



**FAITHWEAVER**  
Weaving faith into today's families **NOW**<sup>®</sup>

**SPRING  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**ADULT  
HANDBOOK**

**Group**

# FAITHWEAVER

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Real. Bold. Love.

# 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](http://group.com/sunday-school)

### **FaithWeaver NOW® Bible Curriculum, Adult Handbook, Spring**

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# 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Even the Sunday school Bible curriculum you used just a couple of years ago is already out of date.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!





# Jesus Teaches About Good Fruit

Luke 6:43-45



## ►Bible Point

Acting like Jesus shows we're Christians.

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## Key Verse

"In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

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## Jesus Compares Trees to Authentic Faith

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In his references to good and bad trees in this passage, Jesus is obviously drawing an analogy to the fruit that people bear. Notice that the distinction is not between healthy apple trees and diseased apple trees. It is between fruit trees and thorns or briars; it is the kind of tree that makes the difference. Many kinds of trees look good but don't produce fruit. So it is with people. Jesus seems to be saying that a person who is not really a servant of God, no matter how good he or she seems to be, cannot possibly produce fruit for him. Conversely, someone who really is God's servant will automatically produce fruit.

## The Heart Is Known Through Actions

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Then in Luke 6:45, Jesus expounds on the principle he introduced in the tree metaphor. What comes out of us through our speech and behavior flows from what is within. If what is inside us is good and God-honoring, our lives will honor God. If what is inside us is evil, our lives will not honor God. No matter how hard we try to make good impressions, no one will be fooled for long if our hearts are deceitful.





BIBLE BACKGROUND



THE JESUS  
CONNECTION

As we make our relationship with Jesus a priority, we'll find our actions will bear fruit that will please him.

Read aloud Luke 6:43-45. What can you do to store good things in your heart? In what circumstances can you bring good things out of the good you've stored in your heart? If you passionately follow God, the good you've stored will flow out to a needy world. Ask God to show you someone in your church who has a need. And then do the good thing and help that person.



Don't forget to pray for the person!

You can write your prayer here.

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### 1 GETTING STARTED

**Read:** Luke 6:43-45

- How easy or difficult was it to determine the type of fruit in the bag?
- How did identifying the fruit tell you what kind of tree the fruit came from?
- How does the truth in this passage connect with our opening game?
- How do we show we're Christians?

### 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

**Read:** Luke 6:43-45

- If we claim to be Christians, what fruit should we be producing?
- Name examples of people who are "good trees bearing good fruit." Who are these people in our own community?
- Can you know if a tree is good or bad before you see the fruit it produces? Why or why not?
- How are Christians generally viewed in your circles of influence?
- Imagine you're a non-Christian looking at our church. How would you characterize the fruit produced by people in our church, and how does that fruit benefit those outside the church as well as those within?
- Now imagine you're a non-Christian looking at you. How would you characterize the fruit you produce?
- The toughest thing about this passage is...

### 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

**Read:** Matthew 5:14-16

- How can you be a light when you're feeling dark?
- How will people know we're Christians?
- What does it mean to live a fruitful life at work? at home? among Christian friends? among non-Christian friends?



DIGGING  
DEEPER

**Daily Challenges** ■■■■■■

Choose one or more of these Daily Challenges to do this week.

- Memorize this week's Key Verse, Matthew 5:16. Ask God to help you shine your light before others in a way that positively reflects your faith in Jesus Christ.
- Examine your current lifestyle. In what areas do you bring honor to Christ by your actions? In what areas do you fall short? Choose one behavior that you could improve upon, and resolve to do things differently for the next seven days, submitting that area of your life to God's care and direction.
- Read 1 John 2:9-11. Set aside one evening to keep all electrical lights off and to operate entirely by candlelight. How does the absence or presence of light, both physical and spiritual, make a difference in how you function?

**Talk Topics** ■■■■■■

- If you were accused of being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?
- When have you seen a Christian friend live out or go against his or her beliefs? What happened?
- How do you let your "light" shine? Do your neighbors know you're Christians?
- What ideas do you have for how to let your light shine more? What do you want to do, or not do, or do differently?





# Through the Week

Use the following passages and questions to explore additional biblical insights about bearing good fruit.

## Monday—Luke 6:43-45

- What do your actions reveal about your heart?

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## Tuesday—John 15:1

- What does this image mean to you?

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## Wednesday—John 15:2

- What experiences have you had where God has trimmed bad fruit from your life? What was that like?

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**Thursday—John 15:4**

- What keeps you rooted to the true vine?

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**Friday—John 15:5**

- When have you tried to do good without God's help? How did that go?

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**Saturday—John 15:8**

- What benefits have you seen of bearing good fruit?

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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	Jesus Teaches About Good Fruit (Luke 6:43-45)	"In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).	Acting like Jesus shows we're Christians.
WEEK 2	Jesus Tells the Parable of the Lost Son (Luke 15:11-32)	"But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love" (Nehemiah 9:17).	God will forgive us when we sin.
WEEK 3	Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet (John 13:1-17)	"If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all" (Mark 9:35).	Jesus wants us to serve others.
WEEK 4	Jesus Is Tried and Crucified (Luke 19:28-40; 23:1-49)	"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).	Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins.
WEEK 5	Jesus Appears to Mary (John 20:1-18)	"That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).	Jesus is alive.
WEEK 6	Apostles Defend Their Faith (Acts 5:12-42)	"Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance" (James 1:2-3).	Keep following God, even when it's hard.
WEEK 7	Saul Meets Jesus Near Damascus (Acts 9:1-20)	"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17).	Jesus changes our lives.
WEEK 8	Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead (Acts 9:36-43)	"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective" (James 5:16).	God answers when we pray.
WEEK 9	An Angel Frees Peter From Jail (Acts 12:1-18)	"For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways" (Psalm 91:11).	Angels protect and help God's people.
WEEK 10	Lydia Is Converted (Acts 16:9-15)	"Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season" (2 Timothy 4:2).	Be prepared to tell others about Jesus.
WEEK 11	Paul's Jailer Believes in Jesus (Acts 16:16-34)	"They replied, 'Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved'" (Acts 16:31).	Jesus saves us.
WEEK 12	Paul Describes Living by God's Spirit (Romans 8:9-17)	"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23).	When we live by God's Spirit, God changes us.
WEEK 13	Paul Describes Genuine Love (1 Corinthians 13:1-13)	"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs" (1 Corinthians 13:4-5).	God teaches us how to love.



**THIS IS A SAMPLE**  
**The number of pages is limited.**

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