



# All About the BIBLE

FOR PARENTS



THE CHAPEL

## All About the Bible - PARENTS GUIDE

The Bible is more than just words on a page. It's the inspired word of God for each of us. We are so excited that you will be going through the "All About the Bible" guide with your child. Let the following principles guide your discussion as you take this opportunity to teach your kid(s) about the Bible.

*1: Look for the gospel story in everything you read.*

The gospel, which translates as "good news," is simply that we have a loving God who is continuously making a way for us to encounter his presence and experience his kingdom in our lives. This is the overarching story of the entire Bible. In everything you read, look for the ways God is pursuing, redeeming, restoring, and making a way for people to experience his love and power in their lives.

*2: Make the focus of each story about God, not the people God used as heroes.*

We all love a good story. We love hearing about the underdog who made it to the top. We flock to theaters to watch our favorite superhero movies. As we read the Bible, we can be tempted to read about people like Moses, David, Joseph, Daniel, Peter, or Saul and make them the heroes of their stories. But these stories are not told to exalt Moses, David, Joseph, etc.. Rather, they are told to teach us about God and his love for each of us. Every story we read reveals more about who God is, deepening our understanding and trust in him. Remind your child that not one of the people God used was perfect, and we aren't either. And yet, God is always looking to partner with people to bring his kingdom to earth.

### *3: Don't teach the Bible as a list of rules but as an invitation into a relationship.*

As parents, we want our kids to follow God's plans for their lives. We want them to obey God's word because we see the benefit it will have on their lives. The temptation we face is to make obedience more important than knowing God, which can lead to legalism. God isn't looking for behavior modification. He gives us instructions for living to draw us into a deeper relationship with him. More than anything, he wants our kids to know how deeply he loves them, sees them, walks with them, and will not shame them.

When you come across verses about how we should live, resist the temptation to tell your child how to apply them. This generation prefers to figure things out on their own. Instead, ask them why they think God would want them to live that way. Helping them find their own answers will strengthen their faith. As parents, we need to trust that if they have a relationship with God, they will want to follow his path, not out of obligation, but because they know the love God has for them.

### *4: Model for them how to read God's word with God.*

Reading God's word with God simply means to invite God's presence as you sit down and open his word. Ask God to speak to you and show you things as you read. Then, pay attention to anything that stands out to you. Was there a word or sentence that God highlighted to you? Something you never noticed before? Something you didn't understand? Something you are excited about? Something God is asking you to do or apply?



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