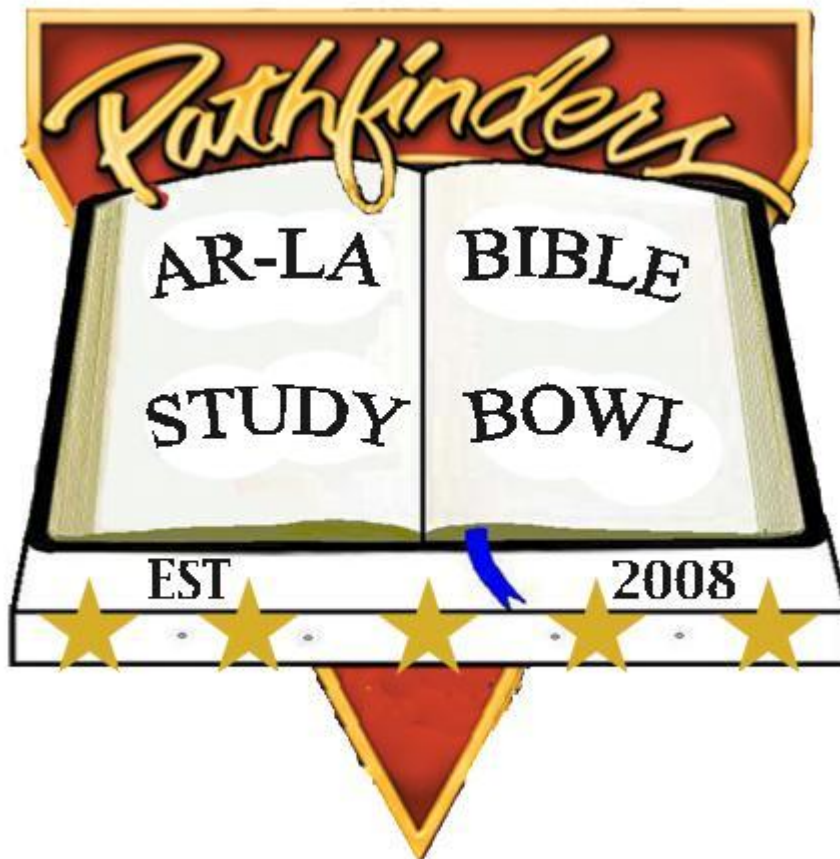


Arkansas – Louisiana Pathfinder Bible Study Bowl Manual



Acknowledgement

**The Pathfinders of the *Arkansas-Louisiana Conference*
Gratefully acknowledge and thank
The Rocky Mountain Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
For the use of their Pathfinder Bible Bowl Manual As a guide for the
Arkansas-Louisiana Pathfinder Bible Study Bowl Manual.**

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Introduction

The Pathfinder Bible Study Bowl is an annual challenge event in which Pathfinders teams strive to demonstrate superior Bible knowledge. The event is confined each year to a group of selected Bible Studies which are chosen well in advance.

The ultimate purpose of the Bible Study Bowl, as with all Bible study, is to bring the participants closer to Jesus and to be able to “Give an answer for their faith” on selected topics. While the competitive element provides a powerful motivation, competition is not the object. There are no losers in the Bible Study Bowl; in fact each and every team has the opportunity to be a 1st place winner! The awards given are but tokens of the far greater prize obtained by all that make His Work their study.

This manual envisions two levels of challenge in which area-level bowls happen early in February and conference-level bowls later in February. The Conference Pathfinder Director sponsors the bowls.

Pathfinder Area Coordinators will organize and conduct the contest at the Area Level. A Conference Bible Study Bowl coordinator will organize and conduct the contest at the Conference Level.

Curriculum

The Pathfinder Bible Study Bowl is based on the Pathfinder New King James version of the Bible. Selected Bible Studies are chosen each year. Any selection should be suitable with the following exception: no selection should be used twice in any five-year period since Pathfinder age covers a five-year range.

Instructions for the Conference Pathfinder Director

1. **Conference Pathfinder Director** sponsors the Area and Conference Level bowls.
 - A. **Initiate the Area and Conference Level Bible Study Bowls.** Conferences with more than twelve participating clubs should be divided into two or more geographic areas of up to twelve participating clubs each.

- B. **Appoint a Conference Bible Bowl Coordinator** to organize and conduct the bowl at the Conference Level. Each should have a box of supplies (see Equipment and Supplies) for (up to 12) teams that participate at a given site.
- i. **The development of Bible Study Bowl Questions** is overseen by the Conference Bible Study Bowl Coordinator. 125 questions, using the Pathfinder New King James Bible, should be completed in December and are “Top Secret”. The only other person to have a copy of the “Official Questions” is the Quiz Master.
Each question must have a concrete, objective answer and cite the reference. Approximately the same number of questions should come from each Selected Bible Study.
Question types are multiple choice and true/false. Multiple answers are designated as A, B or C. True and false questions will be designated as A, or B. This method eliminates the confusion associated with spelling errors.
 - ii. **Confirm the location and set a time** for the Conference-level bowl.
 - iii. **Coordinate Awards** needed for the bowl.
- C. **Communicate with Pathfinder Area Coordinators.** These people will organize and conduct the bowls at the Area Level. Each should have a box of supplies (see Equipment and Supplies) for (up to 12) teams that participate at a given site.
- i. **Confirm the location and set a time** for the Area-level bowls. Each area-level bowl is generally held in the church of the club that was the top 1st place winner for the previous year.
 - ii. **Coordinate Awards** needed for the bowls.
- D. **Get the word out.** Early in the Pathfinder year, an announcement should go to the Conference Bible Study Bowl Coordinator and to Pathfinder Area Coordinators for them to notify every Club Director. The Announcement should include: The Bible Studies selected for the year, the date, time, and location for each area-level bowl, and the date, time, and location for the conference level bowl.
- E. **Provide the Arkansas-Louisiana Pathfinder Bible Study Bowl Manual** to all club directors.

Individual Club Preparations

1. Learning the Material

- a. All questions asked in the Bible Study Bowl are based on the “**Pathfinder New King James version**” of the Bible.

- b. As soon as the Selected Bible Studies are announced for the upcoming year, the Pathfinder Club Director should appoint a “Coach” to be in charge of team preparation.
 1. For the first few weeks as many Pathfinders as possible should be involved in the study. Play games, have contests, and keep it fun. Build interest by being interesting. Above all, keep a spiritual focus.
 2. As time progresses, the preparation should focus more on the team itself. The bulk of team preparation is “Bible Marking” to follow along with the Bible Study topics, and learning the material.
 3. The team can also spend time writing questions, quizzing each other and learning the answers. This will help further reinforce the material.
 4. Include a few abstract questions for study. While the questions asked at the bowl will require very straightforward answers, more abstract questions during preparation will help to broaden the teams understanding of the material.
 5. Be sure each question for study, cites a reference. Excellence in Bible scholarship demands not only familiarity with the Biblical data but also the ability to find it.
 6. Some team members may choose to learn all of the selected Bible studies, others may specialize, becoming experts on just one or two of the selected studies.
2. **Picking the team.** When “Coach” and Club director are ready to make the decision about who will make the team, the following basic requirements apply:
 - a. Written or oral quizzes have often proved useful in selecting a dedicated team. Beyond the requirements listed below, each club is free to set its own guidelines regarding the selection of team members.
 - b. More than one team per club may participate. Members must stay with the same team with no mixing or trading of team members as they advance to the next level.
 - c. A team consists of up to six members. In addition, up to two alternates per team may be designated in case of illness or other emergency. Team members and alternates must be members of the Pathfinder club they represent. Team members and alternates must be in grades 5 through 10.
 - d. Each team should choose five officers to serve at the bowl itself:
 1. **The Captain** makes the final decision about what the team’s answers will be during the bowl. This is usually the one who has the best grasp of the material.

2. **The Scribe** writes the team's answers. This should be someone who writes legibly and quickly. Spelling is not an issue as all answers are A, B, C.

3. **The Caddy** holds the extra answer cards until they are needed.

4. **The Courier** takes the answer cards to the Quiz Master.

e. The one alternate maybe substituted into the team at halftime.

3. **Designating a Judge.** Bowl Procedure requires each club to designate a Judge to serve at the bowl itself. This person should be knowledgeable about the selected Bible Studies. Each judge should bring to the bowl a "Marked" Pathfinder New King James version of the Bible for the selected Bible Studies. It is not the Judge's role to be the advocate of the team they are with, but rather to act impartially to ensure that all teams are treated fairly. (The Judges duties are detailed under Bible Study Bowl Procedure).
4. **Preparing for the trip.** Pathfinders must be in full NAD Class A uniform. There will be exceptions made at the discretion of the Pathfinder Youth Director. Each club is responsible for their own accommodations and expenses associated with trips to the Area and Conference Level Bowls.
5. **Hosting a Bible Study Bowl.** If your club is hosting a Bible Study Bowl, here are a few tips to help your hospitality shine.
 - a. Give visiting Clubs information on a gym or other facility that may be available to "camp out" in. Make arrangements to have the facility opened.
 - b. Enlist the help of church members to host a potluck dinner or to provide supper for the visiting clubs.
 - c. Open the auditorium where the Bible Study Bowl is to be held by 1:00pm Sabbath afternoon. If possible, provide quiet rooms/areas for visiting teams to have last minute study and prayer time.
 - d. Provide someone locally to operate the sound system for the bowl. The sound system needs to be set up and functioning no later than 1:15pm on Sabbath afternoon.
 - e. Provide a pitcher of water and glasses for the quiz master and his staff during the bowl.
 - f. **OPTIONAL** - Plan a social activity if possible for the evening following the bowl. Be aware that a lot of team may need to travel immediately after the Bible Study Bowl.

Instructions for Bible Study Bowl Personnel

1. The **Conference Bible Study Bowl coordinator** will organize and conduct the contest at the Conference Level.
2. **Pathfinder Area Coordinators** will organize and conduct the contest at the Area Level.
 - A. **Before the Bowl:** Review the Bible Study Bowl Procedures.
 1. Coordinators should stay in touch with the clubs in their areas, encouraging them to participate and answering questions about the Bible Study Bowl.
 2. Sometime in January find volunteers to fill the following positions:
 - a) **Quiz Master.** Reads the questions to the team during the Bible Study Bowl. This should be someone who is not affiliated with any team. He should be both able to read well aloud and willing to become very familiar with the selected Bible Studies, the “Official Questions” and answers, and references.
 - b) **Score Keeper.** Is the record keeper for the Bible Study Bowl. Needs to be someone who keeps neat, legible records and is familiar with Bible Study Bowl Procedures.
 - c) **Computer Operator.** Runs the computer generated questions and answers for the Quiz Master.
 - d) **Time Keeper.** Keeps time for each question. Choose someone who is punctual and familiar with Bible Study Bowl Procedures.
 - e) **Judges.** (See sections on Individual Club Preparation, and Bowl procedure)
 - f) **Grader.** Grades the answer cards as they come to the Quiz Master.
 - g) **File Clerk.** Files the answer cards after they are graded.
 3. Provide each volunteer a copy of the Arkansas-Louisiana Pathfinder Bible Study Bowl Manual. Contact volunteer helpers three weeks before the bowl to confirm their commitment and to remind them of the location and time of the bowl.
 4. Contact the Pathfinder Director of the club hosting the Bible Study Bowl to see what equipment is available. Equipment required to conduct the Bible Study Bowl are: a Computer with a current “Excel” spreadsheet application, video projector, extension cords, projection screen, tables and chairs: (have plenty of chairs for teams, staff, and audience), and two microphones: for time keeper and quiz master. The Coordinator of the Bowl may if he or she chooses bring their own computer to conduct the Bible Study Bowl.

5. Arrange for a photographer, song leader, flowers, special music, etc. that might be desired. Also a CD for background music as people arrive and at intermission is a nice touch.

B. The day of the bowl.

1. Oversee the arrangement of the meeting place.
 - a) Put out a clipboard, an overhead projector pen, and a pack of **paper or** transparent answer cards for each team on a chair in their circle.
 - b) Arrange a Judge's room: set up a private place with table & chairs to accommodate the Quiz Master and Judges.
 - c) To Arrange the sanctuary or auditorium:
 - 1) Cord off the first rows of enough seats for the contestants to sit during the devotional.
 - 2) Assure the Judges' seats are **next to each participating team.**
 - 3) At the front table have a place for the Quiz Master, the timekeeper, the grader, and set out supplies needed.
 - 4) During the questioning, the teams should be placed as far apart as practical with each team's chairs arranged in a circle between the audience and the Quiz Master.
 - 5) The **video** projector should be focused, the microphones tested, and all equipment and supplies ready by 2:00pm. Make trophies and awards available in the Judges Room.
2. Arrange for a short devotional talk and prayer for the contestants, staff, and guests; Emphasizing the goal of lifting the minds of those present to the ultimate purpose of the Bible Study Bowl; to bring participants closer to Jesus and to be able to "Give an answer for their faith" on selected topics. Exhort the Judges to be fair and impartial. Prepare the contestants to win humbly or to lose gracefully.
3. Ensure Compliance with Bible Study Bowl Procedure. Render a decision on any questions that may come up regarding a procedure not covered in this manual.
4. Arrange a volunteer to close the Bible Study Bowl with prayer.

C. After the Bible Study Bowl.

1. Reorganize the church or auditorium as before and return all equipment. Clean, dry, and repack answer cards and score sheets.

2. Publish an interesting article with photographs about the Bible Study Bowl for the record, Conference and/or club website, church newsletter, or local paper.

3. A Card of thanks to the host Club is always appreciated.

Bowl Procedure

1. **Official Bible Bowl Time.** The main program is to begin at 2:30 pm. The Quiz Master should have a portable clock visible to use as the official clock to signal the end of each round. Time will be paused at Quizmasters discretion.

2. **Sequestering the Judges.** At 2:00pm, Coordinator will accompany the Quiz Master and Judges to a private room to review the Bible Study Bowl procedures. The Judges must remain apart from the contestants until the bowl is over.

1. **Judging the Bible Study Bowl:** If there is a question raised by a **participating team about a question the judge will make note of the question number for review after the contest has ended.** Time will NOT be paused during the contest. The Judges will be sequestered during the intermission and immediately after the contest to discuss any "Point of Question".

a) The Judge should state which answer card contains the contested **question.** The Judge should briefly state his reasons for the question.

b) After the contest, the Quiz Master, Judges and Event Coordinator will review any questions noted as a problem by the judges during the contest. Any problems will be decided by a majority of the above group.

3. **Preliminaries.** Endeavor for the Bible Study Bowl program to be spiritual orientated rather than "just a contest".

1. Include a Song Service, devotional remarks, and prayer.

2. The Coordinator then can give a short welcome and announcements. Briefly review with the audience that no coaching of any kind is allowed and that if a question arises it will be addressed by the judges at the time of sequester and not during the contest itself. The Coordinator then turns the time over to the quiz master and the questioning begins.

4. **The Actual Bible Study Bowl.**

A. **Round One.** Round one will end after **30** minutes or when 50 questions have been asked, whichever comes first.

a) **The Quiz Master reads each question twice,** including the reference. Each question is worth one point.

- b) **The Time keeper starts the timer** as soon as the question has been read the second time. The teams should not be rushed through the answering process, but the bowl must be kept moving. A time limit of 10 seconds will be given for each answer. Exceptions may be made by the Quiz Master.
 - c) **The Teams Respond.** Team members quietly discuss the question. The Captain makes the final decision about the answer. The Scribe writes the letter of the correct answer on the transparent card. The point is forfeited if the Scribe continues to write after the timer beeps. The Courier brings the answer card to the Quiz Master and must be in motion when time is called.
 - d) **The Grader will score each answer card and pass it to the scorekeeper. A green overhead projector pen should be used to mark a 1 or 0 on the answer card.**
 - e) **The Scorekeeper scores each answer** on the answer sheet and totals the scores at the end of the half and the end of the Bible Study Bowl. The answer cards are then given to the file clerk. Note: The scores should be kept secret from the teams and the audience so that no team will feel second class because of a lower score than the lead team.
 - f) **The File Clerk** files the answer cards in the file box under the correct number tab so that answers can be checked if questions are raised at the end of the contest.
- B. **Intermission.** When the time is up for round one, if a question is in progress, that question should be finished. As stated before, the Judges must remain apart from the contestants during the intermission.
- C. **Round two.** Proceed the same as round one. Round two will end at the time designated or when 100 questions have been asked, whichever comes first.

5. **Final Judging** (refer to #2 above)

6. **Presentation of Awards** (refer to Awards section below)

7. **Closing:** Follow every Bible Study Bowl with prayer, allow time for pictures and well wishes for all teams participating.

Awards

1. **Bible Bowl Study Pin** and/or **Star** is awarded to all participating team members, alternates, and adult coaches at the Area Level Bible Study Bowls as well as the awards listed below. Conference Level Awards will include only the awards listed below:

- A. **1st place Trophies**, which should include the month and year of the current Bible Study Bowl, are awarded to all teams that achieve within 95% of the highest scoring team. From the Area Level Bowls, All first place teams will move on to the Conference Level Bible Study Bowl.
- B. **2nd place Trophies**, which should include the month and year of the current Bible Study Bowl, are awarded all teams that achieve within 80% of the highest scoring team.
- C. **3rd place Trophies**, which should include the month and year of the current Bible Study Bowl, are awarded all teams that achieve within 70% of the highest scoring team.
- D. **A Certificate of Participation**, which should include the month and year of the current Bible Study Bowl, is awarded to all other teams.

Equipment and Supplies

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>
1	Arkansas-Louisiana Pathfinder Bible Study Bowl Manual
2	16 Black overhead projector pens
2	Red overhead projector pens
2	Green overhead projector pens
1	Electronic countdown timer
6	Packs of paper or transparent answer cards
1	Set of score sheets
1	Eight-inch 3X5 index card file box
1	Set of 100 numbered index tabs
1	Solar-powered calculator
6	White clipboards for the Scribes
1	White Clipboard for the score keeper