



Parenting Purposefully

Resources for Kids

The following resources are primarily designed to be read by parents, caregivers, and disciple makers with kids to disciple them towards a life lived for Jesus Christ. The resources move from those to be used with young kids to teenagers.

- **The Gospel Project** is the curriculum your kiddos are already being taught at Church on Mill in Sunday School and Children's Church. This outstanding 3-year course offers useful follow-up videos, games, memory verses, and more. <https://www.gospelproject.com/kids/> (Birth-Elementary years)
- **The Jesus Storybook Bible** is a great introductory Bible summary for your young child. Short readings summarizing key biblical texts. (Birth - 3 years)
- **Thoughts that Make Your Heart Sing** is a devotional by the author of Jesus Storybook Bible, Sally Lloyd-Jones. (Birth - 3 years)
- **The Garden, The Curtain and the Cross** is a wonderful short overview of the biblical story that will introduce your child to the big ideas of Scripture and is good to read in a sitting. (Birth - 6 years)
- **God Made All of Me: A Book to Help Children Protect Their Bodies** helps you as a parent talk to children about how to respect their bodies and avoid situations when an older child or adult might desire inappropriate contact. (2 years - 7 years)
- **The Big Picture Story Bible** moves families through the biblical themes of creation, fall, promise, redemption, church, and restoration with engaging, full-page illustrations. There is also a helpful companion book with questions and a memory verse booklet called "Big Picture Family Devotional." (3 years - 9 years)

- **Everything a Child Should Know About God** follows a basic catechism to help a child learn the great doctrinal truths of who God is, what He's done for us in Christ, who we are, and what we should do in light of God's story. *(3 years - 7 years)*
- **The Biggest Story Ever** is a new, brilliantly illustrated Bible overview, told with wit and theological precision by a well-known pastor. *(4 years - 10 years)*
- **Long Story Short** is a thicker, longer version of the aforementioned 'Everything Your Child Should Know About God.' It is, essentially, a practical "devotional in a box." *(5 years - 10 years)*
- **The Hands-On Bible, New Living Transition** is a terrific first full-text Bible for your child. It contains an easy to read translation (NLT) and many interactive tools on every page. *(6 years - 12 years)*
- **Big Truths for Young Hearts** is divided by chapter, each containing a different doctrinal truth written to help a child begin to chew on the meat of God's Word in the stuff of everyday life. Think "systematic theology" for a child. *(7 years - Teenager)*
- **Stomping Out the Darkness** very helpfully equips an older Christian child or teen in how to find worth in Christ. Practical, assessable, and ever applicable parent and child alike will understand the gospel's effects better. *(8 years - Teenager)*
- **It's Great to Be a Girl** is a helpful word to pre-teen girls on physical, emotional, and spiritual development with practical activities and engaging writing. *(4th grade - 8th grade)*
- **True Beauty** written by a mother and daughter pair, exposes the lie in culture's expectation of perfect physical beauty and points young women to Scripture's standard of beauty in character not in body. *(Teenager)*
- **Who Am I?** by Jerry Bridges is a short, powerful work on identity in Christ, essential conversation for any believers and a heightened issue in adolescent years. We love this book so much it is used in Disciplemakers. *(Teenager)*
- **Thoughts for Young Men** by J.C. Ryle is a short classic on the spiritual formation of godly wisdom from the perspective of a British minister in the late 1800's. Great to read and discuss with your teenage son. *(Teenager)*

Resources for Adults

The following are parenting resources we recommend to assist parents, caregivers, and church members in understanding how to parent and disciple according to God's Word. Each one, in its own right, is worthy of your careful consideration. Consider starting at the top of the list and work through each.

- *General Parenting: **Gospel-Centered Family***, Ed Moll and Tim Chester; **Shepherding a Child's Heart**, Tedd Tripp; **Instructing a Child's Heart**, Tedd & Marcy Tripp; **Sacred Parenting**, Gary Thomas; **Age of Opportunity**, Paul Tripp
- *Family Bible Time: **Family Worship***, Donald Whitney (see also Don's great videos on how to spend time in the Bible, praying, and singing as a family, <http://biblicalspirituality.org/video-how-to-do-family-worship-2/>)
- *For Moms: **How the Gospel Changes Motherhood** and **Treasuring Christ When Your Hands are Full***, both by Gloria Furman; **Don't Make Me Count to Three!**, Ginger Hubbard; **Give Them Grace**, by mother / daughter team Elyse Fitzpatrick and Jessica Thompson
- *For Dads: **The Shepherd Leader at Home***, Timothy Witmer; **The Masculine Mandate**, Richard Phillips