

Engaging with Scripture with Kids

Children will learn to value what you value. If you model a love for God and his Word in the presence of your children, you will help them develop that same love.

TIPS FOR READING THE BIBLE WITH KIDS

Make it Relational!

Reading the Bible together is about building relationships with God and others. Keep this bigger goal in mind! Take turns reading. Encourage children to share thoughts and ask questions to foster an environment that allows for dialogue and reflection. Bring your own insight and experiences to the conversation through stories or illustrations. You don't have to have all the answers! Pray together, and let kids see how reading the Bible impacts your growing relationship with God and others.

Be Hopeful!

When engaging with Scripture, children will draft off of the emotions and experience from parents. This is a time for you to share hope with your children! Try to find a time that is consistent, so your kids look forward to this. Be creative so that reading the Bible together feels different from doing homework. Add a special snack, or find a unique place. Read with wonder, excitement, and curiosity. Try not to expect too much from children, and even if it doesn't go as planned, celebrate the little victories!

Keep it Real!

Use this time to talk to your kids about what is happening in their lives right now. Start with your child's interest and their own experiences, and try to connect Scripture to real life. You don't have to understand all of Scripture at once, and the things kids can draw a connection to will stick with them. Show your kids the practical ways they can live out what they learn from reading the Bible.

“Listen, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children.

Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders.

Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

Deuteronomy 6:4-8 (NLT)