

"I believe God is aware of our seasons of life, and I'm thankful he doesn't give us a family devotions model that's overly formal." - Jared Kennedy on TGC

A suggested simple template for families with children of any age:

1) Pray. Thank God for His Word that gives us instruction and helps us know Him better.

2) Read a passage from the Bible - If it's the OT, it can be one scene in a narrative. If it's NT one parable/incident that is happening. If it's an epistle/letter/Psalm or a Proverb can be a few verses.

Or a story from a children's Bible (for 3 and under)

Or the material for the day if you use a devotional.

3) Explain what the passage means / what's happening if you can. If you can't that's fine too!

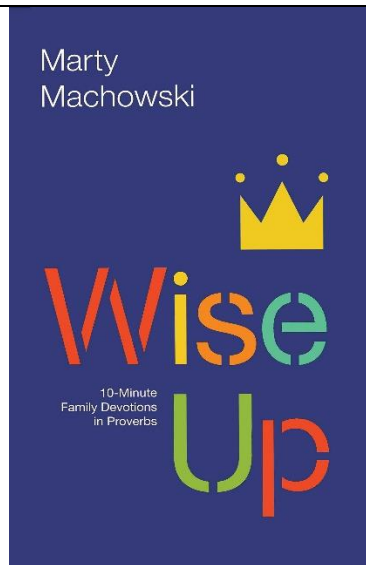
A good guideline for parents to think about the passage would be to ask what the passage tells us about who God is, what He is doing in the passage, how did the people in the passage respond (if any) and how we should respond/how should it affect our hearts and our lives/does it help us to worship God and love Jesus more.

4) Close with a prayer. If possible in relation to what was read.

Encourage children to pray as well. Even young children can follow the simple template of praying for 1 thing. It could be a Please God/Thank You God/ I'm sorry God prayer.

You can also refer to the church bulletin for some prayer points.

Devotional Resources to use with the family

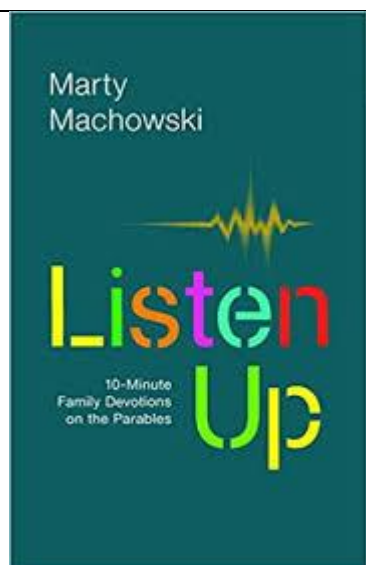


Like his acclaimed *Long Story Short* and *Old Story New* devotionals, *Wise Up* offers Christian families an easy-to-use, gospel-focused resource that can be successfully completed in just ten minutes a day, five days per week. Each session features Bible reading, discussion questions, a fun activity, and a song to make the study memorable for everyone in the family. In twelve short weeks, you can walk your entire family through the book of Proverbs, keeping them focused on the gospel the whole time.

Unlike some other kids resources on Proverbs, *Wise Up* is not a study on good morals. Machowski examines Proverbs from a biblical-theological perspective avoiding the dangers of moralism while still teaching gospel-motivated good choices. Each wisdom theme in *Wise Up* is carefully and repeatedly connected to the good news of Jesus's life, death, resurrection, and coming return. Ultimately, the goal of this family devotional is to present the wisdom of Solomon against the backdrop of the gospel to show children that real wisdom comes only as we depend on Jesus for daily help and forgiveness. As a result, *Wise Up* moves Christian families beyond the practical wisdom of Proverbs, to connect the teaching of Solomon to God's larger story of salvation.

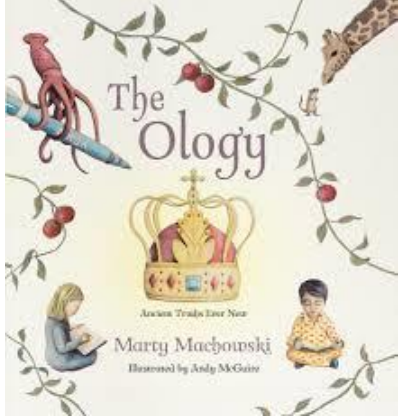
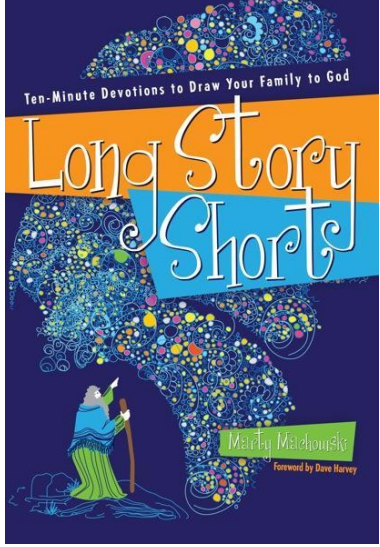
A corresponding music CD, *Walking with the Wise*, helps families remember and reflect on these truths and is available from Sovereign Grace Music.

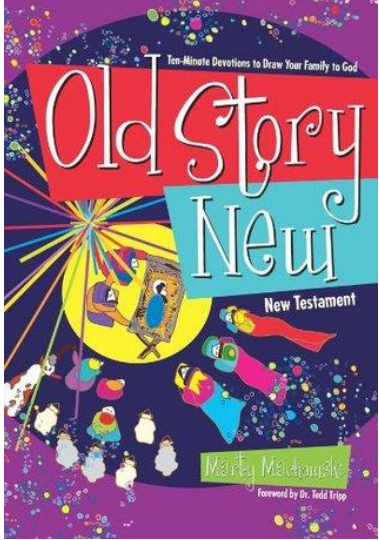


>> Suggested Age: 7 – 10 years

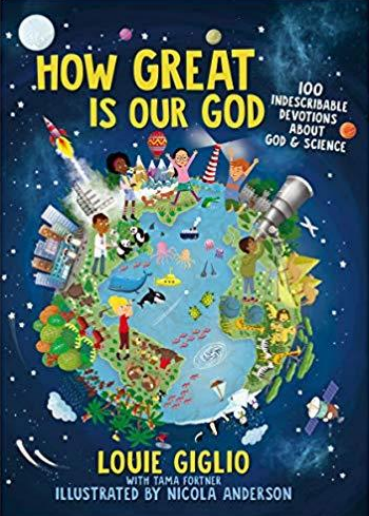


After teaching a parable, Jesus often said, Whoever has ears, let him hear. In other words, This is important, so you better listen up, and what could be more important than the good news of the kingdom of God? This family devotional provides a unique opportunity for Christian parents to help their children listen up and hear the gospel as Jesus himself shared it. Jesus told simple stories using everyday activities and objects that point to surprising spiritual truths about life in his kingdom. In the parables children (and adults!) will learn to treasure the gospel.

Children love stories, and the parables provide a wonderful opportunity to engage their imagination and help them understand and live out the good news of the kingdom of God. This thirteen-week family devotional is designed to help Christian families explore the parables that Jesus taught through reading selected parables, activities, discussion questions, and fun facts. Each five-

	<p>day session includes Bible reading, discussion questions, a fun activity, and songs</p> <p>>> Suggested Age: 7 – 10 years</p>
	<p>Truth is for kids, not just for adults! So <i>The Ology</i> gives kids of all ages a beginner's theology book to help them understand who God is and how we, as his children, relate to him. Arranged within a traditional systematic theological framework, each truth in <i>The Ology</i> is also connected to the larger redemptive story of Scripture. The doctrine of God, for example, is presented in the larger framework of creation, where the attributes of God are on display and easier to understand. Clearly explains life-changing theological truths with everyday examples and simple language that kids can understand. Uses illustrations, analogies, and word pictures to help kids understand God, the world, and themselves.</p> <p>>> Suggested Age: 4 – 10 years</p>
	<p><i>Long Story Short</i> will help parents share with their children how every story in the Old Testament points forward to God's story of salvation through Jesus Christ. You won't find a more important focus for a family devotional than a daily highlighting of the gospel of grace. Clever stories and good moral lessons may entertain and even help children, but the gospel will transform children. The gospel is deep enough to keep the oldest and wisest parents learning and growing all their lives, yet simple enough to transform the heart of the first grader who has just begun to read. Ten minutes a day, five days a week is enough time to pass on the most valuable treasure the world has ever known.</p> <p><i>Long Story Short</i> is a family devotional program designed to explain God's plan of salvation through the Old Testament</p> <p>>> Suggested Age: 7 – 10 years</p>

	<p>The second volume in Marty Machowski’s family devotional series, <i>Old Story New</i> continues the gospel story that started in <i>Long Story Short</i>. Using the same effective ten-minute a day structure, it walks children through the great truths of the Christian faith in the New Testament. Through 78 New Testament stories, <i>Old Story New</i> does the hard work for parents and caregivers. Simple discussion questions (and answers!!) for each day’s devotion help children understand and remember Jesus’ life, death, resurrection, and the birth of the Christian church. <i>Old Story New</i> is a family devotional program designed to explain God’s plan of salvation through the New Testament</p> <p>>> Suggested Age: 7 – 10 years</p>
	<p>The <i>Give Us This Day</i> devotional booklet consists of two-page devotionals, with colourful illustrations and stories in larger font size and simple English, making it easy and attractive for parents to read with their children. Aside from a Bible passage for reading, each devotional has a short prayer, a “verse of the day” and reflection questions. The language is also pitched at children aged 7 to 12, so the devotional is something that children can read on their own. The topics are relevant to pre-schoolers too, so parents can read out the stories, even if the children cannot read on their own.</p> <p>For more info: https://saltandlight.sg/news/our-daily-bread-launches-biblical-wisdom-for-parents-website/</p> <p>>> Suggested Age: 4 – 10 years</p>
	<p><i>Beginning with God</i> helps parents with young children to explore the Bible with their child. Pairs with the <i>Beginner’s Bible</i> by Kelly Pulley so that children learn that the stories come from the Bible, not just a devotional book. Each story of the Bible is accompanied by simple prayers children can repeat or pray themselves, questions and answers to think through the story and activities to supplement.</p> <p>>> Suggested Age: 0-6 years</p>

	<p>It can be a struggle for parents and children to read the Bible regularly together, but help is at hand! <i>Table Talk</i> is designed to form the basis for a short family Bible time or devotions—maybe just five minutes at a mealtime. It includes a simple discussion starter or activity that leads into a short Bible reading, and can be used alongside <i>eExplore The Bible (XTB)</i>.</p> <p>For more info: https://www.thegoodbook.co.uk/series/table-talk/</p> <p>>> Suggested Age: 7 – 10 years</p>
	<p>Louie Giglio offers 100 more devotions about God and science that will expand the curiosity of your 6- to 10-year-olds. Including amazing scientific facts, beautiful photography, fun illustrations, and simple activities, <i>How Great Is Our God</i> covers topics like Space and time Earth and weather The human body Animals Plants And more! With this science devotional, which is based on Giglio's well-known "How Great Is Our God" and "Indescribable" messages, children will embark on a journey to discover more about God and His incredible creation.</p> <p>>> Suggested Age: 5 – 10 years</p>
	<p>Discover the Wonders of the Universe <i>with</i> the Creator It's impossible to out-imagine God. He orchestrates time, creates light, and speaks things into existence—from the largest stars to the smallest starfish. God is a powerful, purposeful, personal, unparalleled Creator.</p> <p>Psalm 19:1 says, "The heavens tell the glory of God. And the skies announce what his hands have made."</p> <p><i>Indescribable</i> displays the majesty of creation with scientific findings, photography, and original illustrations. These 100 devotions encourage awe at God's creativity with an in-depth look at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Space, Galaxies, Planets, and Stars • Earth, Geology, Oceans, and Weather • Animals—from Hummingbirds to Dinosaurs • Our Minds, Bodies, and Imaginations <p>Each devotion features a "Be Amazed" section with fascinating facts, hands-on activities, and a closing prayer. Based on Louie Giglio's popular messages "Indescribable" and "How Great Is Our God," <i>Indescribable: 100 Devotions About God & Science</i> will help kids discover the incredible creation of our indescribable God.</p> <p>>> Suggested Age: 5 – 10 years</p>



What do you wish for your kids? As a Christian father, to have them grow up to love Jesus and live faithfully for God would no doubt be at the top of your list. But how does that actually happen? What can you do to advance that goal? In this short and extremely practical guide, Jon Nielson reminds fathers that reading the Bible each day with our kids is crucial. It's regular exposure to God's word along with your prayers and the work of the Holy Spirit in their hearts that has the power to shape your children and build a faith in them that will last. But this book doesn't just leave you with a biblical conviction. It also shows you how to go about this kind of daily Bible reading, providing a stack of practical tips and advice, concrete examples, and warm encouragement.

>> Suggested Age: Parents. Although written specifically to fathers, mothers can learn from the very practical advice too!