

## Dazzling Our Kids with God

The Psalmist calls upon parents and grandparents to “tell to the coming generations the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done...that they should set their hope in God...” (Psa. 78:4, 7). This means that adults who have a spiritual influence on children need to know and share the wonders that God has done (Psa. 78:4), to stun and amaze their kids with who he is. Our children need to see that the Christian faith is not merely a list of rules or a creed to confess or an institution to join. It is so much more. It is an experience with the ever-living and true God that is enriched and punctuated with frequent spasms of wonder.

Part of our task as Christian adults is, as someone has put it, to *dazzle* our children with who God is. This is the only way that our children will grow up to “set their hope in God”. If our children (or we) are bored with God, and seldom if ever say “Wow!” when thinking and hearing about him, then they (we) will stop hoping in him, and will move on to other things. Only a God who amazes, who is wonderful, who is awesome, both in his being and in his doing, will answer the heart-cries of those both young and old.

This is why I wrote *An ABC Prayer to Jesus: Praise for Hearts Both Young and Old*, and asked my friend Dan Lee to illustrate it. *An ABC Prayer* is more than just another children’s book. It is an offering of worship to our Savior, and a Jesus-centered meditation for children (and the adults in their lives). Through alliteration, rhyming lyrics that can be sung to the tune of the Doxology, simple theologically rich words, biblical figures of speech, and quality illustrations, *An ABC Prayer* portrays big truths for every heart. Simple, accessible, and single poetry is joined to beautiful illustrations to express truth in a memorable way. And it comes to you with the prayer that it will make you and your kids say “Wow!”

Simply put, *An ABC Prayer* is about Jesus. It is a celebration of the person and work of our Savior. Those who have read it assure me that it provides an unusual blend of theology and “big ideas” in a style, simplicity, and beauty that are accessible for children—while at the same time being a great blessing to adults.

Dads and Moms will want to do more than just read the text. *An ABC Prayer* will make a good bed-time prayer with children. Parents can also read to their children the Scripture references that are included at the end of the book; scriptures which reveal many of the biblical passages behind the ideas and metaphors in the 26-stanza poem. And because each verse matches a melody known by Christians the world over, *An ABC Prayer* may be sung as well as read.

Eyes both young and old can also enjoy the fine illustrations that are full of images—including many items to seek and find. Through these features this book can become a fun, educational, and most of all, worshipful experience, all in one. And above all else, I believe it will help our children—and just maybe *us*—be a bit more dazzled with God than ever before!

\*\*\*\*\*

Tim Shorey is author of *An ABC Prayer to Jesus: Praise for Hearts Both Young and Old*. For more information about Tim and his ministry visit [timothyshorey.com](http://timothyshorey.com).