# HOW TO HELP KIDS USE THE BIBLE

1. **Use a readable translation.**

For children, we use and recommend *GOD’S WORD*. This translation consciously combines scholarly accuracy with natural English. Its reading level is at the 4.3 grade level. While it does not oversimplify the text, it makes it clear enough for second and third graders to read and understand. For more information see www.godsword.org.

1. **Encourage kids to bring their own Bibles and use them.**

Kids can even mark their Bibles, underlining special words or passages that are significant to them.

1. **Teach kids to look up verses.**

Kids often see looking up verses as a fun puzzle to solve. You can teach any child to do this in the following way:

**“Look to the index to find the name of the book and the corresponding page numbers. Go to that book. Next go to the big number, which is the chapter number. Finally, you will find the find the small number, which is the verse number.”**

1. **Challenge kids to read their Bibles at home.**

Shepherds, we encourage you to do this as well. When you are growing spiritually from reading God’s word, you will be more inspired as you share with your group of kids.

One way to encourage your kids to read their Bibles is to ask them if they ever watch cartoons before they are ready to walk out the door to go to school. If they do, that means they have enough time to take five minutes to read from the Bible. This is a wonderful way to listen to what God has to say to them before they begin their day.

1. **Have a special Bible presentation day.**

At either second or third grade, present a full translation of the Bible to every student in one of the church settings. This event can be called “First Bible” and it should involve the parents. The parents can present the Bible to the student with a special blessing, while the church leader prays over them, as well.