

Welcome to **xtb** and Table Talk

xtb

Exploring the Bible together to discover the Real Jesus

xtb

XTB stands for **eXplore The Bible**.

Read a bit of the Bible each day.

Zoom in on the seven signposts.

Discover who Jesus is and why He came.



Are you ready to explore the Bible? Fill in the bookmark...

...then turn over the page to start exploring with XTB!



This book belongs to

.....

Sometimes I'm called

..... (nickname)

My birthday is

.....

My age is

.....

The best bit about summer is

.....

Table Talk FOR FAMILIES

Table Talk helps children and adults explore the Bible together.

It can be used by:

- Families
- One adult with one child
- Children's leaders with their groups
- Any other way you want to try

Table Talk uses the same Bible passages as XTB so that they can be used together if wanted. Table Talk is enclosed at the back of this book. It's easy to spot because it's printed sideways!

Never done anything like this before? Check our web page for some further help (www.thegoodbook.co.uk/daily_reading/xtb.htm) or write in for a fact sheet.

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy
Joshua
Judges
Ruth
1 Samuel
2 Samuel
1 Kings
2 Kings
1 Chronicles
2 Chronicles
Ezra
Nehemiah
Esther
Job
Psalms
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Solomon
Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel
Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

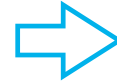
NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John
Acts
Romans
1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians
1 Timothy
2 Timothy
Titus
Philemon
Hebrews
James
1 Peter
2 Peter
1 John
2 John
3 John
Jude
Revelation



How to find your way around the Bible...

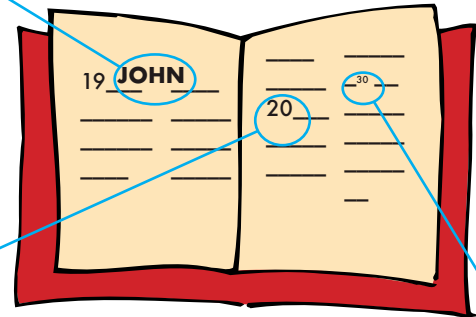
Look out for the **READ** sign.
It tells you what Bible bit to read.



READ
John 20v30

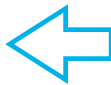
So, if the notes say... **READ John 20v30**
...this means chapter 20 and verse 30
...and this is how you find it.

Use the **Contents** page in your Bible to find
where John begins



The chapter numbers
are the **GREAT BIG**
ones


The verse numbers are the
tiny ones!

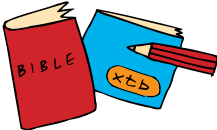



Oops! Keep getting lost?

Cut out this bookmark and use it to keep your place.


How to use

1  Find a time and place when you can read the Bible each day.

2  Get your Bible, a pencil and your XTB notes.

3  Ask God to help you to understand what you read.

4  Read today's XTB page and Bible bit.

5  Pray about what you have read and learned.

6  If you can, talk to an adult about what you've learned. Remind them about **Table Talk** at the back of this booklet.

YOUR FREE MAGNIFYING GLASS



Summer Signposts comes with a free magnifying glass. You'll need it to spot the clues, check your puzzles and spy out the signposts. It's handy for keeping an eye on escaping stick insects too!

Do you lose stuff easily? Keep your magnifier in the plastic pocket on the front of this book. Or make a small hole in the plastic pocket, tie some string or wool to it, and hang it somewhere you'll be able to find it later.
Not on the dog!

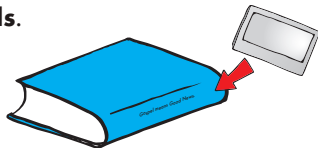


Are you ready to spot your first summer signpost? Then hurry on to Day 1.

DAY 1 SIGN LANGUAGE

Welcome to John's Gospel. It's one of four books—Matthew, Mark, Luke and John—called **Gospels**.

Use your magnifying glass to see what "Gospel" means.



The four Gospels tell us the Good News about **who** Jesus is and **why** He came. Read today's verses to find out why John wrote his Gospel...

READ

John 20v30-31



Why did John write his book?

(Fill in the gaps)

"so that you may **b** _____
that **J** _____ is the Christ
(Messiah), the **S** _____ of **G** _____,
and that by believing you may have
I _____ in His name." (v31)

Did you know?

John's dad was called Zebedee!

John is saying that miracles are like signposts. Use your magnifying glass again to see what the miracles point to.



The miracles point us to who Jesus is, so that we can believe in Him, and have everlasting life with God.

Summer Signposts will help you to find out more about what this means.

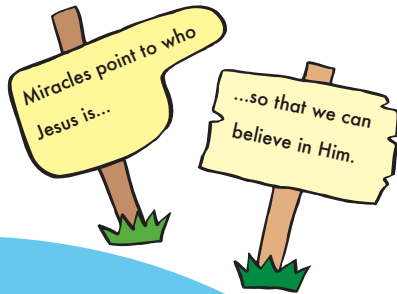


PRAY

Dear God, please help me to learn more about Jesus as I read John's book. Amen

DAY 2 WINE SIGN

Do you remember what John said about miracles?



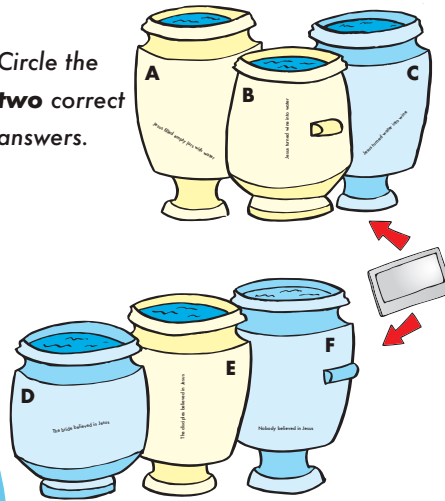
As you read about Jesus' first miracle, think carefully about these two questions:

- 1 What **miracle** did Jesus do?
- 2 Who **believed** in Jesus after seeing this miracle?

READ
John 2v1-11


The answers to the questions are hidden in the water jars.

Circle the **two** correct answers.



Did You Know?
Jewish wedding parties could last a week—or even longer!

This was Jesus' first miracle. It pointed to who He really is. It showed His glory—how great He is. What did the disciples do? (v11)

They... 

The disciples **DIDN'T** understand everything about Jesus. Do you?

THINK + PRAY The disciples **DID** believe in Jesus. Do you?

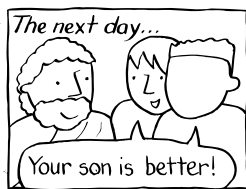
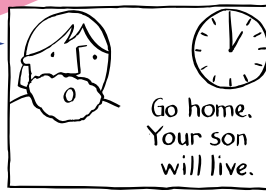
Talk to God about your answers. Ask Him for help.

Yesterday's miracle happened at a happy event—a party. Today's story starts in the same town—Cana. But the man we meet comes from 20 miles away, in Capernaum, and he isn't happy at all. He's really worried because his son is very ill...

READ
John 4v46-54



Our XTB artist is called Kirsty. Usually she draws great pictures—but she hasn't finished these ones! Can you fill in the missing bits?



How do you think the father felt, as he hurried home to see his son?
Circle your answers, and add some more.

- worried
- scared
- hopeful
- trusting

THINK + PRAY
Read verse 50 again.
The father didn't wait for proof. He took Jesus at His word. That's what faith is. Faith isn't a feeling. It means **believing** that what God says in the Bible is true.

Do YOU believe God's words in the Bible?

YES → Faith is a gift from God. Thank Him for helping you to believe.

NOT SURE → Ask God to help you to believe.

DAY 4 MAT MATTERS

xtb

John 5v1-9

READ

John 5v1-9

Circle the right words:

The pool was near the **Sheep/Camel/Dung Gate**. It had **4/5/6** porches. A great number of people lay by the pool, hoping to **get better/get wet/get a sun tan**. One man had been ill for **28/38/48** years. Jesus asked him, "Do you **need/care/want** to get well?" The man replied, "When I'm trying to get in to the pool, someone else **gets there first/drains the pool/laughs at me**." Jesus said, "Get up! Pick up your **hockey stick/hammer/mat** and walk." The man was cured **the next day/ that afternoon/at once**. The day this happened was the **Sabbath/Tuesday/Christmas Day**.

This man was walking for the first time in 38 years! What would **you** say to him?



Read Verse 10 to find out what some people actually said to the man.

✓ Tick the correct speech bubble.

Wow—you can walk! That's great!

Who healed you? He must be very special.

Stop that! It's against the rules!



Those Jewish leaders completely missed the point! (More about them tomorrow.)



Imagine being told to walk if you hadn't moved your legs for 38 years! It sounds crazy! What would **YOU** have done?

This man obeyed Jesus—and was healed. Sometimes obeying Jesus is hard—or seems silly—but John's book will help us to see why **OBEYING JESUS IS ALWAYS THE BEST THING TO DO**.

PRAY

Dear Jesus, please help me to obey You, even when I find it hard. Amen

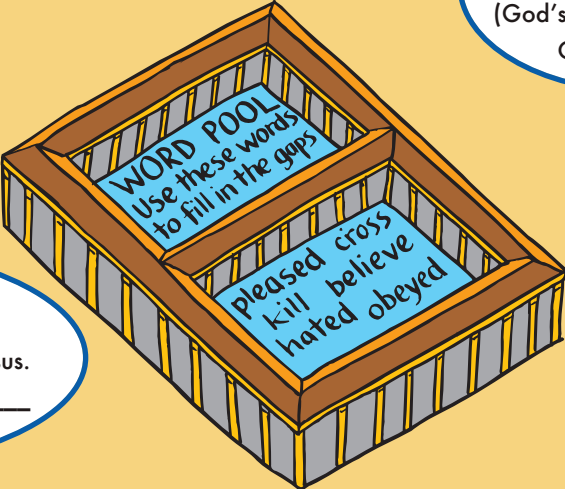
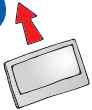
MISSING THE POINT

READ
John 5v9-15

Draw yourself here. How do **you** react to Jesus? Talk to God about your answer.

The Jewish leaders made rules about the **Sabbath** (God's special day of rest). One rule was...

SABBATH RULE
You mustn't carry anything!



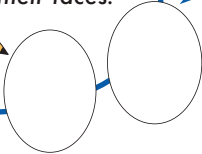
Choose words from the word pool
Were they:
• **p** _____ because the man was well? ✓ or ✗
• or **c** _____ because he was carrying his mat? ✓ or ✗

We've seen **two** very different reactions to Jesus:
1. The man **o** _____ Jesus.
2. The Jewish leaders **h** _____ Jesus.

READ
John 5v16-18

They didn't **b** _____ Jesus was God's Son. They thought He was lying, and planned to **k** _____ Him (v18).

Now the Jewish leaders were **furious!** Draw their faces.



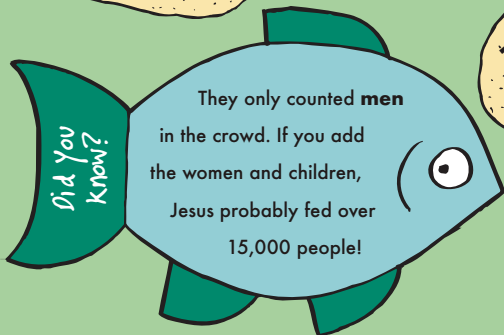
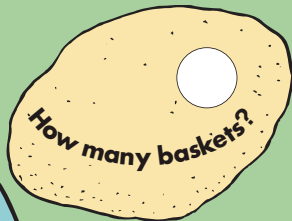
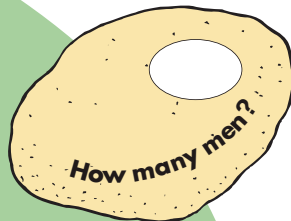
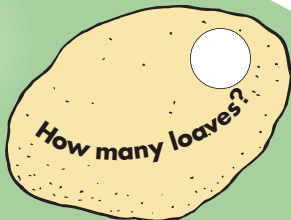
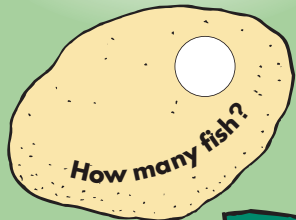
FISHY BUSINESS

Everywhere Jesus went, crowds of people came to see Him. One day a huge and hungry crowd followed Jesus up a hill...

Write these answers
in the five loaves.

5 12 5000
2 1

READ
John 6v5-13



Sometimes we may think that we have problems that are impossible to solve: they're just TOO BIG.

What's your biggest problem at the moment?

THINK + PRAY

Remember: even the biggest problem is NO PROBLEM for Jesus. Ask Him to help you.

DAY 7

IF THE HAT FITS...

Historical Hat Quiz



Which army had taken control of Israel at the time of Jesus?



What were the people in Israel waiting for God to do?



What's this got to do with Jesus feeding a huge crowd with one boy's packed lunch?



READ
John 6v14-15

What did the crowds want Jesus to become?



Jesus was their King

The crowds were **RIGHT** but they were **WRONG!**

He hadn't come to get rid of the Romans


Jesus the King **DID** come to rescue His people—but **NOT** by freeing them from the Romans. We'll find out more about how Jesus rescues people on Day 14.

Christians are people who follow Jesus as their King, doing what He wants them to do. Jesus is in charge.



But how do I know what Jesus wants me to do?

What would you say to Simon?



Clue: Mention the Bible and older Christians.

PRAY

What day is it today?

King Jesus, please help me to obey You today and every day. Amen