

Orthodox Bible Bowl (Baltimore 2011)

Rules

Participants

Each Orthodox parish in the Baltimore/Washington DC region and surrounding areas is eligible to enter teams in two categories:

Category One - Grades 8 and below (Through Middle School Teams)

Category Two - High School age (Grades 9-12)

A team will consist of 3-5 participants. Only three participants at a time may compete on a team. Teams with more than three participants may rotate their other team members half way through the competition.

Teams must register prior to the event. Every team and team member must check in during the event and remain at the event venue throughout the competition and on through the awards ceremony.

Bible Bowl Questions

The 2011 Baltimore Bible Bowl will use the Orthodox Study Bible to exact questions for participants with focus on the following Book:

Category One Teams (Up thru Middle School) will encounter questions from the Holy Gospel of St. Matthew: chapters 1-14

Category Two Teams (High School) will encounter questions from the Holy Gospel of St. Matthew: chapters 15-28

Procedures

Each team will nominate a team leader. The team leader will provide the official answers from the team. No other response will be accepted. Questions will go in round robin style with each team taking turns. A question will not be used again or offered to the next team if missed.

In the Orthodox Study Bible, the footnotes are especially helpful as they expand upon the text. Some questions may be taken from the footnotes only for the High School level competition. Questions will be asked in a way that can be answered with one word or at most, a short phrase.

Format

Each team, in turn will be asked to give a verbal answer to the question. Team members may confer among themselves to arrive at the single team answer. As one team confers to give their oral answer, all other teams will have their team members individually write down their answer. Teams giving written answers may not confer. When time expires, the conferring team will give their oral answer and the monitors will collect the written answers from the members of the other teams. *Example: When question (1) is asked, the team asked the question would give one oral answer from the entire team. While this is happening, all other participants will be writing down their answer on their own private sheet. At a signal from the timekeeper, the team asked the oral question would give its answer by the selected member. Simultaneously, the monitor will have collected their team's individual sheets and will compile only the number of correct answers and this number is to be announced by the monitor.*

Answers

There will be 10 seconds to respond to each question asked by the proctor. Again, only responses presented by the team captain giving the oral answer will be accepted. Team members from the other teams must write their answer on their private sheet of paper. If the monitor(s) or judges detect that team members giving written answers are conferring, then their answers will be disqualified. If the question is missed, there will be no second attempts.

There will be no lightning rounds.

Scoring

A correct oral answer will count for 3 points. An incorrect ORAL answer will count for ZERO points. Teams giving written answers will be awarded one (1) point for each correct written answer. The total number of points awarded to a team for both oral and written will determine the final team scores. Incorrect answers won't count for any score. An official scorer will keep track of each answer scored or not scored by the team.

Tiebreaker

During the tiebreaker round there will be no conferring of team members. A question will be given to the teams with a tied score. Individual team members will write their answer on their private sheet of paper without conferring with their team members. Each correct answer will receive one point. Questions will be given until the tie is broken.

Judges

All answers will come from the "The Orthodox Study Bible". The participants have the right to challenge an answer, however the judges will have final decision as to whether an answer is acceptable or not.

The Judges have sole authority on whether or not an answer is correct or not. Should the judges feel a particular question caused confusion or could not be resolved by agreement on a single response then they may choose to strike the question/answer, and offer the same team the next question.

Judging will come from a representative panel of Priests of the participating parishes.

Timekeeper

An official timekeeper will control the clock during the competition. Each question will have a 10 second response time. At the end of this the team leader will be asked to provide the final team response.

Monitor

For each competing team the Bible Bowl needs to assign a 'neutral' monitor (adult volunteer). A monitor, standing behind each team from a parish other than their own, reviews the written responses of the individual team members. The monitor will indicate to the proctor the number of correct written answers for each question.

Each parish needs to volunteer the same number of adult 'neutral' monitors as the number of teams registered for the Bible Bowl.

Practice Questions

A list of practice questions will be made available to all teams participating in the event. This will serve as practice for the team coordinators to exercise their team and ready them for the event. Questions will be made available upon registration.

Visit <http://www.orthodoxyouth.org/matthew/> for more information on study guides.

Miscellaneous

- Each team is encouraged to bring a support group to help cheer and root their team on during the event.
- Teams may wear customized T-Shirts or other appropriate dress
- This event while serious in content intends to offer a chance for all participants to have fun in the faith.