

Prayers of Children

The letters children write to God contain beliefs, desires, questions and doubts that are urgent and common to all children – and perhaps to many adults. A book with a collection of these missives, compiled by Stuart Hample and Eric Marshall and published by Workman Publishing of New York, simply titled *Children's Letters to God*, declares some of these compositions “are disarmingly wise, others naïve; some are knowing, some simple; some reverent, some not so reverent. Many are weighted with seriousness; others are lit with smiles. All of them are addressed to God with much hope and trust.”

Let's examine a few (the spelling and grammar have not been corrected, for what they say they say better as they are):

- “In Sunday School, they told us what you do. Who does it when you are on vacation?” – Jane
- “Dear God, I read the bible. What does begat mean? Nobody will tell me.” – Love, Alison
- “Dear God, on Holloween I am going to wear a Devil's costume, Is that all right with you?” – Marnie
- “Dear God. Are you really invisible or is that just a trick” – Lucy
- “Dear God, Is it true my father won't get in Heaven if he uses his Bowling Words in the house?” – Anita
- “Dear God, Did you mean for the giraffe to look like that or was it an accident?” – Norma
- “Dear God, Instead of Letting people die and haveing to make new ones why don't you just Keep the ones you got now?” – Jane
- “Dear God, Who draws the lines around the countries? – Nan
- “Dear God, Do animals use you or is there somebody else for them?” – Nancy
- “Dear God, I went to this wedding and they kissed right in church. Is that OK?” – Neil
- “Dear God, Are there any Patriarchs around today?” – Patrick
- “Dear God, I like the Lords prayer best of all. Did you have to write it a lot or did you get it right the first time? I have to write everything I ever write over again.” – Lois



And there you have it: From the mouths of babes. We'll share some of the other prayers of children in the near future.

Amen and amen!

– Beecher Hunter