

# A Small Child Perceives

Listening to the world,  
And storing up sounds;  
Looking at the world,  
And seeing the wonder;  
Tasting and smelling the world,  
And calling it good or bad;  
Feeling the world with the whole body,  
And discovering how it fits;  
These are the ways  
A small child perceives.

Providing pleasant sounds to hear,  
Wonders to see and explore,  
Treats to taste,  
Fragrances to smell,  
Loving arms to feel,  
These are the ways  
A teacher teaches.



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# Preface

## Overview

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**Introduction** This basic teacher training book is directed toward the preschool ages. It includes general principles for teaching, guides for preparing weekly lessons, a description of available resources and a set of creative ideas.

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**Focus** This book considers the foundational basics of preparing for and carrying out the spiritual instruction of toddlers. In the back there are tips and tools for practical usage. The premise is that children can and do learn spiritual truths from a very young age. Parents have the primary responsibility for the spiritual training of children. However, teachers are responsible to support parents by the way they prepare and carry out the role of being a purified and ready vessel that reflects a picture of who God is and what He wants for each of their lives.

From the time a child enters the classroom you can direct their attention to a truth from the passage, and you can keep it there until they leave through a variety of activities, stories, songs and the like. Select what you need to fill the class time you have.

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**New?** New teachers will find a thorough consideration of all aspects of the classroom experience. Do not expect to carry out everything efficiently and effectively the first time. Expect to learn and grow day by day and week by week. Proverbs 2 offers the basic guidelines for success. We are to search and study. God will provide the answers and guidance. And the last part of the chapter reveals some of the benefits. Other passages offer even more benefits such as 2 Timothy 3:16-17, John 1, and Psalm 119, not to mention every page of Scripture. Depend on the guidance, conviction, and comfort of the Holy Spirit regularly, and take things one day at a time.

**Discouraged?** Discouraged teachers can find new hope and direction. Sadly today, many instructional materials can leave us wondering just what we should be presenting. It is God's Word that is the truth. And when we "put the cookies on the bottom shelf where the children can reach them," they are ready, willing and eager to learn - for the most part. As you can imagine there are exceptions, and we will consider some of those. The focus will be on how to put the cookies on the bottom shelf.

**Seasoned?** Seasoned teachers can find helpful nuggets here and there to share with others. How can you use this book to help someone new or discouraged?

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**In this book** Find the following.

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**NOTE:** Each section has summary questions to help solidify what you are learning. You may want to review the questions first to get a picture of what to find.

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**A series**

This book accompanies a series of studies for all ages. It begins with toddlers and covers many books of the Bible chapter by chapter in bite-size quantities over a six-year rotation. It includes the historical portions of the Old and New Testaments along with the threads and themes throughout.

Each level has a five-day devotional study for parents and teachers who want to grow in their relationships with God along with the children.

The available devotional levels are:

- Toddler
  - Preschool
  - Prekindergarten
  - Kindergarten
  - Early Primary
  - Primary
  - Middler
  - Junior
  - Jr Hi/Sr Hi
  - College/Adult
  - Family Leader - with discussion questions
  - Parent - with activities
  - Teacher (Toddlers, Preschoolers, Primaries, Juniors, Jr Hi/Sr Hi, College/Adult)
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