

# Capitol Hill Baptist Church Children's Ministry

## Truths to Teach, Stories to Tell:

Books and other resources  
for your family

Connie Dever



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# Thoughts on Choosing and Using Books with Your Children

## When Should I Start Reading to My Child?

**Short Answer: As soon as you want!**

Reading is simply another form of language, so why not? Most parents begin talking to their children from birth, and children begin absorbing understanding through voice tone even before the words make sense.

**But, if you begin reading to your young infant, don't do it with the agenda of getting them to polish off the Bible by the time they are one! (This sounds ridiculous, but it's amazing what ideas we eager parents get into our heads!)**

**Do it to begin the pattern of enjoying time together, cuddled on your lap, listening to your voice and with an open heart.**

Gradually, as your child develops, watch for cues that they are ready for more. You will see them begin to point to pictures or bring you particular books to read (usually over and over again!). Then you know they are engaging with not just the feel of reading, but the content of what you are reading. That's when you can begin to really think about using books to fill their hearts and minds with truth.

## Bible Storybooks FAQs

**#1: What's the difference between a Bible storybook and a full Bible? Which would you recommend to using?**

A Bible storybook is a collection of Bible stories, written by an author, while the Bible is...well....the Bible--a translation of the entire Old Testament and New Testament into a particular language by a group of Bible scholars.

**#2: What are some things to consider in using a Bible storybook?**

**The Advantages:** A Bible storybook--like a good sermon-- can add descriptions about people and places that were known and assumed by the original writers and readers of the Bible, but that aren't obvious to us. They can use language that may be much more suitable for younger children to understand. They can give spiritual insights that help both child and parent learn important truths about God and how He wants us to live. These are all wonderful things.

**The Tricky Parts:** But, Bible storybooks have their down sides, too. In an attempt to bring the story to life and "up-to-date", authors may take quite a bit of creative license with language and emotion--adding things which may or may not be true. People who write Bible stories for children have to walk a very thin tightrope between bringing a story to life and not adding to it what isn't there. Authors also may choose to shift the true main point of the story to something more to their liking--often a more simple, moralistic application. You must be on your guard to edit on the spot.

## Tips for Choosing a Bible Storybook *(as well as other Bible-based books)*

**#1 Theology:** Check for sound theology! The story of Noah is often a good story to look at for this. Is it a story of the animals in the ark, or of the mercy and holiness of God towards sinful people? Praise God there are more and more good Bible storybooks with great theology available! But sometimes these books are so bad that you just can't use them. Other times, there are books with only largely-good theology that are so attractively done, that you may choose to edit as you read them aloud rather than not use them at all.

**#2 Pictures:** Do they show Jesus' face or not? Christian Focus books and Ella Lindvall do not illustrate Jesus' face, feeling that is breaking the 2nd commandment regarding graven images. Many others disagree. They don't believe it breaks the 2nd commandment to carefully use pictures to help teach young children.

**#3 Creative License:** Does the storybook add details that bring light to the story, but are in keeping with the original Bible text? How much license does the author take in adding extra details (especially emotional) that are not clearly inferred by the original Bible text? The Jesus Bible Storybook (Sally Lloyd-Jones) is an example of a Bible storybook that takes quite a bit of creative license, both in language and emotion enhancement. The Read-Aloud Stories (Ella Lindvall), The Children's Story Bible (Catherine Vos), The Big Picture Bible (David Helm) and The Beginner's Bible (Zonderkidz) are all examples of ones that do not.

**#4 Main Point:** Does the author seem to bring his own (often moralistic) main point to the story or does he stick to the main point of the original text? (A favorite example: Is the feeding of the 5000 about a little boy who shared his lunch or is it about Jesus revealing Himself as the Bread of Life, the Manna from Heaven, come to save God's people?)

**#5 Child-Appropriateness:** Are the stories the right length and right language for your child?

**#6 Story Choice in the Collection:** Does the book offer enough stories? A good cross-section of stories from every part of the Bible?

**#7 Use:** Are you looking for one-off stories or for something more like a Bible overview?

**#8 Appropriate Applications:** Does it offer any resources to help you and your family apply the Bible truths to your life?

## Tips for Choosing a Bible for Your Child

### #1 What's Your Goal?

Is your goal to begin to familiarize your child with a Bible version he will use the rest of their life, even if it is above his comprehension level (many times by quite a bit)? Realize that you will probably need to do more picking, choosing and explaining of passages for your child to understand what you are reading, if this is your approach.

### OR

Is your goal to start your child in the process of understanding/reading with a Bible closer to his own comprehension level? If so, look for an easier translation, written on (or closer to) their level and "promote" them up gradually to Bibles with higher reading level as you go.

### #2 Early Readers: They might be reading, but are they understanding?

There is a difference between what your early reader can read and what they are retaining. The technical words for this are "de-coding" (spelling out/pronouncing words) and "comprehension" (understanding and remembering what the words actually mean). Early readers are often working so hard to spell out or pronounce the words (de-coding) that there is little brain space leftover for comprehending at the same time. Check on how much they are comprehending by asking them a few questions about what they read. If they are remembering very little, chances are it's that they are so busy de-coding. You may want to choose a simpler Bible version or largely stick to reading aloud to them as their reading skills improve.

### #3 Take Some Translations for a Test Drive

Try out some different translations on your children and see what works best for them, based on your goals.

## Bible Translations *(and some notes about our favorite ones)*

READING LEVEL	TRANSLATION
3rd Grade	<b>New International Reader's Version (NIRV)</b>
<b>Good NIRV Choices: NIRV Adventure Bible for Early Readers Kids' Quest Study Bible</b>	
	This is a full, simplified version of the NIV 1984. It is more accessible to both preschoolers and elementary grade children.
7th Grade	<b>New King James Version (NKJV)</b>
7th-8th Grade	<b>Holman Christian Standard Bible (HCSB)</b>
<b>Good HCSB Choice: HCSB Illustrated Study Bible for Kids</b>	
	The "Southern Baptist" Bible is far more than its nickname implies. While it has updated scholarship, like the ESV, it often scores higher than the ESV in terms of readability for younger children especially. If only they could match the quality of notes in the ESV Study Bible!
7th-8th Grade	<b>New International Version 1984 (NIV 1984)</b>
<b>Good NIV 1984 Choice: NIV Adventure Bible, 1984</b>	
	The version has long been the highly favored translation among evangelicals. It is very readable in both word choice and sentence structure. Most suitable for 5th grade and up. It is, however, being replaced by the NIV 2011, which is headed in a distinctly different direction (read below) NOTE: Soon these will only be available through the used Bible market! Right now you can still get them through <a href="http://www.christainbook.com">www.christainbook.com</a> . Apparently Zondervan sold the end of their inventory to them. Buy now, if you want a new copy!
7th-8th Grade	<b>New International Version 2011 (NIV 2011)</b>
	The NIV 2011 has replaced the NIV 1984. It is not simply update of scholarship, but a shift towards gender neutral language. For this reason, many conservative evangelicals are holding tightly to their old NIV 1984's or shifting to other translations, frequently the ESV or the HCSB.
10th Grade	<b>English Standard Version (ESV)</b>
<b>Good ESV Choice: ESV Seek and Find Bible, ESV Grow Bible</b>	
	Definitely the up-and-coming translation among reformed evangelicals, but test drive it with the ears of a child. Sometimes the language and sentence structure is not easily understandable to younger children. The Study Bible versions do have extremely useful notes and very helpful maps.
11th Grade	<b>New American Standard Bible (NASB)</b>
12th Grade	<b>King James Version (KJV)</b>

## Bible Hybrids

**A Bible hybrid is a Bible that is a cross between a full translation Bible and a Bible story book. It is like a full translation Bible, because every word in it is from a direct translation of the Bible text. But it is also like a Bible story book, because it only includes selected stories or passages.**

### **#1 The Day by Day Begin-to-Read Bible**

A collection of the simplest stories included in the Day by Day Bible, listed below. Lots of pictures.

### **#2 The Day by Day Bible**

This fuller version contains many more passages from every book of the Bible. It is not primarily story-centered, but passage-centered, so it is beginning to feel much/can be used much more like a regular Bible. No pictures.

### ***Other Special Features of The Day by Day Bible***

- Chronologically ordered, so that different parts of the Bible that fit together are presented together. So, the Psalms about David are slotted in the stories of his life from 1 Chronicles. The letters of Paul are slotted in with stories from the Book of Acts, etc.
- A checklist for reading through it in 365 days. Nice bite-sized chunks.
- Good bridge for non-readers to confident readers.
- Tons of good lists in the appendix to help you decide what to read to your child, whether with this Bible translation or another version. (lists: Stories by Bible Book; Stories in Chronological Order; 100 Key Teaching Stories; 100 Bedtime Stories; and 100 Stories for Good Family Discussion.)

## Should I Do Bible Memory and/or Catechism with My Children?

No one can dispute that young children have an amazing ability to learn and memorize--often the quickest and easiest in their whole lives! Why not harness this skill for the sake of learning Bible truths?

Bible memory verses and catechisms are concise ways of putting a whole library of Bible truth in children's heads. While some people balk at the idea of helping children memorize concepts deeper than they can fully understand, others see the goal not so much as achieving full, immediate understanding in a young child today, but leaving a legacy in his head for the future.

But on the other hand, don't exasperate your child! Yes, they may be little memory sponges, but you can harden their hearts and discourage them with the very truths you want them to love by forcing them to do too much, too soon and in a format that just isn't appropriate or effective for them.

Remember: your point isn't just to check off the list that you taught these truths to your children. It's to try to make them stick in places where they will stay for years. Better to do less but do it well, than to think you've done it all and done it poorly or at the cost of a soft heart.

And one more thing: there is more than one way to skin a rabbit! Bible memory and catechism doesn't always have to take a recitation format. There are many Bible verses and catechism-like questions and answers put to song. There are games you can play to help them learn, too.



If nothing else, check out the resources for Hide 'n' Seek Kids and Deep Down Detectives at [www.praisefactorycurriculum.org](http://www.praisefactorycurriculum.org). All the Bible verses and catechism-like Big Questions are set to song; and, there are simple movement activities (called Music, Movement and Memory) you can do with them. For elementary-aged kids, all 104 Praise Factory scripture verses are also set to music. And, there is a section of games that can be used as a fun way to memorize any Scripture Verse.

## What Books Can and Cannot Do

### WHAT BOOKS CAN DO:

**#1 Books can help you present truths in an orderly fashion.**

**#2 Books can be a springboard into important conversations with your children.**

**#3 Books can help you learn good language to use with your children (or other people's children) on their level as you have those important conversations.**

**#4 Books can help leave a library of truth in your children that can be used by God their whole life: a kind of time release capsules of wisdom and knowledge.**

**#5 Books can provide a wonderful time of sharing for you and your child.** You can build memories and intimacy as you share thoughts, time, and the warmth of touch with your arm around them.

### WHAT BOOKS CAN'T DO

**#1 Books can't provide a one-size-fits-all formula for teaching every child.** And if the book you read says it can, beware! It can't!

**#2 Books can't save your child.** No amount of books or information can bring salvation to your child! This is a work of God, by His Holy Spirit, in His perfect timing, according to His perfect will.

**#3 Books can't replace the testimony of a godly, faithful life, only enhance it.** Books are one thing, but real life is another. How you live is the blank canvas for the truths you teach. Life paints them in vibrant, unforgettable colors. And remember: while God's righteousness and love might be what we would always desire the canvas of our lives to show (and thank God for when it does!), God is just as faithful to use our failings to display Himself. When we do fail and humbly seek His (and others') forgiveness, God is kind to use these times to reflect His mercy and compassion towards sinners--namely us and like our children. Our lives are much more about the business of REDEMPTION, than they are a picture of PERFECTION, as much as we might wish it to be otherwise. And through all of it, the truths about God we tell our children are brought to light.

**#4 Books can't replace your common-sense knowledge of your own child.** It will take your discernment to know what the right type of book and the right pacing of learning is best for your child. What if your neighbor's child can read already and yours doesn't? Don't push your child to hurry up and read if they aren't ready. Help your child enjoy books as he is able. (FYI: reading is a developmental skill that can fully develop as late as 2nd grade! Be patient!) What if your friend's child has read and memorized the entire book of Leviticus and can recite it backwards in Hebrew...while your child can hardly sit still let alone say their ABC's? Stop comparing! Help your child learn, read and memorize as she is able! The point is making a connection with your child, where they are, not to keep up with the Jones!



Also, just because a book tells you to do something, doesn't mean you should do it...unless it's the Bible, of course! Weigh what you know about your child with what the book is asking them to do or understand. Is he ready for it, or would he be better off with a slower, simpler pace; or, a faster, more complex pace?

**#5 Books can't replace the wisdom of parents with children older than yours.** It is easy to read a book and latch onto a particular system or ideal, only to find that you and/or your child is frustrated. This is especially true if you are an eager first-time parent. Seek out older, seasoned parents or even teachers who you know! They are invaluable resources! Parents with older children often have wrestled with similar issues and are able to give you good advice about how to use books to teach biblical truths to children and pitfalls to avoid. It can be especially helpful to particularly seek out parents who have a similar type of child as yours. Perhaps you have a wiggly Wade or a studious Susan. Talking to parents with older children of the same type can help you learn more about how to reach and teach your particular type of child, given their strengths and weaknesses.

## Where Can I Get These Books?

### #1 The CHBC Main Library: Downstairs (to borrow)

Some of these books will be on loan through the main CHBC Library located in the basement of the church. We are hoping to add quite a few more of the titles you see here to that collection, as space allows.

### #2 The CHBC Children's Resource Library: 3rd Floor (to borrow)

Books that we cannot fit downstairs in the Main CHBC Library, we will add to the Children's Resource Library upstairs on the 3rd floor. Why not just put all the books up there? Because this library has a lot of other materials that are used only by the teachers and there is a lot to weed through.

### #3 The CHBC Bookstall (to purchase)

Some of these books are available in the CHBC bookstall. If you find them there, they will be at about the best price you can find pretty much anywhere.

### #4 Online Booksellers (to purchase)

amazon.com	All books, except Good Book Company and Matthias Media. They are carrying an increasing number of Christian Focus books.
wtsbooks.com	Westminster Theological Seminary Bookstore. Many of our favorite books, at great prices, including some Christian Focus publications.
cvbbs.com	Cumberland Valley Bible Book Service. Many of our favorite books, at great prices. The whole line of Christian Focus publications. Only US source I know of to purchase the Jim Cromarty books (He's Australian.)
matthiasmedia.com (usa)	US source for Australian-based Matthias Media. Books like <u>Who Will Be King?</u> and <u>Gumtree Gully</u> (children's versions of <u>Two Ways to Live</u> )
christianfocus.com (usa)	US source for Christian Focus Books. However, wtsbooks.com and cvbbs.com seem to have better prices, (though more limited quantities).
the goodbook.com	Only US source for books by this publisher.
christianbook.com	Largest, single dealer in Christian Books in the US. They will tend to have only the most "mainstream" books, such as those published by Crossway and Zondervan.

# Booklist of Helpful Resources

## About This Booklist

This is an excerpt from Connie Dever's book: Capitol Hill Baptist Church Children's Ministry. It lists books by category. Within each category, **books are ordered loosely by age-appropriateness**. Loosely, because children's abilities and interests vary widely. Your best bet is to try out books with your children and see what is a good fit. Borrow it from the church library or a friend. You may also want to read online reviews and see what age child tends to be reading the book.

**The Age Ratings:** Wherever possible, I have listed the suggested age levels the publisher gives for each book. Again, these are simply guidelines! Look for a good fit for your child, not the publisher's average child! It's a good connection with your child---not with some publisher's opinion that matters.

### **Where to Find These Books:**

Most of these books can be ordered through [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), [christianfocus.com](http://christianfocus.com), [cvbbs.com](http://cvbbs.com) or [wtsbooks.com](http://wtsbooks.com). If there is an exclusive, unusual source of a particular book, I will list it. Otherwise, assume you can get it in through these four, major websites listed above.



## Parenting Books

**First Time parents (especially) beware** of using these or any parenting books as a textbook for your child. Each book has its own bent and is most helpful when read in combination with other ones. Input from other parents--particularly those with older children--can be invaluable in learning to apply ideas to real live kids.

### Parenting Books: The First Year of Parenting

#### **On Becoming Baby Wise**

Garry Ezzo, Robert Bucknam

We recommend only using this "secular" version of the Ezzo book. We do not condone Ezzo's use of Scripture to prove scheduling and other concepts found in the other "Christian" version of this book (This is called Let the Children Come Along the Infant Way). Sleep scheduling, as he presents it, comes across as a strict necessity, rather rigidity put in place, instead of as a matter of helpfulness, nuance and understanding of your particular child. While there is a lot of very good material in this book, we strongly caution you, sometimes desperate first-time parents, who might be grasping for a fail-safe formula for raising children. Ezzo's language can lead you to feel like you must do things his way, all-the-way in order for your children to come out well. Take his advice with a grain of salt and if in doubt, talk to other parents with older children to gain perspective in how to apply ideas to real live kids. Ezzo's best ideas are helpfully balanced with Secrets of the Baby Whisperer, listed next.

#### **Secrets of the Baby Whisperer**

Tracy Hogg

This book conveys many of the same helpful ideas as the Ezzo book listed above, but without many of the legalistic trappings.

#### **A Mother's Heart**

Jean Fleming

#### **New First Three Years of Life: Completely Revised and Updated**

Burton L. White

This secular book is based on Dr. White's 37 years of actual observation and research of the developmental stages children 0 to 3 years go through. He gives very commonsense tips everything from best toys to buy to dealing with many common issues parents face with their child. Interestingly, Dr. White's observations about what works best with children echoes much of biblical wisdom. Use it in combination with other Christian books on parenting.

## Parenting Books: Toddlers and Up

### **The Shaping of the Christian Family: How My Parents Nurtured My Faith**

Elizabeth Elliot

### **Give Them Grace: Dazzling Your Kids with the Love of Jesus**

Elyse Fitzpatrick, Tullian Tchividjian

This is a good book to balance out other parenting books that have a very distinct “formula” to raising children. It can help parents remember not just the “method” but the grace that is so needful in winsome, godly parenting.

### **Don't Make Me Count to Three**

Ginger Plowman

### **Shepherding a Child's Heart**

Tedd Tripp

Some very good ideas, but very much influenced by a paedo-baptist covenant view of children in a Christian family.

### **Hints on Child Training**

H. Clay Trumball

This is Elizabeth Elliot's grandfather! While I would not use this book exclusively, he does bring a fresh, different perspective on parenting children that provides a very good balance to other general parenting books.

### **Raising Real Men: Surviving, Teaching and Appreciating Boys**

Hal and Melanie Young

### **Raising a Christian Daughter in an MTV World**

Mary Ruth Murdoch

### **A Mother's Heart**

Jean Fleming

### **A Manual for the Young: Bridges' Practical Exposition of Proverbs 1-9**

#### **Proverbs**

Charles Bridge

Two good resource for parents. Easy to reference. Good to read with teenagers.

### **Feminine Appeal**

Carolyn Mahaney

Great resource for parents. Good to read with teenage girls.

### **Girl Talk**

Carolyn Mahaney & Nicole Mahaney Whitacre

Great resource for parents. Good to read with teenage girls.

### **Childhood Conversion (pamphlet)**

#### **How Children Come to Faith in Christ (CD available from Family Life Today)**

Jim Eliff

### **Praying for the Next Generation**

Sally Michael      only at *childrendesiringgod.org*

### **Your Child's Profession of Faith**

Dennis Gundersen  
Calvary Press

### **The Heart of Anger**

Louis Paul Priolio  
Shepherd's Press

### **Thoughts for Young Men**

J.C. Ryle  
Great resource for parents. Good to read with teenage boys. *amazon.com*,

### **Age of Opportunity**

Paul Tripp  
A book on parenting adolescents.

### **Parenting Adolescents**

#### **Making Peace with Your Teenager**

Kevin Huggins  
Two books that help you think about your hungry parent-heart for your child to be a certain way and points you and them to Christ instead.

### **Treasuring God in Our Traditions**

Noel Piper

### **CCEF Booklet Series: Help for Stepfamilies; Angry Children; Helping Your Adopted Child; How Do I Stop Losing It with My Kids? Recovering from Child Abuse; ADD: Wandering Minds and Wired Bodies; Teens & Sex: How Should We Teach Them?**

Wonderful booklets by various authors  
*only through ccef.org*

## **Bible Story Books**

### **The Beginner's Bible (and The Beginner's Toddler Bible)** (ages 2 and up)

Zonderkidz

### **The Bible in Pictures for Toddlers** (ages 2 and up)

Ella K. Lindvall  
Moody Press

### **God Is Great: A Toddler's Bible Storybook** (ages 2 and up)

Carolyn Larsen



**A Child's First Bible** (ages 2 and up)

**New Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes** (ages 2 and up)

Kenneth Taylor

**The Candle Bible for Toddlers** (ages 2 and up)

Juliet David

Candle

**Little Hands Story Bible** (ages 2 and up)

Carine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

**The First Step Bible** (ages 1 and up)

Mack Thomas

Gold n' Honey

**Marians's Big Book of Bible Stories** (ages 3 and up)

Marian M. Schoolland

Out of print but readily available through used book websites, including [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

**Read with Me Bible: An NIV Story Bible for Children** (ages 2/4 and up)

**Read with Me Bible for Toddlers**

Doris Ridders

Zonderkidz

We use with our preschoolers

**Read Aloud Bible Stories, multiple volumes** (ages 2 and up)

**Parables Jesus Told: the Tell Me Stories**

Ella Lindvall

Moody Press

Wonderful illustrations. Great with even very, very young children. [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

**The Christian Focus Story Bible** (ages 4 and up)

Catherine Mackenzie

Christian Focus Publishers

**365 Bible Stories for Young Hearts** (ages 4 and up)

Leon Hudson

Crossway

**365 Great Bible Stories: The Good News of Jesus from Genesis to Revelation** (ages 4 and up)

Carine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

**My First Study Bible** (ages 6 and up)

Paul J. Loth

**The Gospel Story Bible: Discovering Jesus in the Old and New Testaments** (ages 4 and up)

Marty Machowski

New Growth Press

**The New Children's Bible** (ages 4 and up)

Anne de Vries

**The Jesus Storybook Bible** (ages 4 and up)

Sally Lloyd-Jones

Loved by many families, but be aware! She does take more creative license in terms of language and emotion than most Bible story books. You may want to tone things down in a few places. This book borders more on literature rather than straight Bible story book. Better for family use. I would NOT suggest using it in its curriculum format (now available through amazon.com) because it sets an example of attributing emotional elements to characters in the Bible story that aren't there and might not even be appropriate (like some of those she attributes God having in particular stories). We want Bible stories to come to life in our Sunday School classes, but we also want to be teaching our teachers and our children to study the Bible well. I don't think that this book as curriculum sets a good didactic example to teachers or children. Leave this book for use as an enjoyable storybook.

**Big Picture Story Bible** (ages 2 and up)

David R. Helm & Gail Schoonmaker

Crossway Books

All of redemptive history from before the beginning to after the end! Wonderfully done.

**The Mighty Acts of God: A Family Bible Story Book** (ages 8 and up)

Starr Meade

**The Child's Story Bible** (ages 4 and up)

Catherine Vos

Eerdmans

**The Children's Bible in 365 Stories** (ages 3 and up)

Mary Batchelor

Lion Publishing

Does a wonderful job of tying in Bible stories chronologically so that you get a feel for how the psalms of David fit in with the history of David, the epistles of Paul fit in with Acts, etc.

**The Bible History As Told to Our Children, 3 volumes** (elementary school age and up)

John Vreugdenhil

Available almost exclusively through Reformation Heritage Books. A bit "old school" but the stories are wonderfully told, as by a grandfather talking to his grandkids.

*only at [heritagebooks.org](http://heritagebooks.org)*

## Individual Bible Story Books: Board Books (ages 0-3)

**Stories Jesus Told: The Missing Sheep, The Runaway Son, The Selfish Servant, The Lost Coin, The Proud Prayer, The Foolish Farmer**

Carine Mackenzie  
Christian Focus

**Jesus Saves His People, Jesus Helps His People, Jesus Rescues His People**

Catherine Mackenzie  
Christian Focus

**Famous Bible Stories Series:**

**Noah's Ark, Baby Moses, Joseph's Coat, Samuel's Surprise, Naaman the Soldier, Jonah and the Big Fish, Ruth's Journey**

Carine Mackenzie  
Christian Focus

**The Special Baby-Jesus, Big Crash, Safe at Sea, Safe with the Lions, the Little Rich Man, the Man on the Mat, The Singing Shepherd-David, Amazing Jar of Oil, The Kind Man, The Big Picnic, The Man Who Couldn't Pay; There's a Hole in My Roof**

Hazel Scrimshire  
Christian Focus

**Born to Be King series: Mary and Joseph Love Jesus (1), The Shepherds Find Jesus (2), Simeon and Anna See Jesus (3), The Wise Men Help Jesus (4)**

Catherine Mackenzie  
Christian Focus

## Individual Bible Story Books

**The Lord's Prayer for Little Ones** (ages 3 and up)

Allia Zobel Nolan

**God Creates Series: God Creates Light; God Creates Fish and Birds; God Creates Animals and People; God Creates a Day of Rest; God Creates New Life in Me; God Creates the Land, Seas and Plants; God Creates the Sun, Moon and Stars; God Creates the Water and the Sky**

Catherine Mackenzie

**Bible Wise Series** (ages 2-7)

Daniel: the Praying Prince; Samuel: the Boy Who Listened; Barnabas: the Encourager; David: The Fearless Fighter; Sarah & Abraham: The Wonderful Promise; Elijah: God's Miracle Man; Jonathan: The Faithful Friend; Jesus Is Live: The Amazing Story; Miriam: The Big Sister's Secret; Joseph: God's Dreamer; Saul: The Miracle on the Road; Jesus: The Promised Child; Paul: Journeys of Adventure; Noah: Rescue Plan

Carine MacKenzie  
Christian Focus

**Life of Jesus for the Very Young** (ages 4 and up)

Isobel Tallach

**The Special Baby-Jesus, Big Crash, Safe at Sea, Safe with the Lions, the Little Rich Man, the Man on the Mat, The Singing Shepherd-David, Amazing Jar of Oil, The Kind Man, The Big Picnic, The Man Who Couldn't Pay; There's a Hole in My Roof**

**paperback version of the board books**

Hazel Scrimshire

Christian Focus

**God's Little Guidebooks: Creation** (ages 3 and up)

Catherine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

**God's Little Guidebooks: 10 Commandments Box Set** (ages 3 and up)

Hazel Scrimshire

Christian Focus

**Little Hands Life of Jesus** (ages 3 and up)

Carine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

**Bible Alive Series: (ages 4-7)**

**David the Shepherd: A Man of Courage; Jesus the Storyteller; David the Soldier: A man of patience; David the King: True repentance; Moses the Traveller: Guided by God; David the Fugitive: True Friendship; Jesus the Child; Jesus the Healer; Moses the Child: Kept by God; Jesus the Savior; Moses the Leader: Used by God; Moses the Shepherd: Chosen by God; Jesus the Miracle Worker; Jesus the Teacher**

Carine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

**Caring Creator** (ages 3 and up)

Carine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

**The Plan: How God Got the World Ready for Jesus** (ages 4-7)

Sinclair B. Ferguson

Christian Focus

**Bible Time Series: (ages 4-7)**

**Esther the Brave Queen; Peter--the Apostle; Mary: Mother of Jesus; Hannah: The Mother Who Prayed; Simon Peter: Disciple; Joshua: Brave Leader; Ruth: the Harvest Girl; Martha & Mary: Friends of Jesus; Jonah: the Runaway Preacher; Peter: Fisherman; John: the Baptist; Rebekah: Mother of Twins; Gideon: Soldier of God; Moses: Man of God; Paul: The Wise Preacher; Nehemiah: Builder for God**

Carine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

**Creation Series** (ages 4 to 7)

Carol Leah

Christian Focus

**Children of the Bible** (ages 4 to 7)

Carine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

**Hall of Fame: Old Testament; New Testament** (ages 4 to 7)

Catherine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

**Jesus Teaches Us Series: How To Be Happy; How to Be Good; How to Be Wise** (ages 4-7)

Sinclair Ferguson

**Magnificent Amazing Time Machine: A Journey Back to the Cross** (ages 4 and up)

Sinclair Ferguson

**God, the 10 Commandments and Jesus** (ages 4- and up)

Carine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

**Wise Words to Obey: Words of Wisdom from the Book of Proverbs**

Carine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

**How to Be a Bible Princess** (ages 8 to 12)

Catherine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

Stories about Bible princesses and what we can learn from them about being daughters of the King of Kings.

## Meditations on Individual Scriptures

**Sammy and His Shepherd: Show Me Jesus in Psalm 23** (ages 4 and up)

Susan Hunt

**David and I Talk to God Series and God's Word in My Heart Series:** (ages 4 and up)

**Make Way for the King Psalms 145 and 24 for Children**

**What Can I Say to You, God? Verses from the Psalms on Prayer**

**God Cares When I'm Thankful**

**Sometimes I Think "What If?" Psalm 46 for Children**

**God Cares When I Don't Know What to Do**

**And many other titles**

These are out of print, but obtainable. They are wonderful!

All by Elspeth Campbell Murphy

David C. Cook

*available through used book stores only, but can type in title in search engine for amazon.com and find where copies can be located*

## Bible Story Activity Books and Resources

**Colour the Bible Series:** (ages 4-7)

**Book 1: Genesis - 2 Chronicles**

**Book 2: Ezra-Daniel**

**Book 3: Hosea-Malachi**

**Book 4: Matthew - Mark**

**Book 5: Romans - Thessalonians**

**Book 5: 1 Timothy - Revelation**

Carine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

Coloring pictures and a fill-in-the-blank verse. New King James Version.

**Bible Story Coloring Book Series:** (ages 4-7)

**Story of Abraham, David, Joseph, Mary, Moses, Jacob, Nehemiah, Peter, Ruth, Paul, Miracles of Jesus**

Catherine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

**Puzzle Book Series** (ages 4-7)

**Birth of Jesus**

**Jesus and the Resurrection**

Christian Focus

**Bible Numbers, A Bible Alphabet, The Work of His Fingers** (ages 4-7)

Alison Brown

**Books of the Bible Coloring Books:** (ages 4-7)

**Book of Genesis**

**Hebrews-Men of Faith**

**Colour the Gospel: Matthew**

**Colour the Gospel: Mark**

**Colour the Gospel: Luke**

**Colour the Gospels: John**

**My Bible ABC Activity Book**

Catherine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

Coloring pictures and a fill-in-the-blank verse. New King James Version.

**Go to the Ant Coloring Book** (ages 4-7)

Judy Rogers (companion book to her audio CD, listed in Music section)

**Coloring Book Series:**

**Animals of the Bible**

**Bible Discover and Color**

Philip Snow

Christian Focus

**Bible People Coloring Book Series:** (ages 4-7)

**Apostles**

**Baby Moses**

**David and the Giant**

**Bible Work**

**Bible Miracles**

Carine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

**Puzzle Book Series**

**The Greatest Rescue: Jesus and the Resurrection**

**The Queen's Feast: Esther**

**The Greatest Gift: Birth of Jesus**

**Bible Detectives Acts: Fun Bible Studies using Puzzles and Stories**

**Journey to Jericho: Moses, Joshua and Amazing Journey**

**God's Builder: Nehemiah**

**The Big Contest: Elijah**

**The Brave Ruler: Daniel**

Ros Woodman

Christian Focus

**God's Little Giants Boys and Girls in the Bible** (ages 4-7)

Hazel Scrimshire

Christian Focus

**Busy People (Bible People)** (ages 4-7)

**Connect the dots**

Carine MacKenzie

Christian Focus



## **Big Fish Activity Book** (ages 4-7)

Ros Woodman

Christian Focus

### **Bible Detective Series:**

**Genesis** (ages 4-7)

**Exodus** (ages 4-7)

**1 Samuel** (ages 8-12)

**Matthew** (ages 8-12)

**Mark** (ages 4-7)

**Luke** (ages 4-7)

**John** (ages 4-7)

**Acts** (ages 8-12)

**The Quiz Book** (ages 4-7)

Ros Woodman and Marianne Ross

Christian Focus

### **Flannelgraph Pictures**

Yes, I know it seems "old school," but nothing charms preschoolers like flannelgraph. They are a great way to have the children interact with a story you are telling or to re-tell it back to you after you have read it to them.

### **Proper flannelgraph can be purchased through Betty Lukens**

<https://www.bettylukens.com>

**Pictures that you print out on paper and laminate can be downloaded through Praise Factory** with the Hide 'n' Seek Kids and Deep Down Detectives. These go with each of the 85 preschool stories. The curriculums also include review games to play with these pictures. You can also purchase these on amazon.com.

*only on The Praise Factory website*

## **Children's Bible Story Sermons**

**These are stories of a slightly longer format which tell the story as well as draw out particular applications.**

**Ninety Story Sermons for Children's Church**

**120 Dramatic Story Sermons for Children's Church**

**New Testament Story Sermons for Children**

Marianne Radius

Her materials are excellent. One who inspired me to do the writing I'm doing. Daughter of Catherine Vos. Good reformed stock! Sometimes this is only available through used book stores. Well worth finding and keeping.

available through used book stores only, but can type in title in search engine for amazon.com and find where copies can be located

## Bible Hybrids

**Day by Day Kid's Bible** (ages 7 and up)

**Day by Day Begin-to-Read Bible** (ages 4 and up)

Karyn Henley

Tyndale Kids

Never seen anything quite like it! Chronological, great lists in back, a quasi-translation rather than just a story Bible. Even includes the prophets and the epistles. A number of great lists at end of book that are very, very helpful for curriculum planners, teachers, and parents.

## Bibles

**NirV Adventure Bible (full version)**

Reading Level: 3rd Grade

**NIV 1984 Adventure Bible**

Reading Level: 7th-8th Grade

**HCSB Illustrated Study Bible for Kids**

Reading Level: 7th-8th Grade

**ESV Seek and Find Bible, ESV Grow Bible**

Reading Level: 10th Grade

## Bible Memory

**Fighter Verses: Bethlehem Baptist**

(now also have musical versions of these verses available) Very well done. ESV and NIV1984 versions.

**Bible Memory Program for the Children of CHBC and Parent Resource Book**

**Sing & Say along the Way Memory Verse Cards**

Sets of memory verses related to each concept taught in the three Praise Factory curriculums. Includes track numbers for related scripture songs. All cards and songs downloadable on the Praise Factory website.

**First Book of Memory Verses**

Carine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

**Also see Truth and Grace Memory Books in Catechism Resources**

## Bible Memory Activity Books

### **God Loves Me** (ages 4-7)

Sarah Womersley  
Christian Focus

### **God Cares** (ages 4-7)

**God Is Good**  
**God Loves You**  
Hazel Scrimshire  
Christian Focus

### **Verses: Bible Pictures to Color** (ages 4-7)

**God Is Faithful**  
**God Is Everywhere**  
Carine MacKenzie  
Christian Focus

## Bible Verses Set to Music

### **Also see the What God Says Theology Coloring Book Series:** (ages 4-7)

Bubble-letter style Bible verses related to each of these topics. New King James Version.

### **Also see the Colour the Bible and Colour the Gospel Series listed under Bible Story Activity Books**

Coloring pictures and a fill-in-the-blank verse. New King James Version.

### **Hide 'em in Your Heart: Volumes 1 & 2**

Steven Green

### **Sovereign Grace Kids Music:**

#### **Awesome God, To Be Like Jesus, Walking with the Wise**

Wonderful music!

*only [sovereigngracemusic.org](http://sovereigngracemusic.org)*

### **Hide 'n' Seek Kids, Deep Down Detectives, and Praise Factory Investigators Songs**

These are all the hymns, Bible Verses and Big Questions used in these three curriculums, all set to music.

*only on [The Praise Factory website](http://ThePraiseFactory.com)*

### **christianbook.com**

The children's music section of this website lists quite a few audio CDs of Bible verses.

## The Gospel

### **The Gospel for Children: A Simple, Yet Complete Guide to Help Parents Teach Their Children the Gospel of Jesus Christ** (ages 5 and up)

John B. Leuzarder

Very God-centered version of the gospel. Nice little illustrations, too.

### **Who Will Be King?** (ages 4 and up)

Matthias Media

Excellent and very simple for children to remember.

*matthisamedia.com*

### **GumTree Gully** (ages 5 and up)

Kel Richards

Matthias Media

A tale of the Australian bush that does a fantastic job of illustrating the gospel for kids. We turned it into a puppet show that our grade school kids put on for preschoolers. High schoolers at a local Christian school did the puppet show for their mission trips to some overseas orphanages.

*matthisamedia.com*

### **The Gospel Story Bible** (ages 4 and up)

Marty Machowski

### **How Do I Get to Heaven?** (ages 4 and up)

Christian Focus

### **This Is No Fairy Tale** (ages 4 and up)

Dale Tolmasoff

### **Your Child's Profession of Faith**

Dennis Gundersen

Calvary Press

## Stewardship

### **In God We Trust: A Christian Kid's Guide to Saving, Spending and Giving**

Larry Burkett

Standard Publishing

A board book format that teaches kids about stewardship of their money and can be used as a bank. Sounds crazy, but it is a great resource! A very hands-on and understandable presentation of what can be a confusing, abstract concept.

## Theology

### Theology: Board Books (ages 0-3)

**I Can Say to God, I Love You; I Can Say to God, Please;**

Catherine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

**God Made Series: God Made Water; God Made Weather; God Made Colors; God Made Food; God Made Me; God Made the World; God Made Time**

Catherine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

**God Gave Me Series: God Gave Me Hearing; God Gave Me Sight; God Gave Me Smell; God Gave Me Taste; God Gave Me Touch; God Gave Me Feelings**

Catherine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

**Attributes of God Series: God Has Power; God Is Everywhere; God Is Faithful; God Is Kind; God Knows Everything; God Never Changes**

Carine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

### Theology: Paperback and Hardback

**Learn about God series** (ages 0-3)

Catherine Mackenzie

**Christian Focus Publishers**

Board books for very young children. Great.

**My 1st Book of Questions and Answers** (ages 0-3)

Carine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

**Leading Little Ones to God: A Child's Book of Bible Teachings** (ages 4 and up)

By Marian M. Schoolland

Eerdmans

**What God Has Always Wanted: The Bible's Big Idea from Genesis Through Revelation**

(ages 4 and up)

Charles F Boyd

**Jesus Is Coming Back!** (ages 2 and up)  
**I Can Talk with God**  
**Jesus Loves Me**  
**Jesus Loves the Little Children**  
**I Love My Bible!**  
**God Knows My Name**  
**Every Child, Everywhere!**  
**Most of All, Jesus Loves You! (with Noel Piper)**  
**Jesus Is With Me**  
**Let's Explore God's World**

Debby Anderson

Some of these are available as board books, too.

**God Made Something Series:** (ages 2 and up)  
**God Made Something Amazing, Beautiful, Clever, Enormous, Funny, Quick, Strong, Tall**  
Penny Reeve

**Attributes of God Series:** (ages 2 and up)

**God Knows Everything**  
**God is Kind**  
**God is Faithful**  
**God Is Everywhere**  
**God Has Power**  
**God Never Changes**

Carine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

**Stop and Look At Yourself, Stop and Look at God's World, Stop and Look at God's Word**

(ages 3 and up)

Donna Drion

Day One Publications

**That's When I Talk to God** (ages 4 and up)

Dan Morrow

**Big Thoughts for Little Thinkers: The Scripture, The Trinity, The Gospel** (ages 4 and up)

Joey Allen

New Leaf Press

**Big Book of Questions and Answers** (ages 4 and up)

**Big Book of Questions & Answers about Jesus**

**Big Book of Bible Truths**

Ferguson Sinclair

Christian Focus

**Living With God** (ages 4 and up)

**Beginning with God**

**Meeting with God**

Nancy Gorrell

**How Do I Get to Heaven?** (ages 4 and up)

Nancy Gorrell

**All Things Bright and Beautiful** (ages 3 and up)

Cecil Frances Alexander

**The Caring Creator** (ages 4 and up)

Carine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

**Songs of Creation** (ages 4 and up)

Paul Goble

Eerdmans

**The Names of God** (ages 4 and up)

Sally Michael

**Children's Bible Basics Series:** (ages 4 and up)

**Who is God?**

**Who is Jesus?**

**What is a Christian?**

**What is a Church?**

**What is Prayer?**

**What Happens When We Die?**

**Why Do I Do Things Wrong?**

**The Holy Spirit in Me**

**Growing Jesus' Way**

**Angels**

**When Jesus Comes Back**

**And other titles**

By Carolyn Nystrom

Moody Press

One caution: the child in these stories is definitely converted. You want to make sure that whoever you read this to understands the decision that must be made in order to become a Christian.

**Caleb's Lamb** (ages 6 and up)

Helen Santos

**A Faith to Grow On: Important Things You Should Know Now that You Believe** (ages 7 and up)

John MacArthur

Tommy Nelson

**Grandpa's Box: Retelling the Biblical Story of Redemption** (ages 7 and up)

Starr Meade

**A Young Person's Guide to Knowing God** (ages 7 and up)

Patricia St. John



## **Of Pandas and People: The Central Question of Biological Origins**

Percival Davis and Dean Kenyon

High School Level book that looks at the origins of humanity. More of a science book than a theology book, but useful with teenagers grappling with the truth of the biblical theology of creation.

## **Theology Activity Books**

### **What God Says Theology Coloring Book Series:** (ages 4-7)

Bubble-letter style Bible verses related to each of these topics. New King James Version.

#### **God Does It Right**

#### **God is Always Fair series**

#### **God Does a Swap**

#### **Holiness**

#### **Salvation**

#### **Creation**

#### **Redemption**

#### **Repenting**

Catherine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

### **Attributes of God Coloring Book Series:** (ages 4-7)

#### **God Knows Everything**

#### **God is Kind**

#### **God is Faithful**

#### **God Is Everywhere**

#### **God Has Power**

#### **God Never Changes**

#### **God Is Forever**

Carine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

### **Why Series:** (ages 7-14)

#### **Why Did Jesus Come?**

#### **Why Did Jesus Die?**

#### **How Do I Know I'm a Christian?**

#### **The Best Present**

Alison Mitchell

thegoodbook.com

## Theology: Catechisms and Catechism-Like Resources

**ABC Bible Verses** (ages 3 and up)

**Big Truths for Little Kids**

Susan Hunt

Advocates of believer-baptism only be aware: Hunt's Presbyterian-based covenant theology and infant baptism does show up in how she writes.

**My 1st Book of Questions and Answers** (ages 4 and up)

**My 1st Book about Jesus**

**My 1st Book Of Bible Promises**

**My 1st Book Of Bible Prayers**

**My 1st Book Of Christian Values**

**My 1st Book of Memory Verses**

Carine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

**Bible Questions and Answers--a First Catechism** (ages 4 and up)

Carine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

**Big Book of Questions and Answers** (ages 4 and up)

**Big Book of Questions & Answers about Jesus**

**Big Book of Bible Truths**

Sinclair Ferguson

Christian Focus

**Catechism: Bible Questions and Answers: Teacher's Manual** (ages 4 and up)

Diana Kleyn

Christian Focus

Companion volume to Sinclair Ferguson's book

**The Family Worship Book** (ages 4 and up)

Terry L. Johnson

**Catechism for Young Children, Original Edition** (ages 4 and up)

Presbyterian Church of America

wtsbook.com

**First Catechism** (ages 4 and up)

Presbyterian Church of America

wtsbook.com

**Children's "Prove It" Catechism Truth for Eternity Ministries** (ages 4 and up)

formed Baptist Church Grand Rapids, MI

Catechism for Young Children G.I. Williamson

Makes slight, baptistic changes from the Westminster Shorter Catechism only through <http://www.vor.org/rbdisk/html/proveit/fulltext.htm>

Re-

### **Hide 'n' Seek Kids, Deep Down Detectives, Praise Factory Investigators curriculum** (ages 2 -grade 5)

These three curriculums are all based on a Question/Answer format and can be used as a catechism resource. Include games, songs, action rhymes as well as a bible story that focuses on each concept/question. The take home sheets, available in the parent resources section for each curriculum, have helpful summaries of all key concepts and include concept-related questions.

on The Praise Factory website

### **Praise Factory Investigators**

The 16 Big Questions and Answers and what they mean set to music. A sing along storybook is also available which provides a story line that includes the lyrics to all the songs and a lot more truth.

Available through amazon.com

### **The Praise Factory Curriculum Tour (Basic and Extended Versions)**

A helpful and colorful overview of Praise Factory family of curriculum, philosophy, FAQ's and Scope & Sequences.

Available through amazon.com

### **The Westminster Shorter Catechism Songs, Volume 1, Q&A 1-28 (Audio CD)** (ages 4 and up)

### **The Westminster Shorter Catechism Songs, Volume 2, Q&A 29-56 (Audio CD)**

### **The Westminster Shorter Catechism Songs, Volume 3, Q&A 57-85 (Audio CD)**

### **The Westminster Shorter Catechism Songs, Volume 4, Q&A 86-107 (Audio CD)**

only through wtsbook.com

### **The Shorter Catechism Activity Book: Learning The Truth Through Puzzles** (ages 6 and up)

Marianne Ross

Christian Focus

### **Training Hearts Teaching Minds:** (ages 7 and up)

### **Family Devotions Based on the Shorter Catechism**

Starr Meade

Puritan & Reformed

Six days of devotions per each catechism question. Great for elementary ages.

### **Shorter Catechism Activity Book: Learning the Truth through Puzzles** (ages 7 and up)

Marianne Ross

Christian Focus

### **Truth and Grace Memory Books**

Tom Ascol

These are a Reformed Baptist set of books which sets catechism questions from the Baptist Catechism as well as memory verses to be learned from 2 years old through 4th (Book 1) and 5th through 8th grade (Book 2). Great words of advice in the foreword about how to approach use of these books. I would caution you to both encourage your child to learn these, yet always put your commonsense hat when looking at what someone else sets as an appropriate agenda for your child's grade/age. Better to learn less with a soft heart than to force through everything listed for your child's age group and actually embitter them.

Available through used book stores. Can find them through amazon.com.

## Devotions

### **Long Story Short: Ten-Minute Devotions to Draw Your Family to God** (ages 4 and up)

Marty Machowski

### **The Building on the Rock Series** (ages 4 and up)

By Joel Beeke & Diana Kley

Christian Focus Publishers

How God Sent a Dog to Save a Family and other Devotional Stories

How God Stopped the Pirates and other Devotional Stories

How God Used a Thunderstorm

How God Used a Snowdrift

How God Used a Drought and an Umbrella

Christian Focus

### **A Book for Family Reading Series** (ages 4 and up)

Jim Cromarty

Evangelical Press

Multiple volumes in this series: Book 1, Book 2, Book 3, etc.

### **Training Hearts Teaching Minds: Family Devotions Based on the Shorter Catechism**

(ages 6 and up)

Starr Meade

Puritan & Reformed

Six days of devotions per each catechism question. Great for elementary ages.

### **Wait till you see the butterfly and other short stories for boys and girls** (ages 5 and up)

Dorreen Tamminga

Banner of Truth

### **God's Mighty Acts in Salvation** (ages 4 and up)

### **God's Mighty Acts in Creation** (ages 4 and up)

Starr Meade

Crossway

### **A Year with Your Children in the Bible: A Family Devotional Resource** (ages 4 and up)

Jim Cromarty

### **Lord of Glory** (ages 4 and up)

Jim Cromarty

A year with your children in the Bible, Jim Cromarty has here provided another ideal tool to help parents to do just that! Each day's reading covers two full pages and takes the reader through the person and life of our Savior.

### **Queen Victoria's Request** (ages 6 and up)

Charles Spurgeon

Christian Focus

**XTB Series: (for your children to use)** (ages 4-7)

**The Book of Beginnings**

**Miracles & Dreams**

**Comings & Goings**

**Travels Unraveled**

**Easter Unscrambled**

**Summer Signposts**

**Christmas Unpacked**

Alison Mitchell

Each book includes three months worth of Bible readings and activities

**Table Talk Series (family devotions that tie directly into the XTB Series)** (ages 4-7)

**The Book of Beginnings**

**Miracles & Dreams**

**Comings & Goings**

**Travels Unraveled**

**Easter Unscrambled**

**Summer Signposts**

**Christmas Unpacked**

Alison Mitchell

Each book includes three months worth of Bible readings and activities

**God's Alphabet For Life: Devotions for Young Children** (ages 4 and up)

Joel Beeke

**Why Easter? A Children's Devotional** (ages 4 and up)

Barbara Reaoch

**Get Wisdom!: 23 Lessons for Children about Living for Jesus** (ages 4 and up)

Ruth Younts

**A Book for Family Reading Series:** (ages 4 and up)

**You Sank My Boat**

**How to Cook a Crow**

**A Sad Little Dog**

**The Cat's Birthday**

**One That Didn't Get Away , Vol. 3**

**Take Care In The Bath, Vol. 4**

Jim Cromarty

**Signposts from Proverbs** (ages 9 and up)

Rhiannon Weber

**Young Peacemaker Set (Paperback Manual and Activity Books on CD-ROM)**

(best for older elementary and up, but can be adapted to use with younger children)

Ken Sande

## Church History

**Polycarp of Smyrna: The Man Whose Faith Lasted** (ages 5 and up)

**Ignatius of Antioch: The Man Who Faced Lions**

**Irenaeus of Lyons: The Man Who Wrote Books**

Sinclair Ferguson

**Trailblazer Series:** (ages 7 and up)

**Charles Spurgeon: Prince of Preachers**

**Corrie ten Boom: Watchmaker's Daughter**

**George Muller: Children's Champion**

**Isobel Kuhn: Lights in Lisuland**

**Martyn Lloyd-Jones: From Wales to Westminster**

**George Whitefield: Voice that Woke the World**

**Paul Brand: The Shoes that Love Made**

**Joni Eareckson Tada: Swimming Against the Tide**

**John Stott: The Humble Leader**

**Patricia St. John: The Story Behind the Stories**

**Richard Wurmbrand: A Voice in the Dark**

**John Newton: A Slave Set Free**

**Billy Bray: Saved from the Deepest Pit**

**Robert Murray McCheyne: Life Is an Adventure**

**John Bunyan: Journey of a Pilgrim**

**William Wilberforce: The Freedom Fighter**

**John Welch: The Man Who Couldn't Be Stopped**

**John Calvin: After Darkness Light**

**C.S. Lewis: The Story Teller**

**Mary of Orange: At the Mercy of the Kings**

**Jonathan Edwards: America's Genius**

Various authors

Christian Focus

**Footsteps of the Past Series:** (ages 6 and up)

**John Bunyan**

**William Booth**

**William Wilberforce**

Andrew Edwards & Fleur Thornton

Day One Publications *only through christianbook.com*

**The Church History ABCs: Augustine and twenty-five other heroes of the Faith** (ages 6 and up) Stephen J. Nichols and Ned Bustard

Crossway

Artistic, fun, and very information book that will intrigue children younger than you think!

**God's Care and Continuance of His Church, 3 volumes** (ages 6 and up)

John Vreugdenhil

*only at heritagebooks.org*

**Christian Biographies for Young Readers Series: Athanasius, John Calvin, Augustine of Hippo**

(Older elementary and up)

Simonetta Carr

**Chronicles of the Church Series** (ages 8-12)

Brandon and Mindy Withrow

Christian Focus Publications

A wonderful 5 volume series of church history from beginnings in Acts to modern day.

**Other History (some Christian, some not)**

**Lightkeepers Series:** (ages 8-12)

**Ten Boys Series:**

**Ten Boys Who Made History**

**Ten Boys Who Made a Difference**

**Ten Boys Who Changed the World**

**Ten Boys Who Didn't Give In**

**Ten Boys Who Used Their Talents**

**Ten Girls Series:** (ages 8-12)

**Ten Girls Who Made History**

**Ten Girls Who Made a Difference**

**Ten Girls Who Changed the World**

**Ten Girls Who Didn't Give In**

**Ten Girls Who Used Their Talents**

Irene Howat

Christian Focus

**Guarding the Treasure: How God's People Preserve God's Word** (older elementary and up)

Linda Finlayson

**A Mighty Fortress Is Our God: Martin Luther** (older elementary and up)

Jim Cromarty

**Words to Die For: Verses that Shaped the Lives of 30 People Who Changed the World** (ages 7+)

Lawrence Kimbrough

Broadman and Holman

## Missions

### **Granny Han's Breakfast** (age 4 and up)

Sheila Groves and Faith Mantzke

### **Ian and the Gigantic Leafy Obstacle** (age 4 and up)

Sheila Miller

### **Christian Publications Series of Missionary Stories(Christian Missionary Alliance):** (age 5+)

#### **The Potato Story and Other Missionary Stories**

#### **Beautiful Feet and Other Missionary Stories**

Elynn Chudnovsky

Wonderful little stories that your children will not have heard before!

Out of print, but available.

### **Window on the World: When We Pray, God Works** (ages 6 and up)

Daphne Spraggett with Jill Johnstone

Paternoster Press

Children's version of Operation World. Wonderful! Looks at fifty-two peoples to be reached with the gospel.

### **From Arapesh to Zuni: A Book of Bibleless Peoples** (ages 6 and up)

Karen Lewis

### **Heroes of the Cross series** (ages 6 and up)

Include stories about three missionaries in each volume

Out of print, but obtainable.

### **Stories of Faith: Inspirational Episodes from the Lives of Christians** (ages 6 and up)

#### **Ruth A. Tucker**

365 little devotions, many about missionaries. Well documented sources in the back. I have used some of these and the bibliographies to write some of my Praise Factory stories. Some of the stories, however, I would choose to skip over due to theological differences.

### **Missionary Series:** (ages 6 and up)

#### **George Muller: Does Money Grow On Trees?**

#### **Helen Roseveare: What's In The Parcel?**

#### **John Calvin: What is the Truth?**

#### **Martin Luther: What Should I Do?**

Catherine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

### **David Brainerd: A Love for the Lost** (ages 7 and up)

Brian Cosby



**Trailblazer Series:** (ages 7 and up)

**George Muller: Children's Champion**

**Isobel Kuhn: Lights in Lisuland**

**Hudson Taylor: An Adventure Begins**

**Helen Roseveare: On His Majesty's Service**

**Adoniram Judson: Danger on the Streets of Gold**

**Eric Liddell: Finish the Race**

**Gladys Aylward: No Mountain Too High**

**Paul Brand: The Shoes that Love made**

**Richard Wurmbrand: A Voice in the Dark**

**John Newton: A Slave Set Free**

**Isobel Kuhn: Lights in Lisuland**

**John G. Paton: South Sea Island Rescue**

**Amy Carmichael: Rescuer By Night**

**Mary Slessor: Servant to the Slave**

Various authors

Christian Focus

**Missionary Biography Series:** (older elementary and up)

**For the Love of India: Henry Martyn**

**King of the Cannibals: John Paton**

**The Pigtail and Chopsticks Man: Hudson Taylor**

**Food for Cannibals: John Paton**

Jim Cromarty

## Sexuality

**The Wonderful Way Babies Are Made**

Larry Christenson

**God's Design for Sex Series:**

**Book 1 The Story of Me; Book 2 Before I Was Born; Book 3 What's the Big Deal? Book 4 Facing the Facts; How and When to Tell Your Kids about Sex: A Lifelong Approach to Shaping Your Child's Sexual Character**

Carolyn Nystrom, Stanton L. Jones, Brenna B. Jones

Each book is designed for use with a particular age group, introducing the children to more information as they get older and develop themselves.

**Why Gender Matters: What Parents and Teachers Need to Know about the Emerging Science of Sex Differences**

Sax Leonard

**Teens & Sex: How Should We Teach Them?**

Paul David Tripp

only through ccef.org

## Music and Stories behind Hymns

### **The Toddler's Songbook** (ages 2 and up)

Ellen Banks Elwell

Crossway

Various Children's traditional, Bible and praise songs. Colorful pictures, suggested actions and a music CD.

### **All Things Bright and Beautiful** (ages 2 and up)

Cecil Frances Alexander

### **Mr. Pipes Series** (ages 8 and up)

**Mr. Pipes and the British Hymn Makers**

**Mr. Pipes Comes to America**

**Accidental Voyage**

Douglas Bond

Children love this series of books on hymns through the ages.

### **Teach Them the Faith (Audio CD)**

Vitco, Dan & Karen Vitco

### **A very very very BIG GOD (Audio CD)**

### **J is for Jesus (Audio CD)**

### **Why Can't I See God? Go to the Ant; Guard Your Heart; Teach Me While My Heart Is Tender (Audio CDs)**

Judy Rogers *judyrogers.com*

### **Hymns for a Kid's Heart Series:** (ages 5 and up)

**Volume 1, Volume 2 (various hymns) with CDs (Audio)**

**Christmas Carols for a Kid's Heart, Book with CD (Audio)**

**Passion Hymns for a Kid's Heart with CD (Audio)**

Sergio Martinez, Joni Eareckson Tada and Bobbie Wolgemuth

### **Hide 'n' Seek Kids, Deep Down Detectives, Praise Factory Investigators Songs (Audio),**

These are all the hymns, Bible verses and Big Questions used in these three curriculums, all set to music. (music downloadable from website)

*amazon.com, The Praise Factory website*

### **Sovereign Grace Kids Music: (Audio CDs)**

**Awesome God, To Be Like Jesus, Walking with the Wise**

Wonderful music!

*only sovereigngracemusic.org*

### **Seeds Family Worship**

**Christianbook.com** has more CDs of Bible songs than you can fit in your mini-van, even when it's cleaned out! Look there for many more titles that your family might enjoy.

## Fiction and Fiction-Based History

**Board Books:** (ages 0-3)

**All About God's Animals Series: Around the Water; Color**

Janyre Tromp

**Paperback and Hardback:**

**Fool Moon Rising** (ages 3 and up)

Kristi and T. Lively Fluharty

Crossway

Wonderful allegory of biblical truth of 1 Corinthians 4:7

**Adam, Adam, What Do You See?** (ages 2-6)

Bill Martin, Jr. and Michael Sampson

**A Children's Version of Pilgrim's Progress: Dangerous Journey** (age 9 and up)

Oliver Hunkin

Excellent. Some of the pictures are a little scary, especially of Apollyon. There is a video of this book, too.

**Little Pilgrim's Progress** (ages 6 and up)

Helen Taylor

**The Pilgrim's Progress: From This World to That Which Is to Come** (elementary age and up)

C.J.Lovik

**The Pilgrim's Progress in Modern English** (elementary age and up)

John Bunyan, James Thomas

**Treasures of the Snow, Star of Light, A Home For Virginia, Twice Freed, The Safe Place and others** (elementary age and up)

Patricia St. John

**The Barber Who Wanted to Pray** (ages 8 and up)

**King Without a Shadow**

**The Priest with Dirty Clothes**

**The Prince's Poison Cup**

**The Lightlings**

**The Donkey Who Carried a King**

R.C. Sproul

**Beep** (ages 4-7)

Peter Jeffery

**Risktakers Series: Adventure and Faith: Volume 1; Strength and Devotion: Volume 2**

(ages 8 and up)

Linda Finlayson

**Adventures Series:** (ages 8 and up)

**Great Barrier Reef Adventures**

**New York City Adventures**

**Pacific Adventures**

**Rainforest Adventures**

**Outback Adventures**

**African Adventures**

**Scottish Highland Adventures**

**Himalayan Adventures**

**Kiwi Adventures**

**Wild West Adventures**

**Rocky Mountain Adventures**

**Cambodian Adventures**

various authors

Christian Focus

**Jungle Doctor Series:** (ages 8 and up)

**To the Rescue**

**And the Whirlwind**

**Spots a Leopard**

**Stings a Scorpion**

**Operates**

**Eyes on the Jungle Doctor**

**Looks for Trouble**

**Pulls a Let**

**On the Hop**

**Meets a Lion**

**On Safari**

Paul White

Christian Focus

**Chronicles of Narnia, Boxed Set** (ages 5 and up)

C. S. Lewis

**Stepping Heavenward** (teenage girls)

Elizabeth Prentiss

## **Bible Study Tools**

**Commentaries for Children** (ages 3 and up)

**Herein is Love: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers**

Nancy Ganz

**Daily Life at the Time of Jesus** (ages 5 and up)

**Food at the Time of the Bible: From Adam's Apple to the Last Supper**

Miriam Feinberg Vamosh

**People of the Bible: Life and Customs** (preschool and up)

Silvia Gastaldi, Clair Musatti

Wonderful illustrations with information set in a point-at-the-picture format which is very interesting and accessible to even preschoolers. You won't want to put it down either!

**Footsteps of the Past Series:** (ages 7 and up)

**Kings, Pharaohs and Bandits: The World of Abraham to Esther**

**Romans, Gladiators and Games: The Roman World of the First Christians**

Brian Edwards and Clive Anderson

Day One Publications *only through christianbook.com*

**International Children's Bible Field Guide: Answering Kids' Questions from Genesis to Revelation** (ages 7 and up)

Lawrence O. Richards

**International Children's Bible Dictionary: A Fun and Easy-to-Use Guide to the Words, People, and Places in the Bible** (ages 7 and up)

Ronald F. Youngblood, F. F. Bruce, and R. K. Harrison

**Bible Explorer** (ages 7 and up)

Carine MacKenzie

Christian Focus

**Jesus Rose From the Dead - the Evidence** (ages 7 and up)

Catherine Mackenzie

Christian Focus

**The Bible Story Handbook** (ages 7 and up)

A Resource for Teaching 175 Stories from the Bible

John H. Walton & Kim E. Walton

Crossway

**100 Fascinating Bible Facts** (ages 7 and up)

Irene Howat

**The Time of Jesus: Crafts to Make that Recreate Everyday Life** (ages 7 and up)

Lois Rock

**The Victor Journey through the Bible** (ages 7 and up)

V. Gllbert Beers

David C. Cook

## Children's Education Issues and Aids

### **A Vision for Ministry to Children and Their Parents**

Bethlehem Baptist Church  
Desiring God Ministries

### **Child-Sensitive Teaching: Helping children grow a living faith in a loving God**

By Karen Henley  
Standard Publishing

### **Christian's Ministry that Works**

Group Publications

While I have GREAT hesitations about many resources that Group puts out (from both theological and educational standpoints), I do think that they do this basics book quite well. I especially like the age-appropriate lists of different activities to use with children.

### **Education that Is Christian**

Lois LeBar

### **How Children Come to Faith in Christ**

By Jim Elliff  
Family Life Audio Series  
Tape/DVD Series  
*Purchase through Family Life: [www.familylife-ccc.org](http://www.familylife-ccc.org)*

### **The Wiggle and Giggle Busy Book: 365 Fun, Physical Activities for Toddlers and Preschoolers The Preschooler's Busy Book: 365 Creative Learning Games & Activities to Keep Your 3-6 Year Old Busy**

Trish Kuffner  
Fabulous resources!

### **The Big Book of Bible Games**

Gospel Light  
Fully Reproducible. Great to slot into any Bible story review or memory verse grouped by age interest

### **The Praise Factory Website**

Lists games for preschoolers and for elementary-age children that can be used with any Bible review game or Scripture memory verse.

### **My Bible Dress Up Book**

Carla Williams  
David C. Cook  
Great, simple, no-sew Bible times costumes.  
*out of print, but obtainable through [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) marketplace*

### **Big Truths for Young Hearts: Teaching and Learning the Greatness of God**

Bruce A. Ware  
Crossway

## Websites to Purchase Books and Curriculum

### **[www.christianfocus.com](http://www.christianfocus.com)**

This company offers some curriculum and much of the best Christian children's books. They are extremely prolific, making it almost impossible to keep up with all the quality books they produce each year. Make sure to visit their website and download a catalog! Now most are available through amazon.

### **[www.goodbook.com](http://www.goodbook.com)**

Great books for use in family devotions, especially for elementary age children.

### **[www.cvbbs.com](http://www.cvbbs.com)**

Cumberland Valley Bible Book Service. One of the only US carriers of Christian Focus publications...and everything at GREAT prices! Also carry Banner of Truth, Crossway, and P& R resources, as well as some from Australia that are hard to find elsewhere.

### **[www.wtsbook.com](http://www.wtsbook.com)**

Westminster Theological Seminary's bookstore. Great prices! Great resources! Great selection!

### **[www.christianbook.com](http://www.christianbook.com)**

Largest, single dealer in Christian Books in the US. They will tend to have only the most "mainstream" books, such as those published by Crossway and Zondervan.

### **[www.matthiasmedia.com](http://www.matthiasmedia.com)**

US source for Australian-based Matthias Media. Books like Who Will Be King? and Gumtree Gully (children's versions of Two Ways to Live)

### **[www.childrendesiringgod.org](http://www.childrendesiringgod.org)**

Bethlehem Baptist (John Piper) Extensive offering of curriculum and memory verse resources.

### **[www.treasuringchristonline.com](http://www.treasuringchristonline.com)**

Treasuring Christ is a new curriculum for preschool through high school that does a great job of pointing to Christ in every Bible story. Everyone has a lesson on the same Bible story at the same time, but at a different level of comprehension. This curriculum is produced by Providence Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina.

### **[www.cartpioneers.org](http://www.cartpioneers.org) and [www.calebproject.org](http://www.calebproject.org)**

Some Caleb Project Resources related to T,H,U,M,B. Great resources for telling children about the 10/40 window and the different people groups there. But, be aware that we found that we needed to re-word some of the resources because of theological differences.

### **[www.csionline.org](http://www.csionline.org)**

Christian Schools International has two lines of curriculum, one for use in Christian schools and one more use in homeschools. We have even adapted some of this curriculum for use in our Sunday School. Good content from a reformed perspective. Lots of activities and reproducible sheets.

### **[www.praisefactory.org](http://www.praisefactory.org)/[www.praisefactorycurriculum.org](http://www.praisefactorycurriculum.org)**

The Praise Factory curriculums and music for downloading and ordering hard copies. This resource book in pdf form (or to order hard copy) can be found there, too.

### **[www.newgrowthpress.com](http://www.newgrowthpress.com)**

The Gospel Storybook Bible Curriculum can be found here. High quality content and presentation. For preschool through elementary.