



# NO BIBLE SUNDAY?

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## Bible reading resource

# What chance do they have?

### **Description:**

A quiz showing that some languages have more of the Bible than others

### **Aim:**

To remind people how hard it is to remember exact details of the Bible

### **What's needed:**

A box of chocolates

### **Time:**

6 minutes

### **Instructions:**

Before you reach this stage of the service be sure to make a rough estimate of the number of people present and determine how many people need to be in each set as indicated below.

1. Say: "We are now at that stage in the service where we should be doing a Bible reading, but we can't very well do that as this is No Bible Sunday. So instead we are going to see how much of the Bible you could remember if the Bible was taken away from you. To add some incentive ..." (hold up a box of chocolates) "...I have something here that a lot of you would like to have. And some of you will get it very soon, IF you do well enough on the following quiz."
2. Say: "First I am going to split you into 4 teams. As this is No Bible Sunday I am going to divide you into groups according to which languages in the world have scripture. There are about 6,900 languages spoken today, so this first group (choose about 6% of the congregation) will represent the 414 languages that have the whole Bible" (have someone pass out a number of Bibles among that group).
3. Say: "This next group represents the 1068 languages that have the New Testament" (choose about 15% of the congregation. Have someone pass out a number of New Testaments among this group).
4. Say: "This next group represents the 873 languages that have only a bit of scripture – maybe only one or two books" (choose about 13% of the congregation. Have someone pass out a number of Gospels of John among the group).
5. Say: "This next group represents all the remaining languages that have no scripture at all – not even a single verse" (choose the rest of the people there – this should be 2/3s of the congregation).
6. Say: "So here we go with the quiz. There will be 5 questions. We'll keep score and see who does best and wins the prize!"
7. Say: "Question one: King Solomon was the son of King David. King Rehoboam was the son of Solomon. What was the name of the king who was the son of Rehoboam?" (the answer is Abijah. If an answer is not quick in coming, suggest that people refer to 2 Chronicles 12:16. Give a point to the team that gets the right answer).
8. Say: "Good job. Now on to question two: what is the name of the young man who fell asleep while Paul was preaching, fell out of a window and died? (the answer is Eutychus. If an answer is not quick in coming, suggest that people refer to Acts 20:9.) Oh by the way, Paul did raise him from the dead after this."
9. Say: "Question three: Many of you can quote John 3:16. Who can quote John 3:15? (it will be different in different versions, but in the NIV it is "...that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.")

10. Say: *“Question four: What was the name of the town where the Benjamites went to steal wives in the book of Judges? (the answer is Shiloh. If an answer is not quick in coming, suggest that people refer to Judges 21: 20-21. Give a point to the team that gets the right answer).”*
11. Say: *“Question five: What colours were the horses pulling the chariots in Zechariah 6? (the answer is red, black, white and dappled. If an answer is not quick in coming, suggest that people refer to Zechariah 6:2-3. Give a point to the team that gets the right answer).”*
12. Say: *“And so the winning group is.... You get the chocolates! (have someone run the chocolates across to that group).”*
13. Say: *“They won the chocolates because they knew more of the answers. But was it fair? No? Why not? Because they had more of the Bible to use to find the answers, of course! But while that may not seem fair, that is the exact situation in the world today. More than 300 million people speak languages that have never received a Bible translation (indicate those who had nothing to refer to during the quiz). Without God’s word, how can they find answers to the really important questions in life, like: who is God? How do I get to heaven? How should I treat my neighbour? Think about it –: is it fair that we have the Bible in dozens of versions when they don’t have even one? The prize that those people are trying to receive is eternal life itself. Without the Bible, what chance do they have?”*

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