

A six-book series of easy-to-use picture devotional books that connects Bible themes and verses to teach Christian values to children ages 4 on up.

Each spread presents a Bible verse with a little explanation of the verse and how to practically apply the Christian value or moral lesson introduced. Children are encouraged to explore the lesson with a complementary action, discussion question, or activity.

A wonderful Bible-based book sure to win the hearts of children and parents alike.



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www.auroraproduction.com

ISBN 978-3-03730-639-0



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MINUTE

BIBLE DEVOTIONALS

Katuscia Giusti

• Sabine Rich

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5-MINUTE BIBLE DEVOTIONALS



FEED MY
LAMBS



Acknowledgments

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Author: Katuscia Giusti

Illustrations: Sabine Rich

Design: Chris Martin

ISBN: 978-3-03730-639-0

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FEED MY LAMBS

5-MINUTE BIBLE DEVOTIONALS

FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

In this book you will find:

15 devotionals for preschool-aged children

Each devotional based on a **Bible scripture**

An **activity** for each devotional

Topics in this book:

Prayer

God's Word

A SPECIAL KIND OF TREASURE HUNT

You will seek Me and find Me,
when you search for Me with
all your heart.

—Jeremiah 29:13 NKJV

Have you ever gone on a treasure hunt, but you weren't sure what you were looking for? It is always exciting at the end when you finally find the little treasure, isn't it?

Did you know that sometimes when we need Jesus' help, it is a little bit like a treasure hunt? Sometimes when we have problems or difficulties we are not even sure what we are looking for; we just know that we need an answer. The Bible says that when we look to Jesus for our answers, we will find them, because He will show us the answers.

We may not get the answer from Jesus right away, but as we pray and follow Jesus, soon we will find the answers that we need. Jesus will hear our prayers.



Sing to the tune of "Mulberry Bush":

This is how we find our way;
this is how we find our way;
This is how we find our way,
every single day.
We look to Jesus and we pray;
we look to Jesus and we pray;
We look to Jesus and we pray,
every single day.

HOW DO WE TALK TO GOD?

Where two or three come together in My name, I am there with them.

—Matthew 18:20, *paraphrased*

Prayer is the way we talk to God. Sometimes we may have something to ask God for, other times we simply want to tell Him how we are feeling. We can also use our times of prayer to talk to Jesus about the ways others may need God's help too.

When we remember that Jesus is our friend, then we can think of prayer as time with our best friend. Jesus likes to hear our prayers. He likes it when we spend time with Him and talk with Him.

There are times when we can pray with others, too. We can come together as friends to talk with Jesus, to ask Him for His help, and to tell Him our needs. Jesus will be there with us, listening to our prayers and bringing us the answers that He knows are best.

Ask your mommy or daddy to help you write down two things that you would like to remember to pray for. Think of one thing for yourself that you would like to pray for and one thing for somebody else. Put that list of requests by your bed and remind your parents to pray for them with you before you go to sleep at night.



A TALK WITH A FRIEND

Pray always.

—1 Thessalonians 5:17, *paraphrased*

Close your eyes for a minute. Are you thinking about something? What is it?

Just like we have thoughts running through our mind all day, we can also learn to pray throughout the day. Prayer is talking to Jesus and letting Jesus talk to you.

The Bible tells us to pray always. That might seem difficult to do, but if we take the time to stop and pray before or while doing something, this is one way that we can include Jesus in our activities.

Our prayers don't have to be long and with many words. Even a simple request for Jesus' help is enough to connect you to Jesus and His power. We can think of Jesus as a friend whom we talk to throughout the day—someone we can share our joys with, and even our sad moments.

It doesn't really matter what we are doing, when we bring Jesus into it through our prayers, it is always better. Jesus makes it so!



Get three small papers and ask your mommy or daddy to write “Pray Always” on each paper. Decorate these papers however you like. Then ask your parent to help you find three places to put them around your house to remind you to pray. Whenever you see one of the signs, remember to say a little prayer.

SO MUCH TO BE GLAD FOR

Always be thankful!

—1 Thessalonians 5:18 TLB

Have you ever wanted something that you couldn't have at the time? Or did one of your friends get to do something you couldn't do?

There are times when things don't work out the way we would like them to. But even when we're sad about the way something turned out, we can still be grateful to Jesus for all the blessings we do have. One easy way to feel happy again is to think about the things we are thankful for. When we think those happy thoughts of thanksgiving, we won't be sad.

There are many reasons to praise Jesus. He takes good care of us and makes sure we have what we need, and often even what we want. It makes Jesus glad when we are thankful for all things.



Draw a picture of three things you are thankful for. When you have finished, ask your mommy or daddy to help you write this little prayer on your page: "Jesus, thank You for the many blessings You have given me." Post your picture in a place where you can see it often as a reminder to "always be thankful."

THOUGHTS AND WORDS OF KINDNESS


May the words of my mouth,
and the thoughts of my heart be
pleasing in Your sight, O Lord, my
strength, and my redeemer.

—Psalm 19:14, *paraphrased*

Actions that are done out of love not only make others happy, but they please Jesus. It is not always easy to do or say things that are kind and thoughtful, especially when we are upset or when someone has hurt us. It is in those times that it is even more important to remember that Jesus hears all the things that we say. He even knows the things that we think!

Even if we are angry or sad, we can ask Jesus for help to change our thoughts and prevent us from saying things that will hurt others. Jesus wants to help us choose to think and say those things that will make God happy.

Our thoughts, our prayers, and our actions should be ones that will please Jesus. And when they come from a heart of love they always make Jesus glad!



Talk about a kind deed that you can do for someone else—think of something that that person would like and that would make him or her happy. Now go do it!

JUST ASK

Ask and it will be given to
you; seek, and you will find.

—Matthew 7:7 NIV

Pick one of your toys and ask your mommy or daddy to hide it, while you count from one to ten. Now look for your toy. Don't forget to ask Jesus to help you find it. When you find the toy, thank Jesus for how He always helps us when we ask.

Is there something that you need? You can ask Jesus for what you need. Sometimes His answers to our requests do not come right away, and we have to wait for His answer. If we ask Jesus for something, and He knows that it is good for us, then He will answer and give us what we ask for. It doesn't matter what we need or what our problem is, Jesus can give us the answers.

Have you ever misplaced a favorite toy and been unable to find it? Did you feel like it might be lost forever? Here's something you can do: Ask Jesus for help!

We don't have to give up or feel sad when something has gone missing; we can stop and talk to Jesus, and ask Him to help us remember where we misplaced something. If it's been lost in a place where it can be found, Jesus promises us that He will help us find what we're looking for. Jesus loves to help us.



THE NAME OF JESUS

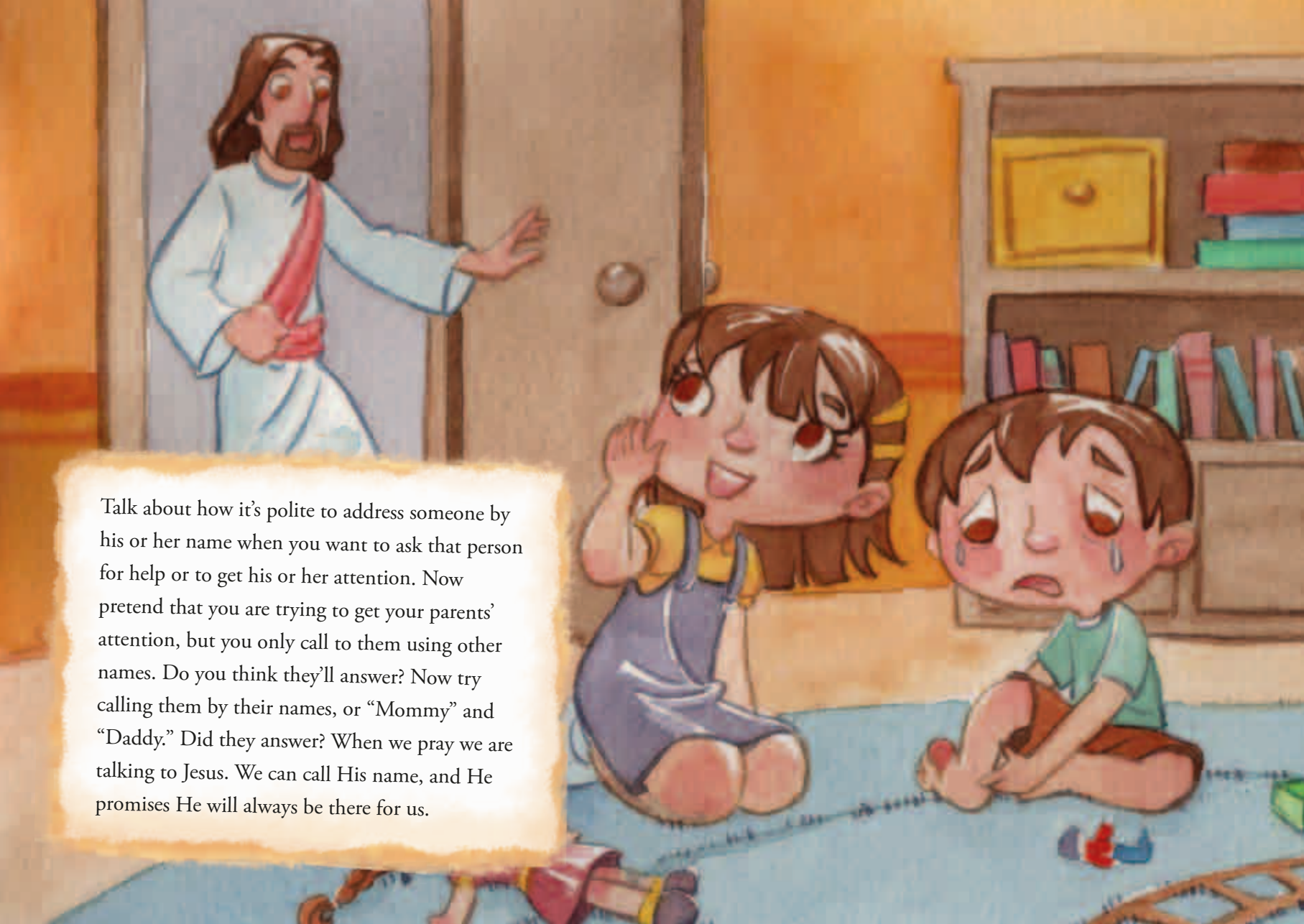
If you ask anything in My name,
I will do it.

—John 14:14 NKJV

In the Bible we learn that there is great power in the name of Jesus. In fact, Jesus said that if we ask anything in His name, He would do it for us. That is a tremendous amount of power that Jesus makes available to us. And do you know how we can discover that power? It comes from calling on Jesus' name! When we say His name, Jesus knows we are talking to Him and asking for His help.

When we are sick and need healing, we can call on Jesus, and He will be there for us. When we are struggling to learn something new, when we call on Jesus' name in our prayers, He can help us.

Jesus' power is real! When we pray, expecting that Jesus will answer with the things that He knows are best for us and others, then we won't be disappointed. Miracles happen when we pray.



Talk about how it's polite to address someone by his or her name when you want to ask that person for help or to get his or her attention. Now pretend that you are trying to get your parents' attention, but you only call to them using other names. Do you think they'll answer? Now try calling them by their names, or "Mommy" and "Daddy." Did they answer? When we pray we are talking to Jesus. We can call His name, and He promises He will always be there for us.

A BRIGHT LIGHT

Your word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path.

—Psalm 119:105 NKJV

Have you been in a room at night and the lights went out? You couldn't see anything, and it was hard to find your way around the room. But then you remembered a flashlight would help you see in the dark, and when you turned it on, you could see things again.

God's Word is like a light, and through it we understand more about our life and the world around us. The Bible has many wonderful stories about God's mighty power, and as we read these stories it gives us faith in God's power.

We can also use God's Word to help us find the answers to our questions. Jesus loves to help us find the answers that we need, and through His Word we learn lessons that help us to make good decisions.

God's Word is wonderful. It's filled with instruction from God to us that shows us how to live good lives for Jesus and others.

Cover your eyes with your hands and think of a problem. Then think of an answer to your problem, and uncover your eyes. At first it was dark and you couldn't see, but now it's light around you. Tell Jesus how thankful you are that you have His Word.



PUT IT INTO ACTION

Be ye doers of the word, and not
hearers only.

—James 1:22 KJV

Can you think of something that you read about in God's Word that you can do today to "live" God's Word? What is it, and how would you like to put what you read into action?

Have you ever read a storybook and liked what you read so much that you wanted to copy something that you read about in the story? You put what you read into action, and made it a part of what you said or did.

We can do the same thing with God's Word. What we read in the Bible are things that we can and should do in our daily lives. If we just hear the words that we read and think they are nice and good, but we don't do them, then we are not learning all that we can from God's Word.

Our actions show others the things that we have learned. When God's Word tells us to love others, and we go and show kindness to others, then we are living God's Word. This makes God happy, and it brings us joy, too, because we know that we are doing the right thing.



GOD'S MIGHTY AND AMAZING WORD

God's word is truth.

—John 17:17, *paraphrased*

Can you think of something God has promised to us in the Bible? Draw a picture of God making that promise come true for you.

Have you read Bible stories and wondered at all the amazing miracles that took place for God's people? Maybe you wondered if they really were true, because they were so amazing. The Bible and the stories and promises in it are true.

God gave us His Word in the Bible so that we could learn about the wonderful things that He has done for His people. But the Bible doesn't only tell us of what God did for others; it also tells us of the things that God will do for us, too.

God's Word is truth. That means that we can believe in what God says in the Bible and expect that God will do fantastic things for us as we obey Him and believe in His Word. We can always trust God's Word.



WHEN WE LISTEN TO JESUS

The words I speak to you
are spirit and life.

—John 6:63, *paraphrased*

Jesus tells us in the Bible that the words that He speaks to us give life to our spirits. When we listen to God's voice and do as He says, that will make us happier, because a part of God's Spirit is living in us.

Jesus likes to talk to us. Even though we don't hear His voice out loud, we can listen to Jesus' voice in our hearts. He tells us how much He cares for us and reminds us to do the right thing.

When we stop to listen to what Jesus has to tell us, both when we read God's Word and when He talks to us personally, that helps us to draw closer to Jesus. His words to us make our hearts happy, and we in turn can share that happiness with others.



Learn this little rhyme:
My spirit grows strong
When I study God's Word.
And if I stop to listen,
Jesus' voice can be heard.

FOLLOW THE FOOTPRINTS

If you continue in My Word,
you are My disciples indeed.

—John 8:31, *paraphrased*

Have you ever walked on the beach and then looked behind and seen your footprints in the sand? Maybe you even tried to walk in your mommy or daddy's footprints, so you could follow exactly where he or she walked.

We can think of the things that we learn in God's Word as footprints that we can follow. When we obey God's Word, that is like taking another step into a footprint that Jesus made that will lead us to a good and happy life. When we follow the things that Jesus teaches us in His Word, it is proof that we love and respect Jesus, and it shows others that we are following Him closely.

It might seem difficult to do all the things that we are told to do in the Bible. But Jesus simply asks that we do our best to keep following in His footprints, by doing what we have learned to do in God's Word. We can do that one step at a time.

Ask your mommy or daddy to use pieces of paper or Post-its to make a “footprint” path that you can follow to something special that has been hidden from you. Make sure you step on each “footprint” (paper). When you get to the end of the path, talk about how it was easier to find what your mommy or daddy hid because you followed the path. When we follow the path of God’s Word, it is easier for us to know where we are going and what we are looking for.



GOD'S WORD MAKES US STRONG


Desire the pure milk
of the word that you
may grow by it.

—1 Peter 2:2, *paraphrased*

Just like we eat healthy food to make our bodies strong, when we read God's Word and listen to His voice, we are making our spirits strong.

Have you ever used a measuring chart to see how much you've grown? Isn't it exciting to see when you're a little bit taller than you were the last time you measured yourself? When we take good care of our bodies, then we grow properly. It's the same with our spirits and hearts. When we study God's Word, we grow in spirit.

There is so much that we can learn from God's Word, and that is why we need to read and study it. We can see how much we've grown in God's Word by the things we learn from it. God's Word is magnificent!



Draw one picture of something you eat that helps your body to grow strong. Then draw another picture of something you learn from God's Word that makes your spirit stronger.

DISCOVER SOMETHING NEW

Open my eyes so that I may see
wonderful things from Your law.

—Psalm 119:18, *paraphrased*

Get one of your picture
books and see if you can
find something new in
the pictures that you
hadn't noticed before.
What did you find?

Have you ever picked up a book that you had read before, but suddenly you noticed something in the pictures that you had not seen earlier? Maybe it was a little mouse hiding in the haystack, or a monkey swinging from the branches. And even though you had read the book many times, you only saw this for the first time.

God made it so that we can discover new things, even when we are reading or doing something that we have read or done before. There are many wonderful new things we can discover in God's Word. Sometimes we may think we already know everything that God's Word has to tell us. Believe it or not, there are always new treasures to find!

When we read God's Word, we can ask Jesus to show us something that we hadn't seen before. Isn't that amazing?



A HIDDEN TREASURE

I have hidden Your word in
my heart that I might not
sin against You.

—Psalm 119:11 NIV

The Bible says that we are to hide God's Word in our heart. But how can we do that? Do we tuck a little Bible in our shirt, so that it is close to our hearts? That might be fun, but it would not work to bring us closer to God.

Can you think of something that is special to you? You probably keep it someplace where it will be safe—that way, you know where to find it whenever you need or want it. You are hiding your little treasure. We should do the same thing with God's Word, and keep it somewhere safe so we know where to find it. The safest place is in our hearts.

When we hide God's Word in our hearts, it means that we take the time to learn the things that God's Word tells us by memorizing verses from the Bible, so that we can remember God's promises even when we do not have a Bible with us. This shows that we treasure the things God tells us, and it helps us remember to do the right thing.

Would you like to try
hiding some of God's
Word in your heart? You
can memorize this verse:

“When you know what
the right thing to do is,
you'll be happy if you do
it” (John 13:17, *paraphrased*).



A WORD TO THE PARENT

“Do you love Me?” Jesus asked Peter.
“Lord, You know all things,” Peter answered. “You know that I love You.”
“Then feed My sheep,” Jesus said. “And take care of My little ones.”

—Based on John 21:15–17.

5-Minute Bible Devotionals is a collection of Christian and character-building books written for children ages four on up. Each devotional is built on a Bible verse, and explains to a child in simple terms what the principles of that verse mean and how it applies to daily living.

I wrote these books to provide opportunities for conversation and discussion on Christian values between parent and child on a level that is relatable to a child. You can simply select a devotional to read with your child and pause when questions are posed in the text to allow time for your child to answer. Then encourage your child to express personal experiences or thoughts that relate to the theme you are reading.

Included with each devotional is a simple activity, such as a discussion question, a short rhyme to learn, or a simple project. I have found that emphasizing the lesson I am teaching my children by means of interactive activities brings that spark of fun into the mix that makes these important times of learning a joy.

The Bible verses included with each devotional have been selected from a variety of translations or revised so that they are easy for a young child to understand. Children can also be taught these verses. Repeat the verse several times with your child; he or she should soon be able to recite it from memory. Make a point to review the verses a couple of times a week so the child retains what has been learned.

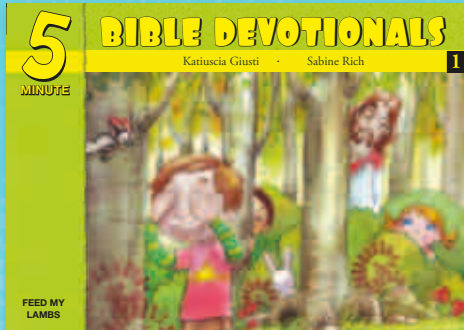
In addition, I will often spice up a devotional reading by including related Bible or character-building stories that complement the principles being taught.

My aim for these books was to have a way to teach my young children Bible-based values, and I have had a wonderful time sharing these simple truths with them in this way. It is my hope that you'll experience the same.

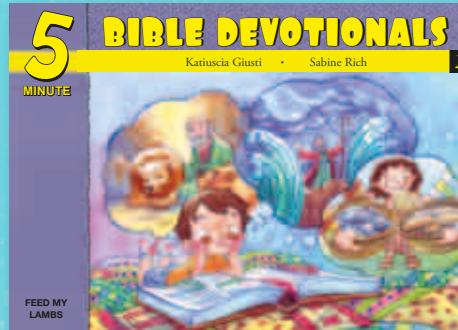
Katiuscia Giusti

5-MINUTE BIBLE DEVOTIONALS

Collect the full series!



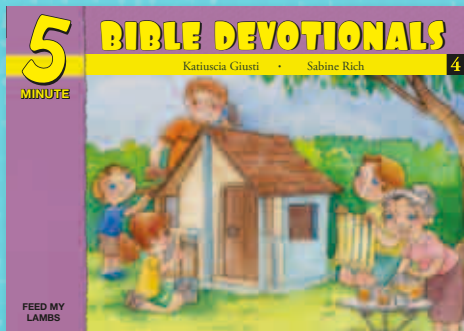
Love • Salvation



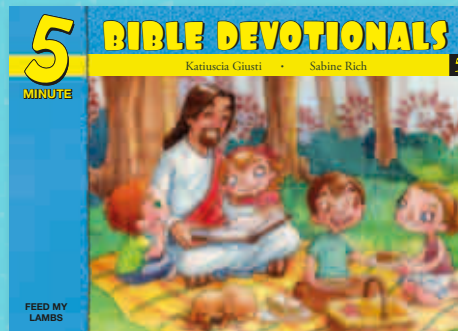
Faith • God's Promises



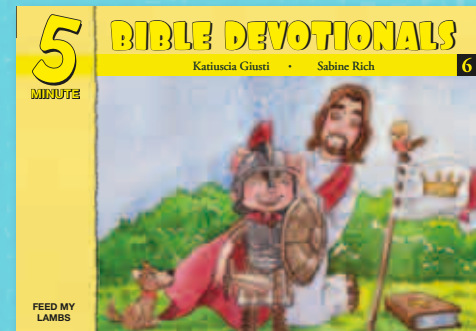
Prayer • God's Word



Christian Living



God/Jesus • Following Jesus • Obedience
Forgiveness



Holy Spirit • Preach the Gospel • Healing
God's Power in You



