



THE
**ULTIMATE
GUIDE**
TO YOUR
**GREATEST
ADVENTURE**



THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

(Write your name.)

(Write your age.)

(Write the city, state, and country where you live.)

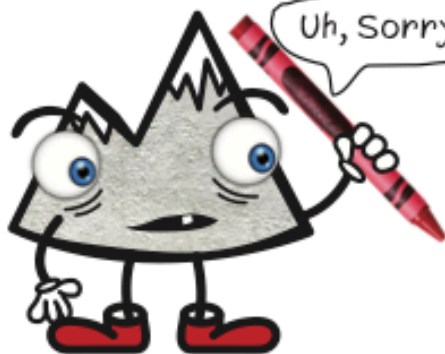
(Write your favorite animal.)

(Write your code name.)

(Write your name upside down.)

No, Everest!
This isn't YOUR book!

Uh, Sorry, Trench.





WHAT'S IN THIS ULTIMATE GUIDE?



| | |
|--|-----------|
| Meet Your Hosts | 4 |
| How to Use This Guide | 6 |
| Big Question 1: Where Do I Start? | 8 |
| Hold on! Did You Skip a Step? | 10 |
| Big Question 2: What Does It Feel Like to Follow Jesus? | 12 |
| Big Question 3: Who Is God? | 14 |
| Big Question 4: What Is Baptism? | 16 |
| Big Question 5: Is All of This Real? | 18 |
| Whatever You Do, Don't Turn to This Page | 20 |

Big Question 6: How Do I Become More Like Jesus? 22

Big Question 7: What Are Ways to Get Closer to God? 24

Big Question 8: What Is the Bible? 26

Big Question 9: Who's With Me? 28

Big Question 10: What's Next on the Adventure? 30





MEET YOUR HOSTS

Hey! Let's be friends on this epic adventure.

Nice to meet you.



Name: EVEREST

Hometown: Lobuche, Nepal

Hobbies: Snowboarding, Video Games, Rock Climbing

Favorite Band: The Stones That Roll

Strength: Solid as a Rock

Dislikes: Goats, Sugar-free cookies





Name: TRENCH

Hometown: Challenger Deep, Pacific Ocean

Likes: Hula Hoops, Graphic Novels, Water Balloon Fights

Favorite Sports: Swimming, Deep-Sea Diving

Hidden Talent: Ambidextrous (I'm right-right-right-right-right-tentacled and left-left-left-left-left-tentacled.)

Embarrassing Moment: One time I laughed so hard, sand shot out of my gills.

Favorite Food: Corn dogs. Only corn dogs.



Here's everything you need to know about us.

Our adventure together starts on the next page!

TURN

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Following Jesus is a lifelong, epic adventure. This ultimate guide can help answer your questions. Here are some things you'll need:

*Get an adult you trust
(like someone who takes care of you).*

They can help you on your adventure. Read this book with them, or tell them what you learn from it.

Get your hands on God's Word.

Ask your trusted adult to help you find a Bible that's perfect for you. (We have some tips for Bible-finding on page 26.) If you have a digital device, you can download the Bible App.



Get some stuff.

Grab some crayons, pens, colored pencils, regular pencils, markers—you know, writing stuff—and get ready to DOODLE.





Get ready to rock.

This fun guide is full of the basics of following Jesus. You might finish in 11 days, 100 days, 5 days, or whenever! No rush! This guide is here to help you grow your friendship with Jesus and share what you're learning with others.



Get the right book for you.

This is a great book for young humans to read with an adult they trust. If you're the adult, we have a book just for you! It's called *You Said Yes*. Ask a pastor for a copy. You're gonna love it.



Get in touch with a pastor.

Adults—there's a very important QR code on page 35.

When you finish this book, scan it so your kids pastor can partner with you as you continue to disciple your child.





Big Question 1

WHERE DO I START?

Before a trip, you might have some questions: Where are we going? What snacks are we taking? When is the next bathroom stop?! When you make a choice to follow Jesus, you might have some questions, too. That's good!

**DOODLE
HERE!**


Use this space to doodle your questions about Jesus.

GREAT QUESTIONS!

PRAY



Pray. Talk with God about your questions. Ask Him to guide your adventure.

To start answering your awesome questions, let's go back. Way back. Before there was anything else, there was God. He's existed forever. 

God made the entire universe, the world, and everything in it. Of all His creations, He loved us humans the most! In fact, He gave us a really big job. We get to enjoy and take care of what He made.

But something bad happened. Sadly, humans chose to sin.

What is sin?

Sin is a choice that shows we trust ourselves more than we trust God and His good plan. Sin hurts us, others, and the world. Since God is perfect and sin is not, sin separates us from Him.

What did God do about sin?

God sent His Son, Jesus, to Earth. Jesus was born as a 100% human baby who was also 100% God. Jesus lived just like us in every way—except He never sinned. He showed us how to love God and love others. He chose to die on a cross to fix our friendship with God. He took the punishment for every single person's sins.



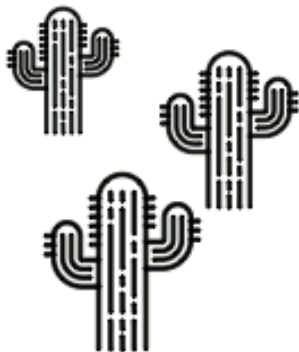
Why would Jesus do something like that?

Let's read what Jesus said:

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him." John 3:16-17 NLT

Jesus told us God's plan. God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to save us from sin by dying on a cross.

Uh, that's sad.
Is there any good news?



Yes!

The good news is God's power brought Jesus back to life. Now Jesus lives FOREVER! You can choose to follow Jesus, ask Him to forgive your sin, and become part of God's family.

God loves you. He wants a close relationship with you. This good news makes people want to follow Jesus their whole lives!

THIS GOOD NEWS IS WHERE YOUR ADVENTURE BEGINS!



**HOLD ON!
DID YOU SKIP
A STEP?**



Blech Blech
kablooy!



That's why I only
eat corn dogs.

**STORY
TIME**



I ate the worst cookie ever.

I was at my grandma's house. She made warm chocolate chip cookies. I swiped a few and took a bite. Something was off. Waaaaay off. I spit out the awful cookie bite!

My sweet grandma was hurt. Until she tried one. She let out a long, loud, **"EWWWWWWWWW!"**

We uncovered the horrible truth. She forgot the sugar. The cookies tasted like postage stamps. Even the chocolate chips couldn't save them.

Grandma missed a very important step.

When starting your adventure of following Jesus, there's one very important step you don't want to miss.

What is the step I don't want to miss?

Ask yourself, "Is this an adventure I want to take?"



The Bible tells us this:

If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. Romans 10:9-10 NLT

Jesus gives each of us a choice.

We can choose to say, "Jesus, you are the King of my life. Not me. I want You in charge."



What if I already made that choice?

Whether it was today, yesterday, or two years ago, turn to page 32 for a special message!

What do I do if I want to make that choice?

We've got you. Pray and let God know you want to follow Jesus.



If you're not sure what to say, here's an idea for you:

Dear God, I've sinned. Please forgive me. I believe You sent Your Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for my sin. Jesus is the King of my life. Not me. I want You in charge. In Jesus' name, amen.

Choosing to follow Jesus is a very important and very big step!

Make sure you tell someone about it—and make sure you turn to page 32 for that special message!

What if I'm not ready to make that choice?

That's okay. Keep talking to God. Keep looking for Jesus to show you who He is. Keep asking ALL the questions.



Talk about this ...

If you made the choice to follow Jesus ...

If you're not ready to make that choice ...

What is different when you decide to follow Jesus?

What questions do you have?

Jesus gives us a choice to follow Him. What do you think about that?





Big Question 2

WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE TO FOLLOW JESUS?

If you play soccer, you know how it feels to kick a ball or wear shin guards. If you play video games, you know how it feels to button-smash your way to the next level. When you know a lot about something, it feels different than when you first started out.



Share one thing you know a lot about. Now, share one thing you want to know about Jesus.

/ Does life feel different after I choose to follow Jesus? /

Following Jesus is more than a feeling. Feelings come and go. Jesus never changes.

Think about it this way: How do you teach someone to play your favorite board game?

You don't tell them how they should feel when they play. Instead, you break it into how, what, and who:

The how: Rules

With what: Tokens, cards, and boards

The who: The players

In the same way, a man asked Jesus to describe the best way to live life. Jesus didn't tell the man how to feel. Instead, He broke it into how, what, and who:



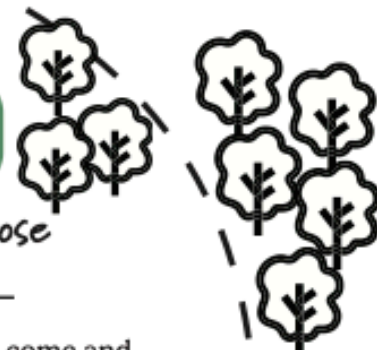
Jesus replied, "You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:37-39 NLT

The how: Love

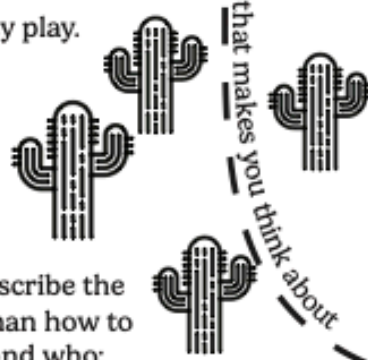
With what: Your whole self—heart, soul, and mind

The who: God and all the people He created

To follow Jesus, it takes everything you've got.



Pick a word that makes you think about





you might have while following Jesus by doodling the word in different ways on pages 36-39.





How do I follow Jesus with my heart, soul, and mind?

Practice loving like Jesus did. As you learn what Jesus did, and you do what Jesus did, the Holy Spirit changes you. Your feelings, words, actions—even the things you like—will be different. (Oh, yeah! Pages 14-15 have more on the Holy Spirit.)

How do I know what Jesus did?

Spend time with Jesus. Read the Bible and talk with Him. You'll find that Jesus:

LOOK IT UP!

-  **Does what He says He will do.** (Matthew 28:6)
-  **Welcomes people others reject.** (Luke 5:27-32)
-  **Loves His enemies.** (Luke 23:33-34)
-  **Stands up for people who are hurt.** (Matthew 5:3-12)

following Jesus. Show the different feelings

WARNING

It's not always easy. Loving others is great, but it is hard, too—like the ups and downs on a roller coaster. Hold on to God when things get tough.

**LIFE DOESN'T JUST
FEEL
DIFFERENT. YOU
LOVE
DIFFERENT.**





Big Question 3

WHO IS GOD?

The Bible tells us a lot about who God is. But there's a lot we don't know about Him. (Like what He looks like.)



What do you think God looks like?



DOODLE
HERE!

Think about God. Create a pattern, poem, or picture that shows what God means to you.

So, what DO we know about God?

First off, God is pretty mysterious. One great mystery of God is the Trinity—God is three beings—but also only one being. What?!

Here's what that means: God shows Himself as the Father, the Son (that's Jesus!), and the Holy Spirit. All three are equals in power and exist forever as “three in one.”





God is big. (Isaiah 66:1-2) He's so super-sized, we describe Him with big words like omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent. Those are fancy ways to say God can do anything, knows everything, and is always with everyone.

God is love. (1 John 4:16) God's love is unconditional, unstoppable, and unchanging. You don't earn His love by doing more, and you don't lose His love when you mess up. God's love is patient and kind.

God is with you. (John 14:15-16) Jesus is a good friend. He gives you a gift, the Holy Spirit—a powerful Helper who is always with you. When you choose to follow Jesus, you have a personal relationship with God. You can know Him like you know a friend.



Can I see God?



Check out what the Bible tells us.

No one has ever seen God. But the unique One, who is himself God, is near to the Father's heart. He has revealed God to us. John 1:18 NLT



Jesus shows us what God is like. Look at Jesus. Follow Him. You can know God's power, love, and friendship.



**LEARNING MORE ABOUT WHO
GOD IS
HELPS US KNOW WHO WE ARE.**



How do you
like my glasses?

Umm ...





Big Question 4

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

Baptism might look fun, like swimming!
Baptism might look strange, like you're in
a pool with too many people watching.

Maybe you want to do it. Or maybe you're afraid water would go
up your nose.

Baptism might seem weird—but it's a meaningful tradition.

10

What is baptism, exactly?

Baptism is when a pastor or trusted person helps you dip
under water and come right back up. It's your next step
when you decide to make Jesus the leader of your life.

Now is the time to let everyone know Jesus changed
your life!



Jesus chose to be baptized, too. One of Jesus'
friends wrote about it:

*After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the
heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending
like a dove and settling on him. And a voice from heaven
said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy."
Matthew 3:16-17 NLT*

11

But why go under water?

Baptism is a symbol. It shows Jesus died, came
back to life, and that you have new life in Him.

Going under the water shows
your sins are washed away
because of Jesus' death.

Rising out of the water shows
you have new life because
Jesus was raised back to life.



Why do people want to see me get baptized?

Baptism is a way to show that Jesus has changed your life forever, and that's something people want to celebrate. It's kinda like a PARTY!



Talk about inviting. Who would you invite to your baptism—friends, family, cousins, teachers, coaches, leaders, neighbors? (Write a list on pages 36-37 if you like!)

If you decided to follow Jesus and want to be baptized, tell an adult who cares for you or your leaders at church. They'll help you take the next steps.

If you're worried about what will happen in the water (or if you're not!), find someone who got baptized and talk to them about it.



When you sin after you get baptized, do you have to get baptized again?

Nope. Tell Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you and help you say no to sin in the future. You don't need to get baptized more than once.



WORD SEARCH

Circle these words each time they show up on pages 16 and 17 (not counting this word bank!).

Baptism (10), Invite (1), Party (1), Symbol (1), Jesus (11), New Life (1), Water (7), Tradition (1)



Uh, Trench, where are we gonna find all these words?



They're around here somewhere.



Big Question 5 IS ALL OF THIS REAL?




What's "real" mean? Like, really, really real.



Are you really, really asking me that?




If someone said dogs didn't have tongues, you'd let your dog lick all over their face. 

If they said breakfast didn't exist, you'd make some waffles. Or toss them a jelly donut.



If they claimed gymnastics weren't real, you'd cartwheel and backflip all over the place!

It's easy to believe in those things because we can feel and eat and see them.

So how do we know God is real if we've never seen Him? 

There are things we believe in that we can't see. Oxygen. Gravity. The love you have for your family. But you can see and feel the effects of those things.

DOODLE HERE!

Make a list of invisible things that are really, really real.

You can't physically see or feel God, but you can see and feel the effects of His realness and love. When you choose to believe in Jesus, you choose to believe He's real and He's here.

That's faith.

It's not silly or childish to believe God is real. He's not a fairy tale. There's historical proof of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. There is logical evidence.



Are you looking for evidence? Scan here for a video.



The big story of the Bible shows God's faithful love for people—even when people reject Him.

If we are unfaithful, he remains faithful, for he cannot deny who he is. 2 Timothy 2:13 NLT

God is always faithful and trustworthy—you can count on that.



If I said God wasn't real, what would you show me? Where would you take me? Talk about it.

Maybe you'd show Bible verses, share historical evidence, or tell personal stories of how you've seen God show up in your life.



One of Jesus' closest friends, Peter, wrote this in the Bible:

Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. But do this in a gentle and respectful way. ... 1 Peter 3:15-16 NLT

What if you showed how real God is by how you follow Jesus? What if everyone knew you had hope in Jesus by the way you loved them?

PEOPLE SEE GOD WHEN OUR LIVES REFLECT HIM.



God, show me the reason for my hope. Use my life, my actions, and my choices to show others how real You are.

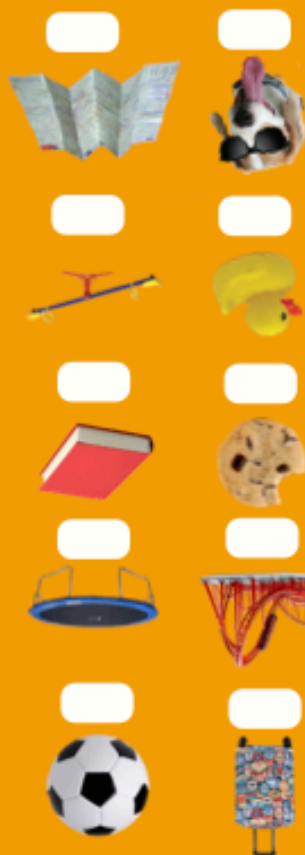
⚠ WARNING

DO NOT turn to the next page. It is too much fun for you to handle.

WARNING

These are the HARDEST puzzles in the whole book!

Complete each word ladder. Then fill in the blanks in each surprise message with the first and last words of each word ladder.



Write how many times each picture shows up on pages 1-35. (Don't count the ones on this page!)

Clue: Feels deep care and affection

Change 1 letter.
Clue: Opposite of dies

Change 1 letter.
Clue: Married women

Change 1 letter.
Clue: Surfers love these

Change 1 letter.
Clue: Protects—sets free

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| L | V | | |
| | | | |
| W | | | |
| | | | |
| | V | S | |

Jesus _____ us and _____ us. (John 3:16)
(word 1 here) (word 5 here)

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| F | | | |
| | T | | |
| H | | | |
| | | | |
| | R | | |

Clue: Belief and trust in God

Subtract 2 letters.
Clue: Plump

Change 1 letter.
Clue: Worn on head

Add 1 letter.
Clue: Warming energy

Add 1 letter.
Clue: Love God with all of this

_____ starts in the _____. (Romans 10:10)
(Word 1 here) (word 5 here)

Clue: God's Word

Subtract 2 letters.
Clue: Keeps baby clean at dinner

Change 1 letter.
Clue: Tiny amount

Change 1 letter.
Clue: Short for "robot"

Change 1 letter.
Clue: Very warm

Change 1 letter.
Clue: Jump

Add 1 letter.
Clue: Expect good in the future

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| | B | | |
| B | | | |
| | | | |
| | T | | |
| H | | | |
| | | | |
| | P | | |

The _____ gives us _____. (Psalm 119:114)
(word 1 here) (word 7 here)

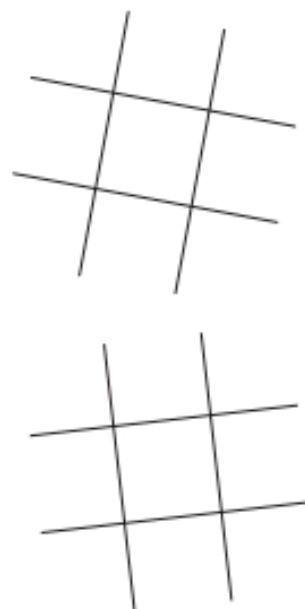
WE TOLD YOU NOT TO TURN TO THIS PAGE!

But now that you're here, you might as well have some fun.

Finish the drawing
of Trench. Add pizzazz.



TIC TAC TOE



Find letters in this book that have numbers under them.
Use them to fill in the blanks and reveal a hidden message.

| | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

(Ephesians 2:10)

Solutions for all puzzles are on page 40.



Big Question 6

HOW DO I BECOME MORE LIKE JESUS?

16

You made it halfway through this book! Do a happy dance!

Now back to the adventure. A lot of people who follow Jesus ask this important question:

I want to be more like Jesus. How do I do that?

You learn from Jesus!

It's like becoming a concert violinist, pro soccer player, or expert chef. Before you become a master, you learn from a master.

Jesus is our master. We are His disciples. (Disciple is a word that means "learner.")

How do I learn from Jesus?

To learn from Jesus, spend time with Jesus.

The next few pages have more on how to do that.

But let's start here. Spend time with Jesus by reading His words in the Bible:



... "You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments." Matthew 22:37-40 NLT




Jesus' words teach us what matters most:

Love God and love your neighbor.

You might remember that because you read it on page 12. You already learned from Jesus' words in the Bible!



How do I know I'm doing a good job?

Living like Jesus means you're getting better at loving God and loving others. 

Loving God and loving others is like a habit. The Holy Spirit gives you the power to love like Jesus right away. But it still takes a lot of time and a lot of practice for it to come naturally.



 **DOODLE HERE!**

Write your name like you usually do. Now, switch hands and write your name again.



Talk about how much you'd have to practice to write well with BOTH hands.

 15

What if I mess up?

Don't give up! Remember, you're a learner. And learning is a lifelong journey.

Learners get knowledge, practice skills, and defeat setbacks. Learners also make mistakes, fall short, and keep moving forward.

Everyone does things they know they shouldn't. You don't need to run or hide from God. He is kind and ready to forgive you the moment you ask.

Talk with God. If you're not sure what to say, here's a prayer to help:



PRAY 

God, what I did was wrong. Thank You for helping me see that. Please help me get back on track, live like Jesus, and grow in love. In Jesus' name, amen.



Big Question 7

WHAT ARE WAYS TO GET CLOSER TO GOD?



STORY
TIME



My best friend had the coolest backyard—treehouse, bike trails, rope swings, and trampoline included.

We loved hanging out there. We talked about our favorite videos, made up jokes, and shared a lot of laughs.

Jumping on trampolines, talking, and telling jokes can make you feel closer to your best friend. But lots of people wonder how to feel closer to God.

How can I feel closer to God?

To feel closer to God, get to know Him. There are lots of different ways to do that!

CHAT

Look at something small and talk about what you see. Next, turn the object to look at it in a different way. Talk about anything new you see.

How was it helpful to look at the object in different ways?

It's helpful to get to know God in different ways. Here are some ideas!

Talk with God.

Talking with God is called prayer. God always listens. Share your stories (even silly ones), thoughts, and needs with Him. Prayer can be as simple as filling in these blanks:

"Jesus, I feel worried about _____."

"Jesus, thank You for _____."

Prayer is sitting silently with God. Prayer is crying or laughing with Him. You don't have to worry about saying the "wrong" thing. Just be honest. If it matters to you, share it with God.

PRAY







Writing what's in your heart is another way to pray. Go to pages 36-39 and doodle a prayer.

2

Learn from the Bible.

The Bible tells us who God is and how people like us can get to know Him. It's full of ways to grow closer to God. Here are a few:

LOOK IT UP!

-  Believe in God. (Hebrews 11:6)
-  Love others. (1 John 4:7)
-  Come close to God. (James 4:8)
-  Obey God. (1 John 2:3)

3

Meet with other Jesus followers.



The Bible also tells us that getting closer to God is better with friends:

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together ... Hebrews 10:24-25 NLT

Meeting together at church is a fantastic way to follow Jesus with friends. (More about that on pages 28-29.)



Church is a **place**—a place to hang out, serve, learn from the Bible, and sing songs about God's love with others!



Church is a **family**—the family of God. Everywhere you go, you are the church. You can invite others to grow closer to God with you.

(Don't wait till church time to start singing! Scan the QR code on page 21 for songs with Jesus vibes!)



Who can you invite to get to know God with you?



Big Question 8

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

The Bible is a collection of 66 different books. It took more than 40 people and a thousand years to write! It's full of ancient poetry, songs, history, laws, and letters.

Today's Bibles have two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament. The New Testament was written after the life of Jesus.

The Bible tells one big story about who God is and how much He loves us: God invites us to be His children and guides us to live like Jesus.

How do I read the Bible?

1

Get one. It's hard to read a book you don't have.

Empty your piggy bank and buy one. Borrow one. Ask family if they have an extra you can read. Or download the Bible App to a phone or tablet if you have one.



2

Look for a Bible that makes sense to you.

There are lots of translations of the Bible. Look for ones that are easier to understand, like the NIV, NLT, or NIRV translations.



Think about how you learn best. Choose a Bible with pictures in it, one you can journal and color in, or press play on an audio Bible! The Bible App has many audio Bible options and offers a special font to make reading easier for people with dyslexia.

Where do I start reading the Bible?

If you're new to following Jesus, start by reading about His life. Flip to the New Testament. You'll find four books called Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

These four books tell you about Jesus: His story, His love, and His example.

What do I do when I read something confusing?

The Bible can be complicated and difficult to understand, and sometimes it's just plain weird. People who study it for their entire lives still have questions, and the Bible is actually written in a way to *make you ask questions!*

As you read, dig deeper by asking good questions like:

"Who wrote this?"

"How can this help me love God and love others?"

"Who are they talking to?"

"What is happening in these verses?"

Sometimes you'll find answers to your questions.
Sometimes you won't. Either way, keep asking.
Pray. Share what you're reading and the
questions you have with people you trust.

**THE BIBLE IS
A GIFT FROM
GOD THAT
GUIDES US TO
GROW.**



This book is alive. The Bible tells us it's
more than just words on a page:

*All Scripture is inspired by God and
is useful to teach us what is true and
to make us realize what is wrong in
our lives. It corrects us when we are
wrong and teaches us to do what is
right. God uses it to prepare and equip
his people to do every good work.*
2 Timothy 3:16-17 NLT



What questions do you
think people ask about
2 Timothy 3:16-17?



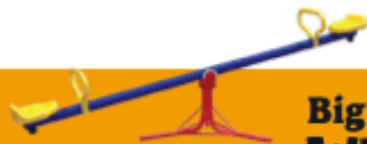
Doodle inside each word questions you have about it, what it makes
you think of, or what you already know.

BIBLE I LOVE GOD I LOVE OTHERS

BIBLE

I LOVE GOD

I LOVE OTHERS



Big Question 9 WHO'S WITH ME?

What do board games, see
saws, and playing catch
have in common?



They're all better
with friends!



Staying close to Jesus is better with friends!
Check out what the Bible says:

*A friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to
help in time of need. Proverbs 17:17 NLT*

We don't just have *friends* with us on this adventure—we have
God's family.

When the adventure gets tough, they pray for us and help us out.
And when the adventure is awesome, they celebrate with us!



If you want to know more about how Jesus met
new friends, read Matthew 4:18-23.

25

Where do I find friends?

You don't need all new friends just because you started following Jesus. Ask
your old friends new questions. Ask if they know Jesus. Ask if they'd like to
read the Bible with you or pray with you.

You might have an old friend right in front of you who's ready to follow Jesus
with you. Maybe there's someone at your school, or a neighbor across the
street, or a teammate!

Don't forget sisters, brothers, cousins, aunts, uncles, parents, grandparents
... family members can be great friends to follow Jesus with, too!

What do I say?

Don't you love talking about what you love? Spoiler alert—everyone does!

Rule #1 for making new friends (or loving on your old friends):

Listen more.

Talk less.

26



Ask things like:

"What always makes you laugh?"

"If you had wings, where would you fly?"

"Do you have any hidden talents?"

Pro Tip

Friends aren't here just for you. Listen to your friends and they'll know you're there for them, too. ²⁷

Who should I make friends with?

When someone likes what you like, that's great! Be friends. You can encourage each other to grow.

When someone disagrees with you, that's ALSO great! Be friends. You can challenge each other to grow.

Different types of friends help us grow! God created all of us to be in His family, but that doesn't mean everyone sees things the same way.

Different friends see things in different ways! Imagine two friends are looking at these blocks from different directions. *Solution is on page 40.*

Friend one sees this:



What does friend two see?



People who follow Jesus disagree sometimes. But choosing *respect* helps us listen to each other, learn from each other, and, most importantly, love each other the way Jesus loves us.

What if I have zero friends who follow Jesus?

DON'T get rid of your friends.

If you have good friends who don't follow Jesus, keep having fun together and being there for one another. Share Jesus with them by continuing to be a good friend.

DO go to church.

Show up ready to listen, ask questions, and be respectful of others. You'll be well on your way to make a new friend who follows Jesus!



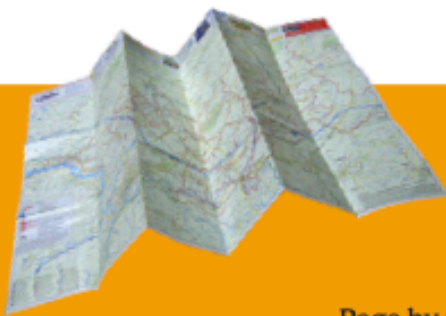
Ask a trusted adult these questions:

When has a disagreement with a friend helped you see something in a new way?

How do you show Jesus' love to friends who don't follow Jesus?



Ask God to give you courage to build friendships with one or two people who will have your back and encourage you to get to know Jesus every day.



Big Question 10

WHAT'S NEXT ON THE ADVENTURE?

28

Page by page, we've talked about loving God and becoming a learner who loves like Jesus.

This book is almost over. But your journey with Jesus is just beginning!

So what happens tomorrow?

Nobody knows for sure.



Every adventure with Jesus will look different!



As you journey on, you'll learn more, you'll love more, and you'll live more like Jesus. It'll be great! But it might not be the kind of "great" you'd expect.



Jesus said, when it comes to following Him:

"... Whoever is the least among you is the greatest." Luke 9:48 NLT

In other words, Jesus said that the greatest in God's eyes is someone who isn't trying to be the best. They just want to serve every person they meet.

Jesus focused on loving others. He cared for them. He forgave them. He was generous.

And everywhere He went He told everyone about God's love.

So maybe what happens tomorrow is you make some new friends at church. Or maybe you memorize a new Bible verse.

Or maybe you share the things you learned in this book with a family member.

Maybe you do all three! Or, you do something completely different!

Whenever you wonder what to do next, remember the choice you made at the beginning of this book.

YOU MADE A CHOICE TO FOLLOW JESUS WITH ALL YOU SAY AND ALL YOU DO.

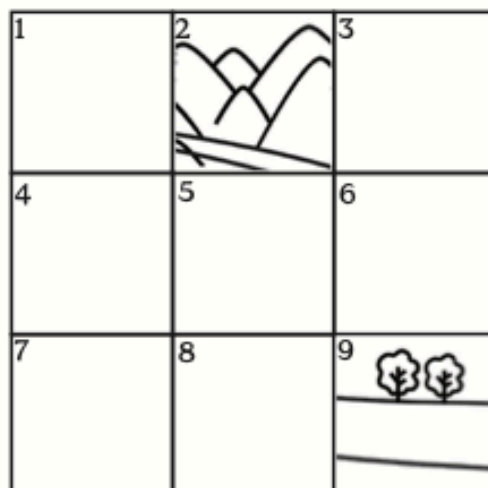
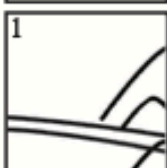
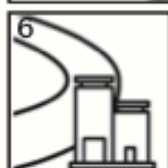
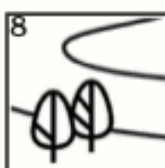
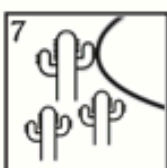
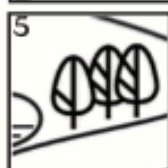
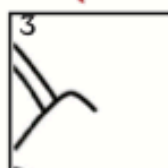


Keep doing that every day. Wake up and say, "God, where are we going today?" Keep your eyes open for adventure.

Like the picture below, your adventure with Jesus isn't complete. Each day is an opportunity to take another step. Talk about next steps you want to take with Jesus. (Page 34 has ideas!)



Use the numbered blocks to complete the unfinished picture. Take it one step at a time.



Solution is on page 40.





**COLOR THIS PAGE.
THEN, GO BACK TO PAGE 11 AND WE'LL
START THIS JOURNEY TOGETHER.**

If you've already read pages 11-31, turn the page and keep going!

IT'S YOUR TURN

You made it to the end of this book!

But this isn't **THE END**.

This is **THE START**.

The best thing you can do now is take what you learned in this book and put it into practice!

It's your turn to take another step on your journey with Jesus.



Talk about one thing you learned in this book that you can start doing right away. Then, ask the trusted adult who read through this book with you what they learned, too!

It's your turn to take another step on your journey with Jesus. Here are some ideas for you:

Get baptized.

Invite someone to church.

Pray for someone.

Find friends who follow Jesus.

Share your doodles with someone.

Get a Bible.

Memorize a verse.

Talk about what you've learned.

Use your skills to help the people around you.

Make a card for a friend.

Ask a friend to help you stay focused on Jesus.

Tell everyone about your decision to follow Jesus: your friends, your family, and your church community.



Ask God to show you where you can start making a difference.



As you take your next step, remember this verse:

And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father. Colossians 3:17 NLT

Every word. Every step. Go with Jesus and give God all the thanks.

WELCOME TO THE START.



Adults, this is important!

We are so excited you completed this book with your child! We hope it helped you have great conversations about what it means to live as a Jesus follower.

But your child's great adventure with Jesus is just getting started! As you continue to disciple your child, your kids pastor would love to partner with you. They're available to support you, connect you with resources, and talk about next steps you want to take as a family.

Next time you're at church, let a leader know that you completed this book.

PUT YOUR DOODLES AND NOTES HERE ...

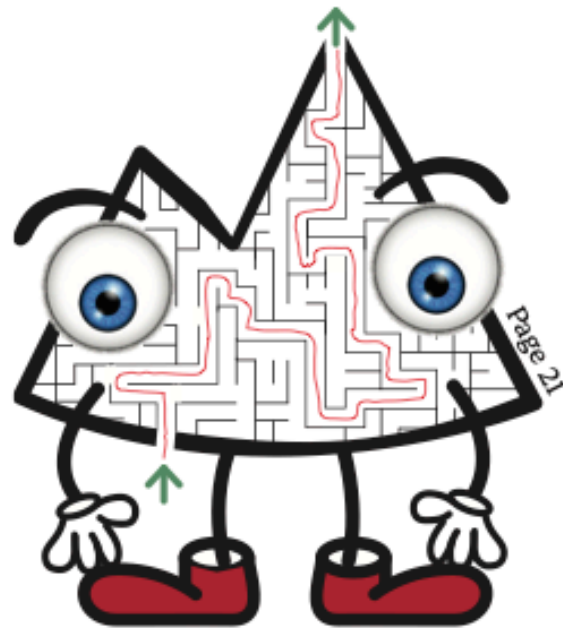
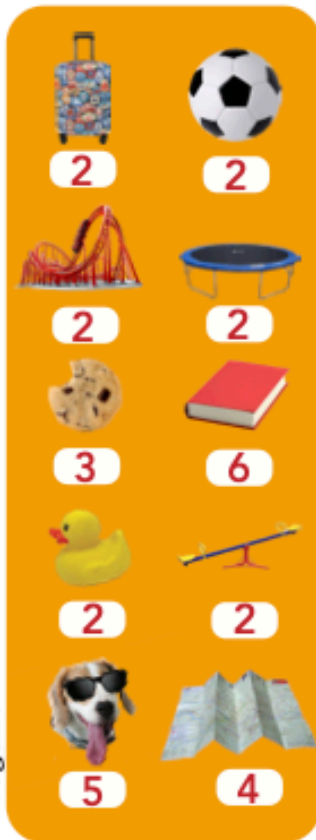
AND HERE ...

AND HERE ...

AND HERE!

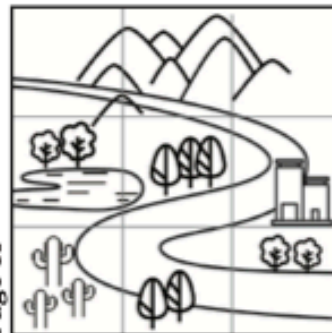
ANSWERS!

Page 20



Page 21

Page 31



Page 20



Jesus LOVES us and
SAVES us. (John 3:16)

Page 20



FAITH starts in the
HEART. (Romans 10:10)

Page 20



The BIBLE gives
us HOPE. (Psalm 119:114)

G O D C R E A T E D
Y O U F O R T H I S
A D V E N T U R E . (Ephesians 2:10)

Page 21

Page 29





