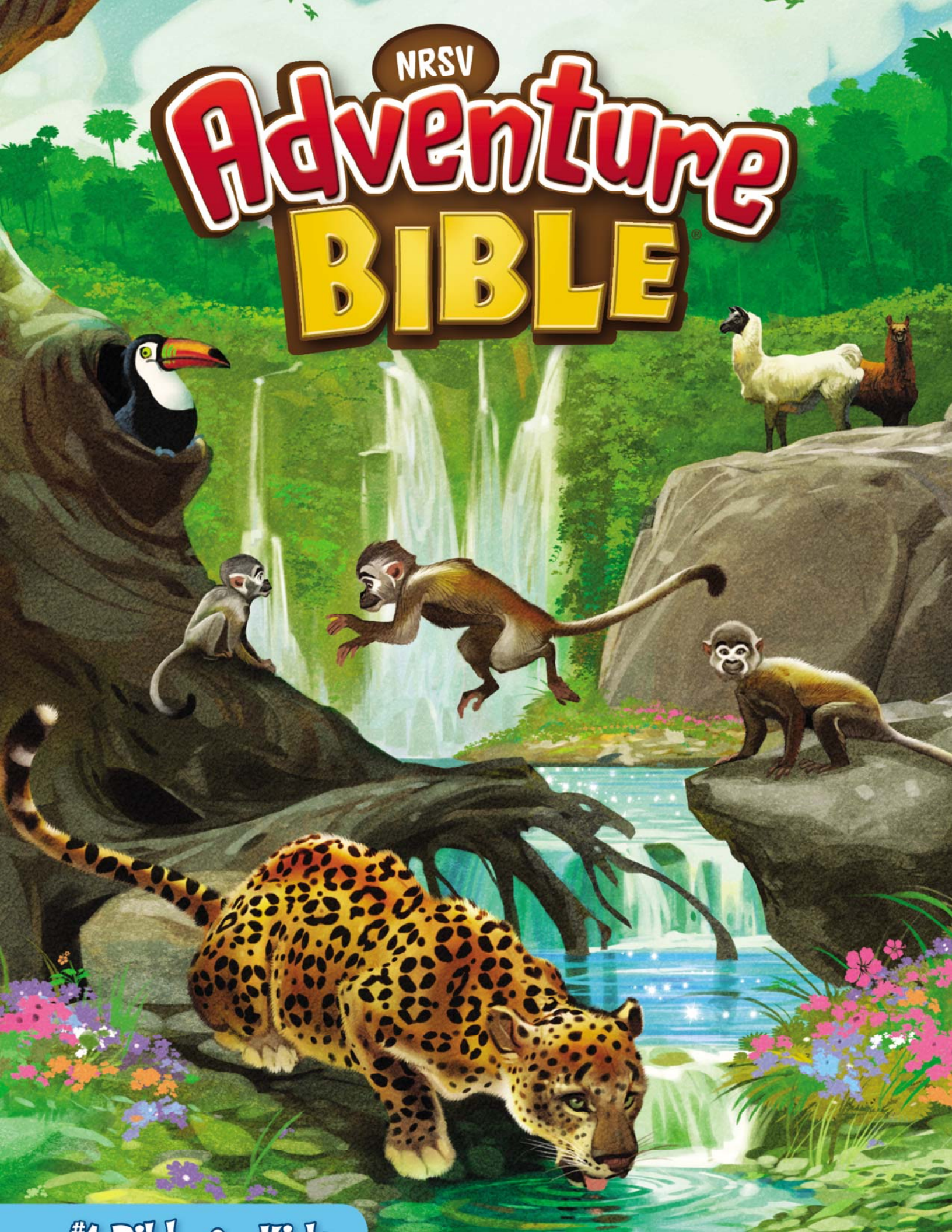


NRSV

# Adventure BIBLE®







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# Welcome!

Welcome to the great adventure of reading, exploring and discovering the Bible for yourself.

Are you ready to discover God's Word and apply it to your life? Then the *NRSV Adventure Bible* is for you!

Each feature of the Adventure Bible is designed to introduce you to the wonderful messages and promises in God's Word. Take a few minutes to read about the features. Then you will know the best way to use the Adventure Bible.

## FEATURES YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

### Words to Treasure

Key verses throughout the Bible are highlighted as "Words to Treasure." These verses are worth memorizing. The best way to live for Jesus is to have his Word in your heart.



### Did You Know?

This feature points out many of the interesting small facts that are found in the



Bible. Learn them all and wow your parents, teachers and friends with your Bible knowledge.

### Life in Bible Times

Do you ever wonder what it was like to live in the times of Abraham or Ruth or Jesus? What kind of food did they eat? Where did they sleep? What kind of work did they do? "Life in Bible Times" will tell you—and show you! Each of these exciting features includes a picture.



## People in Bible Times

The Bible is full of wonderful people. You are probably very familiar with some of their stories, but you may never have heard of others. "People in Bible Times" helps



make these real-life characters and their true stories come alive for you. It might be fun to try to imagine yourself in their situations. What would you do?

## Live It!

It is important to read and memorize God's Word. But what really counts is living it, letting the Bible affect how you work, play and live. "Live It!" tells you what the Bible has to say about your life RIGHT NOW!

### Thank God

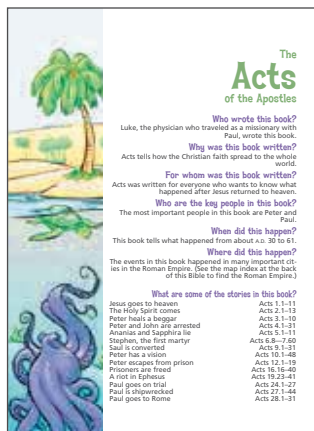
Read Genesis 8:20-22 and 9:12-17. When Noah and his family left the ark, they built an altar and thanked God for keeping them safe in the ark. God was pleased, and he sent a rainbow as a promise never to send such a flood again. Noah and his family had many reasons to be thankful. For fun, make a list of all the reasons you and your family have for being thankful.

### Live It!



## Book Introductions

If you need the basic facts about a book of the Bible (who wrote it, where it took place, why it was written), you'll find that information at the beginning of each book. The book introduction will also give you a list of favorite Bible stories and teachings you can find in that Bible book.



## Subject Index

In the back of the Adventure Bible is an index of different subjects and people covered in this Bible. If you need to do a report for school or are wondering about a certain subject or person, look it up in this index and then read about it on the pages listed.

## Activities

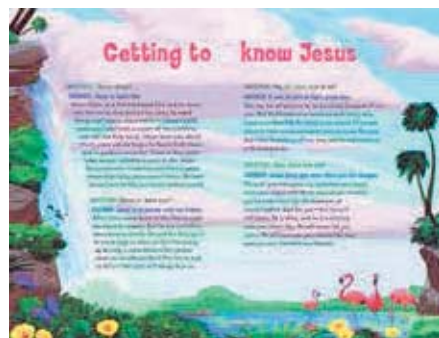
If you want to not only read the Adventure Bible but also do something with what you've learned, turn to the list of activities at the back of the Bible. You'll find there many ideas for things to discuss, to do, and to make.

## Glossary-Concordance

When you're reading the Adventure Bible, you may come to a word that you don't understand. Take a minute to look it up in the glossary-concordance found at the back of your Bible. Read the definition so you can better understand God's message.

## Full-Color Pages

Twenty full-color tip-in pages offer inspiring activities set to a jungle safari theme. They are scattered throughout the Adventure Bible and are special, colorful pages that contain important information. Be sure to check out these pages. You'll be glad you did!



## Maps

In the back of this Bible are eight color maps. They will help you better understand where the events in the Bible took place.

## WHERE TO START

Don't worry about where to start. Start anywhere. Go through the Bible and see what features interest you. Then begin exploring and reading both the features and the Bible text. Use the Adventure Bible every day to begin the great adventure of living for Jesus!

If you have any questions or comments about this Bible, please write and tell us.

The Zonderkidz Bible Editors  
Zondervan  
3900 Sparks Dr., SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

## Note to parents and teachers:

The special features of the Adventure Bible can be used as a teaching or devotional tool by parents and teachers but also may be used to encourage children to explore the Bible on their own and to have their own quiet times with God.



# Genesis

## Who wrote this book?

There is some debate about who wrote Genesis. However, many scholars believe Moses wrote it.

## Why was this book written?

Genesis tells how God created the universe and human beings. It also covers the special promises God made to Abraham.

## What do we learn about God in this book?

God created all things. He loves people, but he will punish sin. God promises, however, to save people who trust him.

## Who are the key people in this book?

Important people in this book are Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob and Rachel, and Joseph.

## When did this happen?

No one knows when the creation or the flood occurred. Abraham was born about 2150 BC. His great-grandson Joseph died about 1800 BC.

## Where did this happen?

Genesis 1–11 happened in Mesopotamia. Genesis 12–36 took place in Canaan, which is also called the promised land. The rest of Genesis took place in Egypt.

## What are some of the stories in this book?

God creates the universe	Genesis 1
God creates Adam and Eve	Genesis 2
Adam and Eve sin	Genesis 3
Noah builds an ark	Genesis 6
God sends a flood to punish sin	Genesis 7–8
God gives promises to Abraham	Genesis 12
Abraham prays for a city	Genesis 18
Jacob steals Esau's blessing	Genesis 27
Jacob's name is changed	Genesis 32
Joseph's brothers sell him into slavery	Genesis 37
Joseph becomes a ruler	Genesis 39–41



## Six Days of Creation and the Sabbath

**I**n the beginning when God created<sup>a</sup> the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God<sup>b</sup> swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>6</sup>And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” <sup>7</sup>So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. <sup>8</sup>God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup>And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. <sup>10</sup>God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup>Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. <sup>12</sup>The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

<sup>14</sup>And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years,

## Did You Know?

### What does create mean?

**I** The word *create* means “to make something new.” God did just that when he created the universe. Genesis tells us that God created everything. Read this chapter and you will find many things that God created.



<sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. <sup>16</sup>God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup>God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup>to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup>And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” <sup>21</sup>So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup>God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” <sup>23</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup>And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup>God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, “Let us make humankind<sup>c</sup> in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have domin-

## Words to Treasure

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1.1



<sup>a</sup> 1.1 Or when God began to create or In the beginning God created <sup>b</sup> 1.2 Or while the spirit of God or while a mighty wind <sup>c</sup> 1.26 Heb adam





ion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth,<sup>a</sup> and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

<sup>27</sup> So God created humankind<sup>b</sup>

in his image,

in the image of God he created them;<sup>c</sup>

male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” <sup>29</sup> God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.

<sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

**2** Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude.

<sup>2</sup> And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work

that he had done. <sup>3</sup> So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

<sup>4</sup> These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

### Another Account of the Creation

In the day that the LORD<sup>d</sup> God made the earth and the heavens, <sup>5</sup> when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; <sup>6</sup> but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— <sup>7</sup> then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground,<sup>e</sup> and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. <sup>8</sup> And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. <sup>9</sup> Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food,

<sup>a</sup> 1.26 Syr: Heb and over all the earth <sup>b</sup> 1.27 Heb adam <sup>c</sup> 1.27 Heb him <sup>d</sup> 2.4 Heb YHWH, as in other places where “LORD” is spelled with capital letters (see also Ex 3.14–15 with notes). <sup>e</sup> 2.7 Or formed a man (Heb adam) of dust from the ground (Heb adamah)

## You're Special

Read Genesis 1.26–27. God made you in his own image. You are not like the other creatures God made—humans are the only creatures that God created in his own image or likeness. That doesn't mean that you look like God or that you're *equal* to God, but it does mean that you are his very special creation.

Look at pictures of your mom or dad when they were your age. How were they like you? How were they different? Your parents love you very much because you are their child, and you are like them in important ways. Ask your mom or dad to tell you why they think you are special.

God loves you very much because you are his child and his one-of-a-kind special creation. You are made in his own image, but you are still your very own person. Write a letter to God, thanking him for adopting you as his son or daughter, for creating you in his image, and for loving you so very much.

## Live It!



Genesis 1.26-27



## People in Bible Times

### Adam

God created Adam, the first human being, in his own image. That means that in many ways Adam was like God. God made Adam from the dust of the ground and breathed life into him. God placed Adam in the Garden of Eden to take care of it.

the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>10</sup> A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. <sup>11</sup> The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; <sup>12</sup> and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. <sup>13</sup> The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Cush. <sup>14</sup> The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

<sup>18</sup> Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." <sup>19</sup> So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup> The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man<sup>a</sup> there was not found a helper as his partner. <sup>21</sup> So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then

he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup> And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup> Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;

this one shall be called Woman,<sup>b</sup>  
for out of Man<sup>c</sup> this one was taken."

<sup>24</sup> Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. <sup>25</sup> And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

### The First Sin and Its Punishment

**3** Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" <sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup> but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " <sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; <sup>5</sup> for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God,<sup>d</sup> knowing good and evil." <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her

<sup>a</sup> 2.20 Or for Adam <sup>b</sup> 2.23 Heb ishshah

<sup>c</sup> 2.23 Heb ish <sup>d</sup> 3.5 Or gods



## People in Bible Times

### Eve

God did not want Adam to be alone, so he created a helper for him. Her name was Eve, and God made her from one of Adam's ribs. Adam and Eve lived together in the Garden of Eden.



## Did You Know?

**What kind of fruit did Adam and Eve eat?**

**3.6** The Bible does not name the fruit that Adam and Eve ate. It's not really important. The important point of this story is that Adam and Eve disobeyed God. He had told them not to eat the fruit from this particular tree, but they did it anyway. Genesis 3 tells what happened because they disobeyed.



husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

<sup>8</sup> They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup>He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." <sup>11</sup>He said,

"Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" <sup>12</sup>The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." <sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup> I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers;

he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

<sup>16</sup> To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

<sup>17</sup> And to the man<sup>a</sup> he said,

<sup>a</sup> 3.17 Or to Adam

## Wrong Decisions

Adam and Eve made a wrong decision, and they ate from a tree that God had told them to leave alone. Do you ever wonder why they did it? For some answers, read Genesis 3.1–13. Adam and Eve made the wrong decision because.

- 3.4 Someone told them it was all right to do the wrong thing.
- 3.5 It looked like an exciting thing to do.
- 3.6 A close friend did it first.

After Adam and Eve had made that wrong decision, they felt guilty and afraid. They hid from God when he entered the garden. They knew they had done wrong, but it was too late.

Think about what you should say if someone tells you it's all right to do a wrong thing, if something wrong looks exciting, or if a friend does a wrong thing first and wants you to do it too. If you can't think of a good answer, ask an older friend or your mom or dad for advice.

## Live It!



Genesis 3.1–13

"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

<sup>18</sup> thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field.

<sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

<sup>20</sup> The man named his wife Eve,<sup>a</sup> because she was the mother of all living.

<sup>21</sup> And the LORD God made garments of skins for the man<sup>b</sup> and for his wife, and clothed them.

<sup>22</sup> Then the LORD God said, "See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"—

<sup>23</sup> therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken. <sup>24</sup> He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree of life.

### Cain Murders Abel

**4** Now the man knew his wife Eve, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have produced<sup>c</sup> a man with the help of the LORD." <sup>2</sup> Next she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground. <sup>3</sup> In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, <sup>4</sup> and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, <sup>5</sup> but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. <sup>6</sup> The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? <sup>7</sup> If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it."

<sup>8</sup> Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let us go out to the field."<sup>d</sup> And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and killed him. <sup>9</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" <sup>10</sup> And the LORD said, "What have you done? Listen; your brother's blood is crying out to me from the ground! <sup>11</sup> And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. <sup>12</sup> When you till the ground, it will no longer yield to you its strength; you will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." <sup>13</sup> Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear! <sup>14</sup> Today you have driven me away from the soil, and I shall be hidden from your face; I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and anyone who meets me may kill me." <sup>15</sup> Then the LORD said to him, "Not so!<sup>e</sup> Whoever kills Cain will suffer a sevenfold vengeance." And the LORD put a mark on Cain, so that no one who came upon him would kill him. <sup>16</sup> Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD, and settled in the land of Nod,<sup>f</sup> east of Eden.

### Beginnings of Civilization

<sup>17</sup> Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch; and he built a city, and named it Enoch after his son Enoch. <sup>18</sup> To Enoch was born Irad; and Irad was the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael the father of Methushael, and Methushael the father of Lamech. <sup>19</sup> Lamech took two wives; the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. <sup>20</sup> Adah bore Jabal; he was the ancestor of those who live in tents and have livestock. <sup>21</sup> His brother's name was Jubal; he was the ancestor of all those who play the lyre and pipe. <sup>22</sup> Zillah bore Tubal-cain, who made all kinds of bronze and iron tools. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.

<sup>23</sup> Lamech said to his wives:

<sup>a</sup> 3.20 In Heb Eve resembles the word for living

<sup>b</sup> 3.21 Or for Adam <sup>c</sup> 4.1 The verb in Heb resembles the word for Cain <sup>d</sup> 4.8 Sam Gk Syr Compare Vg: MT lacks Let us go out to the field <sup>e</sup> 4.15 Gk Syr Vg: Heb Therefore <sup>f</sup> 4.16 That is Wandering



# The Gospel According to Matthew

## Who wrote this book?

Matthew, one of Jesus' 12 disciples, wrote this book.

## Why was this book written?

Matthew shows the Jews that Jesus is the Messiah promised in the Old Testament.

## For whom was this book written?

Matthew was written for the Jewish people.

## What happens in this book?

This book tells about Jesus' birth, his life as an adult, his teaching, death, and resurrection.

## Who is the key person in this book?

Jesus is the most important person in this book.

## When did this happen?

These events took place between 6 BC and AD 30.

## Where did this happen?

Most events took place in towns in Galilee.

## What are some of the stories in this book?

Wise men visit Jesus  
How to be blessed  
The Lord's Prayer  
Jesus feeds 5,000 people  
Jesus walks on water  
Lost sheep  
Jesus enters Jerusalem  
Jesus is crucified  
Jesus returns to life  
Jesus' Great Commission

Matthew 2.1–23  
Matthew 5.1–12  
Matthew 6.9–13  
Matthew 14.13–21  
Matthew 14.22–33  
Matthew 18.10–14  
Matthew 21.1–11  
Matthew 27.32–56  
Matthew 28.1–10  
Matthew 28.16–20





## The Genealogy of Jesus the Messiah

**I**n an account of the genealogy<sup>a</sup> of Jesus the Messiah,<sup>b</sup> the son of David, the son of Abraham.

2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,<sup>3</sup> and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram,<sup>4</sup> and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon,<sup>5</sup> and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse,<sup>6</sup> and Jesse the father of King David.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah,<sup>7</sup> and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph,<sup>c</sup> <sup>8</sup> and Asaph<sup>c</sup> the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah,<sup>9</sup> and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,<sup>10</sup> and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos,<sup>d</sup> and Amos<sup>d</sup> the father of Josiah,<sup>11</sup> and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

12 And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel,<sup>13</sup> and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor,<sup>14</sup> and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud,<sup>15</sup> and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob,<sup>16</sup> and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.<sup>e</sup>

17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah,<sup>e</sup> fourteen generations.

## The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

18 Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah<sup>b</sup> took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but be-

fore they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." <sup>24</sup>When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup>but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son;<sup>f</sup> and he named him Jesus.

## The Visit of the Wise Men

**2** In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men<sup>g</sup> from the East came to Jerusalem,

<sup>a</sup> 1.1 Or birth <sup>b</sup> 1.1,18 Or Jesus Christ

<sup>c</sup> 1.7,8 Other ancient authorities read Asa

<sup>d</sup> 1.10 Other ancient authorities read Amon

<sup>e</sup> 1.16,17 Or the Christ <sup>f</sup> 1.25 Other ancient authorities read her firstborn son <sup>g</sup> 2.1 Or astrologers; Gk magi

## Did You Know?

### Why is this genealogy in Matthew?

**1.17** A genealogy is a record of a person's ancestors. Matthew wanted us to know that Jesus was a true human being, as well as the Son of God. Matthew also wanted the Jews to know that Jesus was a descendant of Abraham (the father of the Jewish nation) and of David. Only a descendant of David could be King of the Jews.





2asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising,<sup>a</sup> and have come to pay him homage." 3When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; 4and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah<sup>b</sup> was to be born. 5They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

6 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd<sup>c</sup> my people Israel.'"

7 Then Herod secretly called for the wise men<sup>d</sup> and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 8 Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." 9 When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising,<sup>a</sup> until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw that the star had stopped,<sup>e</sup> they were overwhelmed with joy. 11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

## The Escape to Egypt

13 Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." 14 Then Joseph<sup>f</sup> got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, 15 and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

## The Massacre of the Infants

16 When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men,<sup>d</sup> he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men.<sup>d</sup> 17 Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

18 "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

## The Return from Egypt

19 When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 20 "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." 21 Then

a 2.2,9 Or in the East b 2.4 Or the Christ

c 2.6 Or rule d 2.7,16 Or astrologers; Gk magi

e 2.10 Gk saw the star f 2.14 Gk he

## A Jesus Baby Book

Parents often keep a baby book for their children. The book has a place for pictures and stories about their child. Ask your mom or dad whether you have a baby book that you can look at. You can make a baby book for Jesus. Read Matthew 2:1–12 and the first two chapters of Luke to find out about Jesus' birth. Draw pictures of these things on some pieces of paper. Write Bible verses that tell about each picture. Now stack the papers and punch two holes on one end. Thread a long piece of yarn through the holes, and tie the yarn to hold the papers together.

# Live It!



Matthew 2.1–12

Joseph<sup>a</sup> got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

### The Proclamation of John the Baptist

**3** In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."<sup>b</sup> <sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>"I baptize you with<sup>c</sup> water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with<sup>c</sup> the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

### The Baptism of Jesus

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by

## Did You Know?

### What does "repent" mean?

**3.2** The word *repent* means to change your heart and mind, to move in a new direction. John the Baptist told people to repent of and turn away from their sins. John preached this message to prepare the people of Israel for what Jesus would say.



him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved,<sup>d</sup> with whom I am well pleased."

### The Temptation of Jesus

**4** Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup>But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup>saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up,

<sup>a</sup> 2.21 Gk he <sup>b</sup> 3.2 Or is at hand <sup>c</sup> 3.11 Or in  
<sup>d</sup> 3.17 Or my beloved Son



so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

<sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

<sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

### Jesus Begins His Ministry in Galilee

<sup>12</sup>Now when Jesus<sup>a</sup> heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup>“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

<sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.”

<sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”<sup>b</sup>

### Jesus Calls the First Disciples

<sup>18</sup>As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who

is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

### Jesus Ministers to Crowds of People

<sup>23</sup>Jesus<sup>c</sup> went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news<sup>d</sup> of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. <sup>24</sup>So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he cured them. <sup>25</sup>And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

### The Beatitudes

**5** When Jesus<sup>a</sup> saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>a</sup> 4.12; 5.1 Gk he <sup>b</sup> 4.17 Or is at hand <sup>c</sup> 4.23 Gk He <sup>d</sup> 4.23 Gk gospel

## Fighting Temptation

Read Matthew 4:1–11. Can you find three words that Jesus said each time Satan tempted him?

The words are, “It is written.” Jesus fought each temptation by deciding to obey God and do what God says in the Bible. When you are tempted to do something wrong, you can defeat temptation too. Decide to obey God and do what the Bible says.

# Live It!



Matthew 4:1–11

## Did You Know?

### What are the Beatitudes?

**5.3–10** The Beatitudes are special sayings of Jesus. They explain how to be blessed. *Blessed* means “truly happy.” Some people think that money or power will bring them happiness, but Jesus wants his listeners to know how they can be truly happy.



4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5 “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely<sup>a</sup> on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

### Salt and Light

13 “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

14 “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. 15 No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

### The Law and the Prophets

17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. 18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter,<sup>b</sup> not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. 19 Therefore, whoever breaks<sup>c</sup> one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

### Concerning Anger

21 “You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ 22 But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister,<sup>d</sup> you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult<sup>e</sup> a brother or sister,<sup>f</sup> you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell<sup>g</sup> of fire. 23 So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister<sup>h</sup> has something against you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister,<sup>h</sup> and then come and offer your gift. 25 Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court<sup>i</sup> with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. 26 Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

### Concerning Adultery

27 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ 28 But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for

<sup>a</sup> 5.11 Other ancient authorities lack *falsely*

<sup>b</sup> 5.18 Gk *one iota* <sup>c</sup> 5.19 Or *annuls* <sup>d</sup> 5.22 Gk

*a brother*; other ancient authorities add *without cause* <sup>e</sup> 5.22 Gk *say Raca* to (an obscure term of abuse) <sup>f</sup> 5.22 Gk *a brother* <sup>g</sup> 5.22 Gk *Gehenna*

<sup>h</sup> 5.23,24 Gk *your brother* <sup>i</sup> 5.25 Gk *lacks to court*

## The New Life in Christ

**3** So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup>for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your<sup>a</sup> life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup>Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup>On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient.<sup>b</sup> <sup>7</sup>These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life.<sup>c</sup> <sup>8</sup>But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive<sup>d</sup> language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices<sup>10</sup> and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup>In that renewal<sup>e</sup> there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

<sup>12</sup>As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness,

## Did You Know?

**What does it mean to be holy?**

**3.12** Being holy means living right and doing good things because we love Jesus. Colossians 3 gives us some very specific rules to help us to live holy lives.



and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord<sup>f</sup> has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in

## Words to Treasure

**If anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you.**

Colossians 3.13



your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ<sup>g</sup> dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.<sup>h</sup> <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

## Rules for Christian Households

<sup>18</sup>Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. <sup>19</sup>Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly.

<sup>20</sup>Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is your acceptable duty in the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Fathers, do not provoke

<sup>a</sup> 3.4 Other authorities read *our* <sup>b</sup> 3.6 Other ancient authorities lack *on those who are disobedient* (Gk *the children of disobedience*) <sup>c</sup> 3.7 *Or living among such people* <sup>d</sup> 3.8 *Or filthy* <sup>e</sup> 3.11 *Gk its creator, <sup>11</sup>where* <sup>f</sup> 3.13 Other ancient authorities read *just as Christ* <sup>g</sup> 3.16 Other ancient authorities read *of God, or of the Lord* <sup>h</sup> 3.16 Other ancient authorities read *to the Lord*

## Words to Treasure

**Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is your acceptable duty in the Lord.**

Colossians 3.20







your children, or they may lose heart. <sup>22</sup>Slaves, obey your earthly masters<sup>a</sup> in everything, not only while being watched and in order to please them, but wholeheartedly, fearing the Lord.<sup>a</sup> <sup>23</sup>Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for your masters,<sup>b</sup> <sup>24</sup>since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve<sup>c</sup> the Lord Christ. <sup>25</sup>For the wrongdoer will be paid back for whatever wrong has been done, and there is no **4** partiality. <sup>1</sup>Masters, treat your slaves justly and fairly, for you know that you also have a Master in heaven.

### Further Instructions

<sup>2</sup> Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving. <sup>3</sup>At the same time pray for us as well that God will open to us a door for the word, that we may declare the mystery of Christ, for which I am in prison, <sup>4</sup>so that I may reveal it clearly, as I should.

<sup>5</sup> Conduct yourselves wisely toward outsiders, making the most of the time.<sup>d</sup> <sup>6</sup>Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone.

### Final Greetings and Benediction

<sup>7</sup> Tychicus will tell you all the news about me; he is a beloved brother, a faithful minister, and a fellow servant<sup>e</sup> in the Lord. <sup>8</sup>I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know how we are<sup>f</sup> and that he may encourage your hearts; <sup>9</sup>he is coming with Onesimus, the faith-

ful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you about everything here.

<sup>10</sup> Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, as does Mark the cousin of Barnabas, concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him. <sup>11</sup>And Jesus who is called Justus greets you. These are the only ones of the circumcision among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. <sup>12</sup>Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant<sup>e</sup> of Christ Jesus, greets you. He is always wrestling in his prayers on your behalf, so that you may stand mature and fully assured in everything that God wills. <sup>13</sup>For I testify for him that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis. <sup>14</sup>Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas greet you. <sup>15</sup>Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters<sup>g</sup> in Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. <sup>16</sup>And when this letter has been read among you, have it read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you read also the letter from Laodicea. <sup>17</sup>And say to Archippus, “See that you complete the task that you have received in the Lord.”

<sup>18</sup> I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.<sup>h</sup>

<sup>a</sup> 3.22 In Greek the same word is used for master and Lord <sup>b</sup> 3.23 Gk not for men <sup>c</sup> 3.24 Or you are slaves of, or be slaves of <sup>d</sup> 4.5 Or opportunity <sup>e</sup> 4.7,12 Gk slave <sup>f</sup> 4.8 Other authorities read that I may know how you are <sup>g</sup> 4.15 Gk brothers <sup>h</sup> 4.18 Other ancient authorities add Amen

## Your Part in a Happy Family

Everyone has a part in making a happy family. Read Colossians 3.18–21. What is your dad's part? Your mom's part? What is your part?

How could you show obedience if your mom or dad said these things.

1. "It's time for bed."
2. "Be sure to behave on the school bus."
3. "I wish you wouldn't complain about the food I cook."
4. "Don't talk back."
5. "Homework comes first."

Talk to your mom or dad. Ask them why the whole family is happier when everybody does their part.

## Live It!



Colossians 3.18–21

# How to use this Bible

It's the beginning of your journey. Before you is a whole Bible full of experiences just waiting for you to find. Here are some hints and tips for how to use your Bible.

The table of contents is like your "map." It tells you what each book of the Bible is and where you can find it. The glossary is in the back and helps you understand words that you don't know.

In between is the Bible text. It's broken out into books, chapters, and verses. They help you look up exactly what you want to find. Once you know the book you are looking for, you can turn to it. (The table of contents will tell you what page to go to.)

Next you can look up the chapter number within that book. Then you can look up the verse number within that chapter. Make sense? Along the way, you'll see section headings. These give you a summary of what's going on in that chapter.

Now you have everything you need in order to begin your Adventure.  
Let's go!





# Ten Commandments for Kids

(Based on Exodus 20:1-17 & Deuteronomy 5:7-21)

- 1** You may not love anyone or anything more than you love God.
- 2** You may not worship, or put more importance on any person or thing, other than God. You must worship only the Lord, not a friend, not a movie star or sports hero, not a car or skateboard. Nothing.
- 3** You may not swear. Use God's holy name in a loving way, never to express anger or frustration.
- 4** One day of your week should be set aside for resting and worshipping God.
- 5** Respect your parents. Love them, and the Lord will reward you in your life.
- 6** You may not hate other people: Don't ever think of hurting someone else in any way.
- 7** Keep your thoughts and actions pure. Husbands and wives should share their special love only with each other.
- 8** Do not take anything that does not belong to you.
- 9** You may not tell lies, especially when that lie will hurt someone else.
- 10** Do not be jealous of what others have. You may not be jealous of your friend's new toy or clothes or the big house your neighbor lives in. Be satisfied with what you have.



# Love Passage for Kids

(Based on 1 Corinthians 13)

If I can speak beautifully and sing like an angel, but don't love others,  
I sound like a child banging on a piano or screeching music. If I'm very  
smart—almost a genius—but don't love others, I am nothing.

Love will stand in line and wait its turn.

Love looks for the good in others.

Love doesn't always want what others have,  
and it doesn't brag about what it does have.

Love is polite, even when the other person is rude.

Love doesn't have to be first.

Love doesn't get angry over small things,  
and it doesn't remember one reason after another to be hurt.

Love isn't happy when someone else fails but is happy with the truth.

Love will always protect others,  
especially those who are often picked on or teased.

Love always believes the best about others and is steady and true.

Love never gives up.

*The three most important things to have  
are faith, hope, and love.  
But the greatest of these is love.*



## Two-week reading plan on Jesus' life

- ☐ Day 1 Luke 1: Preparing for Jesus' arrival
- ☐ Day 2 Luke 2: The story of Jesus' birth
- ☐ Day 3 Mark 1: The beginning of Jesus' ministry
- ☐ Day 4 Mark 9: A day in the life of Jesus
- ☐ Day 5 Matthew 5: The Sermon on the Mount
- ☐ Day 6 Matthew 6: The Sermon on the Mount
- ☐ Day 7 Luke 15: Parables of Jesus
- ☐ Day 8 John 3: A conversation with Jesus
- ☐ Day 9 John 14: Jesus' final instructions
- ☐ Day 10 John 17: Jesus' prayer for his disciples
- ☐ Day 11 Matthew 26: Betrayal and arrest
- ☐ Day 12 Matthew 27: Jesus' execution on a cross
- ☐ Day 13 John 20: Resurrection
- ☐ Day 14 Luke 24: Jesus' appearance after resurrection





# What Jesus taught about . . .

- ...Anger (Matthew 5.22)
- ...Being born again (John 3.1-21)
- ...Enemies (Luke 6.27-36)
- ...Golden Rule (Luke 6.31)
- ...Greatest command (Matthew 22.34-40)
- ...Greed (Luke 12.15)
- ...His return (Luke 12.35-40)
- ...Judging others (Luke 6.37-42)
- ...Loving God (Matthew 10.37)
- ...Praying (Matthew 6.5-15)
- ...Revenge (Matthew 5.38-42)
- ...Sunday observance (Mark 2.27-28)
- ...Swearing (Matthew 5.34)
- ...Wealth (Luke 16.13)
- ...Words we say (Matthew 12.36)
- ...Worry (Luke 12.22-34)
- ...Worship (Matthew 4.10)



# Famous Children of the Bible

Children are an important part of many of the stories in the Bible. Turn to the passages listed to read more about that story or to discover the name of the child. (Or did you know it already?)

- This boy was left to die in the desert. Genesis 21.8-21
- This boy was born holding on to his twin brother's heel. Genesis 25.19-28
- This boy had a colorful coat that made his brothers jealous. Genesis 37.1-4
- This girl watched her brother be rescued by a princess. Exodus 2.1-10
- This boy heard God's voice calling him. 1 Samuel 3
- This boy killed a giant. 1 Samuel 17
- This boy was brought back to life by the prayers of Elijah. 1 Kings 17.17-24
- These boys were saved from slavery by some oil. 2 Kings 4.1-7
- This boy sneezed when he was brought back to life. 2 Kings 4.8-37
- This girl helped her master find healing from leprosy. 2 Kings 5.1-18
- This boy was only seven when he became king. 2 Kings 11.12-21
- This boy grew up to be the Savior of the world. Matthew 1.18-25
- This girl was brought back to life by Jesus. Mark 5.35-43
- These children were hugged by Jesus. Mark 10.13-16
- This boy knew more than his teachers. Luke 2.41-52
- This boy was healed of seizures by Jesus. Luke 9.37-43
- This boy gave Jesus his lunch to feed a huge crowd of people. John 6.1-15

