

#### **Overview**

## What if you knew that God was HERE for you and with you no matter what?

In an anxious and lonely world, what if every kid had the skills to be fully present with God—HERE and now—through prayer, Scripture, community, worship, and serving?

What if every kid had a meaningful relationship with a consistent leader committed to being HERE for them at this phase of life?

HERE is where Jesus invites us and meets us to transform and renew us. HERE is how we show what matters most to us. HERE is where everything has the potential to change.

This year, as we lean into the theme of HERE, you'll discover an invitation to us all—leaders, volunteers, and kids/teens—to be HERE for it as we understand more about God, ourselves, and others.



#### THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS

#### **One Priority**

"'Love the Lord your 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.'"

**MATT. 22:37-39, NIV** 

#### **Three Relational Motives**



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



Move kids to **love life** by provoking 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.



#### THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS

#### **Three Basic Truths**

In the elementary school years, kids will grow in wisdom, faith, and friendship.

I need to make the wise choice.

I can trust God no matter what.

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.



**PHASE** 

## **The Elementary Phase**

Kindergarten-Fifth Grade



## → What is a phase?

A phase is a timeframe in a kid's life when you can leverage distinctive opportunities to influence their future.

#### At each phase, your job is simple ...

Know what can be expected of them and know how they think so they will hear what you say and know what to do.

## → Thinks like ...

An elementary schooler thinks like a scientist.

Scientists understand the world through concrete evidence they can test repeatedly.

Like scientists, elementary schoolers learn best when they can observe something in their present environment. They are concrete thinkers and need repetition and clear application. The more frequently a new concept can be connected to everyday experience, the better.

## → How they relate to God . . .

God's story inspires my story.

Kids who think like scientists love stories.

They relate to a God who heals the sick, conquers evil, explains mysteries, performs miracles, overcomes death, and teaches them how to win at life.

### → Wants to know ...

In the elementary years, a child develops skills and competencies that equip their future.

The way a child resolves the "Do I have . . . " questions of each phase provides them with critical knowledge and resources.

The best way to resolve an elementary schooler's relational questions is to consistently engage their interests.

#### Do I have your attention?

In kindergarten and first grade, a child craves adult attention and approval.

When adults demonstrate interest in kids' progress, kids improve abilities.

#### Do I have what it takes?

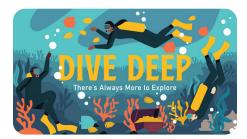
In second and third grade, a kid wants to know how their abilities compare with peers. When adults praise kids' persistence and efforts, kids broaden competence.

#### Do I have friends?

In fourth and fifth grade, a kid begins to prioritize friends in a new way. When adults make introductions and include peers, kids develop friendships.

## It's just a phase, don't miss it.





**AUGUST** 

Dive Deep: There's always more to explore



**SEPTEMBER** 

Live Bright: Shine Jesus' light



**OCTOBER** 

Game Show: The choice is yours



NOVEMBER

Special Delivery: No postage required



DECEMBED

Christmas Playlist: Let heaven and nature sing



JANUARY

Rain or Shine: Trusting God in every season



**FEBRUARY** 

Made: Discover who you're meant to be



MARCH

Cast and Crew: Everyone has a part to play



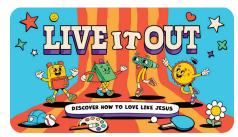
APRIL

The Big Picture: Keep hope alive



MA

Eye Spy: Get a clue about what to do



JUNE

Live It Out



JULY

Live It Out



## **August**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

When Jesus was a boy, He grew in wisdom. God wants us to discover wisdom too. When we make the wise choice, we reflect the character of Jesus to people around us.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

How did Jesus grow in wisdom?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Message / Truth

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn't find fault. (James 1:5, NIrV)

**Week One:** Jesus Grows in Wisdom (Luke 2:41-52) **Bottom Line:** Wisdom is worth searching for.

Week Two: Speck and Plank (Matthew 7:1-5)

Bottom Line: When you see yourself clearly, you can make the

wise choice.

Week Three: Rehoboam Listens to Fools (2 Chronicles 10)

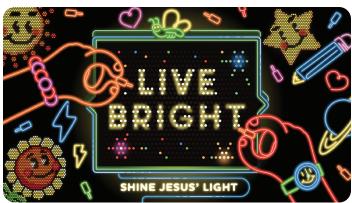
Bottom Line: Hang out with wise people.

**Week Four:** Renew Your Mind (Romans 12:2) **Bottom Line:** Never stop growing in wisdom.

#### VIRTUE

Wisdom: Finding out what you should do and doing it

## September



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God's compassion for us led to the greatest act of love the world has ever seen. God sent Jesus to rescue us. We reflect God's compassion when we care about others and work to make things right.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

How does trusting Jesus change how I treat others?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Character / Compassion

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

"Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16, NIrV)

Week One: You Are the Light of the World (Matthew 5:14-16)

Bottom Line: You can shine God's light.

Week Two: Jesus Feeds 5,000 (John 6:1-13)

Bottom Line: Use what you have to help others.

Week Three: Jesus Heals Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52)

**Bottom Line:** Make time to help others.

**Week Four:** Sharing God's Comfort (2 Corinthians 1:3-4) **Bottom Line:** Comfort others the way God comforts you.

Week Five: Jesus Is the Light of the World (John 8:12)

Bottom Line: Jesus is the light of the world.

#### **VIRTUE**

Compassion: Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs



## **October**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

As we follow Jesus, His love transforms us. His Spirit helps us show self-control. We can follow Jesus' example and choose to do what's best—even when we don't want to.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

How can I trust God to help me do what's best?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Spirit / Transformation

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life. (2 Peter 1:3a, NIrV)

Week One: Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness (Luke 4:1-13)

Bottom Line: Be ready to do the right thing.

Week Two: Choose Your Words Carefully (Proverbs 12:18)

Bottom Line: Think before you speak.

Week Three: David Spares Saul's Life (1 Samuel 24)

Bottom Line: Think before you act.

Week Four: Too Much of a Good Thing (Proverbs 25:16)

Bottom Line: Know when to stop.

#### **VIRTUE**

Self-Control: Choosing to do what's best even when you don't want to

## **November**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God was generous to us by sending Jesus. Not only is Jesus the greatest gift—He is also the best example of someone we can look to when we give. Because of God's generosity toward us, we can also be generous to everyone around us.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

How does God's generosity give us a reason to give?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Story / Restoration

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

Every good and perfect gift is from God. (James 1:17a, NIrV)

Week One: Every Good and Perfect Gift (James 1:17a)

**Bottom Line:** God gives us good things.

**Week Two:** Widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:7-16) **Bottom Line:** You always have something to give.

Week Three: God Loves a Cheerful Giver (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Bottom Line: Give with a good attitude.

**Week Four:** Love in Action (1 John 3:16-18) **Bottom Line:** Jesus showed us how to give.

#### VIRTUE

Generosity: Making someone's day by giving something away





## **December**



#### **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 QUESTION**

Why is Jesus so important in God's story?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Love / Connection

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

"[Mary] is going to have a son. You must give him the name Jesus. That's because he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21, NIrV)

**Week One:** In the Beginning Was the Word (John 1:1-5, 14) **Bottom Line:** God always had a plan to send Jesus.

Week Two: An Angel Appears to Mary and Joseph

(Luke 1:26-38, Matthew 1:18-25)

Bottom Line: Celebrate because God is with you.

Week Three: Jesus Is Born (Luke 2:1-7)

Bottom Line: Celebrate because God sent a Savior.

Week Four: Shepherds and Angels (Luke 2:8-20)

**Bottom Line:** Celebrate Jesus with others.

**Week Five:** Wise Men (Matthew 2:1-12) **Bottom Line:** Never stop celebrating Jesus.

#### VIRTUE

Christmas: Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

## **January**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God is faithful and present, always working in our lives. We might get knocked down from time to time, but when we put our trust in God, we find the strength we need to get back up again.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

How can I trust that God knows how I feel?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Spirit / Transformation

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

Be strong, all you who put your hope in the LORD. Never give up. (Psalm 31:24, NIrV)

Week One: Jesus Wept (John 11:1-45)

Bottom Line: When you're sad, remember you're not alone.

**Week Two:** Do Not Worry (Matthew 6:25-34) **Bottom Line:** When you're worried, trust God.

Week Three: Slow to Anger (James 1:19)

Bottom Line: When you're angry, talk to God.

**Week Four:** Paul and Silas (Acts 16:16-40) **Bottom Line:** God can help you choose joy.

#### VIRTUE

Resilience: Getting back up when something gets you down



## **February**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God is one of a kind—with no beginning and no end. Everything God has created is unique, including people. Every person is an original reflection, made in the image of God.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

What does God want you to discover about you?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Image / Identity

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well. (Psalm 139:14, NIrV)

**Week One:** Fearfully and Wonderfully Made (Psalm 139:1-14) **Bottom Line:** God made you, knows you, and loves you.

**Week Two:** Moses and the Burning Bush (Exodus 3–4:15) **Bottom Line:** God made you to make a difference.

Week Three: Lydia (Acts 16:13-15)

Bottom Line: Use your gifts to make a difference.

Week Four: Timothy (1 Timothy 4:12)

Bottom Line: You can make a difference right now.

#### VIRTUE

Uniqueness: Learning more about yourself so you can make a difference

## March



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God created us to work together in community. When we cooperate, we reflect what Jesus envisioned for His followers. Our love for one another can point people back to Jesus.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

What does God want us to do together?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Family / Community

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do. (Ecclesiastes 4:9, NIrV)

**Week One:** Jesus and His Followers (Luke 5, 6, 8) **Bottom Line:** Jesus wants us to work together.

Week Two: Joshua Wins the Battle Over the Amalekites

(Exodus 17:8-13)

**Bottom Line:** Work together to help someone succeed.

Week Three: Nehemiah Rebuilds the Walls (Nehemiah 1-4; 6:15)

Bottom Line: Work together to solve problems.

**Week Four:** Four Friends Work Together (Luke 5:17-26) **Bottom Line:** Work together to help someone in need.

**Week Five:** One Body, Many Parts (1 Corinthians 12:12-27) **Bottom Line:** Work together to point people to Jesus.

#### **VIRTUE**

Cooperation: Working together to do more than you can do alone





## **April**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

We can't always understand why some things happen. But we can believe in a God who keeps promises. We can have hope—even in the toughest times—because we know God can make something good out of something bad.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

Why is the story of Jesus good news?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Son / Faith

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

"In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world." (John 16:33b, NIrV)

**Week One:** Keep Looking to Jesus (Hebrews 12:1-3) **Bottom Line:** Whatever happens, keep looking to Jesus.

Week Two: Palm Sunday (John 12:12-16)

Bottom Line: Whatever happens, remember God is still working.

**Week Three:** Crucifixion and Resurrection (John 18–20:1-18) **Bottom Line:** Whatever happens, remember Jesus is alive.

**Week Four:** Jesus Appears to Thomas (John 20:19-29) **Bottom Line:** Whatever happens, remember God is bigger

than your questions.

#### VIRTUE

Hope: Believing that something good can come out of something bad

## May



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God took the initiative to send Jesus because of our sin. Jesus came so that we could be brought back into a relationship with God, making things right again. When we see a need and choose to do something about it, people can see the reality of God's love for them.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

What does it look like to love God?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Story / Restoration

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others. (Philippians 2:4, NIrV)

**Week One:** God So Loved the World (John 3:16-17) **Bottom Line:** God took care of our greatest need.

**Week Two:** Miriam Takes Initiative (Exodus 2:1-10) **Bottom Line:** Look for ways to help the people you love.

**Week Three:** Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30) **Bottom Line:** Look for ways to use what you've been given.

**Week Four:** John's Disciples Follow Jesus (John 1:35-42) **Bottom Line:** Look for ways to tell others about Jesus.

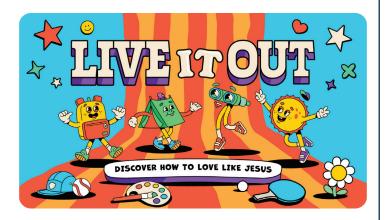
**Week Five:** Jesus Heals a Suffering Woman (Mark 5:25-34) **Bottom Line:** Look for ways to connect with Jesus.

#### **VIRTUE**

Initiative: Seeing what needs to be done and doing it



## **June**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

Jesus is the greatest example of what it looks like to value others. Through the way He lived His life, Jesus taught us how to value one another. And when we follow Jesus, God's Spirit helps us to live like Jesus—transforming not only us but the world around us.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

What does it look like to live like Jesus?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Spirit / Transformation

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

As you deal with one another, you should think and act as Jesus did. (Philippians 2:5, NIrV)

Week One: Live Like Jesus (Philippians 2:5)

Bottom Line: Live like Jesus.

**Week Two:** Saul and Barnabas (Romans 12:18) **Bottom Line:** Live in peace with one another.

Week Three: Jesus Heals on the Sabbath (Philippians 2:4)

Bottom Line: Look out for one another.

Week Four: Encourage One Another (Hebrews 10:24-25)

**Bottom Line:** Encourage one another.

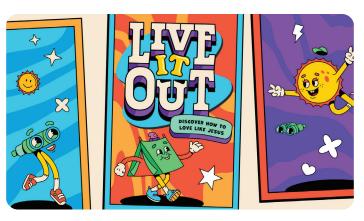
Week Five: Peter and Cornelius (Romans 15:7)

**Bottom Line:** Accept one another.

#### **VIRTUE**

Live It Out: With Jesus we can help change the world.

## **July**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

Jesus is the greatest example of what it looks like to value others. Through the way He lived His life, Jesus taught us how to value one another. And when we follow Jesus, God's Spirit helps us to live like Jesus—transforming not only us but the world around us.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

What does it look like to live like Jesus?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Spirit / Transformation

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

Our God is a God who strengthens and encourages you. May he give you the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had. (Romans 15:5, NIrV)

Week One: Jesus Forgives Peter (Colossians 3:13)

Bottom Line: Forgive one another.

Week Two: The Church Prays for Peter (1 Timothy 2:1)

**Bottom Line:** Pray for one another.

Week Three: The Good Samaritan (Galatians 6:2)

**Bottom Line:** Care for one another.

Week Four: The Great Commission (Romans 15:14)

**Bottom Line:** Teach one another.

#### VIRTUE

Live It Out: With Jesus we can help change the world.



#### **VIRTUES**

#### What is a virtue?

# What God is doing in you to change the world around you.

#### **Monthly Virtues**

#### **AUGUST**

#### Wisdom

Finding out what you should do and doing it

James 1:5

#### **SEPTEMBER**

#### Compassion

Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs

Matthew 5:16

#### **OCTOBER**

#### **Self-Control**

Choosing to do what's best even when you don't want to

2 Peter 1:3a

#### **NOVEMBER**

#### Generosity

Making someone's day by giving something away

**James 1:17a** 

#### **DECEMBER**

#### **Christmas**

Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

Matthew 1:21

#### **JANUARY**

#### Resilience

Getting back up when something gets you down

Psalm 31:24

#### **FEBRUARY**

#### Uniqueness

Learning more about yourself so you can make a difference

Psalm 139:14

#### **MARCH**

#### Cooperation

Working together to do more than you can do alone

**Ecclesiastes 4:9** 

#### **APRIL**

#### Hope

Believing that something good can come out of something bad

John 16:33b

#### MAY

#### Initiative

Seeing what needs to be done and doing it

Philippians 2:4

#### **JUNE**

#### **Live It Out**

With Jesus we can help change the world

Philippians 2:5

#### **JULY**

#### **Live It Out**

With Jesus we can help change the world

Romans 15:5





#### **VIRTUES**

#### **Three-Year Overview**

#### 2022-23

#### **August**

Love—Showing others how much they matter to you (1 John 4:10)

#### September

Trust—Putting your confidence in someone you can depend on (Proverbs 3:5)

#### **October**

Grit—Refusing to give up when life gets hard (Galatians 6:9)

#### **November**

Courage—Being brave enough to do what you should do, even when you're afraid (Joshua 1:9b)

#### **December**

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift (Luke 2:11)

#### **January**

Knowledge—Learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do (Proverbs 2:6)

#### **February**

Respect—Showing others they are important by what you say and do (Luke 6:31)

#### March

Forgiveness—Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay

(Colossians 3:13)

#### **April**

Humility—Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve (Philippians 2:3)

#### May

Confidence—Living like you believe God is with you (Hebrews 13:6a)

#### Summer (June/July)

Faith—Trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see (Hebrews 11:1, Ephesians 2:8) Note: While the Virtues recycle every three years, the content for each Virtue does not. New content is created each month, as well as new resources and products. Virtues and definitions are subject to change.

#### 2023-24

#### **August**

Creativity—Using your imagination to do something new (Ephesians 2:10)

#### September

Friendship—Using your words and actions to show others you care (Proverbs 17:17)

#### **October**

Integrity—Choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do (Proverbs 10:9)

#### **November**

Gratitude—Letting others know you see how they've helped you (Psalm 136:1)

#### **December**

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift (Isaiah 9:6)

#### January

Responsibility—Showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you (Luke 16:10a)

#### **February**

Kindness—Showing others they are valuable by how you treat them (Colossians 3:12)

#### March

Peace—Proving you care more about each other than winning an argument (Romans 12:18)

Easter—Celebrating that Jesus is alive (John 3:16)

#### **April**

Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now (Psalm 27:14)

#### May

Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice (1 Timothy 4:8)

#### Summer (June/July)

Joy—Choosing to celebrate what God is doing

(Proverbs 17:22, Philippians 4:4)

#### 2024-25

#### **August**

Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it (James 1:5)

#### September

Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs (Matthew 5:16)

#### **October**

Self-Control—Choosing to do what's best even when you don't want to (2 Peter 1:3a)

#### **November**

Generosity—Making someone's day by giving something away (James 1:17a)

#### **December**

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift (Matthew 1:21)

#### **January**

Resilience—Getting back up when something gets you down (Psalm 31:24)

#### **February**

Uniqueness—Learning more about yourself so you can make a difference (Psalm 139:14)

#### March

Cooperation—Working together to do more than you can do alone (Ecclesiastes 4:9)

#### **April**

Hope—Believing that something good can come out of something bad (John 16:33b)

#### May

Initiative—Seeing what needs to be done and doing it (Philippians 2:4)

#### Summer (June/July)

TBD





#### BIBLE STORIES THREE-YEAR OVERVIEW

#### **Old Testament**

Creation Story (Genesis 1:1-2:1)

Adam and Eve's First Job (Genesis 1:26-31; 2:15, 19-20)

Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:1-13, 23-24)

The Fall (Genesis 3:1-24)

Noah (Genesis 6-8)

Abram's Calling (Genesis 12:1-5)

Abram Makes Peace (Genesis 13:5-18)

Isaac Is Born (Genesis 18, 21-22)

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

Isaac's Wells (Genesis 26:1-6, 16-22, 26-31)

Jacob Deceives Isaac (Genesis 27:1-45)

Jacob's Dream (Genesis 28:10-22)

Jacob and Esau Meet Again (Genesis 31:3; 32:1-21; 33:1-11)

Joseph Sold into Slavery (Genesis 37)

Joseph in Jail (Genesis 39-40)

Joseph in Charge (Genesis 41)

Joseph Forgives His Brothers (Genesis 42-46)

Moses Is Born and Miriam's Courage (Exodus 1:22-2:10)

Moses—Burning Bush & Plagues (Exodus 3:1-4:17; 7-12)

Moses—Red Sea (Exodus 13:17-22; 14)

Israelites Long for Egypt (Exodus 16:2-21, 17:1-4)

Joshua Wins the Battle Over the Amalekites (Exodus 17:8-13)

Building the Tabernacle (Exodus 28:1, 3; 31:1-11; 35:21, 25, 34; 39:42-43)

Golden Calf (Exodus 32:1-35)

Joshua, Caleb, and the 10 Spies (Numbers 13-14)

Israel Takes Jericho (Joshua 5:13-15, 6)

Gideon (Judges 6-8)

Samson (Judges 13-16)

Ruth and Boaz (Ruth)

Samuel Anoints David / David and Goliath (1 Samuel 16:1-13; 17:1-58)

David and Jonathan (1 Samuel 18:1-9; 19:1-7; 20:1-42)

David and Ahimelek (1 Samuel 21-22)

David Spares Saul's Life (1 Samuel 24)

Abigail Intervenes (1 Samuel 25:1-35)

David and Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:1-13)

Solomon Chooses Wisdom (1 Kings 3:4-15, James 1:5)

Rehoboam Listens to Fools (1 Kings 12:1-15a, Proverbs 13:20)

Elijah and the Prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18)

Elijah and Elisha (1 Kings 19:14-21, 2 Kings 2:1-15)

King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard (1 Kings 21:1-19, 27)

Naaman and Elisha's Servant, Gehazi (2 Kings 5)

Josiah Follows God (2 Kings 22-23)

Nehemiah Hears About the Wall (Nehemiah 1)

Nehemiah Wants to Rebuild the Wall (Nehemiah 2:1-9, 11-18)

Nehemiah and Sanballat (Nehemiah 2:19-20; 4; 6)

Nehemiah Helps the Poor (Nehemiah 5:1-12)

The Wall Is Rebuilt (Nehemiah 2:19-20; 3-4; 6:15-16; 8:1-3a, 17b)

Esther's Courage (Esther)

Haman's Plot Against the Jews (Esther 3; 4:8b; 5:6-10; 7:1-6, 9b-10)

The Earth Belongs to God (Psalm 24:1)

Number Your Days (Psalm 90:12)

Psalm of Thanksgiving (Psalm 100)

Importance of God's Word (Psalm 119:105)

Trust in the Lord (Proverbs 3:5-6)

The Ant and The Sluggard (Proverbs 6:6-8)

Choose Your Words Carefully (Proverbs 12:18)

Hang Out With Wise People (Proverbs 13:20)

Patience Principle (Proverbs 14:29)

Patience Principle (Proverbs 15:18)

Slow to Anger (Proverbs 16:32)

Wise People See Danger (Proverbs 22:3)

Too Much of a Good Thing (Proverbs 25:16)

Broken-Down Walls (Proverbs 25:28)

God Promises a Savior (Isaiah 9:6-7)

Daniel's Integrity (Daniel 1)

The Fiery Furnace (Daniel 3)

Daniel and the Lions (Daniel 6)

Bethlehem Prophecy (Micah 5:2)

Palm Sunday Prophecy (Zechariah 9:9)





#### **BIBLE STORIES**

#### **New Testament**

Wise Men Visit Jesus (Matt. 2:1-12)

Salt and Light (Matt. 5:14-16)

Jesus Teaches on Forgiveness (Matt. 5:23-24)

Love Your Enemies (Matt. 5:43-47)

Give in Secret (Matt. 6:1-4)

The Lord's Prayer (Matt. 6:5-13, Luke 11:1-14)

Treasures in Heaven (Matt. 6:19-24)

Wise and Foolish Builders (Matt. 7:24-29)

Faith of the Centurion (Matt. 8:5-13)

John the Baptist in Jail (Matt. 11:1-6; Luke 7:18-22)

Peter Walks on Water (Matt. 14:22-33)

Who Do You Say That I Am? (Matt. 16:13-20)

70 × 7 / Unmerciful Servant (Matt. 18:21-35)

Parable of the Vineyard Workers (Matt. 20:1-15)

The Greatest Commandment (Matt. 22:34-37)

Parable of the Talents (Matt. 25:14-29a)

Least of These (Matt. 25:35-40)

Jesus in the Garden (Matt. 26:36-46)

The Great Commission (Matt. 28:16-20)

Calming the Storm (Mark 4:35-40)

Feeding 5,000 (Mark 5:30-44; John 6:1-13)

No Greater Love (Mark 8:27-30, 10:33-40; John 13:1-9, 34-35; 15:12-13)

Jesus Heals Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52)

Palm Sunday / Arrest and Trial / Crucifixion (Mark 11:1-11; 14:43-15:47)

Widow's Mite (Mark 12:1-44)

Woman Pours Oil on Jesus (Mark 14:1-9)

Zechariah and Elizabeth (Luke 1:5-25; 57-79)

Jesus Is Born (Luke 2:1-18, John 3:16)

Shepherds Visit Jesus (Luke 2:8-20)

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

Jesus at the Temple (Luke 2:41-52)

Wisdom of Jesus (Luke 2:52)

Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness (Luke 4:1-13)

Jesus' Mission Statement (Luke 4:14-24, 28-30)

Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man (Luke 5:17-26)

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37)

Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-42)

Parable of the Rich Man (Luke 12:13-21)

The Story of the Lost Sheep (Luke 15:1-7)

The Story of the Lost Son—The Son (Luke 15:11-20)

The Story of the Lost Son—Father and Brother (Luke 15:11-32)

Jesus Heals 10 Lepers (Luke 17:11-19)

Rich Young Ruler (Luke 18:18-27)

Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)

Jesus' Baptism / John Calls Jesus the Lamb of God (John 1:19-42)

Philip and Nathanael (John 1:43-51)

Jesus Teaches Nicodemus (John 3:1-21)

God Loved the World (John 3:16)

Jesus Talks with the Woman from Samaria (John 4:1-30, 39-42)

Jesus is the Good Shepherd (John 10:14)

Jesus Raises Lazarus (John 11)

Palm Sunday (John 12:9-16)

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet (John 13:1-17)

#### **THREE-YEAR OVERVIEW**

Love One Another (John 13:34)

Jesus is the Way (John 14:6)

Jesus Heals the Servant's Ear (John 18:1-11)

Peter Denies Jesus (John 18:15-27)

Easter (John 18:12-20:23)

Jesus Appears to Thomas (John 20:19-23)

Jesus Restores Peter (John 21:1-19)

Ascension (Acts 1:1-11)

Pentecost (Acts 2:1-41)

Early Church Works Together (Acts 2:42-47)

Peter and John Before the Sanhedrin (Acts 3:1-9, 4:1-21)

Apostles Treated Badly (Acts 5:17-42)

Stephen (Acts 6:1-7:60)

Philip and the Ethiopian Official (Acts 8:26-40)

Paul's Conversion (Acts 9:1-29)

Paul and Ananias (Acts 9:10-29)

Barnabas Welcomes Saul (Acts 9:26-30; Acts 26:12-18)

Peter and Cornelius (Acts 10:1-35)

Paul in Antioch (Acts 11:25-30, 13:1-3)

Jerusalem Council (Acts 15:1-35)

Lvdia (Acts 16:11-15)





#### **Overview**

## What if you knew that God was HERE for you and with you no matter what?

In an anxious and lonely world, what if every kid had the skills to be fully present with God—HERE and now—through prayer, Scripture, community, worship, and serving?

What if every kid had a meaningful relationship with a consistent leader committed to being HERE for them at this phase of life?

HERE is where Jesus invites us and meets us to transform and renew us. HERE is how we show what matters most to us. HERE is where everything has the potential to change.

This year, as we lean into the theme of HERE, you'll discover an invitation to us all—leaders, volunteers, and kids/teens—to be HERE for it as we understand more about God, ourselves, and others.



#### THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS

#### **One Priority**

"'Love the Lord your 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.'"

**MATT. 22:37-39, NIV** 

#### **Three Relational Motives**



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



Move kids to **love life** by provoking 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.



#### THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS

#### **Three Basic Truths**

In the elementary school years, kids will grow in wisdom, faith, and friendship.

I need to make the wise choice.

I can trust God no matter what.

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.



#### **PHASE**

## **The Elementary Phase**

Kindergarten-Fifth Grade



## → What is a phase?

A phase is a timeframe in a kid's life when you can leverage distinctive opportunities to influence their future.

#### At each phase, your job is simple ...

Know what can be expected of them and know how they think so they will hear what you say and know what to do.

## → Thinks like ...

An elementary schooler thinks like a scientist.

Scientists understand the world through concrete evidence they can test repeatedly.

Like scientists, elementary schoolers learn best when they can observe something in their present environment. They are concrete thinkers and need repetition and clear application. The more frequently a new concept can be connected to everyday experience, the better.

## → How they relate to God . . .

God's story inspires my story.

Kids who think like scientists love stories.

They relate to a God who heals the sick, conquers evil, explains mysteries, performs miracles, overcomes death, and teaches them how to win at life.

### → Wants to know ...

In the elementary years, a child develops skills and competencies that equip their future.

The way a child resolves the "Do I have . . . " questions of each phase provides them with critical knowledge and resources.

The best way to resolve an elementary schooler's relational questions is to consistently engage their interests.

#### Do I have your attention?

In kindergarten and first grade, a child craves adult attention and approval.

When adults demonstrate interest in kids' progress, kids improve abilities.

#### Do I have what it takes?

In second and third grade, a kid wants to know how their abilities compare with peers. When adults praise kids' persistence and efforts, kids broaden competence.

#### Do I have friends?

In fourth and fifth grade, a kid begins to prioritize friends in a new way. When adults make introductions and include peers, kids develop friendships.

## It's just a phase, don't miss it.



## **252 PRETEEN**

#### **2024-2025 THEMES**



**AUGUST** 

Dive Deep: There's always more to explore



**SEPTEMBER** 

Live Bright: Shine Jesus' light



**OCTOBER** 

Game Show: The choice is yours



**NOVEMBER** 

Special Delivery: No postage required



**DECEMBER** 

Christmas Playlist: Let heaven and nature sing



**JANUARY** 

Rain or Shine: Trusting God in every season



**FEBRUARY** 

Made: Discover who you're meant to be



MARCH

Cast and Crew: Everyone has a part to play



APRIL

The Big Picture: Keep hope alive



MAY

Eye Spy: Get a clue about what to do



JUNE

Live It Out



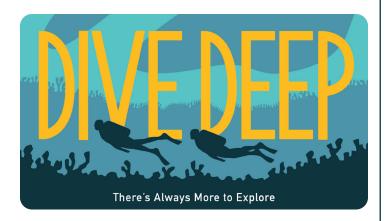
**JULY** 

Live It Out





## **August**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

When Jesus was a boy, He grew in wisdom. God wants us to discover wisdom too. When we make the wise choice, we reflect the character of Jesus to people around us.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

How did Jesus grow in wisdom?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Message / Truth

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn't find fault. (James 1:5, NIrV)

**Week One:** Jesus Grows in Wisdom (Luke 2:41-52) **Key Question:** What does it mean to be wise?

**Week Two:** Speck and Plank (Matthew 7:1-5) **Key Question:** What are you learning about yourself?

**Week Three:** Rehoboam Listens to Fools (2 Chronicles 10) **Key Question:** Who are some wise people in your life?

Week Four: Renew Your Mind (Romans 12:2)

Key Question: How are you wiser than you used to be?

#### VIRTUE

Wisdom: Finding out what you should do and doing it

## September



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God's compassion for us led to the greatest act of love the world has ever seen. God sent Jesus to rescue us. We reflect God's compassion when we care about others and work to make things right.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

How does trusting Jesus change how I treat others?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Character / Compassion

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

"Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16, NIrV)

Week One: You Are the Light of the World (Matthew 5:14-16)

Key Question: How can you be a light?

Week Two: Jesus Feeds 5,000 (John 6:1-13)

**Key Question:** What do you have that you can use to help others?

**Week Three:** Jesus Heals Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52) **Key Question:** When has someone made time for you?

**Week Four:** Sharing God's Comfort (2 Corinthians 1:3-4) **Key Question:** How can you show someone you care?

**Week Five:** Jesus Is the Light of the World (John 8:12) **Key Question:** Where have you seen the light of Jesus?

#### VIDTILE

Compassion: Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs





### **October**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

As we follow Jesus, His love transforms us. His Spirit helps us show self-control. We can follow Jesus' example and choose to do what's best—even when we don't want to.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

How can I trust God to help me do what's best?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Spirit / Transformation

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life. (2 Peter 1:3a, NIrV)

Week One: Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness (Luke 4:1-13)

**Key Question:** How do you get ready?

Week Two: Choose Your Words Carefully (Proverbs 12:18)

Key Question: How can your words change things?

**Week Three:** David Spares Saul's Life (1 Samuel 24) **Key Question:** When have you had self-control?

Week Four: Too Much of a Good Thing (Proverbs 25:16)

**Key Question:** Why is it hard to stop?

#### **VIRTUE**

Self-Control: Choosing to do what's best even when you don't want to

## November



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God was generous to us by sending Jesus. Not only is Jesus the greatest gift—He is also the best example of someone we can look to when we give. Because of God's generosity toward us, we can also be generous to everyone around us.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

How does God's generosity give us a reason to give?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Story / Restoration

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

Every good and perfect gift is from God. (James 1:17a, NIrV)

**Week One:** Every Good and Perfect Gift (James 1:17a) **Key Question:** What good things has God given you?

Week Two: Widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:7-16)

Key Question: What do you have to give?

Week Three: God Loves a Cheerful Giver (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Key Question: How do you feel when you give?

Week Four: Love in Action (1 John 3:16-18)

**Key Question:** When has someone been generous to you?

#### VIRTUE

Generosity: Making someone's day by giving something away





## **December**



#### **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 QUESTION**

Why is Jesus so important in God's story?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Love / Connection

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

"[Mary] is going to have a son. You must give him the name Jesus. That's because he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21, NIrV)

Week One: In the Beginning Was the Word (John 1:1-5, 14)

Key Question: Why is Jesus important to you?

Week Two: An Angel Appears to Mary and Joseph

(Luke 1:26-38, Matthew 1:18-25)

**Key Question:** What helps you remember that God is with you?

Week Three: Jesus Is Born (Luke 2:1-7)

**Key Question:** What does Christmas mean to you?

Week Four: Shepherds and Angels (Luke 2:8-20)

Key Question: How are you celebrating Christmas this year?

Week Five: Wise Men (Matthew 2:1-12)

Key Question: How can you celebrate Jesus all year long?

#### **VIRTUE**

Christmas: Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

## **January**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God is faithful and present, always working in our lives. We might get knocked down from time to time, but when we put our trust in God, we find the strength we need to get back up again.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

How can I trust that God knows how I feel?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Spirit / Transformation

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

Be strong, all you who put your hope in the Lord. Never give up. (Psalm 31:24, NIrV)

Week One: Jesus Wept (John 11:1-45)

**Key Question:** Who can you talk to when you're sad?

Week Two: Do Not Worry (Matthew 6:25-34)

**Key Question:** What kinds of things do you worry about?

Week Three: Slow to Anger (James 1:19)

**Key Question:** What do you do when you feel angry?

**Week Four:** Paul and Silas (Acts 16:16-40) **Key Question:** What brings you joy?

#### VIRTUE

Resilience: Getting back up when something gets you down





## **February**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God is one of a kind—with no beginning and no end. Everything God has created is unique, including people. Every person is an original reflection, made in the image of God.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

What does God want you to discover about you?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Image / Identity

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well. (Psalm 139:14. NIrV)

Week One: Fearfully and Wonderfully Made (Psalm 139:1-14)

**Key Question:** How would you describe yourself?

Week Two: Moses and the Burning Bush (Exodus 3–4:15)

Key Question: What's unique about you?

Week Three: Lydia (Acts 16:13-15) Key Question: What are your gifts?

Week Four: Timothy (1 Timothy 4:12)

Key Question: Who has made a difference in your life?

#### VIRTUE

Uniqueness: Learning more about yourself so you can make a difference

## March



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God created us to work together in community. When we cooperate, we reflect what Jesus envisioned for His followers. Our love for one another can point people back to Jesus.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

What does God want us to do together?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Family / Community

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do. (Ecclesiastes 4:9, NIrV)

Week One: Jesus and His Followers (Luke 5, 6, 8)

**Key Question:** When have you seen people work together?

Week Two: Joshua Wins the Battle Over the Amalekites

(Exodus 17:8-13)

Key Question: Who do you work well with?

**Week Three:** Nehemiah Rebuilds the Walls (Nehemiah 1–4; 6:15) **Key Question:** How has someone helped you solve problems?

**Week Four:** Four Friends Work Together (Luke 5:17-26)

**Key Question:** How can you work together to help someone?

Week Five: One Body, Many Parts (1 Corinthians 12:12-27)

Key Question: What part can you play?

#### VIRTUE

Cooperation: Working together to do more than you can do alone





## **April**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

We can't always understand why some things happen. But we can believe in a God who keeps promises. We can have hope—even in the toughest times—because we know God can make something good out of something bad.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

Why is the story of Jesus good news?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Son / Faith

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

"In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world." (John 16:33b, NIrV)

**Week One:** Keep Looking to Jesus (Hebrews 12:1-3) **Key Question:** When is it hard to focus on Jesus?

**Week Two:** Palm Sunday (John 12:12-16) **Key Question:** What are you hoping for?

Week Three: Crucifixion and Resurrection (John 18-20:1-18)

Key Question: Why does Easter give us hope?

**Week Four:** Jesus Appears to Thomas (John 20:19-29) **Key Question:** What questions do you have for God?

#### VIRTUE

Hope: Believing that something good can come out of something bad

## May



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

God took the initiative to send Jesus because of our sin. Jesus came so that we could be brought back into a relationship with God, making things right again. When we see a need and choose to do something about it, people can see the reality of God's love for them.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

What does it look like to love God?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Story / Restoration

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others. (Philippians 2:4, NIrV)

**Week One:** God So Loved the World (John 3:16-17) **Key Question:** How has God met your needs?

**Week Two:** Miriam Takes Initiative (Exodus 2:1-10) **Key Question:** Who do you see that needs your help?

**Week Three:** Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30) **Key Question:** How can you use what you've been given?

**Week Four:** John's Disciples Follow Jesus (John 1:35-42) **Key Question:** How did you first hear about Jesus?

**Week Five:** Jesus Heals a Suffering Woman (Mark 5:25-34) **Key Question:** What can keep you from connecting with Jesus?

#### **VIRTUE**

Initiative: Seeing what needs to be done and doing it





### **June**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

Jesus is the greatest example of what it looks like to value others. Through the way He lived His life, Jesus taught us how to value one another. And when we follow Jesus, God's Spirit helps us to live like Jesus—transforming not only us but the world around us.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

What does it look like to live like Jesus?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Spirit / Transformation

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

As you deal with one another, you should think and act as Jesus did. (Philippians 2:5, NIrV)

**Week One:** Live Like Jesus (Philippians 2:5) **Key Question:** How can we live like Jesus?

**Week Two:** Saul and Barnabas (Romans 12:18) **Key Question:** What does it mean to live in peace?

Week Three: Jesus Heals on the Sabbath (Philippians 2:4)

Key Question: Who's looking out for you?

**Week Four:** Encourage One Another (Hebrews 10:24-25) **Key Question:** When has someone encouraged you?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Week Five:** Peter and Cornelius (Romans 15:7) **Key Question:** How does it feel to be accepted?

#### **VIRTUE**

Live It Out: With Jesus we can help change the world.

## **July**



#### **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

Jesus is the greatest example of what it looks like to value others. Through the way He lived His life, Jesus taught us how to value one another. And when we follow Jesus, God's Spirit helps us to live like Jesus—transforming not only us but the world around us.

#### **CORE QUESTION**

What does it look like to live like Jesus?

#### **CORE INSIGHT**

God's Spirit / Transformation

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

Our God is a God who strengthens and encourages you. May he give you the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had. (Romans 15:5, NIrV)

**Week One:** Jesus Forgives Peter (Colossians 3:13) **Key Question:** What makes it hard to forgive?

Week Two: The Church Prays for Peter (1 Timothy 2:1)

**Key Question:** Why is it important to pray?

**Week Three:** The Good Samaritan (Galatians 6:2) **Key Question:** How can you show someone you care?

**Week Four:** The Great Commission (Romans 15:14) **Key Question:** Who taught you to live like Jesus?

#### **VIRTUE**

Live It Out: With Jesus we can help change the world.





#### **VIRTUES**

#### What is a virtue?

# What God is doing in you to change the world around you.

#### **Monthly Virtues**

#### **AUGUST**

#### Wisdom

Finding out what you should do and doing it

James 1:5

#### **SEPTEMBER**

#### Compassion

Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs

Matthew 5:16

#### **OCTOBER**

#### **Self-Control**

Choosing to do what's best even when you don't want to

2 Peter 1:3a

#### **NOVEMBER**

#### Generosity

Making someone's day by giving something away

**James 1:17a** 

#### **DECEMBER**

#### **Christmas**

Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

Matthew 1:21

#### **JANUARY**

#### Resilience

Getting back up when something gets you down

Psalm 31:24

#### **FEBRUARY**

#### Uniqueness

Learning more about yourself so you can make a difference

Psalm 139:14

#### **MARCH**

#### Cooperation

Working together to do more than you can do alone

**Ecclesiastes 4:9** 

#### **APRIL**

#### Hope

Believing that something good can come out of something bad

John 16:33b

#### MAY

#### Initiative

Seeing what needs to be done and doing it

Philippians 2:4

#### **JUNE**

#### **Live It Out**

With Jesus we can help change the world

Philippians 2:5

#### JULY

#### **Live It Out**

With Jesus we can help change the world

Romans 15:5





#### **VIRTUES**

#### **Three-Year Overview**

#### 2022-23

#### **August**

Love—Showing others how much they matter to you (1 John 4:10)

#### September

Trust—Putting your confidence in someone you can depend on (Proverbs 3:5)

#### **October**

Grit—Refusing to give up when life gets hard (Galatians 6:9)

#### **November**

Courage—Being brave enough to do what you should do, even when you're afraid (Joshua 1:9b)

#### **December**

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift (Luke 2:11)

#### **January**

Knowledge—Learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do (Proverbs 2:6)

#### **February**

Respect—Showing others they are important by what you say and do (Luke 6:31)

#### March

Forgiveness—Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay

(Colossians 3:13)

#### **April**

Humility—Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve (Philippians 2:3)

#### May

Confidence—Living like you believe God is with you (Hebrews 13:6a)

#### Summer (June/July)

Faith—Trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see (Hebrews 11:1, Ephesians 2:8) Note: While the Virtues recycle every three years, the content for each Virtue does not. New content is created each month, as well as new resources and products. Virtues and definitions are subject to change.

#### 2023-24

#### **August**

Creativity—Using your imagination to do something new (Ephesians 2:10)

#### September

Friendship—Using your words and actions to show others you care (Proverbs 17:17)

#### **October**

Integrity—Choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do (Proverbs 10:9)

#### **November**

Gratitude—Letting others know you see how they've helped you (Psalm 136:1)

#### **December**

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift (Isaiah 9:6)

#### January

Responsibility—Showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you (Luke 16:10a)

#### **February**

Kindness—Showing others they are valuable by how you treat them (Colossians 3:12)

#### March

Peace—Proving you care more about each other than winning an argument (Romans 12:18)

Easter—Celebrating that Jesus is alive (John 3:16)

#### **April**

Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now (Psalm 27:14)

#### May

Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice (1 Timothy 4:8)

#### Summer (June/July)

Joy—Choosing to celebrate what God is doing (Proverbs 17:22, Philippians 4:4)

#### 2024-25

#### **August**

Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it (James 1:5)

#### September

Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs (Matthew 5:16)

#### **October**

Self-Control—Choosing to do what's best even when you don't want to (2 Peter 1:3a)

#### **November**

Generosity—Making someone's day by giving something away (James 1:17a)

#### **December**

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift (Matthew 1:21)

#### January

Resilience—Getting back up when something gets you down (Psalm 31:24)

#### **February**

Uniqueness—Learning more about yourself so you can make a difference (Psalm 139:14)

#### March

Cooperation—Working together to do more than you can do alone (Ecclesiastes 4:9)

#### **April**

Hope—Believing that something good can come out of something bad (John 16:33b)

#### May

Initiative—Seeing what needs to be done and doing it (Philippians 2:4)

#### Summer (June/July)

TBD





**THREE-YEAR OVERVIEW** 

#### **BIBLE STORIES**

#### **Old Testament**

Creation Story (Genesis 1:1-2:1)

Adam and Eve's First Job (Genesis 1:26-31; 2:15, 19-20)

Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:1-13, 23-24)

The Fall (Genesis 3:1-24)

Noah (Genesis 6-8)

Abram's Calling (Genesis 12:1-5)

Abram Makes Peace (Genesis 13:5-18)

Isaac Is Born (Genesis 18, 21-22)

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

Isaac's Wells (Genesis 26:1-6, 16-22, 26-31)

Jacob Deceives Isaac (Genesis 27:1-45)

Jacob's Dream (Genesis 28:10-22)

Jacob and Esau Meet Again (Genesis 31:3; 32:1-21; 33:1-11)

Joseph Sold into Slavery (Genesis 37)

Joseph in Jail (Genesis 39-40)

Joseph in Charge (Genesis 41)

Joseph Forgives His Brothers (Genesis 42-46)

Moses Is Born and Miriam's Courage (Exodus 1:22-2:10)

Moses—Burning Bush & Plagues (Exodus 3:1-4:17; 7-12)

Moses—Red Sea (Exodus 13:17-22; 14)

Israelites Long for Egypt (Exodus 16:2-21, 17:1-4)

Joshua Wins the Battle Over the Amalekites (Exodus 17:8-13)

Building the Tabernacle (Exodus 28:1, 3; 31:1-11; 35:21, 25, 34; 39:42-43)

Golden Calf (Exodus 32:1-35)

Joshua, Caleb, and the 10 Spies (Numbers 13-14)

Israel Takes Jericho (Joshua 5:13-15, 6)

Gideon (Judges 6-8)

Samson (Judges 13-16)

Ruth and Boaz (Ruth)

Samuel Anoints David / David and Goliath (1 Samuel 16:1-13; 17:1-58)

David and Jonathan (1 Samuel 18:1-9; 19:1-7; 20:1-42)

David and Ahimelek (1 Samuel 21-22)

David Spares Saul's Life (1 Samuel 24)

Abigail Intervenes (1 Samuel 25:1-35)

David and Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:1-13)

Solomon Chooses Wisdom (1 Kings 3:4-15, James 1:5)

Rehoboam Listens to Fools (1 Kings 12:1-15a, Proverbs 13:20)

Elijah and the Prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18)

Elijah and Elisha (1 Kings 19:14-21, 2 Kings 2:1-15)

King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard (1 Kings 21:1-19, 27)

Naaman and Elisha's Servant, Gehazi (2 Kings 5)

Josiah Follows God (2 Kings 22-23)

Nehemiah Hears About the Wall (Nehemiah 1)

Nehemiah Wants to Rebuild the Wall (Nehemiah 2:1-9, 11-18)

Nehemiah and Sanballat (Nehemiah 2:19-20; 4; 6)

Nehemiah Helps the Poor (Nehemiah 5:1-12)

The Wall Is Rebuilt (Nehemiah 2:19-20; 3-4; 6:15-16; 8:1-3a, 17b)

Esther's Courage (Esther)

Haman's Plot Against the Jews (Esther 3; 4:8b; 5:6-10; 7:1-6, 9b-10)

The Earth Belongs to God (Psalm 24:1)

Number Your Days (Psalm 90:12)

Psalm of Thanksgiving (Psalm 100)

Importance of God's Word (Psalm 119:105)

Trust in the Lord (Proverbs 3:5-6)

The Ant and The Sluggard (Proverbs 6:6-8)

Choose Your Words Carefully (Proverbs 12:18)

Hang Out With Wise People (Proverbs 13:20)

Patience Principle (Proverbs 14:29)

Patience Principle (Proverbs 15:18)

Slow to Anger (Proverbs 16:32)

Wise People See Danger (Proverbs 22:3)

Too Much of a Good Thing (Proverbs 25:16)

Broken-Down Walls (Proverbs 25:28)

God Promises a Savior (Isaiah 9:6-7)

Daniel's Integrity (Daniel 1)

The Fiery Furnace (Daniel 3)

Daniel and the Lions (Daniel 6)

Bethlehem Prophecy (Micah 5:2)

Palm Sunday Prophecy (Zechariah 9:9)





#### **BIBLE STORIES**

#### **New Testament**

Wise Men Visit Jesus (Matt. 2:1-12)

Salt and Light (Matt. 5:14-16)

Jesus Teaches on Forgiveness (Matt. 5:23-24)

Love Your Enemies (Matt. 5:43-47)

Give in Secret (Matt. 6:1-4)

The Lord's Prayer (Matt. 6:5-13, Luke 11:1-14)

Treasures in Heaven (Matt. 6:19-24)

Wise and Foolish Builders (Matt. 7:24-29)

Faith of the Centurion (Matt. 8:5-13)

John the Baptist in Jail (Matt. 11:1-6; Luke 7:18-22)

Peter Walks on Water (Matt. 14:22-33)

Who Do You Say That I Am? (Matt. 16:13-20)

70 × 7 / Unmerciful Servant (Matt. 18:21-35)

Parable of the Vineyard Workers (Matt. 20:1-15)

The Greatest Commandment (Matt. 22:34-37)

Parable of the Talents (Matt. 25:14-29a)

Least of These (Matt. 25:35-40)

Jesus in the Garden (Matt. 26:36-46)

The Great Commission (Matt. 28:16-20)

Calming the Storm (Mark 4:35-40)

Feeding 5,000 (Mark 5:30-44; John 6:1-13)

No Greater Love (Mark 8:27-30, 10:33-40; John 13:1-9, 34-35; 15:12-13)

Jesus Heals Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52)

Palm Sunday / Arrest and Trial / Crucifixion (Mark 11:1-11; 14:43-15:47)

Widow's Mite (Mark 12:1-44)

Woman Pours Oil on Jesus (Mark 14:1-9)

Zechariah and Elizabeth (Luke 1:5-25; 57-79)

Jesus Is Born (Luke 2:1-18, John 3:16)

Shepherds Visit Jesus (Luke 2:8-20)

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

Jesus at the Temple (Luke 2:41-52)

Wisdom of Jesus (Luke 2:52)

Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness (Luke 4:1-13)

Jesus' Mission Statement (Luke 4:14-24, 28-30)

Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man (Luke 5:17-26)

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37)

Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-42)

Parable of the Rich Man (Luke 12:13-21)

The Story of the Lost Sheep (Luke 15:1-7)

The Story of the Lost Son—The Son (Luke 15:11-20)

The Story of the Lost Son—Father and Brother (Luke 15:11-32)

Jesus Heals 10 Lepers (Luke 17:11-19)

Rich Young Ruler (Luke 18:18-27)

Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)

Jesus' Baptism / John Calls Jesus the Lamb of God (John 1:19-42)

Philip and Nathanael (John 1:43-51)

Jesus Teaches Nicodemus (John 3:1-21)

God Loved the World (John 3:16)

Jesus Talks with the Woman from Samaria (John 4:1-30, 39-42)

Jesus is the Good Shepherd (John 10:14)

Jesus Raises Lazarus (John 11)

Palm Sunday (John 12:9-16)

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet (John 13:1-17)

THREE-YEAR OVERVIEW

Love One Another (John 13:34)

Jesus is the Way (John 14:6)

Jesus Heals the Servant's Ear (John 18:1-11)

Peter Denies Jesus (John 18:15-27)

Easter (John 18:12-20:23)

Jesus Appears to Thomas (John 20:19-23)

Jesus Restores Peter (John 21:1-19)

Ascension (Acts 1:1-11)

Pentecost (Acts 2:1-41)

Early Church Works Together (Acts 2:42-47)

Peter and John Before the Sanhedrin (Acts 3:1-9, 4:1-21)

Apostles Treated Badly (Acts 5:17-42)

Stephen (Acts 6:1-7:60)

Philip and the Ethiopian Official (Acts 8:26-40)

Paul's Conversion (Acts 9:1-29)

Paul and Ananias (Acts 9:10-29)

Barnabas Welcomes Saul (Acts 9:26-30; Acts 26:12-18)

Peter and Cornelius (Acts 10:1-35)

Paul in Antioch (Acts 11:25-30, 13:1-3)

Jerusalem Council (Acts 15:1-35)

Lvdia (Acts 16:11-15)

