

## Diocese of York Big Bible Storybook Toddler Resource

### Overview








This resource provides a potential 9-10 sessions for each of the six school terms for leaders to choose from to suit the term length of their group and to provide variety when the programme is repeated the next year

Each session will utilise all five senses, movement, repetition, wondering and story

Every term will features: stories from the Old Testament in chronological order; stories from the New Testament in thematic order i.e. Christmas in Autumn Term 2; and a story that Jesus told. Try to make sure that you include a balance of all three in your plan for each half term. All the stories help us to understand more about the character of God:

- a **powerful** creator God represented by the image of the perfect parent
- Who **loves** and cares for us as seen in Jesus who loved everyone he met and made their lives better
- And who **helps** us to be more loving and caring people who make his world a better place

Again, try to ensure that over the half term you provide a good balance of stories reflecting these three themes. Help everyone to place the story in God's story by saying for the Old Testament – this story took place, or this poem was written, a long time before Jesus was born. For the New Testament – this is a story about Jesus, or this story took place after Jesus went back to heaven.

			
A story from the Old Testament that shows God's relationship with his world before Jesus	A story from the New Testament that describes what Jesus did and said and how his church started	A poem expressing real thoughts and feelings about God	A story that Jesus told to help us understand more about God
	God is powerful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God made me amazing</li> <li>• God made everything and it was good</li> <li>• God has power over everything</li> </ul>	
	God loves and cares	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God loves me</li> <li>• God wants to be friends with me</li> <li>• God celebrates with us when things are good</li> <li>• God offers us comfort when things are bad</li> </ul>	
	God helps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God helps me to be a good person</li> <li>• God is fair and just</li> <li>• God can make things better</li> </ul>	

## Sessions

Each session includes the following sections for you to choose from depending on the needs of your group.



An introduction to the Bible passage to help you understand what it is about and how it fits in to God's bigger story.



Ideas for getting the children ready to listen to the story by introducing the story and helping the children and their families connect the Bible content with their own lives



Suggestions on how you might tell the story in imaginative and creative ways. Although this resource is based on the Big Bible storybook you might find a different version of the story you would like to use instead. Or even have a go at re-telling the story yourself.



Some questions for you to ask everybody. These do not need to be answered at the time, but are designed to help people think through what the story might mean for them. You don't have to use them all just make sure you leave a little pause before you move on to the next activity



Useful suggestions to help you engage older children and/or families



Ideas for play and creative activities linked to the theme of the Bible story. We have tried to keep the crafts low cost and low prep, but that doesn't mean you can't use your favourites. Depending on the space you have do try to offer as much sensory and free play as you can.



Ideas and words for a short, often interactive prayer to help families remember that we can talk to God in all sorts of different ways



Suggestions for songs that fit with the theme of the Bible story. MP3s of the songs are available on the website and there is a powerpoint with all the words on.











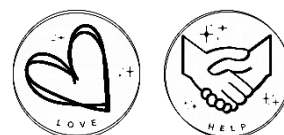
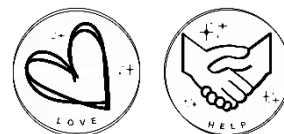
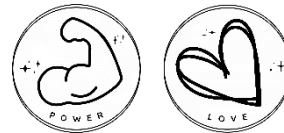
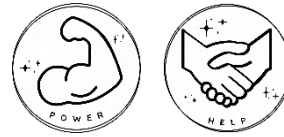
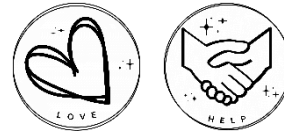
Ideas to encourage families to think about the story or what it means, at home. If you ask them to do something at home, make sure you see how they got on the next week.

## Autumn Term 1 – September to October – AT1

A		<p><b>God makes the sky and night and day</b>            Bible reference: Genesis 1            Aim: To see how amazing and powerful God is</p>			
B		<p><b>God makes land, sea and plants</b>            Bible reference: Genesis 1            Aim: To see how amazing and powerful God is</p>			
D		<p><b>God made me and is always with me</b>            Bible reference: Psalm 139            Aim: To know that God loves us more than we can imagine</p>			
E		<p><b>God looks after the obedient Noah</b>            Bible reference: Genesis 6-9            Aim: To see that God has mercy and keeps his promises</p>			
F		<p><b>Jesus chooses some special friends</b>            Bible reference: Mark 1:16-20, Matthew 10:1-4            Aim: To see that Jesus loves making friends</p>			
G		<p><b>Jesus feeds more than 5000 hungry</b>            Bible reference: John 6:1-15            Aim: To know that Jesus cares when we are hungry and can do amazing things with the small amount we have</p>			
H		<p><b>God helps brothers make up</b>            Bible reference: Genesis 27,32            Aim: to see how God can bring peace and love into difficult family situations</p>			
I		<p><b>Jesus's story about the good shepherd</b>            Bible reference: Luke 15:1-7            Aim: to learn from Jesus that God loves us and cares about us even when we feel far away from him</p>			
J		<p><b>God looks after Joseph</b>            Bible reference: Genesis 37,39            Aim: to discover that God can be trusted even when things look bad</p>			
K		<p><b>Joseph helps his family</b>            Bible reference: Genesis 40-46            Aim: To see how God helps us to help others</p>			
































## Autumn Term 2 – November to Christmas – AT2

- A  **Jesus' story of the prodigal son**  
 Bible reference: Luke 15:11-32  
 Aim: to learn from Jesus that God loves everyone better than the best parent no matter what they have done
- B  **God looks after baby Moses**  
 Bible reference: Exodus 2:1-10  
 Aim: to see how God looks after his friends in tricky situations
- C  **God talks to Moses**  
 Bible reference: Exodus 3  
 Aim: to understand that God knows when we are unhappy, and helps others do something about it
- D  **God rescues his people from Egypt**  
 Bible reference: Exodus 7:14-14:31  
 Aim: to see that belonging to God's family is important
- E  **God provides for his people in the desert**  
 Bible reference: Exodus 16,17  
 Aim: to know that God provides for us and gives us guidelines to live well
- F **Advent**  
 Bible reference: Isaiah 9, John 3:16  
 Aim: to learn how Advent is a time of looking forward to Jesus coming as the Saviour of the world
- G  **Christmas - Mary is going to have a special baby**  
 Bible reference: Luke 1:26-56  
 Aim: to learn how Mary is going to be part of God's promise to send a Saviour for the world
- H  **Christmas - Jesus is born in Bethlehem**  
 Bible reference: Luke 2:1-7  
 Aim: to discover that Jesus was born in Bethlehem as promised by God
- I  **Christmas - The shepherds hear the good news**  
 Bible reference: Luke 2:8-20  
 Aim: to hear how Jesus' birth is good news for everyone everywhere






































**Christmas: You can also use ST1A - Epiphany** if you want to include the wise travelers who followed the star in this term



## Spring Term 1 – January to February – SpT1

A		<p><b>Epiphany</b>            Bible reference: Matthew 2:1-12            Aim: to discover how God’s gift of Jesus was for everyone all over the world</p>			
B		<p><b>Jesus the boy</b>            Bible reference: Luke 2:41-51            Aim: to see that Jesus is special</p>			
C		<p><b>Jesus helps a young girl</b>            Bible reference: Mark 5:21-43            Aim: to know that Jesus has power over death and illness</p>			
D		<p><b>Joshua</b>            Bible reference: Joshua 1, 6            Aim: to see how God helps people</p>			
E		<p><b>Deborah</b>            Bible reference: Judges 4:1-10, 23-24            Aim: to see how God helps people be strong and brave</p>			
F		<p><b>Ruth</b>            Bible reference: Ruth 1-4            Aim: to know that God helps people to be kind and generous to others</p>			
G		<p><b>Wonderful words in the Bible</b>            Bible reference: Psalm 136:1-9            Aim: to know that God’s love goes on and on</p>			
H		<p><b>The Lord’s prayer</b>            Bible reference: Matthew 6:8-12, Luke 11:2-4            Aim: to learn from Jesus how important and easy it is to talk with God</p>			
I		<p><b>Jesus welcomes children</b>            Bible reference: Matthew 19:13-15, Mark 10:13-16, Luke 18:15-17            Aim: to know that Jesus thinks children are important</p>			



































## Spring Term 2 – February to Easter – SpT2

A		<p><b>Samuel listens</b>            Bible reference: 1 Samuel 3            Aim: to hear how God listened to Hannah’s prayer and how we can listen to God just like Samuel</p>			
B		<p><b>David chosen to be king</b>            Bible reference: 1 Samuel 16:1-13            Aim: to understand that God chooses people who love him to do important jobs for him, even though they might not be big, strong, clever or powerful</p>			
C		<p><b>God is like a good shepherd</b>            Bible reference: Psalm 23            Aim: to know that God cares for us and looks after us just like a good shepherd looks after their sheep</p>			
D		<p><b>David and Goliath</b>            Bible reference: 1 Samuel 17:12-50            Aim: to see how God helps those that trust him</p>			
E		<p><b>Jesus’s stories about mustard seed and yeast</b>            Bible reference: Matthew 13:31-33            Aim: to learn from Jesus that God helps small things, like our trust in him, grow into bigger, amazing things</p>			
F		<p><b>Lent - Jesus baptism</b>            Bible reference: Matthew 3:13-17            Aim: to see how Jesus is God on earth and an example for us to follow</p>			
G		<p><b>Lent – Jesus in the desert</b>            Bible reference: Luke 4:1-13            Aim: to see how God helped Jesus to resist temptation and do things God’s way</p>			
H		<p><b>Easter - Palm Sunday</b>            Bible reference: Mark 11:1-11            Aim: to hear how the crowds recognized that Jesus was God’s special Saviour</p>			
I		<p><b>Easter - Jesus shares a special meal with his friends</b>            Bible reference: John 13:1-9, 34-35; Luke 22:7-23            Aim: to learn how Jesus wants us to show that we are part of his family by how we treat others</p>			
J		<p><b>Easter – Jesus dies but comes back to life</b>            Bible reference: Mark 15:21-37, 16:1-8            Aim: to know that Jesus died to save the world but has power over death and is alive today</p>			

## Summer Term 1 – Easter to June – SuT1

A		<p><b>Road to Emmaus</b>            Bible reference: Luke 24:13-35            Aim: to remember that Jesus did not stay dead and is alive today</p>	 
B		<p><b>Breakfast on the beach</b>            Bible reference: Mark 14:27-31, 66-72, John 21:1-14            Aim: to see how Jesus shows God is the God of second chances as he forgives Peter for letting him down</p>	  
C		<p><b>Ascension</b>            Bible reference: Acts 1:1-11, Matthew 28:20            Aim: to know that Jesus is still with us even though we can't see him</p>	  
D		<p><b>Pentecost</b>            Bible reference: Acts 2            Aim: to see that the powerful Holy Spirit keeps us connected to God</p>	  
E		<p><b>Peter and John heal a lame man</b>            Bible reference: Acts 3:1-10            Aim: to discover that God's Holy Spirit helps us to help others</p>	  
F		<p><b>God provides for Elijah</b>            Bible reference: 1 Kings 17            Aim: to hear how God looks after Elijah and helps him to help others</p>	  
G		<p><b>Jesus' story about the good Samaritan</b>            Bible reference: Luke 10:25-37            Aim: to learn from Jesus that we should help others no matter who they are</p>	 
H		<p><b>A little girl's courage enables God to heal an important man</b>            Bible reference: 2 Kings 5            Aim: to see that God's healing is for anyone and that we should share that good news</p>	  
I		<p><b>Jesus heals a blind man</b>            Bible reference: John 9:1-12,35-38            Aim: to see that Jesus brings light into people's lives by bringing healing, joy and hope</p>	  

## Summer Term 2 – June to August – SuT2

A		<b>Jesus calms the storm</b>			
		Bible reference: Matthew 8:23-27			
		Aim: to see that Jesus has power over nature			
B		<b>Daniel</b>			
		Bible reference: Daniel 6			
		Aim: to remember how God loves us to talk to him and protected Daniel for doing just that!			
C		<b>Jesus and the ten lepers</b>			
		Bible reference: Luke 17:11-19			
		Aim: to know that Jesus loves to make things better for us even when we forget to say 'thank you'			
D		<b>Jonah</b>			
		Bible reference: Jonah			
		Aim: to see that God loves and cares about people and wants us to share that good news			
E		<b>Jesus meets Zaccheus</b>			
		Bible reference: Luke 19:1-10			
		Aim: to know that being friends with Jesus helps us to be better, kinder people			
F		<b>Jesus's heal someone who couldn't walk</b>			
		Bible reference: Luke 5:17-26			
		Aim: to see how trusting Jesus can make amazing things happen			
G		<b>Dorcas</b>			
		Bible reference: Acts 9:32-42			
		Aim: to discover how we can show that we are friends with Jesus by the things we do with the help of the Holy Spirit			
H		<b>Saul's conversion on the road to Damascus</b>			
		Bible reference: Acts 9:1-19			
		Aim: to be reminded that nothing should stop us telling others the good news that Jesus loves them no matter what			
I		<b>Jesus' story about the two builders</b>			
		Bible reference: Matthew 7:24-27			
		Aim: to learn from Jesus that we should be putting all the things he tells us into practice			