



LESSON TITLE:

Dictionary Detectives

SUBJECT/GRADE:

Language Arts, Religion  
(adaptation for Social Studies); G4-6

TOPIC/TARGET:

Building vocabulary using words from Scripture.

TOTAL TIME: 25 min. plus testing

TIME	PROCEDURE	SUPPLIES
	<i>Introduction (Attention Grabber):</i> Point out an unfamiliar word in Scripture or an LFK devotion. Ask if anyone can identify or define the term.	Class set of LFK; several New American Bibles.
	<i>Review Current Knowledge:</i> Students should be able to navigate a dictionary. Basic knowledge of root words, parts of speech and so on is helpful.	Dictionaries and other resources defining religious terms.
5 minutes	<i>Present New Information:</i> Define while students transcribe the word and definition.	
5-10 minutes	<i>Guided Practice:</i> Break students into 3-5 small groups. Assign one "Dictionary Detective" per group. Have students search for new terms within the week's Scripture readings or LFK devotions while Detectives seek out their definitions.	
10-15 minutes	<i>Check for Understanding:</i> Gather the class. Allow each group to share their findings. Students propose terms, and Detectives define. Create a comprehensive list of terms on the board. (You may need to simplify or clarify the definitions, as well as adjust the list for size and difficulty.)	
	<i>Closure:</i> Hold extra words for the following week. Reassign Detectives so all students experience the role. Reinforce terms by encouraging students to point them out as they are read during the week.	
	<i>Student Work/Testing: (options)</i> 1) Use each term in a sentence. 2) Write a paragraph or story using several, or all, terms. 3) Spelling bee or contest. 4) Vocabulary quiz (oral or written).	

ADAPTATIONS:

*Whole-class Activity:* Select 3-5 Detectives. Definitions are read aloud once they are discovered.

*Social Studies:* "Place Police" or "Geography Gumshoes" can find locations of biblical events on a map.

NOTES: