

Bongo's "About the Bible" Lesson Set

A free set of lessons written by Neil MacQueen, Sunday Software

Welcome to my Bongo Loves the Bible Lesson Set!

This 4 to 6 Week Lesson Set can easily be adapted as a **VBS**, **fellowship**, summer program, or multi-week unit in **Sunday School** for elementary age kids. *It's also great for Rotation Sunday School use.*

In addition to lessons featuring our popular [Bongo Loves the Bible software](#), this set includes other types of complementary lessons with activities that include:

- Games about the Bible
- Cooking about the Bible
- Skits about the Bible
- Worship and Music about the Bible

The lessons are suitable for a wide-age range of children, but optimally ages 5 to 11. (The software is ages 6 to 11.) Pick and choose, modify and adapt. That's what good teachers do! You can also use many of these lessons without using the software (but why?)

<>< Neil MacQueen



The original and perhaps updated version of this lesson set can be found linked www.sundaysoftware.com/bongo. That webpage also has links to all the following graphics and Bongo's game guide, should you choose to use the software.

Curriculum Focus:

The following lesson activities and the Bongo game itself offer you the opportunity to tailor the focus of your lessons. You could make it more about "Basic Bible content," or more about "How the Bible came to Be," or about "The Importance of Reading the Bible, and Listening to God's Word." The more time you take, the more "about" the Bible you can run with.

Who is Bongo?

Bongo is the enormously popular orange orangutan Bible Hero in Sunday Software's **Bongo Loves the Bible CD**. Go to www.sundaysoftware.com/bongo to learn more about him and the game. You can use many of the following lessons **without** using the Bongo software, but why miss out on the fun?



Age Range:

The Bongo Software is GEARED FOR GRADES 2 through 8. But even younger kids can enjoy it IF you have savvy teens helping the little dudes. They love Bongo and just need help reading and navigating. All the OTHER LESSONS are easy to age adjust.

Opinion!

Many VBS' seem geared to the little kids, and yet it is the OLDER kids we really need to do a better job of reaching out to. Thus, this VBS is unabashedly designed to appeal to older kids. In your publicity, you may need to punch that ...if you're past efforts have not been drawing older kids.

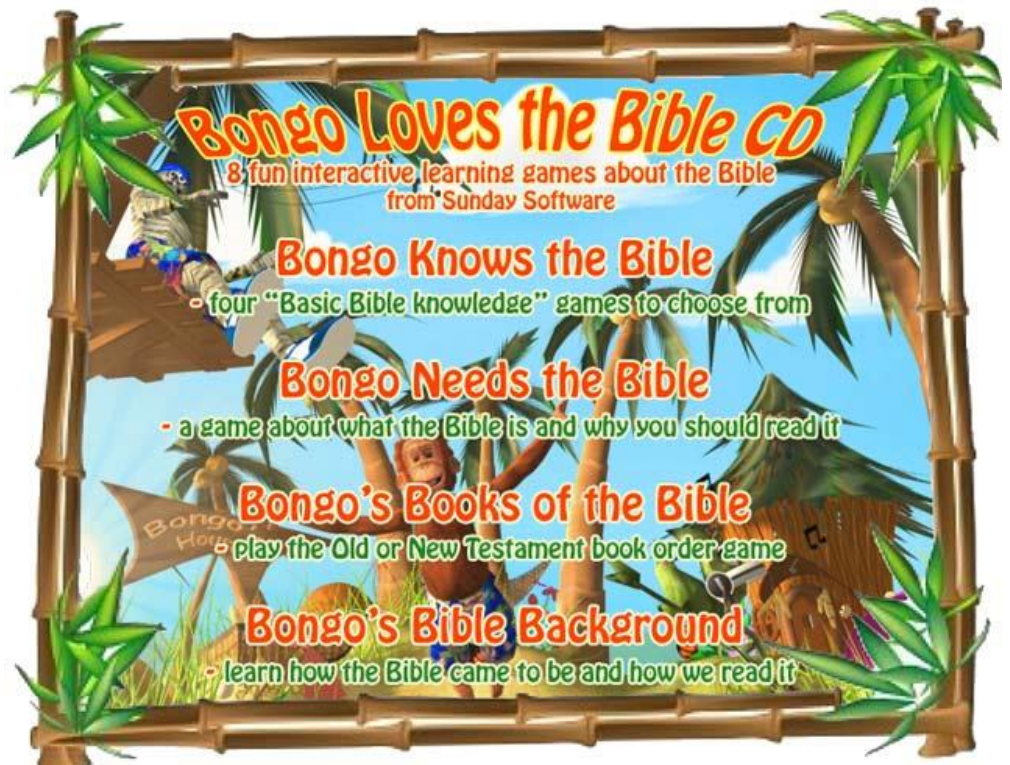
I've done "family" VBS programs, and there's no reason why these lessons can't be used without adaptation for families. Having done "Family Bible Gameshows" I can tell you that the adults really get into trying to answer questions!

LESSON SET OVERVIEW:

In the following Bongo themed VBS or Sunday School, you will:

1. Create Bongo Jungle-themed spaces
2. Rotate your groups between several "Bongo workshops", including
 - **Bongo Loves the Bible computer workshop**
 - **Bongo's Bible Bakery workshop**
 - **and Bongo Goes Bonkers for the Bible workshop.**
3. Worship, sing, and play Bongo-inspired games before and after the workshops.

Each of these workshops takes 40 to 60 minutes, so you do one-per-day. Additional workshop ideas are described below. Each workshop will **teach BIBLE BASICS, help them know why the Bible is important,** and encourage kids to read their Bibles. Bongo's VBS/Sunday School can be scaled to any size group or -setting. It can also be a multi-generation "family" unit or as a set of lessons for fellowship groups.



Seen above: A list of the four games found in the Bongo software.



Time:

Bongo's workshops are not 'stations' or quickie activities like you see in some VBS currics. Each class is a full lesson time with Bible study and a full activity. It will take a full 45-55 minutes to do each. No need to be in a rush. Our learning activities are fun so they won't get bored!

Scaling and Customizing:

The default configuration presented here is for three groups of kids over a three day period (or over three Sundays). I've suggested a possible fourth lesson/day below. You can use some of the suggested Worship and Music elements in the OPENING, and move games to the CLOSING, if you like.

EXAMPLE of a VBS-STYLE SCHEDULE with BONGO:

1. OPENING: (20 minutes)

An all-group gathering where you play Banana Games and prepare kids for learning.

2. WORKSHOP LESSONS: (50 -60 minutes each)

- The **Bongo Loves the Bible Computer Workshop** ...which uses the Bongo CD.
- The **Bongo is Bonkers for the Bible Workshop** ...which focuses on teaching key Bible concepts and navigational skills through activities
- **Bongo's Bible Baking Workshop** ...which teaches that the Bible should be part of our daily diet!

Additional Workshops can be added if needed. See list below.

3. Extended Time: (20 minutes) Optional. Add a meal or snack time for example.

4. Closing Worship and Music: (20 minutes)

EXAMPLE of a FOUR GROUP WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:

(For Five groups, add a fifth day and either a fifth workshop, or an "all group" workshop, such as video.)

4 Day, 4 Group Schedule	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Bongo Computer Workshop	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
Bongo Baking Workshop	Group 4	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Bongo Bible Workshop	Group 3	Group 4	Group 1	Group 2
Bongo Art Workshop	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 1



Creating Bongo's Jungle “Tiki” Theme in Your Classroom

This is the easiest part of Bongo's VBS! ...and the most fun. Create your Jungle atmosphere with "tiki party supplies" found in online catalogs, such as Oriental Trading Company and Anderson's Prom supplies. *Grass skirts, lanterns, cardboard palm trees, stone walls, blow-up monkeys, netting, cardboard birds.* You can also make "grass skirting" by tattering kraft paper. Decorate tables with brown paper covers. Write verses and ideas on them. Have a Senior High download jungle sounds off the web and mix you a CD to play in the background. Assemble "jungle stuffed animals" around the workshops, ...inviting the kids to bring in their stuffed animals.



Order enough inflatable monkeys to hang from the ceiling and give one away to each child at the end of VBS, they're really inexpensive and make a great giveaway, remember. You can even write verses on them.

Create a Jungle Snack Booth with "bug juice", banana chips, and jungle gummy worms in dirt (oreos) etc etc. Don't forget to decorate the computers! Yes, you can find inexpensive blow-up monkeys on the net! Some really big ones too. How fun is that? The nice thing about this theme is you can re-use the decorating supplies for a future party, or use them to permanently JUNGLE-IZE a classroom, such as your computer lab.



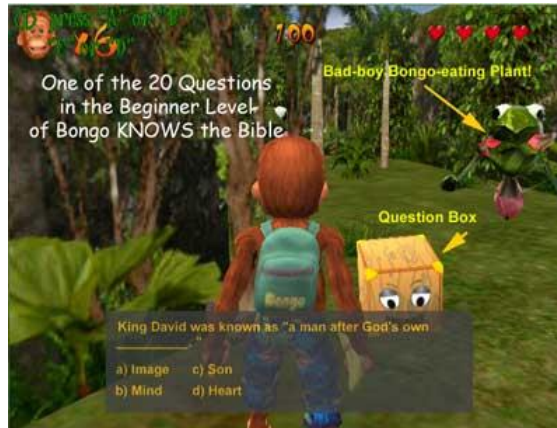
Now....here come the lesson outlines!



Workshop #1: The Bongo Loves the Bible Computer Workshop

In Advance:

Bring in borrowed laptops, or use your computer lab, or use the office computers for a great centerpiece workshop featuring Bongo, the little orange orangutan hero of "[Bongo Love the Bible CD](#)" from Sunday Software. Have some teens helping you who have already played Bongo. Make sure you print the guides and "cheats" to help students along, especially the younger ones.



Choose which of the four Bongo games from the Bongo Loves the Bible CD (Sunday Software). I suggest either the Bongo *Needs* the Bible game (also known as "the game in the cave") which teaches how the Bible describes itself (lamp and light, for example), or.... the Bongo *Knows* the Bible game (also known as the Jungle game with the four possible levels of knowledge), which introduces players to Basic Bible content and structure that every young person should know. Younger children will need help.

Preview the software and print the teacher's guide from [the "Doc Box"](#) on Bongo CD's webpage.

Lesson Outline:

1. Introduce the game and game controls to your students.
2. Make sure children have the printed Bongo Student Guide to their game and make sure younger children have help.
3. **Play the Bongo Software!** Give them about 30 minutes. The content is in the game!

After the game, discuss these questions:

For Bongo Needs the Bible (cave game)

- Name all the metaphors found in the game for God's Word.
- How is the Word of God like a lamp or a light to us in our daily living?
- Give each child a small free flashlight. Decorate it with the phrase, "The Word of God".

(Online companies like Oriental Trading sell bags of inexpensive lights/flashlights)



For Bongo Knows the Bible (jungle game)

- What are some of the real "pitfalls" (distractions, obstacles, wrong directions) we face while trying to follow God's Word? i.e., "things that keep us from following God's Word."
- "What things distract you from reading your Bibles?"

To Close:

Illustrate the point of the Bible as God's Guidance by playing an activity where students try to navigate with their eyes closed, or guide another student using their flashlight beam. Conclude with an "eyes open" prayer -- because prayer is about helping us see God's presence and way.



Workshop #2: The "Bongo Goes Bonkers for the Bible" Workshop

This lesson has **three** fun parts and needs about 60 minutes to complete. If you don't have that much time, break out the Bible Ribbon project as a separate "all group" activity.

The three activities of the Bonkers Workshop are:

ONE: Navigating your Bible

TWO: Timeline of the Bible

THREE: Bible Ribbons for the Pews Project

ONE: How to Split Your Bible to find things:

Using standard pew Bibles, you'll teach the kids how to quickly find key sections of scripture. This is both a demonstration by the teacher with a constant patter, and a "do like me" practice session. Take your time and have kids practice it several times. (5 minutes)

1. Split your Bibles in half. What book are you in? Split it slightly to the left of center and in most printed Bibles you should be in Psalms.
2. After splitting your Bible in half, hold the right half and split it. You should now be in Matthew in most Bibles. (Help children to gauge their "splitting" accurately). Split the left half of the Bible, where are you now? In most printed Bibles, the Pentateuch (first 5 books) should be in your left side split.

I've done countless variations on this activity. Sometimes I'll ask the kids to figure out their OWN "system". I also teach them how to hold open a page while looking for something else. This is a handy skill for Bible study.



TWO: Bible Timeline Game (30-35 minutes)

Download and play the free Bible Timeline Card Game from www.sundaysoftware.com/bongo/Bible-Timeline-game.pdf This pdf includes a set of color playing cards that have images and text of major events in the Bible. Really a nice set and fun game, and focuses on "the majors". As you play, be prepared to make comments about each card.

THREE: Activity: Make Bible Ribbon Markers (20 minutes)

This is a great activity. These Bible markers can be made for the kids to take home, or used in all the Bibles in Sunday School, and even for all the Bibles in the sanctuary. Their presence in the classroom and Worship Bibles encourage children to look-up and mark scriptures when they get into class or worship. Adults will appreciate the markers too. Test this ahead of time on the Bible's you'll be creating markers for so that you know the exact length and size of markers to make.

1. Cut colorful ribbon to be about 3 to 4 inches longer as the Bible you are going to be marking. The teacher at this point will need to quickly pass one end of each ribbon through a flame to melt the synthetic ribbon fibers so they don't unravel later. Practice this ahead of time and do not burn or over melt the ribbon.
2. Cut a piece of fabric into 3/4 inch squares. Lay the three ends of the ribbon on top of each other and wrap them with the square of fabric. Staple the fabric and ribbons together. You've now created a fabric "plug" which can be shoved down into the binding of a Bible. Put a dab of glue on top of the stapled fabric end and gently insert it down into the Bible's binding using a flat object (such as a tongue depressor). Make sure it goes down at least one inch, and make sure the other ends of the ribbon are long enough to stick out from the pages of the Bible by at least 2 inches. Immediately wipe off any excess glue.

People will be amazed how good they look! And appreciate that the kids did it themselves. I've done this activity in two different churches of mine, and the markers are a real source of pride for the kids, and very functional for them and the adults in worship.



Workshop #3: "Bongo's Bible Bakery" Workshop

Bread is one of the major metaphors that the Bible and Christians have used to describe the Word of God. It is a basic daily food. Everyone needs it. It rises with leaven. It's tasty. It travels well. It can be shared. Elijah was revived by the angel with bread in the wilderness. So was Jesus! ...And so are we through Communion.

In this workshop, the kids will make fast baking bread for themselves, and some to share. In the Bible study, you're going to give kids a new way of thinking about the phrase "Daily Bread" in the Lord's Prayer.

1. Begin with Bible Study.
2. Then make the bread.
3. Conclude by eating your daily bread while reinforcing points made in the study.

Bible verse for study:

When you pray, "Give us this day, our daily bread", now that you know "bread" can mean "word", in what ways does God provide us with his daily WORD? In discussing this answer, talk to the kids about how we prepare a meal, and prepare to sit down and eat it every day. What would a "snack on the go" of God's Word look like? How does sharing a meal together differ from eating it by yourself? (Benefits?) Look at the parts of a meal, what Words from God are like vegetables? desert?

The aim of this Bible verse study is to give kids a NEW WAY to think of that line from the Lord's Prayer.

There are hundreds of bread recipes, and you can look for others. But I needed one that assembles and bakes within 30 minutes. Here it is:

Cinnamon Sugar Flatbread:

1 cup all-purpose flour
3/4 cup whole wheat pastry flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 cup + 2 tablespoons warm water
1/4 cup olive oil
2 tablespoons sugar + 3/4 tablespoon cinnamon for sprinkling
Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Combine flours, baking soda, salt and cinnamon in a bowl and mix well. Add water and olive oil and mix until a dough forms, using your hands at the end. Form it into a bowl. Dust a baking sheet with flour and roll the dough as thin as you can with a rolling pin. Sprinkle cinnamon sugar mixture all over top and cut with a pizza slicer into small or large "Bible" shaped crackers. Bake for 10 minutes, or until golden and crisp. Let cool completely. The cooking time is your additional discussion time. Do it right in the kitchen where the wonderful smells will form a lasting memory.



MORE:

After sharing the cinnamon bread, share some different kinds of bread, in particular, something with heavy texture, and something dry and tough. Discuss how different scriptures have different tastes. Some are sweet, some are tough, some are more nourishing for certain circumstances. Some breads are dry, but as you eat them, they are delicious or travel well in tough times. Have a set of popular verses ready, read them aloud and ask kids to vote what kind of "bread" they are like. Return to your focus on the importance of DAILY bread and discuss how students could remember to study God's word on a daily basis. Remember to save some bread to share! ...because that too is what we do with our Daily bread... give it away every day. How do we share the Word every day? (by what we do and say)



I love these games!

BONGO "ALL GROUP" GAMES

These are crowd-breaker games for when the kids arrive or for the closing. But they are also teaching points.

Banana Relay

The Famous Banana Relay Game is one of my all-time favorite crowd-breakers. Divide the group into teams of 5 to 10 players each. Have each team sit in chairs that are lined up to form a row. Hand a banana to the last person in the row. On "go" teams pass the banana up the row as fast as they can. When the banana reaches the first person in the row (also known as, the Captain Banana Eater), the Captain runs as fast as they can across the room and back to the end of their team's row of chairs. While they were gone, the team has moved up one chair so that the back chair is now empty. This is where the captain sits. The banana passing process begins again up to the next person in the front of the line (everyone must touch it, it cannot be tossed). The new 'first person' in the row runs across the room and comes back to the end of their team's line, and so on and so on, --until the original Captain Banana Eater has now made their way back up to the first chair again. When the banana reaches the Captain for the second time, they must peel and eat it and show their empty mouth to the referee. You can easily play this game twice. It's a lot of fun.

Questions: How is the Word of God something we pass around? How do you "pass it" to others?



Sid the Surf Mummy Game

Sid the Surf Mummy is a character in the Bongo Loves the Bible CD. He's very friendly but keeps getting in Bongo's way. Split your group into teams of 3, designating one person in each group as "The Sid". Give the other two kids a roll of toilet paper. On the count of three, have the two wrap up their teammate and see who makes the best "Sid the Surf Mummy." For excitement, only give each team 1 minute. Then go to each Sid and ask them to do their best mummy impression. Do three rounds of this so everyone gets to be Sid. Keep score and give the winning team a pack of toilet paper prize.

Sid Question: What or Who distracts us from learning and obeying God's Word? (Sid is Bongo's friend but "distracter" in the game). Teachers: Do a skit called "Sid the Distraction" which has some fun ways our friends try to distract us from going to church and doing the right thing.



Catch the Word

This game is based on Bongo's treasure chest which is found at the end of each game in Bongo's software. The treasure chest spits out "the word" for extra points. You're going to do this with either water balloons or tennis balls launched by some of your favorite teens. Each of the balloons or tennis balls have special point values written on them, some say "word" for extra points. Play this in teams, meaning, it's not every kid for themselves, but a player catching a balloon or ball is catching points for their team. First team to 100 wins.

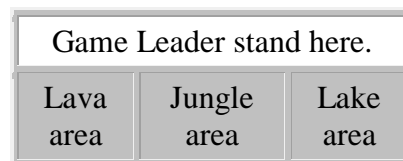
Question: What effort are *you* putting into "catching" the Word of God? What could you do better to "catch" it?

Lava! Jungle! Lake!

This is exactly the same as the popular "Poopdeck, Quarterdeck, Maindeck" game, only we're using three places from the Bongo game. To Play: Create a playing area consisting of three squares on the floor, each square about 10x10. Use tape or rope to make the boxes. The entire group starts by standing in the middle Jungle square. The Game Leader stands on a chair and yells out either "Lava, Jungle, or Lake", and all the kids must scramble to get into that square. The last one in the square gets a LETTER drawn on them with a washable marker. First one to get all the letters in BONGO ends the game and everyone gets to start again without any letters. Keep it moving. In small groups you can play this as an elimination game, but you need to move fast to keep everyone who's 'out' interested. ***Now here's the fun twist: The Game Leader tells the kids to ONLY GO where he says, and not where he points, ...but when he yells "Lake" he points to Lava, and hilarity ensues as some kids go the wrong direction. Makes the game a lot of fun, and may even have a Bible point: "listen for the Word of God and do not be deceived".

Question: What are the things which try to tempt us from following God's Word, and how do we resist those temptations?

Game area layout:



My kids LOVE this game, and enjoy it when we change the theme and adjust the rules in fun ways.



BONGO LOVES THE BIBLE WORSHIP & MUSIC

- Bongo Worship Time is approximately 20 minutes long and can include announcements, prayers, singing, and skits. To organize it, bring in your pastor, Worship Leaders, music people, and other volunteers to "divide and conquer." "Opening Song: "Thy Word"
- Prayers for the Day =including prayers from the kids, and including the Lord's Prayer...especially the "Daily Bread" line.
- Scripture Skit
- Message from the Pastor
- Closing Song

WORSHIP SONGS

"**Thy Word**" ...the Amy Grant/Michael W. Smith version, is great to teach to kids. Teach them the lyrics, sing it WITH GUITAR!and then take time to discuss some of the key ideas. If you can, demonstrate the importance of having a lamp for your feet!

This is the THEME SONG for your Bongo VBS. Sing it every lesson.

*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*

*When I feel afraid, And think I've lost my way
Still, You're there right beside me
Nothing will I fear, As long as You are near
Please be near me to the end*

*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*

*I will not forget, Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering
Jesus by my guide, And hold me to Your side
And I will love You to the end*

Nothing will I fear, As long as You are near, Please be near me to the end

*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
And a light unto my path
....You're the light unto my path*

For extra worship-time Bible study, invite the pastor or a creative teacher to illustrate each verse, one per day. You can download this song from various online sources, hear/see it on YouTube, and easily find the sheet music for performance if needed. I would suggest simply playing it on guitar....the chords are easy to find online.



Help children understand how a "lamp" worked in non-electrical times, its importance, and other related biblical images (such as, when Jesus said "don't hide your lamp under a bushel"...which is to say, God's Word is something WE can shine and share with others.

I've sung this song in a darkened room by candlelight, and with flashlights given to the kids....who by the second night were doing synchronized flashlight movements to the song.

Oh the possibilities!

Other Songs:

= The B-I-B-L-E (yes that's the book for me)

= A Books of the Bible Song (there are many, and your church probably already owns one and may have a DVD video of one to follow).

Some of the "Songs about the Bible" for children are pretty juvenile. Your older children will probably balk at singing some of them (unless you make them song leaders). Instead, I would pick a familiar hymn about The Word which the kids are likely to encounter in your sanctuary, walk through it, explain images, and playing it with a bit of a beat and fun motions. Start by looking in the index at the BACK of your church's hymnbook.

Worship Scripture Skit Suggestions:

Assemble an adult and a kid who are natural hams to follow these simple skits in worship. Invite the pastor to offer brief commentary and conclusion to the kids after the skit.

Each skit here uses a technique that frees up the actors/kids from using scripts. The script is written out for the narrator, and the 'actor' fills in the action, doing whatever the narrator describes, repeating what the narrator says. It can be very fun to watch. As the narrator, you throw in miscellaneous things for the actor to do as they deliver the words you are narrating. For example, if you say "he got out of bed" you add "very slowly" and then add, "placing fluffy his stuffed sheep on the pillow before he left."

1) EMBARRASSED BOY: The boy who hid from his friends the fact that he studied the Bible and went to church because he didn't want to look uncool. Example: Narrator: "Johnny Cool he was no fool, he got out of bed and went to Bongo Bible School. ("Time to get up!") First, he brushed his hair and brushed his teeth. (Brush brush) Then he swallowed down some toast. (swallow), then some eggs (swallow), then two bowls of cereal (swallow, swallow) and said: "Goodbye Mom" (bye mom!) and went out the door. That's when he realized he had forgotten to get dressed. (Yikes) He ran back inside and got dressed. Said Hi Mom, Bye Mom, (Hi Mom, Bye Mom) and went to church. He thought Jesus was cool ("hey, Jesus is cool")....etc etc. Jumping ahead in your script idea, the narrator now takes Johnny through several "excuse scenarios" for why he didn't admit to going to church and caring about the Bible. One of his friends says the Bible is for nerds. Another says he doesn't have time, or doesn't think it's real. The narrator has Johnny say various things in response. (In one version of this exercise, we stopped and had people submit what they think Johnny should say to his anti-Bible friends. It was fun and effective). Then the narrator has Johnny stand, stand bravely, stand as if the entire world needed to hear his words, throw out his chest, raise his hand, and shout the words, "I know some people think



Jesus is lame! But I know he loves me and gave his life for me, and if I can't give him 10 minutes a day or part of my Sunday to say thanks and to listen to his advice, then it is ME who is the REAL lame person!"

2) JESUS OBEYS: Jesus resists the temptation to take care of his own needs and temptations, and decides to just obey God's Word. You'll do this like the skit above and base your script on Luke 4, the temptation in the wilderness. Instead of putting Jesus on the pinnacle of the Temple, you'll put him on the top of the church's steeple. Instead of making stones into bread, he'll be tempted with making stones into your local favorite fast food place. etc etc. Jesus will answer the narrator devil with more than one sentence answers, --and speak like "dude, are you serious? Why should I disobey God just for a burger and fries with mayo, ketchup, and tomato? I mean, it doesn't even have cheese! ... Conclusion: Jesus showed us that God's word is worth everything.

3) OPPOSITE GIRL: The girl who read her Bible every day, and then went out and did the opposite of what her daily Bible reading said to do. You'll do this in the same format as the above readings... having the narrator lead an actor through the motions. The storyline is something like: "Elise is at home in bed, gets up to read a Bible verse about forgiving others, then runs into her brother downstairs and pounds him for messing with her iPod. On her way to school, a Bible verse bookmark from church reminds her to seek kindness and walk humbly. But when she gets to her locker she passes by a kid being bullied, then brags to a friend that she's a better cheerleader than that girl is. etc etc.



Additional Workshops, Resources, and Schedule Suggestions

BONUS VIDEO:

I'm often asked "do you know of any *How the Bible Came to Be* videos, and the answer is..."why haven't the publishers been making them!" Well, one has of sorts. The What's in the Bible? DVD series I recommend has some content on "how the Bible came to be written, when, how, etc" tucked away in the first part of the Genesis video in that series. Subsequent videos in the series include "about the book" and timeline presentations about that DVD's Bible book done in a lively format. For more information, see www.sundaysoftware.com/whatsinthebible

Episode 1 in DVD #1: "Beginnings" (Genesis) in that series gives a "big picture" overview of God's Story of Redemption that Genesis kicks off. Episode 1's opening chapters briefly describe "how the Bible came to be" - and more importantly, "why" and "what" it's trying to tell us. Episode 1 is about 25 minutes long.

Additional Workshops and Schedule Suggestions

Add an ART workshop... where kids make a Mezuzzah ...a wooden box containing a scripture scroll which goes on your door frame.



Add a DRAMA workshop... where kids create and videotape their TV Commercials for the Bible. (think of those info-mercials! "Acts Now and we'll send you two Bibles! ...one to keep and one to share!" "Here's how to 'be' or 'not to be' the Bible people read.")

Give Them A Bible Storybook To Take Home

This may be an EXCELLENT TIME to discern WHO has Bibles at home, and Bible storybooks. Many children do not, so let me make a suggestion: Invite SENIORS in the congregation to "sponsor a Bible storybook" for a child in your VBS. Look at the American Bible Society website for some great choices in quantity, and Christianbooks.com for deals. Extravagant? Hardly. It's our job to teach the Word of God, and that means getting it into their hands at home too. Dear Pastor, this is also an excellent opportunity to hand out some age-appropriate Bibles to visiting children. Do this when their parent comes to pick them up.

Give Them A Copy Of Bongo CD To Take Home

I want to back you up on this, and put my money where my mouth is, so if you want to give a copy of my Bongo CD to your kids, email me at neil@sundaysoftware.com and I'll give you a super low price on Bongo Loves the Bible CD. This offer is good only if your church is using Bongo CD. Imagine: kids studying the Bible at home!

Bongo Graphics for Your Publicity

I've posted two higher resolution versions of the graphic seen here and at the top of this PDF. You're welcome to use them. Click one of these links, and then RIGHT click the image that loads to 'save as' somewhere on your computer.

[Version 1](#)

[Version 2](#)

Special Publicity

How about sending one of those inexpensive inflatable monkeys I mentioned earlier to EACH OF YOUR KIDS? Attach a reminder sign to the monkey's hand. In many areas, the local zoo, local "traveling petting zoos" and local pet owners will **bring animals to your event, including monkeys**. Check the yellow pages and call your local zoo. (Be sure these companies follow safe-animal practices.) As part of your event, you could also schedule a **TRIP TO THE LOCAL ZOO**. Include a Bible study in the lunch pavilion which features scripture about animals, including Genesis 1 where God's Word gives us responsibility for the animals.

Note from Neil about Lesson Development & Detail

When it comes to lesson plans and teaching concept for kids, I believe in keeping them simple and focused. I don't believe in providing lesson plans with long speeches. That's your job :-). I come from the Workshop Rotation Model approach to such things, --believing that good teachers naturally add-to a basic lesson plan, and that pastors/leaders should go over them with their teachers, adding content, key points they want to make, and extra questions to ask. Rotation modelers also recognize that the FIRST time a teacher leads the workshop, it is a bit of a dry-run. But by the second day when the second group comes, and the teacher already knows how to improve and enhance the lesson, and begin to add comments and questions. The kids change after workshop #1 as well, picking up on your theme and concepts from the other activities, worship, lessons. *A lesson plan is a living thing.*

You've also noticed that unlike traditional VBS currics, we're not giving you a list of scripture verses for each day. That's due to the nature of the content itself. Other than the "Daily Bread" line which is quoted in Worship and Bongo's Bakery Workshop, the Bongo Loves the Bible CD teaches a bunch of scripture verses in its games. This, and the Bonkers



Workshop focuses on the grand story/structure of the Bible itself, and the Worship song "Thy Word" is a collection of scriptural images from the Psalms. If you want to grab Bibles and point out all these many references, go for it!

Why is this Bongo Bible Lesson Set free and who wrote it?

Bongo's Vacation Bongo School was written by Neil MacQueen, owner and developer of Sunday Software, Sunday School teacher, Presbyterian minister, Christian educator, author, and the developer of Bongo Loves the Bible CD (among other software). He also founded rotation.org to give away lessons of all kinds and is now one of their lesson writers.

Neil has 30+ years of Sunday School and VBS experience and has written several VBS' for his own churches, including this one.

Questions? Email neil@sundaysoftware.com

Bongo Loves the Bible software system requirements:

Window XP/Vista/Windows 7 and 8 and 10. Minimum: 800 mhz, 256 mb RAM, 16 mb videoram (3D capable accelerated graphics). Recommended minimum: 1.2+ mhz, 1gb RAM, 32 mb videocard minimum. Any PC made after 2008 will run this software just fine.

For group use, yes you can project Bongo's game software on the wall using a computer attached to an LCD projector. Let them take turns navigating and all participate in answering questions.

Go to Bongo CD's webpage description and Game Helps at Sunday Software's website:
www.sundaysoftware.com/bongo/

