



A snack for the journey: Have a conversation while out and about.

Photocopy these pages, or tear them out, to take with you while "out and about".

You can also download a copy from

www.thegoodbook.co.uk/beginningwithgod

A baby in a basket (Exodus 1-2)

Point to different babies in buggies and baby carriers and ask your child: **Where did the mum put her baby in our true story from the Bible?** (IN A BASKET IN THE WATER) **Did God keep the baby safe?** (YES!)

Food from heaven (Exodus 16)

While you are having a nice snack and a drink ask your child: **Are there normally lots of nice things to eat and drink in the desert?** (NO) **Who gave food and water to the Israelites in our true story from the Bible?** (GOD!)

The burning bush (Exodus 3)

Look out for someone doing a job or a place where people work. You may see an ambulance go by, walk past a school, or see someone working in a shop or café. Talk about the relevant job with your child. Eg: **Look, there is a school. Some people's job is being a teacher and helping children learn things.** Ask your child: **Who did God give a very important job to in our true story from the Bible?** (MOSES. GOD TOLD HIM TO BRING HIS PEOPLE OUT OF EGYPT.)

Ten commandments (Exodus 19-20)

Use an occasion when your child is following a rule (eg: holding hands when you cross the road, or washing hands before a meal) to remember that God gives His people rules to show them the best way to live. Point out that your child has just obeyed a rule and ask your child: **Who gave the Israelites rules in our true story from the Bible?** (GOD) **Yes, God is in charge and He gives us rules to show us the best way to live.**

Ten plagues (Exodus 7-11)

Point out a situation where a child is not doing what he/she is told. Do this sensitively—it may not be appropriate to discuss a disobedient child within earshot of the situation! You can always point out a situation within your own family (if your family is anything like mine!) Ask: **Is that child saying "Yes" or "No" to their mum/dad?** (NO) **Did Pharaoh want to say "Yes" or "No" to God?** (NO) **He wouldn't let God's people go. Did Pharaoh let God's people go in the end?** (YES!) **That's because God is more powerful than Pharaoh.**

Twelve spies (Numbers 13)

Make a promise to your child at the start of an outing (one you can keep). At the appropriate time point out that you have kept your promise. Ask: **Does God keep His promises?** (YES!) Then ask: **Did the Israelites think God would keep His promise to give them a great place to live?** (NO!) **Only Joshua and Caleb knew God would keep His promise. They had faith.**

The Red Sea (Exodus 14)

Walk along a path together. Ask your child: **Where did God make a dry path for His people in our true story from the Bible?** (IN THE SEA) **Pharaoh was chasing them and God made a dry path through the water to keep them safe.**

Joshua and the spies (Joshua 2)

Play some more hide and seek! Ask your child: **Where did the men hide in our true story from the Bible?** (ON THE ROOF AT RAHAB'S HOUSE) **Who did Rahab have faith in?** (GOD) **Yes, she knew God was in charge and helped the men escape from the nasty soldiers.**

The battle of Jericho (Joshua 6)

Look out for an impressive wall and ask your child: **What did God tell the Israelites to do around the wall in our true story from the Bible?** (MARCH and BLOW HORNS) Have fun re-enacting this! **What happened to the wall?** (IT FELL DOWN!) **Yes. God made it fall down so that His people could live in the special place He had promised.**



Deborah leads the way (Judges 4)

Give your child something to remember (eg: from your shopping list). At an appropriate point ask if they can remember what you told them. Then say: **Did the Israelites remember or forget about God in our true story from the Bible?** (THEY HAD FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT HIM.) **Did God help them when they got into trouble?** (YES!) **Even though they had forgotten God, He sent Deborah and helped their army win the battle.**

Gideon's battle (Judges 6-7)

Use an occasion when your child obeys you to have the following conversation. **Well done for obeying me. You did just what I said—that's great. Had God's people been obeying Him in our true story from the Bible?** (NO!) **They had been disobeying Him and they were in trouble again. They had no food! Who did God send to rescue them?** (GIDEON) **Did Gideon obey God?** (YES) **Gideon trusted God and obeyed Him—and God rescued the Israelites again!**

Samson (Judges 13 and 16)

Ask your child to carry something for you and point out how strong they are. Have some fun lifting a variety of objects while on your travels. Ask your child: **Who was the very strong man in our true story from the Bible?** (SAMSON) **What happened when Delilah cut his hair?** (HE WASN'T STRONG ANYMORE.) **Did God make him strong again and rescue the Israelites?** (YES!)

Ruth and Naomi (Ruth 1-4)

Give your child some choices to make or point out a choice they have just made. Have fun choosing a route round the park together or which songs to sing as you travel to the shops. Ask: **Who made the best choice in our true story from the Bible?** (RUTH) **Yes, Ruth. She chose to be one of God's people! Did God look after her?** (YES!)

Hannah's prayer (1 Samuel 1)

At a point when your child is enjoying something, ask them if they are happy or sad. Or point out some playing children who are obviously having fun and ask your child how they think those people are feeling—happy or sad. Ask your child: **Who was feeling very sad in our true story from the Bible?** (HANNAH) **Did she talk to God about it?** (YES!) If there is something your child is feeling sad about today, do pray about it together, remembering the Bible story.

A voice in the night (1 Samuel 3)

Set up an opportunity for your child to give someone a message. Perhaps they could phone someone or write them a message in a card and post it. Ask your child: **Who did God give a message to in our true story from the Bible?** (SAMUEL) **Yes, God gave Samuel messages to give to the Israelites. Do you know how God gives us messages now?** (IN THE BIBLE)

Two miracles (Mark 5 v 21-43)

Point out something medical: an ambulance; your doctor's clinic; medicine in a shop, a hospital, a first aid box... Ask your child: **Who was very unwell in our true story from the Bible?** (A WOMAN AND A LITTLE GIRL) **Did Jesus make them better?** (YES) **Because He is God!**

The fishermen's net (Matthew 13 v 47-49)

Do some more sorting! You may be able to collect some leaves, pebbles or twigs and sort out the big from the small or the pretty ones from the spoilt ones. Alternatively sort out the things in your shopping basket, your bag, or your purse. Ask your child: **Who will sort people into two different groups?** (GOD) **Will everyone live in heaven with God?** (NO) **Only people who love Jesus.**

Jesus feeds thousands (John 6 v 1-15)

Share some food together. Ask your child: **How many people needed food in our true story from the Bible?** Do prompt with options as appropriate. (LOTS AND LOTS) **More than all the people in this café/park. Who fed all those people with just a small bit of bread and some fish?** (JESUS) **Yes, Jesus fed everyone and there was even lots left over, because He is God.**

Jesus walks on water (Matthew 14 v 22-33)

Walk on some different surfaces together and talk about what you are walking on. You could even try walking on a puddle*. Ask your child: **Who walked on the water in the big stormy lake in our true story from the Bible?** (JESUS) **Why could Jesus do that?** (BECAUSE HE IS GOD) You may want to prompt them with "because He is..." and let them fill in the last word.

* Make sure your child can distinguish between walking on the ground, splashing through a puddle and actually walking on top of the water.

Jesus heals a blind beggar (John 9 v 1-12)

If it wouldn't frighten or worry your child, see if they can walk towards you when blindfolded or covering their eyes. If they are enjoying it, they could have a variety of tasks. If it's safe, have a turn yourself! Alternatively spend some time looking around. Enjoy seeing beautiful or exciting things. Ask your child: **Could the man see at the start of our true story from the Bible?** (NO) **Who made him better?** (JESUS) **Because He is God.**

Money in a fish (Matthew 17 v 24-27)

Handle some money together. *eg: let your child pay for something; count some coins together; point to people paying for things in a shop or café...* Ask your child: **Who didn't need to pay in our true story from the Bible?** (JESUS. Because He is the Son of God.) **But Jesus paid anyway. Where did Peter find the money?** (IN A FISH!)

The good Samaritan (Luke 10 v 25-37)

Identify a way that your child can be loving and helpful—if possible, to someone outside of your family. *eg: picking up something for another child at playgroup; letting someone go before them on the slide at the park; helping a visitor to your house with something.* Tell your child how loving and helpful they have been. Ask your child: **Who wants us to be loving and helpful?** (JESUS) **How loving and helpful should we be? A little bit or a very, very, very big bit?** (A VERY, VERY, VERY BIG BIT!) **Like the man in our true story from the Bible. Who should we love and help?** (EVERYONE WE CAN)

Mary and Martha (Luke 10 v 38-42)

Play a listening game. Before you go out, or at the start of your trip, try and guess what different things you may hear. *eg: an airplane, a bird, a barking dog, some children playing, or a car.* Then listen for those things as you go. Ask your child: **Who listened carefully to Jesus?** (MARY) **Yes, Mary. Jesus told Martha that listening to Him was much better than being busy. It's the best!**

The lost sheep (Luke 15 v 3-7)

See what animals you can find/spot on your travels. Ask your child: **What animal was lost in our true story from the Bible?** (A SHEEP) **Was the shepherd happy when he found the sheep?** (YES!) **Just like God is very happy when we say "Sorry" to Him and ask Him to forgive us because of Jesus.**

The prodigal son (Luke 15 v 11-32)

Ask your child how they are feeling as you are out and about. Then ask your child: **How did the daddy feel when the son came back and said "Sorry" in our true story from the Bible?** (VERY HAPPY) **How does God feel when we are sad and sorry about our sin?** (VERY HAPPY)

Ten lepers (Luke 17 v 11-19)

Catch your child saying "Thank you" for something. Ask your child: **How many people said "Thank you" to Jesus in our true story from the Bible?** (ONLY ONE) **All ten men got better, but only one got the best thing—friendship with Jesus.**

Jesus and the children (Mark 10 v 13-16)

Point to a group of children. Ask your child: **Who spent some time with children in our true story from the Bible?** (JESUS) **Who did Jesus want His disciples to be like?** (CHILDREN) **Yes—He wants us all to realise that we need Him.**

A short man (Luke 19 v 1-10)

Point to a tree—or even someone climbing a tree! You may have a toy with you who could climb a tree or you could pretend a climbing frame was a tree and climb up it to see what you can see. Ask your child: **Why did Zacchaeus climb a tree in our true story from the Bible?** (TO SEE JESUS BECAUSE HE WAS SO SHORT) **Did Zacchaeus change when he met Jesus?** (YES!) **Jesus forgave him and he stopped cheating and stealing.**

Lazarus lives again (John 11 v 1-44)

Surprise your child and then ask them: **Was that a big surprise? Did you think that I was going to do that? What did Jesus do that was very surprising in our true story from the Bible?** (YES! HE MADE LAZARUS ALIVE AGAIN.) **Why could Jesus do this?** (BECAUSE HE IS GOD)

A gift for Jesus (John 12 v 1-8)

Buy or make a present for your child or to give to someone else. Ask: **Who did Mary give a very expensive, special present to in our true story from the Bible?** (JESUS) **Yes, Jesus. Mary wanted to give Him something very special because she knew how special and important Jesus is.**

