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# Jessica's First Prayer (Illustrated)



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## Synopsis

A tale of Victorian life. The story of a neglected street urchin Jessica, and the outcome of her simple faith when hearing about the hope of Christ. How do we react to the poor and needy? What does it mean for a minister to be a servant of God? How can our faith be integrated into our daily lives? These are all questions that are addressed in this book. An encouraging book about how the least of these among us can have the most powerful effect.

## Book Information

Series: Jessica (Book 1)

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 29 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,584,518 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #106 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian > Social Issues](#) #209 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian > Historical](#) #8760 in [Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity](#)

## Customer Reviews

SARAH SMITH (1832-1911) was born in Wellington, England. She had the good fortune of being able to read books from her father's bookshop, a printer of evangelical literature. Her mother was a strong evangelical, but died when Sarah was young. When she began writing, Hesba Stretton was her pen name, Stretton coming from the name of a neighboring village, and Hesba coming from the initials of her siblings. She wrote Jessica's First Prayer in 1867, which became one of her most beloved stories. It sold very well and was translated into many languages. Other best sellers were Little Meg's Children and Alone in London. She was familiar with the troubles of street children whom she visited and helped. She wrote over 60 books and stories. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Background: Jessica's First Prayer is a very important historical book that was released around the

same time as Alice in Wonderland, and that was a best selling book, easily outselling Alice. It made a huge impact on the face of child neglect and abuse in England, and was a spark leading to a major shift in how children were treated. Story: It is a short book and in spite of having a very big impact on such a major issue in Victorian England, it is very family friendly. I read it aloud to my four girls (10 y/o and younger) and they really enjoyed it. The story is really good and will touch your heart. It also touches some issues in the Christian church as well, and hopefully it will help some people to rethink how they look at strangers in the church. Rating: I would love to give this book 5 stars, but after listening to the dramatization of the book (Jessica's Journey) done by Lamplighter Theater ( [lamplighter.net](http://lamplighter.net) ) there's a difference between this story and the potential of what it could have been through fleshing out the story and adding more depth. Ultimately though, it is an amazing story and well worth the price!

I read this book with my 9 year old and my 6 year old. We found it very touching and kindhearted. It gives a good example of helping the least among us in the spirit of true Christianity. Also, it shows how self-introspection can lead us to truth about ourselves, giving us great opportunity for change if necessary. Keep in mind, however, this book is written in a different period of time and may require some insight from parents about class/station of this period in England. Also, it was a good vocabulary booster.

This is one of my favorite books. Speaks to all ages of the most beautiful and most meaningful story of all Americans must read. I bought it here but it does not show up on my kindle app.

I absolutely loved this book! It is 19th century children's literature that is simply classic! This book is for everyone. A quick read and utterly charming. I highly recommend!

First read this when I was 7z my grandmother gave me a beautiful first edition she won in church when she was 12. Never forgot the moral! Timeless!!

Well written story that can be enjoyed by all age groups.

We loved this story, along with "Jessica's Mother." Excellent story-telling and we highly recommend this to others looking for quality children's literature.

Through the voice of children we see many lights. I think this book has given us a light that is brilliant. All children should read this book, it is very insightful . And full of the truth of God.

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