

Writing for Children's Magazines

taught by Julie Lavender,
author of

Strength for All Seasons: A Mom's Devotional of Powerful Verses and Prayers and
Children's Bible Stories for Bedtime (Zeitgeist/Penguin Random House)
365 Ways To Love Your Child: Turning Little Moments Into Lasting Memories (Revell)

1) PRAY!!

2) Read Submission Guidelines
Resources: Writers Market Guide
Christian Writers Market Guide

Do they accept freelance submissions?
What is the word count for each type of article in the magazine?
How far ahead should you submit?
Does the magazine want queries first or completed article?

3) Start small, but aim big

Consider submitting to "smaller" magazines or non-paying ones to establish writing credits, but don't be afraid to reach out to bigger ones, too.

4) Study sample articles in target publication

What subjects were covered recently?
What is the style and tone of the magazine articles?
How do they begin and end?

5) Choose a story idea or topic

6) Write article

7) Let manuscript "rest"

8) Edit

Check for clarity.
Check for punctuation, grammar, or spelling errors.
Have a critique partner read the article.

9) Write query letter

Be sure to find out acquisition editor's name with correct spelling.
Start with lede paragraph – the 'hook.'
Next paragraph is the nut graf – the paragraph summarizing what you're offering in the article.
The 'body' comes next – two (or maybe three) paragraphs that give some examples from the story.
Credentials and bio come next.
Closing paragraph – show a tidbit of your knowledge of the magazine through a similar article, mention simultaneous submission, ask if you can submit

10) Send query

Send simultaneous submissions, but be sure to personalize each one.

11) Write or send article

Hopefully, the editor says YES and you can complete the article to send in. If you get one of those inevitable-at-times rejections, then move on to another publication

12) Celebrate!

Acceptance or rejection – celebrate! You've accomplished a lot, either way!

CONNECT WITH ME!

I have a couple of favors, and then I want to ask you to share your writing successes with me!

I had the pleasure of being a guest on the Focus on the Family Broadcast last year. I'd be so very honored if you'd listen to the broadcast, because each "view" encourages

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more opportunities for writers like me/us to be part of their show! Here's that link:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ti_1-eOtcjA&t=951s

Would you please consider checking out my books to give as a gift to yourself or someone special? And if you do, would you consider writing a brief, honest review on Amazon?

Strength for All Seasons: A Mom's Devotional of Powerful Verses and Prayers
(Zeitgeist/Penguin Random House) <https://www.amazon.com/Strength-All-Seasons-Devotional-Powerful-ebook/dp/B0CD3JLYNC>

Children's Bible Stories for Bedtime (Zeitgeist/Penguin Random House)
<https://www.amazon.com/Childrens-Bible-Stories-Bedtime-Faith/dp/0593436164>

365 Ways to Love Your Child: Turning Little Moments into Lasting Memories (Revell)
<https://www.amazon.com/365-Ways-Love-Your-Child/dp/0800738845>

I'd love to hear about your children's writing success stories!!! Please connect with me at julielavenderwrites.com and on social media to tell me about ANY of your writing successes! I love talking about writing with fellow writers! It's my joy to pray for writer friends and encourage them, too! Let's connect!

<https://www.facebook.com/JulieLavenderAuthor>

<https://twitter.com/JLavenderwrites>

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