

**THE
CHRISTIAN
ALPHABET**



Addendum Booklet

By Andrew DePasquale

The Christian Alphabet Addendum Booklet serves to provide a guided discussion between adults and children regarding the scriptures and illustrations found within the children's book, "The Christian Alphabet". It may be used directly coinciding with reading the book or be referenced as needed.

The Addendum Booklet is broken up into three separate parts dependent upon the age and maturity of the child and adult:

- Part 1 consists of a STORY created to help children see how all the letters and their words are connected to one another in a broader picture in addition to the scriptures used.
- Part 2 (recommended ages 7+) consists of a COMMENTARY addressing specific biblical references and worldviews found within the different letter illustrations and their significance. This helps exhibit the deeper meanings of the contents of the book.
- Part 3 provides age-appropriate ACTIVITIES for children to enjoy completing.

For more information about the children's book, "The Christian Alphabet", please go to:

<http://dep-art.adepr.claim.hosting/the-christian-alphabet/>.

Adults, please read through the entirety of the story/commentary before introducing it to your child, so that you are familiar with its contents and can use it to best suit the needs of yourself and your child: whether using it directly with the book or gaining specific discussion topics to address when reading the book. Thank you!

Part 1

The Christian Alphabet Story

(Please flip to the appropriate and corresponding letter
illustration when reading through the story)

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The Christian Alphabet expresses more than just letters and words; it tells a story about the narrative of our faith, hope, and salvation. Things that on their own are important, but together form the beliefs and truths within Christianity. So as the alphabet begins with the letter “A”, this story begins with:

A. is for Ark

God saw that people on Earth were acting sinfully so He decided to send a flood in order to wipe out evil and restore the goodness that He intended for us to live in. Now at first this may sound scary, but it was all a part of God’s plan. God saw that Noah was righteous and He wanted to save him and his family from the flood, along with the creatures, to then use them to start fresh. So, the book begins with an act of salvation, sparing a remnant through Noah and his family along with the creatures.

B. is for Bible

This page can tell two different stories - *I know we’re only two letters in but now there are stories inside stories?! Yes, but stay with me!* As you can see there are two different swords lying beside the Bible: one metal and sharpened, the other foam and soft. The first story that can be told is: what sword do you wield? Is the Word of God within you, is it written on your heart so you can bear His word against the attacks of the enemy - sharp and precise? Or are you distanced from His word leaving you weakened and vulnerable? What sword do you bring to your battles: one cast of iron or one cast of foam? The other story that can be told is one of instruction as we are called to raise our children up in Christ. You as parents bear the metal and sharpened sword, but you give your children a foam sword to train with. As you teach them the word, as they follow your example, reading and using it, they will learn by your example and one day be ready to bear your sword and continue on against any storm.

C. is for Creation

Now, back to the other story: before the ark and the flood, before any storms, this is the way God made things to be, and they were good! Not only does He love His creation,

but He loves us so much that He made us in His image. He loves us more than anything else, so much so that when His *good* creation was being *harmed* by bad people, He was willing to send a flood to *destroy His creation, just to save them from their own destruction.*


D. is for Dove

Yet even though He destroyed His creation, He preserved it also. When the flood ended, Noah sent out a dove, and it returned with the olive leaf representing the first sign of new life, a fresh start, a new earth. So, God restored His creation using the remnant of what He preserved using the Ark. Even the water that was used to destroy, was also used to nourish the land to sprout new life after. Yet the dove became an even greater symbol, representing the Holy Spirit. Just as the olive branch was a sign of new life, the Holy Spirit gives us new life as believers.

E. is for Eden

In the beginning, Eden was meant to be our dwelling place with God; it was the garden in which He walked in and the epicenter of His creation. However, one day Adam and Eve sinned when they ate from the tree of knowledge, bearing the first sins of humanity - unholy fruit. Because of this, sin entered the world and spread hurting God's creation. This is what led to God sending the flood, but the flood wasn't a permanent solution. This led God to send His own son Jesus to save us from sin once and for all!

F. is for Fish

Now Jesus, the Son of God, was sent to restore us back to God. He, at times being symbolized by the symbol of a fish - the Ichthys () - called upon four fishermen to follow Him as His disciples as He began His journey. However, He wasn't calling them to help Him fish, but to help Him save people - to save *us*.

G. is for Gifts

Knowing that calling the fishermen and the other disciples to help Him save people would require much of them, Jesus gave them a helper: the Holy Spirit. The very same

spirit that lives in Him, now also lives in us when we accept God's free gift of salvation and invite Jesus into our heart.

H. is for Heaven

However, not everyone will be saved as the disciples came to learn. We are all under God's kingdom, and like a fisherman He gathers us to His kingdom, but those who have not accepted His son Jesus as Lord and Savior will be cast away. But for those who *do*, they will have eternal life and live with God again in Heaven!

I. is for Instruments

In Heaven we will all be happy and joyful! We will praise and give thanks to the Lord and celebrate His goodness with all kinds of instruments!

J. is for Jesus

None of this would be possible without Jesus. He died for our sins on the cross to save us, but He who overcame the world overcame sin and death and rose back from the dead! Because He died and came back to life, those who believe in Him will rise again after death like Him and have eternal life in Heaven!

K. is for King

There in Heaven, Jesus will be our king of kings with whom we will serve, worship, and dwell.

L. is for Lion & Lamb

Because of Jesus's death and resurrection, we also symbolize Him as a Lion and a Lamb. He was innocent, clean like the whitest of lambs, but sacrificed Himself. However, being almighty He overcame death like the power of a Lion. And like a Lion's roar is heard all over, so also is His name!

M. is for Mountain

So, we shout His name from the mountaintops and hear it echo through the valleys! Our dwelling will be on the mountaintop with God, living in His holy city: Heaven. Until then, we will continue to spread the good news!

N. is for Nativity

This good news being Jesus Christ, who was born in Nazareth. The savior of the world, who laid in a manger, not a crib. The king of kings who was placed on a cross, not a throne. But we know He's sitting on His throne right now, until He returns riding on the clouds.

O. is for Offering

Since Jesus offered His life up to save ours, it is our mission to continue His ministry until He returns. One way we help continue His ministry is by giving such as money or gifts. So, churches collect an offering to help fund the ministry, whether building churches, supporting missionaries, helping the needy and so much more. But we also offer ourselves up for the Lord to use us in His works.

P. is for Path

It is in these works that our faith is tested and proven genuine. They set us on the different path, the path of righteousness. It's not easy, it's narrow and sometimes we can stray off; but it's *straight*, without any twists or turns, and it leads directly to the gates of Heaven.

Q. is for Queen

Now with Jesus as our king, we the church are His queen. We are unified to Him through His works on the cross. He has already received His crown, and He will reward each of us with our own crown as we are united with Him in Heaven.

R. is for Rainbow

Each of our crowns will be colorful and beautiful, just like the colors of the rainbow!
The rainbow itself serves as the reminder of God's promises, specifically that He will never again destroy His creation like He did with the flood.

S. is for Salt

As the rainbow is a physical demonstration to us of God's promises, we are a demonstration to other people of God's love. Like the purposes of salt, we are called to preserve the good of God's creation while outwardly demonstrating to people His love, "seasoning" them with His goodness.

T. is for Temple

So, as we preserve His creation, He preserves us within. The Holy Spirit dwells in us, and we ourselves and our bodies serve as a temple to worship, serve, and magnify God until we dwell together in Heaven.

U. is for Universe

But for the time being, we will continue to dwell on the earth in His creation. Yet that is not His *only* creation; He's created the moon, stars, planets, and so much more beyond our imagination! He created the entire universe and everything in it!

V. is for Valley

The entire universe rests in the Lord's shadow. Yet even the darkest of shadows in the deepest of valleys are no match for the light of the Lord. With His staff and rod, He leads us through - as the lamp unto our feet.

W. is for Whale

Yet, deeper than the valleys dwell whales. Mentioned earlier with the flood, the whale also served as a vessel used by God to reach Jonah and transport him. There is no length that God won't go to reach us and then save us from where we are.

X. is in OXen

Oxen are also used for transportation among other things. They're strong and serve in whatever purpose they're given. As believers, we are to be strong like oxen, serving God, and "pave the way" for people to come to Christ.

Y. is for Yoke

In doing their work, oxen will wear a yoke. Sometimes two oxen will share the same yoke side-by-side to accomplish work together. The Lord uses this example to say, take *His* yoke, receive salvation through His righteousness, serve Him, walk through life together with Him.

Z. is for Zion

It is His righteousness that allows us to enter Zion - the kingdom of Heaven - and dwell with God. And so, this story ends - with the letter Z - just like it began - with the letter A: through righteousness the remnant of God will be preserved, and we will dwell with Him in Heaven for all eternity! For this reason, we look forward to that day when... Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun, at the trumpet's call!

What an incredible end to our story! Thank you for taking the time to read along and I hope that this book has blessed you as it has blessed me! God bless!

Part 2

The Christian Alphabet Commentary

**(Please flip to the appropriate and corresponding letter
illustration when going through the commentary)**

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Listed below are specific biblical references and worldviews found within the different letter illustrations, that you may or may not have noticed, and their significance to the story.

A. is for Ark

At the bottom of the illustration you can spot a whale surfacing, symbolizing the chaos and destruction of the earth below, but the ark remains afloat, safe above the storm.

B. is for Bible

The Bible illustrated rests on a patch of grass in reference to Isaiah 40:8, “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever,” emphasizing that God's Word is eternal. The metal sword at the bottom of the page is representative of the Sword of the Spirit, while the foam sword at the top is representative of childlike faith.

C. is for Creation

The first six days of creation are represented within this illustration.

Day:

1. Heaven, darkness, and earth are represented by the earth centered on the page, the black background being darkness, and the gradients of light seeping in at the corners of the page being Heaven.
2. Heaven/the sky and the water are represented by the blue water on the earth and the blue glow around the earth being Heaven/the sky.
3. The land and vegetation are represented by the green continents on the earth.
4. The stars, the sun, and the moon are represented by the golden glow on the left edge of the page being the sun, the moon centered in the page in front of the earth casting a shadow, and the white circles being stars.
5. The birds and fish are represented by the bird shaped constellation at the bottom left of the earth and the fish shaped constellation at the top right of the earth.
6. The animals and mankind are represented by the animal paw shaped constellation to the left of the earth and the human hand shaped constellation to the bottom right of the earth.

D. is for Dove

Integrated into the pattern of wind behind the dove is the ichthys (☩) symbol. The symbol is derived from the Greek word ichthys (the acronym for “Jesus Christ, Son of God”), which means "fish". Christians used the ichthys as a secret symbol to identify other Christians. The fish symbolizes belief in Jesus' divinity and identity as the Christ. The beam of light shining on the dove is representative of both the storm and water going away after the flood in Genesis, and also Christ's encounter of the Holy Spirit when being baptized.

E. is for Eden

Within the top part of the tree of knowledge there are 12 apples representative of both the 12 apostles and the 12 tribes of Israel. The apple itself serves as a symbol of evil as the Latin word for apple, “malum”, is a homonym of the Latin word for "evil".

F. is for Fish

The fish illustrated in the picture is based on the Jordan Barbel fish (carp family), which is located in the Sea of Galilee. This fish, along with St. Peter's fish (Mango Tilapia), and catfish are some of what the disciples caught in Capernaum. When looking closely, parts of the net are torn referencing the torn nets from Luke 5:6. There are seven total fish illustrated symbolizing completion or perfection.

G. is for Gifts

Each of the eight gifts illustrated are specifically addressed as one of the gifts of the spirit.

H. is for Heaven

The colors of the pillars of the gate are a visualization of what the 12 gemstones forming Heaven's walls could look like all together. The abstract pattern in the background is representative of the angels in Heaven.

I. is for Instruments

The stringed instrument illustrated in the center of the page is a lute, and seated beside it is a tambourine; both used during the time of the Israelites. However, the trumpet illustrated at the top right is of the modern era, symbolic of the trumpets that will be heard in the future at the Lord's return.

J. is for Jesus

The color of Jesus' hand is pure white, representative of pure light emanating from Jesus' body during His transfiguration rising from the dead. Illustrated in the background is the Shroud of Turin, the argued real-life burial cloth that Jesus was buried in. The cross shape laying atop of the shroud is representative of Christ's resurrection defeating death on the cross.

K. is for King

The red color of the king's robe is representative of the scarlet robe that Jesus is described wearing in Revelation 19:13.

L. is for Lion & Lamb

Illustrated in the background is the empty tomb of Jesus. Also shown again is the Shroud of Turin with the argued imprint of Jesus and the flowers/spices left on the cloth after His transfiguration.

M. is for Mountain

The eagle illustrated is representative of Isaiah 40:31, "Yet those who wait for the Lord Will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary."

N. is for Nativity

In the forefront of the illustration is a lamb and a shepherd's staff, representative of the Lord being our "shepherd" as expressed in Psalm 23. Kneeling at the manger are Joseph

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and Mary; Joseph represented by the staff and color red, and Mary by the color blue. In the background is a donkey representative of the one Jesus rode into Jerusalem.

O. is for Offering

The copper coins illustrated are representative of not just those the poor widow tithed, but also the United States penny in which the phrase, “In God We Trust” is inscribed. The year 2023 indicates the year in which “The Christian Alphabet” was first created. In the background the spices mint, dill and cumin are shown.

P. is for Path

The lamps shown in the illustration illuminate the narrow and straight path, indicating that it is the path of righteousness and the proper way to go.

Q. is for Queen

The scepter illustrated is symbolic of the Scepter of Justice from Psalm 45:6.

R. is for Rainbow

The green mountain illustrated is representative of Mt. Ararat where the ark came to rest after the flood waters came down.

S. is for Salt

Faded into the dirt underneath the poured out salt is a map of the world continents, representative of earth from “the salt of the earth”.

T. is for Temple

Illustrated is the 2nd Temple (Herod's Temple) from Jerusalem, the very same temple that Jesus prophesied would be destroyed. While the temple and all its stones were torn down, Jesus remains as the cornerstone, our foundation.

U. is for Universe

The universe is represented by the illustration of the Milky Way Galaxy, however, there is an infinite amount of galaxies, planets, moons, stars, and so much more that God has created!

V. is for Valley

The valley illustrated is representative of the Valley of the Shadow of Death as expressed in Psalms 23, with shadows being cast onto the valley by the clouds above.

W. is for Whale

The whale illustrated is representative of the whale that swallowed Jonah, however, it is also the same whale illustrated at the bottom left of the ark in the letter 'A' illustration. Here, the ark is depicted in the same spot upside down, as the point of view of the entire illustration is upside down.

X. is in OXen

The shape of the letter X is made through the fur of the oxen illustrated. As "X is in OXen", the shape of the letter X is literally *in* the oxen.

Y. is for Yoke

Attached to the bottom of the yoke is a chain which allows it to connect to other equipment to perform different tasks. However, this chain is not attached to anything, slightly alluding to Jesus "breaking every chain" and *burdensome* yoke as referenced in Isaiah 9:4 and 58:6!

Z. is for Zion

The illustration of the city of Zion is representative of ancient Jerusalem. At the bottom left is a small cross atop a circular dome signifying Zion as being a place of worship.

Part 3

The Christian Alphabet

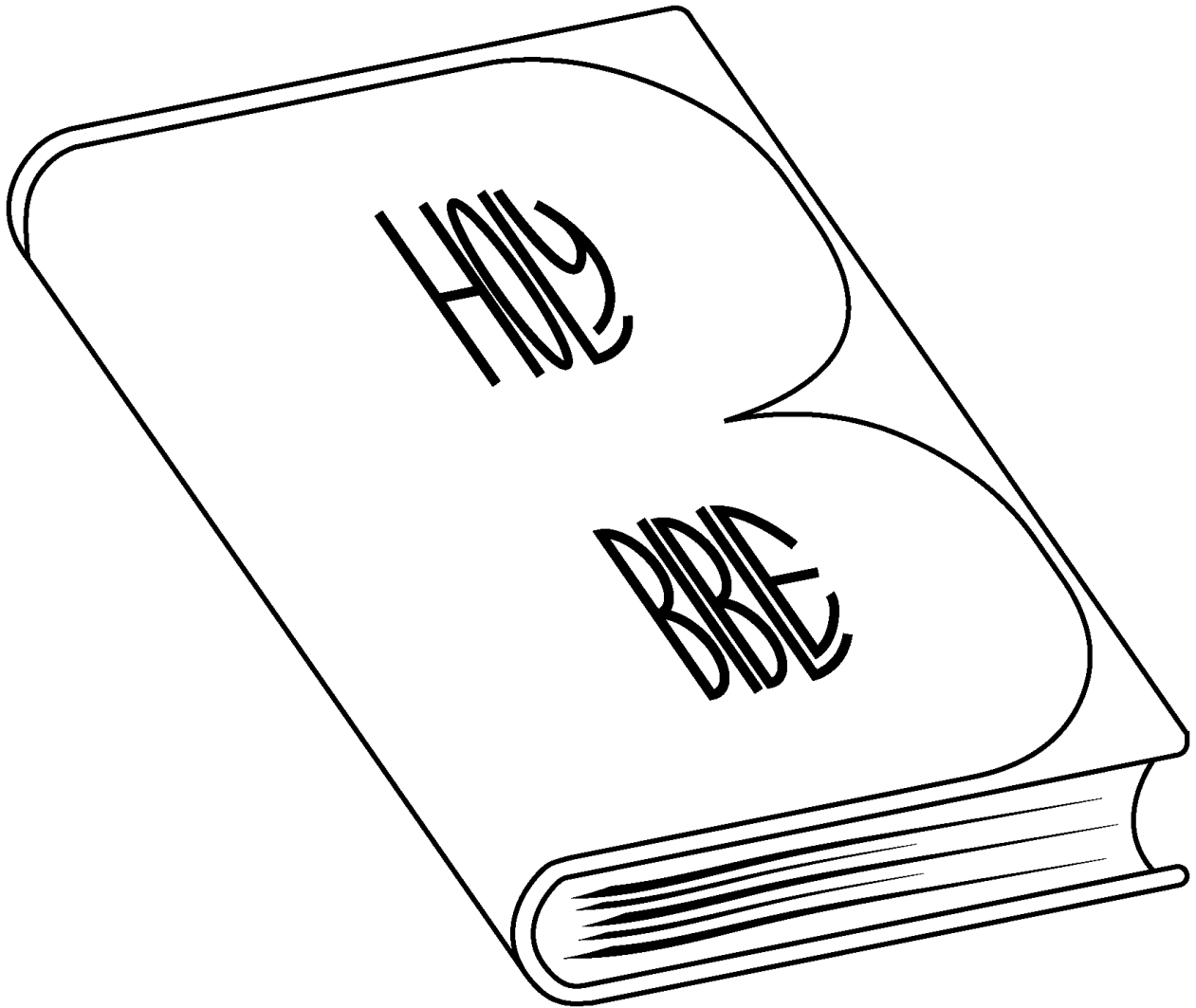
Activities

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Coloring Page



Color your own Bible!

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Christian Alphabet Wordsearch

R	C	Z	I	S	D	N	A	T	I	V	I	T	Y	B	N	L	Q
V	A	R	J	N	L	A	M	B	Y	O	K	E	H	O	X	L	J
R	K	I	E	V	S	F	R	J	J	F	I	S	H	N	X	Z	B
I	L	G	N	A	A	T	Q	O	F	F	E	R	I	N	G	E	U
G	B	I	M	B	T	L	R	U	T	E	B	Z	X	U	R	Z	N
I	I	A	O	T	O	I	L	U	E	O	D	J	D	Z	H	I	I
F	B	R	J	N	E	W	O	E	M	E	L	E	K	O	O	O	V
T	L	K	A	E	S	M	Y	N	Y	E	N	Q	N	W	V	N	E
S	E	T	O	Z	S	A	P	M	O	U	N	T	A	I	N	E	R
H	E	A	V	E	N	U	L	L	E	P	A	T	H	Z	F	F	S
W	H	A	L	E	W	I	S	T	E	N	V	N	S	Y	T	I	E
F	K	I	N	G	F	X	W	I	N	W	K	C	R	C	Z	T	F

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

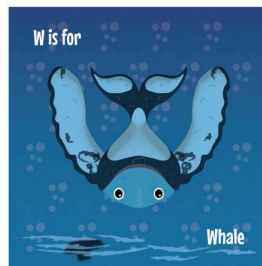
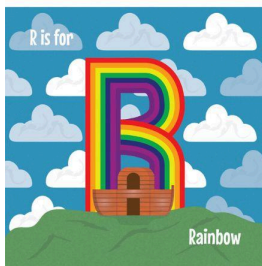
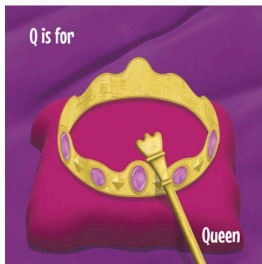
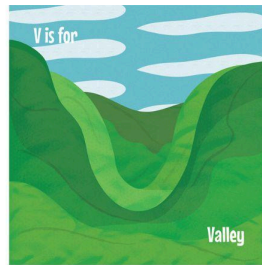
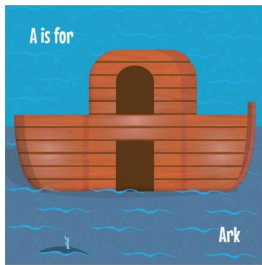
- | | | | |
|----------|-------------|----------|-------|
| ARK | INSTRUMENTS | OXEN | WHALE |
| BIBLE | JESUS | PATH | YOKE |
| CREATION | KING | QUEEN | ZION |
| DOVE | LAMB | RAINBOW | |
| EDEN | LION | SALT | |
| FISH | MOUNTAIN | TEMPLE | |
| GIFTS | NATIVITY | UNIVERSE | |
| HEAVEN | OFFERING | VALLEY | |

Wordsearch Solution

R	C	.	I	.	.	N	A	T	I	V	I	T	Y	.	.	.	.
.	A	R	.	N	L	A	M	B	Y	O	K	E	.	O	.	.	.
.	.	I	E	V	S	.	.	.	.	F	I	S	H	.	X	.	.
.	L	.	N	A	A	T	Q	O	F	F	E	R	I	N	G	E	U
G	B	I	.	B	T	L	R	U	.	E	.	.	.	.	.	Z	N
I	I	A	O	T	O	I	L	U	E	.	D	.	D	.	.	I	I
F	B	R	J	N	E	W	O	E	M	E	.	E	.	O	.	O	V
T	L	K	.	E	S	M	.	N	Y	E	N	.	N	.	V	N	E
S	E	.	.	.	S	A	P	M	O	U	N	T	A	I	N	E	R
H	E	A	V	E	N	U	L	L	.	P	A	T	H	.	.	.	S
W	H	A	L	E	.	.	S	T	E	.	.	.	S	.	.	.	E
.	K	I	N	G	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Christian Alphabet Matching

Match the pictures together from the same stories by drawing a line:



Matching Solution

Match the pictures together from the same stories by drawing a line:



Letter Tracing

Practice writing your letters below:

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee

Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk

Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp

Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu

Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz