

Australia



Bibles For Bubs

Project: N/A
Non Tax Deductible



Overview

The Bibles for Bubs program introduces children to the Bible from a very young age by providing their parents with age-appropriate Bibles and resources in the first five years of their life. The program enables families to engage with the Bible and encourages them to develop a family Bible reading practice.

The Need

Reading aloud to children is one of the most rewarding and beneficial activities an adult can choose to do. A survey conducted by Australian publisher Scholastic showed that, across all ages, the overwhelming majority of children (86%) say they loved being read books aloud at home. The top reason children say they enjoy being read aloud to is because it's a special time with their parents. Parents are encouraged to read to their children for at least 10 minutes a day. And what better book to read to children than the Bible?

Bibles For Bubs began in 2018 to celebrate Bible Society's bicentenary. It is now in its seventh year and has become much bigger than anyone expected! There is a need to support this program to continue supplying Bibles to children in Australia. The program helps enable parents to teach their young children the wonder of Opening The Bible and hearing God's stories.

13,784

children have Opened The Bible
throughout the course of this program
(2018-2023)

2,724

CEV Big Rescue Bibles were
distributed to children turning 5 years
old in 2024

Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.' – **Matthew 19:14, NIV**

Goals

The goal of the Bibles for Bubs program is to build a lifetime of faith and reliance on God's word for children through early engagement with the stories of the Bible. In each year that the program has signed up babies, it has aimed to distribute around 2,000 toddler Bibles for them. For the next four years, during their birthday month, the children receive a hand-written birthday card with an insert for parents with ideas to encourage faith and family Bible reading. On their fifth birthday, the children receive the gift of a CEV *Big Rescue Bible* they can read through their primary years.

There are no open registrations for the Bible for Bubs program in 2024 and 2025. However, parents who have registered their children in 2023 and past years will continue to receive the toddler Bibles and birthday cards until their child's 5th year.

Impact

Since its establishment in 2018, the Bibles For Bubs program has Opened The Bible to over 13,784 Australian children and their families. The program has provided parents with helpful resources and content to engage their children with the Bible, which have been received well.

Just as Timothy was 'made wise for salvation' from his childhood knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, taught to him by his grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice (2 Timothy 3:14-15), so these children are being helped to build a foundational knowledge of God's word.

The program has gained popularity as grandparents and friends encourage their loved ones to apply. The influx of applications in the program's final registration intake in 2023 (reaching over 1,600 applications) is a testimony to the value that parents, grandparents and friends see in giving children the gift of God's word.

Testimony

"I absolutely love Bibles For Bubs! I signed my grandson up to this program and it has been such a blessing for him and his parents. They don't go to church but are happy to have Jack participate and he loves getting mail. When I asked my daughter-in-law if she had received Jack's little Bible, she said she had and that they read it with him all the time! Thanks Bible Society for this precious program and the gift it is so many families like mine." — Lyn, Grandparent

Prayer Points

- Pray for the children, that they would know God's love through reading his word.
- Pray that parents will use the Bibles and resources to help build a lifetime of faith for their children.
- Pray for families that they may be united in Christ through reading God's word.