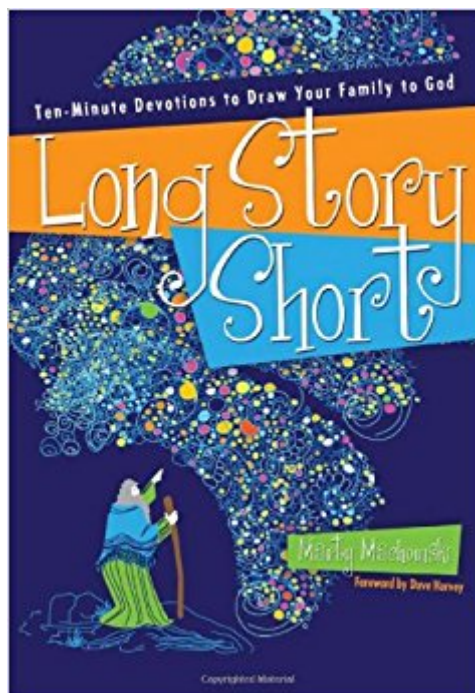




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Long Story Short: Ten-Minute Devotions To Draw Your Family To God



Synopsis

Transform Your Family with Ten Minutes a Day in the Gospel Story Christian parents know the importance of passing the gospel story on to their children, yet we live in a busy world filled with distractions. Schedules collide, there is homework and yard work and dishes and laundry, the car's oil should be changed, there are phone calls to make and before you know it, everyone is getting to bed late again. The Bible can seem like a long story for an active family to read, but when you break it down into short sections, as Marty Machowski does, family devotions are easy to do. Long Story Short will help busy parents share with their children how every story in the Old Testament points forward to God's story of salvation through Jesus Christ. You won't find a more important focus for a family devotional than a daily highlighting of the gospel of grace. Clever stories and good moral lessons may entertain and even help children, but the gospel will transform children. The gospel is deep enough to keep the oldest and wisest parents learning and growing all their lives, yet simple enough to transform the heart of the first grader who has just begun to read. Ten minutes a day, five days a week is enough time to pass on the most valuable treasure the world has ever known. Long Story Short is a family devotional program designed to explain God's plan of salvation through the Old Testament and is suitable for children from preschool through high school. This devotional is also a companion product to the Gospel Story Curriculum which is available at New Growth Press. 2012 ECPA Christian Book Award Finalist!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Long Story Short is the best material for family devotions I've ever seen. If you're looking for something careful, creative, and Christ-centered without being corny, confusing, or condescending look no further. Pastors would be wise to buy this book by the boxful and get a copy into the hands of each family in their church. --Justin Taylor Blogger (Between Two Worlds); managing editor of the ESV Study Bible

Parents, you know that teaching your children God's Word especially with children of varying ages is never easy. But Marty Machowski has just made it easier. Long Story Short guides your family through Old Testament stories, each one highlighting the love and faithfulness of God and the hope of a Savior to come. To use this guide is to have an experienced father and pastor assisting you every night. These moments together, informed by Marty's book, will help your children understand and be amazed by the grace of God as revealed in the Old Testament. --C.J. Mahaney President, Sovereign Grace Ministries; author of many books, including The Cross Centered Life

This is simply an outstanding book, and Christian families need it right now. I have never seen a devotional book that is so well suited to family devotions and to children, even as it is faithful in relating biblical truth. This book will help any Christian parent lead family devotions that will be memorable, faithful, and practical for Christian living. I'll admit this too parents will find that they love the stories, illustrations, and learning suggestions along with their children. Marty Machowski has written a wonderful book. --R. Albert Mohler, Jr. President, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Marty Machowski is the Family Life Pastor at Covenant Fellowship Church, a Sovereign Grace Ministries church in Glen Mills, Pennsylvania, where he has served on the pastoral staff for twenty-two years. Marty leads Promise Kingdom, the children's ministry of Covenant Fellowship. He and his wife Lois and their six children reside in West Chester Pennsylvania.

If you are looking for a book to help you teach the Old Testament in a Gospel Saturated, God-Centered way you have found it! Each story points to Jesus! The book is chronological, teaching 78 of the main stories and characters of the Old Testament. Each week one story / character is taught. 3 days are spent on the actual story, one day is spent seeing how this story points to Jesus, and the 5th day a different Bible passage is read with the purpose of seeing what it teaches about Jesus. This book is appropriate for preschool - elementary children as written. It could be modified fairly easily for younger and older children so the whole family can learn together. Each week starts with an object lesson of some type. This relates to the story for the week. There are (usually) short passages from the Bible to read each day. (This is important, we want children to hear God's Word.)

Then, the author does a brief recap of what the Scripture says. I have found these recaps to be very accurate and worded in ways that will help children understand. Next there are a few focus questions to discuss the story. Finally there is a prayer suggestion. The book claims to be "Ten-Minute Devotions" and it is possible that it could be finished in 10 minutes. I believe that many parents and children will stretch the 10 minutes!! I love the way the author teaches great truths about God drawn from the story or character being studied. The one weakness I see is that there are no pictures! The book is intended for adults to read to children, but many children will benefit from pictures to help them understand the story. A Bible story book is due out in about a year from the same author that will have pictures. This will greatly help families with younger children to teach this material. Until then, families could use other picture story Bibles for the illustrations, and use the content of this book. Any Sunday School teacher, parent, or other adult working with children can greatly benefit from using this book. This book will be a great blessing to the body of Christ.

We read The Gospel Story Bible by Marty Machowski for our family devotions and my husband and I really liked it. We ordered this expecting the same quality but were disappointed. The content seemed too rudimentary for our 10, 8, and 6 year olds but the language too advanced for a younger child. The content was by no means heretical. We were just hoping for something a little deeper.

If you are looking for a book to help you teach the Old Testament in a Gospel Saturated, God-Centered way you have found it! Each story points to Jesus! The book is chronological, teaching 78 of the main stories and characters of the Old Testament. Each week one story / character is taught. 3 days are spent on the actual story, one day is spent seeing how this story points to Jesus, and the 5th day a different Bible passage is read with the purpose of seeing what it teaches about Jesus. This book is appropriate for preschool - elementary children as written. It could be modified fairly easily for younger and older children so the whole family can learn together. Each week starts with an object lesson of some type. This relates to the story for the week. There are (usually) short passages from the Bible to read each day. (This is important, we want children to hear God's Word.) Then, the author does a brief recap of what the Scripture says. I have found these recaps to be very accurate and worded in ways that will help children understand. Next there are a few focus questions to discuss the story. Finally there is a prayer suggestion. The book claims to be "Ten-Minute Devotions" and it is possible that it could be finished in 10 minutes. I believe that many parents and children will stretch the 10 minutes!! I love the way the author teaches great truths about God drawn from the story or character being studied. The one weakness I see is that there are no

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WONDERFUL devotional book! We used for our morning devotions before school with our 12 & 13 year old. Good, thought provoking questions which sparked our interest in the kings! We just spent all summer studying the Kings as a result of this book. THANK YOU!!

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