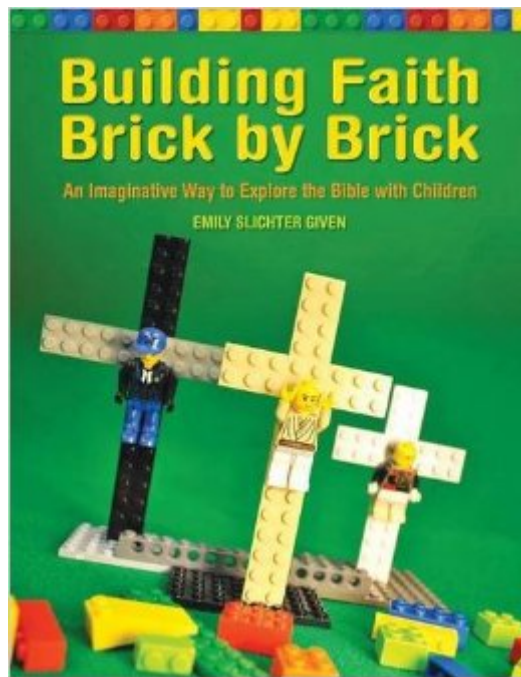


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# Building Faith Brick By Brick: An Imaginative Way To Explore The Bible With Children



## Synopsis

Building Faith Brick by Brick offers a culturally relevant, hands-on way to explore faith stories with a broad range of ages. It grew out of one congregation's realization that there was a large group of first-grade boys who needed to engage in a new way of interacting with the biblical story. Knowing how much Lego® bricks continue to be popular with children, the author dug deep into the well of creativity and an enormous bin of little plastic building bricks to meld together a new way of teaching the stories of God. This book offers the methodology as well as 30 Old Testament and 24 New Testament stories with lesson plans. Can be used in all settings and gatherings Includes take-home sheets for family study and conversation Engages children with multiple learning styles and a familiar medium

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is excellent. It is easy to read and understand. Contrary to another review, the clear intention of the book is to discuss bible stories and allow the children to be creative and use LEGOS to build the story that was just taught. The book gives ideas for story appropriate snacks and shows how the lessons can be modified to fit different time frames. A true gem and a must have for any youth religious education program.

I waited over a month to receive the book and it was not worth the wait. It's nothing more than lessons for a Sunday school class. The introduction mentions Legos but there isn't anything in the book to really utilize that. I had expected patterns for use with each lesson or at the very least-

suggestions on what to build. The introductory info about boys and girls is incredibly sexist and leads us to marginalize children and their gifts based on gender. The title and cover lead one to falsely believe that the use of Legos are core to the book, rather than just part of an introductory chapter.

An amazing resource, written by someone who obviously knows and loves God's little ones. Contrary to another review, there is nothing sexist about this book. Yes, it grew out of the challenge of working with little boys, but having been a Christian educator myself for many years, I understand the challenge of keeping restless little boys engaged - -not sexist, just true. Pick up a copy of this user friendly book and let the fun begin!!

Building Faith Brick by Brick provides a creative way for telling Bible stories and discovering faith insights. From this book you can use the model for developing your own learning opportunities or you can use one of the 29 Old Testament or 24 New Testament lesson plans. Written for use with kindergarten age through grade 5 with snack and other recommendations this could be used for a weekly curriculum, core VBS curriculum, inter-generational events or as a unique story-telling approach with adults. This book needs to be on the children's ministry shelf of every congregation; and good luck on it staying there!

Disappointed in this book. Almost every Bible story has the same description written as a way to "respond" using LEGOS. As a teacher who purchases resources often, I expected more from this book about HOW to use bricks to build faith or build awareness of each individual story.

I ordered this expecting it to be Sunday School lessons. It is exactly that. The book details many bible stories and gives insight and suggestions on how to teach those stories to children. The whole premise of the book is to use Lego bricks as a core part of the lessons. I use it to teach 4th graders. We read the bible verses/chapter for the lesson, talk briefly about it and then get to building whatever scenes the kids have in their minds related to the story. During 'build time' I ask questions about the story from this book. Admittedly, I use this in conjunction with whatever lessons our church has proscribed. I use both the material in this book and in our regular Sunday School lesson to come up with our class. The book has a decidedly Catholic bent, but I don't mind, I use the questions that are relevant to my students and ignore the rest. Some questions are too 'young' for my students so I just don't use them. I applaud the author for coming up with a program using Lego and inspiring

me to teach a bible class. I find the material helpful in that goal.

The heart of this book is teaching the Bible. The "I wonder" questions take the story to a deeper level with the children. It does not come with patterns but the author clearly points out that the purpose is for kids to use their own imaginations. We have had an amazingly creative summer with this curriculum and it has inspired us to think about stories beyond those just in the book. We have gone from the Good Samaritan to Jonah and Moses. It had been so interesting to see which part of the story resonates most with the kids through their building. I was shocked at how many were moved by the fact that the Israelites were slaves and showed them building pyramids in their renderings rather than simply burning bushes for the story of Moses. You never know what will truly click with the kids until you let their creativity rule rather than imposing your own ideas or instructions.

I am using this as a framework for my Sunday School class. I have children from age 4 to 6th grade, and they understand the stories that I tell in a dramatic way. They then tell the stories with Legoes or PlayDo or crayons. They are attentive (all ages!) and are able to retell the stories at the end of the session as they display their work.

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