



FAITHWEAVER
Weaving faith into today's families **NOW**[®]

**FALL
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**ADULT
HANDBOOK**

Group

Real. Bold. Love.

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FAITHWEAVER NOW

This Group resource incorporates our R.E.A.L. approach to ministry. It reinforces a growing friendship with Jesus, encourages long-term learning, and results in life transformation, because it's



Relational

Learner-to-learner interaction enhances learning and builds Christian friendships.

Experiential

What learners experience through discussion and action sticks with them up to 9 times longer than what they simply hear or read.

Applicable

The aim of Christian education is to equip learners to be both hearers and doers of God's Word.

Learner-based

Learners understand and retain more when the learning process takes into consideration how they learn best.

Group

group.com/sunday-school

FaithWeaver NOW® Bible Curriculum, Adult Handbook, Fall

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Contents

Introduction and Welcome5

The Lessons

Lesson 1: God Creates the World
Genesis 1:1-2:3.....8

Lesson 2: God Creates Adam and Eve
Genesis 2:4-22.....16

Lesson 3: Adam and Eve Sin
Genesis 3.....22

Lesson 4: Cain Kills Abel
Genesis 4:1-16.....28

Lesson 5: Noah Builds the Ark
Genesis 6:5-22.....34

Lesson 6: God Floods the Earth
Genesis 7-8; 9:8-16.....42

Lesson 7: People Build a Tower at Babel
Genesis 11:1-9.....50

Lesson 8: Abram Follows God’s Direction
Genesis 12:1-8.....56

Lesson 9: Lot and Abram Divide the Land
Genesis 13.....62



Lesson 10: God Makes a Covenant with Abram
 Genesis 15:1-18.....68

Lesson 11: Abraham’s Visitors/Sodom and Gomorrah
 Genesis 18:1–19:29.....74

Lesson 12: Isaac Is Born
 Genesis 21:1-6.....82

Lesson 13: God Cares for Hagar and Ishmael
 Genesis 21:8-21.....88





The future of Sunday school + family ministry is NOW.

No doubt about it, the world is changing. Families used to go to church every week. Kids used to have longer attention spans. Teachers used to have more time to prepare. And didn't our budgets used to be bigger?

Even the Sunday school Bible curriculum you used just a couple of years ago is already out of date. But there's one thing that's never changed: the need to grow families closer to Jesus.

That's why we created FaithWeaver NOW®, and it's different from anything you've ever seen before!

It combines Sunday school with family ministry. ■■■■

Sure, you've seen Sunday school aimed at families. But FaithWeaver NOW actually hits the target by having everyone in the family learning about the same Scripture each week.

It's simpler and easier. ■■■■

Sometimes change is a wonderful thing. Gone are the days when you needed to spend hours preparing your lessons and hunting for supplies. FaithWeaver NOW will have you and your team ready to go in a snap.

It's made for NOW. ■■■■

Life is complicated and full of distractions. FaithWeaver NOW keeps faith on track through even the most frenzied lifestyles.

What makes FaithWeaver NOW the perfect curriculum for TODAY's church?

- Families learn the same Bible passage in age-appropriate ways.
- Kids don't just hear the Word. They experience it.
- Simple and easy lessons fit even the busiest lives.
- Kids see God in their everyday world.
- The Scope & Sequence goes through the Bible every three years.
- You can customize it however you like, with both print and digital versions.



Create a vibrant family ministry that's new...that's wow...that's NOW. FaithWeaver NOW gives you a fresh strategy for being more successful than ever in bringing families closer to Jesus.

Thom and Joani Schultz
Chairman and Chief Creative Officer
Group Publishing, Inc.



Welcome to the

FaithWeaver NOW Adult Handbook!



The fact that you're reading this shows how much you care about your faith. You take your relationship with Jesus seriously. You want to live like him. But it can be hard sometimes, especially amidst the busyness of life, and with **FaithWeaver NOW** we're going to help you grow in your faith.

You'll learn together with—and from—other adults who wrestle with the same issues you do. Together, you'll work through those issues and give each other brand-new insights into how to weave faith into your life. You'll have fun learning together. You'll discover things you never knew about yourself, about each other, and about God. You'll laugh together. You'll probably cry together, too. But most importantly, you'll discover how to weave faith into your life and walk with God for a lifetime.

Here's what you'll find in your FaithWeaver NOW Adult Handbook—including how to use each piece to get the most out of each week:



BIBLE BACKGROUND

This is a more in-depth look at the week's Bible passage. Use it to gain a deeper understanding of God's Word.



THE JESUS CONNECTION

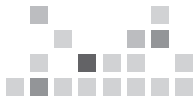
This brief devotion will help you think through how this week's lesson applies to your life and how to pray about this week's point.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These are the questions you'll go through as a group and the specific passages you'll look at. Use this page to follow along during the lesson.





DAILY CHALLENGES

Here you'll have some options for how to apply each study to your life. Mark the one you choose as a reminder to live out your faith.



TALK TOPICS

Several thought-provoking questions to bring up with your friends, family, or co-workers during the week.



THROUGH THE WEEK

Study a passage on this week's point every day! There's even some great questions for you to journal about as you consider what the Bible has to say to you.

So again, welcome to the world of **FaithWeaver NOW!**
May God bless your journey together—as adults and as faithweavers!



God Creates the World

Genesis 1:1–2:3



► **Bible Point**
God made the world.
.....

Key Verse
“In the beginning
God created the
heavens and the
earth” (Genesis 1:1).
.....

God’s Beginnings With Humans

The book of Genesis gives us the beginnings. Not the beginning of God; God has existed eternally. Nor is it just the beginning of our world. It’s the beginnings of God’s working with humans. In fact, “beginning” is the meaning of the Greek word from which the name *Genesis* came. What better place to start a new season than at the beginning!

Elohim is the Hebrew name used for God in Genesis 1:1. It’s interesting that the name is plural, but the verb *created* is singular. Even though God exists in three persons, the action of creating the universe was unified.

God’s Creation Was Good

Genesis 1:1–2:3 describes a vast variety of things God created, but the focus isn’t so much on the creation as it is on the Creator. Nine times in this passage we read “God said” and then some variation of “and it was so.” God spoke our universe, our planet, and humankind into existence. And what God did was good.

The word translated “good” here is a common Hebrew word that, like our word *good*, can have several meanings. Here, it likely has no moral connotation but means “just as it should be.” God looked at what he had done and knew it was right.

After Creating, God Rested

God was creating a bountiful, beautiful home for the treasured beings that he created last. Notice that God created many of each thing: not just one tree, but “seed-bearing plants and trees...according to their various kinds”; not just one star, but “lights in the expanse of the sky”; not just one fish, but “every living and moving thing with





BIBLE BACKGROUND



which the water teems.” God prepared a marvelous earth for his crowning creation to enjoy. And then God created humans. We’re a vital part of everything good that God made.



When God finished creating the heavens and the earth “in all their vast array,” he rested. Why? God wasn’t tired. God didn’t need to rest. No, God rested as a signal that Creation was complete. The seventh day became a holy day—a day to reflect on the wonder of what God had done, a day to smile and to know that it was good.

THE JESUS
CONNECTION

God’s creation is inspiring, and the gift of his Son is lifesaving. Thank God for the beauty of life in nature and in our hearts through a relationship with Jesus! Show love for God’s creation during the lesson this week, and help others see that the Creator has given them new life through Jesus as well.

What in nature amazes you? Oceans of beautifully colored fish? Massive forests? Take some time to appreciate the creativity of God’s design, and consider how God has designed your life, too.

You can write your prayer here.





DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

GETTING STARTED

- What stood out to you as you shared and listened to your partner?
- What's something God created that you're continually in awe of?
- What can you tell about God from the things you shared about?

2

BIBLE EXPLORATION

Read: Genesis 1:1-5, 6-8, 9-13, 14-19, 20-23, 24-31; Genesis 2:1-3

- Genesis 1 sums up creation in broad categories. What did you discover about the creation process as you considered all the details of those categories?
- Tell about your experience resting and listening to God.
- Of all the things God created, what seems the most intricate? Explain.



3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Where Do You Stand?

Read: Genesis 1:1; John 1:3; Colossians 1:17

- What absolute truths about creation can we glean from these verses?
- What's wrong with believing God launched creation with a big bang and hasn't been involved since?
- What's wrong with believing that humankind is an accidental byproduct of an evolutionary chain?
- Based on all these arguments, how did the world come to be?
- How does what you believe about God creating the world impact how you feel about yourself? about others?

God Made the World, So...

- Share some of the endings you came up with.
- How much would you say you're aware of the fact that God made the world?
- How much does your view of God as creator impact the way you live?



Daily Challenges ■■■■■■

Choose one or more of these activities to do this week.

- Pick one or two of the sentence endings you wrote for the "God Made the World, So..." activity. Act on what you wrote.
- Set aside at least a half-hour this week to reflect on God's power, and praise him simply for who he is. Read Psalm 19 or other Scripture passages such as Isaiah 40:28-31 or Philippians 4:12-13. Invite God further into your life, and ask how he wants his power to shine through your life.
- Go for a nature walk around your neighborhood. Take time to stand in awe of God's creation. Consider how each created object you see reflects God's power.



Talk Topics ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

- If money were no object, what's the one place in nature you would most like to visit? Why? What has God done there that's so impressive?
- If you could ask God to change one thing in creation, what would it be? Why did you choose this?
- Discuss environmental issues of local and national interest. How are we doing taking care of God's creation? What could you do better?
- If God created everything, why is there poverty? evil? injustice? Do you think God created them? Why or why not?



Through the Week

Use the following passages and questions to explore additional biblical insights about God's creation.

Monday—Job 38:4-7

- What do you picture when you think of God laying the earth's foundations?

Tuesday—Job 38:16-18

- What are some new discoveries you've made about God's creation in the past few years? Why do you think humans still haven't discovered everything God made?

Wednesday—Job 38:22-25

- What's a weather phenomenon that has shown you God's power?





Thursday—Job 38:39-41

- What do these verses reveal about God's role as sustainer of his creation?

Friday—Romans 1:20

- What does God's creation show you about his invisible qualities?

Saturday—Psalm 148:7-10

- In what ways can non-human creation bring praise to God?



The FaithWeaver NOW Adult Handbook weaves transformative experiences into every lesson and includes activities that make the Bible unforgettable.

This quarter you'll explore these Bible passages:

	BIBLE CONTENT/SCRIPTURE	KEY VERSE	BIBLE POINT
WEEK 1	God Creates the World (Genesis 1:1-2:3)	"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1).	God made the world.
WEEK 2	God Creates Adam and Eve (Genesis 2:4-22)	"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well" (Psalm 139:14).	God made us.
WEEK 3	Adam and Eve Sin (Genesis 3)	"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).	God doesn't want us to sin.
WEEK 4	Cain Kills Abel (Genesis 4:1-16)	"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves" (Romans 12:10).	God wants us to love our families.
WEEK 5	Noah Builds the Ark (Genesis 6:5-22)	"Peter and the other apostles replied: 'We must obey God rather than men!' " (Acts 5:29).	God wants us to obey.
WEEK 6	God Floods the Earth (Genesis 7-8; 9:8-16)	"The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made" (Psalm 145:13).	We can count on God's promises.
WEEK 7	People Build a Tower at Babel (Genesis 11:1-9)	"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength" (Deuteronomy 6:5).	We put God first.
WEEK 8	Abram Follows God's Direction (Genesis 12:1-8)	"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight" (Proverbs 3:5-6).	We can always trust God.
WEEK 9	Lot and Abram Divide the Land (Genesis 13)	"Do to others as you would have them do to you" (Luke 6:31).	God wants us to put others first.
WEEK 10	God Makes a Covenant With Abram (Genesis 15:1-18)	" 'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future' " (Jeremiah 29:11).	God has good plans for us.
WEEK 11	Abraham's Visitors/Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 18:1-19:29)	"For nothing is impossible with God" (Luke 1:37).	God does amazing things.
WEEK 12	Isaac Is Born (Genesis 21:1-6)	"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4).	Thank God for his gifts.
WEEK 13	God Cares for Hagar and Ishmael (Genesis 21:8-21)	"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you" (Luke 11:9).	God always hears us when we pray.



THIS IS A SAMPLE
The number of pages is limited.

Purchase the item for the complete version.

