

**GEORGIA BAPTIST  
BIBLE DRILL**



# **Children's Bible Drill Leader Guide**

## **Introduction**

Georgia Baptist Bible Drill and Speakers, Inc. is excited about your interest in Bible Drill. This eBook is designed to assist you as you begin to develop a Bible Drill ministry in your church. It is an important resource that will help lead your children to love and respect God's Word. The purpose of this manual is to provide uniform procedures as you teach, train and conduct the drills. This is the guide for Georgia Bible Drills and is the standard by which the Drills are judged.

Bible Drill empowers children and youth to learn to express their faith and 'hide God's Word in their hearts'. As they learn to appreciate and respect the value of scripture memorization, they will come to see how scripture can impact their lives for good and for God's glory. Regardless of their drill scores, all drillers are winners because of the dedication and commitment they will experience as Bible drillers.

Along with memory skills, the drillers learn that 'God's Word is a lamp unto their feet' and that the Bible should be handled correctly and with proper respect. Drillers are taught the importance of honesty, self-discipline and having personal honor and integrity during the drills.

For more information on Bible Drill or our team, you may visit our website:

<https://bibledrillandspeakers.com/>

Feel free to contact us if we can assist you in any way:

Georgia Baptist Bible Drill and Speakers, Inc.

[bibledrillspeakers@gmail.com](mailto:bibledrillspeakers@gmail.com)

## Bible Drill Planning Calendar

### August

Registered Bible drill group leaders receive the new cycle of information for the current church year by the middle of August via email, website or letter.

- Pray about the possibility of providing Bible Drill in your church.
- When you have decided to begin Bible Drill, please register your church group by emailing our office [bibledrillspeakers@gmail.com](mailto:bibledrillspeakers@gmail.com) and letting us know your church name, Bible Drill leader, and preferred contact email address. This allows us to keep you updated with information for your Bible Drill year. You will be added to the Bible Drill database to receive future mailings and emails with the information required for progressing to the association and regional drills.
- Decide which translation your church will use for drills.
- Download the Bible Drill and verse cards at <https://bibledrillandspeakers.com/>
- Order resources to help you and the children for Bible Drill. You will need approved Drill Bibles, (see the website for a list of approved Bibles), and verse cards.
- Begin your Bible Drill year as the school year resumes. (August is our recommended time, but churches can begin through the end of the year.)

### September

- Touch base with your Association. Let them know you will have a Bible Drill Group and obtain the date and location for the Associational Drill. Plan your church drill date at least one week prior to your Associational Drill.
- Visit our website for State Drill Dates and locations.

### January/February

- Registered churches will receive an email by February 15 with the info on how to register for the State Drills.
- Enlist and train your judges, and timekeepers before the church drill. (Download the Judges Guide and have them view our Judge training videos.)

### March/April

- Conduct the Church Drill before the scheduled Associational Drill to determine who will advance to the Association Level (Drillers with a score of 12 or higher)
- Contact your Association and update them on your qualifying drillers.
- Register qualifying drillers for the State Drill by the deadline for your desired location. (Drillers who score 16 or higher.). See our website for locations and registration information: <https://bibledrillandspeakers.com/>
- Recognize all participants and leaders from your church for their work in Children's Bible Drill.

If in doubt about any Bible Drill procedures, please refer to the current GA Leader's Guide or contact us: [bibledrillspeakers@gmail.com](mailto:bibledrillspeakers@gmail.com)

Visit our website at <https://bibledrillandspeakers.com/>



# Children's Bible Drill

## Purpose

The purpose of Children's Bible Drill is to help children in grades 3 through 6:

1. Increase their knowledge of the Bible and be able to apply this knowledge in living their life with Christ.
2. Develop skills in locating Bible books and key passages.
3. Memorize the names of the books of the Bible in order and the verses and key passages identified on the current Children's Bible Drill verse card.
4. Develop skills in the proper handling of the Bible.

Children's Bible Drill is made up of three cycles (designated as Red, Blue, and Green) which rotate over a three-year period. A child should use the current cycle resources distributed by LifeWay Christian Resources and/or Georgia Baptist Bible Drill and Speakers, Inc.

Each child who participates in Children's Bible Drill will:

- Learn the names of and be able to locate the 66 books of the Bible.
- Memorize the 25 verses and their references printed in the current cycle of Children's Bible Drill resources.
- Learn the names, references, and locations in the Bible of 10 Key Passages printed in the current Children's Bible Drill resources.
- Explore how these passages of Scripture can help them in their daily life.
- Respond to each call of the drill within 10 seconds.
- When a child participates in Children's Bible Drill for three years, he or she has the opportunity to learn 75 Bible verses, 30 Key Passages, and the names and sequence of the 66 books of the Bible.

## Eligibility

Children who are in third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grades for the current church year are eligible to participate.

Children's Bible Drill offers three cycles of verses. Options for your church/group:

3rd-5th grades – This option is often used when 6th graders are a part of the Student Ministry.

4th-6th grades – Our traditional age bracket that many churches have traditional used

3rd-6th grades – This option offers the most flexibility for your church or group. Children who begin in 3rd grade can choose to repeat a cycle of verses their 6th grade year or advance to Youth Bible Drill.

**Register As a Bible Drill Church/Group** - When you have decided to begin Bible Drill, please register your church group by emailing our office [bibledrillspeakers@gmail.com](mailto:bibledrillspeakers@gmail.com) and letting us know your church name, Bible Drill leader, and preferred contact email address.

## How to Begin

Each church **must** use approved Drill Bibles.

- The Bible translation choice must be made before Bible Drill training begins. For more information on ordering approved Bibles, visit our website: <https://bibledrillandspeakers.com/>

## Available Resources

1. *Leader's Guide* is needed for each leader and judge who leads and scores a drill. Copies of the manual may be downloaded from the Bible Drill website for free. Provide copies for your leaders as soon as your Bible Drill class begins and for judges at least one week before your church drill.
2. *Children's Bible Drill Videos* - These videos are instructional and useful for training leaders and judges in proper Children's Bible Drill procedures. It's available on our website or by using these links: <https://vimeo.com/255804589> and <https://vimeo.com/255806945>
3. Visit <https://bibledrillandspeakers.com/> frequently for updates, resources and other important information.
4. *Children's Bible Drill Verse Cards* in the current years drill cycle may be downloaded from our website: <https://bibledrillandspeakers.com/>
5. (Optional) *Bible Skills, Drills, and Thrills Leader Guide* and *Student Activity Books* for the current cycle are available from LifeWay Christian Resources.
6. *Fall email* informs church leaders of current drill cycle and State Bible Drill dates and locations. It also includes helpful information for getting the church Bible Drill ministry off to a good start.
7. *Winter email*- contains information on registration information for State Drills. A church must administer a Church Bible Drill to determine qualified drillers for participation in the Associational Bible Drill. Contact Georgia Baptist Bible Drill and Speakers, Inc. for any additional information.

## Three Levels of Progression for Children's Bible Drill

Each year Children's Bible drill participants progress through three levels of drills: church, association, and state drills.

### CHURCH (Homeschool, Christian School) Drill

This drill should be conducted before an audience of interested persons. Schedule this drill one or two weeks before the Associational drill.

Children who participate in a church (or homeschool/Christian School) drill and give **12 or more correct responses** are eligible to participate in an Associational Drill. The person in charge of the Church Drill should notify the association of the names of all children who qualified for the Associational Drill.

It is suggested that every child who participates in a church drill should receive recognition from the church. Some suggested ideas are a certificate, medal or pizza parties in their honor. Some churches have adults who sponsor each child, encouraging them throughout the year.

## ASSOCIATIONAL BIBLE DRILL

The Associational Bible Drill is held at a time and place designated by the Associational Bible Drill leader after consultation with the Associational office. The leader of this drill should be the Associational Bible Drill leader or another knowledgeable Bible Drill leader. Drillers who give **16 or more correct responses** in an Associational drill may advance to the State Drill. When scheduling the drill for the association, the Associational Bible Drill leader must note the current State Bible Drill registration deadline set by Georgia Baptist Bible Drill and Speakers, Inc. to allow ample time for reporting drill results.

Every driller in an Association Drill should receive some kind of recognition from the Association and/or sponsoring church/group.

## STATE BIBLE DRILL

Our State Drills are held at a time and place designated by Georgia Baptist Bible Drill and Speakers, Inc. See our website for dates, locations, and times of the State Children's Bible Drills and drill registration deadlines. The Bible Drill Leader **MUST** register for the drillers. Children who give **20 or more correct responses** in the State Drill are declared state winners. Each driller who participates in the State Bible Drill receives a certificate from Georgia Baptist Bible Drill and Speakers, Inc. Children who drill at the State Level in Children's Bible Drill for three years receive a special award.

### **Types of Calls - Children's Bible Drill**

*The four types of drills are to be completed in order as listed. Each type of drill will be completed before proceeding to the next.*

#### **QUOTATION • 6 calls quoted from memory (Bibles not used)**

All verses are taken from the current cycle of Children's Bible Drill verses. The Caller gives the reference (Example: John 3:16). After "Start" is called, if the driller knows the verse, he/she steps forward one step, prepared to quote the verse as it is stated on the Children's Bible Drill Verse Card and to give the reference. There is a 10 second allowance to step forward. Note: The driller can state the reference before and/or after quoting the verse.

#### **COMPLETION • 6 calls quoted from memory (Bibles not used)**

All verses are taken from the current cycle of Children's Bible Drill verses. The Caller reads the part of the verse that is underlined on the Children's Bible Drill Verse Card (Example: "In the beginning God"). After "Start" is called, if the driller can complete the verse, he/she steps forward one step, prepared to quote the entire verse and to give the reference. There is a 10 second allowance to step forward. Note: The driller can state the reference before and/or after quoting the verse.

#### **BOOK • 6 calls (Bible is used)**

The Caller gives the name of any book of the Bible (Example: Exodus). After the command "Start", the driller finds any page in the book called, places the index finger on the page, looks up and steps forward. If called on by the Caller, the driller gives the name of the Book preceding the book called, the name of the book called, and the name of the book following the one called. (Example: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus). There is a 10 second allowance to locate the book and step forward.

#### **KEY PASSAGE • 6 calls (Bible is used)**

Only the Key Passages in the current cycle of Children's Bible Drill verses are used. The leader states the title of the Key Passage (Example: The Ten Commandments). After the command "Start," the driller finds

the passage in the Bible, places the index finger on any portion of the passage, looks up and steps forward. When called on, the driller states the title of the Key Passage and the reference (Example: The Ten Commandments: Exodus 20:3-17). The leader then asks the driller to read aloud one or more verses from the Key Passage. (Example: “Now please read verse 4 of that passage.”) If the designated reference spans across multiple pages, the driller may request permission to turn the page before responding. There is a 10 second allowance to locate the passage and step forward.

## **Drill Commands**

PROCEDURAL NOTES: The following apply to all the drill commands:

- Drillers have 10 seconds to step out after Start is called.
- Drillers place their Bible on the floor behind them for the Quotation and Completion Drills.
- Drillers hold their Bibles for the Book and Key Passage Drills.
- Callers pause between the “Call” and the “Start” command. ONLY during this time may a driller ask for the call to be repeated.
- When the Caller calls on a driller, all drillers not called upon must remain in position with eyes on the Caller until the respondent is finished. In the Book and Key Passage Drills, Bibles are to remain open until **Attention** is called.
- The driller has the option of giving the reference at the beginning of the response or at the end. The reference must be given correctly at least once to complete the call.
- When searching the Bible, the index finger must be placed on a verse in the book (Book Drill) or on a verse in the Passage (Key Passage Drill) before stepping forward.

### **COMMANDS DURING A DRILL ARE GIVEN IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:**

**ATTENTION** – Stand straight, both arms at the sides, one foot not extended in front of the other, and eyes focused on the Caller until the command “Start” is given. The Bible is held at the side (in either hand) with the Bible’s spine down, and the hand under the spine.

**PRESENT BIBLES** – This call is used only in the Book Drill and Key Passage Drill. Following the “Present Bibles” command, bring the Bible to the waistline, parallel with the floor. Genesis may be facing up or facing down. Drillers place one hand on top of the Bible and one hand under the Bible, no fingers extending to the spine or around the edges.

The Caller then announces the call.

**START** – This command is the signal for drillers to step forward (for the Quotation Drill and Completion Drill) or begin searching in their Bibles (for the Book Drill and Key Passage Drill). It is a mistake to begin searching before this command is given.

**TIME** – Timing begins immediately after the command “Start” is finished. The timekeeper calls out “Time” at the end of 10 seconds. **The stopwatch begins on 0 and is stopped when it clicks over to ten.** No one may step forward after the timekeeper calls “Time”, and all drillers immediately stop searching in their Bibles once time is called.

Note: The Caller calls on one driller by number who gives a response. The other drillers remain in position with eyes focused on the Caller while the one called upon responds.

**THANK YOU** – Acknowledgement given to a driller after a correct completed response. If a driller gives an incorrect response, they may have a chance for a second attempt. If they do not want to try again or still

give an incorrect response, call on another driller for a correct response.

Note: The Caller acknowledges any drillers who have raised their hand (an admission of error), by saying “thank you number \_\_\_\_\_.”

**ATTENTION** – If the Bible is open, close the Bible, return it to its proper position at the side, and take one step back. When a call requires using the Bible, no one closes their Bible until “Attention” is called. If the Bible is not used, driller steps back behind the line.

## **Administration of Drills**

The following leaders are needed to administer a Children’s Bible Drill: A caller, a timekeeper, and three judges. A stopwatch for the timekeeper is required. The caller or Bible Drill leader may serve as drill coordinator.

No more than 12 drillers should participate in a formal drill. If more drillers are involved, provide multiple drills. (Example: six in one drill and seven in the second drill)

Whereas in a church drill, all drillers use the same Bible translation, in an Associational or State Drill, other translations may be included.

## **Special Accommodations**

Please notify us at the beginning of your Bible Drill year if you have any drillers who have special needs or exceptions that need to be granted during the State Drill. This will allow us to work in advance with that driller, your church, and the judges in a way that will best meet the needs of that individual. Modifications to the drill are not intended to put the driller at an unfair advantage, but rather to allow him/her to participate.

Special needs include learning disabilities, hearing impairment or deafness, vision impairment or blindness, being in a wheelchair, etc. Send an e- mail (bible drills speakers@gmail.com) or a letter to Maria Brannen’s attention - Georgia Baptist Bible Drill and Speakers, Inc. – 1044 Monticello Drive, Monroe, GA 30655. State the driller’s name; the church’s name, the leader’s name and contact information, which drill location they will be participating in and the nature of their special need. Feel free to share any other information that may be vital to us in working with the driller.

Even if the driller has participated before in Bible Drill, or if you have talked to someone previously, you will still need to send in this letter in order that we have an accurate record. The deadline to submit this to our office is by **January 31**. If other special needs arise closer to the drill, such as a broken arm or leg, please contact our office at the earliest possible date and let us know so we can be prepared for the needs of your driller.

It may be necessary for individuals to provide documentation of impairment (hearing, vision, speech, motor, etc.).

## Calling the Drill

### BEFORE THE DRILL

The leader / Caller should:

- Create and print out a call sheet for the drill (list of the calls)
- On the day of the Drill, place a strip of masking or painter's tape on the floor to serve as the line behind which the drillers should stand.
- Make a set of numbers 1 through 12. Register the children to assure that all their personal information is correct. Place a number on the right side of each driller's chest.
- Before beginning the drill, meet with the drillers to instruct them about the drill process. Discuss the six types of mistakes and answer any procedural questions. Give a practice call to acquaint drillers with the voice and timing of calls by the caller. (*See the appendix for the pre-drill briefing*).
- Meet with the judges to read aloud and discuss the six types of mistakes to be recorded. Give judges their score sheets and a copy of the drill. Judges record the drillers' responses on the score sheet under their corresponding number. (*See the appendix for the pre-drill briefing. Download a score sheet from our website.*)
- Instruct judges to sit where they will have a clear view of all the drillers. The judges should not sit side by side, but spread out.

### DURING THE DRILL

- Line up the drillers up in numerical order, facing the audience.
- It is assumed that all drillers who have stepped out have the correct response.
- Questions by the driller must be asked before the Caller gives the command "Start". Raising their hand at this time during the drill is not an error.
- After command "Start" is called, and all the drillers have stepped out, call on a driller, even if 10 seconds have not yet passed.
- Every driller should be called on at some time during the drill. Callers should try to call on drillers an equal number of times.
- Do not always call on the driller who is first to step out.
- The caller should allow enough time between calls for the judges to accurately mark the score sheet.

### AFTER THE DRILL

- Each driller, regardless of their score, should receive a certificate or some type of recognition.
- Encourage children who qualify for the Association drill to continue their training in preparation for that drill. Following the Associational Drill, encourage those who qualify to continue their training for the State drill.
- Questions or concerns by parents, leaders, or drillers should be addressed to the Drill Coordinator before or after the drill. No parent, church leader, or driller should approach the judges with questions or comments.

## JUDGING THE DRILL

### DURING THE DRILL

These rules are the standards which all Bible Drill groups use to ensure uniformity in procedure, while teaching, training, judging and conducting the drills.

- Judges watch and score all drillers. Judges record the drillers' responses on the score sheet under the driller's corresponding number. Mistakes are listed on the bottom of score sheet.
- Only one mistake can be scored against a driller on any one call.
- Judges should give the benefit of doubt to the drillers, but should not lose credibility by ignoring errors.

### MISTAKES

A driller is marked with an error if:

1. Driller fails to step forward within ten seconds. Drillers who are in forward motion when time is called should not stop and step back but continue to step forward. The judges will determine if the driller has stepped out in time.
2. An incorrect response is given. If a driller realizes a mistake in quoting, he may start over. A caller may also ask if the driller "would like to try again." When a driller has stepped out and realizes he is in error, whether called upon or not, he is to raise his hand to indicate his error to the judges. Once acknowledged by the caller, the driller should lower their hand and remain standing in that position. They will not be asked to respond to that call.
3. Searching in the Bible before the command "Start" is given.
4. Driller fails to stand straight or keep his eyes on the Caller until the command "Start" is given. Any behavior which may disturb or distract other drillers, such as sliding or jumping forward, looking at other drillers, etc. is inappropriate and may be counted as an error.
5. Driller steps forward before the index finger is on the correct response. It is also a mistake if the driller has used the thumb or any other part of the hand, rather than the index finger, to indicate the located scripture in the Bible.
6. Failure to hold the Bible correctly (with one hand flat on the top and one hand flat on the bottom with no fingers/thumbs extending over the edges) when the call "Present Bibles" is given. Abuse in handling the Bible is never correct. Examples of abuse in handling the Bible are:
  - Carelessly dropping the Bible
  - Slamming the Bible shut
  - Opening or holding the Bible in a way that breaks the spine
  - Excessive noise while turning pages
  - Grabbing or slapping pages

## AFTER THE DRILLS

- Following the drills, the judge team will be dismissed to tally the scores in a private setting.
- **When scoring the drills**, Using the *Children's Bible Drill Judges' Tally Sheet*, the judge chairman adds the scores of the three judges for each driller together and then divides the sum by three to get the score.

## QUALIFYING SCORES

Church Drill	12 or more correct responses may advance to the Association Drill.
Association Drill	16 or more correct responses may advance to the State Drill.
Regional Drill	20 or more correct responses is declared a state winner.

# APPENDICES

## *JUDGES MEETING*

Express appreciation for their service.

### **1. Distribute Judge folders**

- Folders should have a copy of the call sheet, the correct number of score sheets plus one extra, a couple of sharpened pencils, and a tally sheet per drill for the judge chair.

### **2. Timekeeper**

- Stopwatch: does it work properly? (or use timer on smartphone)
- Begin timing only after you hear the Caller say the last ‘T’ in the command “START”. Allow full 10 seconds before calling “TIME”, but not more.
- If all drillers step out before the allotted time you do not need to call ‘TIME. The Caller will automatically call on someone.
- Speak distinctly and calmly, not making drillers nervous by speaking too loudly or hastily.
- Sit where you can be heard by the judges and drillers

### **3. Judges**

- Sit where you can see all the drillers but will not distract their attention from the Caller.
- All judges judge all drillers.
- Score only mistakes. Only one mistake per call.
- Give the drillers the benefit of doubt if you are unsure. We want to maximize success and demonstrate and teach grace.
- If driller is in motion when “TIME” is called, give them credit for responding.
- Review mistakes listed on the score sheet.

### **4. After the drill ...**

- Judges must retire to the designated judges’ room to review and tally their scores
- Recognition procedure
- If approached by drillers afterward, refer them to the drill event coordinator.

### **5. Pray for judges’ concentration, and accuracy...**

## *Warm-up for DRILLERS*

1. **Introduce yourself to the drillers.**
2. **Bathroom check. Gum out.**
3. **Remember....**
  - Proper way to hold the Bible (Bible is supported by spine during ATTENTION, fingers must not extend over edge during PRESENT BIBLES)
  - Eye contact with Caller must be maintained throughout the drill.
  - Noisily handling the Bible or any behavior that might damage the Bible is an error.
  - Index finger must be in place and driller looks up before stepping out.
  - Turning pages is only permitted in the Key Passage drill. Ask for permission to turn the page.
  - If driller is in motion when “TIME” is called, DO NOT STOP OR STEP BACK, it’s the judge’s job to determine whether to count it as an error, not yours.
  - If all drillers step out before the allotted time the Caller will automatically call on someone.
4. **Honesty:** Raise hand if you realize you didn’t know the correct answer.
5. **Do a sample call from each section to allow drillers to warm-up and become familiar with the voice of the caller.**
6. **Bibles provided:** Leave your own Bible with a leader or parent.
7. **Any Questions?**
8. **Pray for drillers’ concentration, accuracy, speed and patience with themselves.**