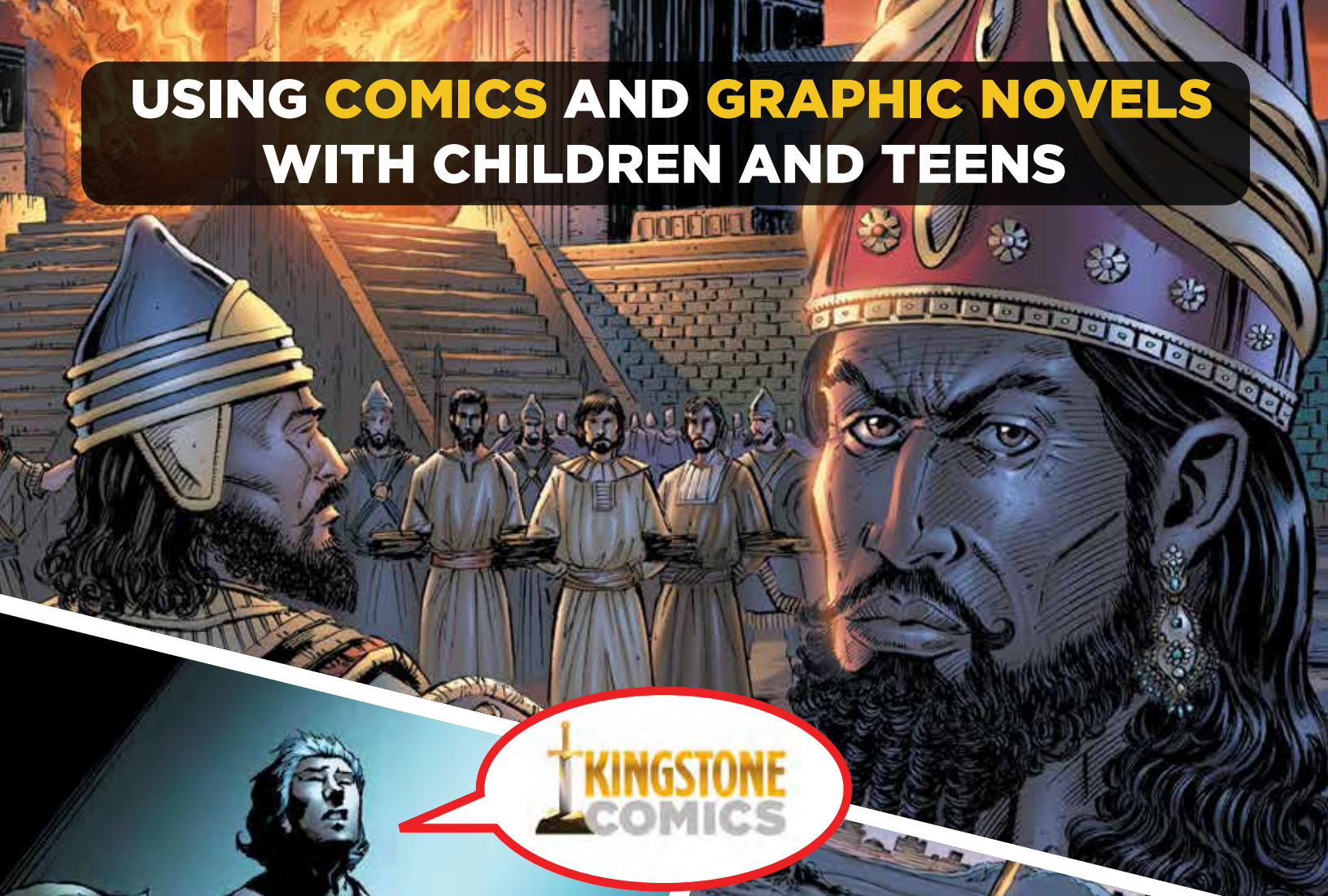


# USING COMICS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS WITH CHILDREN AND TEENS



 KINGSTONE  
COMICS





# **“For we do not write you anything you cannot read or understand.” Apostle Paul - II Cor. 1:13**

## **Communication**

As we seek to explain the most important message of all – the Bible and other Christian teachings - it is vital that we not only communicate it, but we communicate it in a way that everyone can understand.

## **Reader Engagement**

Comics impart meaning through the reader’s active engagement with written language and juxtaposed sequential images. Readers must actively make meaning from the interplay of text and images, as well as by filling in the gaps between panels.

## **Efficiency**

The comic format conveys large amounts of information in a short time. In a relatively brief span of time, a graphic Bible reader could discover the major themes and stories of the Bible. Studies show that we can also process visual images multiple times faster than text.



## **Evangelism**

Intricate and well-designed comic art can be more compelling for an unchurched person to pick up and peruse. The Bible, full of text and difficult words, sayings and names, can be intimidating to a new reader.



## **Effectiveness**

Neurological experiments have shown that we process text and images in different areas of the brain. This is known as the Dual-Coding Theory of Cognition. These experiments also indicate that pairing an image with text leads to increased memory retention for both. Processing text and images together leads to better recall and transfer of learning. We remember visuals better because they are processed in our long-term memory. With visuals, students not only learn the material faster, they learn it better.



**“Of all of our inventions for mass communication, pictures still speak the most universally understood language.” - Walt Disney**

**Graphic novels and comic books assist in education and promote literacy.**



## **Motivation**

Graphic novels can be a powerful attraction and motivation for kids to read. They also have particular success with reluctant readers, especially boys. Graphic novels, with their plots and storytelling, can be used by both reluctant and advanced readers, and as an avenue to anyone who finds the Bible intimidating.

## **Struggling readers, special needs students, and English-language learners**

Comic books and graphic novels can dramatically improve reading development for students struggling with language acquisition.

## **Educational**

Graphic novels and comics add an enjoyment factor to education. Libraries have become big buyers of graphic novels as they seek to re-engage next generation readers. Schools and colleges are growing utilizers of graphic novels, and even West Point military academy has a required graphic novel for reading.

## **Reading skills**

Graphic novels are linguistically appropriate reading material that require readers to be actively engaged in the process of decoding and comprehending literary devices including metaphor, symbolism, point of view, puns and alliteration, and inference.







## Bible study supplement

Comics make an excellent supplement to Sunday School and Bible study groups. The Kingstone Bible is not only the most complete graphic adaptation of Scripture ever done, but is also available in 60 separate smaller Bible comic books. These make an excellent resource for Sunday School lessons or Bible studies.

## Training in outreach

Comics are an easy way to train children and youth in evangelism and outreach. Sharing a comic book can relay to the next generation the importance of sharing the Christian faith.

## Understanding the faith

As our secular culture increasingly denigrates the Christian faith, it is vital to understand Christianity and be able to field questions that will arise. Comic products such as “The Book of God,” “Hell,” “The Eternals,” “The Kingdom,” and “101 Questions about the Bible and Christianity” are excellent simplified apologetic tools to help us understand many of the basic common questions about the our faith.



## Ministry Use

Prisons and jails are tremendous places to distribute and provide Christian comic books. Many prisoners have reading difficulties, making Christian comics a great solution for sharing Christ. Also, outreach events and local businesses are great places to offer high quality Christian comic books.

## Supplemental tools

Well designed and Biblically accurate comic books and graphic novels are attractive tools in every teacher’s tool chest that can be utilized for activities, free reading, games, special events, rewards, and more.

**Most of all - comics get read!**



[KingstoneComics.com](http://KingstoneComics.com)