

NEWS FROM LYNNE PABST

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We Are All God's Children and One In God's Image

People are looking for books to read with their children this summer especially books to help children understand that all people are created by God. That as God's creation, all are created in God's image. But reading about this is not enough, we want our children to embody this belief. The only way for our children to embody it is for us to embody it for them. I challenge you, as you read these books with children, that you reflect upon how your life has put into practice the understanding that God created all in God's image. Do the things said and done recognize God's image in others and show God's image in us?

Here are some children's books you might find helpful. (They may even make adults stop and think.)

- De La Pena, M. *Last Stop On Market Street*. NY, NY: G. F. Putnam's and Sons, LLC, 2015.
- DiOrio, R. *What Does It Mean To Be Kind?* NY, NY: Little Pickle Press, Inc., 2015.
- Ellis, J. K. *The Fabulous World that God Made*. Minneapolis, MN: Beaming Books, 2019.
- Gillen, L. *Good People Everywhere*. Portland, OR: Three Pebble Press, LLC., 2012.
- George, A.O. *Our Beautiful World of Colours*. Middleton, DE: Penning Solutions, 2020.
- Hamanaka, S. *All the Colors of the Earth*. NY: Morrow Junior Books, 1994.
- Kats, B. *We're Different, We're the Same and We're All Wonderful*. NY, NY: Random House Children's Books, 1992.
- Katz, K. *Can You Say Peace?* NY, NY: Henry Holt and Co. 2006.
- Levine, A. and S.E. Sasso *Who Is My Neighbor?* Louisville, KY: Flyaway Books, 2019.
- Newbell, T. *God's Very Good Idea*. India: The Good Book Company, 2017.
- Pitman, G. *A Church for All*. Albert Witman and Co. 2018. Park Ridge, IL, 2018.
- Ruurs, M. *Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family's Journey*. Canada: Orca Books Publishers, 2016.
- Seuss, Dr. *The Sneetches*. NY, NY: Random House Children's Book, 1961.
- Sasso, S.E. *In God's Name*. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2002.
- Sasso, S.E. *The Story of And: The Little Word that Changed the World*. Louisville, KY: Flyaway Books, 2019.
- Tutu, D. and D. C. Abrams. *God's Dream*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2008.

While you might be tempted to use some of these books as a Children's Sermon, which I have, a caution about copyright. You may read the book to a class or a congregation as long as it is not being recorded or live-streamed. Once you record something to be placed on a website or if you are live-streaming to a public setting, you are actually reproducing the book and need to have permission. ZOOM is a gray area. If it is a closed ZOOM gathering with "host admit" required and it is NOT being recorded, it is my understanding that it is like a closed classroom. If you have open admission to ZOOM and have publicly announced the link or if you record the class/service, it then becomes a copyright offense.

For those needing resources on churches taking social action and preparing for civil duty in an election year, check out the PCUSA Store for resources and ideas. Virtual options available.
<https://mailchi.mp/pcusastore/2rap4ldyit-1141172?e=3219f3057b>

For those interested in more information and training regarding the art of storytelling and Bibletelling. Here are some free recorded trainings:
<https://www.christianstorytelling.com/sample-workshop-recordings/>

For those on the go but needing some spiritual nurture, check out the ebooks from John Knox Publishing: <https://mailchi.mp/wjkbooks/qivrcd82mv-1141304?e=3219f3057b>