

MISSOURI BAPTIST HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE DRILL

RULES AND PROCEDURES



GRADES 10, 11, 12

Revised 2024

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High School Bible Drill Rules and Procedures

The purpose of this guide book is to provide uniform procedures to teach, train, and conduct the drills. This is the guide for Missouri Baptist High School Bible Drills and is the standard by which all leaders should use for instruction and by which all the drills are judged.

Missouri Baptist High School Bible Drill is for Southern Baptist young people in grades 10, 11, and 12. Speakers' Tournament is also for young people in grades 10, 11, and 12. Youth Bible Drill is for grades 7, 8, and 9. Youth Bible Drill uses different verses and has a different drill format (see the leaders guide for Youth Bible Drill). Each year the drillers learn new verses so please check the website for the correct verses for this year.

<https://mobibledrill.org>

Bible Drill empowers young people to learn to express their faith and to memorize God's Word. 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. Young people can quickly become focused on winning the drill. It is important for leaders to remind them of the more profound goal - to learn to use God's Word and to make a difference in the world today and tomorrow.

Along with memory skills, the drillers learn that the Bible should be handled correctly and with proper respect. Drillers are taught the importance of honesty, self-discipline, personal honor, and integrity during the drills.

Bible Drill Planning Calendar (suggested not required)

August

- Pray about providing a Bible Drill program in the church
- Download the verse cards at <https://mobibledrill.org>
- Decide which translation the church will use for drills: King James Version (KJV) or Christian Standard Bible (CSB). Notify your associational Bible Drill leader of the decision.
- Order resources to help prepare for Bible Drill. Each program will need approved Drill Bibles which may be obtained at www.lifeway.com.
- Enlist workers, train leaders, and encourage them to attend training sessions.
- Promote and encourage young people to participate. Announce meeting dates and times. Build enthusiasm and encourage devotion to learning God's Word.

September

- Begin working with Bible drillers. Make sure they know the drill procedures, rules, expectations, and the weekly goals. Encourage them to do their best as they learn God's Word.
- Check Associational Drill dates. Plan a Church Drill date at least one week prior to the Associational Drill.

October – December

- Drillers should memorize all the material by December or January so then they can work on speed.

January

- Enlist and train the judges and timekeepers before the Church Drill.
- Review the procedures and rules to ensure drillers are practicing correctly.

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 170 or higher)
- Contact the Association and update them on all participating drillers and the qualifying drillers
- Recognize all participants and leaders from the church for their work in High School Bible Drill.

Purpose

Students may participate in High School Bible Drill for a total of 3 years ONLY. High School Bible Drill is composed of three numbered cycles which rotate over a three-year period. The drillers should use the current cycle resources distributed by Missouri Baptist Bible Drill and as posted on our website:

<https://mobibledrill.org>

Each student who participates in High School Bible Drill during the year will:

- Learn the names of and be able to locate the 66 books of the Bible in their proper order.
- Be able to locate any given verse in the Bible.
- Quote six verses which present a plan for the Steps to Salvation.
- Be able to locate and quote from memory the Bible verses for each of the 10 questions listed under the What We Believe section on the current High School Bible Drill verse card.
- Be able to locate and quote from memory the 6 Bible passages listed under the Key Biblical Passage Drill section on the current High School Bible Drill verse card.
- Respond to each call of the drill within 8 seconds.
- If a student participates in High Bible Drill for three years, he/she has the opportunity to learn three plans for the Steps to Salvation (The Roman Road, Faith, and Path to Heaven), along with thirty verses that answer belief, ethical, and doctrinal questions, eighteen Key Biblical Passages, and the names and sequence of the 66 books of the Bible.

KJV or CSB

Each church must use approved Drill Bibles which can be ordered from www.lifeway.com

The Bible translation choice, which include King James Version (KJV) or the Christian Standard Bible (CSB) must be made before Bible Drill training begins. Use the corresponding Bible translation. All drillers from the same church must use the same version.

One Driller

When there is only one driller, all calls in the drill are given as normal with time for the driller to step out within the eight seconds. The driller is only called upon to verbally respond to two calls from each section of the drill and only one Key Biblical Passage. When computing the score, give the driller a total of 20 bonus points. A bonus judge is not needed when there is only one driller.

Levels of Drills

Church Drill

A Church Drill should be conducted at the church before an audience of interested spectators. High School drillers who participate in a Church Drill and score a minimum of 170 points are eligible to participate in the Associational Drill. The person in charge of the Church Drill should register ALL drillers with the associational office giving the names of all the High School drillers participating in the Church Drill and indicating those who qualified for the Associational Drill.

It is suggested that every High School driller who participates in a Church Drill should receive recognition from the church. Some suggested ideas are a certificate, medal, trophy, party, etc. Some churches have adults who sponsor each student encouraging them throughout the year.

Associational Drill

The Associational Bible Drill is held at a time and place designated by the Associational Bible Drill leader. The leader of this drill should be the Associational Bible Drill leader or another knowledgeable Bible Drill leader. Associational Drills should be scheduled two weeks before the State Drill. Drillers who score a minimum of 200 points in the Associational Drill may advance to the State Drill. Please notify the state leader online at the website <https://mobibledrill.org> of participants who qualify for the State Drill. Participants must be registered online two weeks before the State Drill. If you have any questions, contact the state director, Marsha Lane, at malynn56@gmail.com.

Every driller in an Associational Drill should receive some kind of recognition from the Association or sponsoring church such as a certificate, medal, etc.

Translations: Drillers from the same church will all use the same translation: King James Version or Christian Standard Bible. In an Associational Drill and State Drill, different translations used by different churches may be combined in one drill.

State Drill

This drill determines the overall state high scorer who will be the State Winner. The winner of the State Drill should be prepared to represent Missouri at the National Tournament. Check the National Invitational Tournament website for the date nationalbibleddrill.com. A young person may participate at the National level only once at the High School level. The State Winner may return and drill in the Missouri Baptist State High School Bible Drill (as long as they are eligible) to try for Missouri's Three-year Award and for Missouri's Perfect Score Award (a score of 300 not counting bonus points).

National Drill

The First Place Winner from the Missouri State Drill will represent Missouri in the National Bible Drill. Check the National Invitational Tournament website for the date (<https://nationalbibleddrill.com>). A young person must be a participating member of a Southern Baptist Church and may participate at the National Level only ONE time for Youth, ONE time for High School, and ONE time for Speakers.

Types of Drills

BOOK DRILL (5 calls, 3 points per call)

The caller gives the name of any book of the Bible. After the command “Start,” the driller finds any page in the book called, places the index finger on any verse, steps forward, and automatically lowers the Bible. If called on, the driller gives the name of the book immediately preceding the book called, the name of the book called, and the name of the book immediately following the one called.

SCRIPTURE SEARCHING DRILL (5 calls, 3 points per call)

Verses are taken from any part of the Bible. The caller announces a Scripture reference to be found. After the command “Start,” the driller locates the Scripture reference, places the index finger on the verse, steps forward, and automatically lowers the Bible. When called upon, the driller reads the correct verse and states the Scripture reference.

STEPS TO SALVATION DRILL (6 calls, 4 points per call)

The purpose of this drill is to help young people recall verses in order to share the plan of salvation with someone. All six verses of the Steps to Salvation plan will be used and will be called in the same order as they are presented on the High

School Bible Verse Card. The caller gives the Scripture reference of a verse taken from the Steps to Salvation. On the command “Start,” the driller must locate the verse, place the index finger on the verse, step forward, and automatically lowers the Bible. When “Time” is called the caller instructs the drillers to close their Bibles. When called upon, the driller must recite the correct verse and state the Scripture reference.

WHAT WE BELIEVE DRILL (5 calls, 5 points per call)

There are ten questions with a verse that answers each question. The caller announces a question taken from the What We Believe Drill list on the current High School Bible Drill verse card. After the command “Start,” the driller locates the verse listed that answers the question, places the index finger on the verse, steps forward, and automatically lowers the Bible. When “Time” is called, the caller instructs the drillers to close their Bibles. If called upon, the driller quotes the question, recites the correct verse, and states the Scripture reference.

KEY BIBLICAL PASSAGE DRILL (3 calls, 7 points per call)

The purpose of this drill is for young people to memorize longer Key Passages of Scripture. The caller announces a title of a Key Biblical Passage taken from this section on the verse card. On the command “Start,” the driller locates the verses listed for the passage called and places the index finger on any verse in the passage, steps forward, and automatically lowers the Bible. When “Time” is called, the caller instructs the drillers to close their Bibles. When called upon a driller states the Key Biblical Passage title, recites the entire correct passage, and states the Scripture reference.

Bible Drill Commands

“Attention”

Stand straight, both arms at the sides, 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 palm under the spine. Do not extend one foot in front of the other.

“Present Bibles”

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, one hand under the Bible, and no fingers extending to the spine or over the edges. The caller then announces the call. The call will only be stated once.

“Start”

This command is the signal for drillers to begin searching. The timekeeper starts the stopwatch when the caller gives this command. In the Book Drill, the index finger may be placed upon any verse in that book. In other drills, the driller finds the verse, places the index finger on the actual verse called, steps forward, and lowers the Bible on every call. After stepping forward, the driller must look at the caller. Drillers who have not stepped forward must go back to attention and look at the caller. When a driller is called on to respond, all other drillers who have stepped forward may follow along in their Bibles during the Scripture Searching section or look at the caller.

“Time”

Timing begins immediately after the command “Start” is finished. The timekeeper calls out “Time” at the end of eight seconds. No one may step forward after the timekeeper calls “Time.” All drillers who have not stepped forward must immediately stop searching in their Bibles and go back to attention. All drillers must look at the caller. If you have started to step out and time is called, do not hesitate - step out. It will be up to the judges to decide whether you had started your motion before “Time” was called.

“Close Bibles”

After “Time” is called, all the drillers are instructed to close their Bibles except for the Book Drill and Scripture Searching Drill. The caller then calls on one driller.

Note: The caller acknowledges any of the drillers who have raised their hand (an admission of error), by saying, “Thank you, number____.” Drillers who have stepped forward and make mistakes are on their honor to raise their hands. **They should not step back until the command “Attention” is given.**

“Attention”

Close the Bible if it is open, return it to its original position at the side, and the drillers who have stepped forward should take one step back to their original position.

Judging a Drill

- All judges watch and score all the drillers. Regular judges record the drillers' mistakes on the score sheet under the drillers' corresponding numbers. When a participant makes a mistake, the regular judges write 1-6 in the corresponding box on the score sheet indicating which mistake was made. (See the scoresheet at the end of this document for the corresponding numbers and mistakes). It is possible that the judges will not all have the exact same scores. This is acceptable because each judge records what he/she observes. The bonus judge gives a bonus point to the driller who steps out first. The bonus judge will write a '1' in box for the call in which the bonus point has been earned. On each call, the bonus judge should also try to note who stepped out second and place a check mark in the box for the call. If the first driller makes a mistake, then award the bonus point to the second driller by changing his/her check mark to a '1' and marking out the '1' of the first driller because of the mistake. If the second driller to step out was not observed by the bonus judge and the first driller to step out makes a mistake, then no one will receive a bonus point on that call. If two or more drillers step out first at the same time, the judge will score a bonus point for each.
- To determine the score, add the points for correct answers according to the point value of each type of drill. Each regular judge will add the points for each correct answer given. The scores are totaled from the three regular judges first and then the bonus points are added. This is the final score for the driller. A perfect score would be 300 points without any bonus points. The opportunity of 25 bonus points could possibly bring the grand total to 325.
- If a participant makes two mistakes in one call, both mistakes may be recorded but is not required. Points are deducted for only one mistake.
- Judges should give the benefit of doubt to the drillers but should not lose credibility by ignoring errors. Failure to step forward before "Time" is called and incorrect responses are always mistakes.
- Judges should alert the caller quietly and discreetly when they see repetitive errors by any of the drillers. The caller then cautions the drillers by calling attention to the mistake without referring to any individual driller by name or number. These mistakes (such as flipping pages noisily, fanning pages, lack of eye contact, not placing the index finger on the verse before stepping forward, mishandling the Bible, etc.) should be counted only once during the drill no matter how many times they occur.
- Choose one judge to be the Judge Chairman who will complete the Score Summary Sheet after the drill.

Drill Procedures

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

1. Callers will pause between stating the call and giving the “Start” command. It is ONLY at this time that a driller may ask for the call to be repeated. Raising the hand at this time is not a mistake.
2. A driller must STEP out (not hop, jump, or lunge) within 8 seconds after “Start”.
3. Drillers must look at the caller until the call “Start” is given and again after stepping forward.
4. If drillers do not step out in time, they should go back to attention and look at the caller.
5. A driller’s finger must be on the reference BEFORE stepping out and the finger must remain motionless after stepping forward. No other part of the hand should touch the page. The Bible should be automatically lowered at this time. No command to lower the Bible will be given.
6. When called on, the driller has the option of giving the reference at the beginning, at the end, or both. The reference must be given at least once to complete the call correctly.
7. If the driller steps out and realizes a mistake, they do not step back. Raise a hand to signal a mistake until recognized by the caller.
8. When one driller is called on to read, everyone who has stepped forward may follow along in their Bibles in the Scripture Searching Drill or keep their eyes on the caller.
9. When called on, if the designated reference spans across multiple pages, drillers should request permission to turn the page, if needed, before responding. If the beginning of a verse is at the bottom of the page, the driller does not need to request to turn the page in the middle of reading the verse.
10. If the driller gives an incorrect response, the driller may have an opportunity to start over. If the driller still cannot give the correct response, another driller will be called on. If the second driller’s response is incorrect, that driller may have another opportunity to give the correct response. If the second driller still cannot give the correct response, the caller should say the correct response and proceed to the next call.

Mistakes:

1. Failure to step forward within eight seconds.
2. Failure to stand straight; failure to keep eyes on the caller until the command “Start” is given and again after “Time” is called.
3. Failure to place the index finger on the correct response before stepping forward.
4. Beginning any movement before the command “Start” is given.
5. Participant gives incorrect response (includes any driller who raises a hand indicating an error).
6. Failure to handle the Bible according to instructions or mishandling the Bible.

***A participant will not receive any points (regular or bonus) for any call that has an error.

Extra notes:

- Each call will be given only once. If drillers do not hear/understand what the caller said, they may ask for it to be repeated (drillers should do this immediately after the call and before “Start” is said.)
- Bibles must remain motionless between the commands of “Present Bibles” and “Start.”
- Verses must be quoted verbatim.
- Bible Check – automatically tilt the Bible down after stepping forward so the judges can see that the driller’s finger is on the correct verse.

Computing a Final Score

(1) To determine regular points, add the number of points for each correct response. Each drill has five types of calls.

- Locating Books Drill
 - point value: (2) two (5 calls for a total of 10 points)
- Scripture Searching Drill
 - point value: (4) four (5 calls for a total of 20 points)
- Steps to Salvation Drill
 - point value: (4) four (6 calls for a total of 24 points)
- What We Believe Drill
 - point value: (5) five (5 calls for a total of 25 points)
- Key Biblical Passage Drill
 - point value: (7) seven (3 calls for a total of 21 points)

(2) Total the regular points of each correct response from each score sheet for each participant from each judge, then add bonus points once to obtain a final score.

Example: Each judge could potentially score 100 points per participant; therefore, a participant with no errors would have 300 points plus a possible 25 bonus points for a grand total of 325. A Missouri Perfect Score Award is earned when a driller scores 300 total points not counting bonus points.

Before the Drill

Before the drill the caller should:

- Study the Church Drill provided by the Missouri Baptist Bible Drill State Leader.
- 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. No more than 12 drillers should be in one drill. Place a number on the right side of each driller's chest. Register the youth to assure that all their personal information is correct.
- To conduct a drill 3 regular judges and a bonus judge are needed. The Bonus judge will mark who steps out first. If two or more step out first at the same time, the judge will score a bonus point for each. Please have the bonus judge mark the first and second person who steps out. If the first person who steps out makes a mistake, they lose all the points for that call and the bonus point goes to the 2nd person who stepped out.
- Meet with the judges to read aloud and discuss the drill procedures, the six types of mistakes to be recorded, the extra notes, and how to score a drill. Give the judges the score sheets. Judges record the number of the mistake made on the score sheet under the corresponding number of the driller.
- Instruct judges to sit where they will have a clear view of all the drillers.
- Before beginning the drill, meet with the drillers to instruct them about the drill process.
- Discuss the procedures, the six types of mistakes, the extra notes, and answer any questions.

During the Drill

- Line up the drillers in numerical order from left to right, facing the audience.
- It is assumed that all drillers who have stepped out have the correct answer. All drillers should be encouraged to be honest no matter the cost.
- 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 "Start" is given, once all the drillers have stepped out, call on a driller (even if 8 seconds have not yet passed).
- Every driller should be called on at some time during the drill. Keep a tally when you call on the drillers so you can call on all drillers as close to the same amount as possible.
- 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 mistakes on the score sheet.
- Have prayer for the drillers' concentration, accuracy, and patience with themselves.

After the Drill

- Following the drills, the judges will immediately total their scores together in a private setting. While mistakes are scored on score sheets, only correct responses are totaled based on the point value for each call. Then the Judge Chairman fills out the Score Summary Sheet. Judges should not discuss the scores among themselves unless requested to do so by the caller. Judges do not show or discuss score sheets with anyone other than the caller or leader for any reason. Direct all inquiries to the caller or leader.
- Each driller, regardless of their score, should receive a certificate. On the certificate indicate discretely whether he/she has advanced to the next drill level. Do not announce to the audience if a driller has or has not advanced.
- Encourage youth who qualify for the Associational Drill to continue their training and practice in preparation for that drill.
- Questions or concerns by parents, leaders, or drillers should be addressed to the caller before or after the drill. No parent, leader or driller should address a question or concern to a judge.
- The church leader is responsible for registering ALL qualified drillers for the Associational Drill. The associational leader will register all drillers qualifying for the State Drill.

Special Accommodations

Please notify the state leader at the beginning of the Bible Drill year if there are any drillers who have special needs or exceptions that need to be granted during the State Drill (also notify the associational leader before the Associational Drill). This will allow the leader time to prepare in order to best meet the needs of that individual. Modifications to the drill are not intended to give the driller an unfair advantage but rather to allow him/her to participate.

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Special needs include learning disabilities, hearing impairment or deafness, vision impairment or blindness, being in a wheelchair, etc. Each year send an e-mail to the state leader, Marsha Lane, (malynn56@gmail.com) explaining the nature of the driller's special need. Include the driller's name, the church's name, the church leader's name, and contact information. Bible Drill leaders will need to email all this information so the state leader will have an accurate record. The deadline to submit this is by January 31. It may be necessary for individuals to provide documentation of impairment (hearing, vision, speech, motor, etc.). If other special needs arise closer to the drill such as a broken arm or leg, please contact the state leader at the earliest possible date.

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