# Children's Ministry Books + Resources

I will link to most of these books through Amazon because it's the easiest way for you to view the book and read reviews. However, many of these books are also available at your library (you can also request for your library to purchase a book it doesn't have!). I also encourage you to seek out independent bookstores to purchase from. Tombolo Books is a local St. Pete bookstore and Alsace, the owner, is a pleasure to work with and I've ordered many books through her. If you can live without next day shipping, check out: Tombolobooks.com or www.indiebound.org. Happy reading!

In creating this list, I heavily relied on suggestions and descriptions "I Wonder: Engaging a Child's Curiosity about the Bible," by Elizabeth Caldwell. I can't recommend this book enough! Plus, we have it our library at the Cathedral so you can borrow it any time.

# Children's Bibles and Storybook Bibles

What's the difference? "Story" or "storybook" lets you know that the book holds a collection of stories chosen by an author or editor. There are often additional prompts for adults to read as a way to begin conversation or go deeper into the story. Storybook Bibles often take scripture and retell the story with a specific approach. A children's Bible will include all of scripture, but may still offer notes and prompts as a way for kids to engage.

Storybook Bibles for Young Children (pre-readers to age 5)
Children of God Storybook Bible by Archbishop Desmond Tutu
Children's Everyday Bible by Deborah Chancellor
Spark Story Bible by Patti Thisted Arthur
Deep Blue Bible Storybook

Bibles for Elementary-Age Children (ages 6 to 8)

Shine On: A Story Bible

The Bible for Children by Murray Watts

Deep Blue Bible Storybook

The Bible for Young Children by Marie-Helene Delval

Bibles for Older Children (ages 9 to 11)

Deep Blue Kids Bible

Kids Spark NRSV Bible

The Guidebook: NRSV Student Bible (most appropriate for ages 11+)

*This is a list of great authors*. Rather than list all their books, just know you can't go wrong with anything they've written!

- Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso
- Rabbi Lawrence Kushner
- Matthew Paul Turner
- Amy-Jill Levine
- Tim Ladwig (illustrator)

## Books for babies - age 3

All Creatures Great and Small by Naoko Stoop

Love is Patient Love is Kind by Naoko Stoop

Psalms of Praise: A Movement Primer by Danielle Hitchen

Images of God for Young Children by Marie-Helene Delval

## Books for ages 3-6

Because Nothing Looks Like God by Lawrence Kushner

Maybe God is Like That Too by Jennifer Grant

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands by Kadir Nelson

The Lord's Prayer illustrated by Tim Ladwig

The World is Awake by Linsey David

Let Us Pray: A Little Kid's Guide to the Eucharist by Jennie Turrell

# Books for ages 6-11

Marvellous Mustard Seed by Amy-Jill Levine

When God Was a Little Girl by David Weiss

Psalm 23 illustrated by Tim Ladwig

The Beatitudes: From Slavery to Civil Rights by Carol Boston Weatherford

<u>Jesus from A to Z</u> by Kevin Graham

#### Resources

<u>StoryPath</u> is created in collaboration with Union Presbyterian Seminary. They have children's books to connect with *every single lectionary text*! You can also search by theme (everything from baptism, shyness, to horses!), scripture, and read book reviews.

There is commentary for each book describing its connection to scripture as well as discussion questions.

<u>Wendy Claire Barrie</u> has written her own books about faith at home for families. Her blog has a bunch of resources -- books, Pinterest boards, a blog, and of course, a list of recommended children's books!

#### For Parents

Faithful Families by Traci Smith

<u>I Wonder: Engaging a Child's Curiosity about the Bible</u> by Elizabeth Caldwell The Daily Ouestion for You and Your Child: A Three-Year Spiritual Journal

## **Advent/Christmas**

Who Built the Stable by Ashley Brown

The Birds of Bethlehem by Tomie dePaola

<u>Drummer Boy</u> by Loren Long

The Story of Christmas illustrated by Pamela Dalton

Go Tell It on the Mountain by Debbie Trafton O'Neal

Humphrey's First Christmas by Carol Heyer

Song of the Stars by Sally Lloyd-Jones

How Many Miles to Bethlehem by Kevin Crossley Holland

Who is Coming to our House by Joseph Slate

The Legend of the Poinsettia by Tomie dePaola

Nativity by Cynthia Rylant

<u>Silent Night</u> by Lara Hawthorne

<u>Christmas Love Letters from God</u> by Glenys Nellist

Twas the Evening of Christmas by Glenys Nellist

The Night of His Birth by Katherine Paterson

Home by Another Way by Barbara Brown Taylor

Worst Christmas Ever by Kathleen Long Bostrom

The Legend of Old Befana by Tomie dePaola

**Amazing Peace** by Maya Angelou

Refuge by Anne Booth

Room for a Little One by Martin Waddell

The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey by Susan Wojciechowski

The Spirit of Christmas by Nancy Tillman

This is the Stable by Cynthia Cotten

# Holy Week

<u>Holy Week: An Emotions Primer</u> (babies - age 6)

# Easter

Easter Love Letters from God (ages 3-11)