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the enclosed garden

a book ON moral purity

Are you like an enclosed garden?

It is time to have a special talk with Angel and Miriam about the divine plan for our lives. Together they learn about God's standard of moral purity for boys and girls. Find out how Kingdom Kids can guard their enclosed gardens and remain pure!

Ruth Rieder is the mother of two daughters, Angelica and Miriam. Currently residing in Rio Rancho, NM, Ruth is also the national Daughters of Zion Prayer Coordinator, Texico District Ladies President, international speaker and recording artist. The author of several best-selling books, her titles include *Power Before the Throne*, *Reflecting the Glory*, *Covenant by Sacrifice*, *Desired by the King* and the *Kingdom Kids Series*. Ruth's skillful writing, anointed speaking, and dynamic singing pulsate with her intense passion for God, His Kingdom, the Word and prayer.



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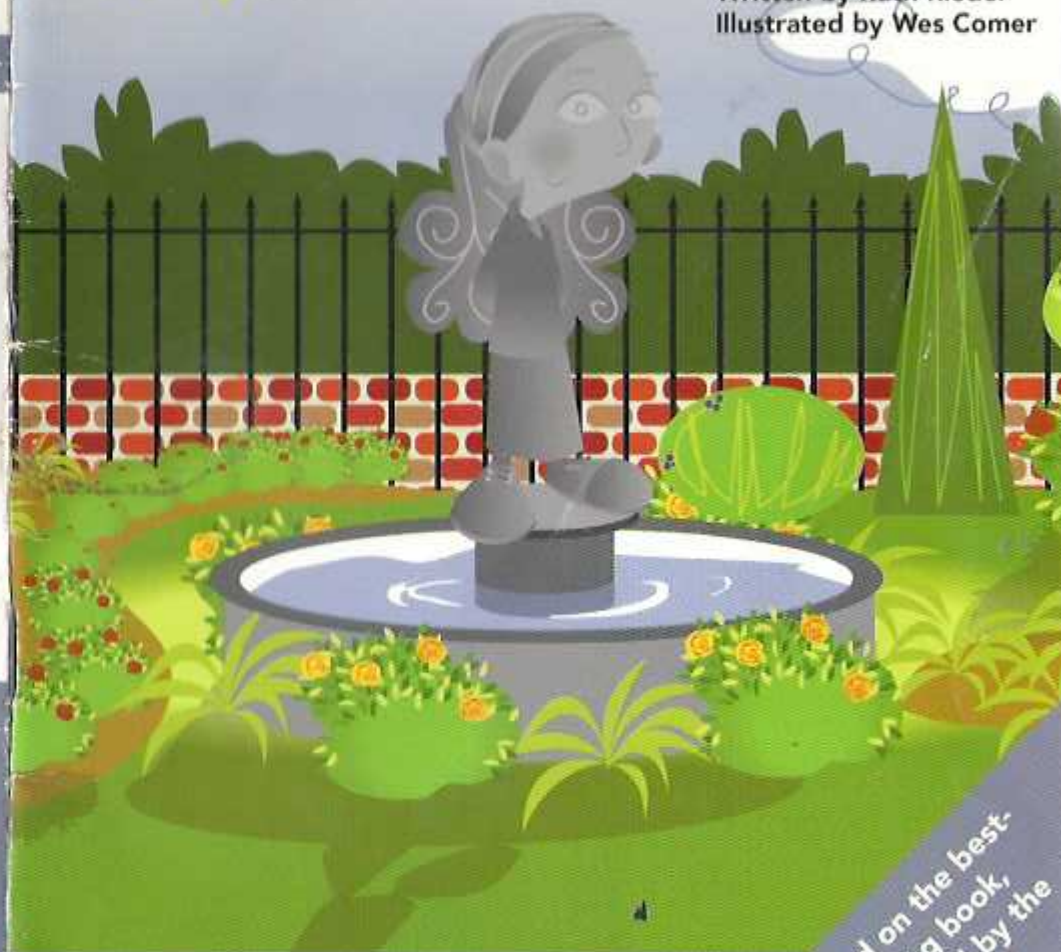
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kingdom kids series: book six
for ages 5-12 years

the enclosed garden

a book ON moral purity

Written by Ruth Rieder
Illustrated by Wes Comer

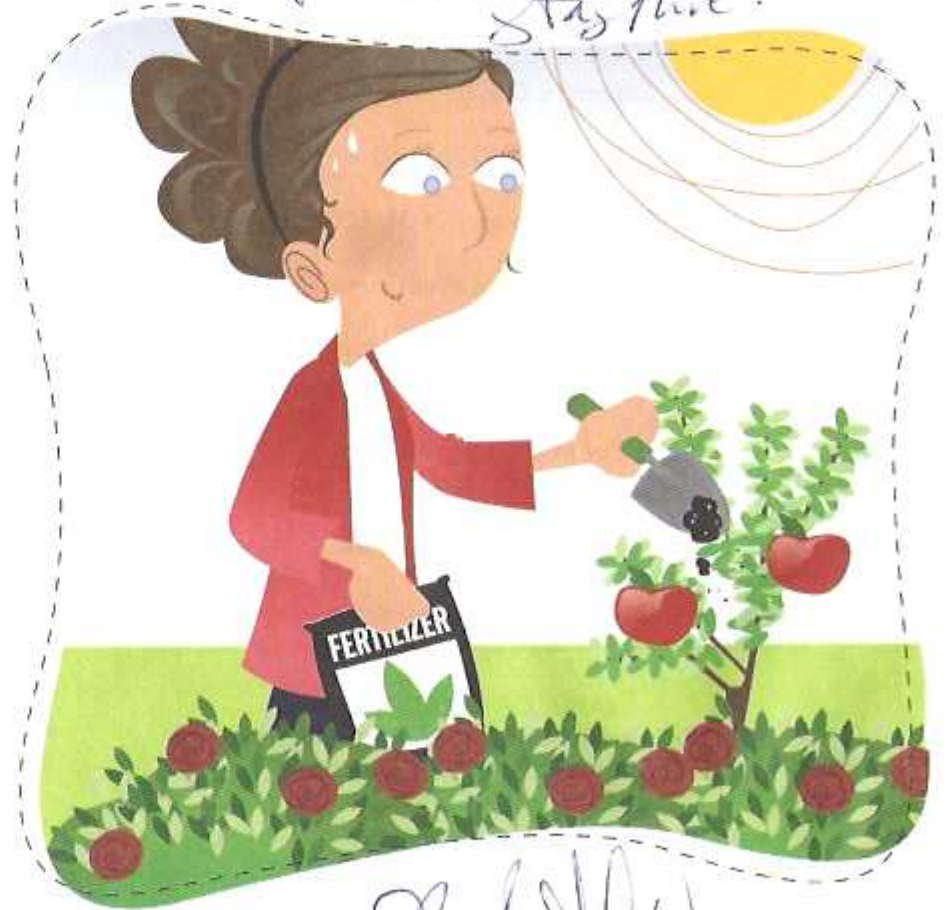


kingdom kids series: book six

Based on the best-selling book, "Desired by the King"

the enclosed garden

*To Ruth
stay here!*



I feel here

Written by Ruth Rieder
Illustrated by Wes Comer

THE ENCLOSED GARDEN

A Book About Moral Purity

Written by Ruth Rieder

Dedicated to all the Kingdom Kids around the world. My humble desire is that somehow these writings would establish and anchor the truth of holiness within the hearts and minds of the younger generation. "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." (II Timothy 3:15) In a day of non-commitment and trashing of godly values may they "Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding." (Proverbs 23:23)

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Illustrated by: Wes Comer

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

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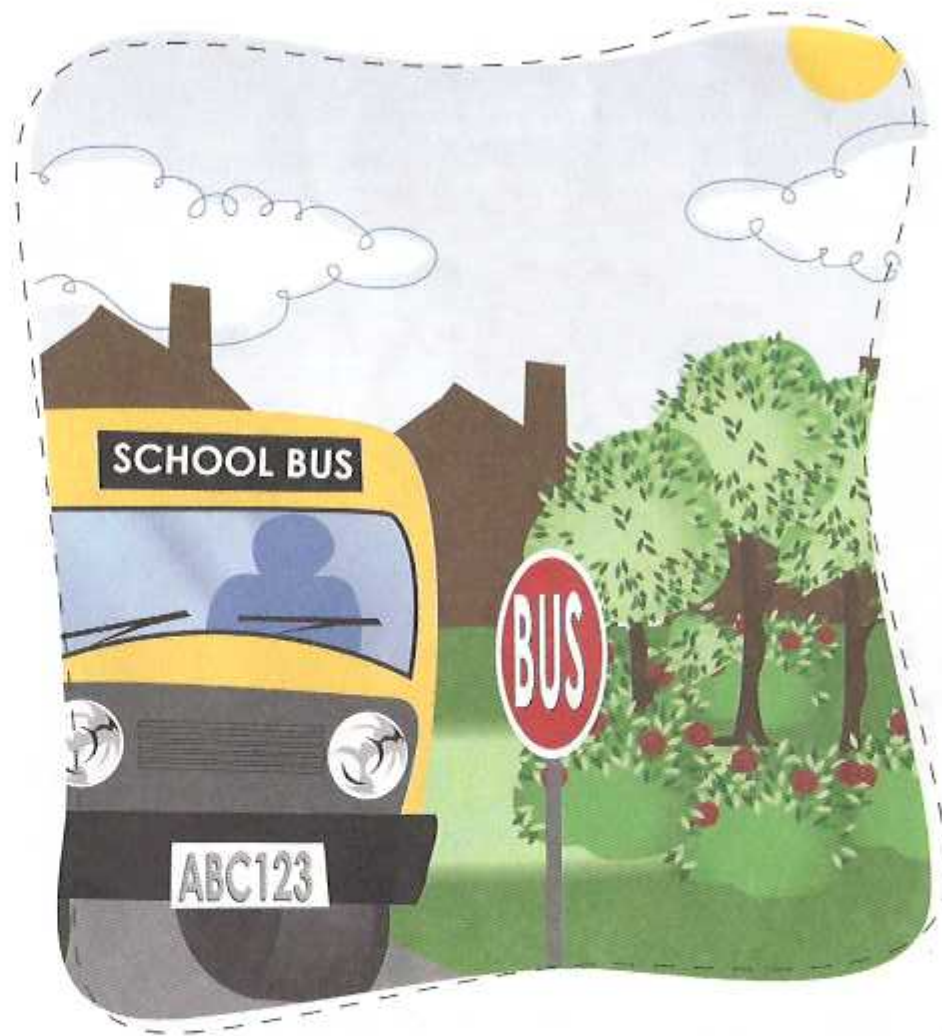
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Rushing busily around the kitchen, Mother finished making a pan of lasagna and put it in the oven to bake for dinner. Glancing at her watch, she could hardly believe it was already 3:00 p.m. and time to pick up Angel and Miriam. Grabbing her purse, Mom rushed out the door, jumped into the car and hurriedly drove to the girls' bus stop. Just as she arrived, the big yellow bus pulled up and the girls hopped out. Chattering excitedly, they both ran to the car and climbed in the back seat.



"How was your day?" asked Mother. "Great!" chorused the girls. On the way back home, Angel told Mother about her health class. "Today, my teacher gave me a permission slip for you to sign so I can watch a film called 'You and Your Body'." "What is the film about?" asked Mom. Giggling self-consciously, Angel explained, "It tells how and why our bodies change as we get older. My friend, Stacey, said it was a film about the 'birds and the bees'." "The 'birds and the bees'?" echoed Miriam, "what does that have to do with your body?" Shifting nervously in her seat, Angel told her little sister, "I think it might explain where babies come from." "Where babies come from?" squealed Miriam, "wouldn't you be embarrassed to watch a film like that?"



Blushing furiously, Angel shrugged her shoulders as she jumped out of the car and ran into the house. Miriam and Mother followed close behind. Always full of questions, Miriam asked, "Mom, why do our bodies change as we grow up? Where do babies come from? Is it scary to have a baby? Will I have to watch a film like that?" Smiling patiently, Mother waited for the questions to stop, then told her girls, "I think it is time for a very important talk. Get your Bibles while I fix a snack. Would you like some brownies?" "Yes, sounds yummy!" shouted the girls as they ran to their rooms.



When Mother, Angel, and Miriam sat down at the table, Ashes began jumping around in the laundry room and meowing very loudly as if to say, "I have been in here long enough. Get me out of here!" Springing up, Miriam ran to open the door and let her kitty out. "Mom, can Ashes come to our important talk? I know he is a boy, but don't boys need to know this stuff, too?" asked the little girl. "Yes, they do," answered Mother, "and of course, Ashes can listen to our talk."



Curling up on Miriam's lap, the little black and white kitten purred contentedly. "Let's start by talking about the divine plan for our lives," said Mom. "After Adam and Eve were created, they became the first family as the parents of Cain, Abel, and Seth. From this beginning the entire human race came forth and that is why we are here today. God's plan is for a man and woman who keep themselves pure to fall in love with each other and get married, then raise a godly family together. When we do things God's way, happy, holy, healthy homes are created and our lives can be protected from harmful influences."



"What are 'harmful influences'?" asked Miriam. "A 'harmful influence' is anything that has the power to damage or injure us. It is so important to keep our hearts, minds and bodies pure. We must be very careful to protect every area of our lives, so we will not be hurt in any way," explained Mother.



"How do we protect ourselves?" asked Angel. "Protection can come through choosing godly friends, reading good books, listening to music that glorifies God, and staying away from anything or anyone that would try to defile our minds or bodies," answered Mom. "Philippians 4:8 says it like this, 'Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things'."



"There is an old cliché that says, 'Garbage in, garbage out'. This means whatever fills the mind will be manifested in your life. That is why I so carefully monitor who your friends are, what you read, the music you listen to, and where you go. Every boy and girl is like a flower garden and whatever seeds are planted in your life will bring forth fruit. I want to be sure your garden produces pretty flowers, not ugly weeds."



"I love flowers! They smell good and look so beeeeeautiful," exclaimed Miriam. "Ashes likes pretty flowers too, don't you?" the little girl asked her kitty. Ashes meowed in agreement as if he understood the question. "Taking care of a garden is a lot of work. It is a daily job to keep out the weeds and cultivate the good plants," said Mother. "In the same way, we must be on guard every day against anything that could destroy our ability to be obedient to God's Word. Proverbs 4:23 tells how important it is to continually protect our hearts, 'Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life'."



Mother continued, "Whatever influences your heart or emotions will have an effect upon you throughout the rest of your life. Things such as dirty magazines, nasty jokes, ungodly friends, or music which promotes sinful activities, will eventually lead down a dangerous pathway of disobedience. It could even cause you to lose your virtue."



Ever the curious one, Miriam asked, "What is virtue?" "I'm glad you asked," replied Mother. "Virtue means moral excellence, righteousness, and responsibility; goodness. We are responsible to maintain the highest quality of purity in personal habits and lifestyle. It is up to us to do what is right because the daily choices we make will affect our entire future. As Kingdom Kids, it is important to know what the Bible has to say about being virtuous. Song of Solomon 4:12 states, 'A garden inclosed is my sister, my spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed.' This Bible verse describes God's standard of moral purity for everyone, boys and girls alike."



"What does this scripture actually mean?" questioned Angel. Mother responded, "King Solomon is talking about the pureness of his future bride. He likens this girl to an enclosed garden which simply means she protects herself so nothing will violate her in any way. The Living Bible says it like this, 'My darling bride is like a private garden, a spring that no one else can have; a fountain of my own.' In other words, Solomon's wife-to-be is saving herself and her body for marriage, which is exactly what God intended for each of us to do. As I said earlier, every boy and girl is like flower garden. However, flowers are very fragile. Once they are torn apart, it is impossible to put them back together again. In the same manner, if we allow anyone to steal our purity, something is lost which can never be regained. This is why it is so important to build walls of protection in our lives, so nothing will rob us of the valuable gift of virginity. In keeping with God's plan, this prepares the way for happy, healthy, holy homes.



"Let's look at the rest of this verse," said Mother. "It talks about being like 'a spring shut up, a fountain sealed'. What comes out of a spring or a fountain?" "Water!" answered both girls. "That is right," responded Mom. "Nothing can quench your thirst like a big glass of ice-cold water. It is so refreshing! On the other hand, what would happen if the water source was poisoned?" "It could make you very sick," said Miriam. "You're right," said Mother. "Likewise, if we do not keep ourselves pure, it can poison every part of our lives and make our future families very unhealthy. When Kingdom Kids obey God's Word, it will keep them healthy and happy."



"Wow, my body is like a beautiful garden," said Miriam. "Yes, and it should remain private and protected at all times," said Mother. "Let me tell you about some important boundaries for your personal garden. Every place where you can cross your arms—your chest, and the lower half of your body, front and back—is private. Do not let anyone touch those areas and if someone tries to intrude upon this personal space, please tell a responsible adult immediately. Guard the gate to your enclosed garden at all times! Always keep the fountain or spring of your inner emotions pure and clean. This will protect and prepare you for a wonderful marriage in the days to come. The priceless present of personal purity is the greatest gift you can give to yourself and your future spouse."



"Mom, thank you for taking time to talk with us," said Angel. "Now I understand even more how special Kingdom Kids are, and why God wants us to remain pure." Mother smiled as she hugged her daughters and said, "Let's pray together and ask the Lord to help us always guard our enclosed gardens. Then we will make a Kingdom Kid's pledge to Him and to each other to maintain our purity all the days of our lives."



the end

Kingdom Kids Purity Pledge

I pledge to guard the gate to my enclosed garden and to save myself from this day forward for my wedding day and future spouse. Furthermore, I will also protect the fountain of inner emotions from any harmful influences that could destroy my virtue.

As a Kingdom Kid, I promise to obey God's standard of moral purity.

Signed _____

Dated _____

"A garden inclosed is my sister, my spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed." (Song of Solomon 4:12—KJV)

"My darling bride is like a private garden, a spring that no one else can have, a fountain of my own." (Song of Solomon 4:12—The Living Bible)



kingdom kids quiz

QUIZ #1

1. Is there a divine plan for our lives? Yes or No
2. Who were the first parents? _____
3. What were the names of their three boys? _____
4. Write down God's plan for our lives: _____

5. "When we do things God's way, _____,
_____ homes are
created and we can be protected from _____
_____."
6. What are harmful influences? _____

7. "It is so important to keep our _____,
_____, and _____ pure."
8. Should we be careful to protect our lives? Yes or No

kingdom kids quiz

9. Name some ways we can protect ourselves: _____

10. What does the old cliché 'Garbage in, garbage out' mean? _____

11. "Every boy and girl is like a _____
_____ and whatever _____ are planted
in your _____ will bring forth _____
_____."
12. Is taking care of a garden a lot of work?
13. Why? _____
14. Do we need to be on guard every day against anything
that could destroy our ability to be obedient to God's
Word? Yes or No
15. "Whatever influences your _____ or _____
_____ will have an _____ upon
_____ for the rest of your _____."
16. List some things that will lead you down a dangerous
pathway of disobedience: _____

kingdom kids quiz

QUIZ #2

1. Define virtue: _____

2. Will daily choices affect our entire future? Yes or No
3. How does King Solomon describe his future bride?

4. Can fragile flowers be put back together once they are torn apart? Yes or No
5. "If we allow anyone to _____ our _____, something is _____ which can never be _____."
6. "If we do not keep ourselves _____, it can _____ every part of our _____ and make our future _____ very _____."
7. Will Kingdom Kids be healthy and happy if they obey God's Word? Yes or No
8. Your body is like a _____ and it should remain _____ and _____ at all times.

kingdom kids quiz

9. List three of the boundaries for your personal garden:

and _____
10. Should you tell a responsible adult if anyone intrudes upon this personal space? Yes or No
11. "Guard the _____ to your _____ at all _____."
12. "Always keep the _____ or spring of your _____ pure and _____."
13. What priceless gift can you give to yourself and your future spouse? _____

14. Are Kingdom Kids special? Yes or No
15. Does God want us to remain pure? Yes or No

Bible **Memorisation**

The logo for 'kingdom kids' is located to the right of the main title. It features the word 'kingdom' in a red, outlined font above the word 'kids' in a similar red, outlined font.

Find the following Bible verses in the book and memorize them.

Philippians 4:8

Proverbs 4:23

Song of Solomon 4:12

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Ruth Rieder

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