



Date: _____
Series: Sharpening Your Sword
Winter Year 2, Lesson 35

How Does It Fit Together?

Take Home Point: *God wrote the Bible through people. *Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: Jeremiah 1:1-10; 2 Peter 1:16; Deuteronomy 31:9-13

Key Verses: 2 Timothy 3:16-17, "Every scripture passage is inspired by God. All of them are useful for teaching...They equip God's servants so that they are completely prepared to do good things."

We will help kids know:

- God, wrote the Bible over the span of 16 centuries, through 36 authors for a total of 66 different books.
- The Bible is divided into the Old Testament which points to Christ and the New Testament that begins with Christ and testifies about him.
- The Bible is filled with different kinds of books like history, poetry and prophecy.
- The Bible is God "breathed" by the Holy Spirit. He "breathed" the thoughts and words men were to write.

We will help kids feel:



- Confident in using the Bible with a better understanding of its construction and organization.
- Assured of God's authority in the words of the Bible revealed through human writers.
- Interested and inspired to learn more about the Bible, to use it more often as a guide, and to grow in love with their Lord and Savior, Jesus.


We will help kids do:

- Put together a rebus/jigsaw puzzle as an analogy of how all the books of the Bible fit together.
- Play memory games to learn the books of the Bible.

Kingdom Quest Year 2- Lesson 35 - 1

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	4	Kids will work together to fit their jigsaw piece into a group puzzle. They will decipher the code written on the puzzle and act out what it says to do.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one rebus puzzle per group photocopied on the back of jigsaw pattern on heavy paper and cut out along the jigsaw lines. (See appendices.)
Large Group 	4 8 9 13 16	<p>Overview</p> <p>Introduction: Zaro, the Magnificent makes a dramatic entrance to excite kids about learning how the Bible was written and put together.</p> <p>Challenges: Representatives from the small groups will enter the Bible battle ring to duel with each other over answers to questions about the Bible.</p> <p>Group Challenge: Teams will compete as a unit to blow a balloon along a string and see who can get it the farthest the fastest to remind them of God “breathing” his thoughts and words into Bible writers’ minds.</p> <p>Appendices</p>	<p><i>Costume:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> black cape and mask <p><i>Props:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> toy telescopic plastic pointer Bible, tucked into presenter’s pocket or belt, like a sword in a sheath chalkboard, whiteboard or newsprint markers or chalk overhead transparency of a #1—numbers 16, 36, and 66 will be drawn inside (See appendix.) overhead projector completed puzzle sheet from Warm-Up clear tape balloon, short straw, tape, and a 20’ string for each group <i>optional:</i> cards of the categories of Biblical books (see appendix) for each group <p><i>Set:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a square section of the stage roped off like a boxing ring with a table in the center bell or buzzer on the table

<p>Small Group Application</p> 	<p>5</p>	<p>Brainstorm ways to practice learning the books of the Bible at home and possibly play memory games as review.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>optional</i>: cards of the categories of Biblical books (see appendix) for each group
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Small Group Warm-Up: 15 minutes



Purpose: *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

As kids gather: Listen to memory verses from last week and give coupons for memory verses, remembering to bring your Bible, and bringing a guest.

Supplies: rebus puzzle photocopied on back of the jigsaw pattern (see Appendices A and B) on heavy paper and cut into puzzle pieces

Your challenge for the day is to decode a secret message. Each of you will receive a puzzle piece that only you can touch. As a group, put the puzzle together so you can read the secret code.

When you figure out the code, it will tell your group what to do next.

Hand out puzzle pieces. Kids should work together until the pieces are fit together with the rebus side facing up. The code says that they, as a group, are to stand up and cheer. This indicates to the leaders and other groups that their group has completed, read, and understands the puzzle. After kids have followed the instructions, ask:

What have you learned from the Bible that makes you want to cheer?

This activity gives us a starting point to clarify our understanding of how the Bible was written and organized. Just like the rebus puzzle, the Bible is clear in its message even though many people pieced it together. Today we will explore how **God wrote the Bible through people.*

Have kids take their Bibles with them to Large Group.

Large Group Overview: 20-30 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

Introduction: Zaro, the Magnificent, makes a dramatic entrance to excite kids about learning how the Bible was written and put together.

Challenges: Representatives from the small groups will enter the Bible battle ring to duel with each other over answers to questions about the Bible.

Group Challenge: Teams will compete as a unit to blow a balloon along a string and see who can get it the farthest the fastest to remind them of God “breathing” his thoughts and words into Bible writers’ minds.

Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion, but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.

Observation Questions: What happened?

Who can tell me how many total books are in the Bible? (66.)

How many centuries did it take to write it? (16.)

How many different human writers were there? (36.)

Who is the one author behind it all? (God.)

What are the different categories of the books of the Bible? *(Old Testament: law, history, poetry, major prophets, and minor prophets. New Testament: Jesus' bibliography, history of early church, Paul's epistles (or letters), general epistles, prophecy.)*

Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

Our key verse today from 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says, "Every scripture passage is inspired by God. All of them are useful for teaching...They equip God's servants so that they are completely prepared to do good things."

What does this verse say to you about the Bible and how it affects your life?

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Discuss with kids something new they learned about the Bible from today's lesson. Brainstorm ways to practice learning the books of the Bible at home. Remind kids that there will be more Bible challenges throughout the next four weeks and challenge them to find time each day to prepare.

Excite the group about defeating other small groups in buzzer beating brainy Bible battles. But, emphasize that God is the source of the word, breathed through different writers, as pieces of a grand puzzle that make up the magnificent guide for our lives called the Bible.

Optional Memory Games

Supplies: optional—cards of the categories of Biblical books (see appendix)

Two different memory games can be used today to review learning the books of the Old and New Testaments. It might be helpful to let kids go back into their small groups and practice these books as a group or to practice memorizing to prepare for one of the learning games to compete in large group.

Review Game #1: Cards in order

In this game, every student is given a card with a category of books in the Bible such as the law or history (do the Old Testament and New Testament separately). Kids are not allowed to look at their cards until the starting sound or bell. Once the timer begins, every student can look at his/her card and see if, as a group, they can arrange themselves in a line, standing in order with the order of the Bible books.

This game also works well with all groups competing at the same time, if enough cards are run off. A more advanced level of this game is giving each group cards of the individual books that are randomly pulled out and they must place themselves in order according to categories.

Review Game #2

The group is asked to repeat a category of books from the Bible such as the Old Testament prophets beginning with Isaiah. The team is invited to speak one person at a time. The next person in line says the next book. This may require some rehearsal for those who don't already know the books of the Bible but helps to identify those who need to practice the most at home.

To conclude, restate the take home point:

Today we learned that **God wrote the Bible through people.*

Closing prayer:

Have each kid thank God for a specific thing he/she learned today. Thank God for the way he put the Bible together. Ask for the Holy Spirit's diligence to study God's word and learn the books of the Bible.

Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.

Large Group Presentation: 20-30 minutes

How Does It Fit Together?

Interactive Teaching

Costume:

- *simple black cape and a black mask to resemble the Zoro character.*

Props:

- *toy telescopic plastic lance that extends when flipped forward or possibly another option of a telescopic antenna rigged to a homemade sword handle (used for pointing out the key verses of the Bible)*
- *Bible as the sword tucked into presenter's pocket or belt, like a sword in its sheath*
- *piece of paper, dry erase board or chalkboard to keep score (Have names of each small group written down ahead of time so scores can be tallied.)*
- *markers or chalk for keeping score*
- *the #1 on overhead transparency (the numbers 16, 36, and 66 will later be drawn inside the #1) See appendix*
- *a puzzle from small group Warm-Up already assembled and taped together*
- *clear tape*
- *balloon, short straw, tape, and a 20' string for each group*

Set:

- *rope off a square section of the stage like a boxing ring with a table in the center*
- *have a bell on the table for contestants to hit when they're ready to answer*

Introduction: "Zaro! the Magnificent!"

Make a dramatic entrance with flying cape.

Hello, I am Zaro! the Magnificent! I'm sure you can obviously see that for yourselves just by looking at my magnificent costume and more importantly, my magnificent sword! Ah, yes...my sword! In this hand, I have my sword.

Hold up plastic sword.

In this other hand, I also have my sword.

Hold up the Bible with other hand.

As we learned last week, without my sword I would not be Zaro! the Magnificent! I would be Zero! But when I learn to use my sword, then it is truly magnificent! So today I'm challenging you to learn to use your sword and discuss how this sword is put together. How does it all fit together? What are the books of the Bible and how did we get them?

For us to learn about this, we will keep our best hand on our swords ready for a "quick draw" to assist us in engaging our brains for battle.

Whip the Bible from its sheath.

Pick representatives from each small group to do battle.

Have kids pick a team representative from each small group. The first representative from each group will come forward and enter the battle ring. Tell them they risk being disqualified if a member of their team helps with an answer.

Questions will be asked as one child from each team stands at the stage table within the battle ring. The student who has a correct answer and rings the bell first will be awarded 100 points. However, 50 points are deducted for each incorrect answer, in which case, a contestant may return to his/her group, confer for one minute, and return to the ring with the groups' answer.

Okay, the teams appear set and ready for competition. The first representatives from each team are invited to enter the battle ring! Scorekeeper, take your place and let the games begin!

Ring the bell several times to announce the opening round.

Round 1 – Warm-Up Review

How was the Warm-Up activity of putting the puzzle pieces together like the Bible? Use your imagination. There can be many different answers. *(Many different people wrote the Bible and it comes together for one message that we can cheer about.)*

How is this puzzle not like the Bible? *(The Bible is written in plain language and not in any coded form.)*

Who wrote the Bible? *(God, through people.)*

Have contestants return to their seats.

Round 2 - Facts

Show the #1 transparency on an overhead projector or draw a picture of a large number “one” in block or bubble style as shown in Appendix. As the Bible’s writing is described, place the numbers 16, 36, and 66 inside the block or bubble number “one.”

The number “one” reminds us that there is only one author, God. God wrote the Bible through people. He wrote it over the time of sixteen centuries, used thirty-six different writers, for a total of sixty-six different books.

Remove the drawing so kids can’t see the answers just written. Ask for each group to send up a different contestant for Round 2. Ask the following questions when the contestants are ready and in position. Ring the bell to signify the beginning of Round 2.

Who can tell me how many total books are in the Bible? (66.)

How many centuries did it take to write it? (16.)

How many different human writers were there? (36.)

Who is the one author behind it all? (God.)

Have contestants return to their seats.

Round 3 - Old Testament Law

Open your Bibles to Deuteronomy 31:9-13 and follow along as I read. Listen very carefully to this Bible verse because challengers will be asked specific questions from it.

“Moses wrote down these teachings and gave them to the Levitical priests who carried the ark of the Lord’s promise and to all the leaders of Israel. Then Moses commanded them, “At the end of every seventh year you must cancel debts. At that time, during the Festival of Booths, all the Israelites will come into the presence of the Lord your God at the place he will choose. Read these teachings so that they can hear them. Assemble the men, women, and children, as well as the foreigners who live in your cities. Have them listen and learn to fear the Lord your God and faithfully obey every word of these teachings. Their children, who don’t know these teachings, must hear them and learn to fear the Lord your God as long as you live in the land that you are going to take possession of when you cross the Jordan River.”

Have kids close their Bibles and each group send up their next contestant to enter the battle ring. When contestants are ready and in position, ring the bell to start Round 3.

Who wrote down all of God's law? (*Moses.*)

How often was it commanded that this law was to be read before all the people? (*Every seven years.*)

Bonus Question: Moses wrote the first five books of the Bible. What are they? (*Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy.*)

Have contestants return to their seats.

Round 4 - Prophecy

Please open your Bibles again, this time to Jeremiah 1:4-10 where God appointed prophets to write the Bible. Follow along as I read it:

"The Lord spoke his word to me. 'Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. Before you were born, I set you apart for my holy purpose. I appointed you to be a prophet to the nations.'

"I, Jeremiah, said, 'Almighty Lord, I do not know how to speak. I am only a boy!' But the Lord said to me, 'Don't say that you are only a boy. You will go wherever I send you. You will say whatever I command you to say...'

"Then the Lord stretched out his hand and touched my mouth. The Lord said to me, 'Now I have put my words in your mouth. Today I have put you in charge of nations and kingdoms. You will uproot and tear down. You will destroy and overthrow. You will build and plant.'"

Have kids close their Bibles and each group send up their next contestant to enter the battle ring. When contestants are ready and in position, ring the bell to start Round 4.

What was Jeremiah appointed as? (*A prophet.*)

How did Jeremiah feel about speaking? (*Scared.*)

What did the Lord do so Jeremiah would know what to speak? (*He touched his mouth and put his words there.*)

Have contestants return to their seats.

Round 5 – Poetry

Have each group send up their next contestant to enter the battle ring. When contestants are ready and in position, ring the bell to start Round 5.

Psalm 119:105 says, “*Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light for my path.*”

What is God’s word like? (*A lamp or light to guide our feet on the path of life.*)

Though it’s not stated in the verse, David writes this Psalm and many of the Psalms, not as writings of history or prophecy, but what genre of writing?

- A. Comedy**
- B. Detective stories**
- C. Poetry (correct answer)**

Have contestants return to their seats.

Round 6 - History

Have each group send up their next contestant to enter the battle ring. When contestants are ready and in position, ring the bell to start Round 6.

The story of David fighting Goliath is in the book of 1 Samuel 17. This is a sample of several books in the Bible that tell the story of peoples’ lives as they interacted with God. These kinds of books or genre are called:

- A. Short stories**
- B. History (correct answer)**
- C. Comic books**

Which of the following books do you think is a book of history from the New Testament?

- A. Romans**
- B. Revelation**
- C. Acts (correct answer)**
- D. Hebrews**
- E. Saturday Evening Post**

Have contestants return to their seats.

Let's review. In the Old Testament, we have several different kinds of books. We have the books of the law, we have the books of history, poetry, and prophecy. The Old Testament points to Christ because the people that are written about looked forward to the coming of the Promised One that would rescue them.

Round 7 – New Testament

Have each group send up their next contestant to enter the battle ring. When contestants are ready and in position, ring the bell to start Round 7.

The New Testament begins with the life of Jesus. The first four books of the New Testament are called the Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

Whose life story do they tell? (*Jesus'.*)

How well were you listening? The Old Testament blanks to Christ's coming. (*Points to it.*)

The New Testament blanks with Christ. (*Begins with.*)

Even the New Testament has a book of prophecy and it rhymes with the word celebration. Can you guess what the name of this book is? (*Revelation.*)

Have contestants return to their groups.

Group Challenge

Give each shepherd a balloon, short straw, tape, and a 20' string for his/her group.

For this next portion of the sword fight, your group is challenged to compete as a unit. We will see which group can send their balloon along the length of the string the fastest and the farthest. You have four minutes to discuss your strategy and prepare your balloon. While you do this, remember that discussing too loudly might give a close rival team some good ideas. We will line up for this challenge in four minutes and the time begins now.

Set the timer and let students work. Then have teams line up for the balloon challenge.

After the contest, have kids come back together in a Large Group and say:

As I read 2 Timothy 3:16, try to think about how this verse might relate to your challenge as a team.

“Every Scripture passage is inspired by God. All of them are useful for teaching, pointing out errors, correcting people, and training them for a life that has God’s approval.”

This reminds us that God breathed his thoughts and words into people’s minds and they wrote them down. Each one had his own perspective and his own time period to write, but each one was telling the story of how God had a rescue plan of sending a Savior and a way to follow him.

How is this like your experience of working together as a team?
(Each may have had a different perspective, but the same goal or objective.)

How was the contest like scriptures that are God “breathed?” *(God “breathed” his thoughts and words into Bible writers’ minds.)*

Take a few answers, then summarize.

God delivered his message to us through the writing of humans. If we didn’t have each person with a piece of God’s word, then we could never have a clear picture of God’s rescue plan for us.

Let’s pray:

Dear God, we thank you for your word and how you included human writers in recording your plan for the world and our salvation. Help us to clearly understand your purposes. Help and empower us to sharpen our swords so we are better equipped to know and use your word. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Optional Memory Games

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Review Game #1: Cards in order

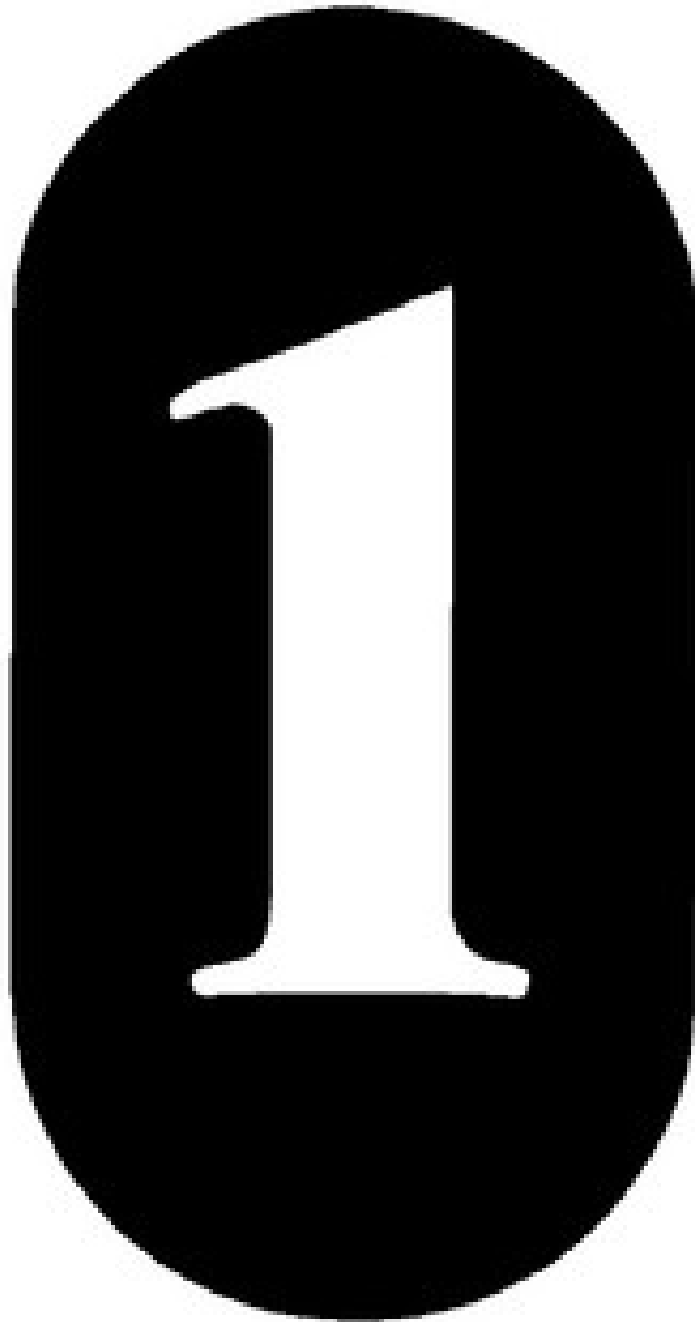
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WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?



OT
NT
TOTAL

39 (3 X 9 = 27)
27
66

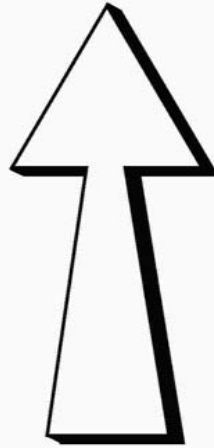
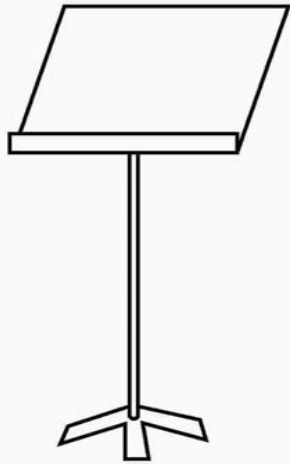
BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT

LAW (5) Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy	HISTORY (12) Joshua Judges Ruth 1 st Samuel 2 nd Samuel 1 st Kings 2 nd Kings 1 st Chronicles 2 nd Chronicles Ezra Nehemiah Esther
POETRY (5) Job Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon	MAJOR PROPHETS (5) Isaiah Jeremiah Lamentations Ezekiel Daniel
MINOR PROPHETS (12) Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi	

NEW TESTAMENT

BIOGRAPHY (4) Matthew Mark Luke John	HISTORY (1) Acts
PAUL'S EPISTLES (13) Romans 1 st Corinthians 2 nd Corinthians Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians 1 st Thessalonians 2 nd Thessalonians 1 st Timothy 2 nd Timothy Titus Philemon	GENERAL EPISTLES (8) Hebrews James 1 st Peter 2 nd Peter 1 st John 2 nd John 3 rd John Jude
PROPHECY (1) Revelation	



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