

BOY, HAVE I GOT PROBLEMS

TEACHER GUIDE TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	4
<i>Weekly Chapters</i>	
Discover 4 Yourself Contents	9
Week One, Sometimes Bad Things Happen to Me	11
Week Two, Sometimes I'm Tempted to Do Wrong	38
Week Three, Sometimes I'm Not Nice	61
Week Four, Sometimes My Mouth Gets Me in Trouble	74
Week Five, Sometimes All I Think About Is Me	90
Week Six, Sometimes Rich People Bother Me	106
Week Seven, Sometimes I Don't Know How to Pray	126
<i>Quizzes and Exam</i>	
Quiz Week 1	140
Quiz Week 2	141
Quiz Week 3	142
Quiz Week 4	143
Quiz Week 5	144
Quiz Week 6	145
Quiz Week 7	146
Final Exam	147
Answer Key, Quizzes and Final Exam	149
<i>Games</i>	
5 W and H Game	150
The Matching Game	151
M&M® Draw	152
Get Connected	153

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TEACHER GUIDE

Introduction

Thank you for selecting this Bible study for your child and/or class. Leading children to read, observe, interpret, and apply the Bible for themselves offers them a bridge from hearsay to real truth. As they learn to be comfortable with the idea that they can read the Bible, they will take the task seriously.

The Discover 4 Yourself series is designed to lead young students through the process of inductive study: question, question, question, search, think, understand, and apply. They will be comfortable with this process only after you prove that the possibility is within their reach.

BOY, HAVE I GOT PROBLEMS! is a study of the book of James. Students will investigate the contents of James with the help of Ellie, an advice columnist. They will read about familiar problems that other children share and explore Scripture to answer the question, "How do I handle this?"

To prepare for leading **BOY, HAVE I GOT PROBLEMS!** work through each "Day" on your own before consulting the Teacher Guide. Since this is an Inductive Bible Study your teaching will be more effective if you do the work first and God reveals His truth *to you*.

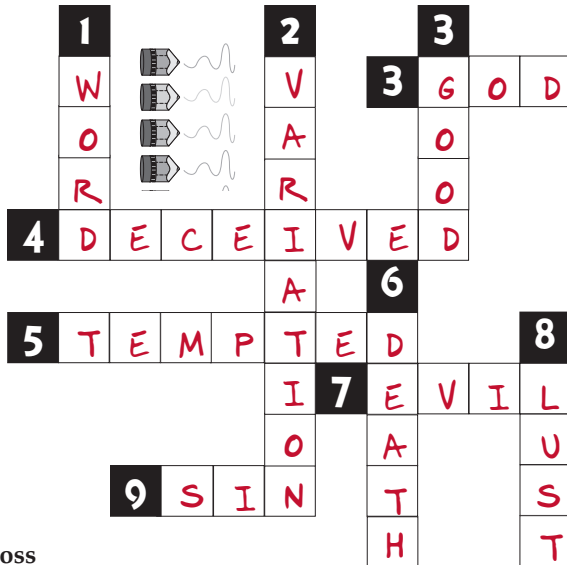
Whether you're homeschooling a child, teaching a Sunday school class, teaching in a Christian school, or simply using these studies for your child's quiet time or family Bible study, this Teacher Guide will show you how to clearly and carefully lead each child through Inductive Bible study. We offer suggestions to guide you step-by-step. *Instructional Strategies* explains why certain activities are used throughout the book. Choose the activities that best fit your situation.

Homeschooling Parents and Family Bible Study

We suggest you do one "Day" per day unless it's too much for your child's reading and/or writing skills. You can work with your child and discuss what you learn together or let him/her work independently, saving discussion times for later.

You may want to join or create a homeschool group that meets once a week to do these studies. The teacher will assign a week of homework in class. The following week the teacher will lead the students to discuss what they discovered, how to apply it, and to work on any creative elements included in the study or play a game to review what they have learned.

38



Across

3. James 1:13 God does not tempt anyone.
4. James 1:16 James tells the beloved brethren not to be deceived.
5. James 1:13 Let no one say, "I am being tempted by God."
7. James 1:13 God cannot be tempted by evil.
9. James 1:15 What does lust give birth to? sin

Down

1. James 1:18 God brought us forth by the word of truth.
2. James 1:17 With the Father of lights, there is no variation or shifting shadow.
3. James 1:17 God, the Father of Lights, only gives good and perfect gifts.
6. James 1:15 What does sin bring forth? death
8. James 1:14 Each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

Guided Instruction

38 Refer to James 1:13-18 to complete the crossword puzzle on page 33.

Across

3. James 1:13 God does not tempt anyone.
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(page 43)



BE A DOER!

52

Today we are going to start off by marking some more key words so that we can unlock what God wants us to know, to remember, and to do!

Let's mark every reference to the Word and its synonyms *word of truth* and *perfect law*. Sometimes different words can mean the same thing. For example, *sailboat*, a *yacht*, and a *row-boat* are all words for boats. Those words are called synonyms. In James 1 he uses several different words in talking about the Word, but they all mean the same thing. So read 1:18,21-25, and mark *word of truth*, *word*, and *perfect law* all the same way.

(blue book, colored green)

Now read the verses again aloud. When you say the words *hearers* and *doers* mark those words like this:

hearers (green ears)

doers (orange feet)

(page 130)

53

18 In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

19 This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger;

20 for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.

21 Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

22 But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.

23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror;

24 for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was.

25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

26 If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is worthless.

Guided Instruction



52 Read "Be a Doer" on page 43.

Have your students add the new key words below on their key word bookmarks.

Word (word of truth, perfect law) (blue book, colored green)

hearers (green ears)

doers (orange feet)

53 Turn to pages 130 and 131 and read James 1:18-27 aloud using your Observation Worksheet visual aid as students follow along and call out each key word. Then mark them together as we noted on page 19.

James 3:7-12.

(page 66)

75 Take two glasses and fill them both with water. The opening of the glass is a picture of our mouth. Now add vinegar to the first glass and sugar to the other. Take a drink from both glasses. WHAT kind of water is poured out of the mouth of the first glass—bitter or sweet?

Bitter

In James 3:9-10 WHAT comes out of our mouths?

Blessing and cursing

James 3:11 WHAT two kinds of water is James talking about coming from the same fountain?

Both fresh and bitter

James 3:12 Can a fig tree produce olives as well as figs?

No

Can salt water produce fresh water? **No**

What two things can our mouths produce?

b l e s s i n g c u r s i n g

Guided Instruction

75 Do the experiment shown on page 66.

Answer the questions on pages 66-67

WHAT kind of water is poured out of the mouth of the first glass? Bitter

James 3:9-10 WHAT comes out of our mouths? Blessing and cursing

James 3:11 WHAT two kinds of water is James talking about coming from the same fountain? Both fresh and bitter

James 3:12 Can a fig tree produce olives as well as figs? No

Can salt water produce fresh water? No

WHAT two things can our mouths produce? blessing and cursing

As Christians, our mouths should always produce what? (Elicit discussion and ask for examples.)

Find Proverbs in your Bible. Answer the questions on page 67.

Proverbs 12:25 WHAT makes a heart glad? A good word

Proverbs 18:21 WHAT is in the power of the tongue? Death and life

Proverbs 12:18 WHAT does the tongue of the wise bring? Healing

Find Luke 6:43-45 in your Bible to answer the questions on page 67.

Sometimes My Mouth Gets Me in Trouble

67

As Christians, our mouths should always produce what?

Blessing

Let's look at some cross-references about the tongue.

Proverbs 12:25 WHAT makes a heart glad?

A good word

Proverbs 18:21 WHAT is in the power of the tongue?

Death and life

Proverbs 12:18 WHAT does the tongue of the wise bring?

Healing

Let's look at one more cross-reference before we close for the day to see what is said about trees and their fruit.

Look up Luke 6:43-45.

D4Y “Boy, Have I Got Problems” Quizzes

Week 1: Sometimes Bad Things Happen to Me

1. How exactly does James describe himself?
 - a. An unbeliever
 - b. A nice person
 - c. A man of God
 - d. A bond-servant of God
2. What is a “bond-servant”?
 - a. A friend I make serve me
 - b. Someone who has chosen to be a slave after he has been given his freedom
 - c. A bully who pushes people around
 - d. A brother or sister who wants to be “boss”
3. Who is James writing to?
 - a. Jewish neighbors
 - b. A church
 - c. Twelve tribes
 - d. Twelve churches
4. What does the testing of our faith produce?
 - a. endurance
 - b. doubts and fears
 - c. discouragement
 - d. apostasy (quitting)
5. How should we consider these tests? As all . . .
 - a. worthless
 - b. joy
 - c. discouraging
 - d. hopeless
6. Which answer describes how much wisdom God gives when we ask Him?
 - a. stingily
 - b. none
 - c. generously
 - d. a little
7. To get wisdom from God, in addition to asking I...
 - a. don't have to believe
 - b. have to believe without doubting
 - c. have to go to church
 - d. have to believe some of the time
8. James says doubting God is like
 - a. a shrinking balloon
 - b. a falling star
 - c. quicksand
 - d. a sea wave thrown back and forth by wind
9. A poor believer can brag that he is rich because
 - a. God will give him a lot of money
 - b. God has given him a high position
 - c. other believers have to give him a lot of money
 - d. God will make him even poorer
10. The rich believer can brag that he will be poor because:
 - a. he will lose his wealth before he dies.
 - b. he will give away all his riches.
 - c. like flowering grass, he will pass away.
 - d. all of the above

Memory Verses: James

1:2 “Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,

1:3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

1:4 And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”

Optional Games

5 W and H Game

Things you need:

- A game board. I use a project board from a school supply store. To set up your board, you need to make 5 category labels WHO, WHAT, WHEN/HOW, WHERE and WHY and place them on your board. (See diagram below.)
- You need five index cards for each category labeled with 100, 200, 300, 400 and 500 points. After labeling your cards with point values, you can laminate your cards to make them last longer and then place a small piece of Velcro on the blank side of the card.
- Put the other part of your Velcro on your game board, five pieces under each category and stick your points on your board.
- You also need to make a question sheet using questions from the book you are studying. Label each question in each category, 100 points for the easiest question, next 200 points, 300 points, 400 points and 500 points for the hardest question.

To play 5 W's and an H:

- This game is played like "Jeopardy." Divide your class into two teams
- The team to go second always gets the last question.
- A kid on the team that goes first raises their hand and tells you what category and what point value they want to try and answer a question. As an example a child may say, "I want 'Why' for 500 points." Then you need to read a question on your sheet under the "Why" category for 500 points. If the question is answered correctly then that child has 500 points recorded for his/her team and it's the next team's turn. If the child gives a wrong answer then the other team may try and answer it correctly for the 500 points and then it is their turn to pick a category and a question.
- Alternate with the two teams until you run out of questions or time is up. Make sure that the team who went second gets the last question. Whoever has the most points wins the game.

WHO

100
200
300
400
500

WHAT

100
200
300
400
500

WHEN/HOW

100
200
300
400
500

WHERE

100
200
300
400
500

WHY

100
200
300
400
500