



Resource List: Helping Children Through Grief

The resources listed below align with Focus on the Family's philosophy and mission. We trust you will find them helpful. If you would like to obtain any of these items, call us toll free at 1-800-A-FAMILY, or visit our online store at store.focusonthefamily.com. (The information is regularly updated, but there is still the possibility that an item originally available from Focus on the Family might now be unavailable.) You may also be interested in the content posted on our website at focusonthefamily.com.

Included

Books

CDs and Broadcasts

Websites, Q&As, and Resource Lists

Referrals

Books

Children and Grief: Helping Your Child Understand Death by Joey O'Connor (2004) • 9780800759766 •

Learn to support your child through the questions, emotions, and struggles that death and loss inevitably bring. O'Connor, a grief recovery specialist, explains how to provide a sense of security in the midst of disorienting events and emotions.

Emily Lost Someone She Loved by Kathleen Fucci (2015) • 235000000943 • preschool–elementary

“Vivacious Emily faces a loss so big it threatens everything she knows. But one night when Emily cries out, ‘Where is God?!’ she learns He is much closer, and loves her so much more, than she ever realized.”

God Gave Us Heaven by Lisa Tawn Bergren (2008) • 9781400074464 • ages 4–8

Based on biblical insight, this picture book takes children on a journey with Little Cub and Papa to help answer questions about heaven.

Heaven for Kids by Randy Alcorn (2006) • 9781414310404 • ages 8–12

Alcorn explores biblical answers to questions kids often have about heaven, and he addresses the difference between where we go when we die and where we will live forever with Jesus after He returns.

If Nathan Were Here by Mary Bahr Fritts (2000) • 9780802852359 • ages 4–8

This book explores the grief of a young boy whose best friend has died. With the help of an understanding teacher, a kind neighbor, and an empathetic parent, he finds ways to process his sorrow—and reach out to someone else who needs *him*.

It's Okay to Cry: A Parent's Guide to Helping Children Through the Losses of Life by H. Norman Wright (2004) • 9781578567591 •

When a child experiences loss, whether it be small (a broken toy) or traumatic (the death of a friend or family member), he or she needs to know that it's okay to cry. Wright's advice equips you to assist those you love grieve and heal.

When Someone Dies: Find Comfort in Jesus by Julie Stiegemeier (2010) • 9780758618887 • ages 4–7

This gentle picture book helps explain grief to children, acknowledging that it's okay to be sad, and encouraging them to look to Jesus as their Comforter.

When Your Family's Lost a Loved One: Finding Hope Together by David Guthrie and Nancy Guthrie (2008) • 9781604829686 •

When your family's lost a loved one, reminders are everywhere. There's no avoiding the pain, and each family member will grieve in his or her own way. But it is possible to find hope, joy, and unity again. Sharing from their personal journey through loss, the Guthries offer practical, compassionate help.

CDs & Broadcasts

Adventures in Odyssey® #3: Heroes • 9781589970724 •

“Karen”: Donna Barclay tries to cope when her best friend, Karen Crosby, becomes ill with cancer.

Adventures in Odyssey® #7: On Thin Ice • 9781589972346 •

“The Very Best of Friends”: On the anniversary of her friend Karen’s death, Donna struggles over the loss of her close friend.

Adventures in Odyssey® #16: Flights of Imagination • 9781561791903 •

- “It Is Well”: Whit tells Lucy the moving story behind the writing of the old hymn “It Is Well.”
- “The Mortal Coil”: Whit programs the Imagination Station to show what life after death might be like. Against the advice of Tom Riley, he tries the program on himself—with dangerous results.

Adventures in Odyssey® #17: On Earth As It Is in Heaven • 9781561792627 •

“Forever... Amen”: Young Danny Schmidt wonders about death and eternity when his mother’s unborn baby dies as a result of miscarriage.

Adventures in Odyssey® #18: A Time of Discovery • 9781561792641 •

“Greater Love”: Whit hears the story of how Tom Riley’s son died ... from the man who claims to be responsible.

Adventures in Odyssey® #21: Wish You Were Here • 9781561793174 •

“...But Not Forgotten”: Tom Riley, Connie, and Eugene find that running Whit’s End takes more time than they thought. Tom asks an old friend of Whit’s, Jack Allen, to help out.

Adventures in Odyssey® #24: Risks and Rewards • 9781561794553 •

“Where Is Thy Sting?”: The death of Connie’s grandmother causes her family to ponder what death means for a Christian. Connie’s father ponders what death means for a non-Christian.

Adventures in Odyssey® #31: Days to Remember • 9781561796847 •

“A Lesson from Mike”: Julie is surprised by her feelings when a student she barely knows dies a tragic death.

(Find more titles in the *Adventures in Odyssey®* series [online](#).)



Coping With the Loss of a Loved One – I, II (David and Nancy Guthrie) • 9781624710919 •

Losing two infants to the same genetic disorder, the Guthries share candidly about their journey through grief (along with their eight-year-old son, Matt)—and about the importance of faith in God’s sovereignty.

Rescued Horses: Renewed Hope for Kids – I, II (Troy and Kim Meeder) • 9781624713224 •

In 1995, the Meeders bought eight acres of land in Oregon and turned it into a ranch for horses rescued from abuse and neglect. But when they began inviting troubled children to the ranch to help care for the horses, they realized that mutual healing was taking place—and that God was restoring broken lives.

Walking Through Grief With Your Child (Kathleen Fucci) • 2350000011215 •

As the new bride of a widower, Fucci stepped into the overwhelming role of mom to three grieving children. Years later, she shares what she learned about the grieving process. From listening and asking questions to encouraging your child to serve and give, learn powerful ways you can walk with them.

**Focus on the Family
Websites, Q&As, and Resource Lists**

Parenting—How to Help Your Child Grieve

- focusonthefamily.com/parenting/your_childs_emotions/how_to_help_your_child_grieve

This series of articles offers an overview of helping children grieve, common questions related to grief, and suggested resources.

Q&As

- focusonthefamily.com/family-q-and-a

Browse our Q&As for advice and encouragement.

Resource Lists

- focusonthefamily.com/family-q-and-a/resources-and-referrals

Find recommended resources and referrals listed by topic, including:

Christian Growth for Adults • RL022 •

Christian Grown for Children & Teens • RL022A •

Comfort & Encouragement • RL003 •

Grief & Loss • RL045 •

Referrals

Focus on the Family Counseling Consultation Line

If your family is experiencing grief and needs to talk to someone, [Focus on the Family offers a free phone counseling consultation with a licensed counselor](#). Call 1-855-771-HELP (4357), Monday through Friday, 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM (MT). Our staff may need to call you back, but they'd love to speak with you. You can also [search our directory for a licensed Christian counselor in your area](#) [<https://ccn.thedirectorywidget.com>].

GriefShare

P.O. Box 1739

Wake Forest, NC 27588

800/395-5755

griefshare.org

- This organization provides materials to help churches facilitate grief recovery support meetings, and assists individuals in connecting with these local groups.