

“HIDDEN BOOKS OF THE BIBLE”

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Last night an amazing thing happened after our home Bible study meeting. I challenged everyone to stick around and see who could find the most books of the Bible hidden in a story such as this. It turned into a real lulu, keeping some of us looking so hard we completely lost track of the time!

It was an interesting revelation seeing that, yes, there are some easy ones to pick out but most of us got in a jam, especially trying to spot Old Testament books. My brother Gene, sister Danielle and mother Mary found most of them, but my father Paul got all embarrassed when he chose an incorrect name. And we mustn't forget to mention our newest neighbor Jon, ah yes, he was so excited to be the first to find the one about the whale! “Keep rockin' it, dude!” uttered Stephen giving him a high five.

At one point, Timothy got up and grabbed a random book out of our bookcase for something to write on. Glancing at it he read aloud, “*A Brisk Walk Through the Windy City* by Jimmy Jamal, a Chicago journalist. Holy Moley! Who would want to read that?” “Me, that's where I'm from!” answered Anne. “I'm sorry, but that seems about as exciting as peeling a banana!” Humbly, I said to myself that it's not a good habit to judge someone's book by the title alone. However, this time... he was right!

A short while later, Mabel was startled when Brett's pet poodle knocked a mostly full fruit basket off the corner of the table. Mathew shouted, “No, Phi-Phi! Lemons are sour! Don't eat that!” But our other puppy Mica had already bit into one and made a funny frown with her freckled face. Billie Joe laughed and said, “That silly dog can act so human at times!” Luckily, we had a back-up bowl ready to go.

As midnight approached and our numbers began to dwindle, Molly hopped up and headed towards the kitchen suggesting if she brews more coffee, we can keep trying a little longer. “Hey, Jude, who took my other cookie?” Jeremy asked. “I doubt it was David,” Thomas said. “No, it was R.B.!” Zachary shouted, “Those crumbs on his Levi's prove R.B.'s the guilty one! “Speaking of cookies,” Philip asked, “How bad was the fire down at **The Cow Chip Cookie Co.?**” “A total Cookie Co. loss,” I answered solemnly. “It looks like next week I'll be baking them myself.” “Oh, no!” a host of people cried out. “Sometimes the truth hurts,” Sarah Samuelson said with a smile.

Finally, chronic Les let out a loud lamentation saying that this was becoming too hard a job. So we decided to call it a night. Joshua shook his head and said, “I did sooo bad! I, ah, think I found the fewest of anyone.” “Come on, that was a breeze!” Kiley kidded as she did the microphone drop with her marker. Johnny Perez raised his paper high and waved it like a white surrender flag. “It's time to wake up from your nap, Sal,” Ms. Adams whispered as she gently poked his ribs. “Th-Th-Thanks so m-much a-g-gain,” stuttered shy Ms. Moses as she shuffled towards the door. “B-But n-n-now I'll probably s-sleep through my h-h-hair appointment at the s-salon!” Ian spoke up, though, and said, “Don't worry, Ester, we'll gladly give you a wake-up call!” Mr. Feltham's final hidden answer came to him at the weirdest moment - just as he was picking up his cane to leave. Way to finish strong, Don!

After denying three times that he was tired, our last guest Peter made his exit. “Usually, I don't enjoy doing word searches but that one was pretty fun!” he said waving good-bye.

Now, I'm challenging you the reader to give it a try yourself. I'll give you fair warning that I can be a bit sneaky and that it usually takes more time than you think but I'll bet you end up knowing the books of the Bible a lot better than you did before! Good luck and have fun. Find forty and you're done!

*The Books of the Bible**

Acts	Isaiah	Nehemiah
Amos		Numbers
	James	
Chronicles	Jeremiah	Obadiah
Colossians	Job	
Corinthians	Joel	Peter
	John	Philemon
Daniel	Jonah	Philippians
Deuteronomy	Joshua	Proverbs
	Jude	Psalms
Ecclesiastes	Judges	
Ephesians		Revelation
Esther	Kings	Romans
Exodus		Ruth
Ezekiel	Lamentations	
Ezra	Leviticus	Samuel
	Luke	Song of Solomon
Galatians		
Genesis	Malachi	Thessalonians
	Mark	Timothy
Habakkuk	Matthew	Titus
Haggai	Micah	
Hebrews		Zechariah
Hosea	Nahum	Zephaniah

* The “Ultimate Challenge” is to attempt this word search with only one quick read through of this list and then not look back at it again.

The “regular challenge” (for mere mortals) is to keep looking back and forth and check them off as you go. Remember, you won’t use them all.

Completing the “Ultimate Challenge” with no mistakes is sooo incredibly hard that if you do it let me know and your name will be permanently entered on the “Wall of Fame” on my website!