



BIBLE EXPLORATION

Pathfinder Level

Purpose

To help you discover how God works as you explore the Scriptures using some of the Bible study tools available to you.

Exploring

1. The first step in exploring God’s word, the Bible, is to know the Landmarks. The Bible is a collection of books written by different authors but inspired by God. They are divided into two sections; the Old and New Testaments. You must be able to show your Counsellor that you are able to find the different books quickly. The index may help.

2. There are several TOOLS that can help you understand the Bible and when and where and how things in the Bible occurred. Some of these TOOLS are:

Topical Bible An alphabetical listing of the major Topics discussed in the Bible with chapter and verse references.

Concordance An alphabetical listing of the main Words found in the Bible with chapter and verse references.

Reference Bible This has a system of cross references in the side column or at the bottom of the page.

Bible Commentary A book or set of books with explanations and comments on bible passages.

Bible Dictionary An alphabetical listing of words and subjects found in the Bible with brief definitions.

Bible Atlas A collection of maps, charts and plates discussing the geography and some of the history of biblical settings.

Doing

Complete the following exercise. Write out in full Acts 10: 1-2 (N.I.V.)

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1. What tool would you use to find out what a centurion was?

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2. What tool would you use to find out where Caesarea is located in relation to Jerusalem where the book of Acts began?

3. What tool would you use to find all the passages that mention the man Cornelius?

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4. What tool would you use to find if any other passages mention the same event?

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5. Read Acts 10: 3-8. What tool would you use to find the meaning of this passage?

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There are many exciting ways in which you can explore the Bible. Select and complete two of the following projects.

LEARNING ABOUT PEOPLE

1. Select one of the characters listed below:

Noah, Joseph, Gideon, Daniel, Timothy or Barnabas.

Using the tool listed under Exploring find where this person appears in the Bible. Write a brief life story of him. Look for facts about when and where he lived, who was in his family and what life was like at the time.

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What important thing did he do? How did God work in his life?

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- 2. Memorize one Bible verse that you explored as you read about this person.
- 3. Share your experiences with your Counsellor and explain why you think God included this person's story in the Bible and what you could learn from this story.

DISCOVERING JESUS

1. Read the gospel of John. As you read note Jesus' words 'I am...'
You can also use the tools listed under 'Exploring'. List at least eight verses where Jesus mentions these words and complete His statement. Also note the person or persons to whom He is speaking. What does each statement mean to you? Write down your answers.

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2. Read John 20 again. Pay special attention to verses 30 and 31. Write down why the gospel of John was written.

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3. Select on the 'I am...' verses and memorise.

4. Share your experiences with your Counsellor and discuss with him what important things you have learned about Jesus.

READING A LETTER

1. Read the book of James. This is actually a letter which James wrote to Christians everywhere explaining Christian living.

2. In your project book list the kinds of advice James gives us in the following passages. You may also use the tools listed under 'Exploring'.

James 1 : 2-18 and 19-27

James 2: 1-13 and 14-16

James 3: 1-12 and 13-18

James 4: 1-10, 11-12 and 13-17

James 5: 1-6, 7-11, 12, 13-18 and 19-20

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3. Memorize one Bible verse from James that you feel is important to remember.

4. Share your exploration of James with your Counsellor and tell him what you have learned about yourself as you read the advice James gives.

Ask your Counsellor to sign below and arrange for the presentation of your badge.

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