

Sample Objectives for Using the Bible with Children*

First Grade:

- By midyear, children will read simple verses.
- By the end of the year, children will know there are two main parts; one (the Old Testament, or Hebrew Scriptures) is about people and events before Jesus was born; and one is about Jesus, his followers, and the early church (the New Testament).
- By the end of the year, children will know the names of the four Gospels and be able to state that the word “gospel” means good news.

Second Grade:

- Children will read simple passages aloud as well as sections in Bible storybooks.
- Children will recognize that the Bible is about God, Jesus, and the relationships God has with people and the rest of creation.
- Children will begin to be able to identify stories as being from the Old Testament or the New Testament.
- Children will be introduced to the fact that the Bible contains different types of literature, such as history, stories, letters, laws, and psalms, which are poems that were often sung as part of worship.

Third Grade:

- Children will be able to look up verses.
- Children will recognize some of the common abbreviations for books of the Bible.
- Near the end of the year, children will be introduced to cross-reference notes.

Fourth Grade:

- Children will be introduced to concordances and Bible dictionaries.
- Children will know how to use cross-reference notes.

Fifth Grade:

- Children will use Bible atlases.
- Children will identify Bible books by type.

Sixth Grade:

- Children will develop mastery with concordances, dictionaries, and atlases.
- Children will be introduced to the history of the Bible and its development.

*This list can be found in *Children Among Us: Foundations in Children's Ministries*, edited by Cassandra Williams and Elaine Barnett, Witherspoon Press, 2003, 126-127.