**Josh Mulvihill’s Fifteen Resources**

Source: Mulvihill, Josh. Equipping Grandparents (Grandparenting Matters): Helping Your Church Reach and Disciple the Next Generation (pp. 102-107). Baker Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.

With hundreds of wonderful resources available, and many more written every year, how does a grandparent know which ones to utilize? After twenty years as a pastor to young people, and five children of my own, here are fifteen of my go-to resources for grandparents. For additional family discipleship resources visit GospelShapedFamily.com.

***Long Story Short and Old Story New*** by Marty Machowski

When I was a pastor I bought these books by the boxful for families at Grace Church. *Long Story Short (O.T.)* and *Old Story New (N.T.)* are two of the best family devotional books available today. Marty highlights the Gospel in every devotional, helps families read and discuss Scripture in ten minutes a day, and the books are suitable for preschool through the tween years.

***The Bible’s Big Story*** by James M. Hamilton Jr.

***The Whole Story of the Bible in 16 Verses*** by Chris Bruno

These resources will help you teach your grandchildren the big picture of the Bible centered on Jesus Christ. *The Bible’s Big Story* is perfect for children while *The Whole Story of the Bible in 16 Verses* is excellent for teenagers. Many young people are confused by the Bible and see it as nothing more than a big book of rules or an outdated religious journal of other people’s God-experiences. These books will help your grandchildren see the unity of Scripture and follow its main themes from beginning to end.

***My 1st Book of Questions and Answers*** by Carine MacKenzie

I give this book to first-time parents and grandparents to help them explain the main teachings of the Bible to preschool and early elementary-aged children in a simple yet profound way. Carine asks 114 questions, each with a short answer and Bible reference.

***The Gospel for Children*** by John Leuzarder (grade school)

***Bitesize Theology*** by Peter Jeffery (middle school)

***Essential Truths of the Christian Faith*** by R. C. Sproul (high school)

It is my conviction that every grandparent and parent needs to be teaching children the core doctrines of the Christian faith. There are foundational truths in the Bible that every believer, young and old, needs to learn. Each of these books will help you teach the basics of faith in an age appropriate and easily accessible way to young people.

***Leading Your Child to Christ: Biblical Direction for Sharing the Gospel*** by Marty Machowski (grade school)

What Is the Gospel? by Greg Gilbert (middle and high school) One of the shocking findings of my PhD research is few grandparents are sharing the Gospel with their grandchildren. Proclaiming the Gospel is a critical aspect of every grandparent’s role. If you want to know how to share the Gospel, these are helpful resources.

***Roots Kids Worship*** by Josh Mulvihill, Dara Mann, and Peter Bourne

*Roots Kids Worship* teaches children the core truths of the Bible through music. It is sung by kids for kids with an energy and style that appeals to all ages and is part of an integrated curriculum that combines music, message, and memorization. Roots Kids Worship and curriculum is available at GospelShapedFamily.com.

***ESV Seek and Find Bible*** (grade school)

***The Gospel Story Bible*** by Marty Machowski (preschool)

I am asked regularly to recommend a Bible for children and youth. My preference is a Bible that contains the actual text of Scripture. The *ESV Seek and Find Bible* is great for children once they can read. It is full text but contains lots of pictures and explanations children love. When a young person hits the middle school years, my encouragement is to purchase a leather-bound Bible for them. If you want to be the extra-cool grandparent, have their name engraved on the cover.

***The Trailblazer Series*** by various authors

There is great value in teaching young people about heroes from church history and telling them of the work of God in each of these individuals’ lives. There are over forty action-packed books that introduce great Christian heroes to young people. Great for read-alouds!

***Facebook Pages***

Excellent resources are available for Christian grandparents on Facebook. Go to the ministry page for Gospel Shaped Family, the Legacy Coalition, Renewanation, and the Christian Grandparent Network and like each page. Regular encouragement as well as resources, blogs, and videos will show up in your news feed.

***God’s Names, God’s Promise, and God’s Battle*** by Sally Michael

Sally has written a series of books that teach children who God is and how they are to live the Christian life. I use these books to help children develop a high view of a great God as well as help children who are facing problems in life (anxiety, anger, etc.). One key question every child must answer is this: “Does God exist for me or do I exist for Him?” These books will help young people love God and trust Him.

***Grandparenting Resource Kits*** by the Legacy Coalition

We created four kits that provide ten biblically based, Christ-centered resources in each kit to help grandparents intentionally influence the next generation with the Gospel. The resource kits will equip you to have spiritual conversations and teach biblical truths in an age-appropriate and engaging way. We have one kit to help you disciple preschoolers, one for grade-schoolers, and one for teens. The fourth kit contains resources that explain the role of a grandparent and help you launch a grandparent ministry. The resource kits are available at legacycoalition.com.

***How to Study Your Bible for Kids*** by Kay Arthur

How to Study the Bible by John MacArthur (middle school and high school) These resources will help your grandchildren develop the spiritual habit of reading the Bible, so they can grow as followers of Jesus Christ. Kay Arthur encourages grade school children to be detectives and teaches how to observe, interpret, and apply Scripture based on a study of Titus. John MacArthur provides a concise and readable overview of the doctrine of Scripture followed by suggestions on how to develop a habit of reading the Bible daily.

***The Wingfeather Saga*** by Andrew Peterson

I have included a number of content-heavy resources in this list, so this recommendation will appeal to those who like fiction. If you like the *Chronicles of Narnia*, you will love *The Wingfeather Saga*. It is in the same vein, with shadows that point to Christ, but set in another world with lots of adventure. My children couldn’t get enough, and many nights we read for hours at a time, late into the evening. This is a great series to purchase and read aloud to your grandchildren when they come over and then cook cheesy chowder soup for dinner (one of the meals from the book)!

***Preparing Children for Marriage*** by Josh Mulvihill

A critical topic children are confronted with at very young ages—one that is not covered in any of the other resources mentioned on this list. This book will help you teach preschoolers through high schoolers the truths of Scripture regarding God’s definition of marriage, the role of a husband and wife, biblical manhood and womanhood, dating, purity, and more. A section in the book covers how to navigate this topic as a grandparent.

***Biblical Worldview Toolkit*** by Renewanation

I created a resource that is Bible-based and Christ-centered to help families, churches, and schools intentionally teach the next generation key truths of Scripture. The toolkit includes approximately ten resources to help you shape the beliefs of your grandchildren so they develop a deep, lasting, and culture-transforming faith in Jesus. These resources will equip you to integrate biblical truth into your home and impress God’s Word into young hearts. The toolkit is available at Renewanation.org.