

## **Overview**

In the elementary years, a child will grow in wisdom, faith, and friendship. 252 Kids and Preteen ministry curriculum weaves together music, communicator scripts, small group discussions, video presentations, and creative activities based on a clear and simple bottom line each week so kids can remember everyday what matters most.

## 252 BASIC TRUTHS-

- 1. I need to make the wise choice.
- 2. I can trust God no matter what.
- 3. I should treat others the way I want to be treated.





#### THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS

## **One Priority**

"'Love God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

**MATTHEW 22:37-39, NIV** 

## **Three Relational Motives**



Move kids to **love God** by inciting wonder.



Move kids to **love life** by inciting discovery.\*



Move kids to **love others** by fueling passion.

In the Elementary Phase, the **DISCOVERY** dial is turned all the way up.

## **Nine Core Insights**

## **Design of God's Creation**

What I see around me reveals a Creator who cares about me.

#### **Identity** based on God's Image

I am created in the image of God and have unique potential and worth.

## **Connection** because of God's Love

I live in pursuit of an infinite God who desires an eternal relationship with me.

#### Faith in God's Son

I believe in Jesus and will continue to trust Him even when life doesn't make sense.

# Transformation by the power

#### of God's Spirit

God's Spirit is transforming my unique and imperfect life into the character of Jesus.

## **Truth** according to God's Message

What Jesus said and did impacts how I should respond to God's Word in my everyday life.

## Restoration through

## participating in God's Story

I am designed to participate in God's story to restore a broken and hurting world.

#### **Compassion that reflects**

## **God's Character**

My faith in Christ is revealed by my compassion and care for others.

## Community in the context

### of God's Family

I choose to live in the complexities of family and community because God values them.



#### 2023-2024 THEMES

#### **AUGUST: CREATIVITY**



MEMORY VERSE: "We are God's creation. He created us to belong to Christ Jesus. Now we can do good works. Long ago God prepared these works for us to do."
Ephesians 2:10, NIrV

**WEEK ONE:** Creation (Genesis 1-2:3) **Bottom Line:** God created you so you can be creative.

**WEEK TWO:** We Are God's Creation (Ephesians 2:10)

**Bottom Line:** God created you for a purpose.

WEEK THREE: Joseph and the Plan to Save Egypt (Genesis 40-41) Bottom Line: You can use what God gave you to solve problems. WEEK FOUR: The Tabernacle (Exodus 25-39, selected passages)
Bottom Line: Use your imagination to honor God.

#### SERIES DESCRIPTION

Right from the start, we see God's immense creativity. Everything around us gives us a glimpse of our creative God. Jesus was creative with the way He taught and the miracles He performed. We reflect God's creativity to the world around us.

**CORE INSIGHTS:** Design, Identity

#### SEPTEMBER: FRIENDSHIP



MEMORY VERSE: "A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes." Proverbs 17:17, NIrV **WEEK ONE:** Two People Are Better Than One (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)

**Bottom Line:** Choose your friends carefully.

WEEK TWO: David and Mephibosheth (1 Samuel 19-20; 2 Samuel 9) Bottom Line: Friends keep their promises.

**WEEK THREE:** Barnabas and Saul (Acts 9:26-30)

**Bottom Line:** Friends stand up for one another.

**WEEK FOUR:** Forgive One Another (Colossians 3:13)

Bottom Line: Friends forgive one another.

#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God created us for community. Jesus showed us the greatest example of this. With His words, actions, and love, Jesus made people feel like they belonged. We reflect Jesus' love best when we treat one another with friendship.

**CORE INSIGHTS:** Community, Compassion

## **OCTOBER: INTEGRITY**



MEMORY VERSE: "Anyone who lives without blame walks safely. But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught." Proverbs 10:9. NIrV **WEEK ONE:** A Tree and Its Fruit (Luke 6:43-45)

**Bottom Line:** Be truthful with your whole life.

**WEEK TWO:** Naaman and Elisha's Servant (2 Kings 5)

**Bottom Line:** When you're not truthful, you lose trust.

**WEEK THREE:** Daniel's Integrity with Food (Daniel 1)

**Bottom Line:** Do what's right wherever you are.

**WEEK FOUR:** Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Daniel 3)

**Bottom Line:** When you do what's right, others can see God.

**WEEK FIVE:** Think About These Things (Philippians 4:8)

Bottom Line: Focus on what's true.

#### SERIES DESCRIPTION

Because we know that God is good, we can live life with integrity. Who we are in private should match who we are in public. When we trust in God, we can be truthful in whatever we say and do.

CORE INSIGHTS: Transformation, Community



#### 2023-2024 THEMES

#### **NOVEMBER: GRATITUDE**



MEMORY VERSE: "Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good. His faithful love continues forever." Psalm 136:1, NIrV WEEK ONE: Give Thanks No Matter What Happens (1 Thessalonians 5:18) Bottom Line: You always have something to be grateful for.

WEEK TWO: David Dances (2 Samuel 6:12b-22a) Bottom Line: Celebrate what God has done.

WEEK THREE: Jesus Heals 10 Men (Luke 17:11-19) Bottom Line: Take time to say thank you. **WEEK FOUR:** The Lord's Supper/ Passover

(1 Corinthians 11:23-26, Exodus 12) **Bottom Line:** Make a habit of being grateful.

### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God made a way to rescue you through Jesus' death and resurrection. When you remember what God has done for you, you can always find a way to be thankful—no matter what is happening around you.

**CORE INSIGHTS:** Connection, Truth

#### **DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS**



MEMORY VERSE: "A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule over us. And he will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace." Isaiah 9:6, NIrV WEEK ONE: Jesus Is Promised (Micah 5:2, Isaiah 9:6-7, Isaiah 7:14-15)

Bottom Line: You can have hope because God is faithful.

**WEEK TWO:** Gabriel Appears to Mary (Luke 1:26-56)

**Bottom Line:** You can have peace because God has a plan.

WEEK THREE: Jesus Is Born (Luke 2:1-7)
Bottom Line: You can have joy because
God sent Jesus.

**WEEK FOUR:** Shepherds and Angels (Luke 2:8-20)

Bottom Line: God's love is for everyone.

**WEEK FIVE:** Wise Men (Matthew 2:1-12) **Bottom Line:** Celebrate Jesus all year long.

#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

The best gift God ever gave was Jesus. Because of Jesus, it's possible for us to have a relationship with God that will last forever. As we remember the Christmas story, we take time to celebrate the greatest gift the world has ever known.

CORE INSIGHTS: Restoration,
Connection

## JANUARY: RESPONSIBILITY



MEMORY VERSE: "Suppose you can be trusted with something very little. Then you can also be trusted with something very large." Luke 16:10a, NIrV **WEEK ONE:** Greatest Commandment (Matthew 22:36-40)

**Bottom Line:** Love God and love others.

**WEEK TWO:** Bigger Barns (Luke 12:13-21)

Bottom Line: Share what you have.

**WEEK THREE:** Ant and Sluggard (Proverbs 6:6-8)

Bottom Line: Work hard.

**WEEK FOUR:** Use Words Wisely

(Ephesians 4:29)

Bottom Line: Use your words wisely.

#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION:**

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. That's why we should show responsibility. We should use our stuff the way God wants us to, follow through with what we need to do, and show others that we can be trusted with anything.

**CORE INSIGHTS:** Transformation, Truth



#### **2023-2024 THEMES**

#### **FEBRUARY: KINDNESS**



MEMORY VERSE: "You are God's chosen people. You are holy and dearly loved. So put on tender mercy and kindness as if they were your clothes. Don't be proud. Be gentle and patient." Colossians 3:12. NIrV WEEK ONE: The Kindness of Jesus (Matthew 8:1-4, Matthew 19:13-15, Matthew 9:10-13)

**Bottom Line:** Jesus showed us how to be kind.

**WEEK TWO:** Ruth and Naomi (Ruth 1-2)**Bottom Line:** Be kind to the people closest to you.

WEEK THREE: Go the Extra Mile (Matthew 5:41)

**Bottom Line:** Be kinder than you have to be.

**WEEK FOUR:** Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)

**Bottom Line:** Be kind to people who are different from you.

#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God was kind to us even when we didn't deserve it. Because of God's love for us, we can be kind to everyone. Jesus modeled kindness, but He also commanded it. He taught us to treat others the way we want to be treated.

**CORE INSIGHTS:** Compassion, Community

#### **MARCH: PEACE**



MEMORY VERSE: "If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can." Romans 12:18, NIrV **WEEK ONE:** Live in Peace with Everyone (Romans 12:18)

**Bottom Line:** Make peace whenever you can.

**WEEK TWO:** Abram and Lot (Genesis 13:5-18)

**Bottom Line:** You can show you care by letting go of what's fair.

**WEEK THREE:** Abigail Intervenes (1 Samuel 25:1-35)

**Bottom Line:** You can help others make peace.

EASTER: CELEBRATING THAT JESUS IS ALIVE

**WEEK FOUR:** Palm Sunday

(Matthew 21:1-11)

**Bottom Line:** Jesus came to be our Savior.

**WEEK FIVE:** Easter (Luke 24:1-12, 36-49) **Bottom Line:** Jesus is alive.

### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

When Jesus died on the cross, He made peace between God and us. We can have peace—and we can share the peace of God with others. We can reflect the character of Jesus by caring enough to make peace.

**CORE INSIGHTS:** Transformation, Community

## **APRIL: PATIENCE**



**MEMORY VERSE:** "Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord." Psalm 27:14, NIrV

**WEEK ONE:** A Patience Proverb (Proverbs 14:29)

**Bottom Line:** Waiting can make you wise.

**WEEK TWO:** Esau's Impatience (Genesis 25:24-34)

**Bottom Line:** When you think you can't wait, think twice.

WEEK THREE: Golden Calf

(Exodus 32:1-35)

**Bottom Line:** When you have to wait, remember what's true.

**WEEK FOUR:** Simeon Waits for the Messiah (Luke 2:25-35)

**Bottom Line:** God is with you while you wait.

## SERIES DESCRIPTION

God is in control and knows the entire story of our lives. Because of Jesus, we also know how the story ends. We can be patient when we remember what God has done. God is also patient with us. When we wait well, we reflect God's patience to others.

**CORE INSIGHTS:** Faith, Transformation



**Elementary** 

#### **2023-2024 THEMES**

#### **MAY: COMMITMENT**



MEMORY VERSE: "Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come."

1 Timothy 4:8, NIrV

**WEEK ONE:** God's Word Is a Light (Psalm 119:105)

**Bottom Line:** Practice hearing from God.

**WEEK TWO:** The Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:1-4)

**Bottom Line:** Practice praying to God.

**WEEK THREE:** Peter Says That Jesus Is the Messiah (Matthew 16:13-20) **Bottom Line:** Practice talking about God.

**WEEK FOUR:** The Widow's Offering (Mark 12:41-44)

**Bottom Line:** Practice living for God.

#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God makes plans and follows through with them—including the plan to send Jesus to rescue us! We can show commitment too. We can work on growing our relationship with Jesus by practicing our faith.

**CORE INSIGHTS:** Faith, Connection

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## **COMING SOON!**

#### **JULY**

#### **COMING SOON!**