

# SOUTH CAROLINA BIBLE BOWL

Items marked in red are changes to the rules for 2024.

## WHEN?

The 3rd Saturday in February of each year.  
Registration 8 – 9 AM  
Games Begin 9:30 AM

## WHERE?

St. Andrews Road Church of Christ  
425 Saint Andrews Road  
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

## WHO?

There are **4 Team Divisions**.

**Pre-teens** = ages up to 12

**Teens** = ages 13 up to 12<sup>th</sup> grade

**Adults** = post high school and up

**Seniors** = **65 years of age and up (only)**

Participants may move up a division, but not into the Senior Division.

## WHAT is a BIBLE BOWL?

**Purpose:** To glorify God through our attitude, action, and ability; to enable participants to gain knowledge through the textual content of the scriptures; to develop a deeper understanding of the scriptures; to bond with other like-minded Christians; to build team spirit among Christians.

The SC Bible Bowl is a competition between teams over knowledge of a pre-determined book or books of the Bible using the **New King James Version** only. All teams compete to be the first to “buzz in” using an electronic lockout device, like those used in the TV show *Jeopardy*.

**Teams** are made up of 4 members, with a member only competing on one team. An alternate may be used throughout the Bible Bowl but not in the middle of a game. The alternate can only be on one team. A congregation may have any number of teams in each division. Congregations may choose to form teams with other congregations, for example when they do not have enough participants.

A **match** consists of two teams competing against each other in a round of 10 questions for the Teen, Adult, and Senior Divisions and 7 questions for the Pre-Teen division. The team with the most correct answers wins the match. There will be no true-false, yes-no, fill in the blank, multiple choice, or two-part questions in the Teen, Adult, or Senior Divisions. The Pre-Teen Division may have true-false, yes-no, or fill in the blank questions. All other questions will be Who, What, When, Where, How, List, or Name style questions.

The SC Bible Bowl is a **double-elimination tournament**. Each team will continue in the competition until it has lost two matches or until it is the only team left in the competition with fewer than two losses and is declared to be the winner of the tournament.

All team placements in the brackets will be randomly decided and given to the teams at registration. Brackets will be available online live during the competitions.

First, second, third, and fourth place teams in each division will be recognized at the end of the tournament. The first-place team, in each division, will take home a trophy to display at their home congregation until the next SC Bible Bowl.

Everyone is a winner because each individual gains a deeper knowledge of the scriptures.

## HOW to PLAY

### Terms used:

**Division:** A group of teams in one age group.

**Team:** Consists of 4 members (possibly 1 alternate).

**Match:** Two teams in the same division will be asked a predetermined number of questions. The team with the most correct answers wins.

**Double-Elimination:** Each team may lose a match twice before being taken off the bracket.

**Bracket:** A bracket or tournament bracket is a tree diagram that represents the series of games played for each division. All team placements in the brackets will be randomly decided.

**Moderator:** The person reading the questions during a match.

**Judge:** Two to Four people who are present throughout the tournament. The judges will solve challenges or answer questions from the moderators concerning a question or answers. The judges' decision is final.

**Announcer:** The person calling teams to the stage or making any announcements throughout the day.

### Upon Arrival:

- One or two members from each congregation report to the registration table.
  - Bring a list of the names of each team member, including alternates.
  - Bring final payment, if not yet sent to St. Andrews Road.
  - Name tags will be provided for the representative to distribute.
  - Lunch tickets will be given to the representative to distribute.
- All spectators who have not paid for lunch should report to the registration table to pay and receive a ticket.
- All Pre-Teen and Teen Teams will sit in the auditorium on assigned rows.
- The Senior Teams will sit on the left side of the auditorium.
- Adults and spectators may sit anywhere in the auditorium.
- The announcements will begin at 9 AM and teams will be given more instructions.

## Let the Games Begin:

- Once the Bible Bowl begins, participants are not permitted to consult the Bible until the end of the tournament.
- The audience is to remain silent during matches. The audience will not be permitted to challenge a ruling or make any comments during the matches.
- The games will go in order of the brackets in each division. Two teams will be called to the stage to compete.
- A team will be given 5 minutes when their name is called to a match to get into place. If the team is not ready, then the game is forfeited.
- A match will consist of 10 questions for the Teen, Adult, and Senior Divisions. The team answering the most questions correctly out of the 10 will be declared the winner of the match.
- A match will consist of 7 questions for the Pre-Teen division in all rounds.
- The game buzzers will only allow one person to "buzz-in" at a time. That person is the one the moderator will call on to answer the question. Only that person is allowed to answer, and no help may be given from the other team members.
- A member of either team may "buzz in" to answer a question at any time after the moderator begins to ask the question. The answer or part of an answer may not be amended once it is spoken.
- The moderator will stop the question the instant he sees/hears a buzz.
- The person "buzzing in" must begin his/her answer within 5 seconds after being recognized by the moderator.

- If an incorrect answer is given, or no answer at all is given within 5 seconds, the entire question will be read for the opposing team 'once'. When they "buzz in" they will have 5 seconds to begin their answer after being recognized by the moderator. The Moderator will not give hints during this time.
- If neither team gives a correct answer to the question, no points will be awarded.
- No discussion among team members is permissible at any time during the match.
- When it is determined that a team cannot win, the match will be called.
- Moderators will rule on the first answer spoken.
- Moderators will accept answers that are correct, but may not be verbatim, but again ARE correct. (Examples: Jesus for Jesus Christ, grass for green grass, Father for Heavenly Father)
- Moderators may discard a question if they determine there is a problem with the question.
- Moderators will turn over any cards in question to the judges.
- All judges, when given a card to review, will look up the scripture(s) to review the answer given. Remembering also, the person does not have to give a direct quote.
- A team may challenge a question or incorrect answer in any match, but no more than 2 times per match.
- Once a challenge is issued, the match will be stopped. The question will be given to the judges. After the question is given to the judges, there is to be no discussion among the team members, teams, or audience. A ruling will be given, and the match will continue.
- If a challenge was issued before the other team was able to "buzz in" or hear the question and the ruling was still "incorrect answer" by the first team, the other team will be given the opportunity to hear the question and "buzz in" to answer.
- When there is a challenge on the question itself or where the answer can be found in separate parts of the book(s), the burden of proof is on the person who challenged to prove where his/her answer can be found.
- **The ruling of the judges on any challenge is final.**

## Other Information

- The Bible Bowl Committee will meet each year on the second Saturday of September.
- Next meeting is September 14, 2024, at 10:00 AM, to be held at St. Andrews Road Church of Christ in Columbia, SC.
- Anyone from a participating congregation may attend the meeting.
- When/If a vote is taken on a matter, a congregation may cast only one vote.
- Rules of the Bible Bowl will be reviewed at the annual meeting and may be revised, deleted, or added.
- The selection of the book(s) and the date for the Bible Bowl will be decided at the meeting.
- The book(s) for the Bible Bowl may be announced as soon as the Bible Bowl Committee Meeting is over by those congregations in attendance. All others will be notified by mail two weeks after the meeting.
- Information concerning the Bible Bowl will be mailed after the Bible Bowl Committee Meeting. All information pertaining to the Bible Bowl rules, book(s), forms, and any other pertinent information will be available online at sarcoc.org.
- St. Andrews Road will host the 2023 SC Bible Bowl.
- To offset the cost of lunch, trophies, printing, certificates, the cost of mailings and ribbons for each winner, etc., each team will include in its registration a check for **\$30.00** made out to the hosting congregation (St. Andrews Road COC). This fee is regardless of the number of team members, 1- 5 per team. Payment is due for all teams registered for, even if they do not show up.
- Any spectator eating lunch will be asked to pay \$6.00. Spectators should pre-register along with the team to help the hosting congregation prepare for the food needed.

The SC Bible Bowl committee encourages all participants to remember, the “actions” that glorify our Father in heaven are those that bear much fruit.  
(John 15:8)

*And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. Colossians 3:17*

*And that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:15-17*

