong!

Your Pen Pal



Tent Time **continued**

(15 Minutes)

Share A Prayer

Let's thank God for sending us His Word, the Bible! We can pray for each other and all who live in this world for them to hear His Word, too.

(Ask campers for individual praise and prayer requests.)

Father in heaven, thank you for sending us Your Word. You know our needs—the ones we just shared out loud and the ones that we hide in our hearts. We lift all these up to Your throne now. (Pause of silence.) We can't wait to see the way that You will answer each one. Together, we close this prayer with the words Jesus taught us to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Final Five

(When only five minutes remain, begin this segment.)

Children's Guide for New Believers

Give a Children's Guide for New Believers to any camper who prayed the A.B.C. Prayer of Salvation today. Guides are available for download at www.childrensministrywarehouse.net.

New Testament Postcard

As you leave today, you'll receive a New Testament Postcard. I'm giving you this stamp or sticker of a church to remind you that Jesus sent letters to seven churches. (Place stamp or sticker in the corner box on the back of the postcard.)

Add this to your postcard collection. On your postcard, write where to find today's New Testament letters in the Bible. (You'll find the scriptures listed in the Daily Way.) Read these scriptures again to help you answer the postcard question.

Letter From Camp

Write a Letter from Camp to someone in your home to let them know what you did today. Write your favorite thing about today and something special about the letters from the New Testament you just learned. Or draw a picture about that. Sign it and take it home.

Prayer Requests

How can I pray for you this week? (As campers work on their Letters from Camp, write individual requests in your counselor's prayer notebook.)

Camper Challenge

(Hand out Lesson 30 Daily Way.) Complete your Daily Way at home and bring it back next time to win points here at Camp Venture!

Bible Memory Verse Song

Play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse song in as campers wait to be dismissed.



Got Time?

(If time remains, choose from the connected activities in this segment.)

SNACK: LOUD CRUNCHERS

PURPOSE: Campers will eat a snack that reminds them it is important to listen to Jesus and follow His Word.

SUPPLIES: Crunchy snack, drink, napkins, plates, cups

ASK> Jesus had a message for each of the seven churches. Which letter did we read today? (The letter to the church in Laodicea.) Jesus has a message for each one of us, too! His Word in the Bible, including the letters to the seven churches, is for each one of us to know how to follow Jesus and do things God's way.

SAY> We read a special message from Jesus today in Revelation 3:20. Jesus says that He knocks at the door of our hearts and that anyone who lets Him will be close with Him forever! When Jesus knocks at the door of our hearts, does it sound like real knocking? (No.) Jesus isn't knocking at a real door, He is trying to get our attention. Just as Jesus wanted each of the seven churches to listen closely to His messages, He wants us to listen closely, too.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Serve the snack and drink.
2. Camper prays to thank God for the snack.
3. **SAY>** Let's eat a loud snack. Listen to how loud it is when everyone crunches their snack together! Who can crunch the loudest? Now let's see how quietly we can crunch as we listen carefully to each person answer today's question.
4. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: "If Jesus knocked on the door to this room, what do you think He would say to you?"

GAME FOR AGES 6-7: WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

PURPOSE: Play a listening game to reinforce that we are to listen to the teachings of the Spirit.

SUPPLIES: Bag or box, seven different objects that will make a distinct noise when dropped (For example: a coin, a rubber ball, a pin, a book, etc.)

PREPARE: Place the seven objects in the bag or box so campers can not see them.

SAY> Today we learned the apostle John wrote down what Jesus told him in letters to seven different churches. Each letter had an encouragement or warning and a promised reward. Each of the seven letters also ended the same way, "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." Jesus wants everyone to listen closely to His messages. Let's see if we can use our ears to figure out the seven different objects in this bag.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Instruct campers to close their eyes and listen carefully.
2. Remove one object from the bag and drop it a few times on a hard surface.
3. Put the object back in the bag.
4. Allow campers to guess what the object is. (Provide clues if necessary.)
5. Once campers have guessed the object, remove it from the bag and repeat game using with another object.



Got Time?

GAME FOR AGES 8-11: LISTENING MATCH-UP

PURPOSE: Review the letters to the seven churches by playing a matching game.

SUPPLIES: Listening Match-Up Cards (available at www.childrensministrywarehouse.net), scissors

PREPARE: Print and cut out one set of cards for each group of five campers. Shuffle all the yellow cards together and all the blue cards together to create two large sets of cards. Lay the cards face down on the floor in two separate piles, one pile for the blue cards and one pile for the yellow cards.

ASK> Today we learned about the letters to the seven churches. How did the apostle John get the messages for the seven churches? (Jesus appeared to him. John listened and wrote down Jesus' messages.) Each letter had three parts: an encouragement, a warning and a promised reward. Even though we mostly learned about the letter to the church in Laodicea, all seven letters are important. Let's play a matching game to see if we can listen closely and figure out the reward Jesus promises in each letter and then match the letter with the correct church.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Campers take turns turning over two cards, one from each pile.
2. Camper reads the blue card aloud first with the church location and hint.
3. Camper reads the yellow card aloud next with the Bible verse card second.
4. If the Bible verse matches with the location of the church, the camper keeps the cards. If they don't match, camper puts the cards back in the original pile, face down.
5. Continue playing until all cards have been matched.

CRAFT: CARE PACKAGE—LETTERS TO CHURCHES

PURPOSE: For campers to write letters to another church just as the apostle John did.

SUPPLIES: Paper, large envelope, pens or pencils, crayons or markers, glue or tape, assorted craft supplies.

PREPARE: Choose the church where you will send the letters. Write "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock." Revelation 3:20a where campers can see to copy.

ASK> Today we learned that Jesus gave John a message for each of the seven churches. John wrote down the messages in letters. You can be like John! Let's write letters to the children at another church. We can tell them Jesus' message in the letter to the church at Laodicea that we read today. (Share information about the care package recipient(s) with the campers. Allow them to ask questions so they truly understand where and to whom their letters will be delivered.)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Write "Dear friend," at the top of the letter.
2. Write the Bible verse as the body of the letter and what you learned about that.
3. Sign your letter with your first name.
4. Draw a picture of Jesus knocking at a door.
5. Use the craft supplies to decorate the letter.
6. Place all of the letters in the large envelope. Address and mail the gift!

***Counselor Tips:** Pre-print the Bible verse onto the paper for non-readers and allow them to color and decorate. If possible, take some or all campers with you to mail the package.

***Options:** Get the names of specific children at the church receiving the letters. Have campers address their letters to the children specifically. On the back of the letter, allow campers to write something about themselves. Encourage the children receiving the letters to write back to begin a pen pal relationship.



Got Time? continued...

GAME FOR AGES 8-11: MORE LETTERS TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES—REVELATION 1:10-13 AND REVELATION 2-3

PURPOSE: Campers learn the scripture passages for the seven churches found in Revelation.

SUPPLIES: Paper, marker, twine or rubber bands, Bibles, pens or pencils, Teacher's Answers

PREPARE: Create seven scrolls from the paper by printing the name of the church and the corresponding scripture reference for the letter to that church at the top:

- To the church in Ephesus: Revelation 2:1-7
- To the church in Smyrna: Revelation 2:8-11
- To the church in Pergamum: Revelation 2: 12-17
- To the church in Thyatira: Revelation 2:18-29
- To the church in Sardis: Revelation 3:1-6
- To the church in Philadelphia: Revelation 3:7-13
- To the church in Laodicea: Revelation 3:14-22

Below church and the scripture reference, write the words Encouragement, Warning and Promise with enough space under each word for campers to write what corresponds with that church. Roll each paper as a scroll and secure with twine or rubber band.

SAY> The Holy Spirit gave John a vision. Let's read about it in Revelation 1:10-13.
(Read Revelation 1:10-13.)

ASK> In his vision, who did John hear speaking in a loud voice? (The Son of Man.)
The Son of Man is another name for Jesus. When Jesus told John what to write to each of the churches, His message included an encouragement or warning, and a promised a reward. Let's see if we can figure out what some of those things were for each of the seven churches. Find one encouragement or warning and one reward and write the scripture reference on your scroll!

DIRECTIONS:

1. Divide campers into seven teams.
2. Give one scroll to each team.
3. Have teams choose one member to be their team scribe.
4. On your signal, teams unroll their scroll and look for the scripture reference in the Bible. The first team write to write the scripture reference for an encouragement or warning and a promised reward to the church on their scroll is the winning team.
5. Use the Teacher's Answer Key available at www.childrensministrywarehouse.net to check the camper's answers if desired.
6. Discuss as a group what each of the rewards might be like.



Got Time? continued...

DISCUSSION FOR AGES 6-7: MORE LETTERS TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES—REVELATION 1:10-13

PURPOSE: Campers learn the origin of the letters to the seven churches found in Revelation.

SUPPLIES: Bible opened to Revelation 1:10-13.

PREPARE: None

SAY> The Holy Spirit came to John and he heard a loud voice. Let's read what he heard in Revelation 1:10-13. (Read Revelation 1:10-13.) **Who did John hear speaking in a loud voice?** (The Son of Man) **The Son of Man is another name for Jesus. What do you think Jesus' voice sounded like?** (Respond.) **After he heard the loud voice, John turned around and saw something amazing. What did he see?** (Seven golden lampstands and someone dressed in a robe with a golden sash.) **Who do you think that was?**

"New Testament Overture"

Sheet music and recordings available at www.childrensministrywarehouse.net

Psalm 119:105 (KJV) and the books of the New Testament sung to the tune of The William Tell Overture: Allegro Vivace

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path!
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path!

Go to Matthew, to Mark, go to Luke and John. Go to Acts and the letter to the Romans.
Go to First, go to Second Corinthians, to Galatians and Ephesians!

Philippians and Colossians, First and Second Thessalonians,
First and Second Timothy, then Titus and Philemon!

Go to Hebrews and go to James. Go to First, go to Second Peter.
Go to First, Second, Third John. Go to Jude, then go to Revelation!

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

GAME: LIGHT MY PATH

PURPOSE: Campers learn the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse.

SUPPLIES: "New Testament Overture" song, player and flashlights

DIRECTIONS:

1. Campers choose partners.
2. Give each pair a flashlight. (Pairs may take turns if there are a limited number of flashlights available.)
3. As the Bible Memory Verse plays, one partner moves the flashlight beam across the floor as the other partner walks the path highlighted by the beam. Make sure the partner moves the beam slowly enough that the other camper can walk in it.

ASK> How did you know where your partner wanted you to go? (By following the lighted path.) Psalm 119:105 says "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." When we read God's Word in the Bible, it's like He is shining a light for us to see how to follow the right path—His path. The Bible helps us know God and how to follow Him.



Got Time? continued...

MORE BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

GAME: NEXT BOOK

PURPOSE: Campers learn the New Testament books in order.

SUPPLIES: "New Testament Overture" song, player, and poster

SAY> The Bible is made up of 66 different books. The New Testament has 27 books. Let's learn the books of the New Testament to help us find scripture verses quickly. How fast can you learn all the New Testament books in order?

DIRECTIONS:

1. Play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse one time. Have campers sing along as they learn the words.
2. Play the song again. This time stop the song during the list of the books of the New Testament.
3. Campers call out the name of the book that comes next. They can refer to the poster if necessary.
4. Play again as time permits.
5. As campers learn the books, challenge them by taking away the poster and choosing one camper to respond each time you stop the song.

GAME: THE BIBLE IS HOT, HOT, HOT!

PURPOSE: Campers learn the New Testament books in order.

SUPPLIES: "New Testament Overture" song, player and poster, Bible

DIRECTIONS:

1. Seat campers in a circle.
2. Play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse as campers quickly pass the Bible around the circle.
3. Stop the song during the list of the books of the New Testament.
4. The camper holding the Bible when the song stops is to open the Bible and find the last New Testament book sung in the song as quickly as possible.
5. Play again as time permits.
6. As campers learn the books, challenge them by timing the camper searching for the book. Encourage campers to cheer for each other and try and get a faster time each time they are selected.

***Counselor Clue:** For an added challenge and to protect the Bible during this game, use a hard cover Bible and tie it closed with a sturdy ribbon or enclose the Bible in a zipped cover or large zip top bag.



Got Time? continued...

MORE BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

DISCUSSION: ALL GOD'S WORD

PURPOSE: For campers to recognize there are different versions of the Bible, but it is all God's truth.

SUPPLIES: Different versions of the Bible opened to Psalm 119:105 (NIV, KJV, NLT, NIRV, The Message, etc.)

SAY > Have you ever noticed that even when people speak the same language, they use different words to say the same thing? In the English language, "soda," "soft drink" and "pop" are all words used for the same type of fizzy drink. People who are from different areas use different words and so do people of different ages. In the same way, Bibles use different wordings to say the same thing. For example, in some Bibles Psalm 119:105 uses the words: "Thy word" while other versions use the words: "Your word." Both are true!

DIRECTIONS:

1. Read a version of Psalm 119:105 aloud.
2. Read a different version of Psalm 119:105. Point out the differences.
3. Read a third version of Psalm 119:105. Point out the differences again.
4. Take a vote to determine the camper's favorite version.
5. Read and sing the Bible Memory Verse song according to the King James Version.

***Counselor Clue:** Compare Bible versions of other famous passages such as Psalm 23 and John 3:16.