

Capkids Small Church

for Sept 15th

Read Psalm 100:

A psalm of thanksgiving.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth!

Worship the LORD with gladness.
Come before him, singing with joy.

Acknowledge that the LORD is God!
He made us, and we are his.
We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;

go into his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the LORD is good.
His unfailing love continues forever,
and his faithfulness continues to each generation.

Psalm 100 (NLT)

God made us,
And we are all his people.
So we should sing
Songs of happiness!
Let's celebrate God's goodness
His love that will last forever!

*Psalm 100
(From Psalms for Young Children)*

Wonder Questions:

1. What's one of your favourite sounds?
2. What is one of your favourite songs right now?
3. How does singing make you feel? Does singing something feel different then saying it?
4. Why do you think we sing worship songs during church? Do you know what worship means?

This can be a great opportunity to explain there are different ways we can express our love, gratitude and praise to God. Singing is one way we do this, but there are others. I think something to highlight with our kids is how expressing ourselves through song can feel, especially when we do it with others. Singing together is a special part of church and something we don't experience in many other parts of life. This could be a great time to share a meaningful experience you had at a concert or singing with others and what that experience was like for you. What do you enjoy or not about singing with others? See what type of questions your child engages with and follow their curiosity.

Activities:

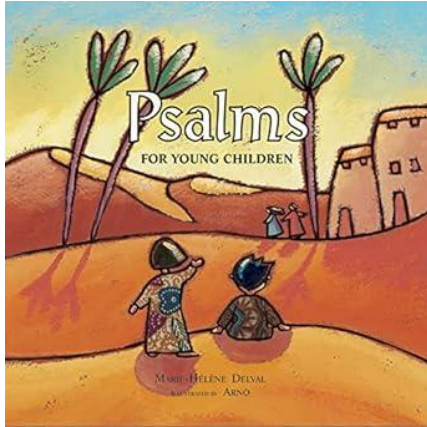
This week discuss the Wonder Questions and read Psalm 100. We are also making a Spotify playlist for this series that you can listen to at home with your family. Each week we will be adding 5 new songs that fit the theme of the Psalm from that week. They will be a mix of worship and popular music. Please share with us via email or in person if you have a song you think fits the theme of the week. So give the playlist a listen this week with your family, this week we focused on “Shouting for Joy”.

Some other fun activities you could try:

- Play music together
- Make a family playlist of all your favourite songs
- Make a musical instrument at home
- Learn how to sing a new song

Resources:

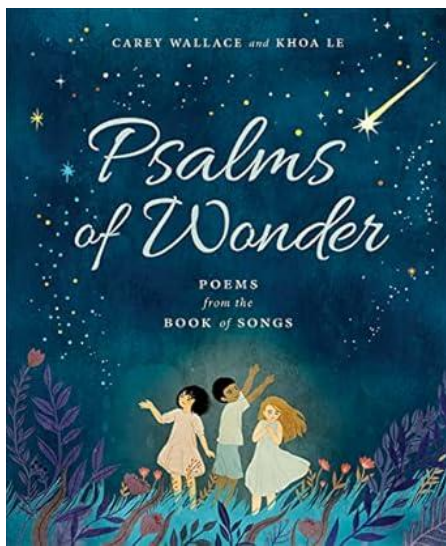
Reading the Psalms can be a great way to incorporate prayer into bedtime routines or include some bible reading into your daily life with your kids. The Psalms are written as prayers, so they can help give us language that can inform how our kids pray and what topics we can bring to God (spoiler: it's everything!). I think we can tend to lean towards gratitude prayers with our kids, but the Psalms remind us and our kids that sharing our fears, angers, hopes, dreams, joys, wonders, and disappointments are also important. God wants us to show up as we are and these books can be a great launching point for teaching our children how to pray. We also will be diving in a bit more in depth with five Psalms this fall at church, so if you want to have access to your own age appropriate translations these books could be a great resource. Keep in mind that some children's bibles will have some of the Psalms included but not all will, especially if they are more story focused.



For Preschool

I would recommend “Psalms for Young Children” by Marie-Helene Delval. The illustrations are beautiful, but I also love how the author has adapted the Psalms into simple and easy to understand language.

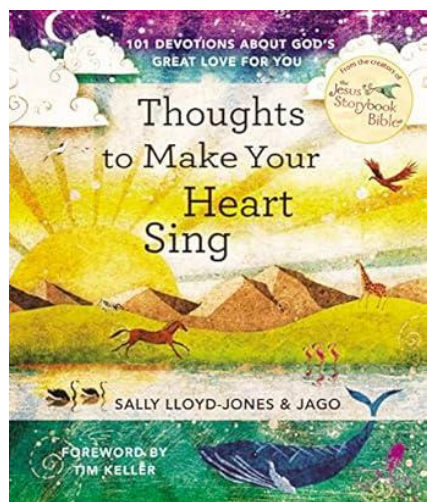
Recommended for Ages 3-7



For Elementary

I would recommend “Psalms of Wonder” by Carey Wallace and Illustrator Khoa Lee. This book is very on-theme as it acknowledges the Psalms as songs that we can share with God, but also in community. The Psalms have been adapted into language kids will understand, but are longer and more suited to older children. The illustrations are beautiful and I also appreciate the Psalms are split into different themes, which would be a helpful invitation if using these for prayer.

Recommended for Age 5-12



One more resource that could be great is Sally Lloyd-Jones’s devotional book “Thoughts to Make Your Heart Sing”. This book has short readings full of curious questions and ideas inspired by a variety of passages from scripture. It includes quite a few of the Psalms and has some great illustrations as well. We used it for our first All Church Sunday together. I would say this is better suited to our elementary students.

Recommended for Ages 6-12