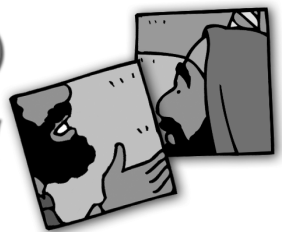


AGES 4-6

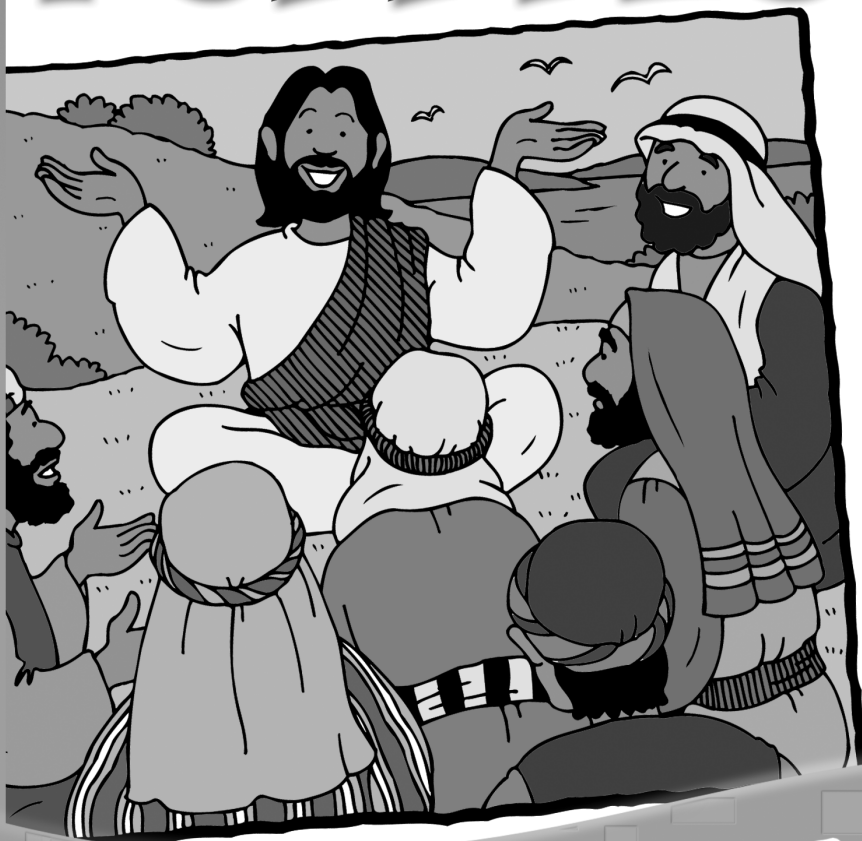
Gospel Light's

BIG BOOK OF PRESCHOOL PUZZLES #2



156 Fun-to-Do Bible Puzzles

- Helps teach Bible stories and Bible verses
- Includes Challenge Puzzles for kindergartners
- Mazes, matching, codes and more



Gospel Light

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Gospel Light's **BIG BOOK OF PRESCHOOL PUZZLES#2**

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The Big Book of Preschool Puzzles #2 CD-ROM

On the CD-ROM you will find all the puzzles in the *Big Book of Preschool Puzzles #2*. There are also 52 Bonus Bible Verse Puzzles and a Sentence Strip Page.

Bonus Bible Verse Puzzles

Bible Verse Puzzle 1 (Acts 17:24)
Bible Verse Puzzle 2 (Genesis 1:31)
Bible Verse Puzzle 3 (Colossians 4:2)
Bible Verse Puzzle 4 (1 John 4:14)
Bible Verse Puzzle 5 (Ephesians 2:10)
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Bible Verse Puzzle 48 (Hebrews 13:6)
Bible Verse Puzzle 49 (Psalm 31:6)
Bible Verse Puzzle 50 (Luke 11:28)
Bible Verse Puzzle 51 (Psalm 27:11)
Bible Verse Puzzle 52 (Titus 3:1)

How to Use the *Big Book of Preschool Puzzles #2*

Welcome to the *Big Book of Preschool Puzzles #2*, a learning adventure for the preschoolers in your home or classroom. Your preschooler will be excited to review Bible stories and verses through completing mazes, dot-to-dots, What's Different? picture puzzles, matching and counting activities, hidden pictures and a variety of other enticing puzzles.

The Bible puzzles contained in this book teach Bible stories and verses in an age-appropriate way for preschoolers. The puzzles highlight 52 Bible stories and verses, with three puzzles for each Bible story and/or verse. One of the puzzles adds a challenge that is appropriate to challenge kindergarten learners. All of the puzzles will engage your older preschooler and provide a springboard for Bible learning.

How to Use This Book in Your Classroom

Use this book as a fun way to review Bible stories and verses and to practice emerging academic skills. These puzzles can also provide “something more” for older children in your preschool or kindergarten group.

Follow these easy steps for successful use of the puzzles.

1. Before class:

- Find the puzzle(s) that matches your lesson's Bible story or verse: use the contents or one of the indexes.
- Select one or more puzzles to use.
- Photocopy the puzzle(s) you have selected. Make one copy of the selected puzzles for each child, plus a few extras for visitors or for children who want to start over.
- Check the puzzle's directions and Bonus Idea for any extra materials you will need. In addition to pencils, some puzzles may require crayons, scissors and/or glue sticks.

Note:

If you are using this book along with Gospel Light's *Little KidsTime Growing with God* course, the appropriate puzzles (three per lesson) are designated on the last page of each lesson in the leader's guide.

2. In class:

- Give a pencil and puzzle to each child. Read the puzzle directions aloud.
- Assist children as needed to complete the puzzle. Be ready to explain the Bonus Idea to children as they finish the main puzzle activity.

For Bonus Ideas that involve writing, print out and photocopy the Sentence Strip Page available on the CD-ROM.

- Talk with children during and after their puzzle work. Your conversation can tie the children's work to the Bible story and verse presented in each puzzle. The printed copy on each puzzle will help you communicate the important link between a Bible story and verse and the everyday lives of your children.

How to Use This Book in Your Home

This book gives you a wonderful opportunity to help your child learn what the Bible says about loving God and following Him every day. You can use the puzzles in this book to talk about Bible stories and verse, and to reinforce emerging academic skills.

Follow these steps for a fun and valuable time of learning and togetherness.

1. Gather the materials needed for the puzzles.

- For most puzzles, nothing more than a pencil is necessary. Crayons, scissors and/or a glue stick are needed for a few puzzles.
- You may want to buy your child a set of colored pencils to use in completing and coloring each puzzle.



The Bonus Idea at the bottom of each puzzle often involves a drawing activity. Suggest your child complete Bonus Idea activities on the back of each puzzle, or provide extra paper for this.

For Bonus Ideas that involve writing, print out and photocopy the Sentence Strip Page available on the CD-ROM.

2. Keep the *Big Book of Preschool Puzzles #2* in a special place.

- Get out the book and invite your child to work on several puzzles a week.
- Even if your child wants to hurry through the book, encourage him or her to complete only one or two pages at a time, so you can take time to review the Bible verse and Bible story presented in the puzzles.



3. Review the puzzles together to increase understanding.

- Sit with your child to find and read the puzzle's Bible verse in the Bible. Allow your child to highlight the verse in the Bible.
- Read the verse again at bedtime as reinforcement.
- Briefly talk with your child about the life-application ideas presented in the puzzles and about the responses appropriate to your child's own life. Tell how you obey the verse, too.
- As your child completes the puzzles, look back together at the puzzles he or she has finished. Review the Bible stories and verses.

This Bible learning time at home will create a solid foundation for your child as he or she begins to read the Bible for him- or herself. The hours spent on the puzzles and Bible learning will help you and your child build a relationship that will be remembered long after the puzzles are all completed.





Academic Skills and the *Big Book of Preschool Puzzles #2*

Because the *Big Book of Preschool Puzzles #2* is primarily for older preschoolers, these puzzles were created to challenge and aid pre-kindergartners and kindergartners in the acquisition of the same academic skills they are learning. The puzzles in the *Big Book of Preschool Puzzles #2* use the same number, alphabet, logic, spatial and visual identification skills children are being taught in their pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classrooms. And all this is occurring while the puzzles reinforce biblical values and review important Bible stories and verses.

On page 221 of this book, you will find an index that categorizes puzzles according to academic skills. Because of the wide variance in the skill level of all preschoolers (depending on location, preschool attendance and knowledge of English as a first language), the Bible Story and Bible Verse puzzles attempt to hit the median range. The Challenge puzzles are designed for children with more advanced skills.

Your guidance will be an important part of helping your child succeed at the puzzles. Use the tips and hints below.

If the puzzles seem too difficult for your preschooler:

- Avoid using the Challenge puzzles.
- Go over the directions one-on-one with the child. Have the child complete the first step as you watch and encourage him or her.
- Point out the visual helps included on the page (number lines, alphabet lines or dotted example lines to trace).
- In later puzzles, some of these visual helps no longer appear because the majority of preschoolers have internalized these skills. Write a simple number line or dotted example for a child who is still struggling.
- Leave pressure to perform out of the activity. If a puzzle seems too frustrating, give the child a blank sheet of paper and a hint about something to draw that is related to the Bible story or life-application idea. This will leave the child more eager to attempt a puzzle next time.

If the puzzles seem too easy for your preschooler:

- Use the Challenge puzzles more often than the Bible Story or Bible Verse puzzles.
- Point out and read the Bonus Idea to a child who quickly completes a puzzle. Be available to do this as soon as a child is finished with the main puzzle in order to retain the child's interest.
- To extend the child's involvement, invite a child to tell you about his or her Bonus Idea drawing or puzzle creation.
- For an extra challenge, add your own Bonus Idea for children to complete by incorporating specific skills you know your child is working on.
- Be realistic about the time allotted to these puzzle book activities. Do not expect kindergartners to be engaged in a pencil and paper activity longer than 7 to 10 minutes.

The best learning occurs when an attentive adult is available to answer questions, guide conversation and activity, and be a real, live model of the biblical values these puzzles teach.

Tips for Teachers and Parents

1. Create a supply box for children to use with the puzzles.

Include the following in the box:

- Pencils and copies of the puzzle(s) you have selected
- Crayons, colored pencils or markers for coloring the puzzles
- Scissors and glue sticks for completion of some puzzles
- Extra sheets of blank paper (or the Sentence Strip Page available on the CD-ROM) for use with Bonus Ideas (if backs of puzzles are not used for this purpose)

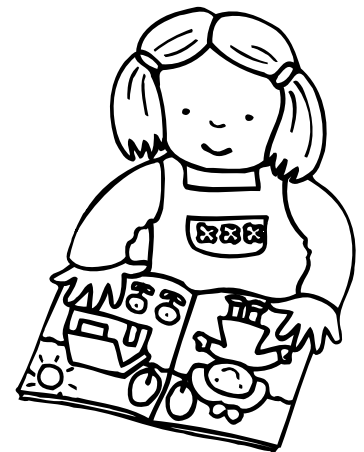


2. Be available to participate in the learning process.

- Help children figure out what to do on the puzzle page: read the directions and/or give feedback on their completed work.
- Make sure to read aloud the short sentences that link the puzzle to the Bible story, Bible verse or life-application idea. Help children apply the Bible story or verse to their own lives. For example, children may name specific ways to show God's love by helping friends or family members.

3. Help your children enjoy the puzzles.

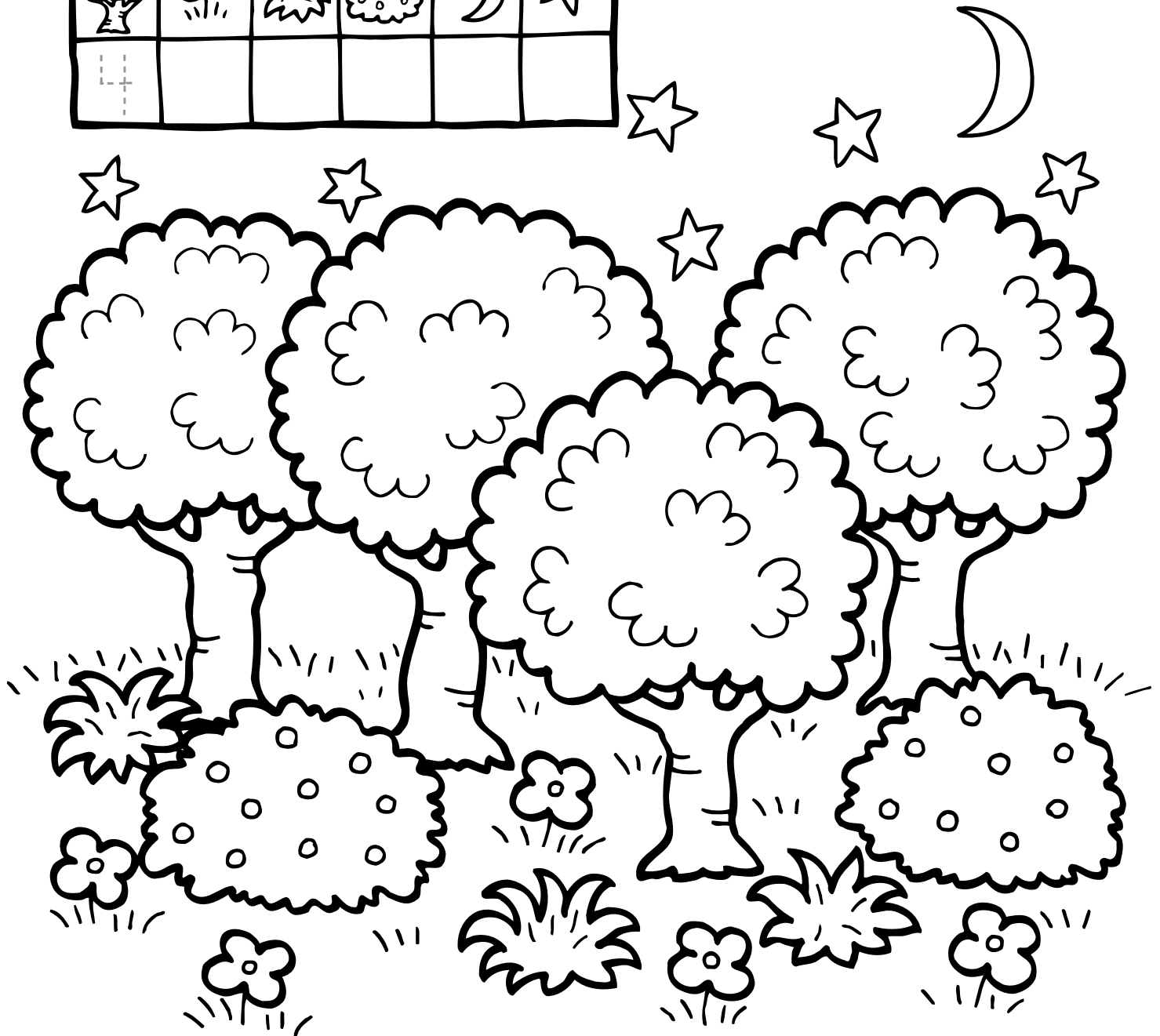
- Many preschoolers are naturally drawn to puzzles and mazes. Reinforce this by communicating that completing the puzzles is a fun challenge and is helping them grow into the people God has planned for them to be.
- Use praise and encouragement to motivate a child who is working on a puzzle. For example, "Emily, I see you have circled all the matching objects. Good work!" or "Seth, I can tell you are working hard connecting the numbers on this dot-to-dot!"
- Consider placing a sticker or stamp on each completed puzzle.
- Display completed puzzles on a bulletin board in the classroom or on the refrigerator door at home.
- If a child is not interested in a certain puzzle, tell him or her about the Bonus Idea. If the Bonus Idea fails to interest the child, provide the child with blank paper on which to draw. Challenge the child to draw something about the day's Bible story. For example, for the story of the feeding of the 5,000, challenge a child to draw as many fish as he or she can to cover the page.
- Most children find it easy to occupy themselves by drawing. Even if their artwork does not relate to the Bible story, point out that they are using their God-given gifts of eyes, hands and fingers. Staying positive will help your children to be more willing to try puzzles in the future.
- For Bonus Ideas that suggest writing, expect children to use inventive spelling for most words. Encourage children to express their thoughts without worrying about spelling words correctly.



Count all the different kinds of things God created.
Fill in the chart below.

1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---



We can thank God for making the sea, the land and the trees. The Bible says, "God made the world and everything in it." (See Acts 17:24.)



Draw other flowers and stars in the picture.