



## Milestone 4: Bible (Age 6)

**Read the Bible as a family. Have your child read and memorize scripture on a routine basis.**

As your children begin to learn to read, the most important book they should start developing a discipline of reading is the Bible. At this age, they have hopefully been hearing God's story being told to them and read to them. At this age, they have hopefully been praying to and learning to worship God. Now is the time for them to start reading God's story. Be a family that reads the most important story ever told. The Bible is God's story, it's your story, it's the most important story ever told.

### **Model It...**

Your kids will want to do what you do. If you spend time exercising, they will likely want to exercise. If you watch a lot of television, you can expect them to want to do the same. If you do a lot of reading, they will likely aspire to read like you do. If you read God's Word daily, they will see that and, hopefully, want that as well. Your kids will also be inspired to read from the Bible if they hear you talking about God and His stories on a regular basis. The awesome thing about reading the Bible is that, if you are committed to reading it daily, you cannot help but talk about what you have seen, heard, and read (see Acts 4:20). God's Word is living and active (Hebrews 4:12). It is God-breathed (2 Timothy 3:16). It is useful.

Psalm 119:105 - *"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."*

However, reading the Bible isn't the only thing that is important - we must comprehend what we read. It is one thing to read words - it's another to take those words to heart. As you and your child read the Bible, it is good to ask questions and discuss what is being read.

Romans 10:17 - *"Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ."*

Make a good practice of memorizing scripture. Having scriptures in our minds and in our hearts will help us to live good lives.

Psalms 119:11 - *"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."*

Joshua 1:8 - *"Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."*

### **Where to Start...**

- Purchase a good, age-appropriate children's Bible. *Adventure Bible* or *Kid's Quest Bible* are two good ones. Storybook Bibles are good as well.
- Read the Bible yourself.
- Read the Bible with your child. Schedule time for your child to read the Bible to you or own their own.
- Find a daily reading plan. For example, read one of the gospels each month or a chapter of Proverbs each day.
- Ask your child to explain to you what they read.
- Choose a weekly or monthly memory verse for your family. Spend time together reading and quoting the verse.
- Have fun. Don't make it more difficult than it needs to be. Don't overdo it. Strive to read every day, but if you miss a day, don't sweat it. Also, read for a length of time that is comfortable. The point is to develop a habit of spending time daily with God through His Word.
- Suggested books of the Bible to read first - Genesis, Exodus, Luke, and Acts.

### **Next Steps in Your Faith @ Home Journey...**

- Pray daily for your child.
- Bless your child daily.
- Consistently spend time in God's Word.
- Schedule and have regular family times.
- Help your child develop a daily discipline of Bible reading.