



BY SIMON WALE OLATUNJI

HOUSE OF PRAYER EVANGEL CHURCH



Foreword

I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. (Psalm 119:11, ESV)



The word sword drill or sword drills takes its name from military or paramilitary exercise done to improve someone's swordfighting skill. As Christians, we are soldiers of Christ, and the Bible is our vital instrument of battles. It is our sword of the spirit.

Therefore, the term sword drill is used to describe the competitive exercise promoted among Christian children (in churches and families) to train them to improve their scripture use, memories and interaction. The House of Prayer seeks every opportunity to grow the adult we desire in each child. And therefore, we present this opportunity to train them in versatility of scriptures. In this pamphlet, we present each participating child with the opportunity to develop him/herself while competing with other children in a fun-filled atmosphere. This pamphlet includes both the sword drill and the scripture drill.

The Sword Drill is the segment in which a name and number of a Bible book or verse is announced and participants race to be the first to locate it in the book. Whoever locates it steps forward, and examiners will do a walk round to inspect.

The Scripture Drill is the exercise in which a given (assigned) memory verses are distributed among participating children, who shall then recite them from memory before everyone. This also is a competition and prizes are given in both cases.

SIMON OLATUNJI **Lead Pastor**

CONTACT US

GLOBAL HOPE **CENTER**

2321 S Belt Line Rd Ste 144 **Grand Prairies TX 75051**

SMS: +1 (817) 822 8441 Off.: +1 (469) 332 3443 Fax: +1 (469) 332 3443 reachingout@hopeforalln ations.org

EDUCATION DEPT

MINISTER KEMI THOMAS

Education Director

MRS. BOSE ADEGOKE

Sunday School Director

MRS. STELLA IHEMEREZE

Church Secretary



INSTRUCTION

Have everyone close their Bibles and hold them by the binder. If not all those participating have a Bible with them, you may want to provide extras. Be prepared that there will be various versions used, so the readings may vary slightly.

Shout "Sheathe swords" (everyone should put their Bibles under their arms). Shout "Draw swords" (everyone should now hold their Bibles in the air with arms straight). Announce the passage (book, chapter, and verse) and have everyone repeat it after you in unison.

Shout "Charge" everyone should now try to look up the verse as quickly as possible. Participants may also recite the verse from memory, but it must be very close to word-perfect to qualify as a winner.

The first one to find the reference should stand and begin reading the verse (or reciting it from memory). Actual ties can be dealt with by allowing both to win that round. Each person who wins a round is automatically a finalist. A person may win only once before the final. The final round includes all the winners of the individual verse drills. Each sword drill session has a theme.

There is a winner for guessing the theme as well as an overall drill winner. Candy or a small prize may be awarded to the winners.

The verses listed in each sword drill are from the New International Version. If you prefer another version of the Bible, please feel free to take the templates I provide and use the version of your choice.



Finally, please take note of the following:

- 1. The leader explains the rules.
- 2. Everyone should have their Bible closed.
- 3. The leader holds up his Bible and says, "Swords ready."
- 4. Everyone lifts their closed Bible with the spine in the palm of their hand, to head level or higher.
- 5. The leader says the book, chapter and verse (for example Genesis chapter 6, verse 8) and everyone repeats the book, chapter and verse.
- 6. The leader says "ready" and then shouts "go!"
- 7. Everyone brings their Bibles down and turns to the verse as quickly as possible.
- 8. As soon as a person finds the verse they stand up. The leader recognizes the first person to stand and that person reads the verse out loud to the others.
- 9. The person who finds the most verses first wins the round; in a larger group, the side (team) with the most verses found first, wins.
- 10. An extra point can be given to the person who correctly identifies the word that is found in each of the 10 Bible verses.

Use the the same type and version of Bible for this round of Sword drill.

SET A: ROUND ONE

- 1. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. Psalm 91:1. Psalm 91:1. "Charge." Psalm 91:1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Character Drill. Rachel. Rachel. "Charge."
- 3. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Book Drill, Deuteronomy, Deuteronomy, "Charge," Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua.
- 4. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Book Drill. Ephesians. Ephesians. "Charge." Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians.
- 5. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. Philippians 2:5. Philippians 2:5. "Charge." Philippians 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:



- 6. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Character Drill. Philip. Philip. "Charge."
- 7. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. II Thessalonians 3:3. II Thessalonians 3:3. "Charge." II Thess. 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.
- 8. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Book Drill. Jonah. Jonah. "Charge."
- 9. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. Amos 8:11. Amos 8:11. "Charge." Amos 8:11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:
- 10. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Character Drill. Moses. Moses. "Charge."
- 11. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. Ecclesiastes 12:13. Ecclesiastes 12:13. "Charge." Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.
- 12. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Book Drill. Jude. Jude. "Charge." III John, Jude, Revelations.
- 13. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. Joshua 1:8. Joshua 1:8. "Charge." Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.
- 14. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. II Peter 1:21. II Peter 1:21. "Charge." II Peter 1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.
- 15. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Character Drill. Benjamin. Benjamin. "Charge."
- 16. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. Luke 10:20. Luke 10:20. "Charge." Luke 10:20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.
- 17. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Book Drill. Philemon. Philemon. "Charge." Titus, Philemon, Hebrew.
- 18. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Character Drill. Jesus. Jesus. "Charge."



SET A: ROUND T

Familiarize yourself with the following sets of Bible themes. There are 6 themes each with 10 Bible verses each in this round of the Sword drill. Practice opening them until you master locating or opening them. You will be tested with speed of locating and reading them.

For example: The Director shall announce: "Attention", "Draw Swords": Book Drill. Grace or Salvation or any other. When he or she says "Charge." You shall open and step forward.

<u>GRACE</u>		<u>SALVATION</u>	
Genesis 6:8	Judges 6:17	Genesis 49:18	Psalm 25:5
1 Peter 5:10	Psalm 84:11	Romans 13:11	2 Timothy 3:15
John 1:17	Zechariah 12:10	Job 13:16	Habakkuk 3:18
James 4:6	Acts 15:11	Hebrews 2:3	Micah 7:7
Ephesians 2:8	Romans 3:24	Luke 2:30	Revelation 12:10
<u>TRUST</u>		<u>GOD</u>	
Proverbs 3:5	Psalm 188:8	Genesis 1:3	Romans 4:3
1 Timothy 6:17	Isaiah 12:2	Matthew 1:23	Jonah 3:5
Matthew 12:21	2 Samuel 22:31	Exodus 3:11	Titus 2:13
Ruth 2:12	Zephaniah 3:12	John 1:6	Ruth 1:16
Job 13:15	Mark 10:24	Psalm 48:14	Jude 25
<u>PEACE</u>		<u>WORD</u>	
Psalm 34:14	Galatians 5:22	Genesis 15:1	Deuteronomy 34:5
Mark 4:39	Isaiah 26:3	Psalm 33:6	2 Thessalonians 3:1
Isaiah 9:6	2 Thessalonians 3:16	1 Samuel 3:1	Psalm 18:30
Romans 5:1	Isaiah 48:22	1 Thessalonians 4:15	1 Peter 1:25
Nahum 1:15	Hebrews 13:20-21	Acts 13:49	Malachi 1:1

SET A: ROUND THREE ((FINAL)

- 1. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. Ezra 7:10. Ezra 7:10. "Charge." Ezra 7:10 For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments.
- 2. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Character Drill. Samuel. Samuel. "Charge."
- 3. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Book Drill. Esther. Esther. "Charge." Nehemiah, Esther, Job.
- 4. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Book Drill. James. James. "Charge." Hebrew, James, I Peter.
- 5. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. Mark 16:15. Mark 16:15. "Charge." Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
- 6. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Character Drill. Judah. Judah. "Charge."



- 7. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Book Drill. Titus. Titus. "Charge." II Timothy, Titus, Philemon
- 8. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Book Drill. I Samuel. I Samuel. "Charge." Ruth, I Samuel, II Samuel.
- 9. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. Habakkuk 2:14. Habakkuk 2:14. "Charge." Habakkuk 2:14 For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.
- 10. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Character Drill. Jonathan. Jonathan. "Charge."
- 11. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. Daniel 6:10. Daniel 6:10. "Charge." Daniel 6:10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.
- 12. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Book Drill. Luke. Luke. "Charge." Mark, Luke, John.
- 13. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Character Drill. Deborah. Deborah. "Charge."
- 14. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. III John 4. III John 4. "Charge." III John 4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.
- 15. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Character Drill. Naomi. Naomi. "Charge."
- 16. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Scripture Searching Drill. Colossians 3:1. Colossians 3:1. "Charge." Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
- 17. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Book Drill. II Corinthians. II Corinthians. "Charge." I Corinthians, II Corinthians, Galatians.
- 18. "Attention", "Draw Swords": Character Drill. Balaam. Balaam. "Charge."



This almost need no interference. Each participants must have memorized their assigned Bible verses, and step forward one by one to recite them before everyone. Distractions and cheering should be avoided. Cheering and applauding must be done by all after each child's presentation. We admonish participants and the group to treat this time as a fun way to learn scriptures to heart rather than a competition. There are 15 scripture verses in this segment; but each participant is required to memorize and recite 10.

SET B: ROUND O

- 1. Hosea 4:1: People of Israel, listen to the Lord's message. The Lord says he has this against you who live in this country: "The people are not true, not loyal to God. They do not even know him.
- 2. 2 Corinthians 5:17: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:[a] The old has gone, the new is here!
- 3. Revelation 21:1: Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and the first earth had disappeared. Now there was no sea.
- 4. John 14:1: Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
- 5. Acts 1:11: Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.
- 6. Ephesians 4:32: Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.



- 7. Matthew 5:16: Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify vour Father in heaven.
- 8. John 11:35: Jesus wept.
- 9. Matthew 8:2: A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, vou can make me clean."
- 10. Matthew 5:16: Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
- 11. Revelation 3:20: Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.
- 12. 2 Corinthians 5:20: Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.
- 13. Nahum 1:7: The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him,
- 14. 2 Timothy 2:19: Nevertheless, God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord must turn away from iniquity."
- 15. Psalm 1:6: For the LORD guards the path of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

SET B: ROUND TWO

- 1. 1 Chronicles 16:34: O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.
- 2. John 10:27: My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.
- 3. Isaiah 50:7: Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame.
- 4. Micah 1:2: Hear, O peoples, all of you; listen, O earth, and everyone in it! May the Lord GOD bear witness against you, the Lord from His holy temple.
- 5. Matthew 8:2: A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, vou can make me clean."
- 6. John 14:6: Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
- 7. John 11:25: Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me will live, even though he dies.



- 8. Romans 5:2: Through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.
- 9. John 10:9: I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.
- 10. John 15:1: I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.
- 11. John 10:7,9: Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.
- 12. John 3:16: For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.
- 13. Colossians 3:4: When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.
- 14. John 1:16: Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given.
- 15. Psalm 84:7: They go from strength to strength, until each appears before God in Zion.

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