



14 CONVERSATIONS

on Following

JESUS

(for kids)

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14 CONVERSATIONS *on Following* JESUS

Introduction

We are so glad you've decided to trust Jesus and follow Him! This booklet will help you get started in learning what it looks like to grow in your relationship with Him and other people.

As we walk with Jesus, it's important for us to read His words in the Bible (also known as the Scriptures), talk to Him through prayer, and learn and grow with other Christians. This booklet isn't a substitute for any of those things -- instead it is a companion piece that you can use as you grow in your faith. Hopefully some of these topics will help you to not only learn more about your faith, but to grow as a disciple (follower) of Jesus.

A couple things to remember as you use this booklet:

- When we talk about God in this booklet, we are talking about one God who is three distinct persons — God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. This is known as the Trinity. We talk about them interchangeably, knowing that they have different roles but are one God. Yes, this is part of the mystery of who God is — it can be hard to understand, but also shows us the complexity and amazing nature of our God!
- When we quote from the Bible in this booklet, we will use the New International Version (NIV) or New Living Translation (NLT) unless otherwise noted. You will want to get a Bible and we would suggest one of these two versions to get started.
- We encourage you to go through this booklet with your mentor and engage the book together!
- As you go through this booklet, talk about your questions with your mentor and your parents / guardians.

We hope this is a useful resource for you as you learn more about Jesus and what it looks like to follow Him!

~CrossRoads Leadership

Note to Mentors

We are so excited that you have chosen to join a child on their journey of following Jesus!

This booklet is meant to be a tool for their discipleship. Before each session with your mentee, take time to ask the Holy Spirit if there is anything else He would have you spend time talking with them about.

We hope that you will take time to share your own journey and your own thoughts from each section with your mentee. Discipleship happens best when our kids are able to watch you and hear from you personally. Your life's journey will help the gospel come alive for our kids.

If there is any way that the childrens' ministry at CrossRoads can support in this mentorship journey, please contact us!
k6kidmin@CrossRoadsChurch.ca



LIVING GODLY LIVES

1) *Listening to God through His Word*

We're going to spend some time in the next few conversations learning how we can practice living godly lives in order to grow as followers of Jesus.

The Bible starts in Genesis 1 with a God who speaks. He creates the world—and everything in it—with His voice. All throughout the Bible God speaks to people by name—to Adam and Eve, Abraham, Jacob, Samuel, Solomon, and the list goes on.

We serve a God who speaks, which means that we need to be a people who are listening! God still speaks today, and He says things to us about who He is, how He wants us to serve Him, and what His plans are. The challenge for us as Christians is to learn to recognize His voice.

The main way and place that God speaks to us is through the Bible, His Word. It is our most important resource for getting to know God and what He is like. In the Bible, we see God's character, His story, the things He has done, and the things He has called us to. The Bible shows us God's plan for salvation, and it instructs us in living godly lives.

If you want to be a follower of Jesus, it is crucial that you begin to read, understand and apply the Bible to your life. It is where you will get to know God and learn more about the life He wants you to lead. The Bible is the main way that God speaks to you.

Sometimes the Bible can feel overwhelming. It is a big book that was written a long time ago in a completely different culture and languages that are very different than ours. But thankfully, there are a lot of resources out there to help us read and understand the Bible. We also know that as Christians, God has given us His Holy Spirit to help counsel us in the truth.

To begin reading the Bible, you may want to go online to find a Bible reading plan. A reading plan will help you know where to start and how to proceed with reading your Bible. Or you may want to start with the book of John in the New Testament. This book introduces you to Jesus, His ministry, life, death and resurrection. Consider joining a Bible study – it is important to read and discuss God's Word in community so that we can share our insights, correct mistakes, and

learn from one another. (Makes sure to check out the “Tips to Getting Started” section of this conversation for more on how to read your Bible.)

As you read the Bible, it is important to remember that it is a “living book.” God has spoken and is still speaking through His Word. As we read about the things He has done, we can apply it to our lives today. Sometimes when we read Scripture, it almost feels like God is personally addressing us—and He is. Although the Bible was not written to us (it was written to specific people in specific times for specific issues), it was written for us. God’s Word is just as relevant to us today as it was to those it addressed back then.

God speaks through His Word to instruct us, counsel us, warn us, and guide us. But most of all, God speaks to be in relationship with us.

Reading the Bible is one of the very best ways one can get to know God and His character. He has revealed Himself through His Word. It tells His true story and invites us into it. As you grow as a follower of Jesus, it is important to regularly read the Bible so that you get to know Him better!



TIPS TO GET STARTED:

- **Get a Bible**

- › If you don’t have one yet, you need one! We recommend the NIV or NLT translations.

Bible Reading Plan: You can get reading plans to help you read the entire Bible. Consider a One-Year-Bible or simply search on our CrossRoads K-6 Page on our website for more resources (there is a great beginner plan here!).

- **Start Watching - RightNow Media**

- › RightNow Media is a useful resource where we are able to access lots of different kinds of information in regards to the Bible. For kids again 7-10 years old, we suggest starting of with What’s in the Bible, as it is a great starting point to better understand God’s Word. For those that are older, we suggest Francis Chan’s Book of James or Doctrine.

Pick a Tip to do together!

- **Start Reading and Listening**

- › Use a journal to keep track of what you're reading and how God is speaking. Put into practice the things you learn and hear.
- › Ask God to speak to you as you read His Word, and notice how He changes your heart as you put His words into practice.
- › Talk to your parents about when is the best time to read the Bible and listen to God.



SCRIPTURE READING: [John 10:1-20](#)

“Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.” Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

The Jews who heard these words were again divided. Many of them said, “He is demon-possessed and raving mad. Why listen to him?”



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

What is it about the relationship between a shepherd and sheep that is important for us to understand?

What are you learning about how to recognize Jesus' voice?

What do you think God could be saying to you through these verses?



PRAYER:

Take a few minutes to spend some time talking to God in prayer. Prayer is a conversation with God in which we thank Him, praise Him, and make our requests. Prayers often end with the word "amen," which means "so be it" or "this is my desire."

Consider praying the following prayer:

Father, open my ears to listen to You. Open my mind to understand what You are saying to me through Your word. Open my heart to trust You and move my will to obey. In Jesus' name I ask this, amen.



Chapter 1 follow up question:

As you have been listening, is there anything you've been hearing from God?

2) Talking to God

Last time, we talked about what it means to listen to God as He speaks through His Word. God wants us to listen to Him and live our lives according to His way. But what is amazing is that the God of the universe also invites us to talk to Him—He wants to hear from us! When He created the first two people, Adam and Eve, He walked and talked with them in the Garden of Eden.

Prayer is simply the way we talk to God. Praying doesn't require any special skill or unique access. You don't need to be a pastor or a longtime Christ follower. God invites us to call on Him any time and He will hear us. In fact, the Bible says that God hears your voice when you pray ([Psalm 116:1-2](#))!

Prayer is an amazing way to get to know God and share your heart with Him. When we pray to Him, we come to God Himself to praise Him for who He is, to thank Him for what He's done, and to ask Him for what we need. It is amazing that He listens to us and wants to hear from us all of the time. Although we still look forward to the day when Jesus returns and we live fully in God's presence once again, we can still spend time in prayer and in His presence now. He wants us to get to know Him through talking with Him and focusing on being with Him on a daily basis.



TIPS TO GET STARTED:

- Set aside time to talk to God.
- Create some space each day to humbly pray. Spend time praising God, thanking Him, confessing to Him, and asking Him for what you need.
- Notice how He helps you.
 - › God answers our prayers! Consider writing down your prayers in a journal. As God answers your prayers, note it in your journal so you can look back on His faithfulness.
- If you don't have words to pray, try reading prayers in the Psalms.

Pick a Tip to do together!

- › The Bible is filled with prayers. Consider reading [Psalm 51](#), [63](#) or [145](#) or find other Scripture that are prayers to God. You may even want to begin memorizing a Psalm and use it when you pray.

SCRIPTURE READING: [Matthew 6:5-15](#)



“And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others.

Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

“This, then, is how you should pray:

*“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,*

*your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.*

Give us today our daily bread.

*And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

*And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.’*

For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

What are Jesus' instructions for how not to pray?

Talk about what the different sections of the Lord's Prayer:

- *"Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be your name,"*

What can I praise God for?

- *"your kingdom come, your will be done,"*

Where around me do people need help?

- *"Give us today our daily bread."*

Where do I need help?

- *"And forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors,"*

Where do I need to ask for forgiveness? Or who do I need to forgive?



PRAYER:

Father, I praise You for who You are and what You have done in my life. Thank You that You want me to talk to You. Thank You for listening to me and caring about my needs. I pray that You help me learn how to talk with You and come to You with all of my praise, thanks and needs. I pray that Your Holy Spirit guides me in truth as I listen and talk to You. Thank You for allowing me to be in right relationship with You through Jesus. Amen.



Chapter 2 follow up question:

As you have been praying, which part of the Lord's Prayer sticks out to you?

3) Who am I? I'm a Child of God

When you became a follower of Jesus, you became different. Your entire identity changed because you are now someone who has been covered by Christ's sacrifice for you. Although it can be hard to believe, you are not who you once were. The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 5:17, *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"*

There are some basic truths about who you are as a believer in Jesus:

- You are loved by God.
- You are completely forgiven of your sin by God through Jesus Christ.
- You are now fully pleasing to God because of the righteousness that Jesus gave you.
- You are accepted as His son/daughter through faith in Him!
- You are a new creation, complete and whole because the Holy Spirit now lives in you and you are no longer the same.

These are some beautiful truths about who you are in Jesus! . What an amazing gift God gives us when we become followers of Jesus. We become His own, His child, His friend!



TIPS TO GET STARTED:

- Thank God for His salvation.
 - › Because of what Jesus did on the cross, you are saved from hell (eternal separation from God because of our sin) and invited into a personal relationship with Jesus. He completely changed who you are and now lives in you through His Spirit. Spend some time praising God for what He's done!
- Lies you believe about who you are.
 - › Sometimes we struggle with our new selves because we are weighed down by our past. In a journal write down some past behaviour or lies you believe about yourself. Ask Jesus to free you from these things and to help you believe Him. Start looking for verses that remind you of what is true about your identity.
- Ask God for help with who you are.
 - › Who has God made you to be? What things about you does God delight in? Start to ask God to show you who you are in Him. Start to foster these things so that you can serve Him better.

Pick a Tip to do with your mentee!



SCRIPTURE READING: [Psalm 139:1-18](#)

You have searched me, Lord, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you. For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts,[a] God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand—when I awake, I am still with you.



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

What does it mean to be fearfully and wonderfully made?

What about me is wonderful? Make a list.

For Mentor:

What do you see that is wonderful about your mentee?



PRAYER:

Father, thank You for saving me! Thank you that I am a masterpiece, created by you. Help me never forget what is true about me, and how much you love me! Amen.



Chapter 3 follow up question:

Since we met last, what is something you've done that you're proud of?

4) *The Role of the Holy Spirit in Your Life*

The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity. The Trinity consists of God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and God the Holy Spirit.

We see the Holy Spirit at work all through the Bible. In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit is a source of life, a teacher, encourager, a manifestation of God's presence, and an ever-present guide to the Israelites, God's chosen people.

In the New Testament, we see that the Holy Spirit guides us in right living. Because we are sinful, we cannot walk in God's way by ourselves. Even after we receive salvation, we sometimes struggle with sin, but the Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit is given to us to empower us to follow Jesus. When we depend on Him, we can walk with Him and use His gifts to share Jesus with others.

You received the Holy Spirit in your life when you received salvation. He is promised to us as a mark of our salvation. He guides us toward truth the minute we put our trust in Jesus.

The Holy Spirit has many roles in the lives of believers. He helps us, He prays for us, He gives us wisdom, and the list goes on! The Spirit really is a gift that God has given you to help you live for Him and walk in His way.

The Holy Spirit is the Person of God Who actually lives within us, guiding us and prompting us toward obedience and love for God. Ultimately, a huge part of our ability to live godly lives is depending on the Holy Spirit to help us follow Jesus. Without Him, we won't be successful. We can't do it on our own because our desire for sin often trumps our desire to walk in God's way. But when we depend on the Spirit, He can grow His fruit in us so that we make the choices that honour the Lord.



TIPS TO GET STARTED:

Pick a Tip to do with your mentee!

Start learning more about the Holy Spirit.

- › What does the Bible say about the Holy Spirit in the Old and New Testaments? What does He do? How does He change people? Start to discover the role of the Holy Spirit within the Trinity. To help you learn more about the Holy Spirit, you can start by looking at the “Going Deeper” resources available online at <http://www.crossroadschurch.ca/20ConversationsonFollowingJesus>
- Read [Romans 8:5-6](#).
 - › It might be hard to live as the Spirit asks us to, but the Bible says it’s possible with His help! Start to trust and believe that the Holy Spirit is living within you to guide you in your walk with Jesus.
- Ask the Holy Spirit for help. We can talk directly to the Holy Spirit in prayer.
 - › Identify areas of your life where you would like guidance and ask Him for help.
 - › Invite the Holy Spirit to begin working on these areas in your life.
 - › Ask the Holy Spirit to show you areas in your life that are not in alignment with Jesus’ heart for you.
 - › Ask Him to remind you of the truth when you are tempted. Listen to His voice and obey Him.



MENTOR:

- › Pray for mentee that they would be filled with the Spirit.
- › Pray Romans 8:11



SCRIPTURE READING: [Galatians 5:16-25](#)

So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

Which fruit of the Spirit do you want to see grow in your life? Why? What can you do to grow it?

What fruit do you think is in your life right now?

How can someone show...

- › Love:
- › Joy:
- › Peace:
- › Patience:
- › Kindness:
- › Goodness:
- › Faithfulness
- › Gentleness
- › Self-Control



PRAYER:

Father, thank You for the gift of Your Holy Spirit. Thank You, Jesus, for sending the Spirit to counsel me, guide me and encourage me. Help me to depend on the Holy Spirit each day as I learn and grow and walk with You. In Jesus' name, amen.



Chapter 4 follow up question:

What fruit has been growing in your life?

5) Staying on Track (Temptation and Confession)

When we become followers of Jesus, we turn from our old lives and begin to walk in the way of Jesus. He gives us His Holy Spirit to help us follow and obey Him. But this doesn't mean that we will never be tempted to sin or that we will never fail again. In fact, the Bible says to be aware of temptation because Satan is looking for ways to make you fall ([1 Peter 5:8](#)).

What is good to remember is that Jesus came to earth and lived as a real person. The Bible tells us that He can understand our weaknesses because He was tempted, although He never sinned ([Hebrews 4:15](#)). We will face temptation to sin and to fall back to our old ways. But when we are tempted, we can call out to God and He will rescue us ([1 Corinthians 10:13](#)).

When we confess, or tell God we are sorry, it means that we're acknowledging what we've done and that we've sinned against Him. It restores honesty and closeness to our relationship with God and shows that we are serious about our sin, that we don't just brush it off as nothing.

It is easier to think about the concept of confessing our sins personally to God, but the Bible also talks about public confession ([James 5:16](#)) when we have wronged one another. This doesn't mean we go around constantly talking about and confessing our sins to each other. Some sins are meant to be resolved between you and the Lord. The great thing is that in confessing our sins, we're acknowledging that none of us can do it on our own. None of us start out right before God, and it's only through His grace (God's blessings that we don't deserve) that we can walk in His way. When we confess, admit our wrongdoing, and ask for forgiveness, we are making things right with one another and with God.



TIPS TO GET STARTED:

Learn more about confession.

Pick a Tip to do with your mentee!

- › In [2 Samuel 11](#), King David commits a great sin before the Lord—he slept with someone else’s wife and then had her husband killed. He tried to cover it up, but God knew about his sin. The Lord sent the prophet Nathan to David to convict him about what he’d done. The Bible says that David faced consequences for his sin, and he repented before the Lord. He knew the gravity of what he had done and confessed and was forgiven. In [Psalm 51](#), David wrote out His confession to God. This is clearly a public confession as well, since we are still reading it today!
- › Read [Psalm 51](#). What stands out to you or resonates with you? How does David’s confession show his heart before God?
- Pray that God would keep you from temptation.
 - › The Bible tells us to be on guard and to watch and pray against temptation. You know what sins tempt you and where you tend to fall. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you overcome these sins, and consider sharing your temptations with a fellow believer who can pray for you and keep you accountable.



SCRIPTURE READING: [Psalm 32:1-5](#)

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.

When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

Have you ever felt God's "heavy hand" on you when dealing with your own sin?

Why do you think confession of sin releases a burden in us?

Why do you think God wants us to confess our sin even though He has already forgiven us through Jesus?

Is there anything you need to confess?

Who is someone in your life you can be honest with and confess to?



PRAYER:

Some churches confess sins together every week. Below is a prayer said weekly in many congregations as a way of confessing sin together.

“Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed—by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Name. Amen.”

Anglican Book of Common Prayer



LOVING EACH OTHER DEEPLY

Chapter 5 follow up question:

Have you been practising confession?

6) Redefining Love

We've talked a lot about living godly lives and growing as followers of Jesus. Our next step in growth is to work on loving one another deeply. It is something Jesus asked of those who follow Him. For our next few topics, we'll explore some of the ways we can work on loving others.

One of the most amazing things about what God did for us through Jesus Christ is that while we were still sinning, Jesus was willing to die for us. And God, as His Father, sent Him to be a sacrifice for us. This is the most incredible example of love that the world has ever seen.

The very first time the word "love" is used in the Bible is when God tells a man named Abraham to take his son whom he loves and offer him as a sacrifice ([Genesis 22](#)). God doesn't make Abraham actually give his son, but this story gives us a working definition of the word "love"—a father who is willing to sacrifice his son.

Later in the Bible, we read in one of those most famous verses that God so loved the world that He gave His only Son for us ([John 3:16](#)). God showed us what love meant when He sent Jesus to die for us.

The way the Bible defines love is very different from what is presented to us on television or in the culture around us. Love that God demonstrates is sacrificial, patient, forgiving and hopeful. It does not come and go based on feelings, but it is a love that stays committed because of what we know is true and because of God's steadfast character.

The Bible gives a great definition of love in [1 Corinthians 13](#). A man named Paul wrote 1 Corinthians to a church that was struggling to get along and stay focused on Jesus and His way. They were disagreeing and not being supportive of one another. They needed reminders of the kind of love God had showed them and how they could show that love to one another with the help of the Holy Spirit.

God loves you with an everlasting love. He loves you so much that He sent Jesus to die for you so that you could know Him, be forgiven, and live

in hope. God has now asked you to learn how to love others so that He can be glorified and His hope can bless others. We love others because He first loved us ([1 John 4:19](#))!



TIPS TO GET STARTED

*Pick a Tip to do
with your mentee!*

Who are some other Christians you can encourage?

- › As you grow in community with other believers, consider ways you can love, encourage and support them. Are you praying regularly for those at church, and for people in your everyday life?
- What are some specific ways you can love those around you?
 - › Consider focusing on one or two people in your life. How can you specifically serve these people? Are they in need of a phone call, a coffee date, a homemade meal, an encouraging verse?
 - › Bless someone. To bless is to give encouragement and affirmation, show acts of kindness, love, and give gifts of thoughtfulness and time. Consider where you can bless three people weekly.
- Where do you need to give hope to someone else?
 - › Is there anyone in your life who is in need of a reminder of the hope they have in Jesus? How can you be a part of that in the coming week?



SCRIPTURE READING: [1 Corinthians 13](#)

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

What stands out to you most in this chapter?

What part of the way love is explained in this chapter do you need to work on the most?

What part of God's love are you most grateful for?

Who do you need to show love to?



PRAYER:

Dear Father, I am so grateful for Your love in my life. Thank You for sending Jesus to die for me and to demonstrate Your amazing love. I am not deserving of Your love, but You have shown it to me anyway. Show me how to love others, not through my own strength, but through the power of Your Holy Spirit at work in my life. Make me someone who shines Your love as a way of showing others what You are like. I praise You and thank You for loving me. In Your name I pray, amen.



Chapter 6 follow up question:

Who did you end up showing love to?

1) Finding Where You Fit

As followers of Jesus, we become part of a body of believers all over the world. Although believers in Jesus come from every nation and ethnicity, we are united in the fact that we are saved by what Jesus has done for us.

The Bible tells us that this body of Christ has many parts, but we all work together to bring glory to God. This means that we all have a part to play in what God is doing, and that it is important for believers to be united.

The Bible says that as a believer, you have a unique gifting that you can use for God's glory. Each of us has been given spiritual gifts through the Holy Spirit. These giftings can be nurtured and should be used for the good of the body of Christ. [1 Corinthians 12](#) says that there are many different kinds of gifts and service. Your gifts might be different from others, yet all of the gifts are needed in order for the body of Christ to function properly. Each of our gifts can be uniquely used to share the Gospel and to show the world who God is and what He is doing.

A great place to learn more about the gifts of the Spirit are in [1 Corinthians 12](#) and in [Romans 12](#). These chapters tell us a bit about spiritual gifts like teaching, wisdom, faith, prophecy, tongues, serving, encouraging, giving, leading, etc. Some gifts are more on display than others, but all of the gifts are important in God's kingdom.

It is a good idea to start thinking about how the Holy Spirit may have gifted you. As you read about the gifts and learn more about them, think about which ones stand out to you and how you might be able to use your gift to serve the Lord. There are some spiritual gifts tests online that might help you get started in thinking about where God has gifted you. However, the best way to discover your gifts is through prayer, seeking advice from other Christians, and seeing where you are naturally drawn. Also, remember that your specific gift is not the only way you can serve God. We are all asked to serve God out of obedience to Him and to support the body. This could mean stepping up in a variety of ways. But God has given each of us unique talents and abilities that we can use for His glory.

The gifts of the Spirit are not meant to be mysterious. They are meant to provide us with ways to serve God as we teach, encourage, and remind each other of the truth. [1 Corinthians 12-13](#) reminds us that we are all part of one body, and no matter what gift we have, the best of them is love—something we can all work to show each other as we use our abilities to share Jesus.

You have been gifted by the God of the universe! He wants you to be a part of what He is doing in the world. It's an amazing truth and one that you can use in your journey as a disciple of Jesus.



TIPS TO GET STARTED:

*Pick a Tip to do
with your mentee!*

What are some of your natural talents and abilities?

- › Think through some of your skills. How has God gifted you, and how can these things be used to help the body of Christ?
- How would God have you use your gifts in the church?
 - › You are unique and your gifts are needed! As you think through how God has gifted you, start looking for ways you can use those gifts to serve the body of Christ. Where can you serve in the church? How can you help other believers? How can you help those who don't yet know Jesus
- What are my gifts?
 - › There are multiple resources you can find online or on our website on how to find spiritual gifts God has given you. Take time to find these resources which give a great explanation on the gifts God has given you.



SCRIPTURE READING: [Romans 12](#)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary:

*"If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.
In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."
Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

Which of the gifts of the Holy Spirit stands out to you?

What do you think your spiritual gifts might be?

How can you use your gifts to support the body of Christ?

Mentor:

What gift do you see in your mentee? How could they use that gift?



PRAYER:

Dear Father, it is incredible to see how creative You are! You have given each of us gifts in order to serve You better. Please show me where I fit in Your body. Make my gifts clear to me so that I can use them to better serve You and those around me. Thank You for sending me Your Spirit to help me live for You and walk in Your way. Thank you for Jesus, through whom I am invited into Your body for the glory of Your name. Show me Your will and help me to live it out today and every day. In Your name I pray, amen.



Chapter 7 follow up question:

Any more thoughts on your spiritual gifts? What did your parent think?

8) *Participating in Christian Community*

When we become followers of Jesus, we enter into God's family. You made a personal decision to follow Jesus, but that doesn't mean that you then walk alone and figure your faith out by yourself. In fact, it's just the opposite. God has invited us into His family and wants us to be a part of community.

In today's culture, it is sometimes easy for you to think of your faith as a very personal and solitary thing. You might hear about personal devotions, personal relationship and a personal walk with God. All of these things are important, but it is useful to remember that God also values our doing life together and walking in His way with others.

When the Bible was written, the authors most often wrote to groups of people. It was assumed that people were reading the Scriptures together, praying, worshipping, sharing meals together, etc. People were rarely alone and were not thinking of their faith as a solitary thing. The Bible makes it clear that as people follow Him, we are following together, keeping one another accountable in our faith journeys.

It is hard to live the Christian life on your own. We face many temptations to turn from God's way. When we surround ourselves with Christian community, we have a better chance of standing strong against those temptations.

As you grow as a follower of Jesus, it is important for you to surround yourself with other Christians. You can learn from them and their relationship with the Lord. They can learn from you as well. You can pray for one another, and share in life's joys and heartaches together. You can also count on your community to challenge and support you.

In the Old Testament, God was continually talking to an entire group of people, the Israelites. They were expected to live out His way together in order to show other nations what God was like. In the New Testament, God addressed His body of believers in Jesus. These people did life together—not just on Sundays, but all of the time. They were a group of Christ-followers in a culture that did not know Him.

The same should be true for believers today. We need one another in order to

grow, learn, and stay strong. We need each other for support, care and love. You need to surround yourself with Christians who can encourage you. And you will need to be an encouragement to others as well. This is the body of Christ—and we are blessed to be a part of it!



TIPS TO GET STARTED:

*Pick a Tip to do
with your mentee!*

- How can you make Christian friends at Church?
 - › It is so important to be friends with other believers! For you, this might look like attending CrossRoads Kids, 56ers, or Youth group on a regular basis. Make sure to come consistently to either our 9am, 11am or 6pm services so that you are with the familiar faces every week!
- In what ways can you support your Christian friends?
 - › You have been given unique gifts by God and you are an important part of your community. Start to think of ways you can serve and bless your friends at church and at your schools.
 - › Also be aware of ways you and your friends can reach out to those who don't yet know Jesus. Who can you invite? How can you help? How can your community bless others?



SCRIPTURE READING: [Acts 2:42-47](#)

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

Why were these early believers so committed to one another?

How could you benefit from friendship with other followers of Jesus?

What do you have to offer your friends and community?

Who is someone you could invite to hang out with?

One way we can build community with friends is by encouraging them. Try practicing that this month! Tell your friends what you like about them, what they are good at, etc.



PRAYER:

Dear Father, I thank You for inviting me into fellowship with You, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Just as You are in community as the Trinity, I know that You want me to be a part of a fellowship with other believers. Please show me who You would have me get to know and surround myself with. Show me whom I can trust and depend on, and show me how to serve them as well. Give me a community of believers who can challenge me, encourage me, and bless me. Show me how I can do the same for them. In Your name I pray, amen.

GIVING PRIORITY TO THE LAST, THE LOST, THE LEAST, THE LITTLE AND THE NEARLY DEAD



Chapter 8 follow up question:

Who did you invite to hang out with, and how did it go?

9) *Sharing What Jesus Has Done for Me*

We spent the first few topics focused on living godly lives, and the last few topics on loving each other deeply. Now we're going to spend some time learning what it looks like to prioritize those who are in need. We will start with those who are in ultimate need—people who need Jesus' salvation.

You may have heard the word "evangelism" before. It basically means bringing or sharing the good news! This good news is that Jesus came to rescue us from our sin, restore our relationship with God, and invite us into eternity with Him. This is good news, indeed!

In the New Testament, after Jesus rose from the dead and went back to Heaven, the disciples started sharing this good news with everyone. In fact, it is because they shared this news and spread it around the world that we know about Jesus today. As we read the Bible and the accounts of the disciples speaking about Jesus, we see that what they did was share what Jesus had done for them—how He had rescued them, fulfilled God's promises, and given them new hope.

The last command that Jesus gave His followers before He left earth was for them to go make more disciples, teaching them to obey His commands and baptizing them into the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit ([Matthew 28:19](#)). As Christians, it is part of our calling to share Jesus with others so that they can receive His salvation too.

Sometimes it can seem overwhelming to tell others about Jesus. It might feel like we don't have all of the answers or correct theology or biblical knowledge. But, ultimately, what we do when we talk to others about Jesus is simply share what He has done in our lives.

You know your story and you know who you were before Christ and what you are like now. You know how He has changed your identity and brought you new hope. This is what you can share with others—the hope that you have in Jesus!

In thinking about sharing Jesus with others, consider the following questions and your answers to them:

Who is Jesus? What does the Bible say about who He is and how have you experienced that truth in your life?

What has Jesus saved you from?

Why do you now have hope?

Jesus has done an amazing work in your life, and it should be shared with others. God is telling a big story throughout the Scripture, and He invites us to be a part of it.

Do this today!

Consider taking some time to write out what Jesus has done in your life. What is your salvation story? How is God working in your life now? Why and how did it “click” for you when you accepted Jesus?

Mentors: Help your mentee create their testimony!



TIPS TO GET STARTED:

- How would you talk to someone about Jesus?
- Who can you share Jesus with?
 - › Are there people in your life who need Jesus? Think of three people who need Jesus and start praying for them right away! Ask God to give you an opportunity to share the hope that you have in Him.
 - › Keep reading your Bible! The more we read the Bible, the better we know God’s story and the work He has done to bring about our salvation. If we know the story and what God has done in our lives, we can share it with others!



SCRIPTURE READING: [2 Corinthians 5:14-21](#)

For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

How does Christ's love compel us to share the truth with others?

What's an ambassador?

What's an area you used to struggle with, but Jesus is helping you with?

Who could you share with this week about what God has done for you?

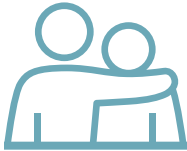
Mentor: Share your story about what Jesus has done for you!

Mentee: Share your story with someone this week!



PRAYER:

Dear Lord, I am so grateful to You! Thank You for sending Jesus to die for my sins, to restore my relationship with You and to give me hope. I deserve nothing, but You gave me everything! Lord, I pray for the people in my life who don't know You. I ask that You work in their hearts and prepare them to hear Your good news. Help me to be bold in sharing Your Word and the truth of what You have done in my life. Give me the words to say and help me to offer Your hope in a loving way. In Jesus our Saviour's name, amen.



Chapter 9 follow up question:

Did you get a chance to share your story with anyone?

10) Praying for God's Heart, Understanding and Direction

God's desire is for you to become more like Him through the power of His Holy Spirit. As a follower of Jesus, you will become more aware of the last, the lost, the least, the little and the nearly dead around you. As believers, our desire is to become less focused on ourselves, and more immersed in the story that God is telling about Himself and the things He is doing. We get the privilege of sharing in God's mission with those around us.

Part of growing as a follower of Jesus is being more consistent in our obedience to Him and His mission. As we know Him, we recognize His voice in the midst of the noise ([John 10:27](#)). We start to take part in the Great Commission— as Jesus was sent, He now sends us to make more disciples ([Matthew 28:18-20](#)).

Part of being involved in the great commission includes becoming more missional or mission-minded. Often times, an international trip comes to mind when we think of missions—maybe going to serve somewhere like Haiti or Uganda. Sometimes this is what God asks us to do as part of our mission work. But being on mission for Jesus includes doing that right here at home—in our schools, with friends, with neighbours, and with family. We can love and serve those around us through sharing the good news about Jesus and serving those right here in our community.

We are on mission to draw people to God through the truth that we share, the way that we live, and the love that we show one another. As we grow closer to God, it's His character and heart that grows in us through a close walk with Jesus—which includes praying and seeking God's heart.

Of course, being on mission and having God's heart requires committed prayer. The Holy Spirit is sent to believers to help us live for Him, and to give us God's heart of compassion for those around us.

Ultimately, God always has been and is still up to something in our world. We are invited to join with God in what He is doing. We can be a part of the restoration He is bringing and the salvation that He is offering. As we pray for God's heart and understanding, He will direct us in the ways we can best serve Him and others.



TIPS TO GET STARTED:

*Pick a Tip to do
with your mentee!*

Begin praying for God's heart and understanding.

- › God promises to change us through the power of His Holy Spirit. Start praying that He would work in your life to give you His heart for people in need.
- Ask for God's direction.
 - › All believers are on mission, but that looks different for each one of us. Ask God to show you where He would have you go and whom He would have you serve.
- Start noticing.
 - › Who has God placed around you? Among your friends, family and co-workers, who needs to know about Jesus? Do you have a heart of compassion toward them? Are you looking for ways to share with them and serve them? Start noticing who God has placed in your path!
- Have Minute Longer Conversations.
 - › Minute longer conversations means to take a conversation deeper. How you might do this is by asking questions, complimenting others and sharing what is happening in your life.



SCRIPTURE READING: [Acts 3:1-10](#)

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!” So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.

Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong. He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. When all the people saw him walking and praising God, they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

How can you care for the last, the lost, the least, the little and nearly dead?

Is there someone who fits that category in your life?

Who could you begin praying for?

Mentor. How do you care about the people who fit this category in your life?



PRAYER:

Dear Lord, You are telling a beautiful story, and I am so grateful to be a part of it! Since sin entered the picture so long ago, You have been working to restore my relationship with You. I don't deserve it, but I am grateful for Your mercy and love. I pray that You will show me how I can be on mission with You. Give me Your heart and compassion for people in need, and show me who I can be serving and helping. Grant me boldness to tell others so they can be followers who love You. Help me to serve people with Your understanding, and show me the direction You would have me go. I am grateful to be Your servant through the power of Your Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.



Chapter 10 follow up question:

Who did you decide to start praying for? What have you been praying?

11) Giving of Ourselves and Our Resources

Following Jesus means recognizing the way the Lord has blessed us and given to us so that we can do the same for others. Part of loving each other as God has asked us to, is making ourselves available through our time and our resources. This begins with an understanding that everything we have is a gift from God. We have time, gifts and resources because God has allowed us to have them. So when we give, we are recognizing that every good thing is a gift from Him ([James 1:17](#)).

As you continue to walk with Jesus, a good practice would be to start every day in a position of offering up your resources to the Lord for His purposes. It is by giving ourselves to Him, through the power of the Holy Spirit, that we acknowledge God's mercy and join Him in the things He is doing.

God also makes it clear throughout the Bible that His heart is for the poor and those in need. Over and over again, God reminds His people to care for the widow, orphan and the poor. This issue is one that is close to the heart of God, which is clear when we read about Jesus' life on earth. Jesus' life was spent ministering to and serving others. He spent time teaching, praying for people, healing people and serving those around Him. Our goal is to become more like Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. Selflessly giving and serving will draw us closer to the heart of God.

We see throughout the Old and New Testaments, that God's people gave a portion of their money back to God for the care of His people and the sharing of the gospel message. In the Old Testament, [Malachi 3](#) points out that God was disappointed that people were not tithing (giving 10 percent of their resources). God says the people were robbing Him by keeping everything to themselves. In the New Testament, it is clear that the believers pooled their belongings in order to support one another ([Acts 4:32-35](#)), and they took a collection each week when they met together ([1 Corinthians 16:1-2](#)). God has given us everything we have, and He invites us to give a portion of it back to the Christian community in order to advance the work of His kingdom.

Giving our time and money is good even when we are pulled in a variety of directions. It is important to work on creating margin in our lives. Focus on what is most important and why. As you read Scripture and pray you will know God's heart more and what He finds most important. Order your priorities around those things.

Give of your financial resources for the glory of His name and for the work of the gospel. Serve others with your time because it is a way to worship the Lord and become more like Jesus. Invite God to help you to become less distracted by your own desires and more focused on His.



TIPS TO GET STARTED:

- Where are you serving?
 - › Have you begun to serve yet? If you haven't yet, look for ways you can serve in the church community!
- Where are you giving?
 - › Giving of your tithes and offering to the church and other organizations, like Haiti Arise, who are working to advance the gospel is a way to honour the Lord.
- Where are you generous?
 - › Random act of kindness. Do something this week for someone else that would surprise them.

Pick a Tip to do with your mentee!



SCRIPTURE READING: [2 Corinthians 9:6-15](#)

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written:

*“They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever.”*

Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

Why do you think generosity is encouraged in this passage?

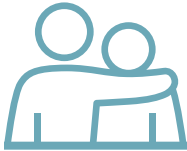
What does it mean for you to be a cheerful giver?

How might God have you be more generous with your time and money?



PRAYER:

Father, You are worthy of all glory and honour and praise! Thank You for generously sending Your Son Jesus who served and gave Himself for us. Lord, I pray that you show me how I can better give of my time and resources. Give me a deep love for others and a desire to serve as Jesus did. Help me to be less self-focused and more others-focused. I pray that You give me a cheerful heart as I give my money and my time for Your glory. I am blessed beyond measure, and for that I am grateful. Amen.



Chapter 11 follow up question:

How were you generous with your money?

12) Minute-Longer Conversations

At CrossRoads Church, we talk about minute-longer conversations. By this we mean trying to spend just a little longer talking to those you come into contact with each day. You never know when taking a little extra time to interact with someone might give them hope, provide an opportunity for an invitation to church, or give you a chance to share more about Jesus.

The goal of minute-longer conversations is to build friendship with others so that you can point them to Jesus.

How do you get good at minute-longer conversations?

- Take an interest in people's lives by asking questions and listening. Asking questions is a skill all followers of Jesus need to learn. Here are a few suggestions:
 - › What do you love to do with your time?
 - › How are you? They usually say "good". Then you say, "tell me what is good."
 - › Tell me about: Your family
 - › The best and worst in your life
 - › What you think about Jesus
- Listen
 - › When they talk, make eye contact and make cues with your face that you are listening, a chin nod tells them you're engaging with them.
- Ask another question
 - › As you listen to them share, be curious and ask a follow-up question to what they are talking about. A good question for follow up is, "Tell me more about that."
- Minute-longer conversations will help you build friendship, but will also create opportunities for you to share your faith in Jesus. Pay attention to your conversations and share about your life and love for Jesus when there is a good opportunity.



TIPS TO GET STARTED:

*Pick a Tip to do
with your mentee!*

- Become OK with more interruptions.
 - › Sometimes minute-longer conversations means not rushing so much and spending more time focused on others. Ask God to help you slow down and notice where people are at and what they might need.
- Use the minute-longer conversations concept with the three people you're praying for.
 - › Go deeper when you can with the three you've committed to pray for. Use these opportunities to share more with them about the hope Jesus offers.
- Create a list of questions you can use for when you meet people.



SCRIPTURE READING: [Romans 10:8-15](#)

But what does it say? “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

This passage talks about how people can't believe in Jesus if they've never heard of Him. How does this relate to the concept of minute-longer conversations?

**When you bring the good news of Jesus to others, you are glorifying God.
Who in your life needs this good news?**

What are a few questions you could ask to practice minute-longer conversations? Try to come up with a list:



PRAYER:

Dear Lord, You are good and Your mercy endures forever! Thank You for taking time with me, for being patient with my failings, and for stepping into my life and speaking truth. Thank You for sending Jesus to spend years on earth showing us how to live and dying on the cross for our sins. Lord, I pray that You help me notice people each day who are in need of a minute-longer conversation. I pray that You give me words to speak so that I can bring hope and the power of Your presence into their lives. I pray that these short conversations would spark curiosity and hope that eventually lead them to You and Your salvation. Continue Your work in my life as I follow You. In Jesus' name, amen.



DELIGHTING OURSELVES IN THE LORD THROUGH WORSHIP

Chapter 12 follow up question:

Did you have any minute longer conversations?

13) *Worship At All Times*

We've focused time on living godly lives, loving one another deeply and giving priority to the last, the lost, the least, the little and the nearly dead. We want to spend the final part of this booklet looking at what it means to delight ourselves in the Lord through worship ([Isaiah 58:13-14](#)).

We can tend to think of worship as solely the time when we're focused on God by singing at church. We often call this "worship time." But worship is much more than singing. Worship in the life of a believer can be 24/7 as we acknowledge and praise God for all things throughout the day.

We worship Jesus by loving Him with all that we are and by loving those around us. When we focus on these things, we are worshipping God the way He has asked us to. Any of us can sit and sing a song directed at God, but what the Bible makes clear is that our worship is shown to be true through our actions.

What does this look like practically? There are so many ways you can express your worship to God each day. Worshipping God may mean that you spend time in His Word learning His ways. It may mean spending time in prayer, praising and thanking Him for who He is and what He has done. Worship might mean that you volunteer your time serving those in need or helping out at church. Worship is giving of your financial resources to the church and other places that are focused on sharing the gospel. Worshipping the Lord might mean taking one of your skills and using it for His glory. God is honoured when His creation walks in His way and lives as He created us to be.

Although we sometimes create a separation between our Christian community and what we do at home or work the rest of the week, we shouldn't. There is no separation between the sacred and the secular, because the earth is the Lord's and everything in it ([Psalm 24:1](#)).

There are so many ways to worship God, but one of the most practical things you can do is to be aware of God's presence and purpose throughout

your day. No matter what is going on in your day, you can stop to bring praise and glory to God. Take time to train your thoughts to focus on the Lord throughout your day.



TIPS TO GET STARTED:

Pick a Tip to do with your mentee!

- What does worship mean to you?
 - › Think of some of your favourite worship songs. What are the lyrics? Why do you appreciate them and what do they teach you about who God is and why He deserves praise?
- In what ways can you offer yourself in worship to God?
 - › Worship is so much more than singing! Think about your life, your duties, your skills, and your desires. How can each of these be offered to God in worship? Begin to implement more worship of God (by loving Him and others) throughout your week.
- Worship Him!
 - › Take one day this week and focus it on worshipping God. From the moment you wake up to when you go to bed, look for ways in which you can worship Him. Praise Him each time you notice something that He has done or is doing. You will begin to realize that even in the most mundane things, God is working and worthy of worship!
- Write down the things that you are thankful for.
 - › Take some time to make a list of the things you are thankful for. God has provided so much, but it is sometimes easy to overlook it all! You may also want to consider taking time to do this at the end of each day. Many days seem mundane, but when you stop and think about all that happened, you will notice how God showed up in so many ways. Thank Him for it!
- Listen to some great worship music available here:
 - › **[CrossroadsChurch.ca/Worship](https://www.crossroadschurch.ca/Worship)**



SCRIPTURE READING: [Psalm 66](#)

*Shout for joy to God, all the earth!
Sing the glory of his name;
make his praise glorious.
Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!
So great is your power
that your enemies cringe before you.
All the earth bows down to you;
they sing praise to you,
they sing the praises of your name."*

*Come and see what God has done,
his awesome deeds for mankind!
He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the waters on foot—
come, let us rejoice in him.
He rules forever by his power,
his eyes watch the nations—
let not the rebellious rise up against him.*

*Praise our God, all peoples,
let the sound of his praise be heard;
he has preserved our lives
and kept our feet from slipping.
For you, God, tested us;
you refined us like silver.
You brought us into prison
and laid burdens on our backs.
You let people ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water,
but you brought us to a place of abundance.*

*I will come to your temple with burnt offerings
and fulfill my vows to you—
vows my lips promised and my mouth spoke
when I was in trouble.
I will sacrifice fat animals to you
and an offering of rams;
I will offer bulls and goats.
Come and hear, all you who fear God;
let me tell you what he has done for me.
I cried out to him with my mouth;
his praise was on my tongue.
If I had cherished sin in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened;
but God has surely listened
and has heard my prayer.
Praise be to God,
who has not rejected my prayer
or withheld his love from me!*



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

What does this Psalm tell you about how to worship God?

What in this Psalm shows you that God is worthy of worship?

What are you thankful to God for?



PRAYER:

Dear Father, You alone are worthy of all glory, honour and praise! You are before all things, and in You all things hold together. You are the Author and Perfector of my faith, and for this I am so grateful. Lord, I worship You because You have done good things. You have rescued me by sending Jesus to save me from my sin. Lord, I pray that this truth would cause me to worship You each new day. Show me, throughout my day, how I can better honour You. Make me aware of the things You are doing so that I can give You praise. Help me to be willing to worship You with my body, my time, my finances, and my service. It is all because of You that I can rejoice in hope. In the name of Jesus, my Saviour, amen.



Chapter 13 follow up question:

What have you been grateful for lately?

14) Coming Together Weekly in Worship

Worshipping the Lord doesn't require a building, a team of musicians, or a pastor. However, the Bible and the history of both Judaism and Christianity make it clear that it is important to come together with other believers weekly to share in worship, praise and community.

Part of the importance of getting together for weekly worship is for us to encourage and to be encouraged as we walk together in following Jesus. When we isolate ourselves and separate from fellowship with other believers, it is easy to fall away because we're lacking accountability. When we spend time with other believers each week, we're reminded that others are living out the Christian life too.

There is also something powerful about believers together declaring the truth of Jesus. The Holy Spirit lives in each of us and He is there to counsel individual believers. But Jesus also said that "where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them" ([Matthew 18:20](#)).

When you come to church on Sunday, you are joining a long tradition of worshipping God with other believers. You are fueled up so that you can start your week with a reminder of biblical truth, and the encouragement that comes from joining other believers. As you attend regularly, you will begin to recognize people and form relationships. You will begin to care for the church and be a part of it.

When you come to a gathering of believers, the entire event is meant to be an act of worship to God. We often think of the singing as worship, but each part of the service is meant to provide ways for us to worship Him. The Scripture is read, and we worship Him for the truth He has provided in His Word. This continues as we listen to the pastor explain the Bible so that we can take what we have heard and put it into practice throughout the week. When the offering is taken, it is a chance for us to worship the Lord by remembering that everything we have is a gift from Him. We give back a portion of our finances in thankfulness and as a way of advancing His kingdom through the work that is done with that money. Even the time

we spend greeting one another is a way to worship God by blessing and encouraging others who are created in His image. Each part of the service is meant to draw us into worship of our Creator, refuel us for the coming week, and encourage us as we interact with other believers.



TIPS TO GET STARTED:

*Pick a Tip to do
with your mentee!*

- Are you attending a gathering of believers weekly?
 - › Getting together weekly with other believers is important. It is not only an encouragement, but it keeps you accountable. Make it a goal to attend church every week—it should be a priority for you as a follower of Jesus.
- Pick a Sunday to join your family in “Big Church”.
- Pick a Sunday to join your family in Communion.
 - › Read this with your mentor or parent:
CrossroadsChurch.ca/blog/2836/should-my-child-take-communion



SCRIPTURE READING: [Psalm 133](#); [Hebrews 10:23-25](#)

*How good and pleasant it is
when God's people live together in unity!*

*It is like precious oil poured on the head,
running down on the beard,
running down on Aaron's beard,
down on the collar of his robe.*

*It is as if the dew of Hermon
were falling on Mount Zion.
For there the LORD bestows his blessing,
even life forevermore.*

*Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.
And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good
deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but
encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WITH MENTOR:

Take time to let kids think and write their thoughts down and discuss afterwards.

What do these Scriptures tell you about the importance of spending time regularly with other believers?

Why can meeting together help spur you on toward love and good deeds as Hebrews 10 says?

How can coming together weekly with other believers be a blessing to you?



PRAYER:

Dear Lord, I praise You because You have saved me and invited me into Your growing family. I pray that You will encourage me to be faithful in coming together with other believers to worship You each week. I pray for those leading us in worship through singing and the teaching of Your Word. Encourage them, keep them faithful to You and Your truth, and give them boldness to declare what You have asked of them. Show me how I can serve Your church as an act of worship to You. In Jesus' name, amen.

You're Done! What's Next?

RESOURCES

You are on a journey as a follower of Jesus. Below is a list of resources you might want to consider as you grow in your relationship with Him.

WEBSITE

- <https://www.crossroadschurch.ca/K-6>

READING PLANS

- Family Reading plan:
<https://www.crossroadschurch.ca/FamilyBibleReadingPlan>
- printed bookmarks can be found in the **56er** room that have broken down this reading plan for your child

MUSIC

- <https://ajcrocker.ca/post/95759902161/here-is-the-spotify-playlist-for-the-yg-list>
- Kids Worship playlist
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSFqF-BEL_xtiDLCGTDrVoNuznP6jZc74
- CrossRoads Church Worship Songs
<https://www.crossroadschurch.ca/Worship>

PROGRAMS IN THE CITY

- Awana hosted at Bethany Baptist Church

VIDEO

- Torchlighters – christianhistoryinstitute.org/torchlighters

RIGHT NOW MEDIA

- Join [RightNow Media](#) for access to multiple videos on the Christian faith
- They have “Kids” section. Phil Vischer’s videos are a great place to start! Not sure which one to pick first? Try “What’s in the Bible?”.

SCRIPTURES

Conversation 1

- › [Psalm 32:8](#); [John 10:14-15, 27](#); [2 Corinthians 7:1](#)

Conversation 2

- › [Genesis 6:18](#); [2 Chronicles 7:14, 30:27](#); [Matthew 7:11](#); [John 15:7](#); [Philippians 4:4-7](#); [1 Thessalonians 5:16-18](#); [1 Peter 3:11-12](#); [Hebrews 4:16](#); [James 5:13](#)

Conversation 3

- › [John 1:12](#); [Romans 8](#); [2 Corinthians 5:17](#); [Galatians 2:20](#); [Ephesians 1](#); [1 John 3:1](#)

Conversation 4

- › [John 14:16-17, 14:26, 16:13](#); [Acts 1:8](#); [Romans 8](#); [1 Corinthians 2:12](#); [1 Corinthians 10:13](#); [2 Timothy 1:7](#)

Conversation 5

- › [Luke 11:4](#); [1 Corinthians 10:13](#); [1 Peter 3:7](#); [1 Timothy 6:9](#); [James 1:13-18](#)

Conversation 6

- › [Matthew 5:43-44, 22:37-39](#); [John 13:34-35, 15:9-17](#); [Romans 9:12](#); [Philippians 4:1-6](#); [1 John](#)

Conversation 7

- › [1 Corinthians 12, 14](#); [Ephesians 4](#); [Hebrews 2:4](#); [1 Peter 4:10-11](#)

Conversation 8

- › [Matthew 5:16](#); [Romans 12:7-10](#); [1 Corinthians 5:11](#); [Galatians 6:9-10](#); [Ephesians 2:10](#); [Philippians 4:1-6](#); [Hebrews 10:24-25](#); [1 Peter 4:9-10](#)

Conversation 9

- › [Psalm 133:1](#); [Matthew 18:20](#); [Acts 1:14](#); [Romans 12:4-5](#); [Hebrews 10:24-25](#); [1 John 3:24](#)

Conversation 10

- › [Ephesians 4:1-6](#); [Philippians 2:1-5](#); [Colossians 3:12-15](#); [1 Peter 3:8](#); [1 John 4:7-12, 19](#)

Conversation 11

- › [Isaiah 58](#); [Zechariah 7:8-10](#); [Matthew 7:12, 25:35-40, 28:19-20](#); [Luke 10:30-35](#); [James 1:27](#); [1 John 3:17](#)

Conversation 12

- › [Psalm 67:1-2](#); [John 15:1-17, 17, 20:21](#); [Romans 1:16-17](#)

Conversation 13

- › [Luke 12:33-34, 16:13](#); [Acts 2:42-47](#); [2 Corinthians 9:11](#)

Conversation 14

- › [Acts 3, 4, 7, 9:28](#); [Romans 1:16](#)



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