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Dear Parents,

*Let the children come to Me, and do not hinder them,*

*for to such belongs the kingdom of God.*

**Luke 18:16**

Parents and educators are given the wonderful responsibility of teaching children about God and His will for them. One of the ways we do this is by teaching them God’s Word—the Bible. Since the first Arch Books were published in the mid-1960s, the series has existed for the sole purpose of teaching the Bible to children. More than 400 different Arch Books have been published. And through them, millions of children have learned about biblical people and events, about faith and forgiveness, and about the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Now, as this beloved series enters its sixth decade, Concordia Publishing House is re-releasing this collection of Arch Books to commemorate the series’s legacy and to celebrate its influence on Bible literacy. This collection reproduces the original words and pictures.

*To God be the glory!*

The Editor
DONKEY DANIEL in Bethlehem
Nearby the town of Nazareth, a long, long time ago, there lived a little donkey with a nose as white as snow.
His name was Donkey Daniel. He was very strong indeed; why, he could carry anything that anyone might need.
First came a leather saddle,

then some bags of food and drink,

and a tiny sack of money—he could hear the coins go “clink!”
Then Joseph lifted Mary up.
She seemed so very small
that Donkey Daniel hardly felt
her on his back at all.
“It’s time for us to go,” said Joseph.
“I will walk ahead.”
And Donkey Daniel followed
where his gentle master led.
They passed the houses and the wall, right out of town they went. And when they reached the distant hills, they started their ascent.
Straight up they climbed, 
till Donkey Daniel 
thought they’d hit the sky. 
“Why, I can see 
for miles around!” 
he cried. 
“Oh, my! 
OH, MY!”
Then down they went, through valleys green,
past laughing little streams.
“The real world,” Donkey Daniel thought,
“is better than my dreams.”
They walked and walked for days,
and then, at last, one afternoon,
good Joseph cried, “There’s Bethlehem!
We ought to be there soon!”
“That is good news!” said Mary.
Oh, how gladly she replied,
for she was very tired
from the long and bumpy ride.