



FAITHWEAVER

Weaving faith into today's families

NOW[®]

**WINTER
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**ADULT
HANDBOOK**

Group
Real. Bold. Love.

FAITHweaver

Weaving faith into today's families **NOW**®

**WINTER
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**ADULT
HANDBOOK**


Group

FAITHWEAVER NOW

Group resources really work!

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

Person-to-person interaction enhances spiritual growth and builds Christian friendships.

Experiential

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

Applicable

The aim of ministry is to equip people to be both hearers and doers of God's Word.

Lifelong

Experiences transform the heart, moving faith beyond the walls of church and into everyday life for years to come.

Group

group.com/sunday-school

FaithWeaver NOW® Bible Curriculum, Adult Handbook, Winter

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Even the Sunday school Bible curriculum you used just a couple of years ago is already out of date.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



Solomon Tells of Jesus' Coming

Psalm 72:1-19



►Bible Point

Jesus does great things.

.....

Key Verse

"For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 2:5).

.....

Writing Psalm 72

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Some believe that Psalm 72 was written about Solomon and not by him. It is true that some elements of the psalm could well describe Solomon, but many elements describe a king whose actions go far beyond Solomon's capabilities. The early church believed that this psalm was written as a prayer for a king to come in the line of David and Solomon: the Messiah, Jesus. That's the approach taken in today's lesson.

The Psalmist Points Beyond Himself

.....

Some elements of the psalm could indeed describe Solomon. He judged righteously and with great wisdom, as illustrated in the story of the two women who each claimed to be the mother of the same infant (1 Kings 3:16-28). He reigned over a prosperous kingdom, the wealthiest in Israel's history. He expanded the boundaries of the kingdom to encompass more territory than ever before. And he was sought by the queen of Sheba, who came to him bearing gifts.

However, much of this psalm points directly to the Messiah. Only Jesus' kingdom will truly extend to the ends of the earth (Psalm 72:8), and only to Jesus will all rulers eventually bow down (Psalm 72:11). There isn't a lot of biblical evidence that Solomon cared for the needy and afflicted (Psalm 72:12-14), but Jesus' life and ministry were characterized by such caring. And while the statement that all nations would be blessed through him (Psalm 72:17) could possibly refer to Solomon indirectly, it definitely refers to Jesus.





The Works of the Messiah

If Jesus is indeed the subject of Psalm 72, it is easy to answer the question: What does Jesus do? Jesus does amazing things for us! He takes care of the needy and their children, and he defeats oppressors (Psalm 72:4, 12-14). He lives forever, despite the fact that he died on the cross for us (Psalm 72:5). When he returns, Jesus will reign over the entire earth (Psalm 72:8). Surely he deserves from us the same kind of praise and honor given in verses 18 and 19!

BIBLE BACKGROUND



THE JESUS CONNECTION

We've learned about many different facets of Jesus' life and ministry on earth. But let's never forget what Jesus has done for us. He is worthy of all our praise for that alone.

What's the first thing that comes to mind when you think about Jesus?

Who is Jesus to you? A teacher...a minister...a preacher...a martyr...a savior? Concentrate on the last one—*savior*. Spend two minutes prayerfully considering how Jesus is your Savior.

You can write your prayer here.





DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1 GETTING STARTED

- What insights about Christmas came out of your writing and talking with your partner?
- What new things did this activity reveal to you about Jesus?
- Why is Jesus such a significant person in history and today?

2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Prophecies Fulfilled

Read: Group 1: Psalm 72:1-2; John 8:1-11 • Group 2: Psalm 72:3, 7; Matthew 14:13-21 • Group 3: Psalm 72:4-6; Matthew 15:21-28 • Group 4: Psalm 72:8-11; John 12:12-16 • Group 5: Psalm 72:12-14; Mark 2:1-12

- What do these prophecies reveal about who Jesus is? what he is like?
- What do these prophecies indicate about how the world would be different because of Jesus?
- What great things do you need Jesus to do for you?

The Great Mediator

Read: 1 Timothy 2:5

- What was it like as people on the outside lines to be reaching toward each other but knowing it was impossible to connect?
- What was it like when the middle people were able to join the hands of the outside people?
- How is Jesus' role of mediator a fulfillment of prophecies made in Psalm 72?
- How has Jesus mediated a positive difference in your life?

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

- What are some of the greatest things you saw on the wall?
- How can you respond to Jesus in light of the great things he's done for you?
- How does seeing this wall give you confidence that Jesus will continue to do great things in your life?



**DIGGING
DEEPER**

Daily Challenges ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

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

- Set aside time this week to reflect upon God's blessings in your life. Commit to making it the first thing you think about in the morning and the last thing you think about at night.
- Come up with a way you can give God thanks for his love for you. Journal, write a poem, talk to yourself—whatever you want—just reflect for an hour or so on God's love for you. Then take time to thank God for his incredible love.
- Keep a journal of the things Jesus does this week, and try to match each one up with the "He will..." statements from Psalm 72. Look at your list several times during the week, and thank him for the great things he is doing. Then pray in hope for a great thing you would like Jesus to do in your future.

Talk Topics ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

- What would you say to someone who thinks that Jesus isn't alive today and therefore isn't doing anything in the world today?
- Talk about why many people today don't think they need Jesus. For example, they don't believe in Jesus, don't understand what sin is, or have no understanding that Jesus will one day judge them.
- Talk about what Jesus is doing right now and how things will change when he comes again.





Through the Week

Use the following passages to explore additional biblical perspectives to help you continue to think about Jesus.

Monday: Psalm 72:1-4

- What great things does Jesus do to help the afflicted?

Tuesday: Psalm 72:5-7

- How is Jesus enduring and refreshing?

Wednesday: Psalm 72:8-11

- Why will all people someday bow to Jesus? What will Jesus' rule be like?





Thursday: Psalm 72:12-14

- How does Jesus bring deliverance and salvation?

Friday: Psalm 72:15-17

- How are all nations blessed through Jesus?

Saturday: Psalm 72:18-19

- Add your words of praise to the ones in this passage.



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	Solomon Tells of Jesus' Coming (Psalm 72:1-19)	"For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 2:5).	Jesus does great things.
WEEK 2	An Angel Appears to Joseph (Isaiah 7:13-14; Matthew 1:18-25)	"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).	Trust God's plans.
*WEEK 3	Jesus Is Born (Luke 2:1-20; Hebrews 1:1-4)	"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me'" (John 14:6).	Jesus was born to be our Savior.
WEEK 4	Foreign Visitors Worship Jesus (Matthew 2:1-12)	"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'" (Romans 10:12-13).	Anyone can worship Jesus.
WEEK 5	Joseph Takes His Family to Safety in Egypt (Matthew 2:13-23)	"The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him" (Nahum 1:7).	God guides us.
WEEK 6	Jesus Is Baptized (Matthew 3:13-17)	"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1).	Jesus is God's Son.
WEEK 7	Peter and Andrew Meet Jesus (John 1:35-42)	"Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12).	Jesus is our friend.
WEEK 8	News About Jesus Spreads (Matthew 4:12-25)	"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).	Jesus wants everyone to follow him.
WEEK 9	Jesus Gives the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)	"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things" (Philippians 4:8).	God blesses us when we choose his ways.
WEEK 10	Jesus Teaches That We Are to Be Salt and Light (Matthew 5:13-16)	"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).	Help others see Jesus.
WEEK 11	Jesus Walks on Water (Matthew 14:22-33)	"If we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself" (2 Timothy 2:13).	Jesus helps us believe.
WEEK 12	Zacchaeus Climbs a Tree to See Jesus (Luke 19:1-10)	"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me" (Revelation 3:20).	Jesus accepts everyone.
WEEK 13	Jesus Blesses the Children (Mark 10:13-16)	"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Mark 10:14).	Everyone is important to Jesus.

* Due to the way Christmas falls, we recommend moving the lessons as needed to line up Lesson 3 with the week of Christmas.



THIS IS A SAMPLE

The number of pages is limited.

Purchase the item for the complete version.

