"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Proverbs 1:7



If we leave out the Bible, we haven't even begun!

### **Doctrinal Statement:**

### We believe—

- in the Verbal Inspiration of both Old and New Testaments...
- in the Trinity of God...
- in the Diety of Christ, virgin-born of Mary, begotten by the Holy Spirit...
- in man's lost condition in sin as a result of the Fall of Adam...
- in Christ's substitutionary Atonement through His shed blood at Calvary...
- in His bodily Resurrection, Ascension and His present Intercessory work...
- in the personal, pre-millenial and imminent Return of Jesus Christ...
- in the New Birth through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ...
- in the bodily Resurrection of the Dead and the reality of Heaven and Hell...
- in the ordinances of the Church: Water Baptism and the Lord's Supper...
- in the fellowship of believers in Christ and in the autonomy of the Local Church...
- in the principles of Biblical Separation...

### Financial policy:

The Released Time Bible Class program of RBM Ministries is in no way financially assisted by federal, state or local school funds. This ministry depends entirely upon the contributions of churches and individuals. Any such donations are promptly receipted and acknowledged and are tax-deductible.

RBM Ministries Inc. PO Box 128 Plainwell, MI 49080 269-342-9879



# What is Released Time Bible Class?



RBM Ministries Inc.

"Serving the Church by Reaching the Children"



What the Program is...

There was a time when the Bible Man from the Rural Bible Mission visited the public schools, going from room to room during school time with a Bible story for elementary school children.

As you know, that day is past. State legal opinion and "official pressure" has closed this door for RBM Ministries today.

Now, by state law, a new and effectual door has opened called "released time." What is that? Let's take a look at this law—Act 270, Public Acts of 1964 (CL 1948, 340.732q):

"The board of education or its duly authorized representative, upon written request of the parent, guardian or person having control or charge of any child or children, shall release from attendance at the public school any child or children to attend religious instruction classes not to exceed two hours (120 minutes) per week."

Or, in other words—If Mom or Dad sign the permission slips, the kids can go from school on school time to a nearby church or other suitable place for a Bible Class!

And they do come, transported by the RBM teacher or other authorized personnel. Ten, twenty, thirty—sometimes a hundred or more—half of them kids who don't go to any church or Sunday School, yet...

Only, we take them once a month—so the school isn't bothered too much, so the Bible teacher can cover more territory, with more classes, reaching more children, and so our materials department can keep up with fresh lessons and visuals.

### What the children get...

Seven times each school year the Bible is taught by the story-telling method, with the aid of eye-catching visuals.

The Bible story is the "heart" of the program. The stories are chosen from both Old and New Testaments, with concern for the needs and understanding of the children. The presentation is true to life, faithful to Scripture and backed by RBM Ministries' commitment to evangelical Christian doctrine. Seasonal lessons are offered in the Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter seasons, featuring the great patriotic themes of America and the historical events of Christ's' birth, death and resurrection.

Each month the children are given a Bible verse to memorize and apply to their lives. Where facilities and time allow, songs and quizzes are part of the program.



The visual aids used by the Bible teachers are designed and constructed in RBM's art department and shop. We employ artists and craftsmen, in addition to selected volunteer help, to produce materials. These visuals are not available anywhere else. They are correlated to the Bible lessons in a vivid and unforgettable way in the skillful hands of the Bible teachers.

An attractive take-home paper, climaxes the thrust of each month's lesson, games and a pointed Bible message are used to help crystallize biblical truth.



What the church gives...

## The local church's responsibility regarding Released Time Class is to provide the following:

- Space: A properly heated and lighted place in the church building to accommodate the class comfortably.
- 2. Helpers: The RBM representative will be in charge of the program, including teaching and leading the singing. In addition, we may need a piano player and adults to sit in the class to help maintain discipline and assist any children who wish to make a decision for Christ. Where children walk to the class we need adult escorts.
- 3. Follow-up: We encourage the church to follow up all converts who do not attend some other church or Sunday School, and to contact the families of the children who enroll in the class that do not have a regular church or Sunday School.

In addition, RBM Ministries will enroll each child who makes a decision for Christ in its own direct-mail correspondence follow-up program, prepared on two age levels—six lessons with examinations to be worked out and mailed to us.

- **4. Transportation:** If the local church can assist with transportation, this will be very helpful. If it is not possible RBM will work out another transportation method with the church.
- Finances: Participating churches can also give monthly financial gifts to help underwrite RBM's Released Time Bible Class ministry.