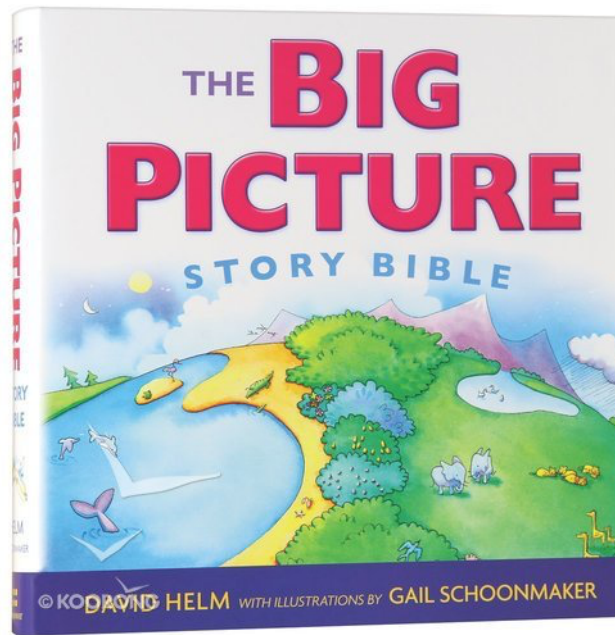


# Family Bible Reading 2016



MACQUARIE  ANGLICAN

## Why Family Bible Reading

Reading the Bible with our kids is a really important part of our God given responsibility as Christian parents. Proverbs 22:6 reminds us to "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it". Reading the Bible together as a family is even better, because in doing so we can "encourage one another and build each other up" (1 Thessalonians 5:11). By reading the Bible together, the faith of the family is not hidden in the Sunday cupboard, rather is out on the dinner table! This encourages open discussion of faith, and sends a clear signal about the importance and relevance of the Bible to everyday life.

But actually doing it isn't very easy! Busyness, fear, and family distractions do a pretty good job of making sure that it rarely occurs! So this year at Macquarie Anglican, we're going support each other as we attempt to bring Family Bible Reading regularly into our homes. We'll do this by reading through a Kids Bible together. We hope your family can join us!

We've chosen the Big Picture Story Bible, as its not only suitable for a wide range of ages, but it also helpfully teaches kids (and adults) how the whole Bible fits together. Our Kids Spots are becoming Family Spots, and each Sunday a family (hopefully!) will introduce us to the next story in the Big Picture Bible. Families will then be encouraged to read it together that week. The Big Picture Bible has a helpful range of supporting resources including a full text ESV Bible with pictures, a family devotional book and a memory verse booklet. These are all optional extras that may work for some families and not for others.

It may also be that some families find that the Big Picture Story Bible is not working for your family, but another Bible is. Obviously the end game is for your family to be reading the Bible together regularly, so use the one one that works – we're happy to help figure out how you can stay in sync with the rest of us! It is our hope that by participating in this together, we will not only persevere, but also be able to share this journey of family discipleship together.

So are you willing to give it a go? Here's how to get started...

## 5 easy steps to Family Bible Reading

1. Pick a weekly time to read the Bible together as a family! Be realistic! (i.e. Monday over Dinner, Sunday after Lunch, Tuesday over Breakfast).
2. Recap last week's story (i.e. "Who remembers what we read about last week?")
3. Read this week's story from the "Big Picture Story Bible". There is a schedule in this booklet, and also printed on a handy bookmark. The dates start on a Sunday as we will introduce each story in the Family Spot, then families will read it during the week.
4. Discuss 3 Questions
  - What does this story tell us about God?
  - What does it tell us about people?
  - What can we pray about in response to this story?
5. Pray!

That's it!

## Is your family looking for more?

- Use the "Big Picture Family Devotional" to help you prepare each week's discussion. It provides a short discussion guide, and some targeted questions specific to each story. An alternative devotional guide could be "Bible Bites".
- Look at different aspects of the story on different days of the week i.e. you could read from the Picture Bible the first night, and then from a full text bible on another night. The "Big Picture Family Devotional" provides for up to 3 devotions per story per week.
- Learn a memory verse related to the story. There are suggested memory verses in the "Big Picture Family Devotional" and the "Big Picture Bible Verses" booklet. You can even use these like a catechism (i.e. use the prompting question, with the memory verse as the answer).
- Volunteer as a family to present the Kids Spot in church one week on the story for the following week. We're not expecting family Von Trap, so anyone could give this a go! Perhaps...
  - The kids could draw some illustrations
  - You could do a little drama/skit

- The kids could make an animation or a little movie?
  - Mum/dad could do all the talking, and the kids hold things up at the appropriate moment!
- Come up with creative ways to pray together. You could have...
  - A prayer Journal, with pictures of family/relatives/friends who you are praying for?
  - A map with areas of the world your family is praying for. You could use a guide like operation world.

## Tweaks for families with older/younger kids

- If your Kids are under the age of 3, then perhaps just read through "The Beginners Bible" (or similar) with them.
- If you have Tweens/Teens then consider using "the Gospel Story Bible" or the "Jesus Storybook Bible" instead. We can provide a schedule for reading from these alternate bibles so you keep pace with the rest of us.
- If you have a mixture of younger and older kids, you could alternate between the "Big Picture" Story Bible, and the "Big Picture" ESV (which has full text ESV with all the Big Picture illustrations).

Date	Topic	Bible Passage	"Story Bible" Page	Family Devotional Question	Memory Verse
6/03/2016	God creates a place	Genesis 1:1-25	15-21	1	Genesis 1:1
13/03/2016	God creates a people	Genesis 1:26-31	22-27	2	Genesis 1:27
20/03/2016	God is pleased with his place and his people	Genesis 1:31-2:3	28-31	3	Genesis 1:31
27/03/2016	God is King over his place and his people	Genesis 2:15-17	32-35	4	Genesis 2:17
3/04/2016	God's people reject God as King	Genesis 3:1-7	37-43	5	Genesis 3:6
10/04/2016	God's place is forever changed	Genesis 3:8-19	44-49	6	Genesis 3:15
17/04/2016	God's people are forced out	Genesis 3:20-24	51-55	7	Genesis 3:23
24/04/2016	Everyone now rejects God as King	Genesis 6:5-6	56-59	8	Genesis 6:12
1/05/2016	God judges everyone who rejects him as King	Genesis 6:9-22	60-66	9	Genesis 6:17
8/05/2016	God promises a new place to a new people, who will bless all people	Genesis 12:1-3	67-71	10	Genesis 12:1-3
15/05/2016	Abraham believes God's promises	Genesis 15:1-6	72-81	11	Genesis 15:6
22/05/2016	God's promises extend from Abraham to Isaac to Jacob (Joseph)	Genesis 35:9-15	83-101	12	Genesis 35:10
29/05/2016	Israel enters Egypt	Exodus 1:1-12, 3:23-25	103-111	13	Exodus 1:11-12
5/06/2016	God rescues Israel from Egypt	Exodus 12:1-13	112-131	14	Exodus 12:13
12/06/2016	God tells Israel how to live as his people	Exodus 20:3-17	132-139	15	Exodus 20:3-17
19/06/2016	God keeps his promise to Israel	Joshua 6:1-20	141-149	18	Joshua 21:45
26/06/2016	Israel rejects God as king	1 Samuel 8:7	150-157	19	1 Samuel 8:7
3/07/2016	God is not surprised	1 Samuel 17:1-58	158-166	20	2 Samuel 5:3
10/07/2016	God promises a new king	2 Samuel 7:1-17	167-173	21	2 Samuel 7:12

17/07/2016	God promises a new place	1 Kings 6:1-13	174-185	22	1 Kings 8:27
24/07/2016	The Kings of Israel reject God's promises	Isaiah 1:1-4, 1 Kings 18:20-40	188-199	24	Isaiah 1:2
31/07/2016	Israel enters exile	Isaiah 5:13	200-209	25	Isaiah 5:13
7/08/2016	The ragged return of Israel from exile	Jeremiah 29:14	211-227	26	Jeremiah 29:14
14/08/2016	Many Silent Years	Luke 2:1-3	229-241		
21/08/2016	Jesus is born	Luke 2:1-8	243-257	28	Luke 2:10-11
28/08/2016	God's promised one is announced	Luke 2:8-20	259-269	28 (3)	Luke 2:10-11
4/09/2016	Why Jesus came	John 1:29-34	271-285	29	John 1:29
11/09/2016	How Jesus saves	John 2:13-22	287-305	30	John 2:19
18/09/2016	You must be born again	John 3:1-21	307-321	31	John 3:3
25/09/2016	Jesus heals a blind man	John 9:1-41	323-335		
2/10/2016	Jesus is the resurrection	John 11:1-44	337-357	32	John 11:25
9/10/2016	Jesus is crucified	John 19:1-30	359-373	34	John 19:18
16/10/2016	Jesus died for our sins	John 19:38-42	375-380	35	John 19:30
23/10/2016	Jesus rose from the dead	John 20:1-29	383-395	36	John 20:28
30/10/2016	Jesus is the only way	Luke 24:13-35	397-411	33	John 14:6
6/11/2016	Spreading the gospel of Jesus	Acts 1:1-2:13	413-419	37	Acts 1:8
13/11/2016	Peter defines the gospel	Acts 2:14-47	420-426	38	Acts 10:42-43
20/11/2016	Paul defines the Gospel	Romans 1:1-17	427-435	39	Romans 4:25
27/11/2016	Comfort from the King	Revelation 21:1-8	437-453	45	Revelation 21:3

## Problems/Questions/Ideas

- We're all in this together! So chat with other families
- Chat with a member of Staff