

Bible Skills: **Finding the Gospels**

YOU WILL NEED: *Bibles and a Bible Book Chart.*

The Gospels

Ask the students: **Can anyone tell me what the word “Gospel” means?** (Good News)

Ask the students: **Who knows what four books in the Bible are called the “Gospels”?** (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)

Ask the students: **Who knows what these four books talk about?** (They each re-tell the story of Jesus. That’s right, the life of Jesus is told four times in the Bible, once each in each of the Gospels.)

SAY: The Gospel (*Good News!*) of John is the “Good News” of John about Jesus. In fact, there are four—everybody hold up four fingers and say “Four”—Four Gospels (*Good News!*) in the Bible.

Repeat after me: The Gospel (*Good News!*) of Matthew... The Gospel (*Good News!*) of Mark... The Gospel (*Good News!*) of Luke...and The Gospel (*Good News!*) of John.

SAY: These are the first four books of the New Testament.

SAY: Each of these four books is about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. So, even though Jesus only died once (Everybody hold up one finger), the Bible tells the story in four (Everybody hold up four fingers) places—in each of the Gospels (*Good News!*).

SAY: Today I’m going to show you an easy way to find the Gospels in your Bible, but first I have a question:

Ask the students—**Who knows how to find Psalms in the Bible?** (Answer: Hold your Bible sideways and open it to the middle. Usually this is the book of Psalms.)

SAY: Now turn put your fingers half-way between Psalms and the end of the Bible (the half on your right). This will usually put you somewhere in the Gospels. Let’s give it a try.

Ready...Find the book of Matthew—Go!

Ready...Find the book of John—Go!

Ready...Find the book of Luke—Go!

Ready...Find the book of Mark—Go!

Ask the students: **What are the names of the Gospels again?** (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)