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CHILDREN'S BIBLE REVIEWS

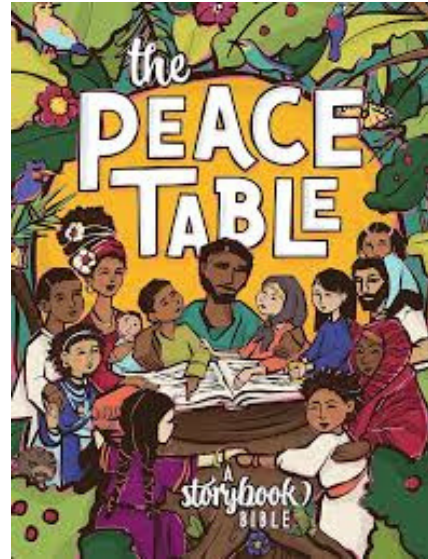
THE PEACE TABLE

OVERVIEW

Like the Bible, The Peace Table was created through a variety of voices. Numerous authors, theological advisors, and illustrators worked to make this storybook Bible.

The result is a rich and special resource for caregivers, children, and ministers. Each entry ends with suggestions for how to “wonder and share” about the story and a suggestion for how to pray. There is also a special “peace path” that helps weave stories together through interconnected themes.

The Peace Table’s art and storytelling styles showcase Bible characters through a multitude of different cultural lenses with a variety of skin tones. God is referenced throughout the text without gendered pronouns.



**HERALD PRESS
AND
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AUDIENCE

The Peace Table could be appropriate for many audiences because of its vibrant illustrations and meaningful reflections.

It is likely to be appreciated by children’s ministers who want to build their own curriculum around a trustworthy storybook Bible. The “wonder and share” questions and activities could be very useful for Sunday school planning due to their creativity and connection to each short story.

STRENGTHS

The multicultural telling of Bible Stories is achieved through the wide variety of illustrations in The Peace Table. Examples include Psalms illustrated with multimedia collages, Song of Songs accompanied by a gorgeous painting of a Black woman, and the story of Jesus healing the hemorrhaging woman and Jairus's daughter rendered beautifully in the context of Mexico. The diversity of art styles reinforces the idea that Bible stories belong to everyone.

One special addition in The Peace Table is the 35 pages of "Extras" at the end. From examples of prayer to maps to pronunciation guides, this resource gives readers and teachers dozens of ways to deepen their experience with the book.

The activities and questions at the end of each entry provide plenty of ways to engage with these sacred stories. Readers are encouraged to cut out paper fish and write names of people on them as a way to pray alongside the story of Jesus's disciples casting their nets, share examples of loving kindness to strangers alongside the story of Ruth, and make a special breakfast to remember Jesus eating on the beach after his resurrection.

CONSIDERATIONS

The Peace Table is a comprehensive children's Bible with some stories that are unique in comparison to other story Bibles on the market.

However, it does not shy away from difficult topics. The Peace Table is honest about details like David killing Bathsheba's husband and Solomon building a temple with slave labor (including an invitation to reflect on this fact). The illustration for The Valley of Dry Bones might also be startling for young readers because it depicts people whose flesh is returning to their skeletons.

Caregivers may be eager to have a Bible for their children with so many stories, but will want to be prepared for the challenging parts of some of these passages.