

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



*In the High School Phase, the **PASSION** 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 high school years, teens are deepening and personalizing their faith.

I will trust what Jesus did to transform who I need to become.

I'm created to pursue a relationship with my Creator.

l exist to demonstrate God's love to those around me.



PHASE

The High School Phase

Ninth–Twelfth Grade



\bigcirc 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.

\rightarrow Thinks like

A high schooler thinks like a philosopher.

Philosophers seem to understand what is unseen and what cannot be measured.

Like philosophers, high schoolers learn best through open debate, multiple perspectives, and applied reasoning. Rather than memorizing what they think, they can be inspired to consider how they think and why they believe. That's why providing a safe community to explore big questions about life is essential to learning.

\bigcirc How They Relate to God ...

God's story empowers my story.

Teenagers who think like philosophers look for principles that will give their story meaning. They relate to a God who guides their decisions, promotes love and forgiveness, empowers their freedom, enables them to live more fully, moves them toward a greater purpose, and connects them to a bigger story.



In high school, teenagers refine their unique abilities and develop a sense of purpose.

The way a high schooler resolves the "where," "why," "how," and "what" questions of life provides a compass for navigating their future direction.

The best way to resolve a high schooler's relational questions is to mobilize their potential.

Where do I belong?

Freshmen are looking for a new tribe. When adults connect teens with similar interests, teens **value community**.

Why should I believe? Why can't I?

Sophomores want to challenge the limits. When adults listen carefully and respond with questions, teens **clarify values**.

How can I matter?

Juniors are ready to make a difference now. When adults provide consistent opportunities to lead and serve, teens **refine skills**.

What will I do?

Seniors want to know where they are headed. When adults encourage experiences and simplify options, teens **create vision**.

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2024-2025 THEMES

AUGUST 4-11-18-25 SEPTEMBER 8-15-22 **Roundabout: The Hills Navigating Life's** Reroutes **SERIES BOTTOM LINE** TOPIC TOPIC **SERIES BOTTOM LINE** Light A series about Change A series about shining following Jesus and the light of Jesus with experiencing change your life **SERIES DESCRIPTION SERIES DESCRIPTION** If there is anything consistent about the high school In Matthew 5:14, Jesus says: "You are the light of the worldexperience, it is change. Like a roundabout, change is like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden." This series encourages high schoolers to understand what it means for continual with constant reroutes. This series encourages high schoolers to consider change is life, new equals change, that them to be the light of the world. God created high school Jesus invites us to change for the better, and that God never students to shine—in every single aspect of life—by the way changes, and that is a good thing. they live the light and hope of Jesus into a world that seems chaotic and in desperate need of light. _____ WEEKS OF CONTENT **WEEKS OF CONTENT** Week 3: God doesn't change, Week 1: Change is life. → Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 NLT, and that's a good thing. Week 1: God created you Week 3: God's light in you Hebrews 11:1 NIV → James 1:17 NLT, to shine. brings light to others. Psalm 136:6 NLT → Matthew 6:22-23 NLT, \rightarrow Matthew 5:14, 16 NLT, Week 2: New always equals Matthew 5:16 NLT Philippians 2:15 NLT, Week 4: Jesus invites us to change. 1 John 1:5b NLT change for the better. → 2 Corinthians 5:16-17 NLT → Ephesians 4:22-24 NIV Week 2: God's light in you brings order to chaos. → Genesis 1:2-5a NLT, Luke 11:36b NLT **MEMORY VERSE** This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! **MEMORY VERSE** 2 Corinthians 5:17 NLT In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. Matthew 5:16 NLT



2024-2025 THEMES



lies about identity: *I am what I have. I am what I do. And I am what others think of me.* This series encourages high schoolers to consider that your Creator determines your value, your worth, and what God thinks about you is the most important thing about you.

WEEKS OF CONTENT

Week 1: The authentic you is honest with yourself and others.

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→ John 8:31-33 NLV, Colossians 3:9-10 NLT

Week 2: My stuff does not define me. → Mark 10:17-22, 27 NLT Week 3: I am created by a Creator.

→ Colossians 1:15-16 NLT Genesis 1:27 NLT, 1 John 4:8b NIV

Week 4: What God thinks about me is the most important thing about me. → Psalm 139:13-18 NLT, 1 Samuel 18:7 NLT

MEMORY VERSE

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:2 NLT

This series encourages high schoolers to consider how to follow Jesus and navigate political tension and challenges them with a few important questions: Do you see the person on the other side of your view as sacred? Do you see that person as an image bearer of God, with innate worth and dignity? And do you view that person with reverence and treat them with incredible respect regardless of their political persuasion, party, or stance? The way of Jesus means people are more important than policy.

WEEKS OF CONTENT

Week 1: The way of Jesus means people are more important than policy.

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→ Mark 2:27-28 NLT, John 8:11 NLT, Romans 5:10 NLT, Genesis 1:27 NIV, Matthew 5:41 NIV

MEMORY VERSE

For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." But if you are always biting and devouring one another, watch out! Beware of destroying one another.

Galatians 5:13-15 NLT

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2024-2025 THEMES

NOVEMBER	3-10-17-24	DECEMBER	1-8-15-22
Take A Bow		The	e Kid
SERIES BOTTOM LINE	TOPIC Growing Your Faith	SERIES BOTTOM LINE A series about	TOPIC Christmas
A series about how Growing Your Faith to reflect Jesus' humility and confidence		the backstory of Christmas	Cillistinas
SERIES DESCRIPTION		SERIES DESCRIPTION	
	ving a life of humility me. Anchored in Jesus's dents will be challenged to in the world and to learn how to y for entitlement and arrogance		Jesus was born and raised in uential that it appears on no This series encourages high d from nowhere (Jesus) changes situation, how you see yourself
WEEKS OF CONTENT		WEEKS OF CONTENT	
Week 1: Don't leave your space blank. \rightarrow James 4:6-8a NLTWeek 3: Don't measure your God-given space by the space occupied by someone else. \rightarrow 1 Peter 5:5 NLTWeek 2: Take up your God- given space in the world. \rightarrow Matthew 11:28-29 NLTWeek 4: Your space in the world doesn't have to be the same tomorrow as it is today. \rightarrow Matthew 4:1-11 NLT, Matthew 26:36-39 NLT		Week 1: The Kid changes how you see your everyday situation. → Luke 2:1-7 NRSVUE	Week 3: The Kid changes how you see your fear. → Luke 1:46-55 NLT,
		 → Luke 2:1-7 NRSVOE Week 2: The Kid changes how you see yourself and everyone else. → Matthew 2 NLT, Matthew 2:23 NLT, Luke 2:8-16 NLT 	Luke 1:38 NLT, Luke 1:67-75 NLT Week 4: The Kid changes everything, especially you. → John 1:46 NLT, John 3:16 NLT, John 17:24-25 NLT
MEMORY VERSE		MEMORY VERSE	
So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time he will lift you up in honor.			n Judea, during the reign of King d lived in a town called Nazareth.
1 Peter 5:6 NLT		Matthew 2:1; 23 NLT	

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2024-2025 THEMES

JANUARY	5-12-19	JANUARY	26
The Happy Days And The Ones That Aren't		ELEVATE	
SERIES BOTTOM LINE A series about emotions and how Jesus defines happiness	TOPIC Faith	SERIES BOTTOM LINE Raising the bar for conversations about an uncertain future	TOPIC Culture
SERIES DESCRIPTION We all want to be happy but happy all the time isn't human. We think some feelings are bad, other feelings are good, and that we shouldn't feel some of the emotions we have. This series will challenge high school students to consider what it means to feel your emotions and how Jesus exemplifies the way to happiness. WEEKS OF CONTENT Week 1: You are free to feel. A Matthew 5:4 NLT, Psalm 30 MSG Week 2: God shows up in all feelings. A Psalm 139:7-12 MSG, John 11:35 NRSVUE, John 11:33-34 MSG, Luke 22:44 NRSVUE		takes high school students what culture, their generati what God thinks about a ce installment, high schoolers and trust God when it seen WEEKS OF CONTENT Week 1: Faith is hope taker → Hebrews 11:1 NIRV MEMORY VERSE	
MEMORY VERSE Anyone who listens to my teacl like a person who builds a hous Matthew 7:24 NLT			

2024-2025 THEMES

MARCH **FEBRUARY** 2 - 9 - 16 - 232 - 9 - 16**The Noble Give and Take* Experiment*** TOPIC TOPIC **SERIES BOTTOM LINE SERIES BOTTOM LINE Relationships Forgiveness** Learning to live with Find life on both sides of integrity. forgiveness. **SERIES DESCRIPTION SERIES DESCRIPTION** Teenagers are all about authenticity, but does "being real" We all know forgiveness is important, but giving it isn't always always line up with who they truly are? In this four-week easy—especially when we're hurt. In "Give and Take," students series, "The Noble Experiment," students will look at what it will take a deep look at what it means to forgive, why it means to live with integrity—a life where their authenticity matters, and how it frees us from the weight of bitterness. This three-week series shows how forgiveness isn't about

and character come together. They'll explore how to live with integrity in every area of their lives-personal integrity, relational integrity, and sexual integrity. Learning that true integrity isn't about behavior modification; it's about becoming the whole person God made them to be. By following Jesus

with their whole life, they'll discover the freedom and purpose that come with living authentically and with good character.

WEEKS OF CONTENT

Week 1: Integrity does what's riaht. → Proverbs 11:3 NIV

Week 2: Integrity follows what Jesus says is best. → Colossians 3:13 NLT

Week 3: Integrity honors everyone involved. → 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 NIV

Week 4: Because you matter, your sexual integrity matters. → 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 NIV

MEMORY VERSE

The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity.

Proverbs 11:3 NIV

WEEKS OF CONTENT

everything.

Week 1: You can forgive. → 1 Thessalonians 5:15 NIV

Week 2: Forgive like you've been forgiven. \rightarrow Romans 5:8 NIV:

Week 3: Forgiveness takes time. → Matthew 18:21-22 NLT

Colossians 3:13 NLT

MEMORY VERSE

So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God.

pretending nothing happened but choosing to let go and find

peace that only God can bring. As students explore Scripture,

they'll see that forgiveness is a gift that brings freedom,

not just to others but to themselves. It truly can change

Matthew 5:23-24 NLT



2024-2025 THEMES

MARCH 30 ELEVATE		APRIL	6-13-20-27
		The Com	eback Kid
SERIES BOTTOM LINE	ТОРІС	SERIES BOTTOM LINE	ТОРІС
Raising the bar for conversations about content creation.	Culture	When The Kid from nowhere came back to life.	Easter
SERIES DESCRIPTION		SERIES DESCRIPTION	
Today's teenagers are constantly creating content—whether it's texts, posts, videos, or art. This new installment of "Elevate" is a one-week focus on how the content they create actually shapes who they're becoming. This series encourages		Everybody loves a good comet series, "The Comeback Kid," br the greatest one of all. Over for Jesus' journey through life, dea	ings students face-to-face with ur weeks, students will follow

shapes who they're becoming. This series encourages students to think about how their words, images, and posts reflect what's really in their hearts. With Jesus' teaching as the foundation, they'll explore practical ways to ensure that what they create is authentic, kind, and meaningful. Elevate helps students see that content isn't just about the "likes"; it's about creating with purpose and integrity.

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WEEKS OF CONTENT

Week 1: The content you create is creating you. → Matthew 6:19-21 NRSV

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MEMORY VERSE

Welcome with open arms fellow believers who don't see things the way you do. And don't jump all over them every time they do or say something you don't agree with—even when it seems that they are strong on opinions but weak in the faith department. Remember, they have their own history to deal with. Treat them gently.

Romans 14:1 MSG

WEEKS OF CONTENT

story.

Week 1: Hope is found in a Person. → John 11:1-44 NIV

Week 2: To love like Jesus is to serve like Jesus.

→ John 13:34-35 NLT

Week 3: Jesus' comeback backs up everything He said. → John 19 & 20 NIV

Week 4: Living for Jesus means living like Jesus. → Matthew 16:24 NLT

MEMORY VERSE

Let me clearly state to all of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead.

how His comeback offers hope, help, and purpose for their

own lives. From the miracle of Lazarus to the Resurrection

promises are true. This series will inspire them to see that they,

too, can experience hope and full life in every part of their life

itself, students will discover that Jesus' story proves His

Acts 4:10 NLT

2024-2025 THEMES

МАУ	4-11-18-25	JUNE	1-8-15-22
How to See God		ESSEN	TIALS
SERIES BOTTOM LINE A series about the fruit of the Spirit	TOPIC Faith	SERIES BOTTOM LINE A series about distraction and rest	TOPIC Resilience
SERIES DESCRIPTION Paul's implication in Galatians 5 is that the fruit of the Spirit is the evidence of the Spirit of God in you. In this series, high school students will explore how faithfulness (showing that you can be counted on, no matter what), goodness (being honorable and true in everything you do), gentleness (responding to others and yourself with care and concern) and self control (doing what is best even when I don't want to) are spiritual habits worth pursuing.		SERIES DESCRIPTION What if a part of being resilient is learning how to simply be with God? Learning to be still and how to deal with aloneness is a path to become more like Jesus and more resilient. In this series, high schoolers will learn that managing boredom is a path to maturity, you can listen to silence and learn from it, you can actually use solitude to refuel your mind, body and soul, and that resilience opens you up to the world around you and the people in front of you.	
 WEEKS OF CONTENT Week 1: Faithfulness is showing that you can be counted on, no matter what. → Matthew 25:21 NLT Week 2: Goodness is being honorable and true in everything you do. → Galatians 6:10 NLT MEMORY VERSE God blesses those whose hear will see God. Matthew 5:8 NLT 	Week 3: Gentleness is responding to others and yourself with care and concern. → Romans 14:13 NLT Week 4: Self control is doing what is best even when I don't want to. → 2 Timothy 1:7 NLT	 WEEKS OF CONTENT Week 1: Open up to the world around you and the people in front of you. → Proverbs 4:24-27 NLT Week 2: Managing boredom is a path to maturity. → Proverbs 6:6-8 NIV MEMORY VERSE Look straight ahead, and fix yo Mark out a straight path for you Don't get sidetracked; keep you Proverbs 4:25-27 NLT 	

2024-2025 THEMES

JUNE 29	JULY 13-20	JULY	27
Anything Goes		ELE	VATE
SERIES BOTTOM LINE A series about following Jesus and navigating freedom	TOPIC Freedom	SERIES BOTTOM LINE Raising the bar for conversations about your gifts, passion and purpose	TOPIC Culture
SERIES DESCRIPTION Being a high school student, in many ways, is the beginning of personal independence and freedom. In this series, teenagers will explore how following Jesus reframes how you view free. Anchored in 1 Corinthians 10:23-24, high schoolers will learn that if it isn't beneficial, if it isn't constructive, and if it isn't good for others, it isn't freeing.		SERIES DESCRIPTION Designed to elevate the conversation level-by-level, this series takes high school students on a journey where they consider what culture, their generation, experts, and, most importantly, what God thinks about a certain relevant cultural topic. In this installment of Elevate, high school students will explore the best intersection of their gifts, passion, and purpose, and learn that their God-given talent is an expression of their being, not the definition of their being.	
WEEKS OF CONTENTWeek 1: If it isn't beneficial, it isn't freeing. \rightarrow 1 Corinthians 10:23a NIVWeek 3: If it isn't good for others, it isn't freeing. \rightarrow 1 Corinthians 10:24 NIVWeek 2: If it isn't constructive, it isn't freeing. \rightarrow 1 Corinthians 10:23b NIV		WEEKS OF CONTENT Week 1: Talent is an expression definition of my being. → 1 Corinthians 10:31 NIV	n of my being, not the
MEMORY VERSE You say, "I am allowed to do anything"—but not everything is good for you. You say, "I am allowed to do anything"—but not everything is beneficial. Don't be concerned for your own good but for the good of others. 1 Corinthians 10:23-24 NLT		 MEMORY VERSE Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10 NIV 	
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2024-2027 SCOPE AND CYCLE

Fall 2024			August — September — October
ТОРІС	RELATIONSHIP	CORE THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT	RESPONSE
Change	God & Self	Faith	Authentic Faith
Shine	Others	Compassion	Serving Others
Identity & Belonging	God, Self, & Others	Identity & Community	Healthy Relationships
Culture	Others	Community	Serving Others, Wise Choices

Winter 2024			November — December — January
ТОРІС	RELATIONSHIP	CORE THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT	RESPONSE
Growing Your Faith	Self & Others	Transformation	Ultimate Authority
Christmas	God	Connection	Authentic Faith
Jesus' Words	God, Self, & Others	Image, Faith, Transformation, Truth, Restoration, & Community	Authentic Faith, Wise Choices
Culture	Self	Faith	Wise Choices, Authentic Faith

Spring 2025			February — March — April	
ТОРІС	RELATIONSHIP	CORE THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT	RESPONSE	
Relationships	Self	Transformation & Truth	Wise Choices, Healthy Relationships	
Forgiveness	God, Self, & Others	Image, Faith, Transformation, Truth, Restoration, & Community	Authentic Faith, Wise Choices	
Easter	God, Self, & Others	Connection & Faith	Authentic Faith	
Culture	God, Self, & Others	Identity & Community	Serving Others, Healthy Relationships	

Summer 2025

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May — June — July

ТОРІС	RELATIONSHIP	CORE THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT	RESPONSE
Spiritual Habits	God, Self, & Others	All Nine Insights	Authentic Faith
Resilience	Self	Transformation	Wise Choices
Freedom	Self & Others	Transformation	Wise Choices
Culture	Self & Others	Restoration	Wise Choices, Serving Others

2024-2027 SCOPE AND CYCLE

Fall 2025

August — September — October

ТОРІС	RELATIONSHIP	CORE THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT	RESPONSE
Being Young	God, Self, & Others	Truth, Restoration, Community, & Transformation	Authentic Faith, Wise Choices, Healthy Relationships, Serving Others
Friendship	Others	Community, Restoration, & Transformation	Healthy Relationships
Critical Thinking	God	Design & Faith	Ultimate Authority
Culture	God, Self, & Others	Design, Image, Restoration, Compassion, & Community	Wise Choices

Winter 2025

November — December — January

ТОРІС	RELATIONSHIP	CORE THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT	RESPONSE
Greatest Commandments	God, Self, & Others	All Nine Insights	Serving Others
Christmas	God & Others	Design, Faith, Restoration, & Compassion	Serving Others
Influence	Others	Restoration, Compassion, & Faith	Authentic Faith
Culture	God, Self, Others	Connection, Faith, & Truth	Serving Others

Spring 2026

February — March — April

ТОРІС	RELATIONSHIP	CORE THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT	RESPONSE
Identity	Self	Image & Faith	Authentic Faith
Relationships	God, Self, & Others	Image, Faith, Transformation, & Truth	Wise Choices, Sexual Integrity, Healthy Relationships
Easter	God & Others	Community, Compassion, & Restoration	Serving Others
Culture	God, Self, & Others	Image, Connection, & Transformation	Wise Choices

Summer 2026

May — June — July

ТОРІС	RELATIONSHIP	CORE THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT	RESPONSE
Judging Others	Self & Others	Restoration, Compassion, Image, & Community	Ultimate Authority, Healthy Relationships
Serving	Self & Others	Restoration, Compassion, & Community	Healthy Relationships, Serving Others
Prayer	God, Self, & Others	Transformation	Authentic Faith
Culture	God, Self, & Others	Truth & Compassion	Wise Choices, Serving Others

2024-2027 SCOPE AND CYCLE

Fall 2026

August — September — October

ТОРІС	RELATIONSHIP	CORE THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT	RESPONSE
Reading the Bible	God & Self	Connection, Faith, Transformation, & Truth	Authentic Faith
Family	Self & Others	Transformation, Restoration, & Community	Ultimate Authority, Healthy Relationships, Serving Others
Comparison	God & Self	Transformation, Restoration, Compassion, & Identity	Wise Choices
Culture	God & Others	Faith, Transformation, & Community	Ultimate Authority

Winter 2026

November — December — January

ТОРІС	RELATIONSHIP	CORE THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT	RESPONSE
Growing in Faith	God & Self	Connection, Faith, Transformation, & Restoration	Authentic Faith
Christmas	God & Others	Design, Connection, & Faith	Serving Others
Wise Choices	God, Self, & Others	Faith, Transformation, Truth, & Community	Authentic Faith, Wise Choices, Healthy Relationships
Culture	Self &, Others	Transformation, Restoration, & Compassion	Wise Choices

Spring 2027 February — March — April торіс RELATIONSHIP CORE THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT RESPONSE Relationships Self & Others Image, Connection, Transformation, & Faith Wise Choices, Sexual Integrity, Healthy Relationships Conflict/Stress Self & Others Image, Connection, & Community Healthy Relationships ------Authentic Faith Easter God & Self Design, Community, & Faith ------God Faith, Transformation, & Truth Authentic Faith Culture

Summer 2027

May — June — July

ТОРІС	RELATIONSHIP	CORE THEOLOGICAL THOUGHT	RESPONSE
Justice	God, Self, & Others	All Nine Insights	Authentic Faith, Healthy Relationships, Serving Others
Temptation	Self	Image, Connection, Restoration, Transformation, & Compassion	Wise Choices
Serving	Others	Faith, Truth, Restoration, Compassion, & Community	Serving Others
Culture	God & Self	Faith, Truth, Compassion, Community, & Restoration	Ultimate Authority