



# Secret Treasure



## THE MISSION AIM

The Bible is a written account of God, and reading it is one of the best ways we can get to know Him.



## KEY VERSE

**2 Timothy 3:16-17:** "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work, for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit."



## Pre-Mission Activity



## Supplies Needed

- Item for hiding
- Sand table (if available), metal coins, objects, magnets
- Paper and pencils to create treasure maps; print off samples from the internet (<http://parenting.lee Hansen.com/downloads/coloring/pirates/pages/pirate-map.htm> or [www.coloringcastle.com](http://www.coloringcastle.com) – look under "Treasure Map")

## Directions

**DO:** Choose from one or more of the following activities.

1. Have recruits take turns hiding an item in the room and having the others find it. (You may want to link this to the treasure map activity below.) Or send one person out of the room, hide an item and play "hot and cold" directing them to the item when they come back in.
2. If you have access to a sand table (i.e. from a child care in your building) or can fill a dishpan with sand, bury some coins and other magnetic objects in it and have recruits use magnets to retrieve them.
3. Give recruits papers to create their own treasure maps. Show them samples from the internet. Encourage them to use spaces that they know so that they can actually use the maps when they go home or to hide and find items during Ready to Serve.



### Mission Uplink 1



Have ready YouTube playlist: "Season 3 – The Bible Episode 1: Secret Treasure"

Play "The Bible (S3) Episode 1 (1/4)". Episode begins with the *Ready to Serve* theme song, followed automatically by the MISSION # 1 VIDEO. Pause the video when the MISSION # 1 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 1.

If using PPT for video, have TB-Episode\_1-Secret\_Treasure.pptx ready and play slide one. Pause on the MISSION # 1 CARD so you and your recruits can complete Mission # 1.



### Mission #1



### Supplies Needed

- Three Bibles nicely wrapped and hidden in different locations of the room or building; hide them according to the instructions given in the letter, song and map that you have prepared (Use the Gift Hunting Ideas template to help you create clues for the recruits – attachment page 8)
- Have available "Message for the Recruits" template (see attachment page 9)
- Put the letter, map and song in a gift bag and place it in a visible area
- Write the following words on individual sheets of paper: Oral Tradition, Scrolls, Read Aloud, Lost Scrolls, Object Lessons, Songs, Prophets, Jesus' Teaching, Letters, Printing Press, Technology
- Tape/sticky tack



### Mission Assignment

**SAY:** The Bible is BIG! Isn't that what Hannah said to describe this wonderful treasure that we have here? It really can be a bit of a mystery can't it? It's so big and sometimes so hard to understand. I'm so glad that we're going to get a chance to learn more about it over the next few weeks because it is such a huge way that God communicates to us and shows us who He is. Let's get started in our exploration. Give a drum roll for Mission # 1, (reading mission card from satellite uplink) "Go on a treasure hunt and find out how the Bible as we know it came to be."

**SAY:** Let's get to it. Hey what's this? (The bag with the map, song, letter) Did any of you leave this here? Hmmm!

**DO:** Direct the recruits' attention to a gift bag that's been placed in the room. Start pulling notes out of the bag.

**SAY:** What have we here? (Pull out the letter that you have written as a clue to find one of the Bibles). "Dear Recruits," ....Hey this looks like a letter. Let's leave it for a moment though and see what else is here. (Pull out the song clue) Oh cool, I think this might be a song. It has a bunch of words and says to be sung to the ABCs.

**DO:** Begin singing and then stop part way...



**SAY:** Oops sorry, got a bit carried away. I wonder what else we have here. A map? Wait a minute, this looks like our building. I can't imagine who put this bag here. Are you sure it wasn't one of you?

**DO:** Dig a bit deeper into the bag.

**SAY:** Hey, looks like there's one other piece of paper here. What does it say?

**DO:** Read the template "A Message for the Recruits".

**SAY:** I guess if we'd read this first we would have known a bit more of what to do, eh? Oh well let's get into three groups and go find these gifts the Commander is talking about.

**DO:** Divide the recruits into three groups and find the gifts that have been hidden. Be sure to give instructions as to where they can and cannot go in the building. If you have a small group all the recruits can go together to find each Bible.

**SAY:** So, what did you find?

**DO:** Give the recruits a moment to share.

**SAY:** What did you think? Were the gifts what you expected? Are you happy or disappointed? Was it easy or challenging to find the Bibles? What was it like using the song? The map? The letter?

**DO:** Give the recruits a chance to respond. As you read the next section, have various recruits post the words in brackets on the wall and then have the whole group read what it says in different types of voices/ways (i.e. yelling, with nose plugged, tongue in your cheek, jump up and say it, etc.).

**SAY:** You know, I think the Commander must have been trying to tell us something in how he gave us our instructions. There was a letter, a song, a map. The Bible has letters, songs and instructions that are directions like maps. In fact the Bible is full of different ways of communicating and has come to be through an incredible process. In the past, a number of the Bible stories were passed on by people telling stories of what God had done. (Oral Tradition) Then as various forms of paper were invented God spoke to people's hearts and they wrote down what He was saying to them on what we call scrolls. (Scrolls) At that point there was so little paper and so few people could write that when God's word was written down people would read it aloud to others. (Read Aloud) Unfortunately because there were so few copies there were times in the past that the Scrolls were lost and so God's people didn't hear it (2 Kings 22:8). (Lost Scrolls) Then there are whole books of the Bible that are written that tell the story of someone's life as an object lesson. There was a fellow by the name of Hosea who had a crazy hard life but God was using his life to tell the story of the people of Israel. Sounds complicated, but God sure uses it to teach us! (Object Lessons) The Bible is full of songs and poems that people wrote too. (Songs) Then there were the prophets. God spoke to them and then they told the people what He had said. Their words were written down in the Bible. (Prophets) Of course there was the life of Jesus. His teaching was written down in the Bible too. (Jesus' Teaching) There were letters written by Christians to others to encourage and challenge them. (Letters) So, much of the Bible was told, a little written and then BOOM. The printing press was invented and many more people were able to have copies of the Bible because it could be printed for them. (Printing Press) Now we have it on computers and Smart phones. It is very accessible to us. (Technology)



**SAY:** Wow! That is a lot to take in isn't it? But don't worry because I'm sure that we'll have a chance to learn more over the next few weeks! I'm sure that with the enthusiasm you used to repeat the ways the Bible was developed that the team has heard your responses without us needing to do anything more. Let's hope what we've discovered helps Misha and Hannah. Speaking of Hannah we should go and see how she's doing.



### Mission Uplink 2



**YouTube:** Play "The Bible (S3) Episode 1 (2/4)". Pause the video when the MISSION # 2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.

**PPT:** Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when MISSION #2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.



### Mission #2



### Supplies Needed

- Dig Deep Game supplies (see Dig Deep Template for details on attachment page 10): water for clean up, table, table and floor cover, paper towels; sand (or loose dirt), cookie trays, blind fold, slime, large plastic bowl, lego blocks, brown paper bag, large bag of ice cubes, dishpan or similar size container, wrapping paper (or newspaper), tape, five small (1/8 of a sheet of 8½ by 11) heavy sheets of paper; The following words on the small papers: "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for..." , "teaching, rebuking", "correcting and training in righteousness", "so that the servant of God might be equipped for every good work", "2 Timothy 3:16-17" and Saran Wrap to wrap the paper
- It might be helpful to have an extra leader today to have the games set up and ready to go
- Paper or board for keeping score during the game
- Paper for brainstorming
- Pencils
- Two sided cards using the Key verse/doctrine template (see attachment page 11 and 12) with a "diamond" (Dollar store shiny rock, picture of a diamond) glued on with a glue gun; one for each recruit
- Bible



### Mission Assignment

**SAY:** A valuable treasure! I love it! The Bible really is an amazing book! Let's keep digging to find out more about it. Drum roll for mission # 2, (reading mission card from satellite uplink) "You've got to Dig Deep and find the treasure we're looking for. Have fun!" Sounds like great fun! Let's get to it!

**SAY:** Alrighty, let's start with a game.



**DO:** Have the Dig Deep Games ready to go and engage as many kids as possible in play. Remember to put the recruits into two teams. If there are not enough activities for each child encourage team spirit by giving points for cheering. If there are just a couple of kids, that's okay too. Each activity will be a race against another team.

**SAY:** That was fun! We really had to dig in some way or another to get to this treasure of a verse. Let's give three cheers to our winning team! Each team now has all the parts of our key verse. I'd like you to put it together. Use your Bible if you need to.

**DO:** Let the recruits put the verse in order. (Just give them a minute and then help them as needed)

**SAY:** Now, let's read it together.

**DO:** Guide the recruits as they slowly read it together.

**SAY:** You've worked hard to get this verse together but we should quickly find out what it means. **First of all, what is Scripture?** (The Bible) **How about teaching?** (Gives ideas of what we need to learn, what God wants to show us). **What about rebuking?** (Telling us when we've done something wrong) **Then there's correcting, what's that mean?** (The Bible shows what we've done wrong but then it shows us how to correct that). **How about training in righteousness?** (Teaches us how to live the way God wants us to). **And finally, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work?** (As Christians the Bible shows us what to do and how to be so that we are ready to serve God.) **Wow! You certainly can't say that about every book can you? The Bible truly is a treasure that can help us in every part of our lives! Speaking of treasure I have some treasure for you here.**

**DO:** Hand out key verse/doctrine cards.

**SAY:** Here is the key verse printed out for you. I want you to take a moment and write or draw around the verse some of the things that we just talked about so that it will help you to remember what they mean. For example, you could draw a picture of a whiteboard or smart board to remind you that the Bible is good for teaching. Or you could draw a time out chair to remind you that it's good for correcting or rebuking. These are just sketches. You will only have three minutes to draw or write.

**DO:** Give the recruits a moment to write or draw.

**SAY:** Now, turn your cards over. On the back you'll notice The Salvation Army's first doctrine. Our church believes that without a doubt, the Bible is a treasure. It is the source of our learning about God. Let's read what it says together, "We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God and that they only constitute the divine rule of Christian faith and practice."

**DO:** Read slowly together.

**SAY:** That is a mouthful isn't it? You know, all that it says is that we believe that the whole Bible was given by God and that it shows us the way to live as Christians. So, this book (hold up the Bible) is truly a treasure which shows us how to live and who God is. It also shows us the



incredible love story of God for us. As we talked about earlier, it's not always easy to read but it sure is worth digging into. Since it can be hard to understand sometimes we're going to spend a moment in prayer asking that the Holy Spirit will help us to understand and to persevere in reading it.



### Prayer Huddle



YouTube: Play "The Bible (S3) Episode 1 (3/4)". Pause the video when the PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.



### Supplies Needed

- Two sided cards using the Key verse/doctrine template with a "diamond" from mission #2
- Copy of the Prayer Chant template posted on the wall or individual copies for each recruit to take home; practice the chant a few times yourself so that you get the rhythm of it to lead the recruits (see attachment on page 13)

### Directions

**SAY:** Bring your key verse card and stand in a semi-circle. We're going to pray together today in a kind of chant. On the wall, you'll see a chant posted. As we pray the chant let's lift up our key verse to God reminding ourselves that He is the reason that we have the Bible. Okay, let's pray!

**DO:** Lead the prayer chant with the recruits.

**SAY:** Amen! May God give us all the wisdom that we need as we read the Bible and learn from Him.

**SAY:** I wonder how Hannah is doing with all of her research on the Bible. What she found out is definitely interesting but I hope we've been able to give her a little more information on the importance of this treasure and what it's used for. Let's go see what she and the team are up to.



### Mission Uplink 3



YouTube: Play "The Bible (S3) Episode 1 (4/4)". Pause the video when the FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.





## Field Mission Project



### Supplies Needed

- Paper for brainstorming
- Markers
- Tape
- Have a creation that you or one of your leaders have made or found to show a verse or chapter of the Bible that you can share, i.e. a picture, song, etc. Something that illustrates this exercise
- Construction paper for picture drawing or plain paper for song writing that can be sent home with recruits
- Follow up with some phone calls through the week to see how recruits' creations are coming along

### Mission Project

**SAY:** How true it is, recruits. You don't have to be on a special Recon Team to do things for God. Christie's mission for Hannah is perfect. Let's find out what ours is and get moving on Mission # 3. Drum roll please... (reading mission card from satellite uplink) "Recruits, find some creative ways of helping others read the Bible and be ready to share them next week."

**SAY:** This is great. We all have such different talents and ideas. I can't wait to see what you do. Even this week we've seen a few ways that we could share the Bible. Can anyone think of things we've done today that you could use to share a verse or two from the Bible?

**DO:** Give the recruits a moment to brainstorm (songs, chants, letters, object lessons, physical items like the diamond).

**SAY:** Can you think of other ways that you could share some verses with family and friends who don't know about the Bible?

**DO:** Create a list of ideas on a board or large sheet of paper. (create a picture of a favourite verse or story and share it with someone; take one of the RTS key verses or a Psalm and make it into a bookmark; create a stained glass window, write a poem that tells about what you have learned in the Bible – include references; write a song and play it on your instrument then give a description of the Bible verse you used to create the song; draw a picture on the computer and write the verse underneath it and send it to a friend or family member; create a video)

**SAY:** Wow! You have come up with some incredible ideas. Next week I'd love to see some of them and hear about whom you shared them with. Before you leave, I'd like to share something that I have done to share the Bible with others.

**DO:** Share your creative item.

**SAY:** Until next week, may God bless you and give your wisdom to understand His incredible treasure. By the way, if you don't have a Bible at home let us know and we can work at getting you one. Also, if you have one at home, make sure you bring it each week so you can use it as we dig deeper!



## Gift Hunting Idea Template Sample Letter, Song, Map

### Letter:

Dear Recruits,

How are you? I hope you're doing well.

As you know, I was in earlier and had a chance to hide some gifts for you. It was so much fun! I think that you're really going to love, or at least learn to love, what I've left.

Anyway, I guess I should let you get started on finding your treasure.

(Give instructions from here as to the direction they should take, should they look high, low etc.)

### Song:

A treasure finding song to the tune of the ABCs.

Here are three samples of songs you can use to hide your treasure.

1. ABCDEFG take a right and walk three. (paces that is)  
HIJKLMNOP turn to the left and dance with glee.  
QRSTUV now walk another three.  
WXY and Z now look above your head.
2. Take a left and walk for five  
Turn to the right and do a jive.  
Now take ten paces to the right  
Look for something at your height.
3. Go to the gym and run one lap  
Come on out, turn right and clap.  
Keep on going to the right,  
When you get to the sanctuary, pretend to turn on a light.  
Run five paces, look above  
Find me hiding under a glove.

### Map:

You could tell the recruits where to start and then create a simple map of the room or area in the building where the treasure is hidden. Use the internet sample from the pre-activity if it helps. You could even get an artistic, trustworthy recruit to create a map for you during the pre-activity and make sure they are not in the map group when the treasure hunt begins.



## A Message for the Recruits



Hello Recruits,

So sorry that I didn't get to see you today but I had to run. So many recruits to visit and so little time! I left this bag for you, which obviously if you're reading this then I know you got it. I had a chance to hide some gifts around the building (or room, or outside). I've left some instructions for you and am hoping that you'll be able to find the gifts. They are wrapped in beautiful wrapping paper as they are treasures that I really hope you get to enjoy. I thought having to look for them would make life oh so much more exciting than just leaving them for you. Some gifts are worth the effort let me tell you!

Take a look at the instructions that I left with you. There should be a letter, a song and a map. So get divided up into three groups and start hunting! Of course wait for your leaders to tell you when to go.

See you soon.

In Christ,

Your Commander

## Dig Deep Game!

**Note:** You will want to cover the floor and surface that you are using as some of these could get messy. You will also want to have paper towels and water nearby for clean-up.

Divide the recruits into two teams (even if they are very small teams). One person from each team will compete against another to get the memory verse cards out of their “mess” from the game and run it to their team. The team that gets their card back to their team first gets a point. For those who are not participating in the actual game give them points for the best cheering.

**Each of the following requires set up for two competing teams. So you will need to double each of these.**

1. Write “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for...” on a small, heavy piece of paper. Wrap the paper in Saran Wrap (or laminate) and bury it in some sand or loose dirt on a cookie tray. The object will be for the recruits to get the word card out while blind folded. Once they get the word card they need to unwrap it and get it to their team.
2. Write “teaching, rebuking” on a small, heavy piece of paper, wrap it very well with Saran Wrap and bury it in some slime in a bowl. The recruits may only use one hand as they “dig” through the slime. Once they get the word card they need to unwrap it and get it to their team.
3. Write “correcting and training in righteousness” on a small, heavy piece of paper and bury it in a brown bag of lego blocks. Without looking into the bag and using their hands the recruits get the paper out of the bag and get it to their team.
4. Write “so that the servant of God might be equipped for every good work”, wrap it in Saran Wrap and put it in a container of ice on the floor. Bury the new set of words in the ice and have the recruits get the paper out using their toes. Again, they will need to get the paper back to their team.
5. Write “2 Timothy 3:16-17” on a small piece of paper and put it with a Bible. Wrap them both up using a lot of Saran Wrap so that it’s difficult to open. Again, the paper needs to get to the team as soon as it is uncovered.

## Key Verse/Doctrine Template

<p>All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. <b>2 Timothy 3:16-17</b></p>	<p>All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. <b>2 Timothy 3:16-17</b></p>
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**Doctrine # 1**

“We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God and that they only constitute the divine rule of Christian faith and practice.”

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## Prayer Chant

It's true, it's true, the Bible is true!  
You gave the words to others to show us what to do!  
We read, we learn, you show us your plan!  
Please... help us... to understand!

When we read things that we shouldn't do!  
Please remind us that you'll always come through!  
When we read and you show us how to behave!  
Please give us strength through the Spirit you gave!

It's true, it's true, the Bible is true!  
You gave the words to others to show us what to do!  
We read, we learn, you show us your plan!  
Please... help us... to understand!

The Bible is so great to show us how to live!  
Love one another and forgive!  
Please help us to share it with our friends!  
So they can have a Saviour whose love never ends!

It's true, it's true, the Bible is true!  
You gave the words to others to show us what to do!  
We read, we learn, you show us your plan!  
Please... help us... to understand!

Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen!