

Going Deeper Question:

Why is it a blessing to live after Jesus has come and fulfilled God's promises?

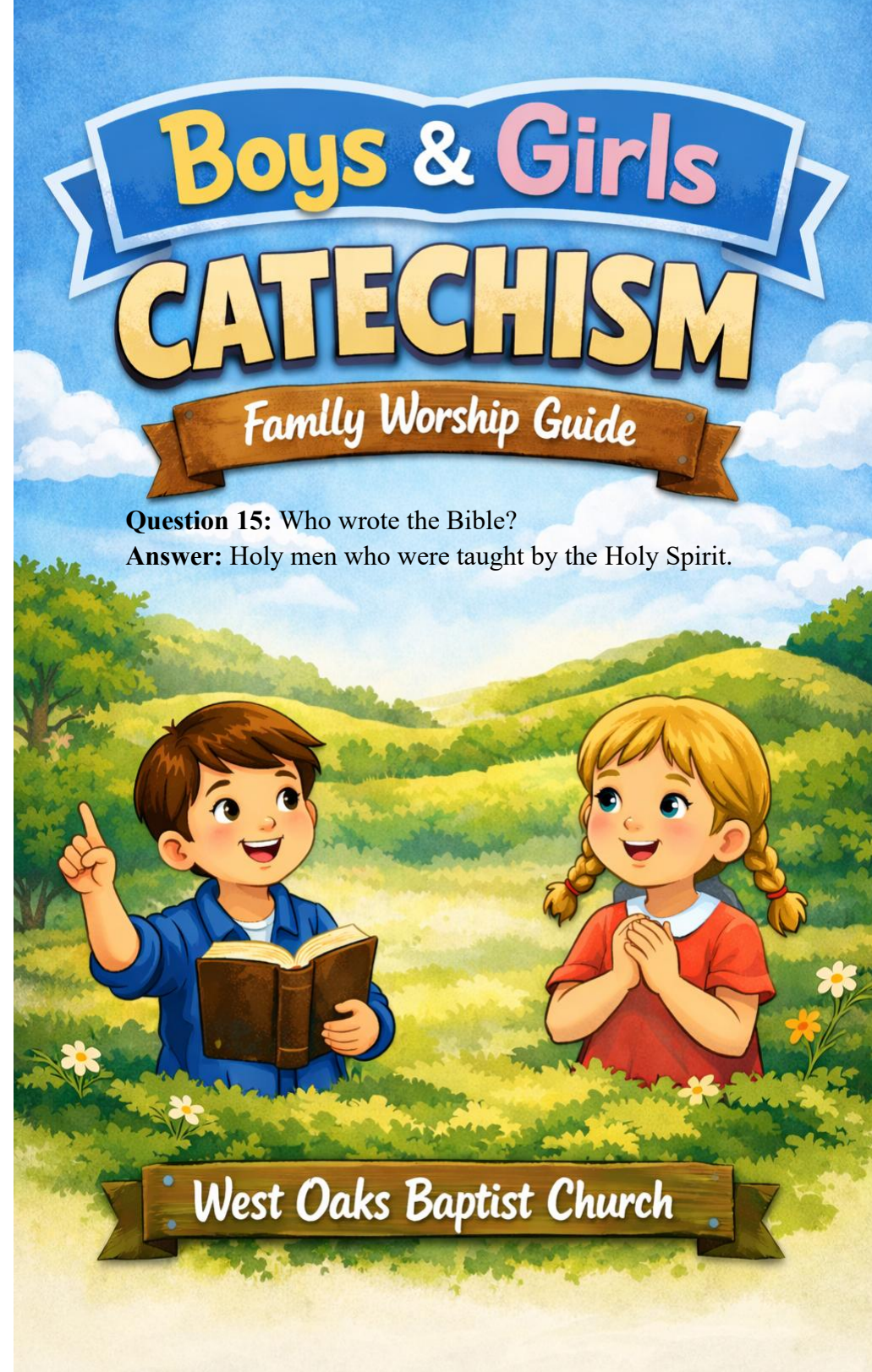
Day 5 - The Bible Points Us to Jesus

Scripture: They were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news. 1 Peter 1:12

The Bible was written by holy men taught by the Holy Spirit, but it was not written only for the people who first received it. Peter says the prophets were serving us. They wrote about promises that would later be announced in the gospel. That means when we read the Bible, we should not only ask, "What happened?" We should also ask, "How does this point me to Jesus?" The Holy Spirit inspired Scripture to teach us God's truth, expose our sin, show us our need, and lead us to Christ. The whole Bible is God's Word. The Old Testament prepares us for Jesus. The Gospels show us Jesus. The letters explain what Jesus has done and how His people should live. Revelation shows us that Jesus will reign forever. So who wrote the Bible? Holy men wrote it, but they were taught and carried along by the Holy Spirit. Because of that, we can trust the Bible, obey the Bible, and love the Bible. Through Scripture, God speaks to us and shows us His Son.

Object Lesson: Use a table of contents from a Bible. Show your children that the Bible has many books like history, poetry, prophecy, Gospels, and letters. Then explain that even though the Bible has many parts and many human writers, the Holy Spirit gave one united message. All Scripture teaches us God's truth and points us to salvation through Jesus.

Going Deeper Question: When you read the Bible, how can you look for what it teaches about Jesus?



Day 1 - God Is the True Author

Scripture: All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16

When we ask, “Who wrote the Bible?” there are two answers that go together. Men wrote the words down, but God is the true Author. The Bible says that all Scripture is “breathed out by God.” That means the Bible did not begin as human guesses, clever stories, or old religious opinions. It came from God Himself. Think about your breath. When you speak, your words come out with your breath. In a much greater way, Scripture comes from God. He used real men, living in real places, with real personalities, but He guided them so that what they wrote was exactly what He wanted written. That is why we can trust the Bible. It teaches us what is true. It corrects us when we are wrong. It trains us to live in a way that pleases God. Other books may be helpful, but the Bible is different. It is God’s Word.

Object Lesson: Hold up a Bible and another favorite book. Ask: “Which one was breathed out by God?” Explain that many books are useful, but only Scripture is God’s Word.

Going Deeper Question: Why does it matter that the Bible comes from God and not merely from people?

Day 2 - God Used Holy Men

Scripture: For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. 2 Peter 1:21

The Bible was not written because people simply decided, “I think I’ll write some religious ideas today.” Peter tells us that Scripture did not come from the “will of man.” Men wrote it, but they were speaking from God. They were “carried along by the Holy Spirit.” Imagine a sailboat on the water. The boat is real. The sail is real. The sailor may steer and work, but the wind moves the boat along. In a similar way, the writers of Scripture really wrote. Moses, David, Isaiah, Matthew, Paul, Peter, and others used their own words and styles. Yet the Holy Spirit carried them along so that the final message was God’s message. This helps us understand why the Bible fits together even though it was written by many men over many years. Behind all those human writers was one divine Author: God Himself. So when we read the Bible, we are not just reading what Moses or Paul said. We are hearing what God says.

Object Lesson: Imagine or use a small fan and a paper sailboat or piece of paper. Show how the wind moves it along. Explain that the Holy Spirit “carried along” the writers of Scripture.

Going Deeper Question: How can God use human writers without the Bible becoming merely a human book?

Day 3 - The Holy Spirit Spoke Beforehand

Scripture: Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas. Acts 1:16

In Acts 1, Peter talks about something David wrote long before Judas betrayed Jesus. Peter says something very important: the Holy Spirit spoke “by the mouth of David.” David was the human writer, but the Holy Spirit was speaking through him. This helps us understand the Bible’s authorship. God did not erase the human writers. David was still David. He wrote songs, prayers, and prophecies. He used his own experiences, emotions, and language. But the Holy Spirit worked through him so that David’s words were also God’s words. This is amazing. The Bible is not a confused pile of writings from different people. It is one united Word from God. The Holy Spirit spoke through prophets, kings, apostles, and other holy men. That is why the Bible can tell us about Christ before He came, explain why He came, and show us how to follow Him now. When you open the Bible, you are hearing the voice of the Holy Spirit speaking through the written Word.

Object Lesson: Use a pen or marker. Ask, “Who wrote the sentence—the pen or the person holding it?” The pen was the instrument or tool, but the person was the author. God used men as His instruments.

Going Deeper Question: What does Acts 1:16 teach us about the relationship between David’s words and the Holy Spirit’s words?

Day 4 - The Prophets Searched Carefully

Scripture: Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully. 1 Peter 1:10

The men who wrote the Bible were not robots. They were real people who thought, studied, prayed, wondered, and searched carefully. Peter says the prophets wrote about the grace that would come through Jesus, but they also searched and inquired carefully about what God was revealing. This means the writers of Scripture sometimes understood much, but not always everything. They knew God was speaking. They knew His promises were true. But they longed to understand more fully how and when God would fulfill those promises. This should make us thankful. We live after Jesus came, died, rose again, and sent out the gospel. We can look back and see how God kept the promises He gave through the prophets. The Old Testament writers pointed forward to Christ. The New Testament writers announced that Christ had come. God used holy men, taught by the Holy Spirit, to write one big story: the story of salvation through Jesus.

Object Lesson: Take a paper towel tube. Have your children look across the room at something small or far away. Explain that the prophets saw God’s promises from far away. They truly saw what God revealed, but they wanted to understand more. They “searched and inquired carefully,” looking closely at what God had promised about Christ.