

Adopt A Bible Reading Buddy



JOIN US ADOPT YOUR BUDDY



WHEN / WHERE
WHAT TIME...



Church of Ireland ✚
Board for Ministry *with*
Children & Families



Certificate of Adoption



My Name Is



I'm Adopted By



They promise to love me, hug me & feed me every day.



Date





Buddy Adventure

**Buddies LOVE adventures!
So be sure to take your Buddy
with you when you go
somewhere new.
They love going for walks and
seeing new things. You can chat
to them about what you can see
in the town, or sit together
in the park & chat.
Look at the trees, the grass & the
flowers, show them to your
Buddy & chat about how they
were made.**



Special Buddy

**Just like us Buddies come in all
different shapes, colours and
sizes. Each Buddy is special,
just like you.
God made you to be the special
person you are – your laugh, your
skills, your voice – everything
about you is unique and God loves
you just the way you are.
Every time you look at your
Buddy remember how special
you are.**



Church of Ireland ✝
Board for Ministry with
Children & Families

Buddy Care Guide



Church of Ireland ✝
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WHEN YOU GET YOUR BUDDY HOME

When you get home with your Buddy one of the first things to do is introduce them to **EVERYONE** in your house – especially any other little friends you have.

Buddies are super friendly creatures & always like to say hello :)



Love your Buddy



Buddies are born for love. You can show your buddy you love them by chatting with them each day – they are very good listeners.

They love to chat with Jesus too, so together you can chat with Jesus about what you've been doing & how you're feeling, anything at all!



Feed your Buddy

Feeding your Buddy is the most important thing. Unlike us your buddy doesn't eat food, Buddies get strong by reading the Bible with you, as often as you are able.

Don't worry if reading is a little tricky for you, use our Bible pack and read with someone in your home. After you have read together you can draw a picture or write about your what that passage made you think or how it made you feel.



Bible Buddy Reading Pack



This pack belongs to



Church of Ireland ✝
Board for Ministry with
Children & Families

How to use this pack



Get comfy

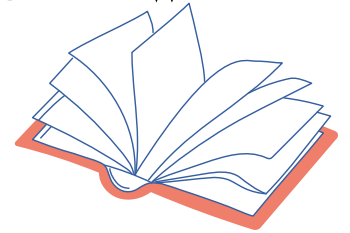


Find a comfy place where you can cuddle with your Buddy and where it's not too noisy.



Chat with Jesus

Before you read or listen to the Bible take a little time to chat with Jesus and ask Him to help you understand what He wants to say to you through the Bible.



Read the Bible Verses

When you have time sit together and read the Bible verses. If reading is a bit tricky for you ask someone in your house to read the verses to you. You can read the same verses over & over if you like them - we always see new things.



Draw or write your thoughts



There are many things we can learn from reading God's word - you can chat with someone in your house about it, chat with your Bible Buddy. Then draw a picture or write it down in the My Notes page.

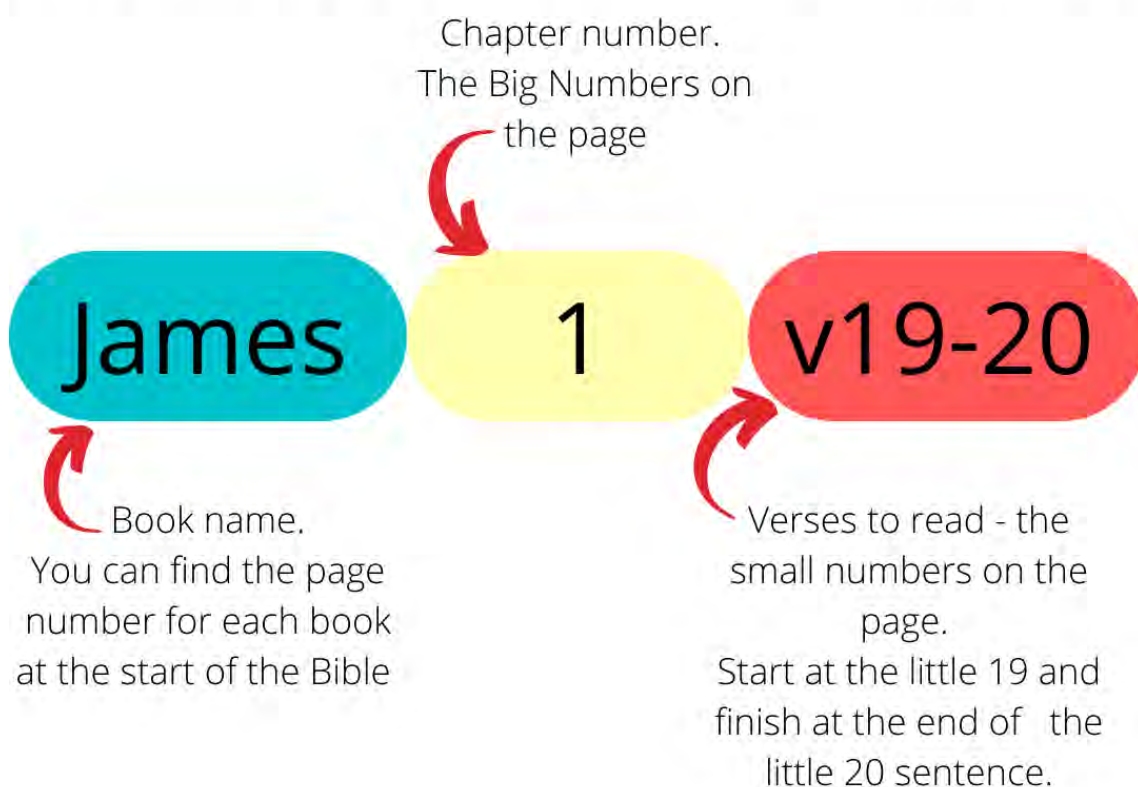
What do the names and numbers mean?

When you look at the Bible verses you will see there are some strange names and lots of numbers.

These are the names of books in the Bible and the verse numbers. We have these to help us to know where to find things in the Bible. Here is a picture to help you understand.

If you have a Bible at home you can practice finding the verses together with your Buddy and whoever is helping you to read.

How to find verses in the Bible



Water & Doves

Jesus is Baptised



Matthew 3

When it was the right time, John the Baptizer began telling people a message from God. This was out in the desert area of Judea. John said, “Change your hearts and lives, because God’s kingdom is now very near. John is the one Isaiah the prophet was talking about when he said,

“There is someone shouting in the desert:

‘Prepare the way for the Lord.

Make the road straight for him.’”

John’s clothes were made from camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. For food, he ate locusts and wild honey. People came to John from Jerusalem and the rest of Judea and from all the areas along the Jordan River. They confessed the bad things they had done, and John baptized them in the Jordan.

Jesus Is Baptized by John

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan River. He came to John, wanting John to baptize him. But John tried to stop him. John said, “Why do you come to me to be baptized? I should be baptized by you!”

Jesus answered, “Let it be this way for now. We should do whatever God says is right.” Then John agreed.

So Jesus was baptized. As soon as he came up out of the water, the sky opened, and he saw God’s Spirit coming down on him like a dove. A voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the one I love. I am very pleased with him.”



MY NOTES

John was Jesus' cousin. He spent his life telling people about Jesus. He baptised people when they said they wanted to live God's way. When big people are baptised the minister lays them down into water and brings them up again - this is to show everyone they are leaving their old life behind and now live a new life following God.

What ways can you show others that you are living God's way?

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Fishing Friends

Jesus Meets

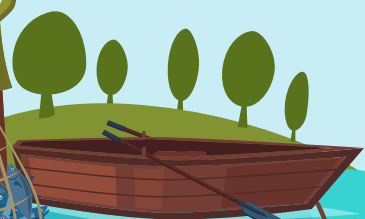
New Friends



Mark 1: 16-20

Jesus was walking by Lake Galilee. He saw Simon and his brother Andrew. These two men were fishermen, and they were throwing a net into the lake to catch fish. Jesus said to them, “Come, follow me, and I will make you a different kind of fishermen. You will bring in people, not fish.” So they immediately left their nets and followed Jesus.

Jesus continued walking by Lake Galilee. He saw two more brothers, James and John, the sons of Zebedee. They were in their boat, preparing their nets to catch fish. Their father Zebedee and the men who worked for him were in the boat with the brothers. When Jesus saw the brothers, he told them to come. They left their father and followed Jesus.





MY NOTES

Simon (Peter), Andrew, James and John were doing the job they'd been doing since they were small. I wonder how they felt walking away from everything to follow Jesus? In our lives we go through big changes too - new schools, new clubs, new home, and it can feel strange at first. Just like these men though, we know Jesus is with us and we can ask Him to give us courage and peace. What changes have you been through? Are there any changes you are worried about - chat with God about them and ask for His peace.

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Lunchbox time

Feeding the hungry crowds



John 6:1-15

After this, Jesus went across Lake Galilee (or, Lake Tiberias). Many people followed him because they saw the miracles he did to heal the sick. Jesus went up on a hill and there sat down with his followers. It was almost the time for the Jewish Passover Feast.

Jesus looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him. He said to Philip, “Where can we buy bread for all these people to eat?” (Jesus asked Philip this question to test him. Jesus already knew what he planned to do.)

Philip answered, “Someone would have to work almost a year to buy enough bread for each person here to have only a little piece.”

Another follower there was Andrew. He was Simon Peter’s brother. Andrew said, “Here is a boy with five loaves of barley bread and two little fish. But that is not enough for so many people.”

Jesus said, “Tell the people to sit down.” This was a very grassy place. There were about 5,000 men who sat down there. Then Jesus took the loaves of bread. He thanked God for the bread and gave it to the people who were sitting there. He did the same with the fish. He gave them as much as they wanted.

They all had enough to eat. When they had finished, Jesus said to his followers, “Gather the pieces of fish and bread that were not eaten. Don’t waste anything.” So they gathered up the pieces that were left. They filled 12 large baskets with the pieces that were left of the five barley loaves.

The people saw this miracle that Jesus did. They said, “He must truly be the Prophet[a] who is coming into the world.”

Jesus knew that the people planned to come and take him by force and make him their king. So he left and went into the hills alone.



MY NOTES

Jesus could easily have provided food for all the people who came to hear Him, but He wanted his disciples to come up with the answer. Do you think Andrew felt silly even mentioning the boy's lunch of 5 loaves and 2 fish when there was so many people? Sometimes we might feel the gifts and talents we have are very small and wonder how we can make a difference. But if we give what we have to Jesus He can do amazing things through us. What are your skills and strengths?

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A stormy day

Jesus calms the storm



Luke 8:22-25

One day Jesus and his followers got into a boat. He said to them, “Come with me across the lake.” And so they started across. While they were sailing, Jesus fell asleep. A big storm blew up on the lake. The boat began to fill with water, and they were in danger.

The followers went to Jesus and woke him. They said, “Master! Master! We will drown!”

Jesus got up and gave a command to the wind and the waves. The wind stopped, and the lake became calm. Jesus said to his followers, “Where is your faith?”

The followers were afraid and amazed. They said to each other, “What kind of man is this? He commands the wind and the water, and they obey him!”





MY NOTES

Life can sometimes feel very bumpy. We can pray and pray and might it feel as though Jesus isn't paying attention - just like when the disciples were on the boat wondering why

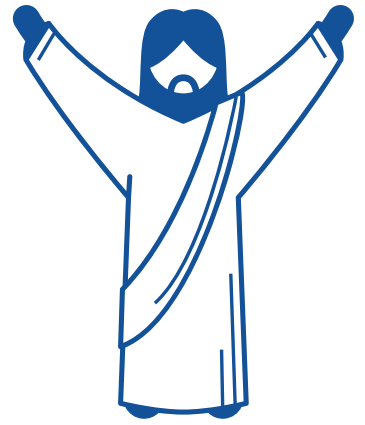
Jesus was sleeping and not helping them. When we feel this way it is important to remember the truth we know - that God loves us completely, His timing is always perfect and He always hears our prayers - He might not respond the way we think or in the time we want, but we can always trust Him. What things do you need to trust God about today?

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Chatting with God

Jesus teaches us to pray



Matthew 6:5-13

When you pray, you should go into your room and close the door. Then pray to your Father who cannot be seen. Your Father can see what is done in secret, and he will reward you.

“And when you pray, don’t be like those people who don’t know God. They continue saying things that mean nothing. They think that God will hear them because of the many things they say. Don’t be like them. Your Father knows the things you need before you ask him. So when you pray, you should pray like this:

‘Our Father in heaven, we pray that your name will always be kept holy.

We pray that your kingdom will come.

We pray that what you want will be done, here on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us the food we need for each day.

Forgive the sins we have done, just as we have forgiven those who did wrong to us.

And do not cause us to be tested; but save us from the Evil One.’

The kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours forever. Amen.



Keep on reading

Your buddy needs to keep getting stronger and that happens when you read the Bible together. Read as much or as little as you are able. Here are some more passages for you to read, think, chat, draw and write about over the coming weeks.

Week 2

John 1:1-14 The Word (Jesus) became flesh
Luke 1:26-45 The angel comes to Mary
Matt. 1:18-25 The angel appears to Joseph
Luke 2:1-20 Jesus is born
Matthew 2 Visit of the wise men



Week 3

Mark 12:28-34 The great commandment
Matthew 24:1-44 The end times
Matthew 25:31-46 Parable of the sheep and the goats
Luke 22:1-38 The Lord's supper
John 14 Jesus comforts the disciples



Week 4

Luke 23:26-49 Jesus is crucified
John 19:16-42 Death and burial of Jesus
John 20 Resurrection of Jesus
John 21 Jesus forgives Peter
Luke 24:13-49 Jesus appears to the disciples



Week 5

Romans 8:26-39 Victory in Christ
Romans 10 Preaching the Gospel
Romans 12:1-8 Service to God
Romans 12:9-21 Overcoming evil
Colossians 1:1-12 Thanks to God