



Wanting to get into the Bible?
Just don't know where to get started or what material to
use?

This is here to help!

Here's a guide to the various devotional material that's out there that may help to get you started. Darran, our Minister, has surveyed lots of what's out there, material for younger children right through to older folk. There's other material out there that's not very good (so it's not in this list!), and there's probably other material that he just hasn't come across that is really good. If so, let us know!

Titles, description, and a few comments!

If you have any other good suggestions please let us know!!!

Age	Title	Darran's Comments!
Pre-School & early Primary	Beginning with God (Good Book Co.)	Brilliant, brilliant, brilliant for using with young children. This devotional is a companion to 'The Beginners Bible'
	'The Beginners Bible'	Great Bible for young children
	Jesus and Me (CWR)	An enjoyable and helpful devotional to use with young children. Would recommend it as a temporary break from Beginning with God.
Ages 6-11	XTB (Good Book Co.)	Lots of good activities for children, yet weighty substance. Highly recommend.
	Topz (CWR)	Good variety of activities and good application. Also recommend!
Family Devotional	TableTalk (Good Book Co.)	Great resource for families with children from about 6 years old up to use for daily devotional times. Takes about 5-10 minutes. Fun and good solid stuff. Can be used as a companion to XTB.
Ages 8-10	Snapshots (Scripture Union)	Not as many gripping activities as XTB or Topz but still good, enjoyable, solid stuff taking children through the Bible.
Ages 11-14	Discover (Good Book Co.)	Highly recommend this resource for young people. Good range of activities to keep the interest levels up, plus they take young people through books of the Bible.
Ages 11-15	YPs (CWR)	Attractive and colourful layout. Runs second to Discover however because it is perhaps a little light, less concrete in its application and contains numerous Christian clichés from an older generation!
Later teens (14+)	Mettle (Written by Youth for Christ, published by CWR)	A cool, contemporary look, dealing with Biblical themes and 'hot potato' issues that young people face today. Drawback is that it doesn't go through Bible books as much as I'd like, but it gets my vote for this age-group, particularly for those who are just getting started in daily devotionals.

	Engage (Good Book Co.)	This no-nonsense devotional takes young people through books of the Bible. Good, solid stuff – perhaps for the more mature Christian young person. Not as ‘cool’ as Mettle and perhaps narrower in the range of life-issues affecting young people that it deals with.
Adults	30 Days (Alpha)	Good resource by Nicky Gumbel (Alpha) for those just getting into Bible reading.
	Engage (!) (Good Book Co.)	This is a daily devotional that is written for late teens! It’s good for them, but to be honest I would really recommend this one for those who have struggled with personal Bible reading or who are new to it. It provides a great way into getting stuck into books of the Bible.
	Explore (Good Book Co.)	If you are wanting to learn from the Bible, Explore provides very solid Bible exposition. Really well structured, it contains questions to make you think and has improved in recent times on its practical and heart application. However, from experience, a new Christian would be lost in Explore – so see Engage above!
	Daily Bread (Scripture Union)	This devotional is a reasonable attempt at trying to combine teaching with application. It can tend to feel a bit crammed – take care not to rush this devotional or you will fail to extract all its goodness!
	Closer to God (Scripture Union)	I would say much the same of this devotional as I said about Daily Bread. It is however for a more mature Christian and tends to leave application much more up to the reader.
	Every Day with Jesus (CWR)	More like a thought for the day. Ok, but (like ‘the Word for Today’ and ‘Our Daily Bread’) it would be so easy to read the thought and not actually read the Bible with these devotionals, thus not really getting you into the Bible.
	Inspiring Women (CWR)	

	<p>Solo</p> <p>Through the Bible Through the Year John Stott</p> <p>For the love of God Don Carson</p>	<p>This devotional, based on the Message, is much more meditative than any other devotional I have encountered. Some more conservative Bible readers might find parts of it weird, but it really helps to immerse you in a Bible passage. Recommend for a season for those who have a fairly comprehensive Bible knowledge and who want to develop more 'heart'.</p> <p>Great guides if you want to read the Bible through in one or two years. Places each Bible book and passage in the context of the whole Bible. Both provide meaty comments that go beyond the normal devotional material.</p>
Adults with dementia	<p>Words of Faith</p> <p>Words of Hope (both Scripture Union)</p>	<p>I have never used this devotional with others but it comes highly recommended. A great idea. Contains a CD with well-known hymns. Could also be useful for older people, not just those with dementia.</p>