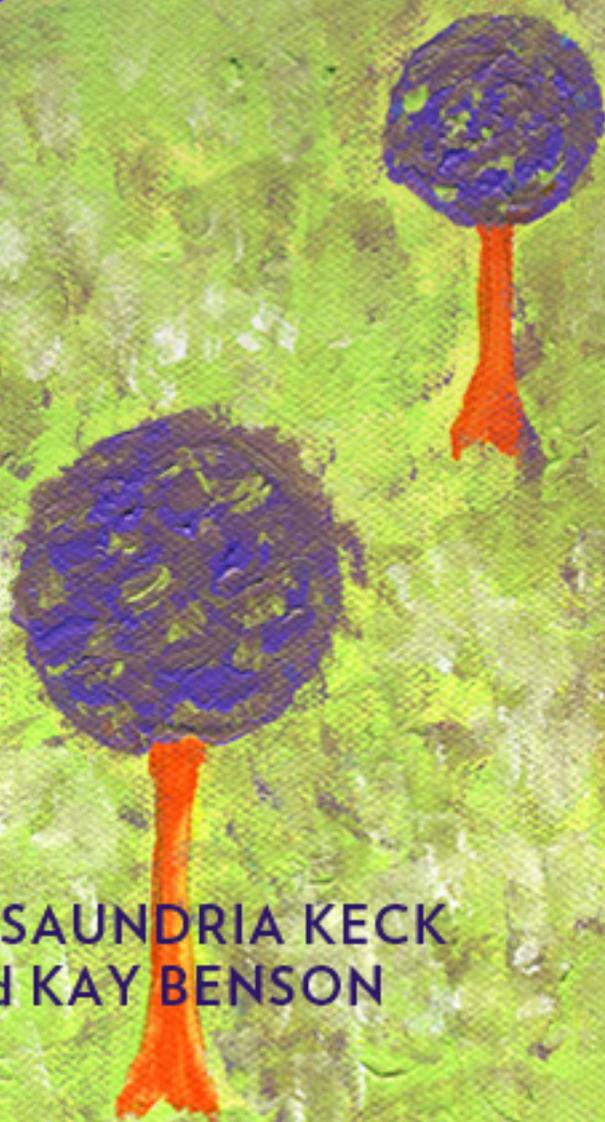


SAMPLE

Remember, and Don't Forget

BIBLE STORIES FOR MOM AND ME



by SAUNDRIA KECK
and KAY BENSON

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We dedicate this book to our husbands, Lee and Pete, who “blessed” this project and supported us in every possible way. We give thanks to our Heavenly Father who led us on this “journey” and provided us with “heavenly road signs” at every turn.

We praise You, O God!

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including preparing fabulous meals for us.

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inspiring places to pray, think, and write.

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Introduction

Perhaps you're a mom who gives a lot of thought to teaching your children about God and have some idea how to do it. Or perhaps you're a mom who gives teaching about God considerable thought, but you're just not sure where to begin. Then you may be a mom who has never given much thought to any of it. Wherever you are, it a good place to begin.

As moms and grandmoms we have noticed that we tend to be creatures with short memories when it comes to learning and living God's Word. We fail to remember; we often forget. Our purpose in writing this book is to take the words from Deuteronomy 11 to heart so they will help us remember and not forget.

"Place God's words in your heart . . . get them deep inside you . . . teach them to your children . . . talk about them wherever you are . . . sitting at home or walking in the street. . . talk about them when you get up in the morning and when you fall in bed at night. . ." These words will be your life.

Moses spoke these words to the children of Israel. He knew if the parents didn't teach their children God's truths, they would soon forget God and go their own way. So over and over Moses reminded them to remember God's love and what He had done for them. Moses knew that following God was the lifeline for both parents and children.

So why this book? It is more than a compilation of Bible stories. It is designed to help young children and moms grow together emotionally and spiritually while they engage in God's truths. As you step into this book, you will notice it is divided into three distinct sections:

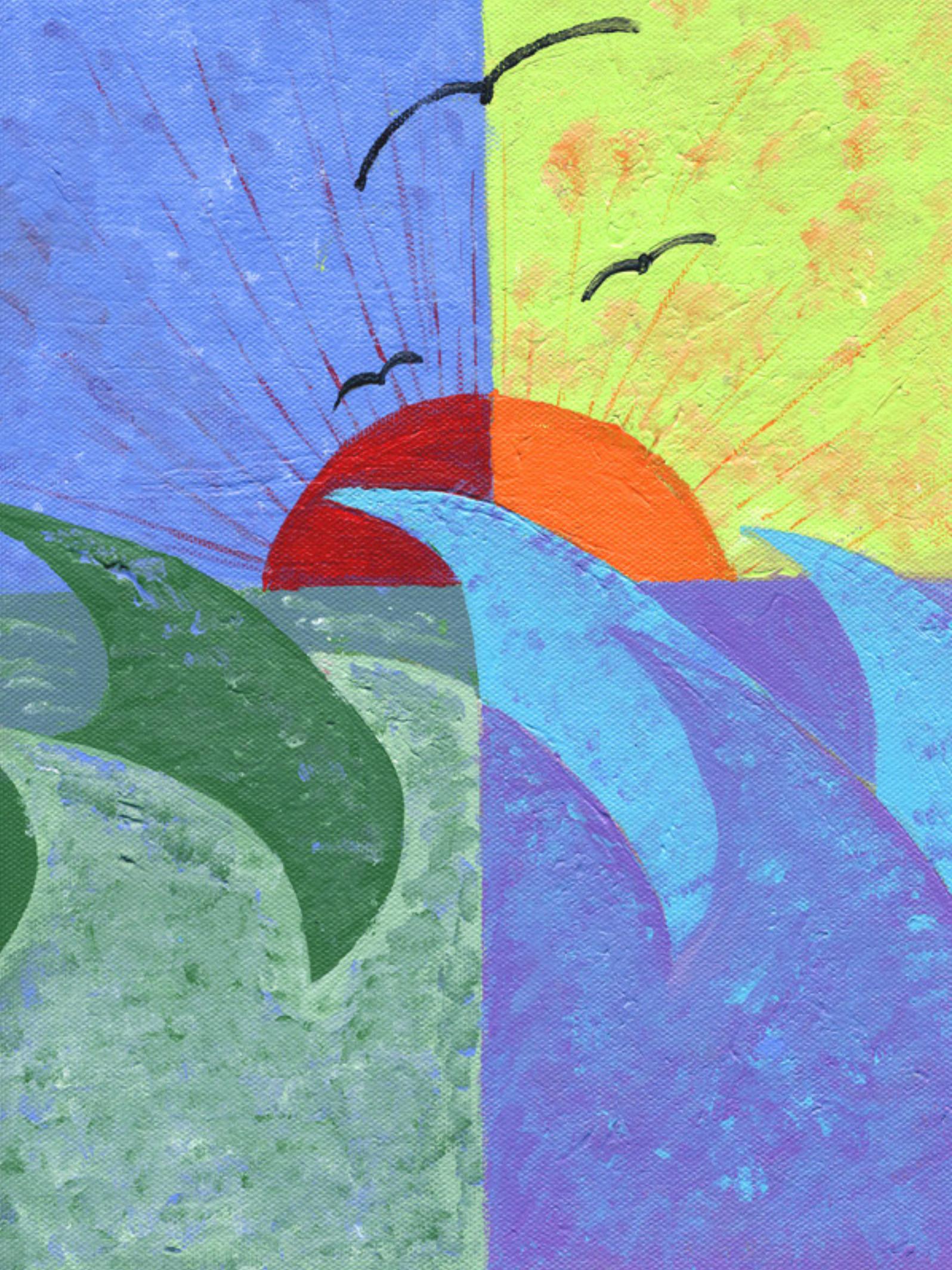
- I. The Bible Stories/Illustrations
- II. The "For Mom and Me" activities
- III. The "Just for Mom"

The Bible stories' section is composed of twenty-five foundational stories every child needs to know. The "For Mom and Me" activities are designed to help the child get the truth of the story into both the head and heart through fun interaction with Mom. And the "Just for Mom" section is structured to take mom deeper into scripture so that the story becomes part of her as well. The more the story gets into the mom, the more the story gets into the child.

Just as Moses continually reminded the children of Israel of God's story and His truths, as parents we must do the same. These stories need to be shared with your little ones again and again. We have learned from our years of training and experience with young children that repetition is essential to learning. So don't hesitate to read or tell the stories over and over and over.

Your child may say: "Mommy, I already know this story." This does not mean that he or she does not want or need to hear the story again. It merely means that he or she is proud to be able to tell you: "I know this story." This will be a good sign to you that the story is getting into the head and heart. So keep on sharing the stories over and over and over.

Our prayer for you is that God will give you a zeal for sharing His Word in a delightful and loving way with your child. And may you both "remember, and not forget."



In the Beginning

"God made the beautiful world."

– God's Beautiful World, based on Genesis 1 and 2

In the beginning there was nothing. God decided to make something out of nothing. He began making the world. On the first day God said: "Let there be light," and there was light. He called the light day and the darkness He called night. Evening came, and morning came, and that was the first day.

On the second day God made the sky. He made a big, big, big sky. Evening came and morning came and that was the second day.

On the third day God made water and dry ground. The water He called ocean and the dry ground He called land. Then God saw that the land needed plants, and trees, and flowers. So He made them. Evening came, and morning came, and that was the third day.

On the fourth day God looked at the sky. He saw that it needed a sun, a moon, and stars. So He made them. Evening came, and morning came, and that was the fourth day.

On the fifth day God looked at the ocean and decided it needed fish. He looked at the sky and decided it needed birds. So He made them. Evening came, and morning came, and that was the fifth day.

On the sixth day God looked at the land and decided that it needed animals—all kinds of animals like elephants, tigers, and lizards. God looked at the land once again and something was missing. People—people were missing. So God made a man and called him Adam. Then He made a woman and called her Eve. Evening came, and morning came, and that was the sixth day.

Then the seventh day came and God rested.

For Mom and Me

We Can Talk

Talk with your child about the activities of the day. Help him or her think of specific things (such as ate breakfast, played with a friend, drew a picture). Comment: "Wow, you've really done a lot today. God did a lot when He made the world." Ask your child: "Then what did God do?" (He rested.) Give him or her a gentle hug and say: "Now it's time for you to rest."

We Can Play

Cover a card table with a blanket that drapes over the sides. Crawl under the table with your child. Take a flashlight with you. Talk about how dark it is. Then let your child turn on the flashlight and talk about how there is light. In our Bible story, God said: "Let there be light," and there was light.

We Can Do

Take a walk with your child and look for things God made. You may want to take a basket or small bag for your child to collect nature items like a rock, a flower, or a twig. As you walk talk about things God made.

We Can Pray

"Dear God, Thank You for making a beautiful world. (Encourage your child to name things God made.) Amen."

We Can Remember

God made the beautiful world.

Just for Mom

Grow with Your Child

Read

Genesis 1 through 2:1-3

Think About

1. What were the "somethings" God made out of "nothing"?
2. As you read the scripture, underline the words: "It was good." Why do you think God continually noted: "It was good"?
3. According to the scripture in whose image were you created?
4. How does this TRUTH make you feel (confused, scared, comforted, skeptical, amazed)? Why?

Pray

Pray thanking God for His good creations including yourself and your family. (You may want to start a gratitude journal.)

Remember

God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:27 (NIV)