

BIBLE SEARCH

DISCOVERING ANSWERS IN GOD'S WORD



JON NAPPA

ILLUSTRATED BY ROB CORLEY AND TOM BANCROFT

NAVPRESS®

Sample from *My First Message Bible Search* / ISBN 9781600062490

Copyright © 2008 NavPress Publishing. All rights reserved. To order copies of this resource, come back to www.navpress.com.

For a free catalog
of NavPress books & Bible studies call
1-800-366-7788 (USA) or 1-800-839-4769 (Canada).

www.navpress.com

The Navigators is an international Christian organization. Our mission is to advance the gospel of Jesus and His kingdom into the nations through spiritual generations of laborers living and discipling among the lost. We see a vital movement of the gospel, fueled by prevailing prayer, flowing freely through relational networks and out into the nations where workers for the kingdom are next door to everywhere.

NavPress is the publishing ministry of The Navigators. The mission of NavPress is to reach, disciple, and equip people to know Christ and make Him known by publishing life-related materials that are biblically rooted and culturally relevant. Our vision is to stimulate spiritual transformation through every product we publish.

Bible Search

Copyright © 2008 by Jon Nappa. All rights reserved.

Copyright © 2007 by FunnyPages Productions, Inc.

Scripture taken from *THE MESSAGE*. Copyright © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002. Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group.

Creative Team: Kent Wilson, Lori Mitchell, Amy Spencer, Heather Dunn, Kris Wallen, Arvid Wallen, Darla Hightower,
Pat Reinheimer

Design by studiogearbox.com

Illustrated by Rob Corley and Tom Bancroft. Colors by Jon Conkling.

ISBN-10: 1-60006-249-0

ISBN-13: 978-1-60006-249-0

Published in association with the literary agency of Leslie H. Stobbe, 300 Doubleday Road, Tryon, NC 28782.

Printed in China

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 / 12 11 10 09 08

Sample from *My First Message Bible Search* / ISBN 9781600062490

Copyright © 2008 NavPress Publishing. All rights reserved. To order copies of this resource, come back to www.navpress.com.

CONTENTS

Introduction	7
Introduction to the Concordance	11

CONCORDANCE:

When I'm Discouraged	12
When I Feel Sad	14
When I Say Things I Shouldn't	16
When I Get Really Mad	18
When I'm Critical of Others	20
When Others Seem Better Than Me	22
When I Show Off	24
When I Don't Want to Go to Bed	26
When I Don't Want to Share	28
When I Speak Unkindly	30
When Life Seems Really Hard	32
When I Get Nervous	34
When I Get Stressed	36
When I Can't Have What I Want	38
When I Watch Too Much TV	40
When I'm Afraid	42
When I Don't Want to Obey	44

When I Don't Take Care of My Things	46
When I Cheat	48
When I Get Punished.	50
When I Want What Others Have.	52
When I Have to Be First	54
When I Want to Skip Church	56
When I Worry About How I Look	58
When I Don't Listen to Others.	60
When I Cry.	62
When I Lose My Temper	64
When I Want More and More	66
When I Am Sick	68
When I Pout and Whine	70
When I Don't Want to Help Others	72
When I'm Impatient	74
When I Take Something That's Not Mine	76
When I Doubt God	78
When My Words and Actions Don't Match.	80
When I Must Have Everything My Way.	82
When I Mistreat Others	84
When I Make Excuses	86
When I Want to Do the Wrong Thing.	88
When I Don't Want to Go to School	90
When My Family Is Having Problems	92
When I Don't Know What to Do	94
Write Your Own Concordance	96

DICTIONARY:

What The Bible Is All About 104

What Character Is All About 105

What Choices Are All About 106

What Church Is All About 107

What Confession Is All About 108

What Confidence Is All About 109

What Conflict Is All About 110

What Contentment Is All About 111

What Courage Is All About 112

What Eternal Life Is All About 113

What Evil Is All About 114

What Faith Is All About 115

What Forgiveness Is All About 116

What Freedom Is All About 117

What Friendship Is All About 118

What Giving Is All About 119

What Grace Is All About 120

What Helping Is All About 121

What Honesty Is All About 122

What Hope Is All About 123

What Humility Is All About 124

What Joy Is All About 125

What Learning Is All About 126

What Listening Is All About 127

What Love Is All About	128
What Mercy Is All About	129
What Money Is All About	130
What Obedience Is All About	131
What Parents Are All About	132
What Praise Is All About	133
What Prayer Is All About	134
What Priorities Are All About	135
What Promises Are All About	136
What Purity Is All About	137
What Repentance Is All About	138
What Respect Is All About	139
What Sadness Is All About	140
What Sin Is All About	141
What Submission Is All About	142
What Thankfulness Is All About	143
What Thoughts Are All About	144
What Trust Is All About	145
What Truth Is All About	146
What Wisdom Is All About	147
Write Your Own Dictionary	148

About the Author	155
Scripture Index	156
Topical Index	158

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to a very grown-up book! Here you'll find lots of help for many of the things you'll experience in your life. Turn to any chapter, and you'll see each idea explained in easy-to-understand ways. Then you'll find Scriptures that will help and encourage you. There will also be fun things to do and places to write what you're thinking and learning.

You'll see that this book is divided into two parts: a concordance and a dictionary. They're both very fun. The concordance talks about things you'll experience in your life and how to deal with them in a grown-up and biblical way. The dictionary will help you know what some words mean.

Did you see the fun pictures? Manty and lots of the other characters from the *My First Message Bible* are here to give you clues about each chapter. And, boy, are there a lot of chapters! Don't try to read them all at once. Just read one at a time. You don't have to read them in order either. Just pick chapters that are interesting to you. Sooner or later you'll get to all the chapters. Don't be in a hurry.

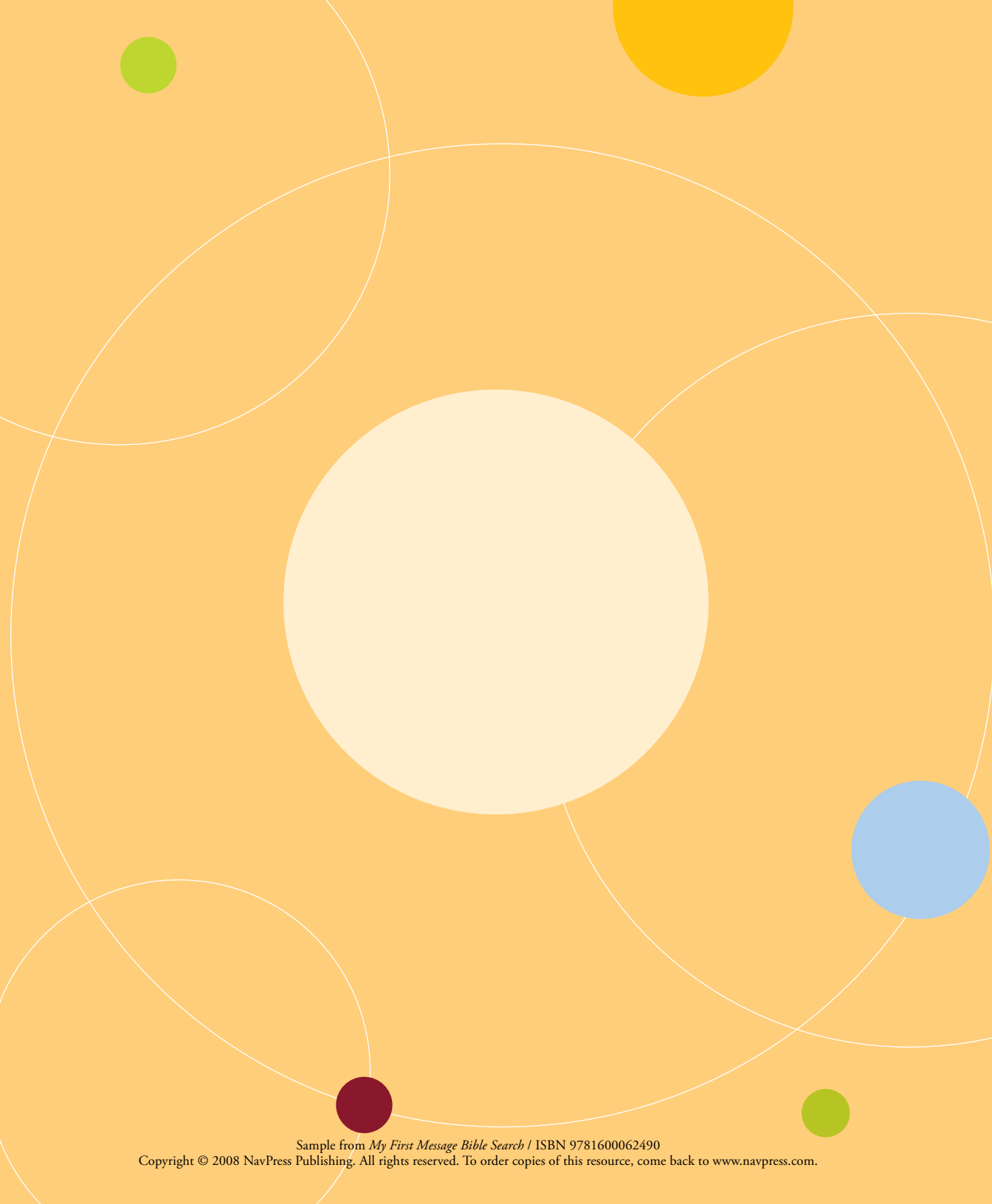
You can read this book all by yourself, with a friend, or with your mom or dad or grandma or grandpa, or even with your Sunday school teacher. There might be some parts you want to read alone. There might be other chapters you want to read with a friend who needs some help. It's always cool to read with your parents or grandparents. Adults like talking with you and learning with you, so include them when you can.

This is a book for those who are growing up. We're proud of you for wanting to do it in a way that pleases God. In this book, you'll find lots of help figuring things out by looking at what God says. We didn't come up with anything brand-new. Everything

is straight from the Bible. In fact, we want you to use this book with your Bible. This book will show you how to find help in your Bible for lots of the things you'll deal with as you grow up. It'll help you figure out what some grown-up words mean too. So, grab your Bible and have a great time.

BIBLE HELP FOR DAILY EXPERIENCES

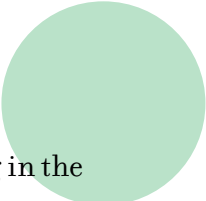




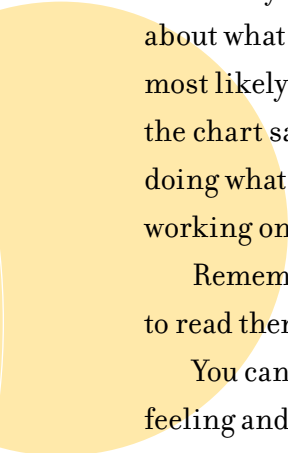
Sample from *My First Message Bible Search* / ISBN 9781600062490

Copyright © 2008 NavPress Publishing. All rights reserved. To order copies of this resource, come back to www.navpress.com.

INTRODUCTION TO THE CONCORDANCE



A concordance is a fancy way of saying, “Here’s where to find something in the Bible.” We’ve tried to take a lot of the things you’re going to face as you grow up and talk with you about them. For every situation, we’ve given you three ways to think about what you’re facing. When you read the titles at the top of each little chart, you’ll most likely find one of them that makes sense to you right now. Read through what the chart says and think about it. Look up the Scriptures in your Bible. Then try doing what we suggest on the next page. You’ll find lots of fun things to try as you’re working on growing up.



Remember, you don’t need to read all of these chapters at once. And you don’t need to read them in order. You get to pick the chapter that sounds most interesting to you.

You can write in this book too. You’ll find lots of places to write down how you’re feeling and what you’re learning. Putting these things in words can help you think them through. It will also be a good thing to keep. Later (next week, next year, or even when you’re much older), you can come back to this book and remember what you learned. And if you want to write your own concordance pages, use the blank pages at the end of this section.

WHEN I'M DISCOURAGED



Stacks of homework, lists of chores, friends who are being mean, upset parents . . . these are just a few of the things that bring discouragement. Having too much to do, feeling like you aren't in control, or feeling bad about yourself all lead to discouragement.

WHERE CAN IT COME FROM?

Are you tired?

"It's too hard!" "This is taking too long!" Have you ever said either of those things? When chores or homework take a long time, sometimes you get tired and just want to give up.

Then try dividing the work into smaller parts. You can move a mountain, just not all at once. If the whole job is too big, divide the work into smaller parts. Work on getting one thing done at a time. When you get one part done, stop and celebrate for a few minutes, then start the next part. God will help you get the whole job done. Just ask him.

Scripture:

Philippians 4:13
You can do it with God's help.

Are you worried?

Do you sometimes spend lots of time worrying about things that might happen? Sometimes they do happen, sometimes they don't. But worrying about them won't help a bit—and it just makes you discouraged.

Then try remembering God. Hey, who is in control? Well, it isn't you. Or your friends. And not even your parents. God is in control. The best way to fight the worry that brings discouragement is to trust God. You can know that he has the power to take care of everything.

Scripture:

Romans 8:28
All things can work for the good.



Did you fail at something?

Join the club! All of us fail. That means you and that means me and everyone else in the world. No one is perfect, so you're part of a big club. When you spend your time thinking about all of the times you've failed, you're going to get discouraged.

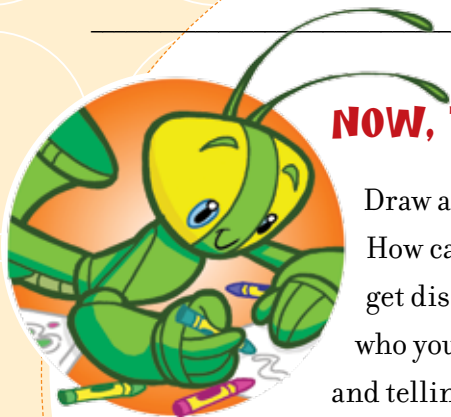
Then try admitting that you failed. Just fess up. If you did something that hurt someone, tell him or her you're sorry. If you did something wrong, tell on yourself and then fix it. Most importantly, tell God what you did and ask him to help you do the right thing next time. Whatever you did, it isn't the end of the world. We'd all be goners if it was.

Scripture:

John 3:16-17
God loves you!

**CHECK OUT THIS SCRIPTURE. FIND IT IN YOUR BIBLE
AND READ WHAT IT SAYS. IN ONE SENTENCE,
WRITE WHAT YOU THINK IT SAYS.**

Isaiah 40:28-31 _____



NOW, TRY THIS IDEA.

Draw a picture of what this makes you think of.
How can your picture help you the next time you
get discouraged? Is there someone you know
who you could help by showing them your picture
and telling them about these verses?

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

I stopped being discouraged when I _____

From now on, when I get discouraged, I'm going to _____

Romans 8:28

Every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good.

WHEN I FEEL SAD

The sky is gray and so are you. You can't find anything to be happy about. You feel like there is a dark cloud floating above your head. You are just plain-old sad, and you don't even know why.



WHERE CAN IT COME FROM?

Are you bored?

Are you sad because you don't have anything to do? Maybe you don't feel useful, or you feel like no one needs you.

Then try action. The best thing to do is to get busy! Help your neighbors weed their garden. Do a chore for your parents. Play with your little brother or sister. Get busy and stop thinking about yourself so much!

Scripture:
Proverbs 13:4
Satisfaction comes from action.

Is your heart hurting?

Losing someone hurts! If it's because a friend or a loved one moved away or died, you are going to miss that person! Or maybe your pet died. Saying good-bye is never easy for anyone.

Then try letting it out. It's okay to hurt. Grieving the loss of a loved one is sad, and that's okay. Let yourself go through the process of being angry, sad, and lonely. Cry into your pillow, cry to God, and cry with a friend or family member. Facing your grief is important and will help you feel better in the long run.

Scripture:
Luke 6:21
Tears can turn to laughter.



Is life unfair?

It is hard when life doesn't go according to your plans. Maybe you have to wait for things you want right now. You might think others have more than you or that they get more attention than you.

Then try looking ahead. Oooo, this is a hard one! Unfortunately, you don't get to make all the rules in the world. Sometimes you have to wait for your turn. Your turn will come. Just keep looking ahead.

Scripture:
Romans 12:12
Patience and joy are buddies!

**CHECK OUT THIS SCRIPTURE. FIND IT IN YOUR BIBLE
AND READ WHAT IT SAYS. IN ONE SENTENCE,
WRITE WHAT YOU THINK IT SAYS.**

Matthew 6:19-21 _____

NOW, TRY THIS IDEA.

Find or make a little box and turn it into your treasure chest. What will you put in it? How can these treasures help you when you're sad?



COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

I stopped being sad when I _____

From now on, when I get sad, I'm going to _____

Romans 12:12

Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder.