

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Handout 2-A

## Books that Teach

1. Title of book: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Author(s): \_\_\_\_\_

3. What lesson(s) does this book teach the reader?

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4. What do you know about the author that makes him or her a good teacher of the lesson(s) described above?

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5. Who would learn the most from this book?

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6. To learn from this book, what are some things the reader must do or keep in mind while reading?

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7. Copy one quotation from this book that illustrates a lesson that a reader could learn.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Handout 2-B

## A Scriptural Puzzle

Use your Bible to track down the words of the question below, using the clues provided. Once you have decoded the message, answer the question.

The Question:	The Clues:
_____ Bibles	The second and third words of 1 Corinthians 8:7
_____	The tenth word of Exodus 27:19
the _____	The fourth word of Genesis 7:13
_____.	The fourth word of Deuteronomy 11:18
_____ _____	The first, second, and third words of Luke 6:46
_____ _____?	The thirty-eighth, thirty-ninth, and fortieth words of 2 Maccabees 2:29

The Answer:

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

## Joe's Snow Day

Use your Bible to track down the words of the question below, using the clues provided. Once you have decoded the message, answer the question.

Last Friday, school was cancelled because of snow. The bullet points below tell what Joe did with his day off.

- Slept in until 10:30
- Watched TV for an hour
- Shoveled the driveway for his mom
- Babysat his younger sister when his mom went to grab some groceries for dinner
- Met up with his buddies at 3:00 to go tubing down the massive hill near the church
- Beat his friend Mark five times in a row in races down the hill
- Went out for coffee/hot chocolate with everyone to warm up after tubing
- Drove home for dinner
- Read for a while before going to bed

Instructions: Joe's friend Mark is in a science-project group with Maria, a girl whom Joe is really interested in. Mark offers to talk Joe up with Maria when she's at his house later to work on the project. He tells her a little bit about what Joe did during the snow day. Write the dialogue exchanged between Mark and Maria as they work on the science project.

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Instructions: Joe is interviewing for his first job. During the interview, his prospective boss asks him to describe what he would do if he suddenly had an unexpected day off. Joe decides to use the recent snow day as an example. Write the description that Joe gives to answer the interview question.

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Instructions: Joe is in a band, and they have a gig coming up. They tend to write songs inspired by their lives. Over the weekend after Friday's snow day, the band is hanging out, messing around on their guitars and trying to write a new song inspired by the snow day. Write the lyrics of the song they write.

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Instructions: Joe's friend Evan thinks it's completely unfair that he came down with the flu on a day school was closed for snow. All day, he keeps texting Joe asking what he's doing now. As Joe responds to the texts, he tries to be nice and not make Evan feel too bad about being sick in bed all day. Write the series of texts between Joe and Evan during the snow day.

## About the Mouths of Animals

1. The Galapagos finches helped Darwin solidify his idea of natural selection. The favorable adaptations of Darwin's Finches' beaks were selected for over generations until they all branched out to make new species. These birds, although nearly identical in all other ways to mainland finches, had different beaks. Their beaks had adapted to the type of food they ate in order to fill different niches on the Galapagos Islands. Their isolation on the islands over long periods of time made them undergo speciation. Charles Darwin then began to disregard the previous thoughts on evolution put forth by Jean Baptiste Lamarck who claimed species spontaneously generated from nothingness. (Source: Heather Scoville, "Charles Darwin's Finches," About Education, <http://evolution.about.com/>)
2. Contrary to the legend, Darwin's finches do not appear to have inspired his earliest theoretical views on evolution, even after he finally became an evolutionist in 1837; rather it was his evolutionary views that allowed him, retrospectively, to understand the complex case of the finches. (Source: Frank Sulloway, quoted in Stephen Gould, *The Flamingo's Smile* [1987], 356. From Frank J. Sulloway, "Darwin's Conversion: The Beagle Voyage and Its Aftermath," *Journal of the History of Biology* [1982]: 15, 327–98)
3. The Fox and the Crane: Once a fox and a crane became friends. So, the fox invited the crane to dinner. The crane accepted the invitation and reached the fox's place at sunset. The fox had prepared soup for his mate. But as we all know that foxes are cunning by nature, he served the soup in flat dishes. So, he himself lapped the crane's share with his tongue enjoying its relish a lot. But the crane could not enjoy it at all with his long beak and had to get back home hungry. The shrewd fox felt extremely amused. After a few days, the crane invited the fox to dine in with him. The fox reached his place well in time. The crane gave him a warm welcome and served the soup in a jug with a long and narrow neck. So, the crane enjoyed the soup with great relish using his long beak. The fox's mouth couldn't reach the soup through the narrow neck of the jug. He had to return home hungry. Now he realized that he had been repaid for his behaviour with the crane. (Source: *Aesop's Fables*)
4. What are animal adaptations? Animal adaptations are any body shape, process, or behaviour that allows an organism to survive in its environment. Animals change over time to fit the needs of their environment. Why do birds have different shaped beaks? Birds have many different kinds of beaks, depending on what they eat and where their food source is. For instance, birds may find their food in water, mud, flowers, seeds, or in wood. A hummingbird has a long, thin bill that allows it to sip the nectar from inside flowers. The different shapes of beaks allow easier access to these various food supplies. If an environment altered, organisms within the area would need to change—adapt—in order to survive. Natural selection is the process by which organisms best suited to the environment survive and reproduce, thereby passing their genes to the next generation. (Source: "Animal Adaptations: Focus on Bird Beaks," BJ's Science, last updated September 2010, [http://www.mysciencesite.com/Animal\\_Adaptations-Bird\\_Beaks.pdf](http://www.mysciencesite.com/Animal_Adaptations-Bird_Beaks.pdf))

**Question:** What are the most important commonalities you can find among the writings above? What are the most important differences?

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## Quotable Quotes on Sacred Scripture

“The Bible teaches us how to go to Heaven, not how the heavens go.”  
—Cardinal Baronius

“Though faith is above reason, there can never be any real discrepancy between faith and reason. Since the same God who reveals mysteries and infuses faith has bestowed the light of reason on the human mind, God cannot deny himself, nor can truth ever contradict truth. Consequently, methodical research in all branches of knowledge, provided it is carried out in a truly scientific manner and does not override moral laws, can never conflict with the faith, because the things of the world and the things of faith derive from the same God.”  
—CCC, 159

“The New Testament lies hidden in the Old,  
and the Old Testament is unveiled in the New.”  
—St. Augustine

“Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.”  
—St. Jerome