



# FAITHweaver

Weaving faith into today's families

## NOW<sup>®</sup>

**FALL**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**GRADES 5 & 6**  
**TEACHER GUIDE**

# FAiTHweAVER

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



**FALL**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**GRADES 5&6**  
**TEACHER GUIDE**

*Group*

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

### We know you care about kids...

We do, too!

That's why we attempt to ensure that all crafts, toys, and gizmos meet or exceed national safety standards—and are produced by manufacturers that don't use child labor or abuse their labor force. You can order Group resources knowing that in addition to caring for *your* kids, you're also caring for children elsewhere.

### Let's keep kids safe!

We strive to provide products that are mechanically reliable and hold together during normal, intended usage. Items are also checked for flammability, and both paint and surface coatings are checked for heavy metals—including lead.

You can help your children stay safe by seeing that toys and gizmos are used as designed, for the purposes designed, and that any broken pieces are disposed of promptly and properly. We value your feedback. If you become aware of a problem affecting the safety of any of our products, please inform us immediately.

### FaithWeaver NOW® Bible Curriculum, Grades 5 & 6, Fall

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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Even the Sunday school Bible curriculum you used just a couple of years ago is already out of date.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 point 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 covers the whole Bible in 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 Schultz Joani Schultz*

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







# David Becomes King

2 Samuel 5:1-5; Psalm 37

Fifth- and sixth-graders are beginning to establish their own identities, and they take personal feedback to heart. As you interact with the young people in your group, be on the lookout for positive characteristics and strengths in each person. Then look for opportunities to point out these traits to your kids. Your feedback will help them see themselves as important, productive people.

LESSON	WHAT STUDENTS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Timer Trap</b> (about 10 min.) Experience what it's like to be let down by a timer they're relying on.	small hourglass timer, blindfolds	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Bible Websites</b> (about 20 min.) Create "websites" about David's reliance on God as he became king of Israel.	Bibles, Bible Buzz, pens <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Bible Timeline 	Tear out the Lesson 1 pages from each Bible Buzz student book.
	<b>Reliance Check</b> (about 15 min.) Read the Key Verse, and evaluate what they've been relying on.	tape or tacks, Bible Buzz, pens <b>Teacher Pack:</b> "We Rely On..." poster 	



## ► Bible Point

We can rely on God.


## Key Verse

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1).

## Weaving Faith Into Life

Kids will grow in faith as they rely on God more than people or things.





LESSON	WHAT STUDENTS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Take Refuge</b> (about 15 min.) Experience what it means to be bombarded.	Bibles, pens, paper, Bible Buzz	
<b>4</b> Lasting Impressions	<b>Daily Challenges</b> (about 5 min.) Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.	Bible Buzz	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> (about 2 min.) Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.	Bible Buzz	Tear out the letter to parents from the back of each Bible Buzz student book.

# David Becomes King

## 2 Samuel 5:1-5; Psalm 37

BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## David Mourns King Saul

We begin this quarter of Old Testament studies with the anointing of David as king of Israel. Many years earlier, Israel's first king, Saul, had turned from the Lord, and God had selected David to succeed Saul. For years after that, Saul sought to have David killed. However, David had refused to act against Saul or to become king until he was certain of God's timing. He had lived a difficult life, almost as an outlaw. Now Saul was dead; after being wounded in battle, he had taken his own life. In fact, Saul and three of his sons, including David's friend Jonathan, had died in the same battle (1 Samuel 31:1-6). So the door was wide open for David to become king of Israel.

David didn't rejoice when he learned of the deaths. Instead he and all his men mourned and wept the entire day (2 Samuel 1:1-12). David even wrote a song in honor of Saul and Jonathan, which can be found in 2 Samuel 1:19-27. He was truly saddened that their lives had ended as they did.

## Uniting the Kingdom

David was made king of Judah. Israel followed Abner, the commander of Saul's army, who made Ish-Bosheth, a son of Saul, king over Israel (2 Samuel 2:1-9). After years of much fighting, intrigue, and bloodshed, Ish-Bosheth was murdered, and the leaders of Israel came to David to make him king over them.

# David Leads Israel

David was 37 when he became king over all Israel. He had first been anointed to succeed Saul many years earlier, while still in his teens. After his long, patient wait, David was able to lead Israel to great prosperity, fend off the Philistines, and expand the boundaries of Israel during his reign. David wasn't perfect, but as

he relied on God, God rewarded him and Israel with prosperity.

David wrote Psalm 37, which describes his trust in God even when he was surrounded by enemies. In this psalm, David says to “delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart” (Psalm 37:4). This could have been the theme of David’s life.

## The Jesus Connection

Through Jesus, God showed us how to take every step of life relying on him. Because of Jesus' courage, we can believe that trusting God will always be worth it!

What past experience has God used to teach you how to rely on him?

God has a wonderful way of not letting teachable moments in our lives go to waste. What is God using to teach you right now?

Ask God for wisdom to see and strength to move forward with faith, knowing that he'll always have everything you need. You can write your prayer here.

[illegible]





### Timer Trap Supplies

small hourglass timer  
blindfolds

## 1 GETTING STARTED

### Timer Trap

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Say: **We're going to play a game. I need you to move away from one another and from the furniture so you don't get hurt.**

Help kids to spread out away from one another and from all the furniture in the room. If necessary, fold up tables and put chairs to the side. Give each person a blindfold to put on.

Say: **To play this game, you need to spin around fast to make yourself disoriented. I have a timer here that will indicate when it's time to stop. When the timer has finished, you can stop spinning. Ready? Go!**

Place the hourglass timer upside down where kids could see it if they weren't blindfolded. Don't say or do anything else until someone asks when they can stop spinning. If they ask before the timer has finished, tell them the timer is still running.

Several seconds after the timer has finished,

Say: **Why are you still spinning? The timer already stopped! You can stop now.**

Allow kids to remove their blindfolds, and show them the hourglass timer.

#### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

- In what way did you rely on the timer in this activity?
- How did the timer let you down?
- When have you ever been let down by something or someone?
- How was the timer like the people and things we rely on in life?

Say: **When we rely on people or things (such as this timer), that means we put our faith in them and expect them to do something for us in a reliable way. For example, we rely on the sun to rise each morning. Maybe you relied on the timer to make a sound that would let you know when time was up. Or maybe you relied on me to tell you when it ran out. People and things can let us down. But God is different. God will never let us down. Today we'll explore why ► WE CAN RELY ON GOD.**

## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

# Bible Websites

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Let's pretend we're all online reporters in charge of websites about ancient Israel. In order to gather information, we've traveled back in time to Israel to when David became king. Show kids the "David Becomes King" picture on the Bible Timeline. We're hoping to actually interview the new king. Let's read the Bible to gain information about the websites we'll create.**

Have kids read 2 Samuel 5:1-5 and Psalm 37, taking turns reading aloud a verse at a time. Then give kids pens, and have them find the "Web Design" section of their Bible Buzz page.

Say: **Now pretend you've interviewed King David. On your Bible Buzz computer screen, record the information you collected for your website. You may even want to draw some pictures and include some graphics to go with it. On your website, be sure to explain why David believed ► WE CAN RELY ON GOD. That's what your readers are really interested in.**

When kids have finished creating their websites, have them show their work and read their information aloud to everyone else.

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

- Why did David need and choose to rely on God?
- How did David show his reliance on God?
- According to David, how does God prove he'll never let us down?
- Based on what you've learned, why can we rely on God?

Say: **David experienced firsthand how reliable God is. He knew God would always be there for him. And God will never let us down, either. God doesn't protect us from everything, and we don't always get what we want. But "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." God will get us through every situation, even the hard ones, and work out his plan for our good. Because God always keeps promises, ► WE CAN RELY ON GOD.**



### Bible Websites Supplies

Bibles  
Bible Buzz  
pens  
**Teacher Pack**  
Bible Timeline

### Bible Websites Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 1  
pages from each Bible  
Buzz student book.



### Reliance Check Supplies

tape or tacks

Bible Buzz

pens

**Teacher Pack**

“We Rely On...” poster

## Reliance Check

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: Today's Key Verse talks about why ► **WE CAN RELY ON GOD.**

Have kids find the Key Verse, Psalm 46:1, on their Bible Buzz pages: “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.”

Ask someone to read Psalm 46:1 aloud while the other kids follow along.

### Talk With Kids ■■■■■■

Ask:

- What's a refuge?
- How would you describe God's strength?
- What does “ever-present” mean?
- How can we show that we rely on God?

Say: **Now let's think about what we've been relying on.**

Hang up the “We Rely On ...” poster.

Say: **Look at this poster for ideas of who and what people often rely on. Then complete the “What I Rely On” section of your Bible Buzz page. You can write words that correspond to what you see on the poster.**

Allow kids a few minutes to complete their Bible Buzz pages.

Ask:

- What are some of the things and people you've been relying on?
- How do those people or things sometimes let us down?
- How is relying on God different from relying on things or people?

Say: **God has given us people and things in our lives that we can rely on. It's not wrong to rely on them, but we have to remember that even the most reliable person or thing in our lives will let us down sometimes. However, God never will. That's why we know ► WE CAN RELY ON GOD more than anything or anyone else. When we see how God was there for David, we know he'll be just as reliable in our lives.**

### 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Take Refuge

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have kids form two groups. Give each group a Bible, sheets of paper, and pens. Instruct kids to each write three problems they are currently dealing with, such as a conflict at school, struggles with a family member, or a personal insecurity. Kids will work individually for this part.

Say: **Today's Key Verse** tells us that "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." Let's learn what it feels like to be attacked by troubles.

Have kids line up on either side of the room and wad their sheets of paper into balls.

Say: **Your paper balls represent the troubles you are dealing with in your lives. At the count of three, you are going to throw your troubles across the room at the other group. Please avoid aiming directly at anyone's face. Ready? One! Two! Three!**

Give the kids a chance to throw their paper balls. Then gather kids together.

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

- What was it like getting attacked by paper balls?
- How is that like or unlike the way you feel problems come at you?
- How is God a refuge to you when you feel like your problems just keep coming?

Say: **Everyone in this world has troubles. When we feel overwhelmed, and it seems like we're being attacked by problems, we can go to God for refuge. David spent a lot of his life running from someone who threatened his life. And once he was king, he faced battle after battle. But even as his problems kept coming, David knew**  
► **WE CAN RELY ON GOD.**

Say: **Let's pray about relying on God. I'll lead the prayer, and I'd like you to complete the sentences with some of the things you wrote in the "What I Rely On" section of your Bible Buzz page. I'll tell you when to complete a sentence.**



### Take Refuge Supplies

Bibles  
pens  
paper  
Bible Buzz



## Daily Challenges Supplies

Bible Buzz

Let's pray. Dear God, we're sorry for relying on people and things sometimes more than we rely on you. Here are some of the people and things we've been relying on...Pause and instruct kids to complete the sentence out loud with things they wrote on their Bible Buzz pages. **We recognize that these people and things may let us down by...**Pause and instruct kids to complete the sentence with things they wrote. **God, thank you for being different. Here are some of the ways you're different from the people and things we rely on...**Pause and instruct kids to complete the sentence with things they wrote. **Thank you for never letting us down. Help us to rely on you more than on anything or anyone else in our lives. In Jesus' name, amen.**

## 4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

### Daily Challenges

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: Let's think about how ► **WE CAN RELY ON GOD** this week.

Direct kids to find this week's Daily Challenges on their Bible Buzz pages. Read these Daily Challenges aloud and ask kids to choose one that they'll commit to this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- Find another verse in the Bible that will remind you that God is always there for us and that we can always rely on him.
- Choose one way you'll rely on God more than people or things this week, as you consider the things you wrote about on your Bible Buzz page.
- Share with a friend how you're relying on God right now, or how you've relied on God in the past and what happened when you did. Let your friend know that he or she can rely on God, too.

Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell the kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

#### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

- What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Share a time, a place, or other ideas.

Say: ► **WE CAN RELY ON GOD** the way David did. As we grow closer to God and rely on him alone, God makes our lives something very special. Let's rely on God by following through with our Daily Challenges this week.

## Weaving Faith at Home

Send the parent letters home with your kids or give them to parents when they pick up their children. This is a great way to show families they're important to your church and to support their role as spiritual leaders to their children.

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about relying on God. Also encourage kids to do the activities in the "HomeConnect" section of their Bible Buzz pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about e-mailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

End with a prayer, thanking God for being our refuge and strength whenever we need help.



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

.....  
Bible Buzz

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

.....  
Tear out the letter to  
parents from the back  
of each Bible Buzz  
student book.



FaithWeaver NOW is for today's Sunday school teachers. It's developed by real Sunday school teachers, examined by real ministry leaders, and tested and approved by thousands of churches so you get great lessons that work with today's families.

*This quarter you'll explore these Bible passages:*

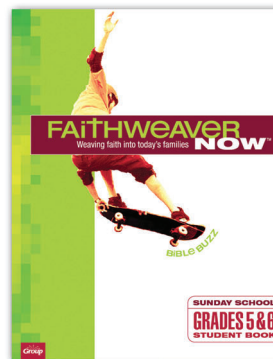
	BIBLE CONTENT/SCRIPTURE	KEY VERSE	BIBLE POINT
WEEK 1	David Becomes King (2 Samuel 5:1-5; Psalm 37)	"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1).	We can rely on God.
WEEK 2	David Is Merciful to Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9)	"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves" (Romans 12:10).	Being kind honors God and others.
WEEK 3	God Forgives David (2 Samuel 12:1-7; Psalm 51:1-12)	"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).	God wants us to repent when we sin.
WEEK 4	Absalom Rebels and Is Defeated (2 Samuel 15:1-12; 17:1-12; 18:1-18)	"He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8).	A self-centered attitude hurts God and others.
WEEK 5	Solomon Asks for Wisdom (1 Kings 2:1-4; 3:3-28)	"If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him" (James 1:5).	God gives us wisdom.
WEEK 6	Solomon Writes Many Proverbs (1 Kings 4:29-34; Proverbs 1:1-7)	"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding" (Proverbs 9:10).	We become wise by following God's Word.
WEEK 7	Solomon Turns Away From God (1 Kings 11:1-13)	"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).	Be devoted to God.
WEEK 8	The Kingdom Divides (1 Kings 11:28-12:24)	"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).	Choose to follow God.
WEEK 9	Elijah Helps a Widow (1 Kings 17:7-24)	"So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ... But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:31, 33).	Trust God completely.
WEEK 10	Elijah Challenges the Prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:16-40)	"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:2-3).	Choose to serve God.
WEEK 11	God Speaks to Elijah in a Whisper (1 Kings 19:9-18)	"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand" (Isaiah 41:10).	When we feel alone, God is with us.
WEEK 12	God Takes Elijah to Heaven (2 Kings 2:1-15)	"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31).	God wants us to be faithful.
WEEK 13	Jehoshaphat Trusts God for Victory (2 Chronicles 20:1-30)	"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7).	God helps us with our problems.

### PLUS...

**Access all these FREE FaithWeaver NOW digital resources at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital):**

- **FREE digital copies of Teacher Guides** in PDF format so you can easily download any lesson for your ministry. Sharing lessons with busy volunteers couldn't be easier! *Look inside kit box for activation code.*
- **A FREE downloadable Director Manual** to help you structure your program for maximum effectiveness.
- **FREE weekly FamilyConnect pages** you can print out or email to parents to help families grow together in faith throughout the week.

### Don't forget...



**\*Get a colorful, age-appropriate student book for every child! Each week, you'll get...**

- Engaging activities that bring the Bible to life for every child
- Easy faith conversation-starters for kids to take home
- Meaningful at-home activities for families to dig into Scripture

**\*You'll need one per child. Sold separately.**



# **THIS IS A SAMPLE**

## **The number of pages is limited.**

Purchase the item for the complete version.

