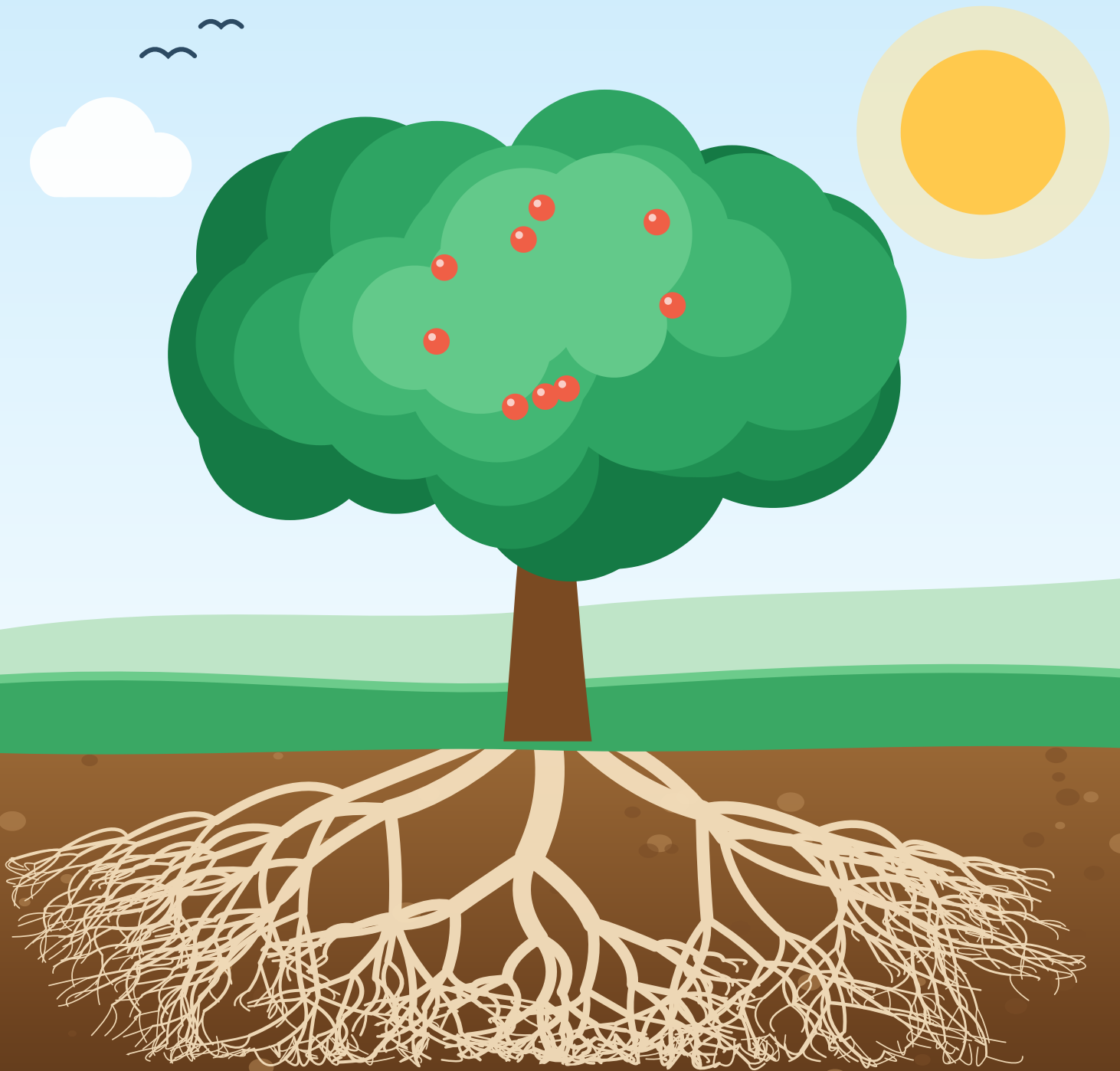


GROWING IN THE GROVE

Deep Roots

A 90-Day Growing Journal for Kids Who Are New in Christ



Pleasant Grove Baptist Church • Ronda, North Carolina



Deep Roots

A 90-Day Growing Journal for Kids Who Are New in Christ

So then, just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to walk in him, being rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, and overflowing with gratitude.

Colossians 2:6-7

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Welcome to Deep Roots!



You did the most important thing anyone can ever do: you trusted Jesus as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says that when that happens, a brand-new life begins. Welcome to God's family!

A new life is meant to grow. Think about a tree. Before a tree can grow tall and strong and full of fruit, it needs deep roots. This journal will help your roots grow deep in Jesus—one day at a time, for the next 90 days.

How this journal works



Family Time — Each week starts here. Read it with a grown-up, learn the memory verse, and talk together.



Read — Find the Bible passage in your own Bible and read it first. The key verse in the box comes from that reading. Want more? Try the “Go further” reading.



Think — A short devotion that helps you understand what you read.



Your Turn! — Write, draw, solve, or do something with what you learned.



Remember — One big truth on a sticky note to carry with you all day long.



Pray — Talk to God about it. Use the words on the page or your own.



Family Huddle — When you see this, find a grown-up and talk it over.



Bonus Page — A puzzle, project, or keepsake page at the end of each week.



Tips for growing

Do one day at a time. Missed a day? No problem—just pick up where you stopped. Keep your Bible, a pencil, and some crayons with your journal, and ask a grown-up whenever you have a question.

For Parents and Grown-Ups



Thank you for walking alongside a young believer! Whether you are a parent, grandparent, or another grown-up who loves this child, your part matters more than any page in this book. Deep Roots helps a child who has just trusted Jesus understand what happened to them and build the everyday habits of a growing Christian: reading the Bible, praying, worshiping, serving, and sharing their faith.

How it works

- Each of the 15 weeks begins with a Family Time page. Read it together (Sunday afternoon or Monday evening works well) and start learning the memory verse.
- Six short daily devotions follow, two to a page, about 10 to 15 minutes each. Let your child do them as independently as they can, with a Bible handy and you close by.
- Watch for Family Huddle questions. They are invitations to talk, so make time when your child brings one to you.
- Each week ends with a bonus page. At the back you'll find memory verse cards, church notes, Bible study pages, and an answer key.

How you can help

- Pray for your child by name—every day if you can.
- Let them see you reading your Bible and praying. Faith is caught as much as it is taught.
- Ask about it at supper or bedtime: What did you read today? What did you learn about God?
- Don't worry about missed days. Just pick back up where you stopped.
- Celebrate progress, not perfection.
- Bring your questions to church. Pastor James would love to talk with your family about baptism and next steps.

If you are not sure where you stand with Jesus yourself, we would be honored to talk with you too. Call the church at (336) 984-3360 or email pastor@pgbcronda.com. We would love to hear from you.



This Journal Belongs To



My name: _____

My age: _____

I trusted Jesus on: _____

Where I was: _____

People who helped me know Jesus: _____

My church: **Pleasant Grove Baptist Church**

I started this journal on: _____

How I trusted Jesus (in my own words):

Draw a picture of yourself!

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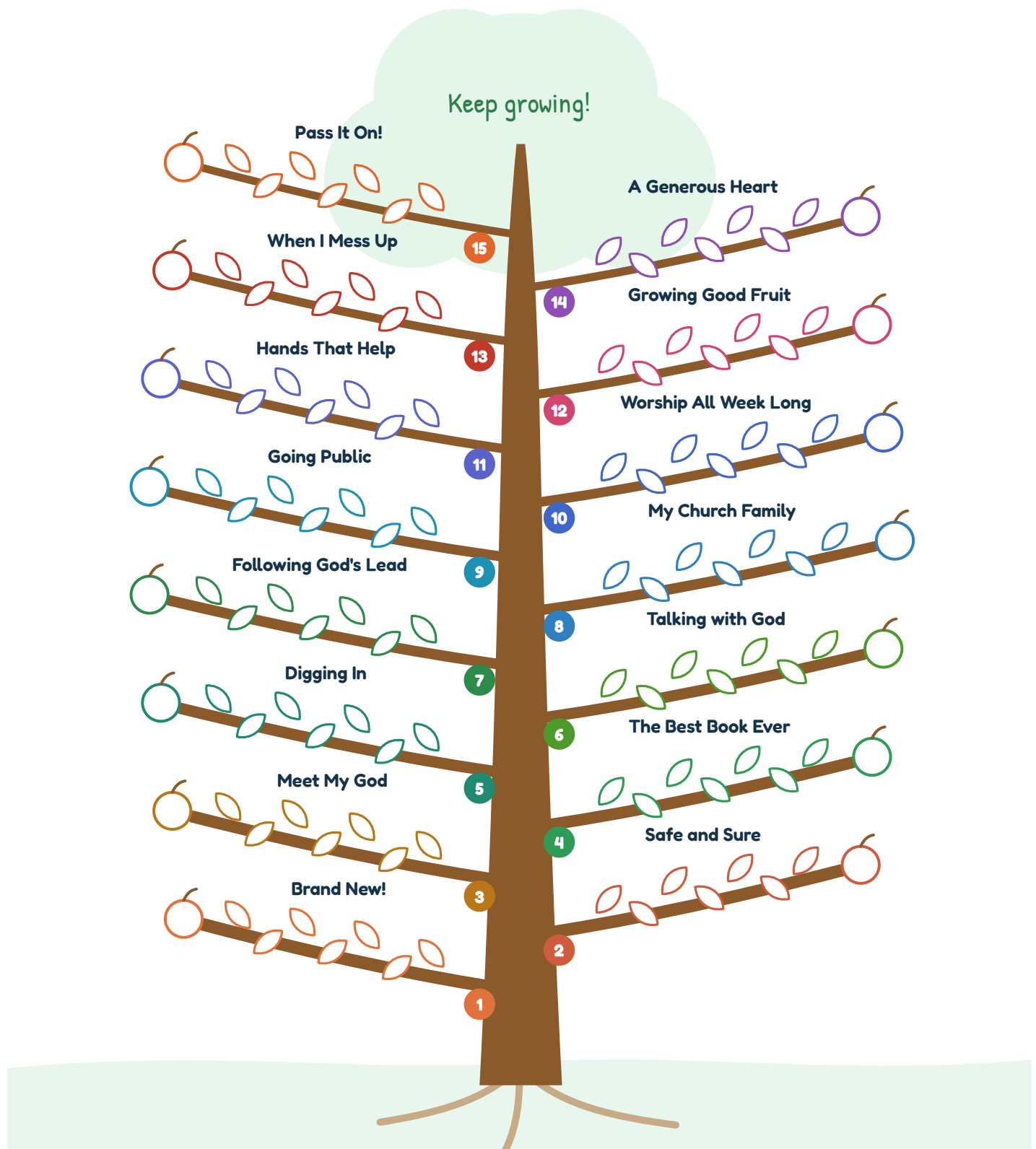
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Watch Your Roots Grow!

Each time you finish Family Time, a day, or a bonus page, color in a leaf. Fill them all and you'll have a whole tree's worth of growing!



Brand New!



✦ When you trusted Jesus, God gave you a brand-new life.

FAMILY TIME

A Brand-New Song

Read together: **Psalm 40:1-3**

Have you ever been stuck in the mud? Maybe your boot sank at the edge of a creek, and the harder you pulled, the deeper it went. You needed someone bigger and stronger to pull you out.

King David wrote a song about being stuck. In Psalm 40 he says he was down in a pit full of mud and muck, and he couldn't climb out. So he waited for the Lord and cried out to Him. God heard him! God lifted David out, set his feet on a solid rock, and gave him a brand-new song to sing.

That's a picture of what happened to you when you trusted Jesus. Sin had all of us stuck, and nobody could pull themselves out. But Jesus died on the cross to pay for our sin, and then He rose from the dead. When you believed in Him and asked Him to be your Savior and Lord, God lifted you out. Now you are standing on the Rock!

The Bible says that anyone who belongs to Jesus is a new creation. That doesn't mean you will never make another mistake. It means God has started something brand new inside you, and He will help you grow. Over the next 90 days, you'll discover what your new life looks like—and how to put down deep roots in Jesus.

Do It Together

Turn to the "This Journal Belongs To" page at the front of this book and fill it in together. Then pick a favorite praise song and sing it as your family's new song this week.

Pray Together

Dear God, thank You for lifting us out of the pit of sin through Jesus. Thank You for giving [name] a brand-new life. Help our family grow deep roots in You. In Jesus' name, amen.

Memory Verse

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, and see, the new has come!

2 Corinthians 5:17

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
☐ I said it without peeking!

For Grown-Ups

This week your child begins a 90-day adventure. Read this page together, then let your child try the daily pages on their own with you close by. Keep a Bible handy, and ask about what they are learning at supper or bedtime. Your interest will encourage them more than you know.

Talk About It

- 1 What's something new you were excited to get? How is a new life in Jesus even better?
- 2 David couldn't climb out of the pit by himself. Why can't we fix our sin problem on our own?
- 3 Grown-ups, tell about a time God helped you or the day you trusted Jesus. Kids, what do you remember about your day?



Born into a New Life

Read: John 3:1-8 **Go further:** John 1:12-13



“ Jesus replied, “Truly I tell you, unless someone is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” **John 3:3**

Nicodemus was a teacher who knew a lot about God. One night he came to talk with Jesus. Jesus told him something surprising: “You must be born again.” Nicodemus was confused. How can a grown man be born again? Jesus explained that He wasn’t talking about being born as a baby. He meant a new life on the inside that only God’s Spirit can give. That’s what happened to you! When you trusted Jesus, God gave you a spiritual birth into His family.

Your Turn! When a baby is born, families share the happy news. Make an announcement of your new birth! (Ask a grown-up if you’re not sure of the date.)

Name: _____ **Born again on:** _____

Born into: _____ **My Father is:** _____

★ REMEMBER

When I trusted Jesus, God gave me a brand-new life on the inside.



Pray: Thank You, God, for giving me a new life. Thank You for making me part of Your family forever. Amen.



Out with the Old

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:17 **Go further:** Ezekiel 36:26-27



“ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, and see, the new has come! **2 Corinthians 5:17**

A caterpillar spends its days crawling around and munching leaves. Then it wraps itself up in a chrysalis. One day, out comes a butterfly! It is the same creature, but it is totally new. This week’s memory verse says that anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old has passed away. God doesn’t just clean up the old you. He makes you new from the inside out, and your new heart wants to love Him and please Him.

Your Turn! God is changing His new creations! Draw a line from each old way to a new way.

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. Grumbling | ● | ● A. Talking to God |
| 2. Lying to stay out of trouble | ● | ● B. Helping others |
| 3. Only thinking about me | ● | ● C. Saying thank you |
| 4. Hiding from God | ● | ● D. Telling the truth |

★ REMEMBER

In Christ, I am a new creation!



Pray: God, thank You for making me new. Show me one old habit You want to change, and help me grow. In Jesus’ name, amen.



Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: What changes do you see in me since I trusted Jesus? What changes has God made in you?



Forgiven—All of It

Read: Psalm 103:8-12 **Go further:** Micah 7:18-19



“As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. **Psalm 103:12**

If you start walking north, sooner or later you will reach the North Pole. Then every step after that takes you south! But if you start walking east, you can keep going east forever and never run into west. Psalm 103 says God has taken our sins as far away from us as the east is from the west. When God forgives you, your sin is gone for good. He doesn't keep a list or bring it up again. Jesus paid for all of it on the cross.

Your Turn! Use the number code to crack this good-news message. (A = 1, B = 2, C = 3...)

A=1	B=2	C=3	D=4	E=5	F=6	G=7	H=8	I=9	J=10	K=11	L=12	M=13
N=14	O=15	P=16	Q=17	R=18	S=19	T=20	U=21	V=22	W=23	X=24	Y=25	Z=26

9 1 13 6 15 18 7 9 22 5 14

★ REMEMBER

When God forgives me, my sin is gone for good.



Pray: Thank You, Jesus, for dying on the cross to take away my sin. Thank You that I am completely forgiven. Amen.



Welcome to the Family

Read: Romans 8:14-17 **Go further:** 1 John 3:1



“For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear. Instead, you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father!” **Romans 8:15**

When a family adopts a child, that child gets a new name, a new home, and parents who will love them forever. The Bible says something amazing happened to you: God adopted you! You aren't just a fan of God or a helper in His house. You are His very own child, and you can call Him Father. Everything God has promised His children belongs to you. And every Christian is now your brother or sister in God's family.

Your Turn! Draw yourself with some of your church family. Write “God's Family” across the top!

draw here

★ REMEMBER

I am God's child, and He will always be my Father.



Pray: Father, thank You for adopting me into Your family. Help me love my brothers and sisters in Christ. Amen.



The Helper Inside Me

Read: John 14:15-18 **Go further:** John 14:26



“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. **John 14:16**”

The night before He died, Jesus made His friends a promise. He would not leave them alone like orphans. He would ask the Father to send the Holy Spirit to be with them forever. The Holy Spirit is God, and when you trusted Jesus, He came to live in you! He helps you understand the Bible. He reminds you of what Jesus said. He gives you courage and helps you say no to sin. You never have to face anything alone.

Your Turn! Use the word bank to finish each sentence about the Holy Spirit.

Word bank: alone understand in reminds

1. The Holy Spirit lives _____ me.
2. He helps me _____ the Bible.
3. He _____ me of what Jesus said.
4. With Him, I am never _____.

★ **REMEMBER**
The Holy Spirit lives in me and helps me follow Jesus.

🙏 **Pray:** Holy Spirit, thank You for living in me. Please help me understand the Bible and follow Jesus today. Amen.

🗨️ **Family Huddle:** Talk it over with a grown-up: When might you need the Holy Spirit's help this week?



Just Getting Started

Read: Philippians 1:3-6 **Go further:** Colossians 2:6-7



“I am sure of this, that he who started a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. **Philippians 1:6**”

Have you ever planted a seed? At first it looks like nothing is happening. But under the dirt, tiny roots are pushing down. Then a green sprout pokes up. With water and sunshine, it keeps growing taller and stronger. Your new life with Jesus is like that. Philippians 1:6 says God started a good work in you, and He will keep working until it is finished. You don't have to grow yourself. God is the gardener! Your part is to stay close to Him every day.

Your Turn! Draw a seed, a sprout, and a tree. Beside the tree, write one way you hope to grow in the next 90 days.

draw here

★ **REMEMBER**
God started a good work in me, and He will finish it.

🙏 **Pray:** God, thank You for starting something new in me. Help my roots grow deep in Jesus, one day at a time. Amen.



WEEK 1 • BRAND NEW!

Brand-New Words



These words tell what God did for you when you trusted Jesus. Find each one in the puzzle. Words go across, down, and on a slant. Every time you find one, thank God for it!

Y E K G B A H C M V R J
C H I L D L E O S K T M
I O J U F A M I L Y R D
E V M L J W A K I S Y E
G E A A O J E S U S U T
H F O R G I V E N P T O
R S G L V O J B K L K J
O A W M U G S P I R I T
O K G S S U G R A C E C
T T E B U V T T N E W O
S S O V H E L P E R S M
A D O P T E D T B O R N

- ☐ ADOPTED
- ☐ BORN
- ☐ CHILD
- ☐ FAMILY
- ☐ FORGIVEN
- ☐ GRACE
- ☐ GROW
- ☐ HELPER
- ☐ JESUS
- ☐ NEW
- ☐ ROOTS
- ☐ SPIRIT

Pick one of the words and draw what it means to you.

Safe and Sure



✦ Nothing and no one can take away the salvation God gives you.

 FAMILY TIME

Saved by Grace

Read together: **Ephesians 2:4-10**

Crash! Your ball just flew through your neighbor's front window. Your stomach drops. A new window costs more money than you could save in a whole year. You walk over and knock on the door, ready to say you're sorry. But your neighbor just smiles and says he will take care of it himself. You don't have to pay a single penny.

Our sin broke something much bigger than a window. It broke our friendship with God, and we could never fix it or pay for it. But Ephesians 2 says God is rich in mercy. Mercy means not getting the punishment we deserve. Because of His great love, God sent Jesus to pay for our sin on the cross. Then He made us alive with Christ!

Paul says we are saved by grace through faith. Grace is God's kindness that we don't deserve and could never earn. Salvation—being rescued from sin—is not a prize for being good. It is God's gift, so nobody can brag about it. And since you didn't earn it, you can't lose it by having a bad day. God will never take back His gift of eternal life.

Then Paul adds something wonderful. God made us to do good works. We don't do good things to get saved. We do good things because we are saved! When you help, share, and obey, you're saying thank you to God for His amazing gift.

Do It Together

Decorate a paper bag or an old box to look like a present. Copy Ephesians 2:8 onto a slip of paper, read it together, and tuck it inside. Set the gift where everyone will see it this week, and thank God for His gift every time you pass by.

Pray Together

Dear God, You are rich in mercy. Thank You for saving [name] by Your grace. None of us could ever earn it! Help our family trust Your promises and thank You every day. In Jesus' name, amen.

Memory Verse

I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.

John 10:28

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
- ☐ I said it without peeking!

For Grown-Ups

Many new Christians, young and old, wonder if they could lose their salvation. This week's pages point your child to God's promises. If your child feels unsure after a hard day or a wrong choice, gently remind them that salvation rests on what Jesus did, not on how they feel or how well they behave.

Talk About It

- 1 How would you feel if your neighbor paid for the broken window? How is that like what Jesus did for us?
- 2 Paul says nobody can brag about being saved. Why is it good news that salvation doesn't depend on how good we are?
- 3 Kids, when might you wonder if God still loves you? Grown-ups, what helps you remember His promises on hard days?



A Gift, Not a Paycheck

Read: Titus 3:4-7 **Go further:** Romans 6:23



“...he saved us—not by works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy—through the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit.
Titus 3:5

When a farmer hires someone to help stack hay, he pays them at the end of the day. That money is a paycheck, or wages. The worker earned it. A gift is different. Nobody works for a gift! Titus 3 says God saved us, not because of good things we had done, but because He is kind and full of mercy. Romans 6:23 says sin earns a paycheck no one wants: death. But “the gift of God is eternal life.” You can’t earn it. You can only receive it and say thank you!

Your Turn! Some things are earned by working. Others are gifts. Circle every gift. Then draw a star by the best gift of all!

Eternal life

A first-place ribbon

A birthday present

A sunny day

A hug

Chore money

A good grade

A paycheck

★ REMEMBER

God saved me because He is kind, not because I was good.



Pray: God, thank You for being so kind to me. Thank You for the free gift of eternal life in Jesus. I receive it with a thankful heart. Amen.



In His Hand

Read: John 10:27-30 **Go further:** Psalm 121:1-8



“My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all. No one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. **John 10:29**

Sheep aren’t big or strong. They can’t fight off a wolf or outrun a bear. They need a shepherd! Jesus said the people who follow Him are His sheep. He gives them eternal life, and “they will never perish.” That means they will never be lost. No one can snatch them out of His hand—or out of His Father’s hand! You are held by two strong hands at once. Nothing can pull you away.

Your Turn! Draw a big hand for God’s hand, with a tiny you in the middle. Write one reason you are safe.

draw here

★ REMEMBER

I am safe in Jesus’ hand. No one can snatch me away!



Pray: Jesus, thank You for being my Shepherd. Thank You for holding me in Your strong hand. Help me listen to Your voice and follow You. Amen.



Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: When have you felt afraid or unsure? How does it help to know you’re safe in God’s hand?



Nothing Can Separate

Read: Romans 8:38-39 **Go further:** Romans 8:31-37



“...nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8:39**”

Paul wanted Christians to be sure of God’s love, so he made a list. He named the biggest, scariest, strongest things he could think of. Death? Not even death can pull you away from God’s love. Life, with all its ups and downs? No. Things happening today or things that might happen tomorrow? No. Anything high above the sky or deep below the earth? No! Then, just in case he missed something, Paul added one more: nothing else in all creation. God’s love in Jesus holds on to you, no matter what.

Your Turn! What seems big or scary to you? Write one thing on each line, like the dark or a storm. Then read each line out loud and add: ...can separate me from God’s love!

Not even _____

Not even _____

Not even _____

Not even _____

★ REMEMBER

Nothing can separate me from God’s love.



Pray: Father, thank You that nothing can pull me away from Your love. When I feel afraid, help me remember that You are holding on to me. Amen.



Know for Sure

Read: 1 John 5:11-13 **Go further:** John 5:24



“I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. **1 John 5:13**”

Will the fish be biting at the pond today? You can hope so, but you can’t know for sure until you drop your line in. John wrote a letter so Christians wouldn’t have to guess about eternal life, which is life with God that starts now and never ends. He said God gives us eternal life through His Son, Jesus. Whoever has Jesus has life! John wrote so that “you may know that you have eternal life.” Not just hope. Not guess. Know! If you have trusted Jesus, you can be sure.

Your Turn! These sentences tell what 1 John 5:11-13 teaches. Use the word bank to fill in each blank.

Word bank: know Son guess life

- God has given us eternal _____.
- This life is in His _____, Jesus.
- John wrote so that we can _____ we have eternal life.
- I don’t have to _____. I can be sure!

★ REMEMBER

I have Jesus, so I know I have eternal life.



Pray: God, thank You for writing down Your promises so I can know I have eternal life. When I feel unsure, help me trust Your Word. Amen.

DAY
5

When Feelings Change

 **Read:** Psalm 13:1-6  **Go further:** Lamentations 3:22-23



“ But I have trusted in your faithful love; my heart will rejoice in your deliverance.
Psalm 13:5

Mountain weather can change in a hurry. Feelings can change fast too! In Psalm 13, David felt forgotten. Four times he asked God how long it would last. Then David remembered something that never changes: God's faithful love. By the end of the psalm, he was singing! Your feelings go up and down, but God's promises stay the same.

 **Your Turn!** Fill in the chart. Use this week's verses to find God's promises.

My feelings might say...	God's promise says...

★ REMEMBER

My feelings change, but God's promises don't.



Pray: Lord, some days I feel happy, and some days I feel sad or unsure. Thank You that Your love never changes. Help me trust Your promises. Amen.



Family Huddle: Talk with a grown-up: What can you do when you feel far from God? Which of God's promises helps you most?

DAY
6

Signed and Sealed

 **Read:** Ephesians 1:13-14  **Go further:** 2 Corinthians 1:21-22



“ In him you also were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and when you believed. **Ephesians 1:13**

Long ago, kings closed important letters with a blob of warm wax. Then they pressed a ring into it, leaving a mark called a seal. The seal showed whose letter it was. Ephesians 1 says that when you believed the good news about Jesus, God sealed you with the Holy Spirit. The Spirit in you is God's mark that says you belong to Him. He is also God's down payment: a first gift now, and a promise that more is coming—everything God has planned for His children!

 **Your Turn!** Design your own seal, like a king's ring stamp. Use shapes, pictures, or letters that show you belong to God, like a cross, a crown, or your initials.

draw here

★ REMEMBER

God sealed me with His Spirit. I belong to Him!



Pray: Father, thank You for sealing me with Your Holy Spirit. Thank You that I belong to You forever. Help me live like Your child today. Amen.



Promises to Hold On To

A promise is only as good as the one who makes it, and God always keeps His word! Look up each promise in your Bible. Then finish the sentence on each card. On days you feel unsure, come back and read these again.

Jesus Won't Turn Me Away John 6:37

Jesus will never turn away anyone who comes to Him.
I need this promise when...

God Will Never Leave Me Hebrews 13:5

God will never leave you or give up on you, not even for a minute. I need this promise when...

From Death to Life John 5:24

Everyone who believes in Jesus has eternal life right now and has crossed over from death to life. I need this promise when...

God Finishes His Work Philippians 1:6

God started a good work in you, and He will keep working until it is finished. I need this promise when...

Not Guilty! Romans 8:1

Jesus took the punishment for your sin, so God will never condemn you. He will never call you guilty. I need this promise when...

Safe in His Hand John 10:28

Jesus gives you eternal life, and no one can snatch you out of His hand. I need this promise when...

Meet My God



✦ The God who saved you is great and good, and He wants you to know Him.

FAMILY TIME

Known and Never Alone

Read together: **Psalm 139:1-12**

Who knows you best? Maybe someone at home knows your favorite supper, your favorite song, and exactly what makes you laugh. That's a wonderful thing! But even the people who love you most can't see inside your head. They don't know every single thing about you.

In Psalm 139, King David sang about Someone who does. God knows when you sit down and when you stand up. He understands your thoughts. He knows what you are going to say before you say it! David was amazed. This kind of knowing was too wonderful for him to understand.

David also wondered where he could go to get away from God. Then he answered his own question: nowhere! If he went up to heaven, God would be there. If he flew as far as the sunrise or settled where the sun sets, God's hand would lead him. Even the darkness is not dark to God. You can never go anywhere He isn't.

Being known that well might sound a little scary. But here's the best part: God knows everything about you, even the things you wish no one knew, and He still loves you. He sent Jesus for you! This week you'll discover more about the great and good God who made you and saved you. He wants you to know Him.

Do It Together

After dark, turn off the lights and step outside or look out a window together. What can you see? What can't you see? Then read Psalm 139:11-12 and thank God that darkness is never dark to Him.

Pray Together

Lord, You know everything about us, and You are always with us. Thank You for loving [name] so much. Help our family know You better this week. In Jesus' name, amen.

Memory Verse

Acknowledge that the Lord is God. He made us, and we are his—his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Psalm 100:3

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
☐ I said it without peeking!

For Grown-Ups

This week your child learns what God is like. Point out His greatness when you see it together: a sunset, a thunderstorm, a sky full of stars. Near the end of the week your child meets the Trinity. Familiar comparisons all get something wrong, so it's fine to say, "This is true, and it's bigger than our minds."

Talk About It

- 1 What is something about you that only a few people know? How does it feel that God knows everything about you?
- 2 Psalm 139 says even the dark isn't dark to God. When could that be a comfort to you?
- 3 If you could ask God one question about Himself, what would it be? Grown-ups, what question would you ask?



Maker of Everything

Read: Psalm 19:1-4 **Go further:** Genesis 1:1-5



“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the expanse proclaims the work of his hands. **Psalm 19:1**”

The sky never says a word, but it's always talking! Psalm 19 says “the heavens declare the glory of God.” That means the sky announces how great and wonderful God is. Every sunrise, rainbow, and thunderstorm tells the whole world about Him. Genesis 1 shows how it all began. God made the sky and the earth from nothing at all. He spoke, and light appeared! Mountains, creeks, lightning bugs, and you—God made it all. Everything He made shows how great He is.

Your Turn! Go on a creation hunt! List five things God made that you saw today. Then circle your favorite and thank God for it.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

★ REMEMBER

God made everything, and it all shows how great He is.



Pray: God, You made the sky, the trees, the animals, and me! Thank You for Your amazing world. Help me see Your greatness everywhere I look. Amen.



Holy, Holy, Holy

Read: Isaiah 6:1-8 **Go further:** Revelation 4:8



“And one called to another: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of Armies; his glory fills the whole earth. **Isaiah 6:3**”

Isaiah was a prophet, someone who brought God's messages to people. One day he saw the Lord seated on a high throne. Heavenly beings named seraphim, each with six wings, called to one another, “Holy, holy, holy!” The doorways shook, and smoke filled the temple. Holy means perfect, pure, and set apart from everything else. Isaiah cried out that he was a sinner. But one of the seraphim touched his lips with a glowing coal, and his sin was taken away. Then Isaiah said, “Here I am. Send me.”

Your Turn! Unscramble these words about God. Use the hints if you get stuck!

O Y L H _____

Set apart from everything else

E E C P T F R _____

Never wrong, never a mistake

L Y G R O _____

It fills the whole earth

P E U R _____

Clean, with no sin at all

N G K I _____

Isaiah saw Him on a throne

★ REMEMBER

God is holy—perfect, pure, and like no one else.



Pray: Holy God, You are perfect and pure. Thank You for taking away my sin through Jesus. Like Isaiah, I want to tell You, “Here I am!” Amen.



Always Everywhere

Read: Jeremiah 23:23-24 **Go further:** Psalm 139:7-10



“Can a person hide in secret places where I cannot see him?”—the LORD’s declaration. “Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?”—the LORD’s declaration.
Jeremiah 23:24

Where’s the best hiding place you know? Behind the couch? Up in a tree? In Jeremiah 23, God asks if anyone can hide from Him. The answer is no! He isn’t a small god who can only be in one place at a time. He is with you at school, at home, on the ballfield, and at a sleepover far from home. Wherever you go, God is already there.

Your Turn! Check each place you will go this week, and add one more. God is with you in every one!

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| ☐ Home | ☐ School |
| ☐ Church | ☐ The ballfield |
| ☐ A sleepover | ☐ The doctor’s office |
| ☐ _____ | |

★ **REMEMBER**
Wherever I go, God is already there.

Pray: God, thank You that I can never go anywhere You aren’t. When I feel lonely or afraid, help me remember You are right here with me. Amen.

Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: When were you glad God was with you? Then tell them where you most need to remember He’s there.



Nothing Too Hard

Read: Psalm 147:1-5 **Go further:** Jeremiah 32:17



“He counts the number of the stars; he gives names to all of them. Our Lord is great, vast in power; his understanding is infinite.” **Psalm 147:4-5**

On a clear night far from town lights, the sky is sprinkled with more stars than anyone could ever count. But Psalm 147 says God counts them all, and He gives each one a name! His understanding has no limit. He knows everything, even your thoughts and worries. And the same God who names the stars cares for people with broken hearts. The prophet Jeremiah prayed, “Nothing is too difficult for you!” God never gets tired, and no problem is too big for Him. You can bring Him anything.

Your Turn! Is each sentence true or false? Circle your answer. Today’s verses will help!

God knows how many stars there are.

T F

Some problems are too big for God.

T F

God knows what I’m thinking right now.

T F

God gets tired and needs a nap.

T F

God cares when my heart is hurting.

T F

★ **REMEMBER**
God knows everything, and nothing is too hard for Him.

Pray: Great God, You count the stars and You know my name. Nothing is too hard for You. Help me trust You with my big and small problems. Amen.



God Is Love

Read: 1 John 4:7-10 **Go further:** John 3:16



“God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his one and only Son into the world so that we might live through him. **1 John 4:9**”

People show love in all kinds of ways. A friend saves you a seat on the bus. A coach cheers when you finally hit the ball. Someone at home sits with you when you’re sick. But the greatest love of all is God’s love. In 1 John 4, John says “God is love.” Love isn’t just something God does. It’s who He is! And God showed His love in the biggest way ever. He sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for our sins. We didn’t love God first. He loved us first!

Your Turn! Crack the number code to find a three-word truth from today’s reading. (A = 1, B = 2, C = 3...)

A=1	B=2	C=3	D=4	E=5	F=6	G=7	H=8	I=9	J=10	K=11	L=12	M=13
N=14	O=15	P=16	Q=17	R=18	S=19	T=20	U=21	V=22	W=23	X=24	Y=25	Z=26

7 15 4 9 19 12 15 22 5

★ REMEMBER

God is love, and He showed it by sending Jesus.



Pray: Father, thank You for loving me first. Thank You for sending Jesus to take the punishment for my sins. Help me love others the way You love me. Amen.



Father, Son, and Spirit

Read: Ephesians 4:4-6 **Go further:** Matthew 28:19



“There is one body and one Spirit... one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. **Ephesians 4:4-6**”

The Bible teaches that there is only one God. It also shows us the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Can you find all three in today’s key verse? (The “one Lord” is Jesus!) Each one is God, yet there are not three gods. There is one God in three persons. We call this the Trinity. It’s true, and it’s bigger than our minds!

Your Turn! Use the word bank to finish each true sentence about God. You will use one word more than once!

Word bank: God one

- The Father is _____.
- Jesus the Son is _____.
- The Holy Spirit is _____.
- There is only _____ God.

★ REMEMBER

There is one God in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



Pray: Thank You, Father, for loving me. Thank You, Jesus, for saving me. Thank You, Holy Spirit, for living in me. You are one great God! Amen.

Family Huddle: Talk it over with a grown-up: What questions do you have about God being Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?



What Is God Like?



Here are eight true things about God. Look up each verse. Then draw a small picture or symbol in the box to help you remember it. For Creator, you might draw the sun or a tree. Color them when you're done!

Creator Genesis 1:1

God made everything: the sky, the seas, the animals, and you!

Holy Isaiah 6:3

God is perfect and pure, and there is no one else like Him.

Everywhere Psalm 139:7-10

There is no place you can go where God is not with you.

All-Knowing Psalm 147:4-5

God knows everything, from the number of the stars to the thoughts in your head.

All-Powerful Jeremiah 32:17

God has all power, and nothing is too hard for Him.

Loving 1 John 4:8

God is love, and He showed it by sending Jesus to save us.

Faithful Lamentations 3:22-23

God always keeps His promises, and His mercies are new every morning.

Never Changes Malachi 3:6

God is always the same. He will never stop being good, true, and loving.

WEEK
4

The Best Book Ever



✦ The Bible is God's true Word; it shows me who He is and how to live.

👨‍👩‍👧‍👦 FAMILY TIME

Better Than Gold

Read together: **Psalm 19:7-11**

In 1799, a twelve-year-old boy named Conrad Reed was fishing in a creek on his family's farm in North Carolina. He spotted a big yellow rock in the water and lugged it home. It weighed 17 pounds, more than a bowling ball! Nobody knew what it was, so the family used it to hold the door open.

For three years, that rock sat on the floor. People walked right past it every day. Then a jeweler took a close look. That doorstep was a giant lump of gold! Imagine how surprised they were. The Reeds had owned a treasure all along without knowing it.

Psalm 19 says God's Word is worth more than gold, even lots of pure gold. It is perfect and trustworthy. It makes people wise and makes the heart glad. It even makes your eyes light up! Everything God says is right, reliable, and true.

Sometimes a Bible can sit on a shelf like that doorstep, and we forget what a treasure it is. But the Bible is God's own Word to us! It shows us who God is, what Jesus did for us, and how to live. This week, let's open it up and treat it like the treasure it really is.

🏠 Do It Together

Have a Bible treasure hunt! One person hides a Bible somewhere in the house while everyone else waits. Then everyone searches. Whoever finds it picks a favorite verse or story to read aloud. Take turns hiding it again.

🙏 Pray Together

Dear God, thank You for giving us the Bible, Your true and perfect Word. Help [name] and our whole family love it more than gold and read it every day. In Jesus' name, amen.

📖 Memory Verse

All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
☐ I said it without peeking!

📖 For Grown-Ups

This week is all about the Bible. Make sure your child has a Bible in a translation they can easily read; if you need one, ask at church. Read a few verses aloud together, too. Children learn to treasure what they see the grown-ups around them treasure.

🗨️ Talk About It

- 1 If you found a treasure, where would you keep it? How can our family treat the Bible like a treasure?
- 2 Psalm 19 says God's Word makes the heart glad. What Bible story or verse makes you glad?
- 3 Grown-ups, share a verse that has helped you. Kids, what is one thing you hope to learn from the Bible?



God-Breathed Words

Read: 2 Timothy 3:14-17 **Go further:** 2 Peter 1:20-21



“...you know that from infancy you have known the sacred Scriptures, which are able to give you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. **2 Timothy 3:15**”

Hold your hand in front of your mouth and say the word Bible. Feel that puff of air? Your words ride out on your breath. Paul wrote a letter to his young friend Timothy. Timothy had known the Scriptures—God’s written Word—since he was a baby! Paul told him, “All Scripture is inspired by God.” The word Paul used means God-breathed. God used many people to write the Bible. Peter says the Holy Spirit carried them along, so the words came from God. When you read the Bible, you’re reading God’s own words!

Your Turn! Your memory verse tells what the Bible is good for. Use the word bank to finish each sentence.

Word bank: training work teaching correcting

1. The Bible is good for _____ me what is true.
2. It is good for _____ me when I go the wrong way.
3. It is good for _____ me to live God’s way.
4. It gets me ready for every good _____.

★ **REMEMBER**
Every word of the Bible comes from God.

Pray: God, thank You for breathing out Your Word and giving it to me. Help me learn from it and live it every day. Amen.



True Every Time

Read: Proverbs 30:5-6 **Go further:** John 17:17



“Every word of God is pure; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. **Proverbs 30:5**”

Somebody on the bus says school will be closed tomorrow for snow. You go to bed excited. But in the morning, there’s not a single flake on the ground! People can be wrong, even when they mean well. But God is never wrong, and He never lies. His Word is pure. That means nothing false is mixed in. When Jesus prayed, He said God’s word is truth. You can trust everything the Bible says!

Your Turn! How much do you know about the Bible? Is each sentence true or false? Circle your answer. The table of contents in your Bible can help!

The Bible has 66 books.

☐ T ☐ F

The Old Testament has 27 books.

☐ T ☐ F

The New Testament has 27 books.

☐ T ☐ F

God used about 40 writers over about 1,500 years to write the Bible.

☐ T ☐ F

Revelation is the first book of the Bible.

☐ T ☐ F

★ **REMEMBER**
Everything God says is true. I can trust His Word!

Pray: God, You are never wrong and You never lie. Thank You that every word You say is true. Help me trust Your Word more than anything else. Amen.



One Big Story

Read: John 5:39-40 **Go further:** Hebrews 1:1-2



“You pore over the Scriptures because you think you have eternal life in them, and yet they testify about me. **John 5:39**”

Some books are full of short stories that have nothing to do with each other. The Bible has 66 books, but they all fit together into one big, true story. God made a perfect world. People sinned and broke it. Then God promised to send a Rescuer. Many years later, Jesus told some religious leaders that the Scriptures were all about Him! Those leaders studied the Scriptures carefully, but they missed the most important part. When you read the Bible, look for Jesus. The whole story points to Him!

Your Turn! Here are some big moments in the Bible’s story. Number them from 1 to 6 in the order they happened. Ask a grown-up if you get stuck!

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ David becomes king of Israel | ☐ God creates the world |
| ☐ The church begins and spreads the good news | ☐ God makes a promise to Abraham |
| ☐ Moses leads Israel out of Egypt | ☐ Jesus is born, dies, and rises again |

★ REMEMBER

The whole Bible is one big story that points to Jesus.



Pray: Jesus, thank You that the whole Bible points to You. When I read it, help me see You and love You more. Amen.

Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: What’s your favorite Bible story? How does it point to Jesus?



Sweeter Than Honey

Read: Psalm 119:97-103 **Go further:** Psalm 19:9-10



“How sweet your word is to my taste—sweeter than honey in my mouth. **Psalm 119:103**”

A warm biscuit with honey dripping down the sides—yum! The writer of Psalm 119 loved something even sweeter. He said God’s words were “sweeter than honey” to him. He wasn’t really eating them! He meant that God’s Word filled him with joy. He thought about it all day long. It made him wise and kept his feet off wrong paths. The more he read God’s Word, the more he loved it. Ask God to give you a taste for His Word too. The more you read, the sweeter it gets!

Your Turn! Fill in the chart with two favorite treats and two things you treasure. In the last column, tell why God’s Word is even better. (Hint: Will a cookie last forever?)

My favorite treat	My greatest treasure	Why God’s Word is better

★ REMEMBER

God’s Word is sweeter than honey and better than gold.



Pray: Lord, give me a hunger for Your Word. Help me love it more than my favorite treat and treasure it more than anything I own. Amen.



Sword, Lamp, and Mirror

Read: Hebrews 4:12 Go further: Jeremiah 23:29



“For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword...” **Hebrews 4:12**

Writers love word pictures. If someone says you’re as quick as a rabbit, you get the idea right away! The Bible uses word pictures to describe itself. Hebrews 4:12 says God’s Word is alive and at work. It is “sharper than any double-edged sword.” It cuts right to our hearts and shows what we really think and want. In Jeremiah, God says His word is like fire and like a hammer that smashes rock. Other verses call it a lamp, a mirror, a seed, and food. This is no ordinary book. It’s alive!

Your Turn! Draw a line from each word picture to what it means. Look up the verses if you need help!

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| 1. A lamp (Psalm 119:105) | ● | ● A. Shows me the way to go |
| 2. A sword (Ephesians 6:17) | ● | ● B. Fights lies with the truth |
| 3. A mirror (James 1:23-24) | ● | ● C. Shows what my heart is like |
| 4. A seed (Luke 8:11) | ● | ● D. Helps me grow up strong |
| 5. Food (1 Peter 2:2) | ● | ● E. Grows good things in me |

★ REMEMBER

God’s Word is alive, and it can change me.



Pray: God, thank You that Your Word is alive and powerful. Use it to light my path, show me my heart, and help me grow. Amen.



Finding My Way Around

Read: Acts 17:10-12 Go further: Luke 4:16-17



“The people here were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, since they received the word with eagerness and examined the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. **Acts 17:11**

The people of Berea checked the Scriptures every day. You can too! A Bible reference works like an address. In John 11:35, John is the book, like the town. The first number, 11, is the chapter, like the street. The second number, 35, is the verse, like the house. Find the book’s page in the table of contents. Then look for the chapter and verse.

Your Turn! Look up each verse. Write its first three words. (One is so short you can write it all!)

Psalm 46:1 _____

John 11:35 _____

Philippians 4:13 _____

★ REMEMBER

Like the Bereans, I can check everything by God’s Word.



Pray: God, thank You that I can open my Bible and find Your words for myself. Make me eager to search the Scriptures every day, like the Bereans. Amen.



Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: How did you learn to find verses in the Bible? What verse do you look up most?

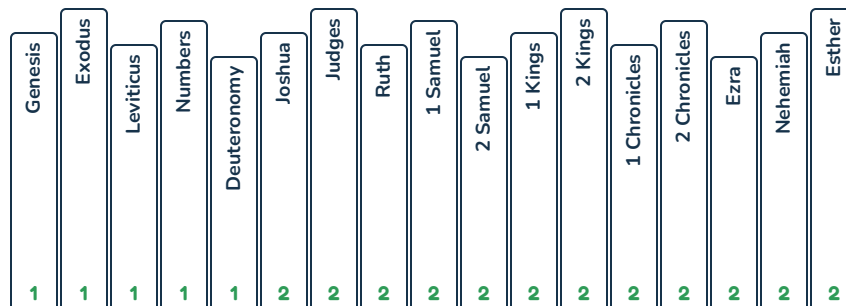


Books of the Bible

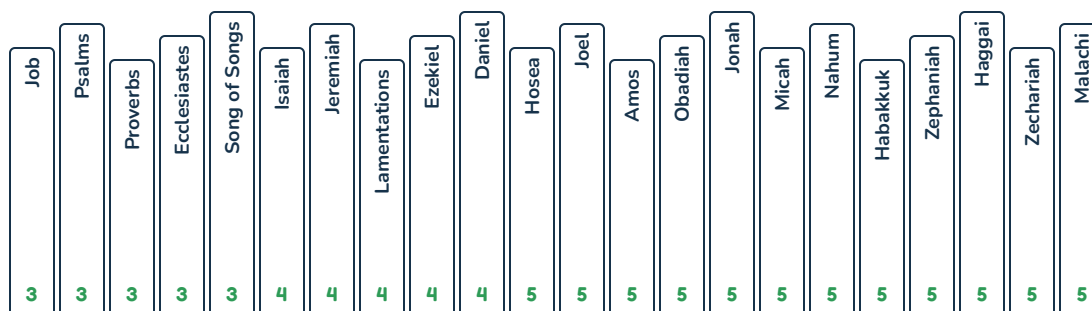


The Bible is a whole library of 66 books! Color each section of the shelf a different color, using the key. Then practice saying the books in order, one section at a time. Check off each section when you can say it by heart.

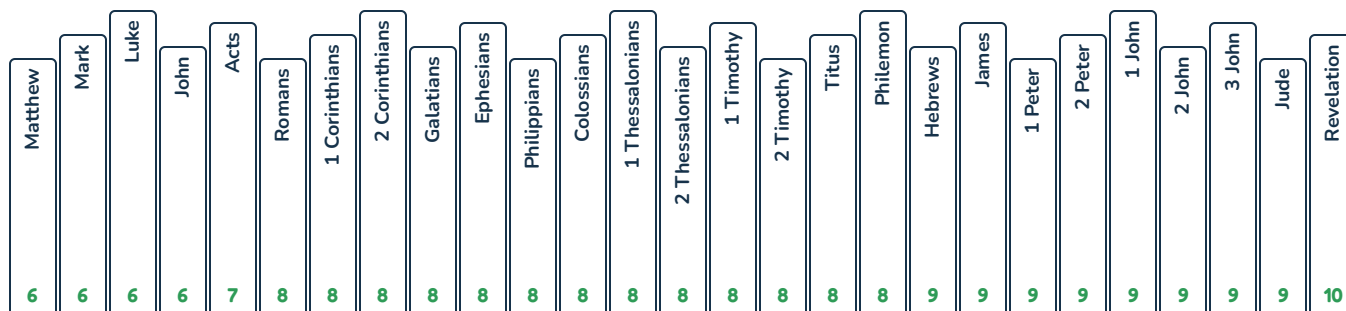
Old Testament



Old Testament (continued)



New Testament



Color key – pick a crayon for each group

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ 1 Law (5) | ☐ 2 History (12) |
| ☐ 3 Poetry & Wisdom (5) | ☐ 4 Major Prophets (5) |
| ☐ 5 Minor Prophets (12) | ☐ 6 Gospels (4) |
| ☐ 7 History (1) | ☐ 8 Paul's Letters (13) |
| ☐ 9 Other Letters (8) | ☐ 10 Prophecy (1) |

Digging In



★ Reading, thinking about, remembering, and obeying God's Word helps my roots grow deep.

FAMILY TIME

Roots by the River

Read together: **Jeremiah 17:7-8**

In the Yadkin Valley, tall sycamore trees grow along the river. You can spot them by their patchy white bark. During a hot, dry summer, lawns turn brown and crunchy, and gardens droop. But the sycamores by the river stay green and strong. Why? Their roots stretch down to the water.

The prophet Jeremiah said that a person who trusts God is like a tree growing beside the water. Its roots reach out toward the stream. When hot days come, it isn't worried. Its leaves stay green, and it keeps growing fruit, even in a dry year.

Hard times come to everyone, like a long, dry summer. Someone you love gets sick. A friend moves away. Things don't turn out the way you hoped. Christians feel sad and hurt too. But when your roots go deep into God, He keeps you strong and growing. You don't have to dry up inside.

How do your roots grow deep? One of the best ways is through God's Word. This week you'll learn how to read the Bible, think about it, remember it, and do what it says. Every time you open your Bible and listen to God, you're sending your roots toward the water. Let's dig in!

Do It Together

If you can, take a walk to a creek or river and look at the trees along the bank. How deep do you think their roots go? Then choose a time and place for your family to read the Bible together this week.

Memory Verse

Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path.

Psalms 119:105

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
☐ I said it without peeking!

For Grown-Ups

This week your child learns simple ways to read the Bible, including the ROOT way: Read it, Observe, Own it, and Talk to God. Try it together once or twice. Then help your child pick a regular time and place to read. New habits grow best with a little help.

Talk About It

- 1 What happens to plants when it doesn't rain for a long time? Why do trees by a river stay green?
- 2 What is something hard that you or our family has gone through? How did God help?
- 3 Which is hardest for you: reading the Bible, remembering it, or doing what it says? Why?

Pray Together

Dear God, we want to be like trees planted by the water. Help [name] and our whole family send our roots deep into You and Your Word. In Jesus' name, amen.



A Tree by the Water

 **Read:** Psalm 1:1-3  **Go further:** Colossians 2:6-7



“ He is like a tree planted beside flowing streams that bears its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers. **Psalm 1:3** ”

Psalm 1 shows how a person can slowly slide the wrong way. First he follows advice from people who don't love God. Then he hangs around with people who do wrong. Soon he sits down with people who make fun of God! But the happy person goes a different way. He delights in God's Word—he loves it! He thinks about it day and night. He is like a tree planted beside flowing streams. Its fruit comes right on time, and its leaves don't wither or dry up. God wants you to grow like that!

 **Your Turn!** Draw a tree growing beside a stream, with long roots reaching down to the water. Write GOD'S WORD along the roots. Add some fruit to the branches!

draw here

★ REMEMBER

When I love God's Word, I grow like a tree by the water.



Pray: Lord, keep me from following people who lead me the wrong way. Help me love Your Word and grow strong in You. Amen.



Every Day, Everywhere

 **Read:** Deuteronomy 6:6-9  **Go further:** Mark 1:35



“ Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. **Deuteronomy 6:7** ”

You probably buckle your seat belt without even thinking about it. That's a habit! Long ago, God told His people to keep His words in their hearts and talk about them all day long. He even told them to write His words on their doorposts! Jesus had a habit too. Very early in the morning, He went to a quiet place to pray. Habits help us stay close to God. Pick a time and a place to meet with Him every day.

 **Your Turn!** Make a plan for meeting with God in His Word each day. Fill in each line. Then show your plan to a grown-up!

My Bible time: _____

My Bible place: _____

What I need there: _____

Who can remind me: _____

★ REMEMBER

Every day, I can meet with God in His Word.



Pray: God, I want Your words to be in my heart. Help me make time for You every day, even when I'm busy. Amen.



Chew on It

Read: Joshua 1:8 Go further: Psalm 1:2



“ This book of instruction must not depart from your mouth; you are to meditate on it day and night... **Joshua 1:8**

Joshua had a giant job: leading God’s people into a new land. God told him to meditate on His Word day and night. To meditate means to think about something again and again. It’s like chewing your food slowly to get all the good out of it. Here’s a way to chew on a Bible passage. It’s called ROOT. Read it slowly, two times. Observe: notice what it says and what it shows about God. Own it: ask what it means for you and how you can obey. Talk to God about it.

Your Turn! Chew on God’s Word the ROOT way! Use the word bank to fill in each step.

Word bank: Talk Observe Read Own

1. R: _____ the passage slowly, two times.
2. O: _____ what it says and what it shows about God.
3. O: _____ it. What does it mean for me? How can I obey?
4. T: _____ to God about it.

★ REMEMBER

I chew on God’s Word by thinking about it again and again.



Pray: God, help me slow down and chew on Your Word. Show me what it says about You and how I can obey it. Amen.



Treasure It

Read: Psalm 119:9-16 Go further: Colossians 3:16



“ I have treasured your word in my heart so that I may not sin against you. **Psalm 119:11**

All fall long, squirrels scurry about burying acorns. In winter, they dig up what they stored. The writer of Psalm 119 stored something too: God’s Word, deep in his heart, to help him say no to sin. When you learn a verse by heart, God’s Spirit can bring it to mind right when you need it. You won’t always have a Bible in your hand, but you can always have God’s Word in your heart.

Your Turn! Try some of these memory tricks with this week’s verse, Psalm 119:105. Check each one after you try it, and add your own idea!

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Say it out loud five times | ☐ Sing it to a tune I know |
| ☐ Write it on a scrap of paper | ☐ Make up hand motions for it |
| ☐ Say it to someone at home | ☐ Cover one word at a time and say it |
| ☐ _____ | |

★ REMEMBER

I treasure God’s Word in my heart by memorizing it.



Pray: Lord, help me treasure Your Word in my heart. Bring the verses I learn to my mind when I need them most. Amen.



Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: Do you remember a Bible verse you learned as a kid? When has it helped you?



Do What It Says

Read: James 1:22-25 **Go further:** Luke 6:46-49



“ But be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. **James 1:22** ”

Imagine looking in the mirror and spotting a big smudge of mud on your nose. Then you walk away and forget all about it! Silly, right? James says that’s what it’s like when we hear God’s Word but don’t do what it says. We look, but nothing changes. God wants us to be “doers of the word,” not just hearers. Reading the Bible is a great start. But the goal is to live it: to be kind, to obey, to forgive. James says the person who does what God’s Word says will be blessed.

Your Turn! Look up each verse. In the middle column, write what it tells you to do. In the last column, write how you will do it today.

	The Bible says...	So today I will...
Ephesians 4:32		
Philippians 2:14		
Colossians 3:20		

★ REMEMBER

I don’t just read God’s Word. I do what it says!



Pray: God, I don’t want to just hear Your Word and forget it. Help me do what it says today, at home, at school, and everywhere. Amen.



Dig for Treasure

Read: Proverbs 2:1-6 **Go further:** James 1:5



“ For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. **Proverbs 2:6** ”

Some parts of the Bible are easy to understand. Others might make you scratch your head. That’s okay! Proverbs 2 says to search for wisdom like hidden treasure. Treasure hunters don’t quit when the digging gets hard. So when a Bible passage confuses you, keep digging! Ask God to help you understand, because He gives wisdom. Then ask a grown-up who loves God, like your pastor or Sunday School teacher.

Your Turn! Write one question you have about the Bible or about God. Then write who you will ask.

★ REMEMBER

When I don’t understand, I can ask God for wisdom.



Pray: God, You give wisdom to everyone who asks. Please help me understand Your Word. Give me patience to keep digging for its treasure. Amen.



Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: What part of the Bible was hard for you to understand? Who helped you figure it out?



Try the ROOT Way



Let's practice the ROOT way with one verse. Find Psalm 46:1 in your Bible. Here it is: "God is our refuge and strength, a helper who is always found in times of trouble." A refuge is a safe place to run to when there's danger. Take your time. This isn't a test—it's time with God!

● R – Read It

Read Psalm 46:1 slowly, two times. Read it out loud once. Then copy the verse on the lines.

● O – Observe

What does this verse say? What does it show you about God? Write one or two things you notice.

● O – Own It

What does this verse mean for you? When might you need God to be your safe place and your strength? How can you trust Him this week?

● T – Talk to God

Write a short prayer. Thank God for being your refuge, and ask Him to help you with something hard.

● Keep Digging!

You did it! You can use the ROOT way with any part of the Bible. There are blank ROOT pages at the back of this book for you to use again and again.

Talking with God



✦ Prayer is talking with God—anytime, anywhere, about anything.

FAMILY TIME

Teach Us to Pray

Read together: **Luke 11:1-4**

Jesus' disciples went almost everywhere with Him. They watched Him heal sick people and calm a stormy sea. They also watched Him pray—a lot! Jesus often slipped away to a quiet place to talk with His Father. Sometimes He prayed all night long.

One day, when Jesus finished praying, one of them said, “Lord, teach us to pray.” Jesus gave them a short, simple prayer, and the very first word was Father. That tells you something wonderful. When you pray, you aren’t talking to a stranger or a king who is too busy for you. You are talking to your Father in heaven, who loves you and is glad to hear from you.

Jesus’ prayer covers a lot in just a few lines. It praises God and asks Him to rule as King everywhere. It asks for what we need each day. It asks God to forgive us and to keep us away from temptation—things that pull us toward doing wrong. This week you’ll take a closer look at this prayer and learn to use it as a pattern for your own.

You don’t need fancy words or a special place to pray. You can pray out loud or quietly in your heart. This week’s memory verse says not to worry about anything. Instead, tell God about everything, and thank Him too! Happy things, sad things, big things, little things—your Father wants to hear about all of them.

Do It Together

Write a family prayer list and put it where everyone will see it, like on the fridge. Each evening this week, choose one or two names and pray for them together. Leave the list up for a few weeks and watch for God’s answers!

Memory Verse

Don’t worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Philippians 4:6

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
- ☐ I said it without peeking!

For Grown-Ups

Children often learn to pray by hearing the grown-ups around them pray. This week, let your child hear you pray in plain, everyday words—at meals, in the car, at bedtime. Keep it short and real. If praying out loud is new for you, that’s okay. You can learn together.

Talk About It

- 1 Why do you think Jesus’ disciples wanted Him to teach them to pray?
- 2 Jesus taught us to call God Father. What does that tell you about talking with Him?
- 3 Grown-ups, tell about a time you prayed about something important. Kids, what would you like to talk with God about this week?

Pray Together

Father in heaven, thank You that we can talk with You anytime, anywhere, about anything. Teach [name] and our whole family to pray. Help us trust You with every worry. In Jesus’ name, amen.



God Loves to Hear You

Read: 1 Peter 5:6-7 **Go further:** Jeremiah 33:3



“...casting all your cares on him, because he cares about you. **1 Peter 5:7**”

Picture yourself hauling a heavy bag of groceries up a steep hill. Your arms ache! Then a strong grown-up offers to carry it for you. What a relief! Worries are heavy too. But the Bible tells you to cast all your cares on God. To cast means to throw. You can toss every worry onto Him. He is strong enough to carry them all. Why would He want them? “Because he cares about you.” Nothing is too big or too small to tell Him.

Your Turn! What can you talk to God about today? Write two big things and two small things. Then tell Him about each one!

A big thing: _____

Another big thing: _____

A small thing: _____

Another small thing: _____

★ REMEMBER

I can tell God anything, because He cares about me.



Pray: Dear God, thank You for caring about me. Today I give You my worries, big and small. Help me remember that You are always listening. Amen.



Jesus Shows Us How

Read: Matthew 6:9-13 **Go further:** John 17:1



“Therefore, you should pray like this: Our Father in heaven, your name be honored as holy. **Matthew 6:9**”

When you first learned to write, you probably traced dotted letters. The dots showed you the right shape until you could write on your own. In Matthew 6, Jesus said, “You should pray like this.” Then He taught the prayer we call the Lord’s Prayer. You can say those exact words to God. You can also use them like dotted lines, a guide for your own words. They show what to talk to God about: who He is, His plans, what we need, forgiveness, and help to do right.

Your Turn! Jesus’ prayer has five parts. Draw a line from each part to what it teaches us to pray about.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. God, Your name is holy | ● | ● A. Say sorry and forgive others |
| 2. Let Your will be done | ● | ● B. Ask for God’s plan |
| 3. Give us food for today | ● | ● C. Ask for help to do right |
| 4. Forgive us as we forgive | ● | ● D. Ask for what we need |
| 5. Keep us from temptation and evil | ● | ● E. Praise God for who He is |

★ REMEMBER

I can pray the way Jesus taught me.



Pray: Our Father in heaven, Your name is holy. Thank You for sending Jesus to teach me how to pray. Help me talk with You every day. Amen.



Thank You, God!

Read: Psalm 136:1-9 **Go further:** 1 Chronicles 16:34



“Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His faithful love endures forever.”
Psalm 136:1

Psalm 136 is a song with a chorus that keeps coming back. First, a line tells something great God has done. Then comes the chorus: “His faithful love endures forever.” That means His love never quits! He made the heavens—“His faithful love endures forever.” He made the sun, moon, and stars—“His faithful love endures forever.” That chorus is in all 26 verses! Thanking God again and again helps us remember how good He is and all He has done.

Your Turn! Make a Thankful ABC list! For each letter, write something you’re thankful for. Then keep going—can you get all the way to Z out loud?

A is for... _____	B is for... _____
C is for... _____	D is for... _____
E is for... _____	F is for... _____

★ REMEMBER

God is good, and His love lasts forever!



Pray: Thank You, God, for being so good to me. Your love never quits! Help me notice Your gifts and thank You for them every day. Amen.



Praying for Others

Read: 1 Timothy 2:1-4 **Go further:** James 5:16



“First of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone...” 1 Timothy 2:1

Paul’s young friend Timothy helped lead a church. Paul told him to pray for everyone—even kings and leaders! Some rulers back then were cruel to Christians. Paul still said to pray for them, because God “wants everyone to be saved.” So you can pray for your teacher, the president, and even the kid who is unkind to you at recess.

Your Turn! Write a name on each line. Then pray for each person by name. Keep praying for them all week!

Someone in my family: _____

A friend: _____

A leader: _____

Someone who doesn’t know Jesus: _____

★ REMEMBER

I can pray for everyone—even people who are hard to love.



Pray: God, thank You that You hear me when I pray for others. Please help the people on my list today. Help them know how much You love them. Amen.

Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: Who do you pray for? Then pray for one person together right now.



Don't Give Up

Read: Luke 18:1-8 **Go further:** Luke 11:9-10



“ Now he told them a parable on the need for them to pray always and not give up. **Luke 18:1** ”

Jesus told a story about a judge who didn't care about God or people. A widow (a woman whose husband had died) kept asking him to make things right. She came again and again, until the judge finally helped her—just so she would stop pestering him! Here's what Jesus meant: God is not like that judge. He loves His children and listens. So “pray always and not give up.” God may answer yes, no, or wait. He always knows what's best.

Your Turn! Write about a time God answered one of your prayers—or something you will keep praying about. Remember, His answer might be yes, no, or wait.

★ REMEMBER

I will keep praying and trust God's answer.



Pray: Father, thank You for always listening. Help me keep praying and not give up. I trust You to answer in Your way and Your time. Amen.



Anytime, Anywhere

Read: Daniel 6:6-11 **Go further:** Nehemiah 2:1-5



“ ...three times a day he got down on his knees, prayed, and gave thanks to his God, just as he had done before. **Daniel 6:10** ”

Daniel had a prayer habit. Three times a day, he got down on his knees and prayed. When a new law said to pray only to the king, Daniel kept praying to God, just as he had done before—even though the punishment was the lions' den! Nehemiah worked for a different king. When the king asked, “What is your request?” Nehemiah prayed right then, before he answered. You can do both! Have regular prayer times, and also pray anytime, anywhere—even silently, right in the middle of whatever you're doing.

Your Turn! When will you pray this week? Check the times you'll try, and add your own on the blank line!

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ When I wake up | ☐ Before I eat |
| ☐ On the bus or in the car | ☐ Before a test or a game |
| ☐ When I'm scared or worried | ☐ When something good happens |
| ☐ At bedtime | ☐ _____ |

★ REMEMBER

I can talk to God anytime, anywhere.



Pray: God, thank You that I can talk to You anytime, anywhere. Help me pray every day, like Daniel, and in quick moments, like Nehemiah. Amen.

Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: Have you ever prayed a quick prayer, like Nehemiah did? What happened?



My Prayer Journal



Write down who and what you pray for, then watch for God's answers! Sometimes He answers quickly. Sometimes His answer is no, or wait. When you see how God answered, write it in the last column. Looking back will remind you that He always listens. Not sure what to say? Try the four little words on this page!

- Wow! Praise God for who He is.
- Thanks! Thank Him for what He has done.
- Sorry. Tell Him what you did wrong.
- Please? Ask for what you and others need.

Date	I'm praying for...	How God answered

WEEK
7Following God's
Lead

★ God guides His children through His Word, His Spirit, and wise people, and I follow by obeying.

FAMILY TIME

Follow the Cloud

Read together: **Exodus 13:17-22**

When God set His people free from slavery in Egypt, they had a long trip ahead. They had to cross a wild, dry land, and they didn't know the way. So God led them Himself! During the day, He went ahead of them in a tall pillar of cloud. At night, a pillar of fire gave them light. And the Bible says the pillar never left its place in front of the people.

Here's something surprising. There was a shorter road, but God didn't lead them that way. On that road they might have to face a war, and God knew they could get scared and turn back to Egypt. So He took them the long way around. God's way isn't always the quickest way, but it's always the best way, because He knows things we don't.

God doesn't lead His people with a pillar of cloud today, but He still leads. He guides us with His Word, the Bible. He guides us by His Holy Spirit, who lives in every Christian. And He guides us through wise Christian grown-ups. Our part is to follow Him by trusting and obeying.

This week's memory verse tells you to trust the Lord with all your heart and not to rely on your own understanding. You don't have to figure everything out by yourself. God already knows the way, and He will make your paths straight. That means He will lead you the right way.

Do It Together

Play follow the leader around your house or yard. Take turns being the leader. Afterward, talk about it: What made it easy or hard to follow? How is following Jesus the same, and how is it different?

Memory Verse

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own
understanding; in all your ways know
him, and he will make your paths
straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
☐ I said it without peeking!

For Grown-Ups

Kids face more choices than we sometimes realize. This week, when your child asks what to do, try asking questions before giving answers: What does the Bible say? What would honor God? Helping them think it through builds wisdom they will use for life.

Talk About It

- 1 Why do you think God led His people the long way around? Has something ever taken longer than you wanted?
- 2 What are some ways God guides His children today?
- 3 Grown-ups, tell about a time God guided you through the Bible or a wise person. Kids, what choice do you need help with?

Pray Together

Lord, thank You for leading Your people.
Help [name] and our whole family trust You
with all our hearts. Show us Your way, and
help us follow You. In Jesus' name, amen.



The Shepherd Leads

Read: Psalm 23:1-3 Go further: John 10:3-4



“ He renews my life; he leads me along the right paths for his name’s sake.
Psalm 23:3

Sheep can’t read a map or a road sign. On their own, they wander off and get lost. That’s why they need a shepherd! In Bible times, a shepherd walked in front of his flock and called to them. The sheep knew his voice and followed him. Psalm 23 says the Lord is my shepherd. He leads me to green pastures and quiet waters. He leads me along the right paths. You don’t have to find the way alone. Just follow your Shepherd.

Your Turn! Draw a shepherd leading his sheep along a path to green grass and quiet water. Write your name on one of the sheep!

draw here

★ REMEMBER

The Lord is my Shepherd, and I will follow Him.



Pray: Lord, thank You for being my Shepherd. Lead me on the right path today, and help me listen to Your Word and follow You. Amen.



This Is the Way

Read: Isaiah 30:21 Go further: Psalm 119:130-133



“ ...whenever you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear this command behind you: “This is the way. Walk in it.” **Isaiah 30:21**

Imagine crossing the yard with a blindfold on. You can’t see a thing! But a friend behind you calls out when to turn left, when to turn right, and when to step over the garden hose. You make it across by listening. God made a promise like that. When His people turned right or left, they would hear Him say, “This is the way. Walk in it.” Today, the main way God speaks to us is through the Bible. When you read it, God is showing you the way to go.

Your Turn! Circle the ways God guides His children. Put an X on the ones that don’t come from Him.

The Bible

A fortune cookie

Whatever is popular

Wise Christian grown-ups

Whatever I feel like

Prayer

Flipping a coin

The Holy Spirit

★ REMEMBER

God shows me the way through His Word.



Pray: God, thank You for the Bible. When I read it, show me the way to go, and help me walk in it. Amen.



The Spirit Nudges

Read: John 16:13 **Go further:** Romans 8:14



“When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth. **John 16:13**”

You're about to tell a little lie to stay out of trouble. Then a thought pops into your head: you should tell the truth. That may be the Holy Spirit nudging you! Jesus called the Holy Spirit the “Spirit of truth.” He said the Spirit would “guide you into all the truth.” The Spirit reminds you of what God’s Word says, and He gives you power to obey it. He will never nudge you to do something the Bible says is wrong.

Your Turn! Write about a time you just knew what the right thing was. What did you do? What happened?

★ REMEMBER

The Holy Spirit helps me know what’s right and do it.



Pray: God, thank You for giving me Your Holy Spirit. When I know what’s right, please give me the power and courage to do it. Amen.



Wise Counsel

Read: Proverbs 13:20 **Go further:** Proverbs 15:22



“The one who walks with the wise will become wise, but a companion of fools will suffer harm. **Proverbs 13:20**”

If you wanted to learn to fish, who would you go with? Someone who has never held a fishing pole? Or someone who has fished the same creek for fifty years? Proverbs 13:20 says the one who “walks with the wise will become wise.” When you spend time with people who love God, their wisdom rubs off on you. God puts wise Christian grown-ups in your life on purpose. When you have a hard choice to make, ask them. That’s one way God guides you!

Your Turn! Who are some wise Christian grown-ups you could ask for advice? Write their names. Put a star by someone you’ll talk to this week.

1. _____	2. _____
3. _____	4. _____

★ REMEMBER

When I walk with wise people, I grow wise too.



Pray: God, thank You for the wise people You’ve put in my life. Help me listen to them, and help me grow wise too. Amen.

Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: Who gave you good advice when you were my age? How did it help you?



Jonah Ran Away

Read: Jonah 1:1-3 **Go further:** Jonah 3:1-5



“Jonah got up to flee to Tarshish from the LORD’s presence. **Jonah 1:3**”

God gave Jonah a job: go to the great city of Nineveh and preach. Jonah got up and went... the opposite way! He found a ship sailing far off. But no one can run away from God. A wild storm came, and Jonah ended up inside a huge fish! He prayed, and God rescued him. Then God’s word came to Jonah “a second time.” This time Jonah obeyed, and the people of Nineveh believed God! Following God means obeying Him, even when it’s hard.

Your Turn! Number the parts of Jonah’s story in the right order, from 1 to 6. Need help? Read Jonah 1-3 with a grown-up.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Jonah prayed, and the fish spit him out. | ☐ A huge fish swallowed Jonah. |
| ☐ Jonah ran away on a ship. | ☐ Jonah went to Nineveh and preached. |
| ☐ God told Jonah to go to Nineveh. | ☐ A wild storm came. |

★ **REMEMBER**
I will follow God, even when it’s hard.

Pray: God, sometimes obeying You is hard. When I want to run the other way, help me turn around and follow You. Thank You for being patient with me. Amen.



Trust Him with Tomorrow

Read: Psalm 32:8 **Go further:** Isaiah 41:10



“I will instruct you and show you the way to go; with my eye on you, I will give counsel. **Psalm 32:8**”

On a long ride to somewhere new, you don’t have to know every turn. You can even take a nap, because the driver knows the way. You don’t know what tomorrow holds, but God does. He promises to show you the way and keep His eye on you. So when you worry about tomorrow, remember who is leading you!

Your Turn! Write your worries on the left. On the right, write a promise from God, like Isaiah 41:10: “I am with you.”

I’m worried about...	God promises...

★ **REMEMBER**
God knows the way, so I can trust Him with tomorrow.

Pray: God, You know everything about tomorrow. When I feel worried, help me remember that You are with me and You will show me the way. Amen.

Family Huddle: Talk with a grown-up about something coming up that feels big or scary. Then pray about it together.



Be a Decision Detective



Every day you make choices. Some are easy, like which socks to wear. Others are harder. A good detective asks questions to find the truth. So when you're not sure what to do, be a Decision Detective! Ask these questions and look for clues in God's Word. Then try to solve the cases below.

● Detective Questions

- Does it obey what the Bible says?
- Will it honor God?
- Is it kind? Is it true?
- Jesus sees everything. Would I be glad for Him to see this?
- What would a wise Christian grown-up tell me to do?
- When I pray about it, do I have peace?

● Case 1: The Answer Key

Your teacher steps out of the room. The answers to tomorrow's test are sitting right on her desk, and a friend dares you to take a peek. Which detective questions help you here? What will you do?

● Case 2: The Empty Seat

Your friends are saving you a seat at lunch. But a new kid is sitting all alone, staring at the table. What would be kind? What could you do?

● Case 3: The Sleepover Movie

At a sleepover, the other kids pick a movie your grown-up has said is not okay for you. Everyone is excited to watch it. What will you say? What will you do?

● A Promise for Detectives

God is glad to give wisdom to anyone who asks Him (James 1:5). So before you decide, stop and pray!

My Church Family



★ When you trusted Jesus, you joined God's family, the church.

FAMILY TIME

The First Church Family

Read together: **Acts 2:41-47**

Not long after Jesus went back to heaven, Peter preached about Him to a huge crowd in Jerusalem. About three thousand people believed and were baptized! That's a lot of new brothers and sisters. All at once, they were part of a brand-new family—God's family, the church. So what did this family do together?

They learned together, listening as the apostles—the men Jesus had trained—taught them. They prayed together. Every day they met to worship God. They ate meals in each other's homes "with joyful and sincere hearts." And they took care of each other. If someone needed something, the others shared what they had.

Does that remind you of a church supper or your Sunday School class? It should! God's family still does these things today. We learn from the Bible, pray, worship, and share meals. We help each other when times are hard. And just as in Acts 2, God keeps adding new people to His family. He added you!

When you trusted Jesus, you didn't just get a Savior. You got a whole family! Your brothers and sisters in Christ range from kids like you to great-grandparents. This week, you'll discover what it means to belong to the church and why you are an important part of it.

Do It Together

Like the first church, share a meal! Invite someone from church to eat with your family this week—even a simple supper or snack counts. Before you eat, take turns thanking God for your church family.

Memory Verse

Now you are the body of Christ, and individual members of it.

1 Corinthians 12:27

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
- ☐ I said it without peeking!

For Grown-Ups

Kids learn what church is by watching how we talk about it. This week, speak warmly about your church family. Introduce your child to an older member, and help them learn a few names. Belonging grows when children know people, not just a building.

Talk About It

- 1 What did the first church family do together? Which of those things does your church do?
- 2 Why do you think God wants us to belong to a church family instead of following Jesus all alone?
- 3 Grown-ups, share a time a church family helped you or someone you know. Kids, who at church makes you feel welcome?

Pray Together

Father, thank You for making us part of Your family, the church. Help [name] feel at home with Your people, and help us love and care for one another. In Jesus' name, amen.



Living Stones

Read: 1 Peter 2:4-5 **Go further:** Ephesians 2:19-22



“...you yourselves, as living stones, a spiritual house, are being built to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
1 Peter 2:5

Out in the country, you might see an old stone wall along the edge of a field. Someone fit those rocks together, one by one. Peter says Christians are “living stones.” God is building us together into His house! Jesus is the cornerstone, the most important stone of all. So the church isn’t really a building with a steeple. It’s God’s people. The building is just where the church meets. When you trusted Jesus, God set you in place as one of His living stones.

Your Turn! Draw your church building. Then draw the people who make it a church—including you!

draw here

★ REMEMBER

The church is God’s people, and I am part of it!



Pray: God, thank You for building me into Your church with other believers. Help me remember that the church is people, and help me love them well. Amen.



One Body, Many Parts

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:12-20 **Go further:** Romans 12:4-5



“But as it is, God has arranged each one of the parts in the body just as he wanted.
1 Corinthians 12:18

Picture a giant eyeball rolling down the hallway at school. Or a huge ear hopping into the lunchroom! Silly, right? Paul said if a whole body were just one eye, it couldn’t hear a thing. A body needs lots of different parts, each with its own job. The church is Christ’s body, and every Christian is one of the parts. God arranged each part “just as he wanted.” Maybe you’re good at helping, noticing, or cheering others on. However God made you, His body needs you!

Your Turn! Every part of a body has a job. Draw a line from each body part to a way you can serve in Christ’s body, the church.

1. Hands
2. Feet
3. Mouth
4. Ears
5. Eyes



- **A.** Singing and teaching
- **B.** Noticing who needs help
- **C.** Listening to people
- **D.** Going to tell about Jesus
- **E.** Helping get jobs done

★ REMEMBER

I am part of Christ’s body, and His body needs me.



Pray: God, thank You for making me part of Your church. Show me how You made me to help, and help me do my part. Amen.



Better Together

Read: Hebrews 10:24-25 **Go further:** Psalm 133:1



“...not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.”
Hebrews 10:25

Learning to ride a bike can be scary. But it helps so much when someone runs alongside you, cheering you on! Christians need cheering on too. Hebrews 10 says to think of ways to stir each other up to love and do good. That’s one big reason God gave us the church. When you show up, you can cheer others on, and they can cheer for you.

Your Turn! Write a note to cheer on someone at church. Later, copy it onto a card and give it to them!

★ REMEMBER

I need my church family, and my church family needs me.



Pray: God, thank You for my church family. Help me cheer others on to love and do good. Show me someone who needs encouragement this week. Amen.

Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: Who has encouraged you to follow Jesus? How did they do it?



Dressed in Love

Read: Colossians 3:12-14 **Go further:** 1 John 4:11-12



“Above all, put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.” **Colossians 3:14**

When a ball team runs onto the field, you can tell who’s on which team by their jerseys. Colossians 3 says God’s family has clothes too! You are one of “God’s chosen ones, holy and dearly loved.” So you can put on compassion (caring when others hurt), kindness, humility (putting others first), gentleness, and patience. You can forgive, just as the Lord forgave you. And over it all, “put on love.” When you wear God’s love, people can tell whose team you’re on!

Your Turn! Draw a shirt. Write on it the things God tells His family to “put on” in Colossians 3:12-14. Circle one to wear today!

draw here

★ REMEMBER

Every day, I can put on kindness, patience, and love.



Pray: Lord, You have forgiven me and loved me so much. Help me put on kindness, patience, and love today, and help me forgive others too. Amen.



Shepherds and Servants

Read: Acts 6:1-6 **Go further:** 1 Peter 5:2-3



“ Brothers and sisters, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and wisdom, whom we can appoint to this duty. **Acts 6:3** ”

The first church grew so fast that some widows (women whose husbands had died) were being left out when food was handed out. The apostles needed to keep praying and teaching God’s Word. So the church chose seven men “full of the Spirit and wisdom” to take care of it. Many Bible teachers call them the first deacons. Deacon comes from a word that means servant. God still gives churches deacons to serve and pastors to shepherd His people. Pastor comes from a word that means shepherd!

Your Turn! Who serves you at church? Write their names (ask a grown-up if you need help). Then pray for each one this week!

My pastor: _____

My Sunday School teacher: _____

A deacon I know: _____

Someone who helps kids: _____

★ REMEMBER

God gives pastors and deacons to care for me and my church.



Pray: Thank You, God, for my pastor, my teachers, and the deacons at my church. Give them strength and joy as they serve You and care for us. Amen.



Sent Out

Read: Acts 13:1-3 **Go further:** Romans 10:14-15



“ Then after they had fasted, prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them off. **Acts 13:3** ”

Some leaders of the church in Antioch were worshiping God when the Holy Spirit spoke. He told them to set apart Barnabas and Saul (also called Paul) for a special job: telling people in other lands about Jesus. They were missionaries, people sent to share the good news. Romans 10 asks how people can believe in Jesus if they never hear about Him. That’s why churches still pray for, give to, and send missionaries today.

Your Turn! Ask a grown-up to help you name a missionary or a country to pray for. At Pleasant Grove, the WMU (Woman’s Missionary Union) and Baptist Men care about missions—ask them! Write the name and a short prayer.

★ REMEMBER

I can help send the good news about Jesus everywhere!



Pray: God, thank You for missionaries who tell others about Jesus. Please keep them safe and strong. Show me how I can help send the good news too. Amen.



Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: Do you know a missionary, or someone who went on a mission trip? What did they do?



Church Scavenger Hunt



Go on a hunt at Pleasant Grove! Ask a grown-up to hunt with you, and check off each thing as you find it or do it. Some things are in the building. Others are people to meet. After all, the people are the church!

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Find the pulpit, where the pastor preaches God's Word. | ☐ Find the baptistry, the pool where people are baptized. |
| ☐ Find the Lord's Supper table. | ☐ Find a hymnal. Look up a song you know! |
| ☐ Find the offering plates. | ☐ Find a Bible in the pews or in your classroom. |
| ☐ Find your Sunday School room. | ☐ Meet Pastor James and shake his hand. |
| ☐ Learn the name of one of our deacons. | ☐ Ask an older member how long they've been coming here. |
| ☐ Find out what year our church began. Was it 1753, 1853, or 1953? | ☐ Shake hands with someone new and tell them your name. |

My notes

i Bring this book to church on Sunday! Sunday School starts at 9:45 AM and worship at 11:00 AM. Hunt before or after the service, not during it. Can't find everything? Keep hunting next week!

Going Public



✦ Jesus gave His church two special pictures: baptism and the Lord's Supper.

FAMILY TIME

Look, There's Water!

Read together: **Acts 8:26-39**

An important official from Ethiopia had traveled all the way to Jerusalem to worship God. He was in charge of all the queen's treasure! Now he was riding home in his chariot, reading out loud from the book of Isaiah. But he couldn't understand it.

God sent Philip to meet him. Philip ran up beside the chariot and asked, "Do you understand what you're reading?" The man invited Philip to sit with him. He was reading about someone who suffered quietly, like a lamb. Isaiah wrote those words about Jesus, hundreds of years before He was born! Starting right there, Philip told him the good news about Jesus.

As they rode along, they came to some water. The official said, "Look, there's water." He wanted to be baptized right away! So they stopped the chariot, and both of them went down into the water. Philip baptized him, and they came up out of the water. Then the man "went on his way rejoicing."

Notice the order. First the man heard the good news about Jesus and believed it. Then he was baptized. Baptism doesn't save anyone—only Jesus saves! But baptism is a joyful way to show everyone that you belong to Him. This week, you'll learn about baptism and the Lord's Supper, two pictures Jesus gave His church.

Do It Together

If anyone in your family has been baptized, look at pictures or tell the story of that day. Then read Romans 6:4, this week's memory verse, together. Say it together each night this week until everyone can say it without looking!

Memory Verse

Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:4

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
☐ I said it without peeking!

For Grown-Ups

If your child asks about baptism, celebrate the question! Talk about what it means and why we do it, without rushing. Pastor James would be glad to meet with you and your child. Baptism is a joyful step of obedience for those who have already trusted Jesus.

Talk About It

- 1 Why do you think the official wanted to be baptized right away?
- 2 What does baptism show other people about someone who has trusted Jesus?
- 3 Grown-ups, if you've been baptized, tell about that day. Kids, what questions do you have about baptism?

Pray Together

Lord Jesus, thank You for dying for us and rising again. Thank You that baptism pictures the new life You give. Help [name] follow You in every step. Amen.



Jesus Was Baptized Too

Read: Mark 1:9-11 **Go further:** Matthew 28:19



“And a voice came from heaven: “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well-pleased.” **Mark 1:11**

John the Baptist was baptizing crowds of people in the Jordan River. They were turning away from their sins. Then Jesus came and was baptized too! But Jesus never sinned, so why would He be baptized? He did it to obey His Father and to set an example for us. As He came up out of the water, the Holy Spirit came down on Him like a dove. And the Father spoke from heaven: “You are my beloved Son.” (Beloved means dearly loved.) God was pleased with His Son!

Your Turn! Jesus never sinned, but He still chose to be baptized. Why do you think He did? Write your answer in your own words.

★ REMEMBER

Jesus was baptized to obey God, and I can follow Him.



Pray: Jesus, thank You for showing me how to obey the Father. Help me follow You and do what You ask, step by step. Amen.



Believe, Then Be Baptized

Read: Acts 2:37-41 **Go further:** Acts 18:8



“So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand people were added to them. **Acts 2:41**

When Peter preached about Jesus, the crowd was “pierced to the heart.” That means they felt deeply sorry, because they knew they had sinned against God. They asked, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter told them to repent (turn from sin and turn to God) and be baptized. Look at verse 41. Who was baptized? Those who “accepted his message.” First they believed, and then they were baptized. Baptism doesn’t save anyone. Only Jesus saves! Baptism is a way to show that you already belong to Him.

Your Turn! Is each sentence true or false? Mark your answer.

Baptism is for people who have trusted Jesus.

Getting baptized is what saves me.

Jesus told His followers to be baptized.

At our church, people are baptized by going under the water.

You have to be a grown-up to be baptized.

☐ T	☐ F
☐ T	☐ F
☐ T	☐ F
☐ T	☐ F
☐ T	☐ F

★ REMEMBER

Jesus saves me; baptism shows I belong to Him.



Pray: Jesus, thank You that You save me by Your grace, not because of anything I do. Help me show everyone that I belong to You. Amen.



A Picture of the Gospel

Read: Romans 6:3-4 **Go further:** Colossians 2:12



“Or are you unaware that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? **Romans 6:3**

Baptism is a picture of the gospel, the good news about Jesus! Standing in the water pictures Jesus dying on the cross for you. Going under the water pictures Jesus being buried. Coming up out of the water pictures Jesus rising from the dead! Baptism pictures your story too. Your old life is buried, and just as Jesus rose, you get to “walk in newness of life”—a brand-new life with Him!

Your Turn! What does each part of baptism picture? Fill in what it shows about Jesus and about you.

	About Jesus	About me
Standing in the water		
Going under		
Coming up		

★ REMEMBER

Baptism pictures Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection—and my new life!



Pray: Jesus, thank You for dying for me, being buried, and rising again. Thank You for my brand-new life. Help me live it for You. Amen.



Family Huddle: Explain to a grown-up what baptism pictures. Then ask: Have you been baptized? What was it like?



Telling Everyone

Read: Acts 16:25-34 **Go further:** Romans 10:9-10



“They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” **Acts 16:31**

At midnight, Paul and Silas sat in jail, praying and singing hymns to God. Suddenly an earthquake shook the jail! Every door flew open, and everyone’s chains came loose. The jailer was terrified, because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul called out that everyone was still there. The jailer asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus.” That very night, he and his whole family believed and were baptized. Baptism showed everyone that they now belonged to Jesus!

Your Turn! Baptism is a happy day to share! Who would you invite to watch you be baptized? (If you’ve already been baptized, write who came.)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

★ REMEMBER

Baptism shows everyone that I belong to Jesus.



Pray: Lord Jesus, thank You for saving me. Give me courage to tell others that I belong to You, and help me invite them to know You too. Amen.



Remember Me

Read: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 **Go further:** Luke 22:19-20



“For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. **1 Corinthians 11:26**”

On the night He was betrayed, Jesus shared a meal with His disciples. He took bread, thanked God, broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you.” After supper He took the cup and called it the “new covenant” in His blood. A covenant is a special promise. Both times He said, “Do this in remembrance of me.” When a church shares the Lord’s Supper, we remember how Jesus gave His life for us. And we keep doing it “until he comes” back!

Your Turn! Draw a line to match each part of the Lord’s Supper with what it helps us remember.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| 1. The bread | ● | ● A. We are one family |
| 2. The cup | ● | ● B. Jesus’ blood poured out for us |
| 3. Eating together | ● | ● C. Jesus’ body given for us |
| 4. Doing it until He comes | ● | ● D. Jesus is coming back! |

★ REMEMBER

The Lord’s Supper helps me remember Jesus until He comes back.



Pray: Jesus, thank You for giving Your body and blood for me on the cross. Help me never forget what You did. I can’t wait for You to come back! Amen.



Check Your Heart

Read: 1 Corinthians 11:27-28 **Go further:** Psalm 139:23-24



“Let a person examine himself; in this way let him eat the bread and drink from the cup. **1 Corinthians 11:28**”

Before you leave for school, you might check your backpack. Homework? Lunch? Library book? Before the Lord’s Supper, Paul said to “examine” yourself. That means taking a quiet moment to check your heart with God. It isn’t meant to be scary. Is there a sin you need to tell God about? Is there someone you need to forgive? God is always ready to forgive and make your heart clean.

Your Turn! What questions do you have about baptism or the Lord’s Supper? Write them here. Then ask Pastor James or another grown-up at church!

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

★ REMEMBER

Before the Lord’s Supper, I can ask God to check my heart.



Pray: Search me, God, and know my heart. Show me any sin I need to turn from. Thank You that You forgive me and make me clean. Amen.



Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up who has taken the Lord’s Supper: What do you think about while you take it?



Thinking About Baptism?



Have you trusted Jesus as your Savior? If you haven't been baptized yet, baptism may be your next step! Baptism doesn't save you. Only Jesus can do that. But Jesus told His followers to be baptized, so it's a joyful way to obey Him and show everyone you belong to Him.

● What Baptism Means

Baptism is a picture of the good news. Standing in the water pictures Jesus' death. Going under pictures His burial. Coming up pictures Him rising from the dead—and the brand-new life He has given you!

● Taking the Next Step

- Talk with a parent or another grown-up who cares for you.
- Then talk with Pastor James. He would love to talk with you!
- Bring your questions—like the ones you wrote this week.

● What Will Happen?

You'll step into the water with the pastor. He will tell everyone that you have trusted Jesus. Then he will lower you under the water for just a moment and bring you right back up. Your church family will be so happy for you!

● What About the Lord's Supper?

At Pleasant Grove, we share the Lord's Supper about four times a year. The bread and the cup help us remember Jesus' death until He comes back. Ask a grown-up or Pastor James about when you can begin taking part.

● My Baptism

When you are baptized, fill in these lines: the date, who baptized you, who came to watch, and how you felt. Already baptized? Fill them in now!

Worship All Week Long



✦ Worship is giving God the honor He deserves—with my voice, my heart, and my whole life.

FAMILY TIME

Come, Let's Worship!

Read together: **Psalm 95:1-7**

Psalm 95 starts with an invitation: “Come!” It calls God’s people to shout for joy, to sing, and to thank Him. Why should we? Because He is “a great King above all gods.” No one is greater than our God, and no one deserves more praise!

Look at what the psalm says belongs to God. The deepest places of the earth are in His hand. “The mountain peaks are his.” The sea is His too, because He made it. Think about the mountains near Ronda, or a creek splashing over rocks. God made every bit of it, and it all belongs to Him.

Then comes this week’s memory verse. It invites us to bow down and kneel before the Lord our Maker. Bowing and kneeling are ways to show that God is great and we are small. And the psalm tells us why we can come close to Him: He is our God, and we are the sheep He cares for.

Worship means showing God that He is worth more than anything. We worship when we sing and pray with our church family on Sunday. But worship doesn’t stop when church is over! We can worship God all week long by thanking Him, obeying Him, and loving others. This week, you’ll find out how.

Do It Together

Take a short walk outside together—around the yard or down the road. Each person names something God made and thanks Him for it. When you get home, sing a favorite praise song together.

Memory Verse

Come, let’s worship and bow down;
let’s kneel before the Lord our
Maker.

Psalm 95:6

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
☐ I said it without peeking!

For Grown-Ups

Children notice what excites us. Let your child see you sing, listen, and pray during worship—not just sit through it. On the way home from church, talk about one thing you learned. Worship isn’t only for Sunday, so look for ways to thank God together all week.

Talk About It

- 1 What part of God’s creation makes you want to praise Him most?
- 2 Psalm 95 tells us to bow down and kneel. What do you think that shows God?
- 3 Grown-ups, what is your favorite song to worship God? Kids, what’s yours? Why?

Pray Together

Lord our Maker, You are a great God and a great King. We bow before You and praise You. Help [name] and all of us worship You every day of the week. Amen.



What Is Worship?



 **Read:** Psalm 29:1-2  Go further: Revelation 5:11-13

“Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness. **Psalm 29:2**

The word worship comes from an old English word that meant worth-ship. To worship God means to show Him that He is worth more than anything! Psalm 29 calls even the angels to give God the glory (honor and praise) He deserves. In Revelation 5, John heard thousands and thousands of angels calling out with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb!” The Lamb is Jesus. When you sing to God, thank Him, or obey Him, you’re showing that He matters more to you than anything else.

 **Your Turn!** Why is God worthy of worship? Write four reasons. (Hint: Think about who He is and what He has done!)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

★ REMEMBER

God is worth more than anything, so I will worship Him.



Pray: God, You are worthy of all my praise. You are holy, and You made everything. Help me show You today that You matter most to me. Amen.



Sing to the Lord



 **Read:** Psalm 96:1-4  Go further: Colossians 3:16

“Sing a new song to the LORD; let the whole earth sing to the LORD. **Psalm 96:1**

Do you have to be a great singer to worship God? Not at all! Psalm 96 calls the whole earth to sing to Him. That means everyone—kids, grandparents, people who sing on key, and people who don’t! God cares most about your heart. Colossians 3:16 says to sing “with gratitude in your hearts.” (Gratitude means being thankful.) When you sing to God and mean it, your song is a gift to Him. So sing out at church, in the car, or while you do chores!

 **Your Turn!** What is your favorite song to sing to God? Why do you like it? Or make up a new song of praise to a tune you already know!

★ REMEMBER

God loves to hear me sing praise from my heart.



Pray: God, I want to sing to You! Thank You for caring more about my heart than my voice. Fill my heart with thankful songs today. Amen.



Gathering on Sunday

Read: Psalm 122:1 **Go further:** Acts 2:46-47



“I rejoiced with those who said to me, ‘Let’s go to the house of the LORD.’” **Psalm 122:1**

King David was glad when people invited him to go worship at God’s house. The first Christians met together every day! Worshiping with your church family each week is a joyful habit. We sing praises and pray. We hear the Bible read. We give our offerings. The pastor preaches a sermon, a message from God’s Word. Many churches end with an invitation, a time to respond to what God has said. At Pleasant Grove, worship starts at 11:00 AM. This Sunday, watch for each part!

Your Turn! Bring this book to worship on Sunday. Check off each part of the service as you notice it. Add another part on the blank line!

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Singing praise to God | ☐ A prayer |
| ☐ A reading from the Bible | ☐ The offering |
| ☐ The sermon, a message from God’s Word | ☐ The invitation at the end |
| ☐ _____ | |

★ **REMEMBER**
I’m glad to worship God with my church family!

Pray: God, I’m glad I get to worship You with my church family. Help me sing, listen, and pray with my whole heart this Sunday. Amen.

Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: What is your favorite part of worship on Sunday? Why? Then tell them yours!



Stay Awake!

Read: Acts 20:7-12 **Go further:** Nehemiah 8:5-6



“...a young man named Eutychus was sitting on a window sill and sank into a deep sleep as Paul kept on talking.” **Acts 20:9**

The Bible tells about a sermon that lasted until midnight! Paul was preaching in an upstairs room. A young man named Eutychus (YOO-tih-kus) sat on a windowsill. He got sleepier and sleepier, until he fell asleep and tumbled out of the third-floor window! When people reached him, he had died. But Paul hugged him and said, “Don’t be alarmed, because he’s alive.” God gave him his life back! Then Paul went back upstairs and talked until sunrise! Listening carefully to God’s Word helps you grow—so stay awake!

Your Turn! Next Sunday, listen carefully to the sermon and fill this in. Want to take more notes? Use the Church Notes pages at the back of this book!

The preacher: _____

The Bible passage: _____

A word I kept hearing: _____

One thing I learned: _____

★ **REMEMBER**
When God’s Word is preached, I will listen carefully.

Pray: God, thank You for pastors who preach Your Word. Help me stay awake, listen well, and learn something new about You every Sunday. Amen.



Monday Worship

Read: Romans 12:1-2 **Go further:** Colossians 3:17



“...I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship. **Romans 12:1**”

What does worship look like on a Monday? In Bible times, people brought offerings called sacrifices to God. Because God has been so kind to us, Paul says to give Him your whole self as a “living sacrifice.” Your hands, feet, eyes, and mouth all belong to Him. Paul calls this your “true worship.” So you worship God when you help without being asked, tell the truth, or play fair at recess. Colossians 3:17 says to do everything in Jesus’ name. Any day can be a worship day!

Your Turn! Pick ways to worship God this Monday (or any day!). Check each one after you do it. Add your own idea on the blank line.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Thank God for three things when I wake up | ☐ Do my chores without grumbling |
| ☐ Tell the truth, even when it's hard | ☐ Include someone who is left out |
| ☐ Do my best work, for God | ☐ Hum a praise song while I play |
| ☐ Obey the first time I'm asked | ☐ _____ |

★ REMEMBER

Everything I do can be worship when I do it for God.



Pray: God, I give You my whole self—my hands, my feet, my eyes, and my mouth. Help me worship You in everything I do today. Amen.



God Gets First Place

Read: Exodus 20:1-6 **Go further:** 1 John 5:21



“Do not have other gods besides me. **Exodus 20:3**”

God’s first two commands are about worship: Have no other gods. Don’t make idols or bow down to them. An idol can be a statue that people worship. But anything we love or trust more than God can become an idol in our hearts—even good things like games or sports. God calls Himself a jealous God. That isn’t the selfish kind of jealous. It means He loves us and wants all of our hearts. So “guard yourselves from idols.” God gets first place!

Your Turn! What sometimes tries to take first place in your heart? Write it down. Then write one way you will keep God first this week.

★ REMEMBER

God gets first place in my heart.



Pray: God, You alone deserve my worship. Show me anything I love more than You, and help me keep You first in my heart. Amen.



Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: What things try to take God’s place in grown-ups’ hearts? How do you keep God first?



WEEK 10 · WORSHIP ALL WEEK LONG

Write Your Own Psalm



The book of Psalms is full of songs and prayers—150 of them! Some shout for joy. Some cry out for help. Some say thank you. God's people have been singing and praying them for thousands of years. Now it's your turn! Fill in each part to write your own psalm to God.

● God, You are...

Praise God for who He is. Is He strong? Kind? Holy? Faithful?

● Thank You for...

Thank God for things He has made or done for you.

● I need Your help with...

Tell God about something that is hard for you right now.

● I will trust You because...

Why can you trust God? Think of a promise from His Word.

● I will praise You!

End your psalm with a happy shout of praise. Then draw a picture to go with your psalm!

draw here

Hands That Help



✦ God made you to serve others with the gifts He has given you.

FAMILY TIME

Who Gets the Best Seat?

Read together: **Mark 10:35-45**

Everybody likes to be first. First in the lunch line. First to pick teams at recess. First to grab the comfy spot on the couch for family movie night. Being first can make us feel big and important.

Two of Jesus' disciples, the brothers James and John, wanted to be first too. One day they asked Jesus for a big favor. When He ruled as King in all His glory, could they sit right beside Him, one on His right and one on His left? Those were the most important seats of all! When the other ten disciples heard about it, they were upset with James and John.

So Jesus called all twelve together. He said that in the world, important people like to boss others around. But it must not be that way with His followers. Whoever wants to be great must be a servant, and whoever wants to be first must serve everyone. Then Jesus gave Himself as the example. He did not come "to be served, but to serve," and to give His life as a ransom for many. A ransom is a price paid to set someone free. On the cross, Jesus paid that price for us.

Jesus is the King of everything, and He came to serve! This week you'll discover that God has given you gifts, too—things you're good at and ways you can help. He didn't give them so you could feel important. He gave them so you could serve others and show them His love.

🏠 Do It Together

Pick a way to serve someone together this week. You could make cards for a person who is sick, help a neighbor with yard work, or help clean up at church. Before you start, pray that the people you serve will feel God's love.

📖 Memory Verse

Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God.

1 Peter 4:10

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
☐ I said it without peeking!

👨🏫 For Grown-Ups

Children learn to serve best by serving next to someone they love. This week, invite your child to help with the everyday ways you care for others—carrying a meal to a neighbor, setting up for a church event, or folding laundry. When you catch your child serving, thank them and name it: "That was just like Jesus!"

🗨️ Talk About It

- 1 When is it hard for you to let someone else go first? Why?
- 2 Jesus is the King, but He came to serve. What are some ways Jesus served people?
- 3 Grown-ups, who served you when you were a kid? Kids, who serves you every day?

🙏 Pray Together

Lord Jesus, You are the King, and You came to serve. Thank You for giving Your life for us. Show [name] and our whole family how to use our gifts to serve others this week. Amen.



The King Who Served

Read: Philippians 2:5-8 **Go further:** John 13:12-15



“ Instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. **Philippians 2:7** ”

Picture a king on a golden throne. Servants hurry to bring his food and fluff his pillows. Now picture that king kneeling on the floor to wash his servants' dusty feet! That's what Jesus did for His disciples. Philippians 2 says Jesus has always been God, but He didn't use that to get His own way. He became a man and lived as a servant. He humbled Himself—He chose the lowest place—and obeyed all the way to the cross. Paul says to have the same attitude Jesus had.

Your Turn! Unscramble these words about serving like Jesus. Use the hints if you get stuck.

E E R S V _____

Jesus came to do this

P E H L _____

Lend a hand

N I K D _____

Caring and gentle

B E L U M H _____

Choosing the lowest place

O H E T R S _____

People besides me

★ **REMEMBER**
Jesus came to serve, so I will serve too.

Pray: Jesus, You are the King, but You came to serve. Thank You for being humble and giving Your life for me. Help me serve like You. Amen.



Gifts for Everyone

Read: Romans 12:4-8 **Go further:** 1 Corinthians 12:4-7



“ According to the grace given to us, we have different gifts... **Romans 12:6** ”

What if everybody brought banana pudding to the church supper? It would be sweet, but where would the biscuits and green beans be? A good supper needs lots of different dishes. God's church is like that. Romans 12 says God gives His people different gifts. Some are good at teaching. Some love to help or to cheer others on. Some give generously, some lead, and some are extra kind to people who are hurting. Every gift comes from God, and each one is meant to help the whole church family.

Your Turn! God gives His children different gifts. Check the ones you think God may have given you. Then ask a grown-up which gifts they see in you!

- ☐ Teaching—helping others learn
- ☐ Encouraging—cheering people on
- ☐ Leading—showing others the way
- ☐ Praying for others

- ☐ Serving—doing jobs that need to be done
- ☐ Giving—sharing what I have
- ☐ Showing mercy—caring for people who hurt
- ☐ _____

★ **REMEMBER**
God gave me gifts so I can help His church.

Pray: Thank You, God, for the gifts You give Your children. Show me the gifts You have given me, and help me use them to serve others. Amen.



Helping Others, Serving Jesus

Read: Matthew 25:34-40 **Go further:** Matthew 10:42



“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’” **Matthew 25:40**

Jesus talked about the day He will come back as King. He will thank His people for feeding Him when He was hungry and caring for Him when He was sick. They will be surprised! The phrase “least of these” means people who often get left out. When you share your snack with a kid who forgot one, you are serving Jesus!

Your Turn!

In each row, write someone who needs help and how you could help them.

	Who needs help?	How I can help
Home		
School		
Church		

★ REMEMBER

When I help someone in need, I am serving Jesus.



Pray: Jesus, open my eyes to see people who need help. When I serve them, help me remember that I am serving You. Amen.



Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: Who in our community needs help right now? What could we do for them together?



Starting at Home

Read: Colossians 3:23-24 **Go further:** Colossians 3:20



“Whatever you do, do it from the heart, as something done for the Lord and not for people...” **Colossians 3:23**

Wet towels on the floor. Crumbs on the table. An empty dog bowl. Every home is full of little jobs! Paul wrote that whatever you do, you should do it from the heart, as something done for the Lord and not for people. That means even folding towels can be a way to serve Jesus. When you do your chores well, help without being asked, and obey the grown-ups who care for you, you aren’t just helping your family. You are serving the Lord Christ!

Your Turn!

Try these secret servant missions this week! Do them quietly, just for Jesus. Check off each one you finish, and add your own mission on the blank line.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Make someone else’s bed | ☐ Set the table before anyone asks |
| ☐ Help fold and put away laundry | ☐ Leave a thank-you note on someone’s pillow |
| ☐ Pick up toys, even ones that aren’t mine | ☐ Water the plants or feed a pet |
| ☐ _____ | |

★ REMEMBER

I can serve Jesus by helping at home.



Pray: Lord, help me do my jobs at home with a willing heart, because I’m really doing them for You. Show me someone to help today. Amen.



No Grumbling

Read: Galatians 5:13-14 **Go further:** Philippians 2:14-15



“For you were called to be free, brothers and sisters; only don’t use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but serve one another through love. **Galatians 5:13**”

Two kids are each asked to sweep a porch. One grumbles the whole time. The other hums a happy tune. Both porches end up just as clean. So what’s the difference? Their hearts! God cares about why and how we serve, not just what we do. Philippians 2:14 says to do everything without grumbling. Galatians 5 says Jesus set us free—not so we can be selfish, but so we can serve one another through love. When you help with a glad heart, people can see God’s love in you.

Your Turn! Grumbles can turn into glad words! Draw a line from each grumble to the glad words that could take its place.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Do I have to? | ● | ● A. Here, let’s share it! |
| 2. That’s not fair! | ● | ● B. Yes, I’m glad to help! |
| 3. Somebody else can do it. | ● | ● C. I’ll do it for Jesus. |
| 4. I don’t want to share. | ● | ● D. That’s okay—you go first. |

★ REMEMBER

I will serve with a glad heart, not a grumbly one.



Pray: Dear God, forgive me for the times I grumble. Give me a glad heart when I help, so others can see Your love in me. Amen.



Dorcas Made a Difference

Read: Acts 9:36-42 **Go further:** Hebrews 6:10



“In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which is translated Dorcas). She was always doing good works and acts of charity. **Acts 9:36**”

Dorcas lived in Joppa, a town by the sea. One day she got sick and died. Her friends sent for Peter. When he arrived, widows—women whose husbands had died—cried and showed him the robes and clothes Dorcas had made. Peter prayed, and God brought Dorcas back to life! Many people believed in the Lord. Dorcas used a needle and thread to show God’s love. What could you use?

Your Turn! Draw something you could make or do for someone this week. Write that person’s name beside it.

draw here

★ REMEMBER

God can use my kindness to make a big difference.



Pray: God, thank You for people like Dorcas who show Your love. Use my hands to help someone this week, so they can see Jesus in me. Amen.



Family Huddle: Talk with a grown-up: Who has been kind to our family, like Dorcas was? How could we thank them this week?



Ways Kids Can Serve



You don't have to wait until you're grown up to serve Jesus! Here are ideas for serving at home, at church, and around Ronda. Check off each one you try. Then draw a star beside the one you liked best.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Help cook supper or wash the dishes at home | ☐ Draw a picture for someone who is sick or sad |
| ☐ Read a Bible story to a younger child | ☐ Make cards for church members who can't get out much |
| ☐ Help set up or clean up for a church meal | ☐ Pick up trash on the church grounds with a grown-up |
| ☐ Help a younger kid find their Sunday School class | ☐ Greet visitors at church with a smile and a hello |
| ☐ Say thank you to your Sunday School teacher | ☐ Pray for Pastor James by name every day this week |
| ☐ Give some of your own money to missions | ☐ Ask someone in the WMU or Baptist Men how to pray for missionaries |
| ☐ Help an older neighbor carry groceries or rake leaves (with a grown-up) | ☐ Pick up litter around your neighborhood with a grown-up |

My notes

i Ask Pastor James or your Sunday School teacher where you can help. And remember: whatever you do, you're doing it for Jesus!

Growing Good Fruit



✦ As I stay close to Jesus, His Spirit grows good fruit in my life.

FAMILY TIME

What's Growing on Your Tree?

Read together: **Galatians 5:16-17, 22-25**

An apple tree never grunts and groans to make apples. It doesn't squeeze its branches or hold its breath! As long as its roots soak up water and its leaves drink in sunshine, the apples just grow. Fruit is what naturally shows up on a healthy tree.

In Galatians 5, Paul explains that something like this happens in a Christian's life. There's a tug-of-war inside every believer. Our old sinful ways pull us toward things like jealousy, fighting, anger, and selfishness. But the Holy Spirit, who lives in every Christian, wants to grow something much better. Paul calls these good things the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

How does that fruit grow? Paul says to walk by the Spirit and keep in step with Him. Think of walking beside a friend and matching their steps. We keep in step with the Spirit when we read God's Word, pray, obey, and ask Him for help. We can't make the fruit grow by gritting our teeth and trying harder on our own. But as we stay close to Jesus, His Spirit makes us more like Him.

This week you'll look at each part of that fruit. As you do, remember that fruit takes time. An apple doesn't show up overnight! Be patient with yourself, and thank God for every bit of growth He brings.

Do It Together

Draw a big, bare tree on a sheet of paper and hang it where everyone can see it. All week, whenever someone in your family shows love, patience, kindness, or another fruit of the Spirit, draw a piece of fruit on the tree and write that person's name on it.

Memory Verse

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things.

Galatians 5:22-23

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
- ☐ I said it without peeking!

For Grown-Ups

Kids can feel pressure to be good all on their own. This week, help your child see that the fruit of the Spirit grows as we stay close to Jesus. When you notice kindness, patience, or self-control in them, name it and thank God together. Be honest about the areas where you are still growing, too.

Talk About It

- 1 Which part of the fruit of the Spirit do you see growing in someone in our family? How can you tell?
- 2 Why do you think the Bible calls these things fruit instead of rules?
- 3 Which fruit would you most like God to grow in you? Let's pray for each other about it.

Pray Together

Holy Spirit, thank You for living in [name]. Please grow Your fruit in [name] and in our whole family: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. In Jesus' name, amen.



Love and Joy

Read: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 **Go further:** Nehemiah 8:10



“ Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant...
1 Corinthians 13:4

What does love look like? Lots of people think love is just a warm, fuzzy feeling. But 1 Corinthians 13 shows that real love is something you do. Love is patient and kind. It isn't jealous or rude, and it doesn't keep a list of wrongs. That's the kind of love the Holy Spirit grows in you. He grows joy, too. Happy feelings come and go, but joy comes from knowing God loves you. Nehemiah 8:10 says the joy of the Lord makes you strong!

Your Turn! Use the word bank to finish these sentences about real love from 1 Corinthians 13.

Word bank: jealous kind wrongs patient

1. Love is _____ when it has to wait.
2. Love is _____ and helps others.
3. Love is not _____ when a friend gets something new.
4. Love does not keep a list of _____.

★ REMEMBER

The Holy Spirit grows real love and joy in me.



Pray: Holy Spirit, please grow real love in me—patient, kind love. Fill me with joy because I belong to You. Amen.



Peace That Stays

Read: John 14:27 **Go further:** Isaiah 26:3



“ Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Don't let your heart be troubled or fearful. **John 14:27**

The night before Jesus died on the cross, His friends were worried and confused. Jesus knew hard days were coming for them. So He gave them a gift. He said, “My peace I give to you.” The world's kind of peace only shows up when everything goes right. Jesus' peace is different. It stays with you even when things go wrong—a thunderstorm at bedtime, a hard test, or a grown-up who is sick. When worries come, tell Jesus about them and trust Him to hold you steady.

Your Turn! What is something that makes you worried? Write it here. Then write one way Jesus' peace can help you when you feel that way.

★ REMEMBER

Jesus gives me His peace, even on hard days.



Pray: Jesus, when I feel worried, help me remember that You are with me. Please give me Your peace that stays. Amen.



Waiting Like a Farmer

Read: James 5:7-8 **Go further:** Psalm 27:14



“ See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth and is patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. **James 5:7** ”

A farmer plants corn in the spring. Does he stomp outside the next morning and yell at the dirt to hurry up? Of course not! He pulls weeds and waits for the rain. James says to be patient like that farmer. He was talking about waiting for Jesus to come back, but his words help with every kind of waiting. Patience means waiting without grumbling and trusting God's timing. Waiting for a birthday, a cast to come off, or a prayer to be answered is hard. The Spirit can help you wait well.

Your Turn! What is hard for you to wait for? Write three things. Then pray about each one, asking God to help you wait patiently.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

★ REMEMBER

God's timing is best, so I can wait patiently.



Pray: God, waiting is hard for me sometimes. Help me be patient like a farmer and trust that Your timing is always best. Amen.



Kindness and Goodness

Read: Ephesians 4:31-32 **Go further:** Micah 6:8



“ And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ. **Ephesians 4:32** ”

A younger kid bumps the table, and juice spills all over the picture you just drew. What do you do? You could yell. Or you could take a deep breath, help clean up, and tell him it's okay. Ephesians 4 says to get rid of anger and shouting and to be kind and compassionate to one another. Compassionate means caring when others are hurting. Kindness is love in action. Goodness goes right along with it. Goodness means doing what is right, even when nobody is watching. The Spirit grows both in you!

Your Turn! Kindness and goodness are love in action! Check off each one you try this week. Add your own idea on the blank line.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Let someone else go first | ☐ Say something kind to a kid who seems lonely |
| ☐ Share a snack or a toy | ☐ Write a note to cheer someone up |
| ☐ Do the right thing when no one is looking | ☐ Stand up for someone who is being teased |
| ☐ Forgive someone right away | ☐ _____ |

★ REMEMBER

I can be kind and good because the Spirit lives in me.



Pray: Holy Spirit, help me be kind to others, even when I feel upset. Help me do what is right when no one is watching. Amen.

Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: When has someone been really kind to you? How did it make you feel?



Faithful and Gentle

Read: Luke 16:10 **Go further:** Proverbs 15:1



“Whoever is faithful in very little is also faithful in much, and whoever is unrighteous in very little is also unrighteous in much. **Luke 16:10**”

Faithful people do what they say they will do. If you promise to feed the goldfish every day, you remember—even on Saturday! Jesus said that whoever is faithful in very little will also be faithful in much. Small jobs matter to God. Gentleness grows right beside faithfulness. Gentle people use soft words and careful hands. Proverbs 15:1 says a gentle answer turns away anger, but a harsh word stirs it up. When a friend snaps at you, a calm answer can stop a fight before it starts.

Your Turn! Draw a line from each situation to a faithful or gentle way to respond. Then circle the one that is hardest for you.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. A friend snaps at you | ● | ● A. Stay until the job is done |
| 2. You promised to help clean up | ● | ● B. Save it, just like you said |
| 3. A toddler is learning to walk | ● | ● C. Answer in a soft, calm voice |
| 4. You said you'd save a seat | ● | ● D. Hold her hand and go slowly |

★ REMEMBER

I will keep my promises and use gentle words.



Pray: Lord, help me keep my promises, even in small things. When I feel like snapping at someone, help me give a gentle answer. Amen.



Saying No, Saying Yes

Read: Proverbs 25:28 **Go further:** Titus 2:11-12



“A person who does not control his temper is like a city whose wall is broken down. **Proverbs 25:28**”

Long ago, cities were built with thick stone walls to keep enemies out. If the wall was broken, anything could get in! Self-control is like a strong wall around your heart. Titus 2 says God's grace teaches us to say no to what is wrong and yes to what is right. The Spirit gives you that power!

Your Turn! Fill in the chart. Example: When I want to yell... with God's help I will stop and take three slow breaths.

When I want to...	With God's help I will...

★ REMEMBER

With the Spirit's help, I can say no to wrong and yes to right.



Pray: Holy Spirit, please give me self-control. When I want to do something wrong, help me stop, think, and choose what is right. Amen.



Family Huddle: Talk with a grown-up: When is self-control hardest for each of you? What helps you stop and think?



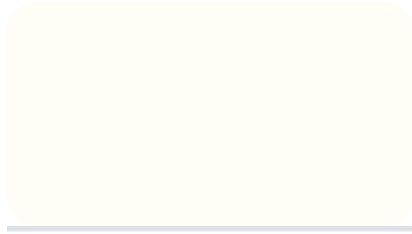
My Fruit Basket



Galatians 5:22-23 names nine parts of the fruit of the Spirit. Draw a different fruit on each card—an apple, a peach, grapes, anything you like! When you notice God growing that fruit in you this week, finish the sentence on the line.

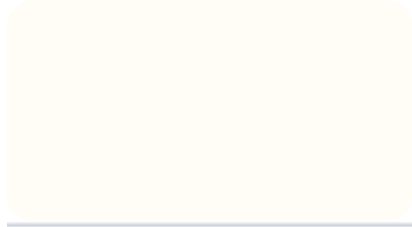
Love 1 Corinthians 13:4

Caring about others and putting them first, the way Jesus loves me. I showed love when...



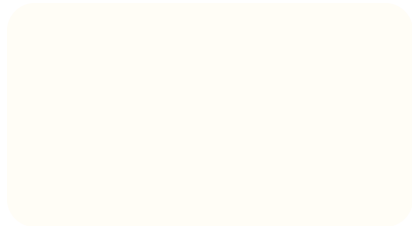
Patience James 5:7

Waiting without grumbling and not giving up on people. I showed patience when...



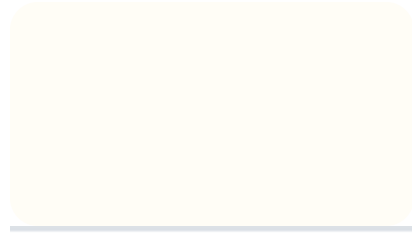
Faithfulness Luke 16:10

Keeping my promises and sticking with God and others. I showed faithfulness when...



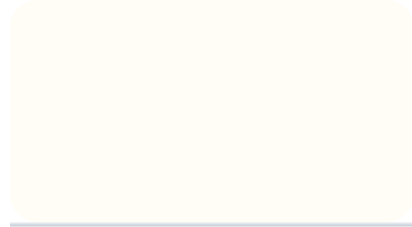
Joy Nehemiah 8:10

A deep gladness that comes from knowing God, even on hard days. I showed joy when...



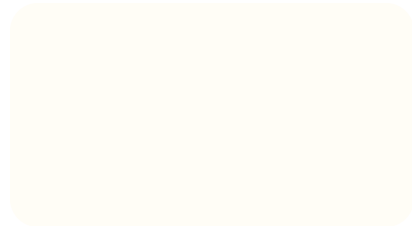
Kindness Ephesians 4:32

Love in action—helping, sharing, and using caring words. I showed kindness when...



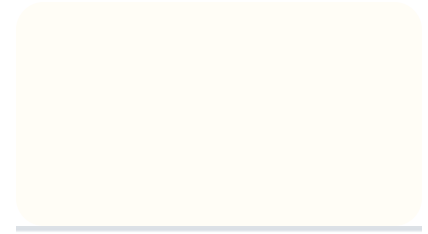
Gentleness Proverbs 15:1

Using soft words and careful hands, even when I'm upset. I showed gentleness when...



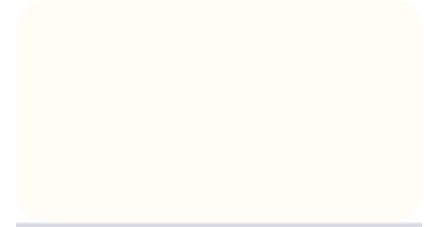
Peace John 14:27

A calm heart that trusts God, even when I feel worried. I showed peace when...



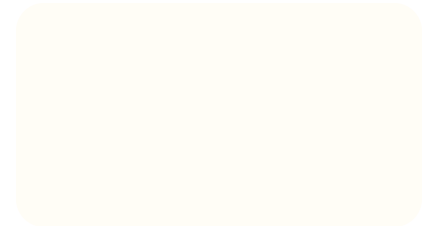
Goodness Micah 6:8

Doing what is right, even when no one is watching. I showed goodness when...



Self-Control Proverbs 25:28

Saying no to what is wrong and yes to what is right. I showed self-control when...



When I Mess Up



✦ Christians still sin sometimes, but God forgives us and helps us fight temptation.

FAMILY TIME

Too Heavy to Carry

Read together: **Psalm 32:1-5**

Imagine you're jumping on the couch, even though you know you're not supposed to. Oops! A lamp tips over and cracks. Quickly, you turn the crack toward the wall. Nobody notices. But all through supper your stomach feels tight, and at bedtime you can't stop thinking about it. Hiding something wrong feels heavy.

King David knew that heavy feeling. In Psalm 32 he wrote about a time when he kept quiet about his sin instead of telling God. He felt weak and worn out. He groaned all day long. His strength dried up like a plant in the hot summer sun. Day and night, he could feel God's hand pressing on him. God loved David too much to let him keep hiding.

Then David stopped hiding. He admitted his sin to God and didn't try to cover it up anymore. And God forgave him! That's why Psalm 32 begins by saying how joyful it is to be forgiven. The heavy load was gone!

Christians still sin sometimes. When you do, you are still God's child, and you don't have to carry that heavy load around. God already knows what you did, and He still loves you. This week's memory verse promises that if we confess our sins, God will forgive us and make us clean. To confess means to tell God the truth about what we did wrong. It's a lot like finally telling about the cracked lamp. It feels hard at first, but then the heavy feeling lifts. Jesus already paid for all of your sins on the cross!

Do It Together

Fill a backpack or bag with a few books. Take turns wearing it while you walk around the house. Then take it off. Talk about how much better it feels to put it down—just like when we confess our sins and God takes the heavy load away.

Memory Verse

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
- ☐ I said it without peeking!

For Grown-Ups

Children often hide wrongdoing because they are afraid of what will happen next. This week, help confession feel safe. When your child admits a wrong, thank them for telling the truth before you talk about consequences. Your calm response can help them see how gladly God welcomes a confessing heart.

Talk About It

- 1 Why do you think people try to hide the wrong things they do?
- 2 How did David feel while he hid his sin? How did he feel after he confessed?
- 3 Grown-ups, tell about a time you confessed something and were forgiven. How did it feel?

Pray Together

Father, thank You that we never have to hide from You. When [name] or any of us sins, help us come to You right away and tell You the truth. Thank You for forgiving us because of Jesus. Amen.



Still Growing

Read: 1 John 1:8-10 Go further: Romans 7:18-19



“ If we say, “We have no sin,” we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
1 John 1:8

Here’s something that might surprise you: Christians still sin. John, one of Jesus’ closest friends, wrote that if we say we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves. Even the apostle Paul wrote about wanting to do good and then doing wrong instead. So when you mess up, it doesn’t mean you aren’t really a Christian. It means you’re still growing! And that’s not the end of the story. When we confess our sins, God forgives us and makes us clean. He isn’t finished with you yet!

Your Turn! These big words come from this week’s memory verse, 1 John 1:9. Use the word bank to finish each sentence.

Word bank: forgive cleanse confess faithful

1. To _____ means to tell God the truth about my sin.
2. God always keeps His promises because He is _____.
3. When I confess, God will _____ me.
4. To _____ means to wash away and make clean.

★ **REMEMBER**
I still sin sometimes, but God forgives me when I confess.

Pray: God, I still mess up sometimes. Thank You that You don’t give up on me. Help me confess my sins and keep growing. Amen.



There’s a Way Out

Read: 1 Corinthians 10:13 Go further: Hebrews 2:18

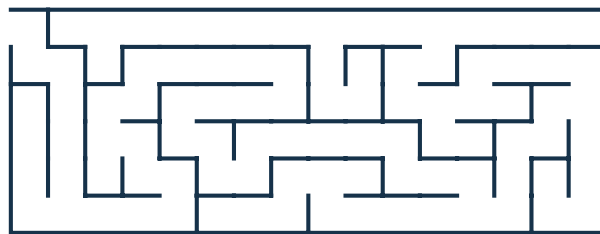


“ ...with the temptation he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to bear it. 1 Corinthians 10:13

Your spelling test is hard, and your friend’s paper is right there. You could peek. That pull toward doing wrong is called temptation. Everybody feels it, even grown-ups. But 1 Corinthians 10:13 has a promise: God is faithful. He won’t let a temptation be too strong for you, and He will always give you a way out. You might look away, walk away, say a quick prayer, or tell a grown-up. Jesus was tempted too, but He never sinned. He knows how you feel, and He’s ready to help!

Your Turn! Trace a path from Tempted to The way out. As you go, think of ways God helps you escape temptation—like praying, walking away, or remembering a Bible verse.

Tempted →



→ The way out

★ **REMEMBER**
When I am tempted, God always gives me a way out.

Pray: God, thank You for always giving me a way out when I’m tempted. Help me see it and take it. Amen.



Decide Ahead of Time

Read: Daniel 1:8-16 **Go further:** Psalm 119:9-11



“ Daniel determined that he would not defile himself with the king’s food or with the wine he drank. **Daniel 1:8**

Daniel was a young man when he was taken far from home to the land of Babylon. The king wanted Daniel and his friends to eat the king’s rich food and drink his wine. But Daniel knew that would go against God’s law. He had already made up his mind to obey God. So he politely asked to eat only vegetables and drink water for ten days as a test. God blessed them, and they ended up healthier than all the other young men! Decide now to obey God, before temptation shows up.

Your Turn! Make a plan before temptation comes! Finish this sentence two or three times: When ____ happens, I will _____. Example: When I feel like lying to stay out of trouble, I will tell the truth.

★ REMEMBER

I will decide ahead of time to obey God.



Pray: God, help me be like Daniel. Help me decide right now to obey You, so I’m ready when temptation comes. Amen.



Saying Sorry to God

Read: Psalm 51:1-12 **Go further:** Proverbs 28:13



“ God, create a clean heart for me and renew a steadfast spirit within me. **Psalm 51:10**

After David did something very wrong, he prayed the prayer we read in Psalm 51. He didn’t make excuses or blame anyone else. He agreed with God that he had sinned, and he asked God to wash him clean—“whiter than snow”! That’s what it means to confess. You tell God the truth about what you did, you agree that it was wrong, and you turn away from it. Proverbs 28:13 says whoever confesses sin will find mercy. You can even pray what David prayed: “God, create a clean heart for me.”

Your Turn! Crack the code to find what David asked God to make for him. (A = 1, B = 2, C = 3...)

A=1	B=2	C=3	D=4	E=5	F=6	G=7	H=8	I=9	J=10	K=11	L=12	M=13
N=14	O=15	P=16	Q=17	R=18	S=19	T=20	U=21	V=22	W=23	X=24	Y=25	Z=26

3 12 5 1 14 8 5 1 18 20

★ REMEMBER

When I confess my sin, God gives me a clean heart.



Pray: God, I’m sorry for the wrong things I have done. Please forgive me and create a clean heart in me. Thank You, Jesus! Amen.



Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: Why is it sometimes hard to say sorry? What helps you tell God the truth?



Making It Right

Read: Matthew 5:23-24 **Go further:** Luke 19:8



“First go and be reconciled with your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. **Matthew 5:24**

In Jesus' day, people brought gifts to God at the altar in the temple. Jesus said something surprising. If you're about to give your gift and you remember that someone is upset with you, leave your gift right there. First go and make peace with that person. Then come back and give your gift to God. Getting along with others matters to Him! When Zacchaeus met Jesus, he promised to pay back four times as much to anyone he had cheated. When you hurt someone, say you're sorry and fix what you can.

Your Turn! Here is a real apology in four parts. Use the word bank to finish it. Then think of someone you need to say it to.

Word bank: right forgive wrong sorry

1. I was _____ when I said that mean thing to you.
2. I am _____ that I hurt your feelings.
3. Will you please _____ me?
4. What can I do to make it _____ ?

★ REMEMBER

When I hurt someone, I will say sorry and make it right.



Pray: Jesus, when I hurt someone, give me courage to say I'm sorry and make things right. Help me be a peacemaker. Amen.



Forgive Like Jesus

Read: Colossians 3:13 **Go further:** Matthew 18:21-22



“Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you are also to forgive. **Colossians 3:13**

Peter once asked Jesus how many times he had to forgive someone who kept doing wrong to him. Seven times? That sounded like a lot! But Jesus said, “seventy times seven.” He meant: don't keep count—keep forgiving. That can be hard. But think about how much God has forgiven you! Colossians 3:13 says that just as the Lord forgave you, you should forgive others. Forgiving doesn't mean what they did was okay. And if someone keeps hurting you, tell a grown-up you trust. God will help you forgive.

Your Turn! Is there someone you need to forgive? Write their initials. Then write a short prayer asking God to help you forgive them.

★ REMEMBER

God forgave me, so I can forgive others.



Pray: Lord, thank You for forgiving me. When someone hurts me, help me forgive them the way You forgive me. Amen.

Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: Is it ever hard for you to forgive? How does remembering God's forgiveness help?



WEEK 13 · WHEN I MESS UP

Armor Up!



Paul says Christians are in a real battle against sin and the devil's lies. But God gives His children armor to help them stand strong! Read Ephesians 6:13-17. Then match each piece of armor with what it means for you.

Write the letter of the matching answer in the blank.

Armor

_____ **1.** Belt of truth

_____ **2.** Chest armor of righteousness

_____ **3.** Sandals of the gospel of peace

_____ **4.** Shield of faith

_____ **5.** Helmet of salvation

_____ **6.** Sword of the Spirit (God's Word)

What it means for me

A. Trust God's promises when the devil tells lies

B. Be ready to share the gospel—the good news about Jesus

C. Remember that Jesus saved me and I belong to Him

D. Use Bible verses to fight temptation

E. Tell the truth and believe God's truth

F. Do what is right

A Generous Heart



✦ Everything I have comes from God, so I can give with a thankful, cheerful heart.

FAMILY TIME

Two Tiny Coins

Read together: **Mark 12:41-44**

One day Jesus sat across from the place in the temple where people dropped in their offerings. He watched as the crowd gave. Many rich people put in large amounts of money. Imagine the jingle of all those coins!

Then a poor widow came along. A widow is a woman whose husband has died. She dropped in two tiny coins worth almost nothing. Most people wouldn't have noticed. But Jesus did! He called His disciples over and told them that this poor widow had put in more than all the others. How could that be?

Jesus explained. The rich people gave some of their extra money, and they still had plenty left over. But the widow gave everything she had—all she had to live on. She trusted God to take care of her. Her gift was small, but her heart was big.

God doesn't measure gifts the way people do. He looks at the heart. Whether you have a lot or a little, you can give to God with a cheerful, thankful heart. You can give money, but you can also give your time, your kindness, and your love. Everything we have comes from God anyway! This week you'll learn how to be a generous giver, just like the God who gave us Jesus.

Do It Together

Find a jar or cup and label it with the word GIVING. This week, fill it together—with coins if you have them, or with slips of paper naming kind things you did for others. At the end of the week, thank God together for every gift inside.

Memory Verse

Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of compulsion, since God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
- ☐ I said it without peeking!

For Grown-Ups

Children notice how grown-ups handle money and things. This week, talk openly about giving—what it is and why it matters to God. If your child receives any money, help them set aside a part to give. Celebrate a generous heart, not the size of the gift. Giving time and kindness counts, too.

Talk About It

- 1 Why do you think Jesus noticed the widow's tiny gift when others didn't?
- 2 What are some things you can give to God besides money?
- 3 Grown-ups, tell about a time someone's generous gift blessed you. Kids, when has giving made you happy?

Pray Together

Generous God, everything we have comes from You. Thank You for Your greatest gift, Jesus. Give [name] and our whole family cheerful, thankful hearts that love to give. Amen.



It All Belongs to God

Read: Psalm 24:1-2 **Go further:** Haggai 2:8



“The earth and everything in it, the world and its inhabitants, belong to the LORD...”
Psalm 24:1

When you check out a library book, you get to take it home and enjoy it. But it isn't really yours. You keep it safe and bring it back in good shape. Psalm 24 says the whole earth and everything in it belongs to the Lord. In Haggai, God says even the silver and gold are His! Everything you have—your clothes, your toys, your talents, even your time—is on loan from God. That makes you a steward. A steward is someone who takes good care of what belongs to someone else.

Your Turn! What has God trusted you to take care of? List five things. Then thank God for each one.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

★ REMEMBER

Everything I have belongs to God, so I take good care of it.



Pray: God, everything I have really belongs to You. Thank You for sharing it with me. Help me take good care of it all. Amen.



God Gets the First Part

Read: Proverbs 3:9-10 **Go further:** Malachi 3:10



“Honor the LORD with your possessions and with the first produce of your entire harvest...” Proverbs 3:9

In Bible times, farmers in Israel gave God the first part of their harvest. They didn't wait to see if there would be enough left over. They gave first because they trusted God to take care of them. Proverbs 3 says to honor the Lord with the first part of what you have. Many Christians give God a tithe. A tithe means one tenth—1 out of every 10. If you had ten pennies, a tithe would be one penny. Giving to God first shows that you trust Him most.

Your Turn! A tithe is one tenth—1 out of every 10. Figure out the tithe for each amount. (Hint: 10 dimes make a dollar!) Use the word bank if you need help.

Word bank: \$2 10 cents \$1 50 cents

1. A tithe of \$1 is _____.
2. A tithe of \$5 is _____.
3. A tithe of \$10 is _____.
4. A tithe of \$20 is _____.

★ REMEMBER

When I give to God first, I show that I trust Him most.



Pray: God, I want You to have first place in everything—my time, my money, and my heart. Help me trust You to take care of me. Amen.



A Cheerful Giver

Read: 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 **Go further:** Acts 20:35



“And God is able to make every grace overflow to you, so that in every way, always having everything you need, you may excel in every good work.”
2 Corinthians 9:8

Watch a little kid give someone a picture she colored. She bounces on her toes. She can't wait to see the person smile! That's a cheerful giver. Paul says each person should give what he has decided in his heart—not grumbling, and not because someone is making him. God loves a cheerful giver. Your gift doesn't have to be big. God cares more about your heart than the amount. Jesus said it is “more blessed to give than to receive.” Giving is one of the happiest things you can do!

Your Turn! Think about a time you gave something to someone. How did it feel? What makes giving joyful?

★ REMEMBER

God loves a cheerful giver—and I can be one!



Pray: God, thank You for loving cheerful givers. Help me give because I want to, not because I have to. Show me someone to give to this week. Amen.



Time, Talents, and Treasure

Read: 1 Chronicles 29:10-14 **Go further:** 1 Peter 4:10



“For everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your own hand.” **1 Chronicles 29:14**

King David and his people gave piles of gold, silver, and other treasures so that God's temple could be built. Then David prayed a big, happy prayer in front of everyone. He praised God, because everything in heaven and on earth belongs to Him. You can give back to God too. You can give your time, your talents—the things you're good at—and your treasure. Treasure means money or things you can share.

Your Turn! How can you give to God? Write two ideas under each heading. Example for time: sit with someone who is lonely.

My time	My talents	My treasure

★ REMEMBER

I can give God my time, my talents, and my treasure.



Pray: God, everything I have comes from You. I want to give You my time, my talents, and my treasure. Show me how. Amen.



Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: How do you like to give your time, talents, or treasure to help others? Could we do one together this week?



Treasure That Lasts

Read: Matthew 6:19-21 **Go further:** 1 Timothy 6:17-19



“ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don’t break in and steal. **Matthew 6:20** ”

On a snow day, you build the best snowman ever, with a carrot nose and stick arms. But a few days later the sun comes out, and he melts into a puddle. Jesus said earthly treasures don’t last either. Moths chew holes in clothes, rust ruins metal, and thieves steal. But treasure in heaven lasts forever. When you love God, share with others, and help people know Jesus, you store up treasure that can never be ruined. And Jesus said your heart follows your treasure.

Your Turn! Write three things in each column. Example: a new ball will wear out, but God’s love lasts forever.

Things that break or wear out	Things that last forever

★ REMEMBER

Things on earth wear out, but what I give to God lasts forever.



Pray: Jesus, help me love You more than any toy or thing. Teach me to store up treasure in heaven that lasts forever. Amen.



Thankful Hearts Give

Read: 2 Corinthians 9:11-15 **Go further:** Psalm 107:1



“ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! **2 Corinthians 9:15** ”

Paul was collecting gifts from the church in Corinth to help other Christians who were in need. He said something wonderful happens when God’s people give. The people who get help thank God, and they pray for the givers. Giving and thanking go around and around like a circle! Indescribable means too wonderful for words. Paul was talking about Jesus. When you remember how much God gave you in Jesus, your thankful heart will want to give too.

Your Turn! Write a thank-you note to God for His best gift of all—Jesus!

★ REMEMBER

God gave me Jesus, so my thankful heart wants to give.



Pray: Thank You, God, for Your indescribable gift—Jesus! Fill my heart with so much thanks that it spills over into giving. Amen.



Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: What are you most thankful for? How does being thankful make you want to give?



My Giving Plan



Money can come from a birthday card, a chore, or a coin you find on the sidewalk. A giving plan helps you decide ahead of time what to do with it—just like this week’s memory verse says! If you don’t often get money, that’s okay. Your time, talents, and kindness are gifts to God too.

● The GIVE Jar

This part goes to God first. You can put it in the offering at church or use it to help someone in need. Many Christians give a tithe—one tenth—or more. Out of every dollar I get, I will give:

● The SAVE Jar

This part is for later, like something bigger you’re hoping to get someday. Out of every dollar I get, I will save:

● The SPEND Jar

This part is for things you need or want now. Spending wisely is part of taking care of what God gives you, too! Out of every dollar I get, I will spend:

● Where Does My Offering Go?

When you give at church, your gift joins everyone else’s. Ask Pastor James how our church uses its offerings! Together, the gifts help our church:

- Teach the Bible to kids and grown-ups
- Care for people in Ronda who need help
- Send the good news about Jesus around the world

● My Giving Plan

Write how you will give this month—money, time, or talents. Talk it over with a grown-up, then sign your name!



★ The good news about Jesus is too good to keep to myself.

FAMILY TIME

The Girl Who Spoke Up

Read together: **2 Kings 5:1-14**

Naaman was a big, important man. He was the commander of the army of Aram, a country near Israel. He was a brave warrior, and the king thought very highly of him. But Naaman had a skin disease that he couldn't cure.

In Naaman's house lived a young girl from Israel. She had been taken far from her home, and now she was a servant to Naaman's wife. She could have kept quiet. Instead, she spoke up! She told Naaman's wife that she wished Naaman could go see God's prophet in Israel, because the prophet would heal him.

So Naaman went to see Elisha the prophet. Elisha sent a messenger out to tell him to wash seven times in the Jordan River. At first Naaman was furious—he had expected something much fancier! But his servants talked him into it. He dipped himself in the river seven times, and his skin became healthy and smooth, like a young boy's. God had healed him!

It all started with a girl who was brave enough to talk about God. You know even better news than she did! Jesus can take away sin and give people new life that lasts forever. This week you'll learn how to pass that good news on—at home, at school, and all around the world. You don't have to be big or important. You just have to tell what God has done for you.

Do It Together

Choose someone to invite to Sunday School at 9:45 AM, worship at 11:00 AM, or Wednesday Bible study at 6:00 PM. Make an invitation card together, deliver it with a smile, and pray for that person all week.

Memory Verse

Go home to your own people, and report to them how much the Lord has done for you and how he has had mercy on you.

Mark 5:19

- ☐ I said it to a grown-up
- ☐ I said it without peeking!

For Grown-Ups

Talking about faith can feel scary for grown-ups too. Kids learn most by watching you speak naturally about God—thanking Him out loud, telling how He helped you, inviting a friend to church. This week, share how you came to trust Jesus, or ask someone at church to share their story with your family.

Talk About It

- 1 Why do you think the girl told Naaman's family about God, even though she was far from home?
- 2 Who first told you about Jesus? How did God use that person?
- 3 Who is someone our family could tell about Jesus or invite to church? Let's pray for them now.

Pray Together

Lord, thank You for the people who told us about Jesus. Give [name] and our whole family courage to tell others how much You have done for us. Amen.



How Will They Hear?

Read: Romans 10:13-15 **Go further:** Romans 1:16



“How, then, can they call on him they have not believed in? And how can they believe without hearing about him? And how can they hear without a preacher?”
Romans 10:14

What if a doctor discovered a medicine that could make sick people well, but she kept it a secret? That would be terrible! Paul says everyone who calls on the Lord will be saved. But people can't call on Jesus if they don't believe in Him, and they can't believe in Him if they've never heard about Him. Someone has to tell them! Paul says the feet of people who bring good news are beautiful—even sweaty feet in sneakers. God wants to use your feet, and your voice, to share Jesus.

Your Turn! Write the names or initials of three people you want to tell about Jesus. Pray for them every day this week.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

★ REMEMBER

God can use me to tell others about Jesus.



Pray: God, the people on my list need to hear about Jesus. Please open their hearts, and give me a chance to tell them. Amen.



Tell Your Story

Read: Mark 5:18-20 **Go further:** 1 Peter 3:15



“So he went out and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and they were all amazed.” **Mark 5:20**

Jesus had just set a man free from evil spirits that had troubled him for a long time. The man was so thankful that he begged to go with Jesus. But Jesus gave him a different job. He told the man to go home and tell his own people how much the Lord had done for him. So the man told his story all over the Decapolis, an area with ten cities, and everyone was amazed! You have a story too. You don't need big words. Just tell what Jesus has done for you.

Your Turn! Jot down a few words for each part of your story. Keep it simple—every story of trusting Jesus matters! Then practice telling it.

Before I trusted Jesus... _____

How I trusted Jesus... _____

Since then... _____

★ REMEMBER

I can tell others what Jesus has done for me.



Pray: Jesus, thank You for everything You have done for me. Help me tell my story to someone who needs to hear it. Amen.

Family Huddle: Tell your story to a grown-up. If they know Jesus, ask them to tell you their story too.



Shine Like Stars

Read: Philippians 2:14-16 **Go further:** Matthew 5:14



“Do everything without grumbling and arguing, so that you may be blameless and pure, children of God... **Philippians 2:14-15**

The stars are shining even at lunchtime. You just can't see them until the sky gets dark. And the darker the night, the brighter they seem to shine. Paul says God's children shine like stars in a dark world. How? By doing everything without grumbling and arguing, and by holding tight to God's Word. When you tell the truth, include someone who's left out, or stay cheerful while others complain, people notice. Jesus said you are the light of the world. Your light can point others to Him!

Your Turn! Try these ways to shine for Jesus this week! Check off each one you do, and write your own idea on the blank line.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Tell the truth, even when it's hard | ☐ Include someone who is left out |
| ☐ Do my chores without complaining | ☐ Be kind to people in my family |
| ☐ Invite a friend to church | ☐ Pray for my class or my friends |
| ☐ _____ | |

★ REMEMBER

I can shine for Jesus by the way I live.



Pray: Jesus, You are the Light of the world. Help me shine for You at home and at school, so others will want to know You. Amen.



Brave to Speak

Read: Acts 4:18-20 **Go further:** 2 Timothy 1:7



“...we are unable to stop speaking about what we have seen and heard. **Acts 4:20**

Peter and John were arrested for telling people about Jesus. The leaders ordered them to stop speaking about Jesus—ever! But Peter and John said they couldn't stop talking about what they had seen and heard. Were they nervous? Maybe! But God gave them courage. It's okay if talking about Jesus makes you feel shy or scared. Paul told Timothy that God doesn't give us a spirit of fear. He gives us power, love, and sound judgment, which means clear thinking. God will help you be brave, one small step at a time.

Your Turn! How do you feel about telling others about Jesus? Circle every word that fits you. Then tell God how you feel and ask Him for courage.

Shy

Brave

Happy

Ready

Excited

Unsure

Nervous

Scared

★ REMEMBER

God gives me courage to talk about Jesus.



Pray: God, sometimes I feel nervous about talking about Jesus. Please give me courage, love, and the right words to say. Amen.



Every Nation, Every Language

Read: Revelation 7:9-10 **Go further:** Psalm 96:3



“After this I looked, and there was a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. **Revelation 7:9**”

God gave John a peek into heaven. He saw a crowd so big that nobody could count it! There were people from every nation, tribe, and language, all standing before God’s throne and before Jesus, who is called the Lamb. They held palm branches and shouted praise to God. That shows us God’s heart. He wants people from every country to know Jesus. Missionaries go to tell them, and we can help by praying and giving. Your prayers can travel farther than you ever could!

Your Turn! Pick a country to pray for this week. Ask a grown-up, or someone in our church’s WMU (Woman’s Missionary Union) or Baptist Men, for ideas. Write the country’s name and a short prayer for its people.

★ REMEMBER

God wants people from every nation to know Jesus.



Pray: God, You love people in every nation. Please send someone to tell them about Jesus, and help me do my part by praying and giving. Amen.



Keep On Growing

Read: Colossians 2:6-7 **Go further:** Philippians 3:12-14



“...being rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, and overflowing with gratitude. **Colossians 2:7**”

You made it to the last day of Deep Roots! Look how much you’ve learned—about your new life, God’s Word, prayer, church, and growing good fruit. But growing doesn’t stop here. Even Paul said he hadn’t reached the finish line yet. He kept pressing forward. Oak trees grow a little every year for hundreds of years. Keep following Jesus, one day at a time, for the rest of your life!

Your Turn! Look back at Week 1. What has changed in you since you started this journal? Write about it. Then write one way you want to keep growing in Jesus.

★ REMEMBER

I will keep following Jesus every day of my life.



Pray: Thank You, God, for helping me grow. Keep my roots deep in Jesus, and help me follow Him every day of my life. Amen.



Family Huddle: Ask a grown-up: What growth have you seen in me? Then thank God together for all He has done!



WEEK 15 • PASS IT ON!

Look How You've Grown!



Congratulations! You've reached the end of Deep Roots. Flip back through your journal and look at all the pages you filled. Then answer these questions to see how God has been growing you. Share your answers with a grown-up—they'll want to celebrate with you!

● My Favorite Week

Which week did you like best? Why?

● A Verse I'll Never Forget

Write a memory verse from this journal that means a lot to you. Try it without peeking!

● One Habit I Started

Reading my Bible? Praying? Serving? Write about a habit that's growing in you.

● Something I Still Want to Learn

What questions do you still have about God or the Bible? Ask a grown-up or Pastor James!

● Who Helped Me Grow

Write the names of people who helped you grow. Thank them—and thank God for them!

● Me, Growing Deep

Draw yourself as a tree with deep roots. Label the roots with things that help you grow, like prayer or God's Word.

draw here

Memory Verse Challenge



Check a box each time you can say a verse without peeking: **1** to a grown-up at home, **2** to your Sunday School teacher or Pastor James, and **3** one month later—do you still know it?

		1	2	3
1	2 Corinthians 5:17 — Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, and see, the new has come!	☐	☐	☐
2	John 10:28 — I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.	☐	☐	☐
3	Psalms 100:3 — Acknowledge that the LORD is God. He made us, and we are his—his people, the sheep of his pasture.	☐	☐	☐
4	2 Timothy 3:16-17 — All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.	☐	☐	☐
5	Psalms 119:105 — Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path.	☐	☐	☐
6	Philippians 4:6 — Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.	☐	☐	☐
7	Proverbs 3:5-6 — Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding; in all your ways know him, and he will make your paths straight.	☐	☐	☐
8	1 Corinthians 12:27 — Now you are the body of Christ, and individual members of it.	☐	☐	☐
9	Romans 6:4 — Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life.	☐	☐	☐
10	Psalms 95:6 — Come, let's worship and bow down; let's kneel before the LORD our Maker.	☐	☐	☐
11	1 Peter 4:10 — Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God.	☐	☐	☐
12	Galatians 5:22-23 — But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things.	☐	☐	☐
13	1 John 1:9 — If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.	☐	☐	☐
14	2 Corinthians 9:7 — Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of compulsion, since God loves a cheerful giver.	☐	☐	☐
15	Mark 5:19 — Go home to your own people, and report to them how much the Lord has done for you and how he has had mercy on you.	☐	☐	☐

✂ Memory Verse Cards

Ask a grown-up to help you cut these out. Keep them in your Bible, on the fridge, or by your bed.

WEEK 1

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, and see, the new has come!

2 Corinthians 5:17

WEEK 2

I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.

John 10:28

WEEK 3

Acknowledge that the Lord is God. He made us, and we are his—his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Psalms 100:3

WEEK 4

All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16–17

WEEK 5

Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path.

Psalms 119:105

WEEK 6

Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Philippians 4:6

WEEK 7

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding; in all your ways know him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5–6

WEEK 8

Now you are the body of Christ, and individual members of it.

1 Corinthians 12:27

✂ Memory Verse Cards

Ask a grown-up to help you cut these out. Keep them in your Bible, on the fridge, or by your bed.

≡ WEEK 9

Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:4

🎵 WEEK 10

Come, let's worship and bow down; let's kneel before the Lord our Maker.

Psalms 95:6

👉 WEEK 11

Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God.

1 Peter 4:10

💎 WEEK 12

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things.

Galatians 5:22-23

🛡 WEEK 13

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

📺 WEEK 14

Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of compulsion, since God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

📢 WEEK 15

Go home to your own people, and report to them how much the Lord has done for you and how he has had mercy on you.

Mark 5:19

♥ MY FAVORITE VERSE

Church Notes



Date: _____

Preacher: _____

Bible passage: _____

Sermon title: _____

 **Listen for these words! Make a tally mark each time you hear one.**

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

love

Bible

pray

grace

your word:

 **Draw something from today's sermon**

draw here

 **One thing I learned about God**

 **A question I have**

 **Songs we sang**

 **This week I will...**

Church Notes



Date: _____

Preacher: _____

Bible passage: _____

Sermon title: _____

 **Listen for these words! Make a tally mark each time you hear one.**

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

love

Bible

pray

grace

your word:

 **Draw something from today's sermon**

draw here

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Church Notes



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your word:

 **Draw something from today's sermon**

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 **A question I have**

 **Songs we sang**

 **This week I will...**

Church Notes



Date: _____

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 **Listen for these words! Make a tally mark each time you hear one.**

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Jesus

Holy Spirit

love

Bible

pray

grace

your word:

 **Draw something from today's sermon**

draw here

 **One thing I learned about God**

 **A question I have**

 **Songs we sang**

 **This week I will...**

My ROOT Bible Study



Use these four steps with any Bible passage. Grown-ups can print more copies of this page.

Date: _____ I read: _____



Read it

Read the passage slowly—twice! What words or people stand out to you?



Observe

What happens? What does this passage show you about God or about Jesus?



Own it

What does God want you to know, believe, or do because of this passage?



Talk to God

Write a short prayer about what you read. Thank Him and ask for His help.

My ROOT Bible Study



Use these four steps with any Bible passage. Grown-ups can print more copies of this page.

Date: _____ I read: _____

R

Read it

Read the passage slowly—twice! What words or people stand out to you?

O

Observe

What happens? What does this passage show you about God or about Jesus?

O

Own it

What does God want you to know, believe, or do because of this passage?

T

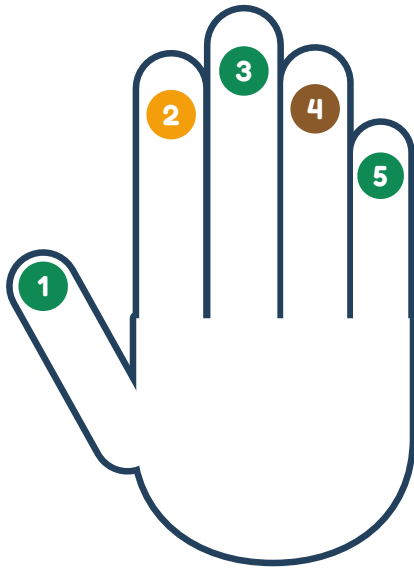
Talk to God

Write a short prayer about what you read. Thank Him and ask for His help.

The Good News on Your Hand



Want to tell a friend about Jesus? You carry a reminder everywhere you go—your hand! Point to each finger as you share.



1 **God loves you. Thumb**

Thumbs up! God made you, and He loves you more than you can imagine.

*"For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." **John 3:16***

2 **Sin separates. Pointer finger**

Everyone has sinned—we point our own way instead of God's way. Sin separates us from God.

*"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." **Romans 3:23***

3 **Jesus saves. Middle finger (the tallest!)**

Jesus is the greatest of all. God's Son died on the cross to pay for our sin, and He rose again!

*"But God proves his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." **Romans 5:8***

4 **Trust Him. Ring finger**

A ring is a promise. Turn away from your sin and trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord.

*"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." **Romans 10:9***

5 **Follow Him. Pinky (the smallest)**

Following Jesus happens in small steps, every day, for the rest of your life.

*"So then, just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to walk in him." **Colossians 2:6***

♥ **Have you trusted Jesus?**

If you're not sure, or you'd like to talk about it, ask a parent or grown-up, your Sunday School teacher, or Pastor James Safrit. We would love to talk with you!

What's Next?



Ninety days! Look how far you've come. Here's how to keep growing:



Keep meeting with God every day.

Read the Gospel of Mark, one chapter a day. Mark is the shortest Gospel—a fast-moving story of Jesus' life. Check off each chapter:

☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16



Take your next step: baptism.

If you haven't been baptized since you trusted Jesus, talk with a parent or grown-up, and then with Pastor James Safrit.



Be with your church family.

Sunday School: Sundays, 9:45 AM · Worship: Sundays, 11:00 AM · Bible Study: Wednesdays, 6:00 PM.



Try Follow Me next.

It's a 90-day journey through the life of Jesus. Download it free at pgbcronda.com/resources.



Keep praying and studying.

Use the ROOT Bible Study and Church Notes pages again and again. Grown-ups can print more copies.



Tell your story.

Use "The Good News on Your Hand" to tell a friend what Jesus has done for you.

For Grown-Ups: Keep Growing Together



Congratulations! Ninety days of Bible reading and prayer is a real accomplishment—celebrate it together. Sign the certificate on the next page and let your child hear how proud you are.

Ideas for the months ahead

- Make Bible time a family habit. Read a chapter of a Gospel together a few nights a week.
- Keep praying together. Let your child pray out loud at meals and at bedtime.
- Talk about Sunday. Ask what they heard in Sunday School and in worship, and share what you heard too.
- Serve together. Look for one way your family can help someone this month.
- Ask about baptism. If your child has not been baptized, talk with Pastor James about next steps.
- Keep the questions coming. If you don't know an answer, look for it together—or ask us!

We're here to help

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church would love to walk with your family. Reach Pastor James Safrit at (336) 984-3360 or pastor@pgbcronda.com, or visit pgbcronda.com.

Sunday School Sundays, 9:45 AM

Worship Sundays, 11:00 AM

Bible Study Wednesdays, 6:00 PM

3982 Clingman Rd, Ronda, NC 28670



Certificate of Completion

This certifies that

completed Deep Roots: 90 days of growing in Jesus!

"...being rooted and built up in him and established in the faith..."

Colossians 2:7

Parent or grown-up

Pastor or teacher

Date

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church

90 DAYS!

Answer Key

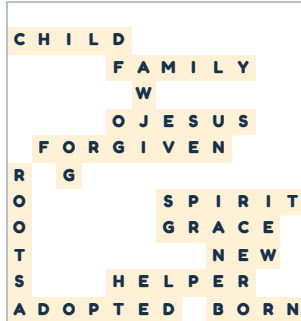
Week 1: Brand New!

Day 2: 1-C, 2-D, 3-B, 4-A

Day 3: I AM FORGIVEN

Day 5: in; understand; reminds; alone

Bonus: Brand-New Words:



Week 2: Safe and Sure

Day 1: Circle: A birthday present, A hug, A sunny day, Eternal life

Day 4: life; Son; know; guess

Week 3: Meet My God

Day 2: HOLY, PURE, PERFECT, KING, GLORY

Day 4: 1 T, 2 F, 3 T, 4 F, 5 T

Day 5: GOD IS LOVE

Day 6: God; God; God; one

Week 4: The Best Book Ever

Day 1: teaching; correcting; training; work

Day 2: 1 T, 2 F, 3 T, 4 T, 5 F

Day 3: 4, 1, 6, 2, 3, 5 (top to bottom)

Day 5: 1-A, 2-B, 3-C, 4-E, 5-D

Week 5: Digging In

Day 3: Read; Observe; Own; Talk

Week 6: Talking with God

Day 2: 1-E, 2-B, 3-D, 4-A, 5-C

Week 7: Following God's Lead

Day 2: Circle: The Bible, The Holy Spirit, Wise Christian grown-ups, Prayer

Day 5: 5, 4, 2, 6, 1, 3 (top to bottom)

Week 8: My Church Family

Day 2: 1-E, 2-D, 3-A, 4-C, 5-B

Week 9: Going Public

Day 2: 1 T, 2 F, 3 T, 4 T, 5 F

Day 5: 1-C, 2-B, 3-A, 4-D

Week 11: Hands That Help

Day 1: SERVE, HUMBLE, HELP, OTHERS, KIND

Day 5: 1-B, 2-D, 3-C, 4-A

Week 12: Growing Good Fruit

Day 1: patient; kind; jealous; wrongs

Day 5: 1-C, 2-A, 3-D, 4-B

Week 13: When I Mess Up

Day 1: confess; faithful; forgive; cleanse

Day 4: CLEAN HEART

Day 5: wrong; sorry; forgive; right

Bonus: Armor Up! 1-E, 2-F, 3-B, 4-A, 5-C, 6-D

Week 14: A Generous Heart

Day 2: 10 cents; 50 cents; \$1; \$2

Church Notes



Date: _____

Preacher: _____

Bible passage: _____

Sermon title: _____

 **Listen for these words! Make a tally mark each time you hear one.**

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

love

Bible

pray

grace

your word:

 **Draw something from today's sermon**

draw here

 **One thing I learned about God**

 **A question I have**

 **Songs we sang**

 **This week I will...**

Church Notes



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Deep Roots is one of the **Growing in the Grove** journals—free resources from Pleasant Grove Baptist Church for kids who are new in Christ and the grown-ups who love them.

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