

Synopsis

Desmond Tutu retells more than fifty of his most beloved stories, artfully highlighting God's desire for all people to love one another and to find peace and forgiveness in their hearts. Many of the finest artists from around the world have been selected to illustrate the stories. In an attempt to create the first truly global Bible for children, the artists have been invited to portray the stories with the style and richness of their own culture. Their stunning color illustrations allow readers to experience the Bible stories as if they were there—•with Adam and Eve in the garden, with Noah on the ark, with Abraham in the desert, and with Jesus on the mountaintop. Every story shows how God works through history and ends with a short prayer, which personalizes the message for each reader's own life. Archbishop Tutu's wisdom, compassion, and sense of humor shine throughout, as he reminds us that "We are all God's children." Archbishop Desmond Tutu was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984 for his lifelong struggle to bring equality, justice, and peace to his native country of South Africa. In 1986, he was elected Archbishop of Cape Town, the highest position in the Anglican Church in Southern Africa. Tutu is currently the Chair of The Elders, an independent group of global leaders who are working to promote the shared interests of humanity. In 2009 Tutu received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor. He is known for his great love for children, as well as his powerful and profound understanding of the message of Jesus Christ. The Archbishop lives in South Africa with his wife, Leah. They have four children and seven grandchildren. "In the spirit of celebrating children all over the world, each illustrator in this book has been invited to draw on their own unique and rich cultural heritage in their portrayal of these Biblical stories. Their art is truly a marvelous reflection of how we are all made in God's image." --(Archbishop) Desmond Tutu

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (89 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #15,203 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity > Bible > Stories #120 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Children's & Teens #3536 in Books > Religion & Spirituality

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

50 classic Bible stories retold in language easily accessible to children. This book is a paraphrase, not a translation. While it is appropriate for children, it does not shy away from traditional concepts. Creation, the Fall, Exodus, Jesus birth, ministry, death and resurrection are all included in ways that will make each child feel God's love and God's care for everyone and all creation. For example, though the Beatitudes are titled "Jesus Teaches the Secret of Happiness," each is given as "Blessed are." "Blessed are you who feed the poor, for you are the hands of God," for example. Each story has a simple one sentence prayer. For the Beatitudes, "Dear God, thank you for showing us the way to true happiness." Unlike many children's Bibles, this one is true to the text--there won't be things to unlearn when making the transition to a regular Bible. Nor, will one discover that many details didn't really exist in scripture. As a paraphrase, stories are often presented in a fresh way while remaining true to the original intent. Anyone who reads this story Bible will know God loves them and how God wants people to live. The beautiful illustrations by twenty artists from around the world show the diversity of God's people and how Jesus is seen in different contexts. I've reviewed children's bibles for 35 years and this is the best I've seen. This book is a delight and a true gift for anyone who wants to share God's love with a child.

Children of God Storybook Bible is a brand new children's Bible-not even released yet retold by Desmond Tutu! (Yet by the end of this review, maybe you'll be convinced to put it on your wishlist!) From the moment I opened this children's Bible, I knew I liked it! The table of contents displays the clear titles (no guessing which story you want), Bible reference, and page number. The fifty-six stories are included in this children's Bible all point to the gift of God's love for children everywhere. The stories themselves are well-written and include enough details to help a child learn the actual Bible story. (For example, in "The Trial and Death of Jesus" the Garden of Gethsemane is named as where Jesus was praying, and it explains that Pontius Pilate was the Roman ruler.) The recommended ages for this Bible are 4-7, but some younger children may enjoy this. Each story (and illustration) is over a two page spread. There is a main title and then a subtitle explaining how it

relates to God. (For "Jonah and the Big Fish" the subtitle is "God loves everyone, even our enemies" with the reference Jonah 1-4.) Each ends with a short prayer. Tutu titled the story of the Beatitudes "Jesus Teaches the Secret to Happiness," which I think is incorrect. I don't think the goal here is for us to be happy, but to glorify God. The illustrations are amazing, and this Bible has twenty illustrators! They were invited by Archbishop Tutu to portray the stories with the style and richness of their own cultures. Though that means Jesus may look different from one page to another. Also, because the illustrators reflected their own cultures, Jesus is sometimes dark skinned and other times pale. I do not believe Jesus was a white man, nor do I believe that he was black, so some of the illustrations are misleading to me. All in all, I do recommend this Bible! This Bible was provided to me from Zonderkidz for review purposes.

We have a number of children's bibles, several of which are very well-loved. We didn't strictly need another, but I was drawn to the breadth of stories included in this volume, the diversity of illustration styles, and the cds featuring Archbishop Tutu. I'm glad I spent the money to get the audio as well as the book, as Tutu has a beautiful reading voice and it is a real joy to hear him tell these stories. It is also a great privilege for my children to learn bible stories from the voice of a true contemporary Christian hero.

I bought this book for my Godson after having seen it in person. The vivid detail of the pictures, paired with the beautiful phrasing by Archbishop Tutu makes for the perfect children's bible. I highly recommend it as a standard bible for children under six years old. Jesus is depicted in many different skin tones, and with almost every ethnicity surrounding him. This book teaches diversity without an agenda, and shares the love of Christ in colors almost as vibrant as the message.

My child is a new preschooler and was having some difficulty understanding the children's Bible (Spark Story Bible) we had purchased as she is still working on her verbal skills. This Bible is easier for her to follow. The writing and artwork are lovely, and I appreciate the multicultural approach as we are all the children of God, regardless of how we look or where we are from. For those who do not care for some of the interpretation - Desmond Tutu is an Anglican and Anglican views on Biblical interpretation can be varied. Being a mix of Protestant and Roman Catholicism doctrine to various degrees based on culture does result in some interesting views. The Anglican Church of Southern Africa is considered by some to be very liberal (whatever liberal means - not really a fan of the liberal-conservative verbiage considering church history). I am not going to say what I think is right or

wrong about the book's interpretation. I recommend getting a copy and reading it before buying to see if it's right for your family considering the sensitive issue of Biblical interpretation. I do think this is compatible with a lot of mainline Protestant beliefs. Worth considering whatever church you attend.

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