

THINGS TO DO AT QUIZ PRACTICE

The average quiz team meets for practice between 1 hour and 3 hours a week, to cover one chapter of material per week. So what do you do for 1-3 hours each week?

BIBLE STUDY: It is vastly important that your quizzers come to understand what they are learning, not just for quizzing, but what it means for their lives. Being a top quizzing is a nice accomplishment, but is very fleeting in nature. Quizzing has eternal benefits if the quizzing can understand the material, and apply it to their life.

You can buy Bible Study books, you can create your own, you can borrow from other coaches, or your quiz director may provide them. If you choose to create your own, just ask yourself as you read the chapter, "What's the point of this chapter?" "What's going on here?" Ask God to show you what's important, at least one and maybe only one point that you can teach your kids from it. Then, create your lesson plan from there. One simple way to plan is: hook, book, look, took method.

1. **Hook:** Is there a visual aid you can use? Is there a game you can play that relates? Is there some random question you can ask that will help them start to think in toward the point that God has shown you? The hook is just a way of getting their attention. Think creatively.
2. **Book:** This is where you read the scripture. Some teams ask their students to read the chapter before coming to practice. Some teams read the chapter together at practice. Some teams give their quizzers 5 minutes at the beginning of practice to read the chapter silently to themselves. IF your kids have not read the chapter before now, read it all. If they have read it, have them read verses or passages that are really relevant to the lesson God has shown you in the chapter.
3. **Look:** Look at the scriptures that were read. Pull them apart, ask questions about them, have your kids ask questions about what they don't understand. What is God trying to tell us through this passage?
4. **Took:** How does this apply to my life? What can I take from this chapter? Understanding the word is important, but it still has little value if you don't apply it. It is like taking medicine. Getting a prescription antibiotic is a good idea if you are really sick. But it still won't contribute toward making you better if you don't actually swallow it and use it in your life.

PRAY: Prayer is an essential part of the Christian life and of understanding the Word's God has given us. We pray to communicate with God and to hear him communicate with us. Learning to pray is necessary for anyone who wishes to follow Christ. Plus all Bible Quizzers must learn to pray as each quiz begins with a prayer. So utilizing prayer at quiz practices is a way of instilling the practice of prayer into each quizzing while preparing them to quiz. Some types of prayer you can try at practice are:

1. Have kids pray in a circle holding hands.
2. Have kids pray popcorn prayers-just praying as they feel led.
3. Have kids pray one sentence prayers.
4. Teach your kids a method of prayer, (i.e. ACTS- Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication.)
5. Have your kids pray the alphabet. Give them a theme like "name a quality of God." Then tell them to name a quality of God that starts with A. Continue the prayer by randomly calling out letters. After awhile simply say a closing prayer such as "God we thank you that you are all those things to us. AMEN."
6. Ask for volunteers to pray.
7. Randomly select people to pray, or have every other person pray, or the girls pray, or the boys.
8. Have kids write out their prayers.
9. Have kids pray for each other. (i.e. break into small groups, pray for the person on your left, etc.)
10. Keep a running prayer concern list somewhere in your practice room.

ASK PRACTICE QUESTIONS: Once your kids grasp the material a bit, and have had a chance to digest it, it is also important to ask practice quiz questions so that they may learn what will happen in a Bible Quiz. For the specific purposes of Bible Quizzing in a given season, keep in mind that answers will be judged solely from the material we are studying and need to be specific. It is important that quizzers get a feel for the types of questions that may be asked and the kind of answers that are acceptable. (Please read over the rulebook for more specifics on correct or incorrect answers.)

Some ways of asking questions during a practice include:

1. Practice jumping. Have kids sit in chairs, with or without lights and have them jump to answer as they would in a real quiz.
2. Round Table-Work your way around the table asking each person a specific question.
3. Break them into small groups and ask each other questions or have a coach go with each group and ask questions.
4. Ask Spit fire. Spit out questions and let anyone fire back answers
5. Do "20 Correct"-have quizzers jump with the goal of answering 20 correct questions. Each wrong answer cancels out one correct answer. No one quizzes or errors out.
6. All quiz out-have quizzers jump until they quiz out according to standard rules. Continue quiz until all quizzers have quizzed out. (No one errors out in this game.)
7. Play 3 Down-Each quizzer starts with "3 up." Ask questions like in a standard quiz-except for every right answer a quizzer gets "one down," while every wrong answer puts "one up," (either one that was down goes back up or a new up is added.) Once a quizzer gets all down, they quiz out. When you quiz out, you actually rotate someone else in, either the person asking questions or if you have more people out, whoever is next in line. All quizzers starts at 3 down again, and people continue to rotate in and out until you stop the game.
8. Play the moving game-GOAL: Earn the number 1 seat. After earning the number one seat, a quizzer must answer four questions correctly to secure it. Start by lining up quizzers from seat number 1 & up. Assign quizzers based on their average scoring, placing the highest scores on the highest seat numbers. Then begin asking questions. For every correct answer, a quizzer switches seats with the person on their right. For every two wrong they move to the highest number in play.
9. Play a basic game and add quizzing into it. For example, Dots and Boxes. Draw a grid of dots on a chalkboard or graph paper. Ask quizzers questions. For each correct answer they get to connect two dots with a line, with the intent of making a box. Whoever draws a line that completes a box gets to put their initial in the box. The person or team with the most boxes in the end wins. (I know of teams that play quizzing baseball, quizzing scategories, and use board games to encourage answering.)

BESIDES JUST GENERAL QUESTIONS, QUIZZING ALSO CONTAINS MEMORY VERSES.

And there are of course, many ways to encourage verse memorization as well.

1. Pick key verses that you want your whole group to learn and study them together.
2. With a verse that everyone has learned or should learn, go around the room and have each person add one word until they say the verse in its entirety.
3. Use a familiar tune and sing a verse.
4. Play hangman with your verses, or put up all the words to a verse and then remove them one at a time to see how well they remember.
5. Assign various verses to kids, or have the kids pick a verse or two they want to learn.
6. Post verses around the room.
7. Create some sort of reward system for memorized verses or set goals to memorize certain numbers of verses.
8. Come up with memory jogging hints to help you remember a verse, such as motions or funny sounding voices.
9. Give kids checklists that have the verses on them or give them index cards to write out their verses on.

God bless you as you study and prepare for quizzing this year, Rachel Neely-Sleasman