

BOOKS FOR LITTLE ONES

God made me



BY STEPHANIE CARMICHAEL

Books for Little Ones

The first four years of a child's life are a wonderful time. Children are discovering so much about themselves and about their world. It is a delight—and often lots of fun—to watch the changes taking place. Helping a child learn about God during these formative years is both a great privilege and a unique challenge.

Books for Little Ones is a series of simple books written specifically for 1-4 year olds. Along with beautiful photos, each book provides age-appropriate teaching about God and us, in a way that encourages your child to take the first steps of faith—first steps on what will be, God willing, a lifetime journey of growing in the knowledge and love of God.

Extensive tips and ideas are also provided for parents. For more information, see www.teachinglittleones.com/bflo.

God made me

In this book children will learn that God made us. He made my hands and feet, my eyes and ears—“God made all of me”. That means I can do things like talk, eat, walk and jump. God made me and loves me, so I can say “thank you God”.

In the **Books for Little Ones** series:

The Bible	God loves	Jesus
God hears	God loves me	Please God
God is great	God made	Sorry God
God knows me	God made me	Thank you God

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Notes for parents and other adult readers

Sitting down to read a book with a young child is a special privilege, and helping them take early steps in getting to know their world, themselves and God is even more special. However this book is not just intended to be read, but to be a springboard for helping children learn throughout the day (Deuteronomy 6:4-7; Psalm 145:3-7). Here are a few tips to help you adapt your reading and help their learning go beyond these pages:

For really little ones: You don't need to read all the text on every page. Go slow with learning body parts: just hands at first (then feet). Point to the child's own body as you read (then they can point). As children learn new skills, refer to God (e.g. "Isn't God clever to give you hands that can clap? Thank you God!"). Learn numbers by saying "God gave you ears/legs/fingers/toes. Let's count them." (See the website for ideas for each page.)

For bigger ones: Help them think of other things they can do with their bodies and learn other body parts. Ask what they like to taste, smell etc. They can do actions for the rhyme. They could help you write their own action rhyme (e.g. "God made my hands and I can clap, God made my... and I can... God made all of me!"). Laugh together—can they make a funny face like the boy? (See the website for ideas for each page.)

Other Bible passages to look at: Genesis 1:26-27; Psalm 139:13.

Making books for/with your child: Photograph them doing things throughout the day (or older children can draw). Put the pictures in a book with captions (e.g. 'Thank you God that I can sing with my mouth.'). They can do craft with a caption on the finished craft (e.g. 'Look what I can do with my hands! Thank you God.')

Pray: Encourage your child to say (or you say) simple prayers thanking God that he made them and loves them.

For more details of these and other tips, see www.teachinglittleones.com/bflo.

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I have two hands. God made my hands.



I can clap with my hands.
Thank you God that I can do lots of things
with my hands.



God made all my fingers too.
I have ten fingers!

