

Bible Bee Materials

Question: I did not receive a "Welcome DVD" in my contestant box, or I cannot play my "Welcome DVD". Can I get another DVD to replace it?

Answer: The "Welcome DVD" has been discontinued and is no longer available. The DVD was simply a light-hearted look at the Contestant Family Box. There was no contest information on it.

Question: Are the children's Sword Study version specific?

Answer: No. They are able to use their provided Bible Bee branded Bible while doing their Sword Study verse exercises. The Sword Drill CD includes all five versions options within the program and the disks are not version specific.

Question: I do not see anything on the packs of memory verse cards that differentiate the National Track from the Timothy Track. Could you please clarify this?

Answer: The Timothy Track verses are identified on the front side of the memory cards (memory verse address side) by a "T" in the upper right hand corner of the card.

Question: How can I get an extra set of memory cards for my spouse and me?

Answer: Visit the Bible Bee E-Store at www.BibleBee.org and click on "Dig Into The Word As Families" and then click on "Bible Bee E-Store".

Question: Can I purchase more Contestant T-shirts?

Answer: Yes they are available on the E-Store at www.BibleBee.org – along with a variety of other Bible Bee T-shirts.

Question: There are minor discrepancies between my King James Version Bible Memory cards and my Bible Bee-branded King James Version. Will either version be accepted during the Competition?

Answer: Most instances revolve around "shew" and "show," which are variations in spelling and pronunciation of the same word. We want to reassure you and your contestants that they will not be penalized for using either variation of the word when it is used in the correct location in the memory passage. Thus, whether the contestant uses "shew" (rhymes with flew) or "show" (rhymes with blow), or either version of the proper tense of the conjugated verb (i.e. sheweth, shewing, shewed, showeth, showing, shown), as long as the basic word is used in the proper place in the passage, it will be considered correct. Additionally, there is one passage (I Sam 17:45-50) that uses "hasted" in the KJV Bible that we sent to you, while the Memory Cards and Scripture music CD uses "hastened". Lastly, while it may not be very noticeable, some may identify a difference in I Pet 1:3-25 as the KJV uses "inquired" rather than the "enquired" on the cards and music. Again, in both of these passages, the youth will not be penalized for using either variation of pronunciation. There is an inconsistency in wording in one other passage: Matthew 5:16-22 says, "Ye have heard that it was said OF them.." on the Bible Memory card, while the replacement KJV Bible says, "Ye have heard it was said BY them...". Either word usage will be considered correct in the case of this passage.

Question: Who actually wrote the book of Colossians? Was it just Paul or was it Paul and Timothy? There are references to both answers in the Sword Studies notebook.

Answer: It is generally accepted that Paul (while accompanied by Timothy) wrote Colossians due to the use of "I," "me," and "my," as well as the last verse of the book. The Written Test questions will not be intentionally deceptive.

Question: How do you get a Contestant ID number for posting scores through the Sword Drill?

Answer: Contestant ID numbers are listed on your Bible Bee Registration Receipt. Copies of your receipt may be found within your Family Profile Area, which is accessible via your local Bible Bee microsite. Your receipt can be found under "Payment History".

Question: What is the "T" on the Bible Memory Cards signify?

Answer: That it is one of the passages for the contestants in the Timothy Track. Cards without the "T" only have to be memorized by those participating in the National Track.

Question: We have lost the rule book, can we get another?

Answer: Yes. You can purchase a 2010 Competition Rulebook from the E-Store, or read and/or download it at www.BibleBee.org.

Question: Were the yellow bible bee t-shirts, that were sent out with all the Bible Bee study materials, suppose to be worn at the local bible bee? Thanks!

Answer: Contestants are welcome, but not required to wear their Bible Bee provided t-shirts at the local competitions.

Question: In the KJV version of Acts 13:16-22, the memory card says 'and with A high arm brought he them out of it', while the Sword Drill game says and with AN high arm brought he them out of it.' Which is correct? How will that be scored?

Answer: The Bible Bee branded Bible that we sent you (the replacement) is the final authority in any discrepancy. The Sword Drill is not an authoritative source, in comparison with the Bible and Bible Memory cards.

Question: When can we get the 2011 Bible Bee materials?

Answer: The 2011 National Bible Bee Family registration will open April 1st, 2011 and the Bible Bee materials will be released on June 1st, 2011.

Question: How do you get onto your micro-site?

Answer: Go to www.BibleBee.org and click on the "Find a Local Bee Close to Home" button on the right. Enter your zipcode in the zipcode finder box. You will be provided with a list of Local Bees. Click on the link to the microsite of your Local Bee.

Enrollment

Question: How do I locate the Bee nearest to me?

Answer: To locate the Bible Bee nearest you ~ go to www.BibleBee.org, click on the box with the picture of the map. That will take you to an enlarged map of the U.S. Each Bee location is symbolized by a bubble. Above the map legend is a place for you to enter your zip or city/state. A list of the Local Bees closest to you will appear.

Question: Is there a closing date for enrolling in the Bible Bee this year?

Answer: Yes, contestant enrollment closes at midnight on June 30, 2010.

Question: If I enroll my children in one location and another comes up closer to home, can I just switch over to it?

Answer: Sure, before July 15th. You can change local Bible Bee locations no later than July 15th by going into your Family Profile area on your current microsite. Once you have logged onto your Family's Profile area using your e-mail address, you can choose the closer location.

Question: Can contestants change the track that they enrolled under(National,Timothy,Supporting Sibling to one of the others), or change Bible version, or change from one Local Bee to another?

Answer: Yes, through July 15th. Contestants may switch from one classification to another as long as the switch is made on or before July 15, 2010. Parents can make this change on their Family Profile on the local microsite. Do you know how to access your Family Profile area? Just go to your local Bee's microsite, and in the right hand corner in a small, green rectangle there is a clickable button that has "Family Profile" on it. You will need to input your e-mail address & use the passcode from your receipt...no fear if you don't have your receipt, you can request that your passcode is sent to you. Once you are in your family profile area, you can modify your children's registration details by clicking on the "edit pencil" next to their names. When you do this it informs BBHQ and your Host, so that your children will be given the correct Written Test and Oral Test for their track, division and version.

Question: Please describe the Timothy Track.

Answer: New this year for children or youth who cannot, or prefer not, to embrace the requirements of the standard Local and National Contests, is the "Timothy Track". This track has reduced memorization requirements, a shorter written test, does not include participation in the onstage Local Contest Final Challenge Round, and does not qualify for advancement to the National Contest. The Timothy Track Written Test Round, which will cover the same specified book of the Bible that all Bible Bee family members will be studying, is only 100 questions. Primary Division contestants on the Timothy Track are accountable for learning 100 Level 1 verses. Junior Division is accountable for memorizing the 100 Level 1 verses, as well as an additional 100 Level 2 verses. The Senior Division Timothy Track contestants are accountable for the 100 Level 1 verses, the 100 Level 2 verses and an additional 100 Level 3 verses.

Question: Rules say a contestant must agree not to dispute the Bible Bee Statement of Faith. Where can I find the "Bible Bee Statement of Faith"?

Answer: The Bible Bee Statement of Faith (Shelby Kennedy Foundation) can be found on the inside of the back cover of the "2010 National Bible Bee Competition Rulebook". It is shown as "The Shelby Kennedy Foundation Statement of Faith". It is also on our website at www.BibleBee.org.

Question: If we have missed the registration deadline, can we still order the Sword Studies or Bible Bee Memory cards?

Answer: Yes! Please visit our e-store to order any of our materials.

Question: Why is one child listed as, "National Track" and the other, "Supporting Sibling"?

Answer: The "Supporting Sibling" is a designation for those youth who are not competing in the Bible Bee Competition by choice or ineligibility, but still desire to benefit from studying the materials with their families. The guidelines for eligibility, including age limits, are listed in the Competition Rulebook, p.2-3. If children who are eligible wish to compete, their parents can switch their Track to National or Timothy no later than July 15th on their Family Profile on the local microsite.

Question: If a family has decided not to participate in the Competition, what procedure should they follow to make that change so that test materials are not prepared for those children?

Answer: They just need to go to their Family Profile and change their children to "Supporting Sibling," preferably before July 15th. Do you know how to access your Family Profile area? Just go to your Local Bee's microsite, and in the right hand corner in a small, green rectangle there is a clickable button that has "Family Profile" on it. You will need to input your e-mail address & use the passcode from your receipt...no fear if you don't have your receipt, you can request that your passcode is sent to you. Once you are in your family profile area, you can modify your children's registration details by clicking on the "edit pencil" next to their names. Your Host and Bible Bee Headquarters will have access to the updated information at that point, though you are the only one who has access to your Family Profile.

Question: When will the national finalists be announced?

Answer: On page 18 of the Competition Rulebook, point #4 indicates that the list of contestants who have qualified for the National Contest will be posted on or before Wednesday, September 1, 2010. This information will be posted on the national website at www.BibleBee.org, on the local microsites and will be sent in an e-mail directly to the finalists' families and their local Hosts.

Question: How many contestants are enrolled in each division and track?

Answer: As of July 15, these are the approximate numbers: Primary National Track: 2050 Primary Timothy Track: 602 Junior National Track: 2046 Junior Timothy Track: 293 Senior National Track: 906 Senior Timothy Track: 86 Additionally, there are 478 Primary, 109 Junior and 123 Senior Supporting Siblings. We are excited by these numbers which indicate that entire families are studying God's Word together, even if some of the children in the family are ineligible due to their ages. While these are the numbers as of July 15th, registration continues to be open for non-competing families to enroll their children as Supporting Siblings.

Question: How are the winners determined in the Timothy Track, and what kind of recognition will the Timothy Track winners receive?

Answer: Contestants participating in the Timothy Track will be ranked according to the results of their Oral Round and Written Test scores. Local Hosts will award the contestants with the top three scores in each age division. The local awards will be determined by the local Hosts. All contestants who participate at the local level will receive a 2010 Bible Bee Participation Certificate.

Question: My son is on an IEP for a learning disability but has a love and a gift for God's word and is preparing for the contest. What kind of accommodations are available so that he has a fair chance to succeed?

Answer: According to the Competition Rulebook, p.4-5, the starting point for modifications is a doctor's letter and they will be considered on a case by case basis, as they are submitted to Bible Bee Headquarters. Bible Bee Headquarters will consult with the local Host about making specific arrangements.

Question: How do I get to the Family Profile to change my son's entry from National to Timothy Track?

Answer: Go to your Local Bee's microsite, and in the right hand corner in a small, green rectangle there is a clickable button that has "Family Profile" on it. You will need to input your e-mail address & use the passcode from your receipt...no fear if you don't have your receipt, you can request that your passcode is sent to you. Once you are in your family profile area, you can modify your children's registration details by clicking on the "edit pencil" next to their names. Your Host and Bible Bee Headquarters will have access to the updated information at that point, though you are the only one who has access to your Family Profile.

Question: Can Oral Round Runners be under 18 as it was last year since they do not have any contact with the test?

Answer: No. Under the stipulations of the Volunteer Security Agreement, the Runners must be 18 years or older. While they do not have direct contact with the test materials, they do interact with the contestants and contestant families before and after the Rounds who have knowledge of the Oral Test.

Question: How much does it cost to enter the bible bee?

Answer: Enrollment in the 2010 National Bible Bee is \$25 per contestant.

Question: How long after the local bee will contestants know if they are going to nationals?

Answer: According to the Competition Rulebook, the national qualifiers will be notified by September 1st.

Oral Round Preparation

Question: If a memory passage is several verses long, or is written on more than one Bible memory card, will the Judges ask the contestant to recite part of the verse (one memory verse card) or one verse out of the entire passage?

Answer: The contestants will always be asked to recite the whole passage. We will not split memory passages or ask for a verse recitation from the middle of a passage.

Question: When your website indicates 250, 500, or 800 "verses" to be learned, depending on age level, do you mean individual verses or passages of Scripture?

Answer: There are 250, 500, and 800 individual "verses" for the Primary, Junior, and Senior Age Divisions respectively that are grouped into "Memory Passages". The contestants are required to memorize these verses as "passages". The Timothy Track has 100, 200, and 300 verses for the Primary, Junior, and Senior Age Divisions respectively; these also are grouped into "Memory Passages".

Question: Will "umms" or any voiced sounds during memory recitation be considered added words?

Answer: No, they will not.

Question: Will everyone be given the same passages to recite in the same order in the Preliminary Oral Rounds?

Answer: Yes, each age division will receive the same passages in the same order during the Preliminary Oral Round.

Question: Should contestants skip the long passages to get to the shorter passages?

Answer: According to the Competition Rulebook, p.8, #4, "If the contestant chooses to pass and not recite a verse/passage, 0 points will be awarded." So if contestants pass the long passages, they will earn 0 points for each one. They may not return to the passage later in the 10 minutes because they will have already received 0 points. Also, the passages during the Oral Round will be ramped, so that the easier passages are asked first, and the passages subsequently become more difficult. Thus, the contestants would be wise to attempt any passages that they are familiar with or know, rather than passing.

Question: If a child repeats words when quoting a verse, i.e. "In the beginning God created....hmmm....God created the heaven and the earth....," will they lose points?

Answer: According to the Competition Rulebook, p.10, this example would be considered the addition of two words, rather than a start-over. The "hmmm" would not be counted as an additional word, but according to p.10, section 8, the repetition of "God created" would constitute the addition of two words. Thus, two points would be deducted.

Question: Does the Preliminary Oral Round include a total of 30 verses or 30 passages that need to be recited in 10 minutes?

Answer: The Preliminary Oral Round includes a total of 30 passages (some passages may be only one verse long) that a contestant will have an opportunity to recite in 10 minutes.

Question: What is the definition of a "passage"?

Answer: A passage is a verse or verses in consecutive order, as defined by the Bible Memory Cards. A passage may vary in length from one to three Bible Memory cards. The reference for the entire passage is always listed first on the front of the cards. Contestants will have the opportunity to recite 30 passages in the time limit of 10 minutes. Each passage is worth 10 points. Most passages are more than one verse in length. Regardless of the number of verses, every passage is worth 10 points.

Question: Will it be possible for children to say all 30 passages at a normal rate of speed in 10 minutes?

Answer: Yes, it is possible if they know their verses very well.

Question: If a contestant transposes a whole phrase, how does that work?

Answer: Each word in the sentence would be counted as an error.

Question: Are contestants allowed unlimited "pass" opportunities during the Preliminary Oral Round?

Answer: Yes. However, according to the Competition Rulebook, contestants will earn 0 points for every passage that they pass.

Question: What is the procedure for getting a one-word prompt? Does the contestant need to ask for it, or will a prompt be given while they are thinking, after a certain pause, before they ask?

Answer: Contestants will be given a sign that says "Help" and instructions that they may hold up the sign or say "Prompt" if they desire the Judge to give them a one word prompt. Unless the contestant is visibly struggling emotionally and mentally, we want Judges to be slow to ask if the contestant desires a prompt, so as to not break a contestant's concentration. If 10 to 15 seconds pass with no recitation, the Judge may ask if the contestant desires a prompt.

Question: If parents come into the Oral Round Judging Room with their child, and a younger sibling gets disruptive, can the parent leave and return later in the same session?

Answer: No. Once the parent has left the room with the disruptive, younger sibling, both the parent and children will need to remain outside the Preliminary Oral Round room with the assigned Runner until the contestant has finished his/her round. At that point, all of the family will be assisted to the Family Fun Area or Waiting Room until all contestants in the age division have completed their Preliminary Oral Round. The contestants only have 10 minutes for their Oral Round, so we hope to allow them as few distractions or disruptions as possible during that time.

Question: Should my child learn the long or short passages first?

Answer: It is important for youth to learn both. It is equitable because every contestant in the same division, version and track will be asked the same passages across the nation in the Preliminary Oral Rounds, and any of the passages may be requested.

Question: If you have more than one child competing, can the other children watch their siblings' Oral Rounds if they are not in the same division? What about two siblings in the same age division? Does immediate family include grandparents and siblings or are only parents allowed to view the Oral Rounds?

Answer: According to the Competition Rulebook page 14, number 7b, "Immediate family is understood to signify the parents/guardians, grandparents, siblings, aunts, or uncles, whether or not they live in the same residence as the contestant." If the siblings are also competing, however, they are expected to stay with their age division for logistics and test security reasons. While the Primary Division completes the Oral Round the Juniors and Seniors are taking the Written Test, and vice versa. Siblings in the same age division cannot watch one another's Oral Round as it would give the sibling who competes second an unfair advantage. To sum up, siblings who are competing will not be able to observe other competing siblings' Oral Round.

Question: My children love the Scripture music CD's. Are they allowed to sing their memory passages during the Oral Rounds?

Answer: No. For the 2010 National Bible Bee Competition, contestants may not sing their passages in any oral round.

Question: A host has a child who has not been diagnosed by a doctor, but has speech difficulties. What kind of modifications will be allowed for testing. He is signed up for the National Track.

Answer: According to the Competition Rulebook, p.4-5, the starting point for modifications is a doctor's letter and they will be considered on a case by case basis, as they are submitted to Bible Bee Headquarters. Bible Bee Headquarters will consult with the local Host about making specific arrangements.

Question: If a contestant passes a verse during the oral round and they get through the other 29 verses under 10 minutes, may they then come back to the verse that they passed?

Answer: According to the Competition Rulebook, p.8 #4 and p.9 #3, contestants will receive 0 points for any passages that they choose to pass.

Question: If a child is in the middle of reciting a passage when the 10 minute time limit is up will they have to stop or will they be allowed to finish the passage?

Answer: If a child has just begun to recite a passage when the 10 minutes are up, the Judge should politely say, "Time's up" and stop him or her. If there are fewer than 10 words remaining in a recitation, however, the child may finish the passage.

Question: If a contestant STARTS to say the wrong word, then stops and says the right word, is it still counted as incorrect? For instance, if he is saying the reference at the end, and starts to say "Rom...", and then stops and says, "Hebrews 4:12." Or, if he were to say, "In the beginning, God ma... created the heaven..."

Answer: No. The Oral Round Judges will be instructed not to deduct a point for an incomplete word in these cases. However, according to the Competition Rulebook, the Judges' decisions are final.

Question: If a contestant correctly recites a verse, but they include MORE than they were asked for (like continuing on to the verse after) is that held against them? Would they lose a point for each extra word?

Answer: The Preliminary Oral Round Judging Rules on p.10, #8 of the Competition Rulebook indicates that one point will be deducted for each additional word inserted into a recitation.

Question: Is it one error for the whole reference? Or is each part of the reference a separate word?

Answer: According to the Competition Rulebook, p. 10, one point is deducted for failure to begin the passage with the reference, and one point for failure to end the passage with the reference. The entire reference is considered to be one "word". Any mistake in the reference, at the beginning or end of the recitation, would likewise be counted as one point deducted in each instance of the mistake.

Question: Will contestants who qualify for the National Contest be assigned additional Bible verses to memorize? Will any additional Bible knowledge be added other than the content/study of Colossians?

Answer: The study materials are the same at both the local and national level, but the passages and Written Test questions asked at the National Contest will be more challenging.

Question: Can you clarify what a "start-over" is? How does it differ from self-correction?

Answer: You can find the rules on "start-overs" on page 10 of your Competition Rulebook. For a recitation to count as a true start over, contestants must stop on their own accord before finishing the verse and start over at the beginning of the passage, with or without the reference. The contestants may tell the Judges that they want to start over, or they may just begin again. The signal to the Judges for the start-over is to hear the reference or the first word of the passage repeated again. No points will be deducted for leaving out the reference when starting over. Only one start-over is permitted *per passage*. Stopping and going back to a place in the middle of a passage and beginning again from that point is what we consider a "self-correction" which is not permissible in this year's Competition. Self-corrections will be graded as using an incorrect word or words, as referenced in the Rulebook p.10, #8. Example of a self-correction: "In the beginning, God created...hmmm.. God created the heavens and earth..." Two points would be deducted for two additional words inserted in this example.

Question: Since the Primary Timothy Track contestants only have 26 passages (on 28 cards), does this mean they can say all of their verses at the Oral Round if they are prepared to? Or will they be asked to recite from a fewer number of cards?

Answer: According to the Competition Rulebook page 8, number 3, "the contestants will be asked to recite verses/passages from up to 30 Bible memory cards in 10 minutes." The Primary Timothy Track contestants will likely be able to recite all of their Memory passages if they have memorized them all. If they finish the first 26 passages before the 10 minutes ends, the last four passages asked will be repeats.

Question: How should children state their Bible Memory references as "Genesis one verses one through two" OR as "Genesis one one through two"?

Answer: Children may state their references in either format, both are completely acceptable.

Question: If I understand correctly, a multi-card Bible memory passage will only be asked in its entirety, never as a single-card passage. Correct? For example, a possible Oral Round passage would only be Exodus 20:3-17, never Exodus 20:3-9 or Exodus 20:10-17. Correct?

Answer: Correct.

Question: If a contestant mispronounces a word will a point be deducted?

Answer: Judges will not deduct points for mispronunciations as long as the word is understandable as the correct word.

Question: Is there a limit to how many one word prompts that one can receive for each passage being recited?

Answer: No. There is not a limit to prompts, but as there is a one-point deduction for each prompt, ten or more prompts would earn 0 points for the passage.

Question: Can parents watch two separate oral rounds where both of the children are in the same age group?

Answer: If your host is able to schedule both children consecutively in the same judge room, parents must remain in the room until the second child completes his/her oral test round.

Question: Should contestants in the National Track memorize the Timothy Track passages first?

Answer: Since it is past the July 15th deadline for switching tracks, all contestants are established in either the Timothy or National Track. Timothy Track contestants only have to memorize the Timothy Track passages for their age division's level(s). National Track contestants need to memorize both the Timothy and National Track passages for their age division's level(s).

Question: If contestants get stuck in the middle of the passage, will there be any help for them to continue? Can they pass in the middle of a passage?

Answer: The contestants may ask for a one-word prompt at any time during the passage, by asking for one or by holding up the "Help" sign that will be provided to them in Oral Rounds. Each prompt costs a one point deduction. Contestants may also choose to pass in the middle of a passage, but all passes earn "0" points for that passage, according to the Competition Rulebook. p.9 number 3.

Question: For the on stage Final Challenge Round at the Local Bible Bee...will they just be asked to recite Bible Verses only or will they also answer multiple choice questions? Will the Bible verses asked be ones that all contestants needed to memorize across the age groups or will it be verses based on their age category?

Answer: According to the Competition Rulebook, page 12 number 5, contestants in the Final Challenge Round will be "asked to recite memorized Bible verses/passages from his or her age division on stage in front of Judges and an audience." No Bible knowledge or multiple choice questions will be asked. All passages will come from the Level(s) of Memory verses that are required for the contestants' own age division (e.g. Primary contestants will only be asked Level 1 passages, but Seniors could be asked passages from all three Levels).

Question: In the Oral Round Judging section, rule #5, it says that a contestant may ask for the reference to be repeated without penalty (other than the time it takes). Can they ask for the reference to be repeated at ANY time? Such as, if they get to the end of recitation and can't remember the reference, can they ask for it to be repeated right then at the end without penalty?

Answer: No, contestants may only ask for the reference to be repeated before starting the passage.

Question: The rules say that one point will be deducted for each incorrect word inserted. They also say that one point will be deducted for each word omitted. How does this work when the contestant CHANGES a phrase--thus they have both inserted incorrect words, and omitted correct words?

Answer: According to the Competition Rulebook, page 10 number 8 b.), the contestant will lose one point for each use of an incorrect word which includes omissions OR insertions, not omissions AND insertions. Judges will not double count errors.

Question: If a contestant recites a verse correctly and then has an error, can she pick between starting over or continuing with the right words with point deduction?

Answer: Yes.

Question: If the contestant uses the incorrect tense of the verb when reciting a verse, is that considered a one-point deduction or two points for both omitting the right word and inserting the wrong word?

Answer: According to the Competition Rulebook, page 10 number 8 b), the contestant would lose one point for using an incorrect word, which includes using the wrong verb tense.

Question: If I am reciting a passage when the 10 minute limit is up, what is the scoring for that passage?

Answer: If there are more than 10 words remaining in the passage, the score will be 0. If you are within 10 words of the end of the passage, you will be allowed to finish the passage and the earned score for that passage will be credited to you.

Question: If a contestant says all the correct words in the passage, but the order is mixed up, will points be deducted?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Since the reference is considered one word, if someone at the end says "1 Corinthians" and then changes it to "2 Corinthians", is that considered a partial word, as in example, "God ma.....created the heaven..."?

Answer: Yes. Again, this is because the reference is considered as one word, or one unit.

Question: Is it possible to receive negative points for a passage?

Answer: No. Passages receive scores between 0 and 10 points.

Question: Can a contestant ask for the reference to be repeated at the end of a verse?

Answer: No. The reference will only be given by the Judge at the beginning of the request for recitation.

Question: I understand that the passages for the oral rounds are ramped, going from easier to more difficult. Our team was wondering if the first couple of verses are fairly simple, giving the contestants confidence and encouragement before they move into the more difficult passages? We were hoping that each contestant would walk away being able to quote at least one verse, regardless of the amount of time they were able to invest this summer.

Answer: That is our intent as well, to have each contestant encouraged in the Local Contest.

Question: My son has gotten into the habit of once he hears the reference requested, if he doesn't know it right away, he repeats the reference over and over until he remembers the verse and then starts to recite. Is that permitted?

Answer: No. If a reference is repeated, it is considered to be a start-over. A contestant is only permitted one start-over per passage.

Question: If the contestant says a word that the judge does not understand, will he notify the contestant, so as they can start over or correct the word?

Answer: According to the Competition Rulebook, page 9, number 7, "The Judge may, if the contestant speaks too rapidly or indistinctly, ask the contestant to repeat a verse/passage. Such repeats will not extend the 10-minute limit, nor do they constitute a 'start-over'."

Question: Will there be a video recording of the Bible Bee, or will it be televised?

Answer: Everyone is invited to join us in Chicago, and hope that as many as possible will be there in person. A DVD of highlights from the National Contest will be available on the Bible Bee E-Store after the National Contest.

Question: Will children be penalized if they do any hand motions/sign language while they are reciting a passage?

Answer: No. Children will not be penalized if they do hand motions/sign language while they are reciting a passage.

Question: When stating a reference, is it acceptable to say, "œGenesis one, one TO twoœ• instead of "œGenesis one, one THROUGH twoœ•?

Answer: Yes.

Question: What happens if no one can recite the verses without an error during the Final Challenge round?

Answer: If two or more contestants make an error in the same round, it is considered a tie, and each will be called again to recite another passage.

Question: Will I, as a contestant, be asked to recite 30 passages or 30 cards (considering there are passages composed of multiple cards)?

Answer: You will be asked 30 passages; some passages include more than one card.

Question: On 7/2/2010, someone asked if a contestant could sing verses during oral round, and the answer was "No. For the 2010 National Bible Bee Competition, contestants may not sing their passages in any oral round." Does that mean no singing at the Local Level or just no singing at National Level? Thanks.

Answer: Contestants may not sing their passages at any oral round during the National Bible Bee Competition, locally or nationally.

Question: What happens if the contestant ask for a prompt and they are at the end of the verse?

Answer: The Judge will give them the reference. The reference counts as "one word." The contestant can repeat the reference, loses one point for the prompt, and moves on to the next passage.

Question: Will the National Bible Bee assign the order for the contestants to take their turns in the oral round, or will the local hosts choose the order of the contestants?

Answer: Local Hosts have the ability to assign the order of the local oral round contests, although Bible Bee Headquarters provides reports that order the rounds and written test rooms in alphabetic order by last name.

Question: If the contestant asks for a prompt, does the contestant then need to say that word before continuing the passage or can the contestant just say the next word in the passage?

Answer: Either way is acceptable.

Question: Is a contestant allowed 1 startover per passage or 1 for the whole oral round?

Answer: Contestants are permitted 1 startover per passage.

Question: If the Contestant does not remember the reference at the end or even the last part of the verse, is the contestant forced to pass the verse, or can they choose to go to the next verse with point deductions from the missing words, but at least not score a zero for passing?

Answer: Yes, they can choose to go to the next passage.

Question: If contestants pass several passages, can they be asked extra verses beyond the 30 verses because of the passed passages?

Answer: No.

Question: Will the Timothy Track contestants be asked to recite the same passages as the National Track during the Local Contest, or will those in the Timothy Track be asked to recite different passages than those in the National Track?

Answer: The Timothy Track contestants will only be asked to recite the passages listed as "Timothy Track Passages".

Question: Can you clarify how points are deducted for transposing whole phrases? If you say, "Through the woods and over the river" when it was supposed to be "Over the river and through the woods", how would the passage be scored?

Answer: "Through the woods and over the river" when it was supposed to be "Over the river and through the woods", This passage would receive a deduction of 4 points. There is no such error as "transposing phrases" only "transposing words". Thus transposing words would always be a one point deduction and phrases would be deducted per word.

Question: If a contestant says "a" instead of "an" or vice versa, will that be held against them?

Answer: Yes. It will be counted as an incorrect word.

Question: My daughter uses a stress ball to squeeze when she recites and when she takes written tests. We purchased one from the Bible Bee e-store. Will she be allowed to bring this in with her to the Oral and Written Test rooms?

Answer: No. The rules state that contestants must leave all personal belongings in the hall before entering the Oral Round room.

Question: Just a clarification. On a start-over, the rules say that a contestant who begins to recite the correct passage with no errors and then begins the correct verse again, that the Judge will only grade the recitation of the verse as it is completed after the start-over. I understand this to mean that if a contestant makes any errors during the start-over including the portion they stated correctly the first time that it will count against the contestant. This rule is not saying that the judge will only grade the completion of the verse on the start-over. Correct?

Answer: Correct. The slate is wiped "clean," with the exception of prompts when the contestant starts over.

Question: If a contestant gets stuck and repeats a section of a passage, but does so quietly enough so as to not be heard, will those words be counted as errors?

Answer: No.

Question: The contestant has ten minutes to recite up to thirty passages. Is the ten minutes a continuous running, or does the judge stop the watch between passages and only time the contestant during his recitations?

Answer: The time runs continuously.

Question: When reciting verses in Psalms, can the contestant say "psalms" or "psalm" regardless of how many verses there are in the psalm? Or is there one they need to use the whole time?

Answer: Both Psalm or Psalms would be acceptable.

Question: The judge training video showed the recording judge marking the verse in the view of the contestant. Is that the intention or should a blind of some kind be used by the recording judge to prevent the contestant from seeing the marks and either becoming nervous or changing what he is saying as a result?

Answer: It is up to the Host's discretion, in accordance with the unique sites of each Local Bee, to determine if blinds should be used. Contestants should know that the Recording Judge will be scoring all throughout their recitation periods, and be encouraged to focus on the Contestant Judge or elsewhere, if seeing the Recording Judge is distracting for them.

Question: Do the contestants have to wear their Bible Bee T - Shirts for the competition?

Answer: It's not a National requirement, though we think it's a great idea! Check with your local Host to see if he or she is requesting that the contestants wear the T-shirts to the Local Contest.

Question: I have 2 questions about the judge offering prompts to a child: 1) The judge should wait 10-15 seconds before asking the child if he/she would like a prompt. For each passage/recitation, is there a limit on the number of prompts the judge can offer (i.e. "John, do you need a prompt?")? In other words, can the judge only offer ONE prompt per passage and then it is up to the child to request any additional prompts for that passage (at any place in the passage)? 2) Can the judge offer a prompt (i.e. "John, do you need a prompt?") at any time during a passage recitation or only at the beginning of the recitation? Thank you.

Answer: Judges can offer prompts at any point in the passage, and they are not technically limited in how many they can offer (other than after the 10th prompt, the contestant would have lost all of his or her points). It is better, however, for the contestant to ask for the prompts, and for the Judge to allow the contestant time to do that. Ultimately, it is up to the Judge's discretion.

Written Test Round Preparation

Question: Will the contestants receive sample questions for the Written Test?

Answer: A small sample of questions will be posted on the website and given to Hosts around July 15th.

Question: Are there specific, clearly defined answers to every Sword Study question, so my children can be certain that they are prepared for every possible question on the Written Test?

Answer: No. The purpose of the Sword Studies is to facilitate parents in discipling their children in learning how to study God's Word on their own and grow in their personal relationship with the Lord. On the contest side, the test is not a rote memory test. A child who thoroughly understands the materials and context, and studies the Sword Study diligently will be well-prepared for the Written Test. Please remember that the questions are multiple choice so a child who knows the material inside out should be able to choose the correct answer.

Question: Is there any provision made for kids who don't read well enough for the Written Test? Can someone administer the Written Test orally?

Answer: Only if a child has a documented medical condition that was disclosed during the child's enrollment and was pre-approved through SKF for special accommodations. (See: Competition Rulebook, Contestant Enrollment, Rules 5 & 6.) Primary Timothy Track contestants may have readers if the Local Bible Bee Host is able to provide individual readers for their contestants in a separate Written Test room or in the back of a Primary Timothy Track Written Test room.

Question: On the Written Test, will the children be allowed to misspell words?

Answer: All of the Written Test questions/answers are multiple-choice.

Question: If a contestant leaves out a whole phrase, is it one point off for each word?

Answer: Yes, one point is deducted for each word omitted. (C.R. p.22-23, #8 b) 4)

Question: Can the proctor tell the contestant the pronunciation of a word on the test?

Answer: Proctors are not to do any reading out loud to children other than in the Primary Timothy Track.

Question: Will the primary written test answers be on a machine-scored card?

Answer: Yes. All contestants will complete their Written Exams using bubble sheets.

Question: Will a list of "official" key words for Greek/Hebrew word studies be provided?

Answer: No. We are not providing an "official" list of key words because our vision is to be a catalyst to encourage parents as they disciple their children in the in-depth study of God's Word, memorization, and prayer. We encourage families to study the Word together and choose the words that they feel are key words to their understanding of the chosen book of the Bible for each year's competition. The Written Test questions, as described on page 11, number 3 of the Competition Rulebook, will reward those contestants who have diligently studied the book and have a thorough knowledge and understanding of it.

Question: The key words listed in the Parent Guidebook are different than the ones listed in the Junior and Senior Sword Studies. Will a combined "official" list be provided?

Answer: No. As stated in the Overview section of the Parent Guidebook, the key words from the Parent Guidebook are certainly not an exhaustive list. Parents are only given a summary of what all the children are studying. Both the Senior and Junior Sword Studies are significantly deeper in content. When contestants choose key word(s) that help them better understand the book of Colossians they will dig deeper into the Word and gain more spiritual wisdom and knowledge. We are not providing an "official" list of key words because our vision is to be a catalyst to encourage parents as they disciple their children in the in-depth study of God's Word, memorization, and prayer. We encourage families to study the Word together and choose the words that they feel are key words to their understanding of the chosen book of the Bible for each year's competition. The Written Test questions, as described on page 11, number 3 of the Competition Rulebook, will reward those contestants who have diligently studied the book and have a thorough knowledge and understanding of it.

Question: Will the contestants need to memorize each verse of Colossians to be able to answer the Written Test questions?

Answer: Contestants do not have to memorize Colossians, but if they have diligently completed their 12-week Sword Study, they will not need to have the book memorized in order to correctly answer the questions.

Question: Will the students be asked any questions on the written exam from or about the 70+ Psalms used for helping them develop their prayer skills?

Answer: They should not be considered a list of additional materials to study for the Written Test, but if any one of the Psalms happens to be connected to Colossians via a cross-reference or Greek word study, it may appear on the Test.

Question: My child is in the Primary Division. Will he be prepared for the questions on the test even though we do not have a Junior or Senior Sword Study?

Answer: Yes. The Primary Division's Written Test will be developed based on the Primary Sword Study. Primary youth will not be expected to have the same knowledge as Junior and Senior contestants.

Question: On Page 219 of the Senior Guide there is no verse 3:22 listed with any cross reference verses. Are we to assume that was a planned omission, or are there verses we need to study for that verse as well, but were overlooked at the time of printing?

Answer: Page 219 of the Senior Sword Study does not contain cross reference verses for Col. 3:22.

Question: When you say you want our children to know Greek words, please give an example, like you will list a Greek word and ask them what that means in English. Or list an English meaning and want them to answer what it means in Greek?

Answer: Please see the "Sample Written Test Questions" area on your local web site. Greek words are used to give the family a clearer understanding of the passage being studied, not to teach Greek vocabulary. Greek words on the written tests will always be presented in their English context, generally as an additional "hint" toward the correct answer.

Question: Where on the website can we find the sample written questions? I am having trouble locating them. Thank you!

Answer: Sample questions are located both on the Contest Materials page (accessible from the homepage) and on all of the local Bible Bee microsites. Families can access their local microsites by clicking on the map bubble or typing in their group's custom url. We have listed the link to the Contest Material page here:

<https://www.biblebee.org/pages/materials.php>

Question: Are the Bible Bee Written Exams version specific?

Answer: No.

Question: Will cross references be asked that are not verses the contestant has memorized?

Answer: Cross reference passages will not be treated as memory verses, but familiarity with them will be helpful in answering written test questions.

Question: Why are we spending time on Greek Word studies?

Answer: Greek word studies give us an accurate understanding of the use of the words in the passage being studied. Then you can focus on the meaning of the words and get a clear understanding of the meaning of Colossians as it relates to the entire Bible. For example, the English word "love" is translated from these Greek words: "phileo" which refers to brotherly love, "eros" which refers to romantic love and "agape" which signifies sacrificial, unselfish love. Understanding which specific Greek word that is translated as "love" is being used in a passage significantly affects the interpretation and application of that passage.

Question: What do the contestants need to know about the Greek words and cross references for the Written Test? How can my children prepare for the test?

Answer: The purpose of the Sword Studies is to facilitate parents in discipling their children in learning how to study God's Word on their own and grow in their personal relationship with the Lord. On the contest side, the test is not a rote memory test. A child who thoroughly understands the materials and context, and studies the Sword Study diligently will be well-prepared for the Written Test. Please remember that the questions are multiple choice so a child who knows the material inside out should be able to choose the correct answer. According to the Competition Rulebook, page 11, number 3, questions on the Written Test will include Greek and/or Hebrew word studies from the book of Colossians. Contestants will need to recognize Greek and/or Hebrew words written in English and recognize their meanings as they relate to Colossians. You can find a list of resources to assist your family in word studies under "Study Tools" tab of the children's Sword Studies. Likewise, contestants need to understand how each cross reference listed in Sword Studies relates to the book of Colossians.

Question: In written sample question #2 posted on the Bible Bee website the hint Greek word given is παρακλήσις Strong's G3874. However, the Greek word should be παρακαλεῖς Strong's G3870. The word παρακλήσις is not used anywhere in the book of Colossians. The word παρακλήσις does come from the root παρακαλεῖ, but is not the same word. Is this just an error on the sample question, or will the test use Greek words that are similar, but not the same?

Answer: Parakaleo and parakalese are the same word in different forms. The word parakalese is a verb specifically in a particular third person form. In this form it means "he may/might encourage." This is form of the word as it appears in Colossians 4:8. Parakaleo is a first person active form: "I comfort/encourage." As already noted parakalese is a particular third person form that means, "he may/might encourage." Just like in English, the form (i.e. spelling) of Greek verbs changes depending on how they are being used in a sentence. In the sentence, "I am jumping" the verb used is "to jump" but the form of that verb in the sentence is "jumping." The e-mail was like if we asked someone, "What does the word 'jumping' mean in that sentence?" and they reply that the verb there is not "jumping" but "to jump." Greek dictionaries tend to use the first person form for their entries ("I comfort") just like English dictionaries might use the infinitive form ("to comfort"). Many Greek dictionaries are only going to give them parakaleo, not the form as it specifically appears in Colossians 4:8 which we are using. While we want to encourage families to learn to study the Bible deeply, in part by understanding more about the specific meaning(s) of the original language which leads to more accurate interpretation, we also aren't trying to be tricky on the Written Test or discourage children with overwhelming study. Once again, the contestants who study Colossians through their Sword Studies diligently should be able to recognize the correct answers on the Written Test.

Question: Do contestants have to use the study tools listed in the Sword Studies to know the answers for the greek words?

Answer: No. The study tools mentioned in the Bible Bee Sword Studies and weekly Email Encouragers are simply helpful suggestions. Families may use any Greek word study tool that they desire and/or find most helpful for their family.

Question: Will the test be divided up into sections - i.e. cross reference, greek words, Bible memory?

Answer: No.

Question: If a primary contestant is used to reading out loud, and they read or whisper out loud during the written exam, will they be disqualified?

Answer: No. They will be asked not to read out loud.

Question: Will each child find out what their total score was for the local bible bee even if they do not make it to the nationals?

Answer: Yes. They will be posted on all of the local microsites.

Question: Will the Primary children be answering their written test questions directly on the test, or do they have to use the separate answer sheet?

Answer: All contestants will complete their written tests using scoring sheets for their answers. Families are welcome to download a sample of the scoring sheet from their local Bible Bee microsite for their children to practice filling in the bubbles.

Question: Will Bible Bee Headquarters post the separate Oral and Written Test Round scores, as well as the combined scores?

Answer: Yes. All three will be included in the posting of scores.

Question: Will we be able to get a copy of the Written or Oral Test after the competition?

Answer: Just like any standardized test (SAT, ACT), all test materials are reserved by Bible Bee Headquarters after the Local and National Contests. Oral Test scores, Written Test scores and combined scores will be posted on the national website and local microsities on September 1st, by 5pm.

Question: Will the contestant be able to write on the test booklet (make marks or scratch notes)? Note: I'm not talking about the scan card answer sheet.

Answer: Yes.

Question: Can the Bible be used during the written test?

Answer: No.

Question: Will there be any bonus questions as in last year's exam?

Answer: No.

Question: Are the written tests hand checked or scanned? If scanned, does each local Bible Bee have access to a scanner?

Answer: All Written Tests will be scanned using the scanners that have been provided to each Host by Bible Bee Headquarters.