

From the desk of JOHN BRADSHAW

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July 2022

Dear friend in ministry,

My wife, Melissa, and I vividly remember the birth of our first child. I remember holding my brand-new boy and realizing now that I was a father, life was going to change in all kinds of wonderful ways. And I remember holding our son before God and begging Him to give us grace to raise our new child for Him. We wanted him to be a follower of Jesus and spend eternity with Him.

Every parent wants what Melissa and I wanted all those years ago. If you're a parent, no doubt you want to see your children or grandchildren in heaven, to have them with you throughout eternity. I have spoken to countless parents who live with the pain of knowing their children are not presently making room in their lives for God. That has to be tremendously difficult. If your children were lost, wouldn't you want someone to do something for them?

Here's my question for you. Is it possible we can feel comfortable without doing something meaningful to reach children for Jesus? If your children were lost, wouldn't you want someone to do something for them? Or if your child was being raised in a Christian home, wouldn't you want access to resources that would foster his or her spiritual growth? *It Is Written is reaching children with the love of Jesus.* And your support this month will make it possible for It Is Written to reach more children than ever.

I believe that together we can reach children for eternity. I believe that you and I can cooperate so that children can be saved who otherwise would not be.

Children respond to the love of Jesus. Melissa and I were at a camp meeting recently when we were approached by a seven-year-old girl and her grandmother. Emily gave Melissa a beautiful card she had made herself. The front of the card said, "Thank you, Mrs. Bradshaw." What could young Emily be thanking Melissa for?

Emily and her grandmother explained that more than two years ago, Melissa had held a pilot program of Buried Treasure, It Is Written's evangelism program for children. Grandma said, "She has been talking about it now for more than two years. When she heard Pastor Bradshaw was coming to camp meeting, she asked me if I thought Mrs. Bradshaw would be there too. She wanted to thank her for the wonderful program. She has never forgotten it."

Let those words sink in. "She has never forgotten" what she learned about Jesus, the joy she experienced, the fun she had, and the blessings she received *when she was only four or five years old!* Her experience in that one class had stuck with her. She proudly showed us her My Place With Jesus Bible and told Melissa how much she loves reading it. It demonstrated yet again the power of reaching children with the love of Jesus.



Buried Treasure is being used across the country to help children experience a life of faith in Jesus. Emily, and many other children just like her, are forming a foundation of faith for later in life.

We are seeing what God is doing in the lives of children who are reached with It Is Written's children's resources.

We hear from many families whose children are studying the My Place With Jesus Bible Guides in preparation for baptism. Melissa is our children's ministries director, and I am so grateful she wrote these excellent, beautifully illustrated studies. I know of no other series of Bible studies like it. One mother wrote, "I am very thankful for the It Is Written My Place With Jesus Bible study lessons. They are wonderfully done, with great art work and the lesson content is simple enough, yet really covers the truth of each doctrine, just right for a 7–12 year old." And she should know. Her son was baptized after studying It Is Written's Bible studies for children. Melissa was blessed to be able to attend the baptism.

At It Is Written, we are led by a conviction that the best thing we can do for children is connect them with Jesus. And we are seeing what God is doing in the lives of children who are reached with our children's resources. One lady wrote and told us she has been using our Bible reading plan for children, Journey Through The Bible, with children in her neighborhood. Each day she meets with children who live near her, and together they read the Bible. The hearts of children are being touched as together they read the Word of God. No gimmicks involved, simply the power of the Word of God at work in the lives of those who need Him most.

Although Melissa loves to grow indoor plants, she hasn't ever had much success growing orchids. Until recently. I'll let Melissa tell the story.



A year or so ago a family stopped in at It Is Written. I spoke with Anna, who was around 14 years of age. During this surprise visit, Anna gave me a lovely orchid. Fearing this orchid would meet with the same fate as the other orchids I had tried to grow, I was determined to do everything I could to keep it alive.

With much prayer, patience, and TLC, the orchid not only bloomed again but also produced another orchid plant! The care of this orchid has taught me many lessons for children's ministry. In order for us to see children blossom in life, especially in their relationship with Jesus, we must invest quality time in them. It's imperative we make sure they are receiving what will truly feed their souls and prepare them for eternity.

Will you help Melissa and I feed the souls of children in preparation for eternity? I believe it has never been more difficult to be a child in modern times than it is right now. The devil has perfected the art of distracting our kids and attaching them to soul-destroying pursuits. We have to fight back as hard as we can in order to give our children the best possible chance of knowing Jesus and being saved.

It Is Written is fighting back. Buried Treasure is introducing children to Jesus. Journey Through the Bible is helping children establish a daily devotional experience. The *My Place With Jesus Bible Guides* are being studied by children all across this continent and around the world.

Please join us in this fight to save children for eternity. If my children were not walking with Jesus, or if they were young and looking to know Him better, I would be extremely grateful if someone reached out to them and offered them the chance to know Jesus.

Your financial support this month will enable It Is Written to reach more children than ever as we continue to grow our children's ministry. Thank you for joining me in the fight to save our children. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 19:14). We have the chance to do that right now. Thank you for leading a little one to Jesus.

May God bless you,

Click the button to

Pastor John Bradshaw President, It Is Written

P.S. It has never been so hard to be a child. The world is arrayed against faith in Jesus, and children are being drawn away from Jesus like never before. But It Is Written is fighting back, with Buried Treasure, the *My Place With Jesus Bible Guides*, Journey Through the Bible, and much more. Please join me in the fight to save lost children, and to strengthen children growing up in faith in God. Your help this month will enable It Is Written to reach children for eternity. Thank you for your prayers and financial support. We must do all we can to reach children with the love of Jesus!



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