

Journey With Jesus this Winter @ Grace

From January 10-March 28, Grace Church is reading through the book of Luke together! Adult Sunday School (Sundays @ 9:15am on Zoom) will focus on 2 chapters each week, youth will be challenged to participate, and we invite families with children to consider participating as well.

For children, 1-2 stories are provided on the reading schedule below, to accompany the adult chapters each week, and we encourage families to set aside a day or two each week to read them together. Parents, feel free to read the full chapters as well on your own time!

You can read along in the *Jesus Storybook Bible* or *Deep Blue Kids Bible* that Grace provides to children and families. If you don't have one of these Bibles or can't find it, please let us know and we'd be happy to provide your family with a new one!

A Guide for Reading the Bible Together as a Family

If reading the Bible together is new or new-ish to you, it's not automatic. Here are some suggestions on a ritual of reading and engaging the story together, adapted from *I Wonder: Engaging a Child's Curiosity About the Bible* by Elizabeth Caldwell. Of course, depending on the age of your children, time of day, and amount of time you have for this activity, you can adapt it to your own use! All in all, you can read a story, wonder, and pray together in about 15 minutes.

0. **Make a ritual.** Choose a time of day or week that will help you be consistent. After dinner, after bathtime, Friday afternoon when school's done, or another time that works for your family's schedule. Consider making it special with a candle, hot chocolate, or another tradition that works in your family.
1. **Enter.** Ask each person to share a high and low of the day (or week). What was something that made you happy? What was something that made you sad?
2. **Hear.** Read the story together in your Bible storybook.
3. **Pause.** Take a few seconds, maybe a minute, just to sit with the story in silence. For small children who need to grow into the practice of pausing in silence, it may be easier to count to ten silently on their fingers, and then move on to wondering.
4. **Wonder.** Invite the children to explore the story. Don't worry about right and wrong answers. Simpler questions are better for young children, and very young children may prefer to point at pictures and simply make their own observations. Some possibilities:
 - a. *Who is in the story and what happens to them?* *especially for younger children
 - b. *What do you think this story is about (or, why do you think Jesus told this story?)*
 - c. *How is this story different from the time and place where we live?* *older children
 - d. *Why do you think this story is important?*
 - e. *When would be a good time to remember this story?*
5. **Bless.** As you end your time together, choose a way to bless: affirm something they have said about the story; recall some of the highs and lows shared at the beginning and pray for help or pray with thanks; or invite the child to pray.

Reading through the life of Jesus!

Reading schedule (JSB= Jesus storybook Bible, Scripture references also provided for older kids using Deep Blue Kids' Bible or any other standard translation)

Date	Scripture Reference	Stories to Read
Jan 10	Luke 1-2	Jesus' birth (JSB 176-183, Luke 1:26-38 & Luke 2:1-7) Shepherds & angels (JSB 184-191, Luke 2:8-20)
Jan 17	Luke 3	Jesus baptized by John the Baptist (JSB 200-207, Luke 3:1-6 and 21-22)
Jan 24	Luke 4-6	Jesus in wilderness; Jesus calls disciples (JSB 208-213, Luke 4:1-12 and Luke 5:1-11)
Jan 31	Luke 7-8	Jesus calms sea (JSB 236-243, Luke 8: 22-25) Two healings (JSB 214-221, Luke 8:40-56)
Feb 7	Luke 9-10	Jesus feeds 5000 (JSB 244-249, Luke 9:10-17)
Feb 14	Luke 11-12	Lord's prayer (JSB 222-227, Luke 11:1-13) Do not worry (JSB 228-235, Luke 12:22-34)
Feb 21	Luke 13-14	Parable of hidden treasure (JSB 250-255, Matthew 13:44-50)
Feb 28	Luke 15-16	Parable of the lost son (JSB 272-279, Luke 15:11-32)
Mar 7	Luke 17-18	Jesus blesses the children (JSB 256-263, Luke 18:15-17)
Mar 14	Luke 19-20	Zacchaeus (JSB 264-271, Luke 19:1-10) Woman anoints Jesus (JSB 280-285, Luke 7:36-50)
Mar 21	Luke 21-22	Passover meal (JSB 286-293, Luke 22:7-23) Jesus arrested (JSB 294-301, Luke 22:39-53)
Mar 28	Luke 23-24	Jesus crucified (JSB 302-309, Luke 23:13-56) The empty tomb (JSB 310-317, Luke 24:1-11)