

engage
25-30 minutes

Choose 1+ of these Anti-Workbook activities to explore the session question. The first 2 are for individual use, while the last 2 involve the whole group.

1. Graffiti Wall

Use art supplies to graffiti the brick wall in the Anti-Workbook with an answer to the question, "Who wrote the Bible?" Encourage youth to capture favorite Bible passages or stories through their graffiti. Offer Bible dictionaries and concordances for kids who want to dig deeper.

Questions for conversation while you work:

- How do you define "inspired"?
- Before today, how did you imagine the Bible being written? What about now?
- What did you create in your Anti-Workbook?
- Did you include any favorite Bible passages? What are people saying and doing in these stories? How do they point to God?
- What questions do you still have about the Bible's authorship?

2. Boxed Out

Fill in the spaces in the boxing ring in the Anti-Workbook with different "blows" to the theories that God alone wrote the Bible or that humans alone wrote the Bible.

Questions for conversation while you work:

- Why do you think people disagree about how the Bible was written and assembled?
- How can we deal with difficult Bible passages that don't seem to make sense today? Or with texts we don't totally agree with?
- Can you think of other examples of religious writings (or other things) where people disagree about who created it?
- If the Bible was the disputed item in an intellectual property lawsuit between God and the people who wrote the words, who would win and why?
- Why does it matter so much to people who write the Bible?
- Do you know people who are skeptical about the Bible? Or who think it was transmitted directly from God to parchment?

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Icon indicates whether the activity was designed with individuals or groups in mind.

Summary of the Anti-Workbook activity's goals. With the right diet and goal-setting, you can do anything!

Directions for facilitating the Anti-Workbook activities. Pick the ones that work best for your group. Allow yourself to GET INVOLVED with the kids' activities.

Helpful session video quote that provides some context for the activity.

respond
15-20 minutes

Gather to share the different points of view kids have discovered and developed during the session.

Regroup

Hand out note cards. Ask kids to write 1 question they still have about the Bible. Invite volunteers to share with the rest of the group.

Share

Go around the group and ask each person to share what they've done (if they're comfortable) and explain how they did it and why. Affirm all thoughtful explanations and attempts at the work. Point out 2-3 things about each kid's work that you like best. Invite others to offer thoughtful observations.

Questions for conversation:

- What are three things you learned today about how the Bible was created?
- Do you agree with this statement: "The Bible is the inspired word of God"? Why or why not?
- We don't keep expanding the books of the Bible. Do you think God could still be speaking to us today? How?
- What are some ways to tell the difference between something that's inspired and something that's not?

Send

Stand in a circle and pray Isaiah 55:9-11. Hold the Bible open and ask kids to pray the question from their note card and place the card in the Bible. Ask God to be with the kids as they wrestle with their questions about the Bible.

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Closing activity and facilitation notes to help youth reflect on what they've discovered. Use this section to wrap things up.

Reminder to capture kids' responses and share with others via online galleries. Check them out at www.reformgallery.org.

Sending ritual and prayer that challenges kids to continue exploring the session topic. Keep on trucking!

