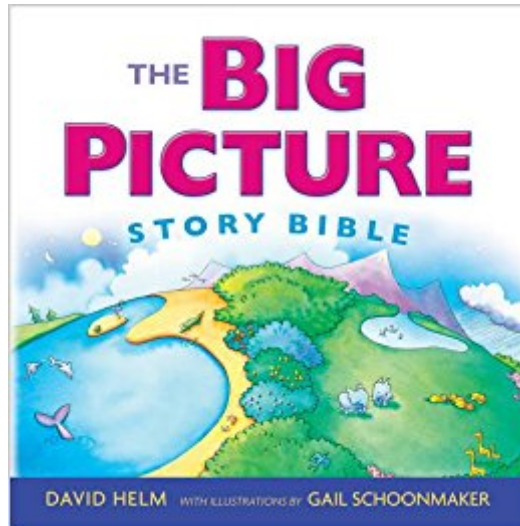




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The Big Picture Story Bible (Redesign)



Synopsis

The Bible is a big book about a big God who keeps a big promise! Everyone loves a good story—especially children! But what we sometimes overlook is that the Bible is more than a collection of great stories. It is the real account of God’s love for the world. The Big Picture Story Bible presents this remarkable true story. Simple words and striking illustrations unfold the storyline of God’s Word from Genesis to Revelation. All ages will enjoy this exciting discovery of a God who keeps his big promise. Learn more about the Big Picture Story Bible series and download a free audio reading at BigPictureStoryBible.com.

Book Information

Hardcover: 456 pages

Publisher: Crossway; Redesign edition (July 31, 2014)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 1.5 x 9.5 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 274 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #20,961 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in Books > Children’s Books > Religions > Christianity > Bible > Stories #141 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Children’s & Teens #3891 in Books > Religion & Spirituality

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

“Christians parents looking for a Bible storybook they can trust will welcome The Big Picture Story Bible by David Helm and Gayle Schoonmaker. The biblical story is told well and in a way that will compel the attention of children. Parents, grandparents, and others will see this book as a friend as they teach their children the things of God.”
—R. Albert Mohler Jr., President and Joseph Emerson Brown Professor of Christian Theology, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
“When serving as a pastor, I frequently purchased and gave this Bible to families with young children in hopes that the parents would read and absorb its message. Here’s a Bible storybook that shows the biblical story from Creation to New Testament—a book that anticipates Jesus in the Old Testament and makes his crucifixion and resurrection the proper climax

of the New Testament. My wife and I love it. Our kids love it. I cannot recommend it highly enough.

—Trevin Wax, Managing Editor, The Gospel Project; author, *A Gospel-Centered Teaching, Counterfeit Gospels, and A Holy Subversion*

“When my son was growing up we read lots of Bible storybooks. But somehow we missed the big story that all of the stories fit into. The Big Picture Story Bible provides a foundation for children (and their moms and dads) to grasp God’s intention for his people to be in his place under his loving rule from the first page of the Bible to the last. What a treasure!

—Nancy Guthrie, Bible teacher; author, *A Hearing Jesus Speak into Your Sorrow*

“As someone who tries to establish a regular pattern of family worship at the dinner table, I am always on the lookout for good Bible story resources to use with children of all ages. The Big Picture Story Bible is written in a simple way with pictures that reinforce the meaning of the biblical text and often contain details that generate conversation and lead to a deeper understanding of the gospel. Even better, Helm’s redemptive-historical orientation helps even the youngest Christians see the fundamental unity of the Bible and its single gospel message of salvation in Christ. As the title implies, it is an ideal book for helping little people get the big picture.

I have given dozens of these away as gifts. Highly recommended.

—Philip Graham Ryken, President, Wheaton College; author, *Loving the Way Jesus Loves*

“This is an excellent book for both children and adults to read to gain the big story line of the entire Bible. The writing is excellent. The illustrations are excellent. The way the author summarizes the broad sweep of the Bible into 450 pages is also, excellent. If you’re planning on getting married and making babies, plan on reading this book to your babies.

—Justin Buzzard, Lead Pastor, Garden City Church, Silicon Valley; author, *Date Your Wife and The Big Story*

“A powerfully done, relevant book for parents to teach their children about God. Buy this book and use it with your children.

—Dennis Rainey, president and CEO, FamilyLife; host, FamilyLife Today; author, *Stepping Up*

“This book is an outstanding resource for parents who delight in invading their children’s lives with the gospel. Your children will learn and grow through the marvelous words and pictures, and your heart will be refreshed and comforted again and again with the greatest story of all.

—Barbara Duguid, author, *Extravagant Grace*

“David Helm has a pastor’s eye for the grand narrative of Scripture, combined with a father’s understanding of how to communicate that big idea to little minds. Gail Schoonmaker’s delightful pictures not only illustrate the text but also include additional details that invite parent and child to plunge deeper into the richness of the biblical account. Highly

recommended!

•Iain M. Duguid, Professor of Old Testament, Grove City College; author, *Numbers* (Preaching the Word Commentary Series) “This book is wonderfully illustrated and carefully written. The author labors for biblical precision, emphasizing a big God and the ugliness of sin. David Helm regularly asks questions in the course of the book, proving to be helpful fodder for discussion and interaction with your child. My kids are eager to bring the book to me to read and this gives me great joy as a parent. I am excited to heartily recommend *The Big Picture Story Bible*.”

•Erik Raymond, Senior Pastor, Emmaus Bible Church, Omaha, Nebraska “I like how the book is illustrated and how all the stories fit together. We wore out our copy from reading it so much. It’s great for children of all ages.”

•Alexis Raymond, age 10 “I absolutely love *The Big Picture Story Bible*. It’s full of rich theology for small people. David Helm makes it plain that the Bible is more than a collection of stories; it is God’s story, into which we, his creatures, are called. It faithfully presents the richness and complexity of God’s witness to us in Scripture, without distorted or misplaced emphasis. While there is no substitute for reading Scripture to and with our children, *The Big Picture Story Bible* is an outstanding introduction to the overarching biblical narrative.”

•Sarah Dahl, blogger, Aslan’s Library “The *Big Picture Story Bible* effectively achieves its aim to give children a majestic picture of God. The illustrations will stir children to ask questions about God’s story. This is a worthwhile investment for your children. My family will be enjoying this book for years.”

•Joey Cochran, Church Planting Intern, Redeemer Fellowship Church, St. Charles, Illinois; dad of three “The questions in *The Big Picture Story Bible* invite interaction with my children and help them anticipate what is coming next in the story. I enjoy reading this book with my children!”

•Kendall Cochran, mom of three “I like *The Big Picture Story Bible* very much. I like how it shows me that Jesus died on a cross and rose again on Easter!”

•Chloe Cochran, age 6 “I like it! I like the pictures. They show me about Jesus!”

•Asher Cochran, age 3

David R. Helm (MDiv, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary) serves as lead pastor of the Hyde Park congregation of Holy Trinity Church in Chicago. He also serves as Chairman of The Charles Simeon Trust, an organization which promotes practical instruction in preaching. He is the co-author of *The Genesis Factor* (with Jon Dennis), a contributor to *Preach the Word: Essays on Expository Preaching*, and the author of *The Big Picture Story Bible* and *1 and 2 Peter and Jude* in the *Preaching the Word* commentary series. Gail Schoonmaker (BA, Wheaton College) is an

artist based in Chicago. She illustrated The "Big Picture Story Bible" and is the author of "The Big Picture Bible Crafts." She makes her home in the Hyde Park neighborhood with her husband, Keith, and their four children.

Love it! There are several things in here that are a bit over a preschooler's head, but nevertheless, I've been using this book with my preschoolers in Sunday school and they really like it. The pictures are very attractive to little ones. Love that it's sharing the gospel and the bigger picture of the Bible!

This is the third copy I've bought of this book. I bought one for my daughter, one for my nephew, and now as a Baby Shower gift. I love it. The language is easy to comprehend for little ones. The illustrations are beautifully done. The Message is clear and the focus remains Jesus throughout the book. I've had a couple friends look through it while visiting and they have made comments about how it's helped them to understand "the big picture" in the Bible more after reading this.

This book has been a great way for my kids to learn many of the Bible stories. I listened to it with them the first time. I did not like how the author explained some things as just "bad decisions" instead of clearly pointing out that these were sins that sinful people did. If we don't explain that sins are sins then we don't really need a Savior. Don't strip away the fact that we can't stand up to God's perfect law, because then you strip away the sweet news of the Gospel. Overall though, I think the book does a great job of following the Bible from beginning to end in a simple way for children to understand. The illustrations are quite beautiful and my children love sitting down for 20 minutes at a time paging through while the CD reads to them.

My favorite children's Bible, hands down. More adults should read it! Best pictures too!! They truly complement the text.

Very sketchy in only giving the basics. Pictures are colorful and interesting. Consider it more of a picture book than a story book

Congratulations go to author David Helm, illustrator Gail Schoonmaker and the good people at Crossway Books for putting out a book that I have read more than fifteen times this year! If I could pick only one story Bible for my children, The Big Picture Story Bible would be the one. Other Bible story books turn Old Testament stories into moralistic lessons. Joseph? Share your toys. Daniel?

Stand up for Jesus. David? Be courageous. If these moralisms are your idea of a children's Bible, you probably won't like The Big Picture Story Bible. But if you are like me and you have long hoped for a book that teaches children the biblical story from Creation to New Creation - a book that anticipates Jesus in the Old Testament and makes his crucifixion and resurrection the proper climax of the New Testament - then this book is for you. This book is pure gold. Even the illustrations convey a message. The artist thoughtfully and strategically places a "star" upon God's chosen representative, from Abraham to Isaac, from Jacob to David and Solomon. There are future glimpses of Jesus throughout the Old Testament. The story itself contains one central plot aim: "God's people in God's place under God's rule." This theme provides direction for every story in the book. The Bible stories are told creatively. Take for instance the preface to Jesus' birth: Caesar, the Roman ruler, the king of the whole Roman world, began counting all his people to show everyone how great he was. What Caesar did not know was that... God, the world's true ruler, the king of the universe, was getting ready to show everyone how great he was. And do you know how God was going to do this? Not like Caesar... not proudly, by counting all his people, but humbly, by becoming one of his people. Some stories might be more abbreviated than you expect. (David and Goliath receives two pages within a longer passage about how God keeps his promises to his people. The prophet Daniel is only mentioned in the context of his prayers for the Messiah.) But whereas some of the excitement of individual stories gets left out, the growing anticipation of God's people being under God's rule more than compensates. The Big Picture Story Bible does not shy away from theology. Of course, theological concepts are kept simple for children, but the author takes great care in pointing to Jesus through the Exodus, the kings, the prophets - reaching back to past events to fill in the meaning of the atonement. All of the stories ultimately point ahead to Jesus. I fully expect that The Big Picture Story Bible will one day be considered a classic Storybook for children. I cannot recommend it highly enough. Our son loves it, and we do too. It has been a tremendous addition to our library.

In this book you won't get every OT story that you love. In fact you will get some truncated versions. BUT the highlight of this book for our family is you see how every story works together in the BIG STORY. Adam and Eve saying no to God and getting kicked out of the garden relates to Israel saying no to God and being kicked out of the promised land. They states key phrases over and over again. This is great for younger children. For instance my four year old gets it that Adam and Eve didn't want God to "be their King" and she gets it in every day situations as well. She gets that the promise to A & E, and David of a coming "forever King" is fulfilled in Jesus. I love that she already

understands that. So for our family this is a special story book. As an artist, I wished the illustrations were better, but my kids love all the bright colors and the silly dogs, cats, lizards, and other creatures in strange places. :)

Still one of my all time favorite Story Bibles. We purchase one for every new baby.

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