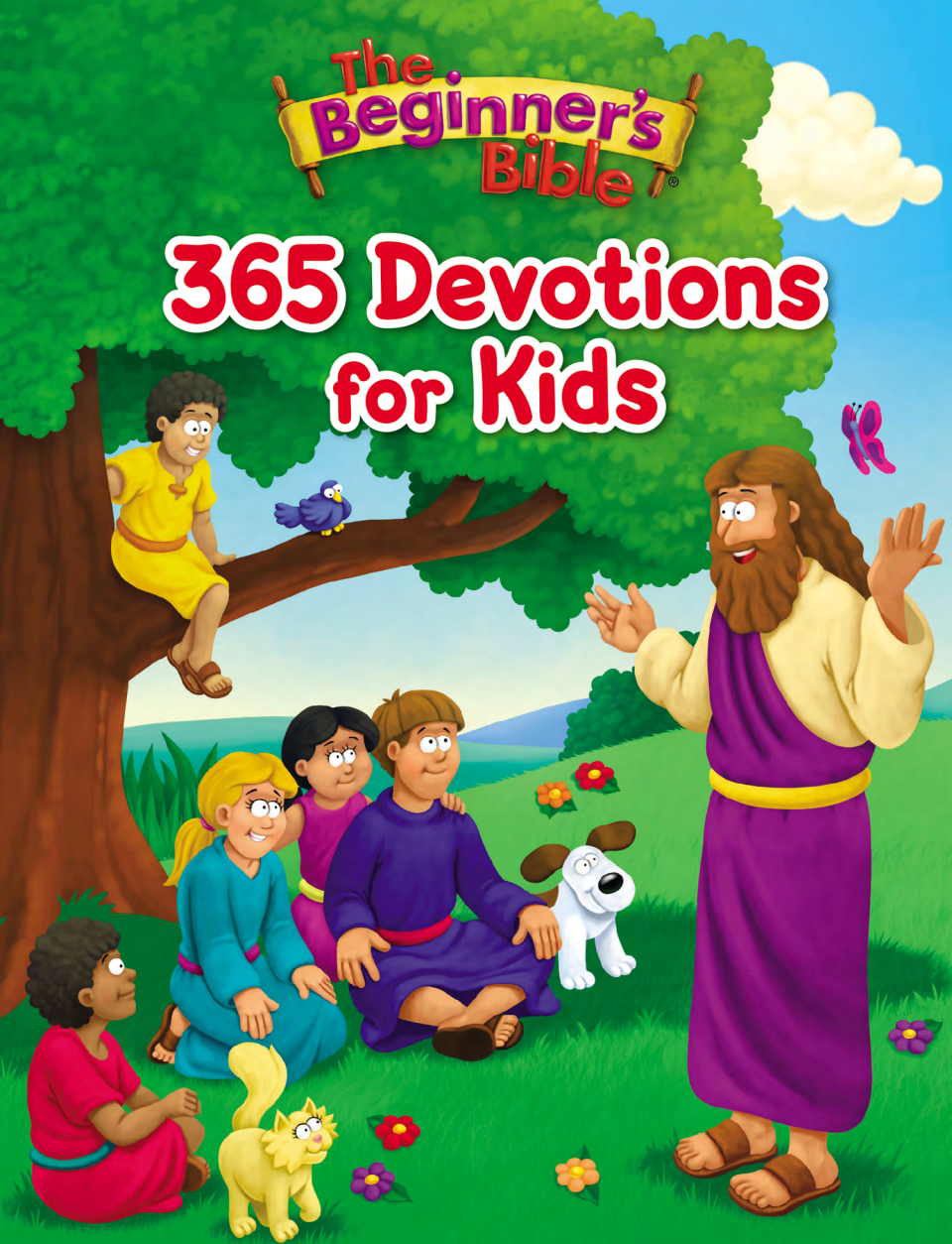


The
Beginner's
Bible®

365 Devotions for Kids



Previously titled *The Beginner's Bible Kid-Sized Devotions*

*The angel said to him, “I am Gabriel. I serve God.
I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news.”
—Luke 1:19*

Day 204

**Angels help
God's people. They
bring messages
from God.**

Gabriel was a messenger for God. He spoke with Zechariah. Gabriel told Zechariah that Elizabeth, Mary's cousin, was going to have a baby! The baby was John the Baptist! It was great news for the world. It was happy news for Zechariah and Elizabeth.



I believe in angels, God.

... “The Lord has blessed you in a special way. He is with you.”
—Luke 1:28

Day 205

Mary loved and trusted God. One day, an angel named Gabriel visited her. She was scared! But the angel told her not to be afraid. He said, “God has given you special favor. You will give birth to God’s Son.”

**God sent his Son
Jesus to earth
to be with us and
to save us from
our sins.**



Open my heart like Mary opened hers, God!

*Mary said, "My soul gives glory to the Lord."
—Luke 1:46*

Day 206



**Remember that
God can do
anything!**

Mary told the angel, "I'm not married yet. How can I have a baby?" Gabriel said, "With God, all things are possible." Mary believed it! She agreed to do what God was asking of her. She would become the mother of Jesus.



I am ready to do your will, God!

"I serve the Lord," Mary answered. "May it happen to me just as you said it would." Then the angel left her.

—Luke 1:38

Day 207

Mary did not hesitate. She listened to the angel. Then she accepted what God said. She was willing to do the things God wanted! Mary's faith was amazing! How did she get so strong and brave? She knew God loved her and would take care of her, no matter what.

The best attitude is one that says "I will do anything you want me to, God."



Help me to be brave like Mary, God.

So Joseph went also. He went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea. That is where Bethlehem, the town of David, was. Joseph went there because he belonged to the family line of David. He went there with Mary to be listed. Mary was engaged to him. She was expecting a baby. —Luke 2:4–5

Day 208

**Just because we
love God doesn't
mean we won't
have hard times.
God likes to
challenge us.**

Mary and Joseph knew that what they had to do would be hard. The angels that brought them messages did not say it would be easy. But they said it was God's will! Joseph and Mary had great faith. They relied on each other and on God's love and help.



I rely on you, God.

*While Joseph and Mary were there, the time
came for the child to be born.*

—Luke 2:6

Day 209

Mary and Joseph loved each other. In a dream, an angel told Joseph to make Mary his wife. So he did. They would follow God's plan together! But it wasn't easy. They couldn't even find a room in Bethlehem for Mary to have the baby.

**Following God's
plans is not
always easy.
But we must
always try.**



I will trust you all the time, God.

She gave birth to her first baby. It was a boy. She wrapped him in large strips of cloth. Then she placed him in a manger. That's because there was no guest room where they could stay.

—Luke 2:7

Day 210

**The Savior
of the world
was born in
the least
expected place!**

Jesus is the Son of God. He is God in human flesh! He is greater than the greatest king. Yet he was born in the lowest of places. Imagine a manger surrounded by hay and smelly animals. That's where Jesus was born. Jesus is a Savior for everyone!



God, happy birthday to your Son!

*But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news.
It will bring great joy for all the people.”
—Luke 2:10*

Day 211

Jesus was born as a little baby, just like you were. But his birth was the best news anyone could hear! Jesus would grow up and teach the whole world about God’s love. Jesus came to save everyone from their sins.

**Jesus’ birth
was the most
important news
in the world.**



Thank you for the best gift ever, God!

Suddenly a large group of angels from heaven also appeared. They were praising God.

—Luke 2:13

Day 212

**Listen, God
has a message
for us too! Jesus
was born for
all of us!**

On the night Jesus was born, some shepherds were out in the fields. Suddenly, they heard and saw angels! The angels told the shepherds about the birth of the Savior. Think about how happy they must have been!



Thank you for the good news of Jesus' birth, God!

An angel of the Lord appeared to them. And the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news. It will bring great joy for all the people.”
—Luke 2:9–10

Day 213

God's angels like to praise God!
That is what God's angels did on
the night Jesus was born ... they
praised God and thanked him for
loving the world so much! God had
sent his Son to earth to teach about
God's love. It was joyful news.

**When Jesus was
born, the angels in
heaven were just
as happy as the
people on earth!**



I will sing praises with the angels, God.

*“May glory be given to God in the highest heaven!”
—Luke 2:14*

Day 214

**God deserves
our very
best praise!**

The angels said to the shepherds,
“Glory to God in the highest!”
They were giving great thanks
and praise to God for the good
news of Jesus’ birth. God deserves
our very best praise. He deserves
our highest honor.



God, I give you great thanks and praise!

*... Then the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem. Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."
—Luke 2:15*

Day 215

The shepherds went to Bethlehem to see baby Jesus. They were so excited! Then they helped spread the news! They wanted everyone to know that Jesus was the Savior. The Savior had come to earth!



**God wants us
to be messengers
for his good news.**



I want to help spread your good news, God!

In Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was a good and godly man. He was waiting for God's promise to Israel to come true.
—Luke 2:25

Day 216

**Sometimes waiting
can be hard.
We can ask God
for patience.**

Simeon was a very old man. He loved God a lot. God told Simeon that he would not die before he had seen the Savior. One day, Simeon saw Mary and Joseph with baby Jesus. Simeon was filled with joy! He knew Jesus was the Savior.



Help me to be patient, God.

Anna came up to Jesus' family at that very moment. She gave thanks to God. And she spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the time when Jerusalem would be set free.

—Luke 2:38

Day 217

Anna was 84 years old. She stayed at the temple all the time. She was praying and waiting for the Savior. She told many people he was coming. When Joseph and Mary brought baby Jesus to the temple, Anna knew he was God's Son!

God uses everyone to spread his good news.



God, Jesus truly is your Son!

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea. This happened while Herod was king of Judea. After Jesus' birth, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem.
—Matthew 2:1

Day 218

**The heavens
showed off the
good news
of the birth
of God's Son!**

When Jesus was born, there was a special star in the sky. It was really bright. It let people near and faraway know that something special had happened. God wanted everyone to find out about the birth of his Son.



Thank you for the special star, God!

*They asked, "Where is the child who has been born to be king of the Jews?
We saw his star when it rose. Now we have come to worship him."*

—Matthew 2:2

Day 219

Three wise men lived in a faraway country. They saw the special star in the sky. They knew the star meant that a Savior was born. So they decided to follow the star. They traveled a long way. They wanted to find the Savior.



**The Savior is
for everyone,
everywhere**



Thank you for your guidance, God.

The Wise Men went to the house. They saw the child with his mother Mary. They bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures. They gave him gold, frankincense and myrrh.
—Matthew 2:11

Day 220

**The wise men
brought expensive
gifts to Jesus to
honor him as King.**

The star led the wise men to Jesus! They gave him gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These were very special gifts to give. The wise men knew how important Jesus was to the world. They knew Jesus was the King of Kings.



I give you my heart, God.

*But God warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod ...
—Matthew 2:12*

Day 221

The wise men visited Jesus and his parents. They showed Jesus their love and respect. But Jesus was in danger! So when it was time for the wise men to go back to their land, God sent a message through a dream. He told the wise men not to return to King Herod!

To protect his people, sometimes God speaks to people in dreams.



I love and respect you, Lord.

*... So they returned to their country on a different road.
—Matthew 2:12*

Day 222

**Not everyone
wants to follow
King Jesus.
Open their
hearts, God!**

Not everyone was happy about the birth of Jesus. King Herod was a mean man. When he heard that a new king was born, he was very mad! He wanted to be the only king. When the wise men did not return to him, he told his soldiers to find Jesus themselves.



***Even when people do not love you,
I choose to love you, God!***

When the Wise Men had left, Joseph had a dream. In the dream an angel of the Lord appeared to him. “Get up!” the angel said. “Take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you to come back. Herod is going to search for the child. He wants to kill him.” —Matthew 2:13

Day 223

God knew Jesus might be in danger! So he warned Joseph and Mary. In a dream, an angel told Joseph to take Jesus to another country for a while. God would take care of their family. They listened to the angel.

**If we listen,
God will tell us
exactly what
to do. He knows
what is best.**



Take care of my family too, God!

After Herod died, Joseph had a dream while he was still in Egypt. In the dream an angel of the Lord appeared to him. The angel said, "Get up! Take the child and his mother. Go to the land of Israel. Those who were trying to kill the child are dead." —Matthew 2:19–20

Day 224

**God never forgets.
It might seem
like a long time,
but God always
remembers.**

Joseph and Mary and Jesus waited in Egypt a long time. But finally an angel told Joseph it was safe to leave. King Herod was dead. They could go to Israel again. Jesus would be safe back in his homeland!



Bless our home, God!