

WELCOME



# **START ZONE**

## **RESOURCES**

### **NKJV**



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# RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

## START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – LESSON OPENER (5 MINUTES)

### OPTION 1: BIRTHDAY GIFT BOX

**WHAT YOU'LL NEED:** Inexpensive birthday gift for each child who has a birthday in the current month, wrapped gift box containing one of the birthday gifts (for the child whose birthday is closest to current date)

**OPTIONAL:** Continue this pattern for the club year. Offer this same gift to all T&T™ kids during their birthday month.

#### ACTIVITY:

**STEP 1:** Hold up the gift box and ask all the kids who have a birthday in the current month to stand. Find out which child has the closest birthday to the date of today's club meeting and ask him or her to come forward to receive the gift. (If no kids have a birthday in the current month, call out the next month. Keep naming months until kids stand.)

**STEP 2:** Before you hand the gift to the T&T kid, say, "I changed my mind. In order to have this gift, you need to do a chore for me." Name a tedious chore, such as vacuuming or sweeping the floor, wiping all the tables, or washing the windows. Watch the child's face, and ask, "Do you still want the gift, even though you have to work for it and you don't know what it is?"

**STEP 3:** After the child responds, tell the child you are just joking about the chore and that you will give him or her, as well as the other kids with birthdays in the same month, a gift at the end of T&T that day. Ask these questions:

To the child who came forward:

A. How did you feel when I said you had to work to get the gift? Why did you feel that way?

To all T&T kids:

A. Remember your last birthday or Christmas gift. Did you have to work for that gift? Why not?

B. What is a gift? Is it still a gift if you have to work for it? Why not?

**STEP 4:** In your own words, say, "A gift is something someone gives us out of kindness or love. They don't expect us to work for the gift or be good enough to have it. They don't expect us to give them something in return."

Today we're going to talk about a gift that God gives us, and it's the best gift of all."

**STEP 5:** Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson. Transition to main lesson.

#### Notes:

# RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

## START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

### OPTION 1: GOOD OR BAD LIST?

**WHAT YOU'LL NEED:** Bible bookmarked at Genesis 1 and Ephesians 2:8-9, whiteboard with dry erase markers and eraser

**LESSON PREP:** Start two lists on the board. Title the first list “God’s Good People List” and the second list “In Big Trouble List.”

#### ACTIVITY:

**STEP 1:** Since some of your kids may have no church or Bible background, begin by introducing them to God and the Bible. Open your Bible to Genesis 1 and use your own words to share these key concepts:

- God was alive before anyone or anything else. God created the whole universe and everything in it, including us. The word *created* means “made from nothing.”
- God is good, and everything He made was good. That means that there was nothing wrong with anything He created, including the first two humans He created.
- (Hold up your Bible for this point.) The Bible is God’s special book. We’ll learn more about the Bible next week, but you need to know that in the Bible God talks to us and tells us about Himself.

**STEP 2:** Write the names Adam and Eve in the God’s Good People List. Explain that Adam and Eve were the first humans created by God. They were created to be like God in many ways, and they were sinlessly good, at first, meaning they hadn’t sinned. (Help kids understand that sin is anything we think, say, or do that disobeys God. Sin can also be those good things that God wants us to do that we don’t do, like helping someone in need.) But God gave them freedom to make choices for themselves. One day they made a very bad choice! Ask these questions and let the kids respond:

- Does anyone know what Adam and Eve chose to do? (See Genesis 3, if needed.)
- Was what Adam and Eve did a sin? Why?
- What is sin?

**STEP 3:** Erase Adam and Eve’s names from the first list and move them to the In Big Trouble List. Explain that as soon as Adam and Eve sinned, they got in big trouble with God, so now you are moving their names from the God’s Good People List to the In Big Trouble List. Ask the kids these questions:

- Have you ever gotten in big trouble for disobeying your parent, a teacher, or someone else? What happened?
- Does anyone know the big trouble that happened to Adam and Eve?

**STEP 4:** Explain that Adam and Eve had to leave the beautiful garden where God walked and talked with them. They also got the worst punishment that people could ever get: DEATH! Write the word *DEATH* in capital letters above or below the In Big Trouble List. Explain that sin is so serious to God that He said the punishment for sin is death. It’s very sad because Adam and Eve lived for many years, and then they died. Sadder than that, all the people who lived after Adam and Eve died too, because they were related to Adam and Eve and they were sinners too.

Add several random Bible character names to the In Big Trouble List (except Enoch and Elijah who may not have died; see Genesis 5:24 and 2 Kings 2:11).

**STEP 5:** Point to the God’s Good People List and say that any person on this list would get the reward of LIFE forever with God in heaven. Write the word *LIFE* in capital letters above or below the list. Then explain that since Adam and Eve first sinned, no human has ever been good enough to make the list, because all humans are born as sinners and all humans sin. And that includes us!

Add general name categories like T&T kids and T&T leaders to the In Big Trouble List. Explain that because of our sin, we all deserve death, like Adam and Eve, and there’s nothing we can do to get ourselves out of this punishment.

**STEP 6:** In your own words, say, “But I have some good news, kids! God still loved Adam and Eve, and all of us who are sinners. He didn’t want us to die and miss out on life forever with Him in heaven, so He gave us a big gift. He made a way to save us from the punishment for our sin!”

Write the name Jesus Christ in the God’s Good People List. Explain that God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, down from

# RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

## START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

heaven to become a man (who was also God). Jesus Christ lived on earth like us, but He never sinned. He is the only person who is good enough to be on this list. He didn't deserve to be punished, but He let people kill Him by nailing Him to a cross. Jesus took the punishment of death FOR us, so that we don't have to be punished for our sin! Then Jesus Christ didn't stay dead. After three days in a tomb, He came alive again. He went back up to heaven, and He's there now.

**STEP 7:** Open your Bible to Ephesians 2:8-9. Tell kids that they will be learning and memorizing words from the Bible in T&T, and the first words to learn are from Ephesians 2:8-9. Read the verses from your Bible, and then read them again slowly in phrases, letting the kids repeat each phrase after you. Write the word *GRACE* in capital letters on the board somewhere. Share these key concepts:

- A. The Bible uses the word *grace* a lot. Grace means giving somebody something good that he or she doesn't deserve. God has shown us a lot of grace! He loves us and gives us kindness and gifts that we don't deserve.
- B. God's most amazing gift to us is Jesus! If you and I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and trust that His death was the punishment we deserve for our sin, then we will be saved from that punishment, and we will live forever with Jesus in heaven.
- C. Remember, we said that a gift is something we don't have to work for or be good enough for; someone gives it to us out of kindness and love. We didn't deserve the gift of Jesus; we deserved to be punished for our sin. But because of God's grace, He gave us Jesus so we could be saved.

**Notes:**



# RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

## START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – LESSON OPENER (5 MINUTES)

### OPTION 2: GIFT PICTURES

**WHAT YOU'LL NEED:** Sheet of paper for each kid, colored markers or crayons

**STEP 1:** As you are handing out paper and markers or crayons, tell the kids to think about their favorite birthday or Christmas gifts. Direct kids to each draw a picture on the paper of the best gift they have ever received.

**STEP 2:** After a few minutes, let several kids share about their pictures. Ask these questions:

- A. Who gave the gift to you?
- B. Did any of you have to work for your gift or be good enough to get it? Why not?
- C. What is a gift? Is it still a gift if you have to work for it? Why not?

**STEP 3:** Wrap up the discussion by saying in your own words, "A gift is something someone gives us out of kindness or love. They don't expect us to work for the gift or be good enough to have it. They don't expect us to give them something in return. Today we're going to talk about a gift that God gives us, and it's the best gift of all."

**STEP 4:** Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson. Transition to main lesson.

**Notes:**

# RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

## START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

### OPTION 2: GOSPEL POWERPOINT

**WHAT YOU'LL NEED:** Gospel PowerPoint® (Resource Bundle), computer, digital projector, screen or bare wall

**STEP 1:** Present the Gospel PowerPoint. Your kids will hear a clear gospel presentation using engaging visuals and the Gospel Wheel.

**STEP 2:** After the PowerPoint, open your Bible to Ephesians 2:8-9. Tell kids that they will be learning and memorizing words from the Bible in T&T, and the first words to learn are from Ephesians 2:8-9. Read the verse from your Bible, and then read it again slowly in phrases, letting the kids repeat each phrase after you. Write the word *GRACE* in capital letters on the board somewhere. Share these key concepts:

- A. The Bible uses the word *grace* a lot. Grace means giving somebody something good that he or she doesn't deserve. God has shown us a lot of grace! He loves us and gives us kindness and gifts that we don't deserve.
- B. God's most amazing gift to us is Jesus! If you and I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and trust that His death was the punishment we deserve for our sin, then we will be saved from that punishment and we will live forever with Jesus in heaven.
- C. Remember, we said that a gift is something we don't have to work for or be good enough for; someone gives it to us out of kindness and love. We didn't deserve the gift of Jesus; we deserved to be punished for our sin. But because of God's grace, He gave us Jesus, so we could be saved.

**Notes:**

# RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

## START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – LESSON OPENER (5 MINUTES)

### OPTION 1: NOTE EXCHANGE

**WHAT YOU'LL NEED:** Pencils or pens, small sheets of paper, container for notes, Bible

**STEP 1:** Direct the kids to each write their name and a short note on the paper sharing something about themselves or something they think is very important for another kid to know or remember, such as advice they want to give related to the topic of school, family, friends, sports, T&T club, or their faith. The tone could be funny or serious. Give the kids a few minutes to compose the note.

**STEP 2:** Tell the kids to fold the note and write From: followed by their name on the blank, folded-over portion. Collect all the notes and place them in a container. Then pass the container around to the leaders and let each leader pull out a note.

**STEP 3:** Give the leaders a minute to read their notes. Let a few volunteers share the message on their notes.

**STEP 4:** Explain that sometimes we talk to each other with our mouths, and other times we talk by writing words on a paper. Receiving a note from someone is just as important as what the person says to you out loud, but you might remember the words more if they are written down because you can read them over and over again.

**STEP 5:** Hold up your Bible and tell kids to think of the Bible as a very long note from God to us. Then share these key concepts:

- A. In the Bible, God tells us who He is and why He created us. He tells us about ourselves and what the punishment is for our sin. He tells us about His Son, Jesus Christ, who took the punishment for our sin so we could live forever with God.
- B. God's words in the Bible are just as important as if He said them out loud and right to our face. We need to listen to them and obey!
- C. We can read His words to us over and over again so we remember them always.

**STEP 6:** Tell the kids that they will be learning more about God's Word, the Bible, today. Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into a deeper love for God and His Word through the lesson. Transition to main lesson.

### Notes:

# RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

## START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

### OPTION 1: BIBLE FACTS SCROLLS

**WHAT YOU'LL NEED:** Bible bookmarked at 2 Timothy 3:16 and Romans 10:17; Facts for Bible Scrolls sheet (Resource Bundle); scissors; glue stick or tape; seven paper rectangles of the same size (cut from white paper or brown paper bags); chopsticks, craft sticks, or dowels; string or rubber bands; picture of a Bible scroll (Resource Bundle); map of Bible lands in Jesus' time (Resource Bundle)

**LEADER PREP:** Beforehand, print out the Facts for Bible Scrolls sheet. Cut out each fact. Then make scrolls by cutting out seven paper rectangles of the same size. The rectangles should be large enough to contain a fact. (To add an ancient look to your scrolls, cut the rectangles from the unprinted sides of brown paper bags. Scrunch up the brown paper and smooth it out with your hands or a rolling pin. Repeat this scrunching and smoothing process several times until wrinkles cover much of the paper.) Glue or tape one Bible fact to the center of each rectangle. Then lay a chopstick, craft stick, or dowel along both of the short ends of each rectangle. Tape or glue them in place and let glue dry. Next, roll the paper once or twice around the chopsticks, craft sticks, or dowels so they are covered completely and tape or glue the paper in place and let glue dry. Gently roll the ends of the scroll to the center from both sides and secure with a string or rubber band. Number the scrolls (to correspond to the fact number inside each scroll), hide them around your room, and write a clue for finding each scroll. For example, a clue could be that the scroll is sitting up high or behind something blue. (To save time, you could skip the clues and let the group, or a selected smaller group, search for all the scrolls at once.)

#### ACTIVITY:

**STEP 1:** Hold up your Bible and explain that the Bible did not always look like the book it is now. It was first written a long time ago on scrolls. It took many scrolls to contain all the words of the Bible. The scrolls had to be unrolled to read what was written on them.

Hold up the picture of a real Bible scroll. Explain that the paper in the scrolls was not like our paper today. It was either made from animal skins or papyrus plants, which grew by the Nile River in Egypt.

**STEP 2:** Tell the kids that you have made and hidden little scrolls around the room. Inside each scroll they will find and read one or two facts about the Bible. All these facts will help them see that the Bible is a very special book. There is no other book like the Bible! Give the first clue and choose a kid to find the first scroll. Unroll the scroll and discuss the fact on it. Give the second clue and choose another child to find the second scroll. Unroll the scroll and discuss the fact on it. Continue in this pattern until all the scrolls are found. Here are the facts written on the scrolls, with explanations.

1. The Bible is divided into two large parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament. Explain that the Old Testament starts with God telling us about His creation of the world and the first people, Adam and Eve, who sinned in the garden. In the Old Testament, God speaks of His promise to send a Savior to save people from sin, and we hear true stories of the people who were waiting for the Savior to come. In the New Testament, God tells us of His Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior, who came to save people from sin. We hear true stories of people whose lives were changed after they trusted Jesus as their Savior. We also learn how we should live our lives each day.
2. The testaments are divided into smaller sections called books. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. Use your Bible to show the kids some of the books from the Old and New Testaments.
3. Most of the true stories of the Bible take place in or near the land of Israel. Show the map of Bible lands and point out Israel and some of the other surrounding countries. Emphasize that the Bible tells us about real places and real people who really lived. The Bible is not make-believe!
4. God used at least 40 different men to write the Bible. These men lived at different times and in different places. Some were rich; others were poor. Some had gone to school; others had never gone to school. Some of the different jobs the writers had were king, farmer, fisherman, doctor, shepherd, priest, government leader, and many more.
5. It took over 1,500 years for the whole Bible to be written.
6. The Bible was first written in three languages: Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic. Point to the Greek and Hebrew words on the fact sheet. Explain that today there are

# RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

## START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

Bibles in more than a thousand different languages!  
People all over the world can read the Bible.

7. The first book ever printed was the Bible, and more Bibles have been printed than any other book.

**STEP 3:** Open your Bible to 2 Timothy 3:16 and read the verse to the kids. Explain that Scripture is another name for the Bible, and ask them to tell you what they think it means that the Bible is *given by inspiration of God*. Let them suggest various ideas.

**STEP 4:** Explain that *given by inspiration of God* means that all the words of the Bible came from God, but He didn't actually breathe them out like you or I take a breath to speak. And He didn't write them in the way you or I sit down to write a note or a letter. Rather, God chose at least 40 different men to write the Bible. The Holy Spirit of God told those men what He wanted them to write and they wrote down the words exactly the way God wanted them to, without any mistakes or errors. These men didn't all get the message from God at the same time. It took many years for God to give His message to all the men He chose to write it.

Summarize that the Bible is one big book but it is divided into 66 smaller books, written by many different men. There is no other book that is *given by inspiration of God* like the Bible is! The Bible is a special book.

**STEP 5:** Open your Bible to Romans 10:17 and read the memory verse aloud once. Then read it again and let the kids recite it with you as you read. Explain that though the Bible has 66 books, there is one BIG message from God in the Bible. The big message of the whole Bible is the good news about our Savior, Jesus Christ. This is *the word of God* that Romans 10:17 tells us about. Faith is what happens when we hear and believe in what Jesus Christ did to save us from sin.

**Notes:**

# FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

## BIBLE FACT 1



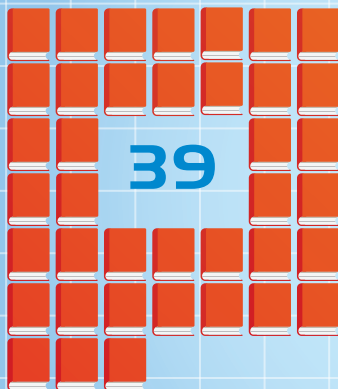
OLD TESTAMENT



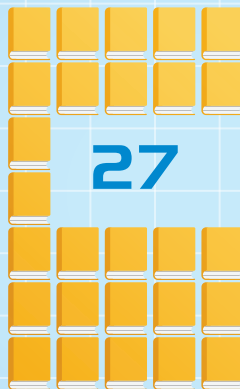
NEW TESTAMENT

The Bible is divided into two large parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament.

## BIBLE FACT 2



39



27

The testaments are divided into smaller sections called books. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament.

# FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

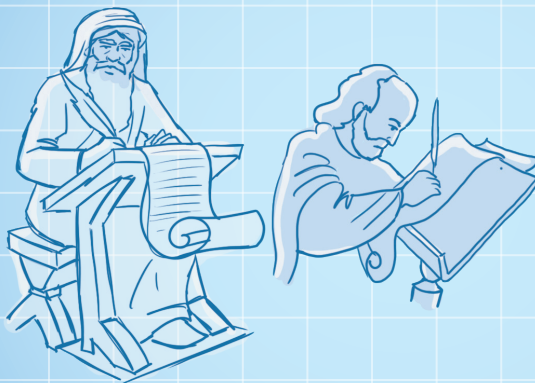
## BIBLE FACT 3



All the stories in the Bible are true, and most take place in or near the land of Israel.

## BIBLE FACT 4

**40**  
**MEN**



God used at least 40 different men to write the Bible for Him.



# FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

## BIBLE FACT 5

**1,500**  
YEARS

It took over 1,500 years for the Bible to be written.

## BIBLE FACT 6

יֵשׁוּעַ

JESUS  
(HEBREW)

Ἰησοῦς

JESUS  
(GREEK)

ישוע

JESUS  
(ARAMAIC)

The Bible was first written in three languages: Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic.

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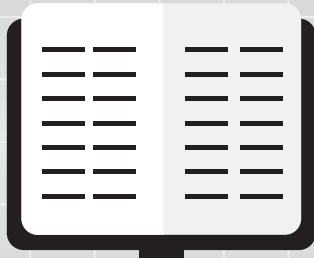
## BIBLE FACT 7



The first book ever printed was the Bible, and more Bibles have been printed than any other book!

# FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

## BIBLE FACT 1



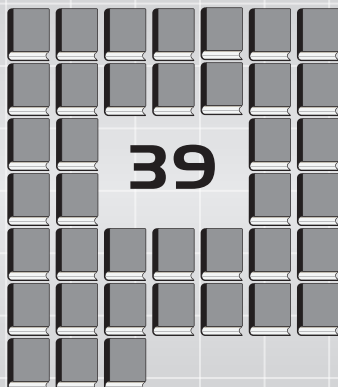
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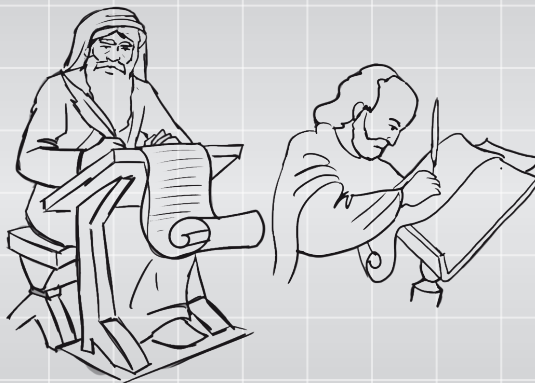
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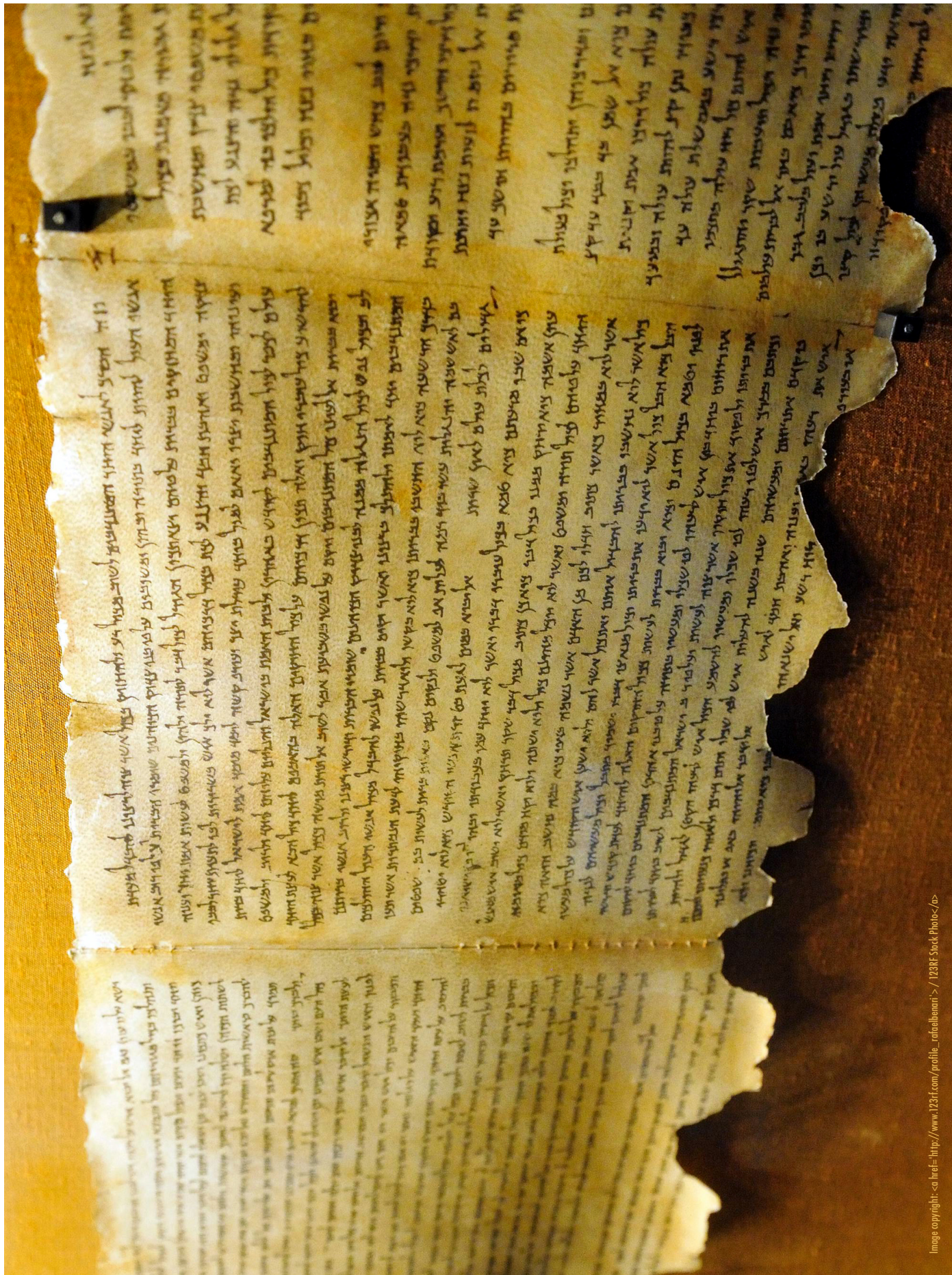
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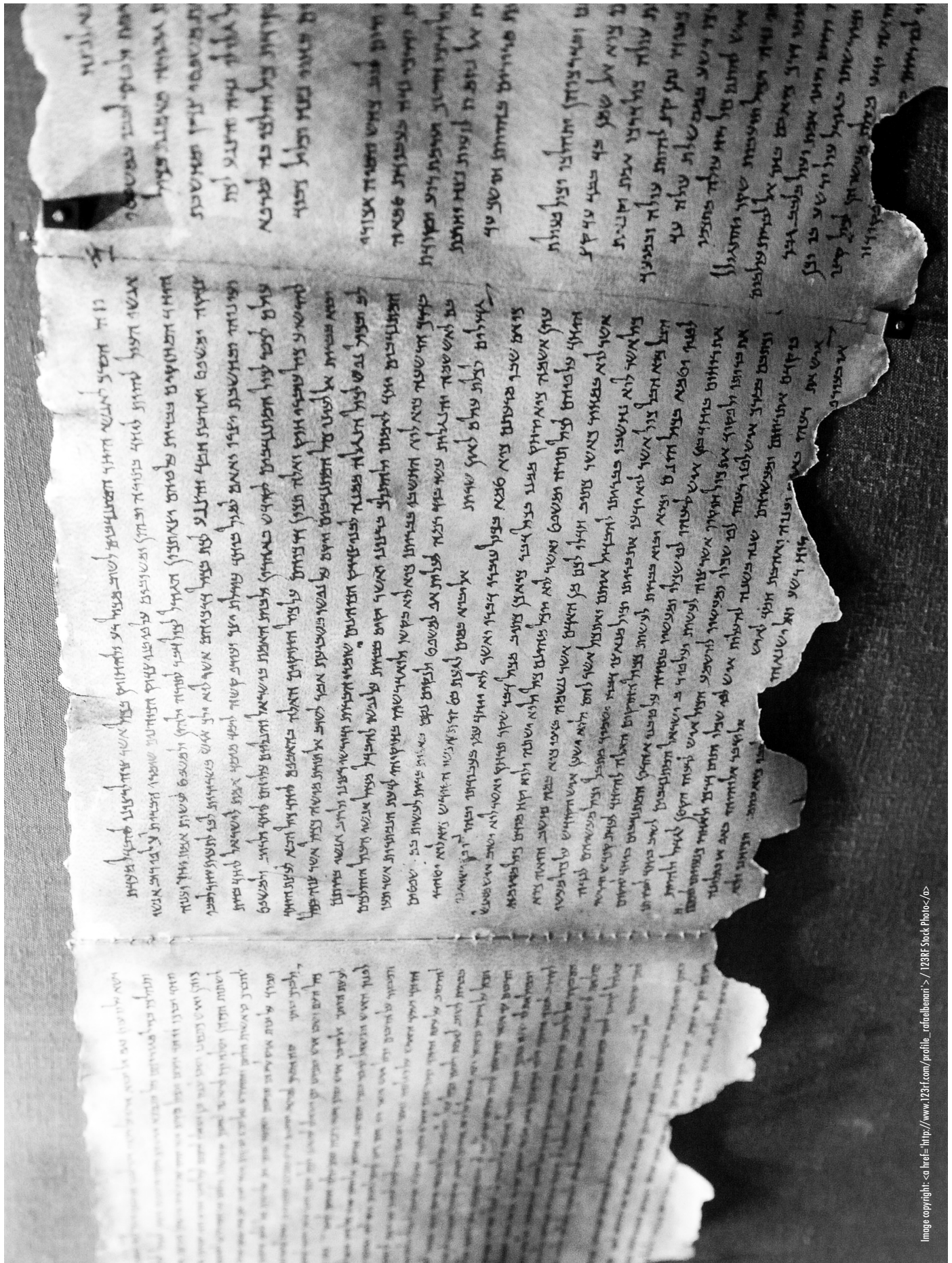


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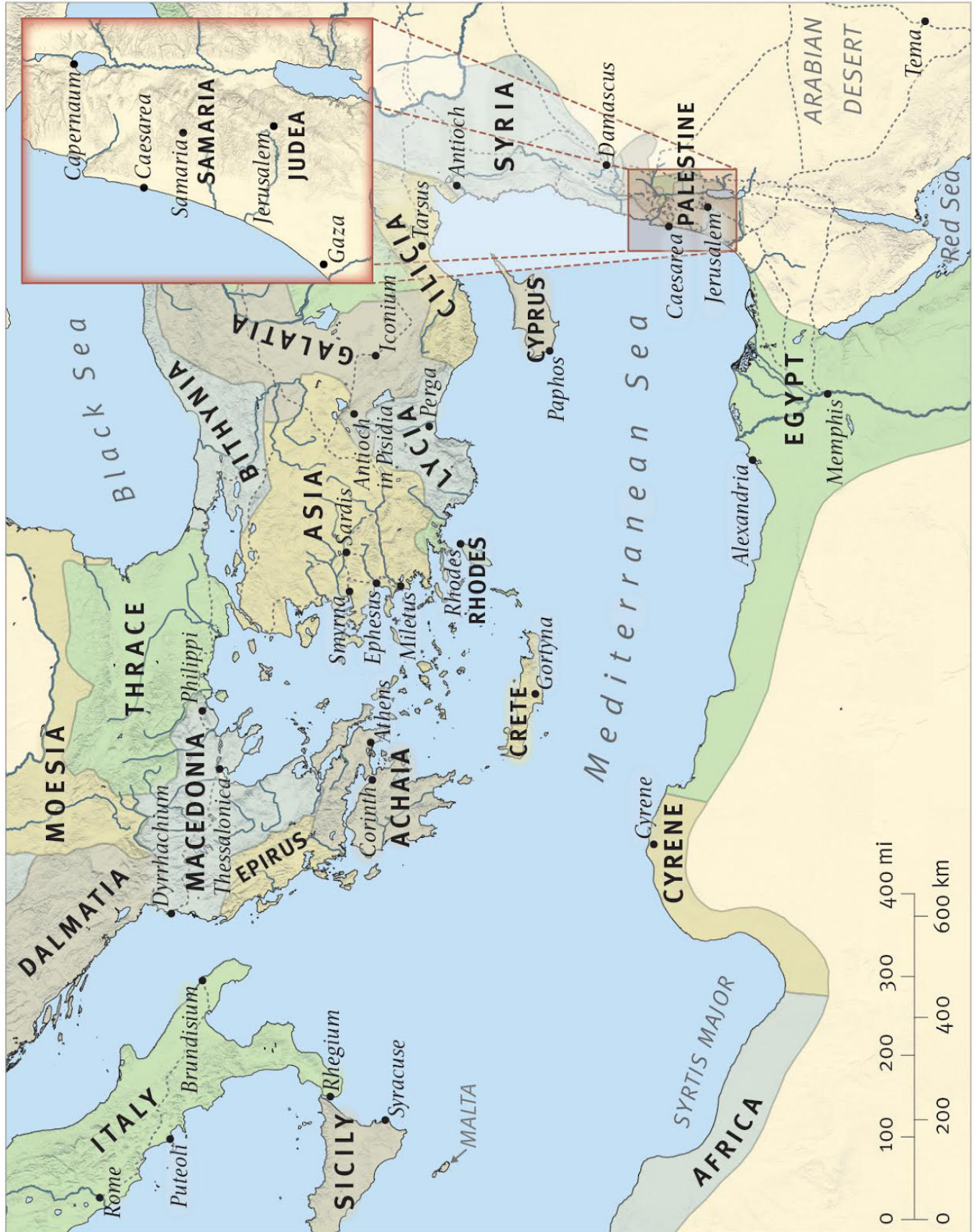
## MAP OF BIBLE LANDS IN JESUS' TIME



**NOTE:** In addition to the accompanying visuals (following two pages), consider using Google Earth\* to access a view of Israel and the surrounding countries. This will also allow you to zoom out and show kids where they are in proximity to these locations.

\*References to resources not created by Awana are for your information and not necessarily an endorsement of content.



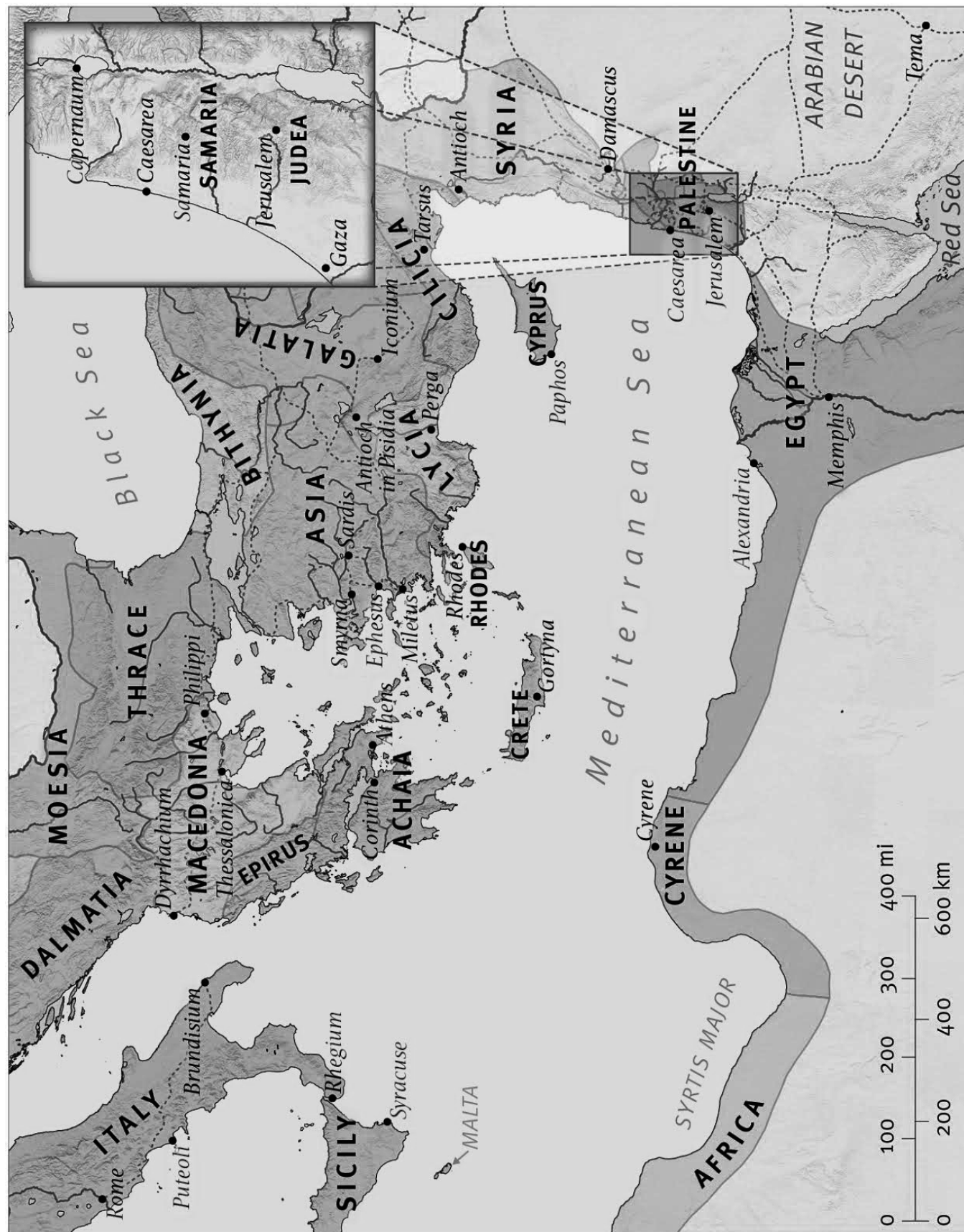


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# RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

## START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – LESSON OPENER (5 MINUTES)

### OPTION 2:

#### LETTER FROM A PASTOR OR AWANA MINISTRY DIRECTOR

**WHAT YOU'LL NEED:** One-page letter written by your church pastor, Awana ministry director, or another person your kids respect

**LEADER PREP:** Beforehand, ask your pastor, Awana ministry director or another respected person to write a short letter to your kids sharing a few interesting things about himself or herself (hobbies, family background, details about when they were the kids' age, or when they trusted Christ as Savior). The person should also include some advice or words of encouragement to the kids related to the club year and their faith.

**STEP 1:** Read the letter to your kids and ask them what they learned about the person from the letter and what words they want to remember from the letter.

**STEP 2:** Then explain that the person could not be with your club in person today, but these are the words the person wanted to say to us, and his or her written words are just as important as if the person were here to speak the words out loud to us.

Finally, hold up your Bible and tell the kids to think of the Bible as a very long letter from God to us. Share these key concepts:

- A. In the Bible, God tells us who He is and why He created us. He tells us about ourselves and what the punishment is for our sin. He tells us about His Son, Jesus Christ, who took the punishment for our sin so we could live forever with God.
- B. God's words in the Bible are just as important as if He said them out loud and right to our face. We need to listen to them and obey!
- C. We can read His words to us over and over again so we remember them always.

**STEP 3:** Tell the kids that they will be learning more about God's Word, the Bible, today. Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into a deeper love for God and His Word through the lesson. Transition to main lesson.

Notes:



# RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

## START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

### OPTION 2: MOSES INTERVIEW

**WHAT YOU'LL NEED:** Bible bookmarked to 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and Romans 10:17, Bible Facts Fill-in-the-Blanks worksheet (Resource Bundle), adult leader to play the role of Moses, optional Moses costume and props (robe, white-haired wig, staff, etc.)

**LEADER PREP:** Beforehand, choose an adult male leader to pretend to be Moses. For fun, he can wear a robe and white-haired wig and carry a staff.

**STEP 1:** To start the discussion, open your Bible to 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and read it to the kids. Explain that Scripture is another name for the Bible, and ask them to tell you what they think it means that the Bible *is given by inspiration of God*. Let them suggest various ideas.

**STEP 2:** After some discussion, explain that *inspiration of God* means that all the words of the Bible came from God, but He didn't actually breathe them out like you or I take a breath to speak. And He didn't write them in the way you or I sit down to write a note or a letter. Rather, God chose at least 40 different men to write the Bible. God, the Holy Spirit, told those men what He wanted them to write and they wrote down the words exactly the way God wanted them to, without any mistakes or errors. These men didn't all get the message from God at the same time. It took many years for God to give His message to all the men He chose to write it.

**STEP 3:** Introduce Moses as a special visitor. Explain that a long, long time ago, Moses wrote the first five books in the Old Testament. Ask Moses to share and explain each of the Bible facts.

1. The Bible is divided into two large parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament. Explain that the Old Testament starts with God telling us about His creation of the world and the first people, Adam and Eve, who sinned in the garden. In the Old Testament, God speaks of His promise to send a Savior to save people from sin, and we hear true stories of the people who were waiting for the Savior to come. In the New Testament, God tells us of His Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior, who came to save people from sin. We hear true stories of people whose lives were changed after they trusted Jesus as their Savior. We also learn how we should live our lives each day.

2. The testaments are divided into smaller sections called books. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. Use your Bible to show the kids some of the books from the Old and New Testaments.
3. Most of the true stories of the Bible take place in or near the land of Israel. Show the map of Bible lands and point out Israel and some of the other surrounding countries. Emphasize that the Bible tells us about real places and real people who really lived. The Bible is not make-believe!
4. God used at least 40 different men to write the Bible. These men lived at different times and in different places. Some were rich; others were poor. Some had gone to school; others had never gone to school. Some of the different jobs the writers had were king, farmer, fisherman, doctor, shepherd, priest, government leader, and many more.
5. It took over 1,500 years for the whole Bible to be written.
6. The Bible was first written in three languages: Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic. Point to the Greek and Hebrew words on the fact sheet. Explain that today there are Bibles in more than a thousand different languages! People all over the world can read the Bible.
7. The first book ever printed was the Bible; and more Bibles have been printed than any other book.

Kids can fill in the blanks on their worksheets as they listen carefully.

**STEP 4:** After Moses finishes his presentation, open your Bible to Romans 10:17 and read the memory verse aloud once. Then read it again and let the kids recite it with you as you read. Explain that though the Bible has 66 books, there is one BIG message from God in the Bible. The big message of the whole Bible is the good news about our Savior, Jesus Christ. This is *the word of God* that Romans 10:17 tells us about. Faith is what happens when we hear and believe in what Jesus Christ did to save us from sin.

# BIBLE FACTS FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS



1. The Bible is divided into two large parts, the

and the

2. The testaments are divided into smaller sections called

There are

in the Old Testament and

in the New Testament.

3. All the stories of the Bible are true, and most take place in or near the

land of

4. God used at least

different men to write the Bible for Him.

5. It took over

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