

THE
picture • smart
PictureThis! BIBLE PrayerLine

PictureThis! Ministries, 236 Castilian, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320 ■ (888) 499-9305 ■ www.picturesmartbible.com ■ JULY / AUGUST 2017



Beware the Scape Goat

Few would argue that at times it appears America (if not the whole world), is spinning out of control. An “awaking” of sorts is happening but a root problem must be corrected before a long-term change will remain. Glen Beck made an incisive observation recently, *“In 1962 and 1963, the Supreme Court removed Bible reading and prayer from public schools. But that seems to be an all too convenient scapegoat. The decline in prayer and Bible reading in homes is probably more to blame.”* Mr. Beck also asks a pertinent question:

“Forget about school, how many of us stopped doing it at home? How many of us still don’t read the Bible or pray at home? Public education is definitely broken, but so are our homes.”

The good news is, God has birthed a “new translation” called The Picture Smart Bible which we believe is beginning to make a difference. We also believe that Deuteronomy 6:7 is describing homeschools. While it is true that not every parent can make the commitment that home schooling requires, the “fruit” of such a sacrifice is obvious in every convention we attend. Homeschool parents and children LOVE TPSB! We believe that there are 3 basic reasons God has chosen to bless the Picture This products:

First TPSB utilizes Picture Power. Some leaders have said that we live in the most “picture-oriented” society ever to have inhabited the earth. From iPhones to automobile instrument panels, symbols have taken over the world of communication. The “Retention Chart” (next page) shows why pictures are powerful. Jesus once questioned His disciples, “With what parable shall I picture this?” (Mark 4:30 emphasis mine). Since images drawn on a page are (by God’s design) transferred to the mind, we can safely say that if those images are Bible verses, then The Picture Smart Bible is

effectively “renewing the mind” with the word of God (Romans 12:2).

The second and more powerful “entity” of our curriculum is that TPSB is the word of God. God Himself declares that His word is like the rain and snow from heaven; they MAKE the earth fertile to bring forth seed and bread. His word cannot “return home” without accomplishing and prospering in the thing for which He sent it (from Isaiah 55:10,11). His word is alive, powerful and sharp enough to divide the thoughts and intents and soul and spirit (Hebrews 4:12). To the best of our ability, we have tried to communicate the Bible without commentary in TPSB. The graphics are simply picture outlines of each Bible book. The Learning the Word for Life series contain symbols combined to help students memorize the word of God.

The third reason we believe that TPSB “works” is that we specifically honor the Son of God. Every Old Testament Master Drawing highlights Jesus in a graphic called “The Good News Starburst”. When describing our curriculum to potential buyers, we never leave an Old Testament drawing without highlighting and explaining the Good News Starburst. Students and parents quickly understand: the Bible is all about Jesus. God LIKES for His Son to be honored because Jesus IS the Good News!

India Report from Abhijit



I will be again in India 15-25th July 2017. One of my goals is to meet with the printer to check his progress in preparing The Picture Smart Bible for printing (in various Indian dialects). I am giving thoughts of doing training programs in the North East and also Odisha next year to drive the distribution faster. One of the Northern Indian states is Odisha, with 42 million people. This state is also one of the poorest states in India and has only 2% Christians. We launched an English School there called "Imagine" and we are now serving 100 students from Pre-school to

first grade plus 300 destitute children in our kids' club from seven different villages..

In 100 km area, there is not a single PLAYGROUND with monkey bars, slides, swings, spider waves and fire polls. These children have never seen a playground! We are praying and determined to install a playground on our ministry center grounds. This playground will bring smiles to 500 faces of children every day and provide a safe space for laughter, hope and interaction for children in poverty-stricken areas such as Odisha.

We need to raise \$7000 from friends and prayer partners for this playground. Mother Teresa once said, "I cannot change the world alone, but I can throw stones into the water to create ripples." Just one step of your decision to help, is a ripple! Please share about this opportunity with your other family members and friends.

Abhijit Nayak

Some of you may remember that Abhijit and I traveled across India for two weeks a few years ago. He has established a translation, publication and distribution system for The Picture Smart Bible in his country that has now become the "model" for us to use in several other countries. Abhijit and his work are worthy of your help. All donations can be made to Picture This Ministries and are tax deductible.



GRATEFUL MOM

Well, today is a bitter-sweet day for us. We finished our final section of Revelation in TPSB. It has been a wonderful curriculum journey over the last few years as we have learned and grown so much. Thank you once again for your heart to share God's Word with the world. I am so happy to work along-side you and so enjoy sharing about this wonderful program. Suzanne.

CONVENTION COUNT DOWN



Jeff and Laurie (pictured) just sent us this photo. They are exhibiting in Ontario, CA this week end. Note the blinking lights on the Stop Sign (a crafty Jeff design). In July we have only 5 more conventions this year which will wind up our season. This is a great time to THANK ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR PRAYER SUPPORT. We KNOW...without Him and you, we would not have had the success we experienced this year. The Picture This Team.

JULY CONVENTIONS (please keep praying):

7/6-8: AFHE, Phoenix, AZ- Kim MacFarlane

7/13-15: CHEA, Pasadena, CA- Jeff & Laurie Mabry

7/20-22: THSC, Houston, TX- Dan Peters

7/27-29: SEHS, Atlanta, GA- Angela Blankenship



RETENTION

(From first page article)
This chart explains one of the reasons why The Picture Smart Bible works. Most often TPSB lands in the 95% category because students of TPSB want to show (and explain) their art to everyone who will listen. It is a great evangelistic tool!