

Official Manual  
Of the  
4<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District – African Methodist Episcopal Church  
**2K20 BIBLE BOWL**  
**"Theme: I Sing Because I'm Happy "**  
Sponsored by the  
4<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District Board of Christian Education  
Concept developed by  
The late Presiding Elder Leonard N. Williams, Sr. (ret.)  
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### INTRODUCTION

God has blessed the 4<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church to institute the Annual Bible Bowl for nearly two decades initiated by the creative ministry of retired Presiding Elder Leonard N. Williams, Indiana Conference. This manual has been implemented and serves as a framework for the scope of the Bible Bowl competition. Modifications have been made this year to examine this course of ministry to increase participation, and garner more activism in learning the word of God.

The competitiveness of the contest will provide natural attractiveness to young people as well as adults. However, the Bible Bowl should not be viewed as a mere game or a gimmick. The learning of God's Word has, inherently, great spiritual value to those who approach it with prayerful hearts.

We must confess that in the church in general, and the African Methodist Episcopal Church in particular, there has been a dearth of Bible reading and study. Yet the Holy Bible is the major tool in Christian growth. The Bible Bowl is an attempt to inspire the young people and their workers to read, study and learn God's Word. Victorious Christian living demands a knowledge of what says the Lord, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee." Psalm 119:11.

In order for the contest to run orderly and effectively, certain rules, regulations, methods and guidelines must be set forth. This Official Manual was prayerfully prepared to serve these purposes. It is most imperative that ALL officials and participants study it carefully and completely. If the manual is used properly, it will eliminate many problems that might otherwise arise.

### DEFINITION OF TERMS

For the benefit of those who will be participating or working with the BIBLE BOWL program, it is necessary to define certain terms that will be used throughout quizzing competition.

## **TEAMS**

Division 1: A TEAM consists of up to four (4) persons who have successfully completed grade one (1) through grade six (6).

Division 2: A TEAM consists of up to four (4) persons who have successfully completed grade seven (7) through twelve (12).

The members of the team should be members of the local church they represent. The team can be all young men or young women or a mixture in any number from the same church. There may be one person on a team, two persons on a team; or they may be three persons; or there may be four persons. No church is too small to have a team. A church may enter more than one team if it wishes on the Presiding Elder District competition.

**Note:** A young person in grades one through six can compete and play up in competition against Division 2. However a young person from grades seven through twelve cannot play down or compete in Division 1.

**A young person can only play on one team in Division 1 or Division 2. He or she cannot compete on both Division 1 and Division 2 teams for their church on any level of competition.**

## **COACH**

The COACH is a person who assists the team in learning the required biblical information. He/she should be a member of the same church as the team being coached.

## **QUIZMASTER**

The QUIZMASTER is the person or persons who conduct the “asked questions” during competition.

## **JUDGES**

The JUDGES are responsible for decision on “asked questions”, “answers” and “regulations” when requested by the Quizmaster (only).

## **SCOREKEEPER**

The SCOREKEEPER is the person responsible for keeping the score of teams during competition.

## **TIMEKEEPER**

The TIMEKEEPER is the person responsible for keeping the time of each round of the competition.

## **Contest**

Each contest is five (5) minutes. A contestant has five (5) seconds to begin answering the question asked by the quizmaster. A contestant may buzz in to answer the question at any time, but if the incorrect answer is given, the other team will be given the opportunity to hear the question again, and answering in, *except* in the case of True or False questions.

To begin the contest, teams will be selected by a random number draw. For example if there are nine teams, there will be numbers 1-9. Team 1 will play team 2, team 3 will play team 4, etc until all teams have played. Team 9 will have a bye.

**Note:** The individual that buzzes in must be the one that answers the question.

Due to the scoring of the rounds, no team should leave the grounds before the close of the entire competition. If a team leaves the competition, they may forfeit the opportunity to compete.

To begin the next round, team 9 will play the highest team of the first round. The next highest team will play the next lowest until all teams have played. You will play in the same manner until the two highest teams play each other for the championship. The team captain or team representative will pull the number for their team.

The theme for the 2K20 Bible Bowl is “**I Sing Because I’m Happy**”. We are studying the **Book of Psalms**.

Individuals will examine the scope of the Bible from a broader perspective.

The New International Version of the Bible is being utilized and all answers can be found through [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com)

There are five areas of questions in this year’s competition which are outlined within the appropriate points award sections.

## **Points Awards**

**Fast Facts (True or False Questions)**– The verse must be correct in every word to be true, otherwise it is false; The correct answer is awarded three (3) points. If answered incorrectly, three points will be deducted.

**What's the Word(Fill-in the blanks) & Finish The Word (Complete This Verse)**– The answer must contain the essence of the verse, not necessarily the exact words: Value of correct answer is five (5) points. A contestant may buzz in at any time, but if answered incorrectly the other team will be given the opportunity to answer the same question. There is no penalty for an incorrect answer.

**Say So (Direct Quotations)** – The verse must be answered exactly as it is written in the Bible to be correct. Correct answer is awarded ten (10) points. There is no penalty for an incorrect answer, but if answered incorrectly, the other team will be given an opportunity to answer the question.

**Where Is It (The Following Verse Is Found Where)**- The verse is given and the person must say where it is found. Value of correct answer is five (5) points. If question is answered incorrectly, the other team will be given the opportunity to answer the same questions. There is no penalty for an incorrect answer

## **Covenant Agreements**

In a means to promote appropriate Christian conduct, a covenant agreement has been attached for participation on all levels of the Bible Bowl. Please note the appropriate signatures and forms must be filled out accurately. A list of each individual church team members must be submitted to the designated coordinator on each level of competition. All forms must be turned into the Presiding Elder District Bible Bowl Coordinator and the Fourth District Coordinator prior to participation in any competition on each level. If the appropriate signatures and forms have not been submitted, these are grounds for an individual not participating and/or team being disqualified. A list of all team members names must be submitted before the beginning of competition on any level. On the Fourth district level, each team member must be a paid registrant for the Christian Education Congress.

## **Awards**

The winning team from Division I and the winning team from Division II from each presiding Elder's District will qualify to participate for the Williams Cup Competition of the 4<sup>th</sup> Episcopal District at the seat of the Christian Education Congress.

In addition to other benefits the Bible Bowl offers, participating team members on the teams that are sent to the Episcopal District level (Winners at Presiding Elder's District Level) will each receive a team trophy.

Awards at the Episcopal District Level shall be decided by the 4<sup>th</sup> District Christian Education Congress Leadership

**Please note:** You cannot lose when you study the Word of God. If a team ends up in last place, the team members, coaches, sponsors, are still winners! Coaching a quiz team is not always easy. You have to create and maintain interest and enthusiasm when the team doesn't seem to care. You will need to pursue new methods of study to arouse interest. You should be thoroughly familiar with the book which is to be used in the competition and should know the quiz rules and regulations as well. The team must be prepared with proper competition regulations in mind. Coaching a BIBLE BOWL team can be a rewarding experience. The tension and excitement during a contest will never be forgotten. Seeing young people diligently apply themselves to hide GOD'S WORD in their hearts will bring great satisfaction.

The interest and attention given to quizzing by young people will be determined by how it is presented to them. Show the advantages of participating in the quiz program:

- Learn GOD'S WORD more quickly and easily
- Develop friendship with other young people
- Develop study habits, methods and train the mind
- Strengthen confidence and develop poise,
- Increase ability to witness effectively
- Practice within the church
- Have fun with all persons