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BIBLE STORIES *for Children*

*Ten favorite stories from the Bible, told simply, with a verse to learn and
a question to talk about together*

WESLEY A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

1500 LOMBARD STREET · PHILADELPHIA · SINCE 1820

CHILDREN

BIBLE STORIES *for Children*

Ten favorite stories from the Bible, told simply, with a verse to learn and a question to talk about together



THESE ARE TEN OF THE BEST-LOVED STORIES IN THE BIBLE, TOLD IN simple words for children. Read one each night, or one each Sunday afternoon. After every story there is a verse to learn and a question to talk about together.

Grown-ups: let the children ask questions, act out the stories, and draw pictures of them. Faith is caught as much as it is taught, and it is caught most easily from someone who loves them.

GENESIS 1-2

GOD MAKES *everything*



In the very beginning there was nothing at all — only God. Then God spoke, and there was light! Day by day, God made the sky and the sea, the land and the plants, the sun and the moon and the stars, the fish and the birds and all the animals. And every time, God looked and said, *It is good*. Last of all, God made people, a man and a woman, in His own image, to love Him and take care of His world. Then God looked at everything He had made, and said, *It is very good*. And on the seventh day, God rested.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

GENESIS 1:1 · KJV

TALK ABOUT IT

What is your favorite thing that God made? God made you too — and He thinks you are very good.

GENESIS 6-9

NOAH AND THE *big boat*

People everywhere had forgotten God and were doing terrible things. But one man, Noah, loved God. God told Noah, *Build a big boat, called an ark*. Noah built it, even when people laughed. Then the animals came, two by two, and Noah's family went inside, and God shut the door. It rained for forty days and forty nights until the whole world was covered with water. But everyone inside the ark was safe. When the water went down, God put a rainbow in the sky as a promise: *I will never flood the whole earth again*.



Every time you see a rainbow, remember: God keeps His promises.

TALK ABOUT IT

Noah obeyed God even when it was hard. What is one way you can obey God this week?

EXODUS 2

BABY MOSES *in a basket*

Long ago, God's people were slaves in Egypt, and a cruel king named Pharaoh ordered that all their baby boys be thrown in the river. One brave mother hid her baby boy. When he was too big to hide, she made a little basket, covered it to keep out the water, laid her baby inside, and set it in the tall grass by the river. His big sister Miriam watched. Pharaoh's daughter came to bathe and found the baby. She loved him and named him Moses. And Miriam ran and got their own mother to take care of him! God was watching over Moses, because one day Moses would lead God's people to freedom.

And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

EXODUS 3:7 · KJV

I SAMUEL 17

DAVID AND *the giant*

A giant named Goliath, taller than any man you've ever seen, shouted at God's people every day: *Send someone to fight me!* Everyone was afraid. Then a shepherd boy named David came with food for his brothers. *Who is this giant, to*

make fun of the army of the living God? David said. He didn't wear armor. He took his sling and five smooth stones from a stream. *You come with a sword,* David told Goliath, *but I come in the name of the Lord!* David swung his sling, the stone flew, and the giant fell down. God gave a small boy a big victory.

TALK ABOUT IT

What feels like a giant in your life? Remember: God is bigger.

DANIEL 6

DANIEL AND *the lions*

Daniel loved God and prayed three times every day by his window. Some jealous men tricked the king into making a law: *Anyone who prays to anyone except the king will be thrown to the lions!* Daniel kept praying anyway. So they threw him into a den of hungry lions. The king couldn't sleep all night. In the morning he ran to the den and called, *Daniel! Did your God save you?* And Daniel called back, *My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths!* Daniel didn't have a single scratch.



"My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths." Daniel 6:22

JONAH 1-3

JONAH AND *the big fish*



God told Jonah, *Go to the city of Nineveh and tell them to stop doing wrong.* But Jonah didn't want to, so he got on a boat going the other way! A huge storm came. Jonah knew it was because he ran from God, so the sailors threw him into the sea — and a giant fish swallowed him! For three days Jonah prayed inside the fish. Then the fish spit him out on the beach. This time Jonah went to Nineveh, and the people were sorry and turned to God. God gave Jonah a second chance, and He gave Nineveh one too.

JESUS IS *born*



Mary and Joseph traveled to the little town of Bethlehem, but there was no room for them anywhere. So when baby Jesus was born, Mary wrapped Him in cloth and laid Him in a manger, where the animals ate. That night, shepherds were watching their sheep in a field when an angel appeared and said, *Don't be afraid! I bring you good news of great joy. Today a Savior is born for you!* Then the whole sky filled with angels singing, *Glory to God in the highest!* The shepherds ran to Bethlehem and found the baby, just as the angel said.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

LUKE 2:11 · KJV

MARK 4:35-41

JESUS *calms the storm*



One evening Jesus and His friends got into a boat to cross a lake. Jesus was so tired He fell asleep on a pillow. Suddenly a terrible storm came. Huge waves crashed into the boat, and it began to fill with water. The disciples were terrified. *Teacher, don't you care that we're going to drown?* Jesus got up and said to the wind and the waves, *Peace, be still.* And everything became perfectly calm. *Why were you so afraid?* Jesus asked. *Where is your faith?*

TALK ABOUT IT

When you are scared, you can pray, *Jesus, please calm my storm*. He is always in the boat with you.

LUKE 19:1-10

ZACCHAEUS *climbs a tree*

Zacchaeus was a tax collector who cheated people, and nobody liked him. He was also very short. When Jesus came to his town, Zacchaeus couldn't see over the crowd, so he climbed a sycamore tree. Jesus stopped right under that tree, looked up and said, *Zacchaeus, hurry and come down! I'm coming to your house today!* Everyone grumbled. But Zacchaeus was so happy that he gave half of everything he had to the poor and paid back everyone he had cheated, four times over. Jesus said, *I came to find and save the lost.*

LUKE 24

JESUS IS *alive!*

Jesus died on the cross on a Friday, and His friends were very sad. They put His body in a tomb and rolled a big stone in front of it. But early on Sunday morning, some women came to the tomb — and the stone was rolled away! The tomb was empty. Two angels in shining clothes said, *Why are you looking for the living among the dead? He is not here. He is risen!* Jesus was alive! Later He visited His friends, ate with them, and promised to be with them always. That is why we go to church on Sunday: it's a celebration that Jesus is alive!

He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

MATTHEW 28:6 · KJV



A CHILD'S PRAYER

Dear God, thank You for the Bible and all its stories. Thank You for loving me like You loved Noah, Moses, David and Daniel. Thank You for sending Jesus to be my friend and Savior. Help me to be brave, kind and good. I love You. In Jesus' name.

AMEN.



“But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.”

MARK 10:14

WESLEY A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

“Big Wesley” · The Freedom Church · Founded June 6, 1820

SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:30 AM
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SUNDAY WORSHIP	11:00 AM
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