



Feed My Lambs

Guide for parents and teachers

Feed My Lambs

Guide for Parents and Teachers

Feed My Lambs course compiled and edited by Derek and Michelle Brookes
Art by Max Belmont, color by Etienne Morel
Design by Giselle LeFavre
ISBN for the Feed My Lambs set: 3-03730-018-3

New King James Bible translation is ©International Bible Society.
New International Version translation is ©Thomas Nelson, Inc.

Copyright © 2002, Aurora Production AG, Switzerland
All Rights Reserved
Printed in Thailand

Visit our Web site at: www.auroraproduction.com

What is *Feed My Lambs*?

➡ *Feed My Lambs* is a program that introduces young children to the Scriptures. It doubles as a complete memorization course. *Feed My Lambs* makes learning about the primary principles in the Bible and memorizing verses from the Bible easy and fun for young children. The course includes six books with 90 simplified Bible verses, each with a lively illustration that helps relate the verse to everyday life.

➡ The Bible verses in the *Feed My Lambs* course have been adapted for young children from the King James Version in consultation with several translations of the Bible, primarily the New King James Version and the New International Version. Much prayer and attention has been given to simplifying the vocabulary for young children while retaining the meaning, and several translations were carefully examined for each verse.

➡ Pronouns referring to God or Jesus are capitalized throughout the course. This also helps make clear, where verses are in the first person, when it is God or Jesus speaking.

► The verses are divided into the following 15 topics:

Love

Salvation

Faith

God's Promises

Prayer

God's Word

Christian Living

God/Jesus

Following Jesus

Obedience

Forgiveness

Holy Spirit

Witnessing

Healing

Fight the Good Fight

Teaching your child the Bible

One of the last things Jesus told His followers was to “Feed My lambs.”¹ The children God has entrusted to your care are His and your little lambs, and they need a lot of “feeding” from His Word to develop and become well rounded spiritually.

“The Word of God is living and powerful.”² It is through God's Word that your children will learn the truth and form personal values that will give them a solid foundation to stand on through all life's challenges.

¹ John 21:15b. ² Hebrews 4:12.

You might be surprised at the differences in behavior that will soon become apparent once you start teaching your children about the Bible and showing them how to apply the principles in God's Word to their little lives. Help your children realize that they make Jesus happy when they read His Words and obey them. If they do something unloving, for example, you can remind them, "Jesus wants us to be loving. Remember what He said?—'Love one another.'" Then, "What can you do now to be more loving to so-and-so and make things right?" Or if they are worried or afraid, you can remind them: "God is taking care of you, and we're praying, so you don't have to be afraid. Remember, God said, 'Fear not, for I am with you.'" You will no doubt find many opportunities to bring these basic verses to life.

In this guide for parents, you'll find inspiration from the Bible about the good results of teaching your children the Bible, as well as helpful tips on how to teach children to memorize scriptures. Also included in this booklet is a list of the verses in the booklets, as well as ideas of games you can play with your children to reinforce the Bible verses in this series. Have fun!

The Bible on teaching children God's Word

(Some of these verses specifically refer to memorizing the scriptures. Scripture memorization can play an important part in a child's spiritual development.)

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words [of God] which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

2 Timothy 3:15 From childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise [unto] salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Luke 18:16 Let the little children come to Me ... for of such is the kingdom of God.

Proverbs 4:4 Let your heart retain my words; keep my commands, and live.

3 John 4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.

Isaiah 38:19 The father shall make known Your truth to the children.

Isaiah 54:13 All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children.

Leading your child to Jesus

One of the most important things you can do to give your children a good foundation in life is to help them establish a personal relationship with God, through Jesus. Children need to know that they are special to God. They need to learn that no matter what, Jesus loves them and will always be there for them. When your children are young, it is very easy to lead them to receive Jesus as their Savior. Once they have Jesus, they will learn to love and more easily understand His Words that they read and memorize.

Children can pray and receive God's gift of eternal salvation, through asking Jesus to come into their hearts, at an early age. You can hardly

find anybody more sincere or believing than a small child. That's why Jesus said we must become as little children to go to Heaven.¹ As soon as they are old enough to pray the simplest of prayers, they are old enough to receive Jesus.

As soon as you have taught your child who Jesus is (children's picture Bibles are great for this), you can explain: "Jesus wants to come and live in your heart. He loves you very much, and He wants to be your best friend and stay with you always. If you ask Him to, He will come and live in your heart. Then He will never ever leave you! Do you want Jesus to come into your heart?"

You can then pray a simple prayer that your child can repeat after you, best he or she can. Even if your child is very young and can only manage to say the last word or two from each phrase, that's enough for Jesus because it's the heart that counts. Simply pray: "Dear Jesus, please come into my heart. I believe in You and want to love You like You love me. Please forgive my sins, and give me Your gift of eternal life. Amen."—And Jesus will come in; your child will be eternally saved. That is God's promise.²

¹ Matthew 18:3.

² Revelation 3:20; Romans 10:13.

The preceding prayer appears at the back of each Feed My Lambs verse booklet, so that your children, if they are old enough, can read along when you pray it with them.

Older children may need a fuller explanation of salvation, like the following:

“We all have weaknesses and are not perfect, and sometimes we do wrong things that separate us from God. But God loves us so much that He wants to forgive us and help us change. He has worked a great miracle—a plan to save us—and He made it so simple that anyone can be saved. All you need to do is receive Jesus into your heart. When Jesus comes into your life, He will help you right now, and He will also give you eternal life forever in Heaven. Salvation is a great gift from God to all those who love and believe in Jesus. God wants everyone to be saved, but He gives everyone the freedom of choice. Each of us must decide personally if we will accept Jesus and His gift of eternal life.”

It’s a wonderful experience for parents to be able to share in their child’s discovery of Jesus and His salvation.