



## SCHOLARSHIP CATEGORY VISUALIZED BIBLE TEACHING

### PRESENTATION

Each Bible lesson must center on a **Biblical character or Biblical event**. Please note: a general Biblical theme or presentation based on Bible truths is not acceptable; *the lesson must come from a Biblical narrative*. The contestant will lose points if the lesson does not come from a narrative. The lesson must include some type of visual aid. Creativity in the kind of visual aid and the use of the aid is encouraged. More than one aid may be used if desired. The judges will consider the ease, ability, and technique with which the visual aid is used. Possible visual aids to consider include, but are not limited to

- flashcards
- flat pictures
- flannelgraph
- puppets
- transparencies
- stand-up figures
- chalkboard illustrations
- PowerPoint slides

Note: Gospel magic or other magic “tricks” are not appropriate visual aids for this category.

The visual aid may be handmade or purchased. **It should be large enough to be easily seen in a group of 10 to 15 children.** The contestant may have someone assist in setting up any necessary equipment before the contestant’s timed presentation begins. **A lectern and table will be provided; contestants must provide any other equipment they need.**

While the visual aid is important, remember that it accounts for only one-tenth of your total score (see adjudication areas below). Creative, impressive visual aids will not compensate for weak storytelling skills.

The lesson material itself must be the work of the contestant and may not be taken from published or unpublished sources. You must teach an original lesson. Plagiarism, close paraphrasing, or substantial borrowing of contents or ideas and representing them as your own work will result in disqualification. Any reference materials used for background

information must be cited in the bibliography, along with the version of the Bible you use.

You should teach the lesson as though you were teaching a children’s class (grades 1–6). **Do not adapt the lesson to the judges or the audience.** The lesson should be taught so as to motivate the class to one specific action (e.g., salvation, obedience to the Lord in baptism, obedience to parents, telling friends and family about Jesus, sharing, telling the truth). This action should flow naturally from the lesson itself rather than being “tacked on” at the end.

Because you are presenting this lesson in a competitive setting rather than an actual teaching situation, you do not need to pray as part of your presentation. If you choose to use a song to emphasize something in the lesson, sing the song only once or twice. **Points will be deducted if prayer, music, or Scripture memorization take time away from the actual teaching.**

You may use a copy of your outline and your Bible as you teach. However, obvious dependence on your outline will result in a reduction of points. On the other hand, we discourage memorization of a fixed manuscript because such a presentation moves into the category of dramatic presentation rather than Bible teaching. You will find it helpful in your preparation to videotape your presentation so that you can see and hear areas you need to improve (e.g., posture, gestures, vocal inflection).

### RESEARCH

In addition to preparing and telling a story for competition, you must show evidence of research and experience in the area of visualized Bible teaching.

(1) You must prepare a two-page summary of a total of 150 pages of reading from at least two different sources on the subject of storytelling skills and principles. Check your local library for books on storytelling (secular or religious). *Storytelling—It’s Easy!* by Ethel Barrett (out of print, but check your church library) relates specifically to Bible storytelling. Many

Web sites deal with storytelling. Exercise caution in using the Internet, and use only reliable sources. Include with your reading summary a bibliography of the sources and number of pages you read.

(2) You must prepare a one-page, typed description of the characteristics of children in grades 1–6 (ages 6 or 7 to 11 or 12). Focus especially on mental and emotional characteristics as they relate to storytelling. Again, check your local library for books on child development. Include with your reading summary a bibliography of the sources you read.

## CHURCH TEACHING EXPERIENCE

You must tell a story in a regular church ministry (e.g., Sunday School, children’s church, weekday club) at least three times prior to state competition. Your church teaching experience must be completed in the four months prior to your state competition (e.g., if your state competition is in April, your teaching experiences should be no earlier than December of the preceding year). **You may use your TFC competition story only once to meet this requirement.** The other two teaching times must involve different Bible stories. Prepare a list of your teaching experiences with each story title, Scripture reference, setting (e.g., Sunday School class), date, and signature of the supervisor.

You will not be judged on your teaching experience and assignments, but you must complete them to be able to compete in the state and national contests.

## OUTLINE

Type the outline on 8½" x 11" white paper, single-spaced with double-spacing between major points. The outline must not exceed two pages and should include the following:

- The lesson title
- The Scripture references on which the lesson is based
- The lesson theme (the major idea or truth being presented in the lesson)
- The lesson objective (what the teacher wants to accomplish in teaching the lesson)
- The student response (what students will do as a result of the lesson)
- The major points and subpoints of the lesson stated in parallel form (see below), and the introduction and conclusion written word for word. Note the supporting Scripture passage for each major point.

## Sample Outline

**Title:** Shipwrecked!

**Scripture:** Acts 27

**Lesson theme:** God cares for us and protects us.

**Lesson objective:** To learn that God protected Paul during a difficult voyage

**Student response:** To thank God for His care and protection

### Introduction

Let me tell you about a very special promise God made. (Read Genesis 32:15.) I know of a man in the New Testament who may have remembered that very promise.

I. The trip begins (Acts 27:1–13).

II. The weather changes (Acts 27:14–20).

III. Paul prays (Acts 27:21–32).

IV. Daylight comes (Acts 27:33–38).

V. The ship wrecks (Acts 27:39–43).

VI. The passengers and crew are safe (Acts 27:44).

### Conclusion

Do you remember the promise I read at the very beginning? (Read Genesis 32:15 again.) We learned how God cared for Paul. Let’s think of some times and places when God cares for us. Now let’s thank God for caring for us.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

A bibliography of all sources used to develop your lesson must follow the outline. The bibliography should include the Bible version or versions used for the lesson as well as the source of your visual aids (e.g., purchased ready-made visuals; made your own visuals; a friend made your visuals).

### Sample Book Entry

Elliott, Anne. *Juggling Life’s Responsibilities*. Schaumburg, Ill: Regular Baptist Press, 2005.

### Sample Magazine Entry

Webber, Gerald K. “The Emerging Church.” *The Baptist Bulletin* (October 2005): 18–20.

### Sample Web Site Entry

Doerflinger, Richard M. “Medical Groups Begin Campaign for Lethal Embryo Research.” June 1999. [www.nrlc.org/news/1999/NRL699/doer.html](http://www.nrlc.org/news/1999/NRL699/doer.html)

## TIME LIMIT

The lesson presentation must be **at least ten minutes**, but no more than twelve minutes, in length. At ten minutes the timekeeper will stand long enough to notify you that two minutes remain. At twelve min-

utes the timekeeper will stand again. Any contestant who uses less than ten minutes or more than twelve minutes will be disqualified.

## **STATE CONTEST**

Submit four copies of your outline, as well your reading summary, your typed description of the characteristics of children in grades 1–6, and the signed list of your teaching experiences, at the time specified by the state TFC director. You will receive the outline after the state contest and may correct and submit it for the national competition.

## **NATIONAL CONTEST**

Each first- and second-place state winner intending to compete nationally must send four copies of his/her outline, reading summary, typed description of the characteristics of children in grades 1-6, and the signed list of teaching experiences to GARBC/TFC, 1300 N. Meacham Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60173-4806 **by June 1, 2007**. Failure to submit ALL required elements in a satisfactory form by the deadline will result in a deduction of points at national competition.

## **ADJUDICATION AREAS**

*Lesson theme*—significant (i.e., encourages salvation or a specific area of Christian growth); specific (one main thought); appropriate for children in grades 1–6

*Lesson content*—original lesson; Biblically accurate; carries out the lesson theme; balanced between the Bible lesson itself and other elements (e.g., supporting illustrations); presents concrete rather than abstract concepts (Note: children think literally. It is hard for them to understand that one thing stands for something else. Abstract: Jesus wants us to be lights. Concrete: Other people should be able to tell from our words and actions that we love Jesus.)

*Arrangement, organization, and length*—logical, com-

plete outline; attention-getting introduction; appropriate transitions throughout the story; conclusion resolves the action of the story and suggests student response; lesson long enough to fill the time

*Visual aids*—colorful and attractive; large enough to be easily seen; appropriate for children in grades 1–6; creative in kind and use; aid in understanding the Bible story; used correctly and easily

*Storytelling skills*—eye contact with audience; loud enough to be heard easily; variations in voice volume, pitch, and rate; good use of gestures and facial expressions; good use of action and descriptive words

*Style and articulation*—correct grammar; vocabulary appropriate to children in grades 1–6; words and names pronounced correctly

*General delivery*—shows emotional involvement in the story; good posture; moves comfortably; confidence in presenting story; freedom from dependence on notes

*Overall effectiveness*—adapted well to audience (children in grades 1–6); accomplished lesson objective; held attention throughout the story

*Additional requirements*—submitted outline with all the required elements (see above), including bibliography; reading summary; typed description of the characteristics of children in grades 1–6; teaching record signed by supervisor

*Appearance*—appropriate attire; good grooming

If it is necessary to call back two or more contestants in order to determine the winners, the judges will give each contestant a familiar New Testament narrative. After looking at the passage for three minutes, the contestant will have three to five minutes to present the Biblical account in story form. Contestants will be judged only on storytelling skills, style and articulation, general delivery, and overall effectiveness.