



NO BIBLE SUNDAY?

Find more No Bible Sunday ideas and resources at www.nobiblesunday.org

Welcome resource

Lock up the Bible!

Description:

The Bible is locked and chained as a brief talk is given.

Aim:

To help people understand the barriers that keep people from having the Bible.

What's needed:

Two people, a Bible, 3 locks and 3 chains, 3 tags (provided)

Time:

3 minutes

Instructions:

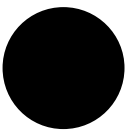
1. Before the service place the chains, locks and tags at the front of your church. Have one tag connected to each lock.
2. Move to the front of your church carrying a Bible and say: *"I am going to do something that you probably never thought you'd see in church during your lifetime. I am going to actually chain up a Bible."*
3. Hold the Bible up and say: *"This isn't just a book. This is THE Bible. The HOLY Bible. The word of GOD. This contains a life-transforming message of love from the awesome Creator of everything in the universe. And the universe, too, for that matter. Everything we need to know about Him is to be found in its pages."*
4. Open the Bible and continue speaking while holding it open: *"If you are looking for wisdom, look in here. If you are looking for guidance, look in here. If you are looking for hope, look in here. I could go on..."*
5. Snap the Bible closed and say: *"But unfortunately not everyone has an open Bible like we do."*
6. Have an assistant wrap the Bible with the first chain and say: *"For more than 300 million people the Bible is locked shut because of a simple reason – the Bible has never been translated into the languages that they speak. 2700 languages are still waiting for a single verse of Scripture that they can understand." As you lock the lock with the "Wrong language" tag on it say: "For them, the Bible is locked shut."*
7. Have your assistant wrap the Bible with the second chain and say: *"Others are locked away from the Bible because they cannot read it. Perhaps it is in their language, but since they can't read it they cannot open the Bible and use it for themselves. It might as well be locked up. In fact 800 million adults around the world today cannot read or write." As you lock the lock with the "Can't read" tag on it say: "For them, the Bible is locked shut."*
8. Have your assistant wrap the Bible with the third chain and lock it shut while you say: *"For still others, the Bible is locked away because of laws and persecution. In some countries it is illegal to own a Bible. In others you risk severe persecution and even death if you become a Christian. Many Christians in these lands are locked up themselves, physically separated from the Bible that they love. The ministry Open Doors estimates that there are 200 million people being persecuted for their faith at this very moment." As you lock the lock with the "Being persecuted" tag on it say: "For them, the Bible is locked shut."*
9. Hold up the chained Bible: *"So what must it be like to be cut off from God's Word? That is what we'll be thinking about during today's service. Welcome to No Bible Sunday."*
10. Leave the Bible as a visual reminder in a prominent spot at the front of the church as the service continues.

Note: For greatest impact, be sure to use the prayer resource "Unlock the Bible" later in the service.

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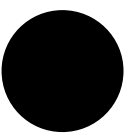
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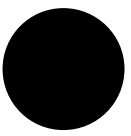
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**Can't
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