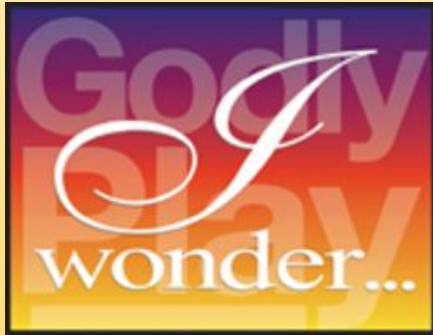


Growing your Godly Play Program



- **Spiral Curriculum**
 - **When to introduce new lessons - are you really ready?**
 - **How to do side-by-sides (going deeper without buying more)**
 - **When and how to introduce extension and enrichment lessons**
 - **Adapting the environment/sacred space**
 - **How might art responses change as children grow**
-
- **Time for Q&A**

“The goal of Godly Play is for children to move through the spiral curriculum during early, middle, and late childhood in such a way that they will enter adolescence with an inner working model of the classical Christian language system to root them deeply in the tradition and at the same time allow them to be open to the future” (Jerome W. Berryman, *Teaching Godly Play*, Morehouse Publishing, 2009, p. 21).

Spiral Curriculum

- Sets the Creative Process in Motion
- Invites children to enter the domain of the Christian Language system by experiencing the class
- Moves through Circle of the Church Year





Early Childhood

**

Middle Childhood

**

Late Childhood

**

Adolescence

Note: Refer to Appendix B in second edition volumes for a comprehensive list of stories

Early Childhood (3 - 6 yrs)

Core Lessons

Middle Childhood (6 - 9 yrs)

Core Lessons

Enrichment

Extensions

Late Childhood (9 - 12 yrs)

Core Lessons

Enrichment

Extensions

Synthesis

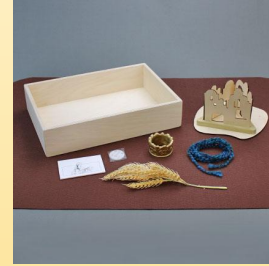
Adolescence

Inner Working Knowledge of the
Christian Language System



“Core Lessons” are *key* sacred story, liturgical action, parable and silence lessons

“Extensions” extend the core lessons, tell more about the story.



“Enrichment” lessons do not extend but enrich or deepen the core lessons. This lesson goes over the same material that is in the core lesson from a different angle in a more detailed way

“Synthesis” integrates *key* narratives to make a lesson



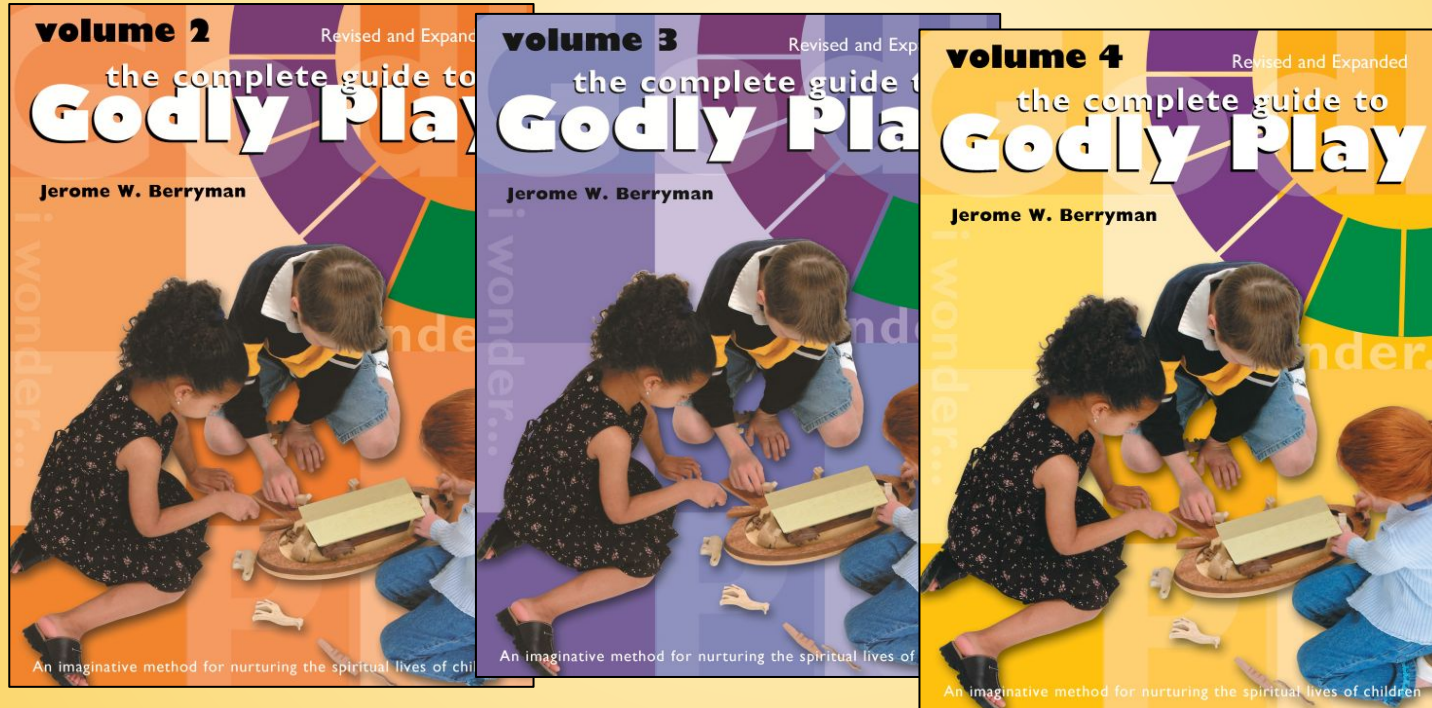
Working Knowledge of the Christian Language System in Action



Are you ready . . .

. . . to introduce new lessons?

Are you using the **revised and expanded** editions of *The Complete Guide to Godly Play*, Volumes 2-4?



Have your circles experienced the Core stories

3 times?



Have your circles had the Synthesis lessons?



Most of the materials are already in your Godly Play room!

Synthesis: Sacred Stories

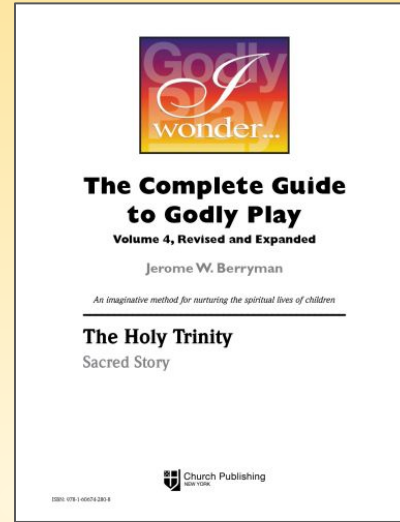


Creation (Vol 2)

Faces of
Easter (Vol 4)



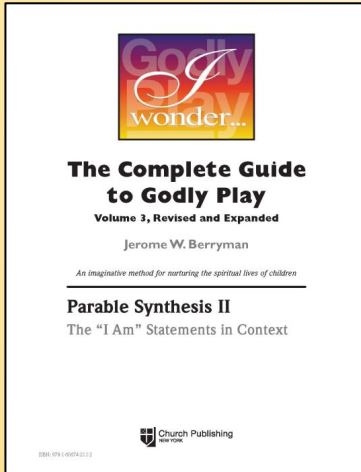
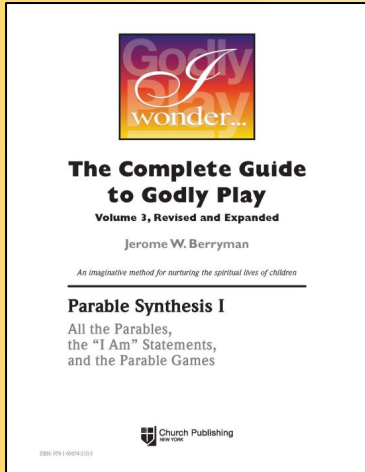
Paul's
Travels and
Letters
(Vol 4)



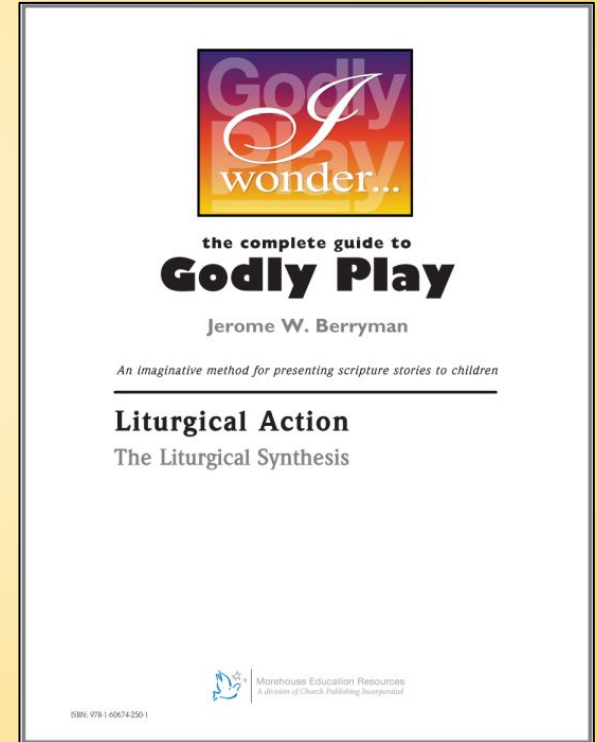
Holy Baptism (Vol 3)



Synthesis: Parables



Synthesis: Liturgical Action



Are children telling you they're ready?

What's in that box with the crown on it?

You said that people got well when Jesus came close to them. Who do you mean?

~~We've heard this one before.~~

How do YOU respond?

What happened to Isaac when he was a kid? All of a sudden he got married.

Were there any women who followed Jesus?

What if I put pieces of this story in that story?

Are YOU ready to grow?

*Check your heart and your energy.

*Have you read and reread *Teaching Godly Play*?

*Are you bored with the Core stories, perhaps because you no longer invest in your own wondering and learning?

*Are you familiar with the foundational literature described in Appendix A in *The Complete Guide to Godly Play*, vols. 2-4 and 8?

*Do you gather with other Godly Play practitioners and/or attend Godly Play North American conferences?

These are not prerequisites to new stories, but markers for your discernment.

Is your church or other setting ready to grow?

*Do you have enough mentors willing to learn both the *why* and the *how* of new stories?

*Is there room to expand your sacred space physically, if necessary?

*Is there financial support for investing in new materials?

*Have you worked with parents about how Godly Play can meet the needs of their older children?

*Do clergy and other leaders understand and support growth of the Godly Play program?

Going Deeper With What
You Already Have

Side By Sides



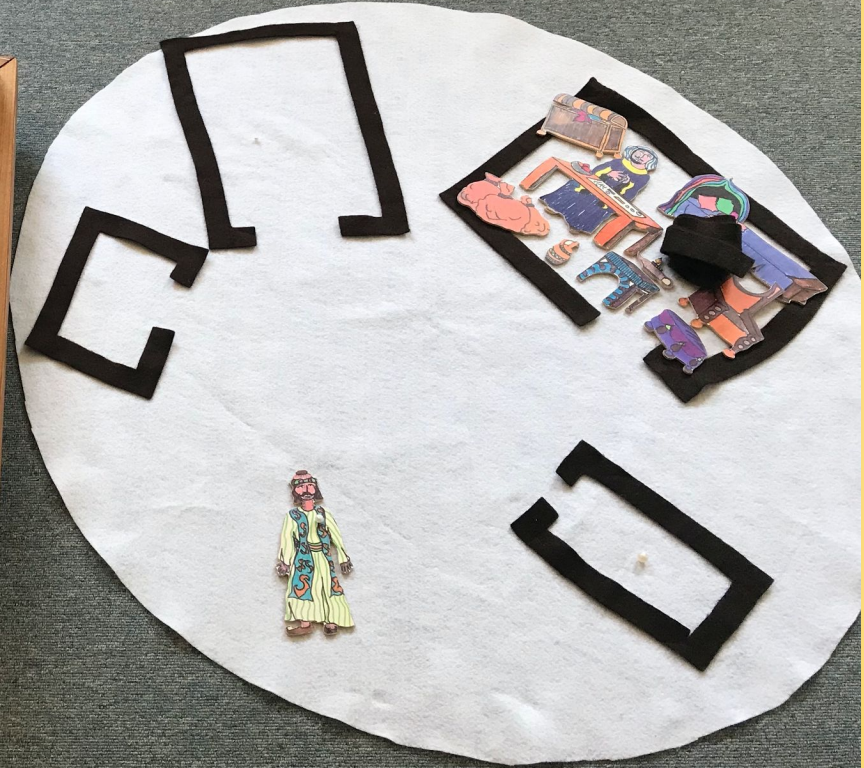
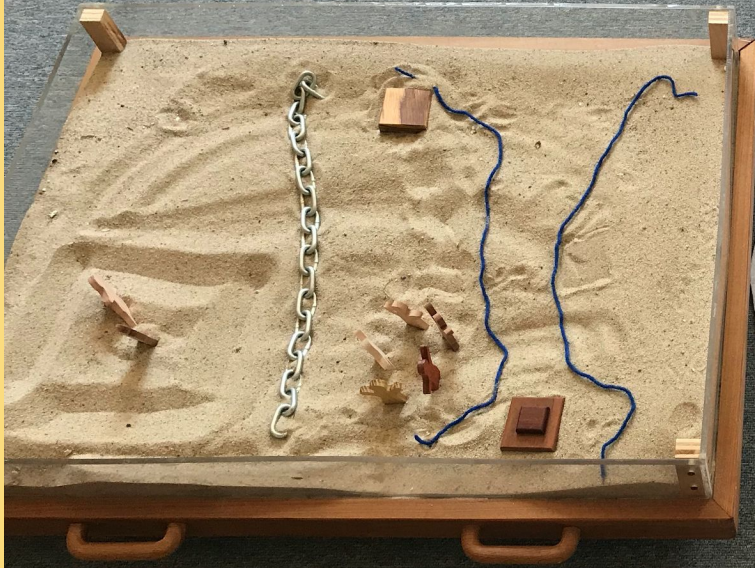
Side By Sides

Parable of the Mustard Seed and Good Shepherd and World Communion



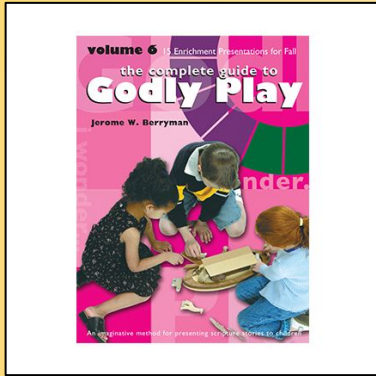
What do these stories have to say to each other?

Exile and Return and Parable of the Great Pearl

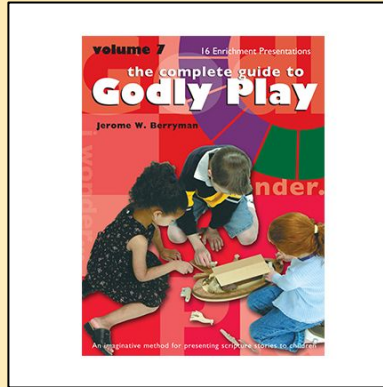


Where are the new stories?

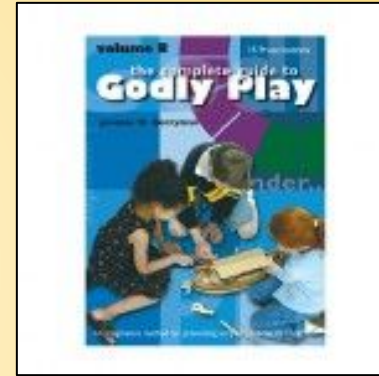
Where are the new stories?



Volume 6: Old
Testament
Extensions



Volume 7: After the
Biblical Era - Saints



Volume 8: Core,
Extension &
Enrichment Stories

All stories are also available digitally at www.churchpublishing.org
All materials are available from Godly Play Resources, www.godlyplay.com.

Volume 6 Revised and Expanded

- Includes specific language and movements for connecting to Core stories on shelf above
- Improves some story materials
- Offers changes and simplification to text
- Contains new stories, such as Esther and Psalms
- Expected publication Spring 2021

Relationship of the stories on the shelves



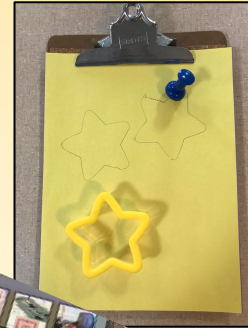
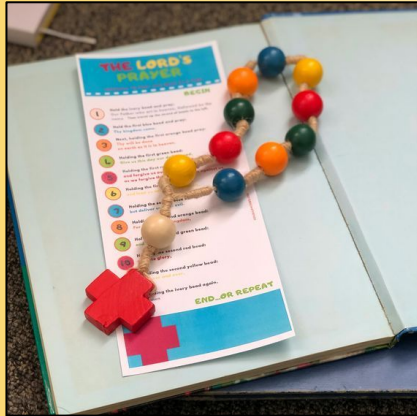
See “Where to Find Materials” diagram with every lesson in *The Complete Guide to Godly Play*. Remember that the room teaches!



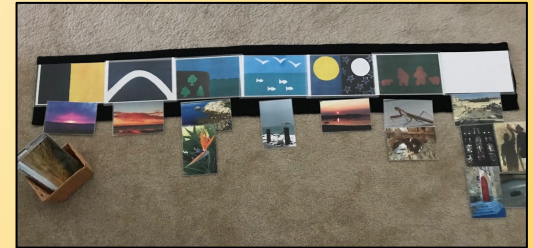
Growing/Deepening without growing space



Enrich and Extend Response / Art materials



Journals
Rubbings
Sewing
Watercolor/crayon resist
Maps
Biblical Atlas
Timelines



Before adding response materials, add . . .



*Children in middle and late childhood engage more deeply in creative response and appreciate **more time**.

*Consider adding **work days** to your schedule.

Now . . . Are you ready?

I wonder what your work will be?

Q

&

A

Go in peace
to love and
serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!