

Keeping the Promise

by Debbie Streicher

One of the responsibilities parents and other adults are entrusted with at the baptism of a child is to “*place in their hands the holy scriptures*”. This promise goes beyond placing the Bible in their hands. As adults involved in the lives of our children and grandchildren, we should sit down and read the Bible together. Many of us feel ill equipped as faith role models for our children and youth but the fact remains, as research has shown, parents and other significant adults in the life of a child play a major role in their faith formation. What if we feel we have little knowledge of the Bible and are not able to teach our children? We tend to set expectations that we, as adults, should be able to answer all the questions we are asked. The truth is we are all at different points in our faith journey and it is very good and healthy for all ages to ask questions. Where can you begin? One suggestion is to learn about the Bible together.

There are many resources available for learning about the Bible. One I would like to highlight as a first step is the Bible Milestone from Milestones Ministry. For many Christians in the church, the Bible has become an endangered species, something rarely spotted or referenced. The Bible Milestone is based on the understanding that the Bible is an essential source of comfort and guidance for individual Christians and the larger church. Giving Bibles to children in worship has become, for many congregations, an endearing and memorable moment. Providing the opportunity to place the Holy Scriptures in the hands of children and parents/guardians as a faith formation tool in the congregation and in the home is important. Children and parents/guardians are invited to gather together around God’s Word as they use, read, study and play in the Bible. There is encouragement to use Bibles together as families in homes as they grow together in their faith. The Bible Milestone includes a time for families to gather and learn during a congregational event. There is also an outline for the home that can be used following the initial gathering as well as a follow up piece for home and/or congregation.

[Bible Milestone Module](#)