

MISSOURI BAPTIST
YOUTH
BIBLE DRILL
RULES AND PROCEDURES



GRADES 7, 8, 9

Revised 2024

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Youth Bible Drill Rules and Procedures

The purpose of Youth Bible Drill is to lead youth to develop skills in using their Bible. They learn to locate books, verses, and passages dealing with doctrinal and ethical concerns. It is a program for Southern Baptist youth in grades 7, 8, and 9 (High School Bible Drill and/or Speakers' Tournament are for youth in grades 10, 11, and 12). High School Bible Drill uses different verses and a different drill format (see the leaders guide for High School Bible Drill). Each year the drillers learn new verses which are updated annually on the website <https://mobibledrill.org>. Leaders should review the website each year to confirm they are using the correct verses.

Youth Bible Drill helps teenagers increase their knowledge of the Scripture and their love for the Bible. They become comfortable in using the Bible to find answers to problems or questions they or their friends may encounter. Another benefit of Youth Bible Drill is that they also gain poise and confidence as they respond to the calls with speed and accuracy.

Youth Bible Drill is an exciting way for teenagers to learn to use their Bibles to meet the challenges of life. It involves competition, but that is not the primary purpose of Youth Bible Drill. Youth 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 for today and tomorrow. If teenagers can locate a verse quickly, learn to answer a question using Scripture, and become familiar with key verses which they can locate from a few words - those teens have accomplished a great goal!

Bible Drill Planning Calendar (suggested not required)

August

- Pray about providing a Bible Drill program in the church.
- Download the verse cards at mobibledrill.org
- Decide which translation will be used for drills: King James Version (KJV) or Christian Standard Bible (CSB). All participants from the same church should use the same version. Notify the associational Bible Drill leader of the decision.
- Obtain the resources to help prepare for Bible Drill. Each program will need approved Drill
- Bibles (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, and weekly goals. Encourage them to do their best as they learn God's Word.
- 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 associational level. (Drillers with a score of 170 or higher)
- Contact the Association and update them of the qualifying drillers. After the Associational Drill, notify the state leader online at the website <https://mobibledrill.org> of participants who qualify (score of 200 or more) for the State Drill. Participants must be registered online for the State Drill.
- Recognize all participants and leaders from the church for their work in Youth Bible Drill.

Levels of Drills

Church Drill

The date is set by each church. To advance to the next level a participant must score at least 170 points (the total from all four judges) in the Church Youth Bible Drill. A church may send all qualified persons to the Associational Drill.

Associational Drill

Please contact the local associational office for the location and date of the drill. An association may send all qualified persons to the State Drill. To qualify for the State Drill, youth must score at least 200 points (the total from all four judges) in the Associational Youth Bible 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.

State Drill

This drill determines the overall state high scorer who will be the Missouri 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 (<https://nationalbibleddrill.com>). A young person may participate at the National level only once at the Youth level. The State Winner may return and drill in the Missouri Baptist State Youth 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 our Missouri State Drill should be prepared to represent Missouri in the National Youth 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 announces the name of any book in the Bible. At the command “Start,” participants begin searching for the book that was called. A participant steps forward after locating the book and places the index finger on any verse in the book. The participants should automatically lower the Bible when stepping out. When called upon, the driller should be able to name: (1) the book which immediately precedes the book called, (2) the book called, and (3) the book which immediately follows the book called.

Scripture Searching Drill (5 calls, 3 points per call)

The caller announces a Scripture reference to be found. Scripture Searching Drills are taken from any part of the Bible. A participant must locate the Scripture reference and place the index finger on the verse before stepping forward. The participants should automatically lower the Bible when stepping out. When called upon, the driller must read the correct verse and state the Scripture reference.

Identifying Verses Drill (5 calls, 4 points per call)

The caller quotes a part of a verse taken from the official list of verses. It may be any part of a verse: the beginning, the middle, or the end. The caller, however, should quote enough of a verse to provide the participants with a reasonable clue (suggested: 4-8 words). A participant must correctly locate the verse and place the index finger on the verse before stepping forward. The participant should automatically lower the Bible when stepping out. When called upon, the driller must read the entire correct verse and state the Scripture reference.

Doctrinal Drill (5 calls, 5 points per call)

The caller announces a doctrinal statement taken from the official list. A participant must correctly locate the verse listed with that doctrinal statement and place the index finger on the verse before stepping forward. The participant should automatically lower the Bible when stepping out. When called upon, the driller must be able to: (1) recite the doctrinal statement as listed in the official list, (2) read the correct verse, and (3) state the Scripture reference.

Bible Answers Drill (5 calls, 5 points per call)

The caller announces a question taken from the official Bible Answers Drill verses. Before stepping forward, a participant must locate the verse listed that answers the question and place the index finger on the verse. The participant should automatically lower the Bible when stepping out. When time is called, the caller will instruct the drillers to close their Bibles. The driller must be able to: (1) quote the question, (2) recite the correct verse, and (3) state the Scripture reference.

Youth Bible Drill Commands

“Attention”

Stand straight, both arms at the sides, and eyes focused on the leader 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 Bible. Do not extend one foot in front of the other.

“Present Bibles”

Bring the Bible to the waistline parallel with the floor. A driller who searches with the right hand should hold the Bible with the left hand on the bottom with Genesis down and the right hand resting flat on top of the Bible. A driller who searches with the left hand should hold the Bible with the right hand on the bottom with Genesis up and with the left hand resting flat on top of the Bible. The driller’s thumbs and fingers should not extend over the edges of the Bible. Following “Present Bibles,” the caller announces the call. The call is stated only 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 or look at the caller.

“Time”

A timekeeper calls out the word “Time” at the end of eight seconds. All drillers stop searching. (When “Time” is called in the Bible Answers Drill, instruct the drillers to close their Bibles.) The caller will call on a driller to respond at this time. 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.

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”

Drillers take one step back and return to their original positions, Bibles held at their sides, and are ready for the next call.

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 not including any bonus points. The opportunity of 25 bonus points could possibly bring the grand total to 325.
- 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 procedures and rules are the standards which all Bible Drill groups are to use to ensure uniformity in procedures 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
4. After stepping out, all drillers should automatically lower their Bibles.
5. If drillers do not step out in time, they should go back to attention and keep their eyes on the caller.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. If the driller steps out and realizes a mistake, do not step back. Raise the hand to signal a mistake until recognized by the caller.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. If the driller gives an incorrect response, the driller may have an opportunity to start over.
12. 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 a mistake).
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 by raising their hand (make sure this is done 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: (3) three (5 calls for a total of 15 points)
- Scripture Searching Drill
 - point value: (3) three (5 calls for a total of 15 points)
- Identifying Verses Drill
 - point value: (4) four (5 calls for a total of 20 points)
- Doctrinal Drill
 - point value: (5) five (5 calls for a total of 25 points)
- Bible Answers Drill
 - point value: (5) five (5 calls for a total of 25 points)

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

Example: Each judge could potentially score 100 points per participant; therefore, a participant with a perfect score would have 300 points. Then add the bonus points for a possible grand total of 325 points. A Missouri Perfect Score Award is earned when a driller scores 300 total points not counting bonus points.

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 of the five sections of the drill for a total of 10 responses. 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.

KJV or CSB

For the church drill, all youth drillers will use the same Bible translation. However, in the Associational and State Drills, churches may be using the King James Version while others may be using the Christian Standard Bible. In the Identifying Verses Drill, explain to the youth that the caller will say a phrase from the Identifying Verses list as translated in the King James Version, followed by the same phrase as translated in the Christian Standard Bible before giving the command “Start.”

Before the Drill

- 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. Register the youth to assure that all their personal information is correct. Place a number on the right side of each driller’s chest. To conduct a drill, 3 regular judges and a bonus judge are needed. The bonus judge will mark who steps out first and give that driller the bonus point. If two or more step out first at the same time, the judge will score a bonus point for each. The bonus judge should try to note who stepped out second in case the first driller makes a mistake, then award the bonus point to the second one.
- 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 the drill. Give the judges the score sheets. Judges record the number of the mistakes made on the score sheet under the participant’s corresponding number.
- 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 procedural 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.
- A request by the driller to have the call repeated 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 and all the drillers have stepped forward, call on a driller (even if 8 seconds have not yet passed). Then the timekeeper should not call out “Time”.
- Every driller should be called on at some time during the drill. Keep a tally when each driller is called on to ensure all drillers are called on 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 score sheet.
- Have prayer for the drillers’ concentration, accuracy, and patience with themselves.

After the Drill

- Following the drills, the judges will immediately tally 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 or award. On the certificate indicate discretely whether the driller 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 (score of 170 or more) to continue their training and practice in preparation for that drill.
- After the Associational Drill, go to the website <https://mobibledrill.org> to enroll the participants who qualify (score of 200 or more) for the State Drill. Participants must be enrolled online.
- 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.

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. If any special need arises 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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