



## 2026 YOUTH BIBLE DRILL GUIDELINES FOR LEADERS, JUDGES, AND PARTICIPANTS

A ministry of Sunday School & Discipleship provided by  
gifts of Alabama Baptists through the Cooperative Program

### GREEN CYCLE

Youth Bible Drill is an exciting way for youth, grades 7-9, or ages 12 to 16, to learn to use their Bibles to meet the challenges of life. The purpose of the Youth Bible Drill is to assist youth in developing useful skills and knowledge of the Bible, as well as poise and confidence. As youth participate in the Youth Bible Drill, they learn to locate books of the Bible and Scripture references, identify selected verses from given clues, and use Scriptures dealing with doctrinal and ethical concerns. Through this process, youth learn to adore, appreciate, and apply God's Word.

Although competition is involved, that is not the emphasis of Youth Bible Drill. Leaders need to help participants focus on using God's Word to make a difference in their lives and in their world for Jesus Christ rather than focusing entirely on winning.

## A YOUTH BIBLE DRILL CONSISTS OF FIVE TYPES OF DRILLS

The Bible is used in all of these drills. Five calls are made in each of these drills, and the calls in some types of drills are worth more points than those in other types.

### LOCATING BOOKS OF THE BIBLE (Five Calls - 3 points per call)

The caller will call the name of a book in the Bible. When "Start" is called, you will begin searching for the book that was called. Locate the book called, **place your index finger on any page in that book, and then step forward.** When called upon, you should name the book that immediately precedes the book called, the book called, and the book that immediately follows the book called.

### SCRIPTURE SEARCHING DRILL (Five Calls - 3 points per call)

The caller will announce a Scripture reference to be found. Scripture searching calls are taken from any part of the Bible. You must correctly locate the Scripture reference and **place your index finger on the verse before you step forward.** When called upon, you must read the verse and state the Scripture reference.

### IDENTIFYING VERSES DRILL (Five Calls - 4 points per call)

The caller will quote a part of a verse taken from the list of verses. It may be any part of the verse. The caller will quote enough of the verse to provide you with a reasonable clue. You must locate the Scripture reference and **place your index finger on the verse before you step forward.** When called upon, you must be able to read the verse and state the Scripture reference.

### DOCTRINAL DRILL (Five Calls - 5 points per call)

The caller will announce a doctrine from the Doctrinal Drill list. You must correctly locate the verse listed with that doctrine **and place your index finger on the verse before you step forward.** When called upon, you must state the doctrine, read the verse, and state the Scripture reference.

### BIBLE ANSWERS DRILL (Five Calls - 5 points per call)

The caller will announce a question taken from the Bible Answers Drill list. **Before you step forward,** you must correctly locate the verse listed

that answers the question **and place your index finger on the verse.** When time is called, the caller will instruct you to close your Bible (stand in place at attention). When called upon, you must quote the question, recite the correct verse, and state the reference.

### HOW DO I GET HELP IN GETTING STARTED?

To get help in beginning a Youth Bible Drill program in your church, contact the:

**Office of Sunday School &  
Discipleship**

1-800-264-1225 ext. 2255  
or 334-613-2255

E-mail: [bstroud@alsbom.org](mailto:bstroud@alsbom.org)  
or go to our website at  
[www.alsbom.org/bibledrill](http://www.alsbom.org/bibledrill)

People and resources are  
available to help you.  
Give us a call today!

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONDUCTING A DRILL

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A complete youth drill consists of five types of drills with five calls in each type. The Bible is used throughout the drill. Remember that there should be only twelve drillers in one drill. If more than twelve youth participate, then more than one drill should be conducted. In advance of the drill, the caller should obtain a copy of the Church Drill that has been prepared by the Office of Sunday School & Discipleship in Montgomery. Please remember that only five calls should be made in each of the five drill types. The alternate call that is listed in each section of the Church Drill is there for a caller in case there is a mistake in calling the drill. It is **NOT** there as a bonus to the participants. **NO "bonus" or extra calls should be made at any level of drilling.** This is unfair to youth drillers in other locations who do not get that opportunity. It is important to strive for consistency in the administration of drills throughout the state of Alabama. In conducting a Youth Bible Drill, callers will use the following commands:

**"Attention."** Drillers stand straight, one foot not extended in front of the other; keep eyes focused on the caller until the command "Start"; hold Bible at side (in either hand), with Bible spine down.

**"Present Bible."** Participants bring Bible to waistline. Drillers who search with their right hand should hold the Bible on the left hand with Genesis down and right hand resting flat on top of the Bible. Drillers who search with their left hand should hold the Bible on the right hand, Genesis up, with left hand resting flat on the front cover of the Bible. The drillers' thumbs and fingers should not extend around the sides of the Bible. Following "Present Bible," the caller announces the call.

The call is stated only once, unless a driller requests that it be repeated.

**"Start."** This command is the signal for participants to begin searching. In the Locating Books of the Bible Drill, the index finger must be placed on any verse in that book. In other drills, the participants find the verse, place index finger on the verse (**first part, if verse is split**), and steps forward. **PLEASE NOTE: The index finger must be in the proper place on the page BEFORE stepping out or ANY movement forward.**

**"Time."** A timekeeper calls out the word "Time" at the end of eight seconds. All drillers stop searching.

**"Close Bibles."** After time is called in the Bible Answers Drill, the caller will instruct participants will close their Bibles and stand in place at Attention. The caller will call upon one driller to respond.

**"Attention."** After a participant has been called on and has responded the caller gives the command "Attention." The participants return one step back to their original positions, with Bibles held at side.

## JUDGING THE YOUTH BIBLE DRILL

Four judges plus a timekeeper are needed. Three judges will score regular points, and one judge will score bonus points (points earned for stepping out first). In judging, the judges should try to give participants the benefit of any doubt. Youth Bible Drill Score Sheets (regular and bonus) may be downloaded from the website at [www.alsbom.org](http://www.alsbom.org). A tally sheet available for the scorekeeper is located on the back of the Regular judging score sheet. You may make as many copies of this sheet as you need.

### A. SCORING REGULAR POINTS

Judges will score each participant as an individual. Judges scoring regular points will find it easier to mark only mistakes. When a participant makes a mistake, judges write a number (1-5) in the corresponding box on the score sheet. If two mistakes in one call are made, points for only one mistake will be deducted.

### B. SCORING BONUS POINTS

On each call, the participant who steps out first scores one bonus point. The judge scoring bonus points should follow the instructions given on the score sheet for marking the bonus point. If two or more participants step out at the same time, the bonus judge scores a bonus point for each one. A participant may score a bonus point

only if that participant does not make a mistake on the call for which he/she steps out first.

### C. COMPUTING FINAL SCORE

To determine regular points, deduct the participant's total points missed from 100 on each score sheet. In the first two sections, the point value is 3 per call. In the third section, the point value is 4. In the fourth and fifth sections, the point value is 5. Total the regular points from each score sheet for each participant, adding any bonus points to obtain a final score. Each judge could potentially score 100 points per participant; therefore, a participant with a perfect score would have 300 points plus a possible 25 bonus points (325).

### D. MISTAKES

A participant receives no points (regular or bonus) if . . .

- Participant fails to step out within eight seconds.
- Participant gives incorrect response. This includes any participant who raises a hand indicating an incorrect reference.
- Participant fails to stand erect or keep eyes on the caller until start command is given.
- **Participant steps forward before the index finger is in the correct location. There may be NO movement forward before index finger is in the correct location.**
- Participant fails to handle the Bible according to instructions or obviously misuses the Bible. The Bible should be handled with respect.

## LEVELS OF DRILLS

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Youth in seventh, eighth, and ninth grades, or ages 12 to 16, are eligible to participate in Youth Bible Drills. Youth Bible Drill may be included as a part of a weekly youth program already in place. However, more participation may be gained by setting a special time for this activity.

Five levels of drills are available for youth. No more than twelve youth should participate in one drill. If more than twelve youth participate, you will have to conduct more than one drill. Participants should be identified by numbers that are visible to the caller and the judges.

### #1 CHURCH DRILL

The Church Drill is conducted at the church before an audience of interested people. To be eligible to advance to the Associational Drill, a participant must score at least 180 points (total from all four judges) in the Church Drill.

### #2 ASSOCIATIONAL DRILL

Associations are encouraged to provide an annual Youth Bible Drill. A church may send all qualified persons to the Associational Drill. To be eligible to advance to the Regional Drill, a participant must score at least 225 points (total from all four judges) in the Associational Drill.

### #3 REGIONAL DRILL

In fairness to all participants, a youth may participate in only one Regional Drill. **Pre-registration will be required. The last day to register will be April 13, 2026. You may register online at: [www.alsbom.org/bibledrillregistration](http://www.alsbom.org/bibledrillregistration).** Bibles will be provided for participants at this drill.

To be eligible to participate in the State Drill, a participant must score at least 270 points (total from all four judges) in the Regional Drill. **All Regional participants who score 270 or better will be automatically registered for the State Drill.**

### #4 STATE DRILL

The State Drill will be held at the time and place listed in the youth guidelines. Participants must have scored at least 270 points (total from all four judges) at the Regional Drill in order to participate in the State Drill. Participants should be present at the site of the State Drill by 12:30 p.m. Youth will be assigned to a preliminary drill. Top finalists from these drills will comprise the final drill. The participant making the highest score will be the state winner.

### #5 NATIONAL INVITATIONAL

Alabama's state winner will compete against winners from other states in the National Invitational Youth Bible Drill.

### HOW TO ORDER RESOURCES AND BIBLES

You may download Bible Drill resources at [www.alsbom.org/bibledrill](http://www.alsbom.org/bibledrill) or by calling the Office of Sunday School and Discipleship at 800-264-1225, ext. 2255 or 334-613-2255.

Order King James or Christian Standard Bible from [lifeway.com](http://lifeway.com) or customer service center at 800-458-2770.

**KING JAMES DRILL BIBLE (© 2014)**  
ISBN: 978-1-5864-0945-6

**CHRISTIAN STANDARD DRILL BIBLE (©2017)**  
ISBN: 978-1-4336-4433-7

Order English Standard Pew Bible from [Crossway.com](http://Crossway.com), [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), or [Christianbook.com](http://Christianbook.com).

**ENGLISH STANDARD PEW BIBLE (© 2001)**  
ISBN: 978-1-7335-6343-0 or  
ISBN: 978-1-4335-2204-8

## AWARDS

### REGIONAL DRILL SPECIAL AWARDS

**Three year award** for participants who have participated in Bible Drill for three years. **Six Year Award** for participants who have participated in Children's Bible Drill for three years and Youth Bible Drill for three years.

### STATE YOUTH BIBLE DRILL PERFECT SCORE AWARD

Each youth who achieves a perfect score in the first round of drills at the State Youth Bible Drill will receive special recognition and a perfect score award. To acquire this award, a participant will need to get all calls correct according to the judges' scores. Bonus points will not count for this award.



### STATE AWARDS

The participant with the highest score in Youth Bible Drill who is a member of a cooperating Alabama Baptist Church will receive a scholarship amount determined by the number of years the winner has participated in Bible Drills. This scholarship is good only at the following participating Alabama Baptist Institutions: University of Mobile and Samford University.

A youth who wins first place in seventh or eighth grade may still participate in future drills but cannot be declared a winner in those drills. A special recognition will be presented to a previous winner who participates in the State Drill.

Individuals are able to participate at the NIT **ONCE** in each category (Youth, High School, Speaker). No individual may return to compete in NIT at the same level (Youth, High School, Speaker).

### 2025 STATE YOUTH BIBLE DRILL WINNERS

**Alyvia Browder (Center)**

1st place  
East Centre Baptist Church  
Centre

**Kayla McNabb (Left)**

3rd Place  
Whitesburg BC  
Huntsville

**Madison Miller (Right)**

2nd Place  
East Centre BC  
Centre



## 2026 BIBLE DRILL DATES & LOCATIONS

*Your church may participate at any of the following drill sites.*

*Pre-registration is required online by April 13, 2026 at [www.alsbom.org/bibledrillregistrion](http://www.alsbom.org/bibledrillregistrion).*

## Regional & State Dates and Locations - TBD

### CHECK-IN TIMES FOR REGIONAL DRILLS:

#### Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday Drills

Check-in begins at 3:30 p.m.  
Drills will begin at 4:00 p.m.

#### Sunday Drills

Check-in begins at 1:30 p.m.  
Drills will begin at 2:00 p.m.