



# We Can Trust the Bible

You probably have a Bible. Did your mom or dad or grandmother give it to you? Your Bible may have

a soft cover or a hard cover. It may have many pictures or no pictures. I have about ten Bibles at my house. My favorite one has a black leather cover and very thin, crinkly pages. Does your Bible have maps in the back?

The Bible is a special book. People talk about it being a message from God. They handle the Bible with care. Some people don't even like to put things on top of a Bible. Why is this Book so special?

The Bible is special because God gave it to us. He speaks to us through the words in it. Just as



sure as God is sitting on His throne, the Bible is God's written message to us, His children.

You may be wondering, How did God give this book to us? He did not write it Himself. He did not hand it over to one person, already completed.

The story of how we got the Bible is long! It begins more than three thousand years ago. Can you imagine three thousand years? That's more years than I can even think about. But it is not a long time for God.

About forty people wrote the parts of the Bible. They lived at different times and in different places. That was not a problem for God.

He knows every person who has ever lived. He knows how many hairs you have on your head! So it was easy for God to keep track of the Bible writers.

**A Verse  
to Remember:**  
*"Every word of  
God is true. . . . Do  
not add to his  
words" (Proverbs  
30:5, 6, NCV).*

You've heard or read the Bible stories, I'm sure. You know that Adam and Eve committed the first sin in the Garden of Eden. Later, some people tried to build the Tower of Babel to reach heaven. Noah built an ark and sailed it through the Flood, remember? And David killed a giant warrior named Goliath with a small stone and a slingshot. What exciting stories!

Christians say that they believe the stories in the Bible. They believe that Adam and Noah and David were real people. Why do they believe those stories? Can you trust what the Bible says? Should you listen to what it says? Should you obey what it commands?

God Himself tells us to believe and obey the words of the Bible. He says, Trust Me and you will live happily forever.

God had a purpose for giving us the Bible. He wanted us to know Him. The Bible stories tell us what God is like. We cannot see God until Jesus comes back to take us to heaven. The Bible helps us to see God without actually seeing Him.

Here is another purpose God had for the Bible. He wished to tell us how we can be saved from sin. Our Father in heaven wants us to live close to Him forever. We can do that only when we believe that Jesus died for us. Then our sins

can be forgiven so our minds can be clean and ready for us to be with God.

From the Bible we can know that God is good and perfect. From the Bible we can know that He loves us very, very much. And from the Bible we can know God's plan to save us from our sins.

The Bible was written a long time ago. We can still trust it because God has protected it. He made sure that the Bible stayed the same over the years. It is still the same Book today.



## Teaching Tips

- If your child doesn't own a Bible, consider buying the *International Children's Bible*, used in Seventh-day Adventist elementary schools in North America, or a *New International Readers' Version*.
- Explore these Bible topics with your child: God's words give life—Deuteronomy 8:2–4; God's words are perfect—2 Samuel 22:31.
- Gather together all the Bibles in your home. Tell any stories about particular ones that come to mind. Share why you like and use a particular one.
- Begin helping your child to memorize the books of the Bible in order so that he or she becomes familiar with using it. (See page 80 for a handy list.) Song versions aid learning. One you may remember from your childhood is "The Books of the Bible" by Alfred P. Gibbs. An audio file is available at [www.wholesomewords.org](http://www.wholesomewords.org).