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Rumble! Zap! Pow!: Mighty Stories Of God



Synopsis

This bright Bible storybook highlights the adventurous stories in the Bible and points its readers to God's mighty power. The language is action-packed and kid-friendly, which makes it a great book to read out loud. The short stories, easy-to-read bold words sprinkled throughout each story, and the bright, cartoon-styled art will keep kids engaged. Each story is paired with a "Mighty Thought" a simple statement that summarizes the Bible story. (Examples include God made the world; God is always in charge; God is a mighty leader; God rescues his people; God makes his power known). At the end of the story, the Power Words section gives a short scripture that can be used as a memory verse. The story ends with an activity designed for the active child (measure yourself with books and measure Goliath's height with books; make a megaphone from a milk jug to have a loud voice like Jonah needed).

Book Information

Age Range: 3 - 6 years

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (21 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #851,639 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #208 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity > Bible > Study #350 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity > Bible > Reference & Interpretation #891 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity > Bible > Stories

Customer Reviews

Rumble! Zap! Pow! by Diane Startz and Luke Dabb is a Bible...or a comic book...or really both. Designed to make Bible stories come alive for children, Diane Stortz and illustrator Luke Daab give the most popular stories the comic book treatment--something sure to hit home for many families. As someone who has written comics for Christian publications over the years, I can truly appreciate the effort put into a piece like this. It's not always easy to tell a story in 8-10 frames, especially if you want to use as few words as possible. In addition to telling each story, the author includes a "Mighty

Thought" (the basic take-away value of the story), "Power Words" (a scripture that supports the story), and an activity (a hands-on extra which is nice, but really not needed). Overall, Startz did a decent job of making the comics come to life through her words. Some stories are better than others, but I especially appreciate her ability to use sound effects (thus the title). Sometimes she commits the biggest faux pas of comic writing--that is, explaining what you're watching. For instance, in the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, nearly every frame starts off with "the king roared..." "the king yelled..." "the king told them..." and then you see the king performing those actions. While this probably looked great in script format, once the artist illustrated the actions, these captions could easily be removed which would help increase the pace of the story. For his part, Dabb's illustrations are colorful and unique. You almost always know exactly what's going on. If I had a nitpick it would be that the dialog balloons look like they were added post-production.

Although I often discuss Bible versions on my blog and on Facebook, I haven't often discussed the particular genre of Bible versions known as the Children's Bible. And Rumble! Zap! Pow! by Diane Stortz certainly qualifies as such. In the interest of "full disclosure," I received this book as a free perusal sample from the aforementioned Tyndale Blog Network. I suppose the main criterion for reviewing a Bible for children is, of course, how do children respond to it? And I must say, my almost four year old daughter seems to love it. The stories are told concisely, in a simple comic strip format, with illustrations by Luke Daab. The author has chosen 40 of the more popular Bible stories, twenty from the Old Testament, and twenty from the New. All the typical children's Bible stories are here: the Creation and Fall (with Adam and Eve strategically hidden behind bushes, as usual); the Ten Commandments (renamed "Ten Good Rules"); the Battle of Jericho (sans the genocide at the end of the "adult" version of the story); the Loaves and the Fishes; the conversion of St. Paul (wherein Jesus asks Saul, quite simply, "Why are you hurting me?"); and the Day of Pentecost. (which has comic book style sound effect balloons, like "Roar!" and "Whoosh!"). They even throw in a lovely little finale from the Revelation of St. John, which is entitled "Great Day!" I think one of my favorite things about the book is that the little superhero character who presents a "Mighty Thought" for each story is...ready for this?...a sheep! Yes, a sheep--Super Sheep. Beautiful. Each story also wraps up with a little Bible verse and a fun activity for kids to do with their parents.

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