

God's Alphabet  
for Life



# God's Alphabet for Life

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Devotions for Young Children

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# Introduction

Young children,

Do you know that you own something that is priceless? This treasure that you own is worth more than all of the clothes, food, and toys that you have. It is more valuable than the home where you live. In fact, it is worth more than the whole world! The priceless thing that you own is your soul—the spiritual part of you that you cannot see. You can see your body and touch your skin.



But there is a part of you that you cannot see. This part of you is called your soul.

When your body dies, your soul continues to live forever. Because your soul lives forever,

it is very important.

Because our souls are so important, God says, “Keep thy soul diligently” (Deut. 4:9). God then tells us that the way to be diligent in taking care of our souls is to remember the things that God has taught us. And this is why Psalm 119:11 says, “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.” It is very important for us to know that the main way to take care of our souls is to believe and treasure what God has to say to us in the Bible.

The book that you are reading gives a number of Bible verses for you to hide in your heart. Because the Bible is important for the life of your soul, and because each Bible verse in this devotional book begins with a different letter of the



alphabet, we call this book *God’s Alphabet for Life*. As you read this book, we want to encourage you to do a few things to help hide these Bible verses in your heart.

First, try to memorize the Bible verses at the beginning of each devotional. It is hard to hide something we do not have. In the same way, it is

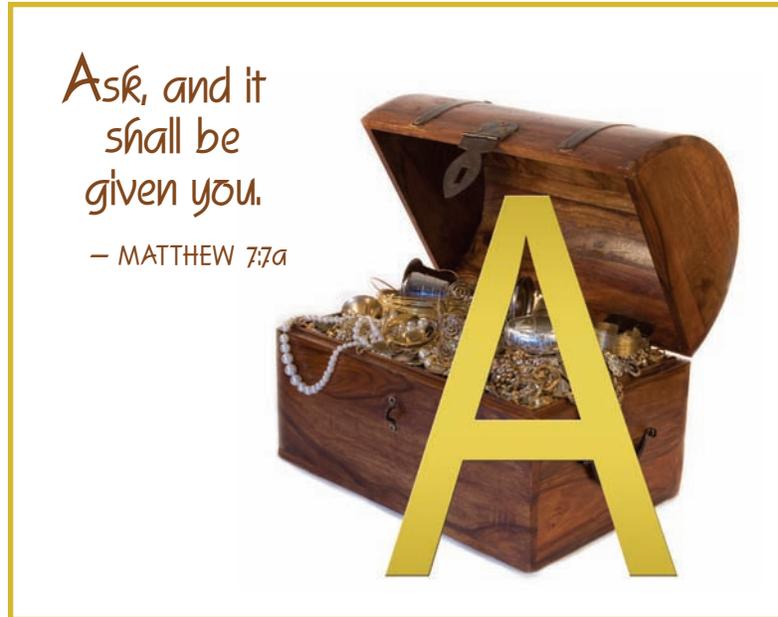
hard to hide verses in your heart if there are not verses there. So, pray for God to help you remember the Bible verses. Keep saying them until you can remember the words without looking.

Second, try to understand the Bible verses. If we memorize something but do not know what it means, then we have only stored letters and sounds in our head. So, try to think about each verse that you memorize. We explain each of the verses for you in this devotional. Pray that God would help you understand His Word.

Third, trust the verses that you memorize. We hide things that are important to us because we do not want them to slip away. In order to hide God's Word in your heart, it must be very important to you. Your soul will not get much good from the Bible if you do not trust God to use it to save you from your sin. Pray to God and ask Him to help you believe His Word with all your heart. Also, ask Him to use His Word to bring life to your soul.

If you believe that your soul is the most valuable thing you own, you will be sure to take care of it. This little book can help you guard your heart. We pray that God will use it to save your heart from the evil works of sin. Will you also pray that God will help you guard your heart as you hide His Word there?





DEAR CHILDREN, have you ever wondered how many books there are in the world? There are so many it seems as though it would be impossible to count them. There is one book that is different from all the other books in the world. This book is very special—it is the Bible.

What makes the Bible so special and different from all the other books? The Bible is special because it is God's Word. Other books are the thoughts and words of people, but the Bible is, from the beginning to the end, the thoughts and words of a holy God. God did not write the Bible Himself with His own hand, but He put His words within the

minds and hearts of many different men, and He told them to write these words down.

The Bible is a perfect book. There are no mistakes in it, because God is a perfect God.

God gave us the Bible so that we may learn from it who we are and who God is. God tells us many things about who He is in the Bible. Most importantly, God's Word teaches us that we are lost sinners who have believed Satan's lies, and that there is only one way to become a child of God, through God's Son, Jesus Christ.

The Bible is like a treasure chest that God has given us. If someone were to give you a chest filled with treasures, you would open it right away. You would look at and hold everything in the chest. Children, did you know that when we hold the Bible in our hands, we are holding a great treasure? When we open God's Word and read it, we

find that it is filled with precious promises. Promises mean a lot to us, don't they?

If your mother promises to give you something special that you must wait for, do you not often ask her, "Mother, may I have it now? You prom-



ised that you would give it to me. How long must I wait?” You are so eager for her to give it to you that you continually remind her of her promise. It would be wrong for her to break her promise, wouldn't it? Sometimes parents and children do break their promises, but God *never* breaks His promises. It is impossible for God to do that. It would be sinful, and God cannot sin, for He is a perfect and holy God.

“Ask, and it shall be given you” is one of God's great promises. Does this mean that whatever we ask for, God will give? No, but it does mean that if we truly need something for our soul or body, God not only *invites* us but *commands* us to pray to Him for it. If God thinks that it is necessary that we have something, then He will supply our need.

Do we have to ask only one time? No, God desires that we keep asking until we receive the things He knows we need. Pray often for the one thing everyone must receive, a new heart that hates sin, listens to God, believes in Jesus Christ alone for salvation, and loves Him.



*Be ye kind one to another.*

— EPHESIANS 4:32a



DEAR CHILDREN, did you know that even if someone is mean to us we must be kind to them? Many times our being kind to them makes them feel bad for being so mean to us!

Let's pretend you are playing with a toy at school. A boy named Nick takes the toy away from you. In your heart, you want to go to Nick, grab the toy, perhaps even push him, but this is not what God commands us to do. God commands us to be kind, so instead, you should first ask the Lord to help you obey His Word to be kind. Then you should say, "Nick, I had that toy first. If you would have asked me, I would have shared it with

you. If you will be nice to me, I would like to play with you and share all of these toys with you.” Saying this to Nick might make him feel amazed that you are being kind to him after he had been mean to you. He probably will feel sorry for having taken your toy.

In some ways, this is what happens when God’s children sin against Him. God shows them how kind He has been to them. He has given them a new heart and all that they need for their body and soul. He has never treated them unkindly. When they think about this, they feel very unhappy for sinning against such a kind God. Ask God to make you truly sorry for treating your Creator so sinfully by all of the naughty things you do while He takes such good care of you and keeps calling you to repent and believe in His Son.





WE ARE ALL BORN with a physical heart in our body, and we can feel it beating. It keeps us alive.

We are also born with a soul, but we cannot see it. The Bible sometimes calls our soul a heart, because just as our physical heart is the center of our physical life, so our soul is the center of our spiritual life. When David prays, “Create in me a clean heart, O God,” he is asking God to make his soul, or spiritual heart, clean.

Our soul, or spiritual heart, is the center of who we really are. Our soul will go on living even after our bodies are buried in the ground. Where will we go on living? Well, if we have a clean soul, or spir-

itual heart, then we will live in heaven forever; but if our spiritual heart has never been made clean by Jesus' blood, we will go to hell forever.

Heaven is the kingdom where God lives. The Bible tells us it is a beautiful kingdom without sorrow or pain or tears. Hell is a terrible kingdom where Satan lives, and where sorrow, pain, and tears never stop.

But children, the sad thing is that we often think that we are good people. We believe that our spiritual heart is clean enough and we don't need any help. We do not pray to God, "Create in me a clean heart, O God."

If we are feeling fine, we do not need to go to the doctor; but if we become very sick and want to be better, we will gladly go to the doctor with the hope that, with God's blessing, he may be able to help us. Our spiritual heart is no different. If God shows us how dirty our hearts are with sin, then we will call to Him, because we will hate sin the way God hates it. We will be sorry that we have offended such a good God, so we will pray, "Create in me a clean heart, O God."



God is able and willing to give clean spiritual

hearts to boys and girls because of who Jesus is and what He has done. He does that when He teaches us to be very sorry for our sins, which we call repentance. He gives us to trust only in Jesus Christ for salvation and for a clean heart, which we call faith. Ask the Holy Spirit to bless God's Word to your spiritual heart, so that you may repent and believe in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. Then your spiritual heart will be made clean in Christ.