

# PARENTING RESOURCES

Here are some of our favorite parenting resources. Those with an asterisk are highly recommended.

## Parenting: All Ages

\* ***Duties of Parents – Edited and Updated into Modern English*** – J.C. Ryle/ Alan Witchalls (10 Publishing, 2013)  
Timeless wisdom from a 19<sup>th</sup> century pastor; brief, biblical, a must read for every parent.

\* ***Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family*** – Paul Tripp (Crossway, 2016)  
Shows how the gospel transforms parents and parenting. Big-picture principles for all parents. Another must read.

***The Disciple-Making Parent*** – Chap Bettis (Diamond Hill Publishing, 2016)  
A practical guide for raising children to love and follow Jesus. Good for preschool through teens.

## Parenting: Children

\* ***Shepherding a Child's Heart*** – Ted Tripp (Shepherd Press, 1995)  
Essential foundations for parenting. Primarily for parents of preschool/ elementary children.

***Don't Make Me Count to Three*** – Ginger Hubbard (Shepherd Press, 2004)  
*Shepherding a Child's Heart...* but more user friendly. Written by a mom for moms of young children.

***Instructing a Child's Heart*** – Ted and Margy Tripp (Shepherd Press, 2008)  
Helps you impart to your children the wisdom and truthfulness of God's ways. Best for ages 6 and up.

***Teach them Diligently*** – Lou Priolo (Timeless Texts, 2000)  
Focuses on how to use the Scriptures in child training. Bible saturated! Best for ages 6 and up.

## Parenting: Youth

\* ***Age of Opportunity*** – Paul Tripp (P & R Publishing, 2001)  
Aimed at parents of teens, helping them see challenges as opportunities to train. Required reading.

## Family Devotionals

\* ***Long Story Short*** – Marty Machowski (New Growth Press, 2010)  
Walks through the Old Testament in a Gospel-Centered way. Preschool – Middle School. Excellent!

\* ***Old Story New*** – Marty Machowski (New Growth Press, 2012)  
Rich New Testament devotions; five 10-minute sessions each week. Highly recommended!

***The Big Picture Family Devotional*** – David Helm (Crossway, 2014)

Covers the big story of the Bible in 3 short devotions a week. Uses Q&A format. Preschool – Elementary.

***New City Catechism*** – Core Christian doctrines in 52 questions and answers. Can be used for family devotions. Lots of resources including a phone app. For kids 8 and up. Check out their website [newcitycatechism.com](http://newcitycatechism.com).

***Family Worship*** – Donald Whitney (Crossway, 2016)

A short explanation of what this is, along with practical ideas to get you started and keep you going.

## Prayer

***What Every Child Should Know About Prayer*** – Nancy Guthrie (10 Publishing, 2019)

Read with your child to teach them about prayer and get them praying. For ages 2-8.

***The One Year Praying Through the Bible for Your Kids*** – Nancy Guthrie (Tyndale, 2016)

Just what the title says... Worry less, pray more for your kids as you work through the Bible.

***5 Things to Pray for Your Kids*** – Melissa Kruger (The Good Book Company, 2019)

Simple prayer suggestions from the Bible. Expands your vision and prayers for your kids.

***Praying for the Next Generation*** – Sally Michael (Desiring God Ministries, 1999)

Uses Scripture to guide you as you grow in praying for your children. Good for all ages!

## Leading Children to Christ

\* ***Who Will Be King?*** – Phillip Jensen and Tony Payne (Matthias Media, 2004)

A short gospel presentation (17 pages) you can read and discuss with your 5-11 year old.

***Leading Your Child to Christ*** – Marty Machowski (New Growth Press, 2012)

Short booklet (24 pages) giving parents helpful insights and a plan for leading their children to faith.

***The Gospel for Children*** – John Lauzarder (Shepherd Press, 2008)

Methodically teaches the gospel to young children using pictures and lots of Scripture references!

\* ***Your Child's Profession of Faith*** – Dennis Gundersen (Grace & Truth Books, 2010)

How do you know if your child is truly saved? A must read for parents on a challenging issue.

## Theology & Catechism

\* ***Bible Doctrine*** – Wayne Grudem (Zondervan Academic, 1999)

An essential resource for parents. Read it for your own growth and to answer hard questions kids ask.

***Christian Beliefs: Twenty Basics Every Christian Should Know*** – Wayne & Elliot Grudem (Zondervan, 2005)

A shortened version of *Bible Doctrine* (above). Great way to disciple Middle and High School students.

\* ***CrossWay Scripture Memory*** – Free on our website at [cwc.church](http://cwc.church), under Resources: Scripture Memory.

Memorizing God's word together as a family is a great way to train your children. Let us help you!

\* ***New City Catechism*** – Core Christian doctrines in 52 questions and answers. Lots of resources including a phone app and kid friendly songs. For kids 8 and up. Check out their website [newcitycatechism.com](http://newcitycatechism.com).

\* ***Everything a Child Should Know About God*** – Ken Taylor (10 Publishing, 2014)  
Explains God in ways even a 4-year-old can understand; colorful pictures, short explanations.

\* ***The Ology*** – Marty Machowski (New Growth Press, 2015)  
A beautiful and creative way to show deep and important truths about God to your elementary children.

\* ***Big Truths for Young Hearts*** – Bruce Ware (Crossway, 2009)  
How would a theology professor teach his kids about God? Read this and find out! Elementary & up.

***Big Book of Questions and Answers*** – Sinclair Ferguson (Christian Focus Publications, 1997)  
Answers to kids questions about God, sin, salvation, prayer, the Bible and more. Preschool.

***Big Book of Questions and Answers About Jesus*** – Sinclair Ferguson (Christian Focus Publications, 2000)  
Answers to kids questions about Jesus; who he was, what he did and why it's important. Preschool.

***God Knows My Name*** – Debby Anderson (Crossway, 2003)  
Delightful way to teach little children big concepts about God. Bright, fun pictures; serious truths.

***God's Names*** – Sally Michael (P&R Publishing, 2011)  
A rich study for children 8 and up on the names of God and how they reveal the character of God.

***My First Book of Questions and Answers*** – Carine Mackenzie  
Uses simple questions and short answers to teach children, ages 5-10, about God.

## *Apologetics*

***Keeping Your Kids on God's Side*** – Natasha Crain (Harvest House, 2016)  
Answers 40 common challenges to the Christian faith. Apologetics for kids 10 and up.

***Talking with Your Kids about God*** – Natasha Crain (Baker Books, 2017)  
30 conversations about God, science, faith and more. Could be adapted for family devotions. Ages 10 and up.

## *Bibles & Bible Story Books*

\* ***ESV Children's Bible***  
Brings the Bible to life with 200 colorful illustrations, maps and more. Designed for ages 5-10.

\* ***ESV Following Jesus Bible***  
Shows how all of the Bible points to Christ and what it means to follow Jesus. For ages 8-12.

\* ***ESV Student Study Bible***  
Study notes, key terms, maps, topical articles, character profiles. Great for ages 12 and up.

\* ***The Big Picture Story Bible*** – David Helm (Crossway, 2014)  
Tells the story of the whole Bible; Genesis to Revelation. Perfect for kids and adults!

\* ***The Jesus Storybook Bible*** – Sally Lloyd-Jones (ZonderKidz, 2007)

Shows the Jesus-Centered story of the Bible. Written for children, loved by children and adults!

***The Gospel Story Bible*** – Marty Machowski (New Growth Press, 2011)

Another rich gospel resource from a trusted author. Can also be used as a devotional.

***The Child's Story Bible*** – Catherine Voss (Eerdmanns, 1984)

Originally published in 1935, this book is still a classic telling of the main stories of the Bible.

## Biography & Story Books

\* ***The Priest with Dirty Clothes*** – R.C. Sproul (Reformation Trust Publishing, 2011)

Beautifully illustrates how, in salvation, Jesus takes our sin and gives us his righteousness. Kids 4 & up.

***The Prince's Poison Cup*** – R.C. Sproul (Reformation Trust Publishing, 2008)

Another great story, showing how Jesus, in salvation, takes the punishment we deserve. Kids 4 & up.

***Martin Luther*** – Paul Maier (Concordia Publishing, 2004)

Wonderful artwork brings Luther's story to life, focusing on his unwavering faith in Christ. Ages 7-12.

\* ***Dangerous Journey*** – John Bunyon/ Oliver Hunkin (Eerdman's, 1985)

Amazingly illustrated retelling of Pilgrim's Progress. Great springboard for conversations! Ages 7 & up.

***Pictorial Pilgrim's Progress*** – John Bunyon (Moody Publishing, 1960)

Illustrated by a former member of this church. Read this Christian classic to your 7-12 year olds.

## Sex & Gender

\* ***God Made All of Me: A Book to Help Children Protect Their Bodies*** – Justin Holcomb (New Growth 2015)

Read this book to your children to protect them from the dangers of sexual abuse. For ages 2-8.

\* ***The Talk: 7 Lessons to Introduce Your Child to Biblical Sexuality*** – Luke Gilkerson (CreateSpace 2014).

Foundational truths about sex from a Christian perspective. For ages 6-10.

\* ***Changes: 7 Biblical Lessons to Make Sense of Puberty*** – Luke & Trisha Gilkerson (CreateSpace 2015).

Introduces children to physical and emotional changes brought by puberty. For ages 8-12.

\* ***Relationships: 11 Lessons to Give Kids a Greater Understanding of Biblical Sexuality*** – Gilkerson (2016)

The goodness of God's design, dangers of sin, blessings of repentance, and more. For ages 11+.

***How to Talk confidently with Your Child About Sex*** – Lenore Buth (Concordia Publishing, 2008)

Helpful strategies for discussing God's plan for sexuality with your children and teens.

***Why Boys and Girls Are Different*** – Carol Greene (Concordia Publishing, 2008)

Affirms God's good design for gender differences. Read this with 5-8 year olds.

***Where Do Babies Come From?*** – Carol Greene (Concordia Publishing, 2008)

Explains sexuality & how a new baby develops; simple, accurate language. Read this with 9-11 year olds.

***Explaining LGBTQ+ Identity to Your Child*** – Tim Geiger (New Growth Press, 2018)  
Short booklet (20 pages). Good starting point for addressing this issue with truth and compassion.

***God Made Boys and Girls*** – Marty Machowski (New Growth Press, 2019)  
Read this picture book with young children to help them understand God's good gift of gender.

***God's Design*** – Sally Michael and Gary Steward (P&R Publishing, 2016)  
Read this with elementary children to help them understand Biblical manhood and womanhood.

## Technology

***Good Pictures Bad Pictures: Porn-Proofing Today's Young Kids*** – Kristen Jenson (Glen Cove Press, 2018)  
Explains what pornography is, why it's dangerous, and how to reject it. Written for ages 5-12.

***The Tech-Wise Family*** – Andy Crouch (Baker Books, 2017)  
Practical steps for putting technology in its proper place. Lots of helpful insights for parents and kids.

***The Porn-Free Family Plan*** – blogger Tim Challies created a plan to protect kids from inappropriate content online. Even if you don't do the whole thing, there may be one or two ideas you can apply. Find it [here](#).

## Anger & Conflict

***Peacemaking for Families*** – Ken Sande (Focus on the Family, 2002)  
Biblical solutions to real-life conflict in the home. Read it for yourself, teach it to your children.

***The Heart of Anger*** – Lou Priolo (Calvary Press, 1998)  
Anger starts in the heart. Address it with practical advice from a biblical perspective. Elementary & up.

***Angry Children: Understanding and Helping Your Child Regain Control*** – Michael Emlet (New Growth, 2008)  
Short booklet (24 pages) from CCEF. Good starting point for helping kids with anger.

***How Do I Stop Losing It with My Kids?*** – William Smith (New Growth Press, 2008)  
Short booklet (19 pages) from CCEF. Helps parents deal with their own anger.

## For Girls & Boys

***Girl Talk*** – Carolyn Mahaney (Crossway, 2005)  
Helps moms talk to their daughters about what it means to be a godly woman.

***Lies Young Women Believe*** – Nancy DeMoss (Moody Publishers, 2008)  
Examines 25 lies commonly believed in the culture, in light of biblical truth.

***Thoughts for Young Men*** – J.C. Ryle  
Timeless wisdom on dealing with sloth, lust, love of pleasure, peer pressure and more.

## Encouraging Moms

***Treasuring Christ When Your Hands Are Full*** – Gloria Furman (Crossway, 2014)  
Gospel meditations to encourage and strengthen the faith of busy moms.

***Loving the Little Years: Motherhood in the Trenches*** – Rachel Jankovic (Cannon Press, 2010)  
More encouragement for moms of young children; practical, humorous, envisioning.

## Music

***Awesome God*** – Sovereign Grace Music (2004)  
Worship songs that teach kids the character and nature of God. Great for family worship. Ages 7 & up.

***Walking with the Wise*** – Sovereign Grace Music (2010)  
13 songs, inspired by Proverbs, that encourage kids to treasure God's wisdom and follow his commands.

***Seeds of Faith*** – Seeds Family Worship (2008)

***Seeds of Praise*** – Seeds Family Worship (2008)

***Seeds of Purpose*** – Seeds Family Worship (2008)

***Seeds of Courage*** – Seeds Family Worship (2008)

Bible verses set to music make memorization fun and easy! Check out [seedsfamilyworship.com](http://seedsfamilyworship.com).

***Hide 'Em In Your Heart*** – Steve Green (1990)

Bible verses set to music for younger children.

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