A new book by Perkins County author, Larry Harger of Madrid, is now available to the public.

Harger's book was written to give children the opportunity to learn about God. Many books written for children, often called children sermons or object lessons, usually quote Bible verses and give Scriptures too hard for young children to understand.

This book has been written with simplicity in mind, he said.

"We learn by hearing, seeing or by hands on. This book actually allows all three of these ways to be experienced," says Harger's introduction.

These children's sermons and object lessons are for different age levels and should be sorted and used accordingly for the age of the participants to allow them the best opportunity for learning.

It is suggested that children pray with the leader. It is also suggested that the prayers be one or two lines to help the children learn to pray.

This book could be used by laity, pastors, or anyone in spiritual training of the young.

Copies of Harger's book are available for sale at The Grant Tribune-Sentinel office and on Amazon.com.

About the Author

Harger was born in Kansas in 1938 into a family of nine children.

As a young child, to help the family finances, he picked green beans, making three cents a pound. He carried a half bushel basket, since at the age of five, he was too small to carry a full bushel.

Eventually, his parents found it too difficult to support such a large family and most of the children, including Larry, were taken to an orphanage in Atchinson, Kan.

Larry spent three years there until he was adopted by Wayne and Evelyn Harger, and lived in Arkansas City, Kan.

He graduated from Arkansas City High School and junior college, as well as Southwestern College and a medical technology school in Wichita.

He moved to Perkins County in 1960 and worked at Goodall Electric as a chemical research technician. He married Mary Jane Buchanan in 1960, and they raised a family of five children and now have 12 grandchildren.

His career in chemical technology took him briefly to Colorado, and finally back to Nebraska where he spent 21 years at the Gerald Gentleman station.

Although it took some adjustment getting used to the area, Harger now considers Perkins County to be the best place in the world to live.

"The world is full of many good people and I have met many right here in Perkins County," said Harger. "God and people have been very good to me."

He has attended the Madrid United Methodist Church and has served on several boards, and as a lay leader.

One night he dreamed that God wanted him to become more active in the church.

He began speaking in area churches, and giving children's sermons. This experience inspired him to write his book "Children's Sermons–so children will know God."

He started on the compilation of simple lessons for children in 2006 and it became a reality in 2008 with its publication.