

Amazing Acrostics



There are so many great and creative ways to engage our children in the Bible and using acrostics and outlines are definitely two of these creative ways. I got sold on acrostics when I found a book called Outline and Object for Boys and Girls by J.W. Jordan. It is an old book (they're the best!) and is filled to overflowing with great acrostic explanations of all sorts of Bible topics. For example, here are a couple below.

B ook of Grace	Acts 14:3
I nspired	2 Tim. 3:16
B ook of Light	Ps. 119:105
L earning	Ps. 119:133
E verlasting Word	Matt. 24:35

We can GROW in:	Grace	2 Peter 3:18
	Knowledge	2 Peter 3:18
	Faith	2 Thes. 1:3
	Love	1 Thes. 3:12
	Hope	Romans 15:13

The first example is a classic acrostic using the word BIBLE. The second example is an outline which often just lists areas of a topic – in this case, growth.

So, how do I use these you may ask? Well, acrostics are great tools for explaining concepts like above or the characteristics of Biblical characters. For example, have the kids take the name of JESUS and come up with traits that make up who He is, having each trait start with the letters of His name. Using the above examples, you could give the kids the list of Scriptures with the chapter number, but leave out the actual verse number. It is up to them to read through the chapter and find the correct verse. You could also mix up the verses listed and have the kids match the verse with the correct characteristic. Another great use for acrostics and outlines coincide nicely with my third suggestion found in this seminar called, "Please, Call Me!" Although explained in greater depth in that section, these acrostics and outlines make perfect "take home reading" slips for their Bible reading time. Acrostics, such as the ones found on my website under the "Quick Reads" section, also make great posters for a room.

To conclude this section, here are some fun sites you may want to check out that will give you further ideas about acrostics.



www.thewordpuzzles.com – This is a site filled with Bible puzzles, including the typical "crossword" type acrostic puzzle. Definitely worth looking at for your older kids.

www.padfield.com/1995/abc.html – Very nice acrostic page of the ABC's of the Bible by David Padfield. Perfect for elementary kids.

books.google.com/books?hl=en&id=LI0CAAAAQAAJ&dq=sunday+acrostics&printsec=frontcover&source=web&ots=luAEVQnNom&sig=8miaK_9f4-2mjrxEpdfR6f4uN_I8#PPP1,M1 – Wow! I just came across this book. This is why surfing the internet can truly be like going on a treasure hunt. And this indeed is a treasure. It is a very old book by Eliza Ogilvy called Sunday's Acrostics. This lady took painstaking time in writing this incredible book of Bible acrostics. This would definitely be for your older kids, if not just for you. Sorry for the long address. You will obviously want to copy and paste to your address bar, but once you do, you should have access to the book. If not, you can Google: Sunday Acrostics by Ogilvy.



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