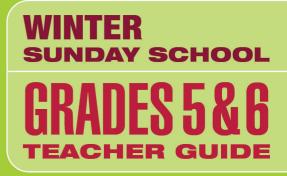
FAITHVEAVEBUS Weaving faith into today's families









WINTER SUNDAY SCHOOL GRADES 586 TEACHER GUIDE



YOUR ACTIVATION CODE IS NOW LOCATED INSIDE THE TEACHER PACK!





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:



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

Applicable

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Lifelong

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



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, Winter

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*We recommend rearranging the lessons so that Lesson 4 aligns with the week of Christmas.

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The future of Sunday school + family ministry is NOW.

N o 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 Achultz Joan Schultz

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



Lesson 1 5

Prophets Foretell Jesus' Coming

Jeremiah 33:14-16

K ids this age are aware of the full range of results for promises. They've likely made, kept, and broken promises themselves. They're also on the brink of a very tumultuous time in their lives, and they'll benefit greatly from the information in this lesson. Use this lesson to help your kids see that God's promises aren't conditional and they can trust him through thick and thin.

LESSON	WHAT KIDS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Promise Times (<i>about 20 min.</i>) Do a search for people who have different experiences with promises.	Bible Buzz, pens	Tear out the Lesson 1 pages from each Bible Buzz student book.
2 Bible Exploration	Anatomy of a Promise (about 20 min.) Collect information, and play a matching game.	Bible Buzz, pens, card stock, scissors, 1 copy for every 5 kids of the "Memory Game" cards (at the end of this lesson)	Copy the "Memory Game" cards onto card stock, and cut the cards apart.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



► Bible Point Jesus fulfilled God's promise.

Key Verse

"All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 'The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel'—which means, 'God with us' " (Matthew 1:22-23).

Weaving Faith Into Life Students will learn that

.....

God fulfills his promises in their lives.



Lesson 1

FAITHWEAVER 6

LESSON	WHAT KIDS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
3 Weaving	The Ultimate Gift (about 10 min.) Read the Key Verse, and create thank-you cards for God.	Bible Buzz, paper, pens, markers	
Faith Into Life	A Big Thank-You (about 10 min.) Create a mural with thank-you cards created earlier.	tape, paper, markers, pens, thank-you cards from "The Ultimate Gift" activity	
4	Daily Challenges (about 5 min.) Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.	Bible Buzz, pens	
Lasting Impressions	Weaving Faith at Home (about 2 min.) Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.	Bible Buzz, pens, thank-you cards from "The Ultimate Gift" activity	Tear out the letter to parents from the back of each Bible Buzz student book.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



Prophets Foretell Jesus' Coming

Jeremiah 33:14-16

BIBLE BACKGROUND FOR LEADERS

Jeremiah Preaches Hope in Times of Trouble

This passage was written nearly 600 years before Jesus was born. The northern kingdom of Israel had fallen to the Assyrians, who had in turn fallen to the Babylonians. Jeremiah also saw the fall of the southern kingdom of Judah to the Babylonians, concluding with the destruction of Jerusalem in 587 B.C.

Despite all that was going on around him, Jeremiah's message in this passage is one of hope. Repeating nearly word for word the message he had given in Jeremiah 23:5-6, Jeremiah utters here his most important message about the coming Messiah. This King would be a descendant of David but would rule with more wisdom, justice, and righteousness than any other king had ever done. This coming Messiah would not only rescue his people from their oppressors but also reunite the kingdoms of Israel and Judah, which had been divided since the death of Solomon more than 300 years earlier.

Jesus Fulfills Prophecy, but Not as Expected

After reading this passage, it's easy to understand why people of Jesus' day expected a Messiah who would lead them in throwing off Roman rule and restoring the unified kingdom of Israel. From our standpoint in history, we know that Jesus came first as the suffering servant (see Isaiah 53), drawing people to himself through his perfect life and his message of repentance. One day, however, Jesus will return to complete his fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies and rule as king over all heaven and earth.

As we look forward to our celebration of Jesus' birth, we can also look forward to the day Jesus will return to take those who believe in him to live with him in heaven. That's God's message of hope for Christians in today's broken world!

The Jesus Connection

Your relationship with Jesus is an amazing gift. And God planned long ago to give you that gift. Thank him for this life-giving blessing!

Long ago, God chose to prepare the hearts of his people with the news that a Savior would come. As you prepare for Christmas, take some time to allow God's message of hope and salvation to sink in for you. Choose to believe God's promises—and allow the wonder of Jesus' incarnation to overwhelm you. Pray about your heart's desire to live this Christmas season immersed in the meaning of God's promises. You can write your prayer here.

Grades 5 & 6

Lesson 1

Winter Quarter



Promise Times Supplies

Bible Buzz pens

Promise Times Easy Prep

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

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Anatomy of a Promise Supplies

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Bible Buzz pens card stock scissors 1 copy for every 5 kids of the "Memory Game" cards (at the end of this lesson)

Anatomy of a Promise Easy Prep

Copy the "Memory Game" cards onto card stock, and cut the cards apart.



Promise Times

What You'll Do

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

Give each person a pen and this week's Bible Buzz pages, and have kids find the "Promise Hunt" section.

Say: Find people in this room who've had the experiences with promises that are listed on your Bible Buzz pages. When you find someone who's had one of these experiences, have him or her write a quick summary. You're racing to see who can get this filled out fastest. Don't have the same person list something more than once unless you've already talked to each person in the room. Go!

Give kids several minutes to complete their promise search. Then ask willing kids to share some of the best promises they heard about during this experience.

Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- In what way was it different hearing about promises that have been kept versus promises that have been broken?
- What does it mean to you when someone doesn't keep a promise?
- Explain what it's like to wait a long time for someone to keep a promise.

Say: When someone makes a promise, we expect the person to keep it. We're hurt in some way by broken promises. Sometimes we have to be patient and wait for some of the best promises. We're going to hear about a very important promise God made that his people had to wait a long time for. And we'll see how ► JESUS FULFILLED GOD'S PROMISE.



Anatomy of a Promise

What You'll Do

Have kids find the "Recollections" section of their Bible Buzz pages. Encourage kids to

Winter Quarter

Lesson 1 Grades 5 & 6



form up to four teams. Ideally, there should be five kids in each group. Give each group of kids a set of "Memory Game" cards, and have groups place their cards facedown on the floor in a square grid.

Say: Your goal is to work together in your group to collect trios of information that relate to each other. You'll see three categories on these cards. Each of the "Promise" cards has a corresponding "Interpretation" and "Fulfillment" card to go with it. The "Promise" cards are our Bible passage for today. When you think you've found a set of three, set it aside. For each turn, you'll turn over three cards. If they are not a match, you'll turn them all back over but try to remember what you saw.

As kids work, move around listening to them and offering help when they ask for it. The key for this activity is below, but allow room for kids to interpret things as they see fit.

First Set:

• Promise

" 'The days are coming,' declares the Lord, 'when I will fulfill the gracious promise I made to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah' " (Jeremiah 33:14).

Interpretation

At just the right time, God's promises will come true for his people.

• Fulfillment

"He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as he said to our fathers" (Luke 1:54-55).

Second Set:

• Promise

"In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line" (Jeremiah 33:15).

Interpretation

I will send someone who is righteous. He will be from David's family tree.

• Fulfillment

"Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Christ" (Matthew 1:17).

Third Set:

Promise

"He will do what is just and right in the land" (Jeremiah 33:15).

Interpretation

The person I'm sending will act out of justice, and he will do what's right among my people.

• Fulfillment

"For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man...By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me" (John 5:26-27, 30).



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- Fourth Set:
- Promise

"In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety" (Jeremiah 33:16). • Interpretation

When the time is right, I will save my people in Judah. I will make my people in Jerusalem truly safe.

• Fulfillment

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

Fifth Set:

Promise

"This is the name by which it will be called: The Lord Our Righteousness" (Jeremiah 33:16).

Interpretation

The person I will send will be special. He will make everyone righteous. He will be called The Lord Our Righteousness.

Fulfillment

"The next day the great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the King of Israel!' " (John 12:12-13).

When kids are done with their matching, have them fill in the grid on their Bible Buzz pages. Then have kids talk together about how these promises are meaningful in their lives today as well. When kids have spent a couple of minutes talking, encourage them to share what they discussed with the entire group.

Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- What did you do to try to remember where the cards were so you could match them?
- How was that like or unlike remembering the prophecies about Jesus all those years later when he was born?
- What does it mean to you that Jesus was able to fulfill God's promise?
- Explain any way in which this changes how you look at God.

Say: You each connected the pieces of this promise from God and saw a complete picture of how our God keeps promises. The Bible makes it very clear that ▶ JESUS FULFILLED GOD'S PROMISE. As humans, we can't understand God as fully as we'd like because we're limited. But when we take the time to really look at what God did, we can marvel and thank him for caring so much for us.





The Ultimate Gift

What You'll Do

Say: Today's Key Verse is another verse that talks about how > JESUS FULFILLED GOD'S PROMISE.

Have kids find the Key Verse, Matthew 1:22-23, in their Bible Buzz pages. Lead kids in reading the Key Verse aloud: "All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 'The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel'—which means, 'God with us' " (Matthew 1:22-23).

Have kids form groups of three or four. Distribute paper, pens, and markers. Say: God gave us the ultimate gift: the fulfillment of his promise, Jesus. We know Jesus is God sent to earth as a human baby because he fulfilled God's promises exactly. Let's make thankyou cards for the ways God's promise makes a difference in our lives. Someone else might draw on your drawing and hang it up later, so keep that in mind.

As kids work, ask:

- What things in your life are different because of Jesus fulfilling God's promise?
- In what ways does God's fulfilled promise help you trust his promises in your life?
- In what ways do you think we as Christians do or don't live out this promise?

Encourage kids to think about these questions and discuss them in their groups as they create their thank-you cards for God. Kids can draw, write, or even tear the thank-you cards to make creative representations of their thanks.

When they've finished, allow kids to share what they created if they want to.

Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- For you, how was creating a thank-you card for God different from or the same as praying to thank him?
- How do you think God responds to our thanks?
- How does thanking God affect you?

Say: Creating thank-you cards for God is one way we can remind ourselves of the wonderful gifts God has given us. And it's also a way to tell God how much we appreciate those gifts. The greatest gift God gave us is the way ► JESUS FULFILLED GOD'S PROMISE that was given long before Jesus was born.



The Ultimate Gift Supplies

Bible Buzz paper pens markers

Grades 5 & 6

Lesson 1



A Big Thank-You Supplies

tape paper markers pens thank-you cards from "The Ultimate Gift" activity

A Big Thank-You

What You'll Do

Say: Let's create a mural of thanks so we can see how our thanks can come together to give God glory.

Help kids tape their cards together on a wall. With kids, step back and look at the mural you've all created.

Say: Let's look at this big picture of thanks we've created and consider what we might add to the mural to thank God for fulfilling his promise to send Jesus.

Set out extra paper, markers, and pens. Encourage kids to add more drawings—and even words—to the mural, making God's fulfilled promise to send Jesus the overall theme of their mural of thanks.

Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- What was it like to see your thank-you card become part of a bigger picture?
- In what ways did the prophets who came before Jesus become part of the bigger picture when God sent Jesus?
- In what ways can thankfulness for God's promises change the way we live?
- What's one way you can add more thankfulness for God's promises to your life?

Say: Our thankfulness might seem small all by itself, but when we put it all together, it's pretty cool to see. The prophets who came before Jesus were part of God's big picture. Our passage told us how God told his people about Jesus many years before anything happened. God's promises are the best thing we can be thankful for since they're the way God saved us. We can thank God all the time because ► JESUS FULFILLED GOD'S PROMISE.

llenges

Daily Challenges Supplies

Bible Buzz pens Daily Challenges

IMPRESSIONS

I ASTING

What You'll Do

Say: Today we discovered how > JESUS FULFILLED GOD'S PROMISE. Let's consider what this means for us by choosing a Daily Challenge for this week.

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Lesson 1 Grades 5 & 6



Have kids find this week's Daily Challenges on their Bible Buzz pages and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- Before you go to bed, write a list of all the ways God kept his promises to you that day.
- Make a thankfulness list. Hang it in a main room in your home, and write ways you're thankful for God's promises. Look over the list when you're done, and ask God to let that thankfulness for his promises change your day.
- Make a promise to help someone, and follow through. Remember how God keeps his promises to you.

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

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

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

Say: Jesus came to save us. God promised to send him. Let's be thankful that ▶ JESUS FULFILLED GOD'S PROMISE as we follow through with our Daily Challenges this week.

Weaving Faith at Home

Send the letter to parents home with your kids or give it 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 Jesus fulfilling God's promise. Kids can also do the activities in the "HomeConnect" section of their Bible Buzz pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families! Available at group.com/digital.

Have kids collect their thank-you cards and sit alone around the room. Encourage kids to each think of a promise they'd like to keep in their lives and write that promise on their thank-you card. Pray: Thank you, God, for keeping your promises. We trust you because Jesus came to fulfill your promises to us. Please help us keep promises we make. Allow time for kids to say any promises they want to keep. We love you! In Jesus' name, amen.



Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

Bible Buzz

pens thank-you cards from "The Ultimate Gift" activity

Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

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

Grades 5 & 6

Lesson 1 Winter Quarter

Memory Game

Fulfillment "He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as he said to our fathers" (Luke 1:54-55).	Promise "The days are coming,' declares the Lord, 'when I will fulfill the gracious promise I made to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah' " (Jeremiah 33:14).	INTERPRETATION At just the right time, God's promises will come true for his people.
Fulfillment "Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Christ" (Matthew 1:17).	Promise "In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line" (Jeremiah 33:15).	INTERPRETATION I will send someone who is righteous. He will be from David's family tree.
Fulfillment "For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me" (John 5:26-27, 30).	Promise "He will do what is just and right in the land" (Jeremiah 33:15).	INTERPRETATION The person I'm sending will act out of justice, and he will do what's right among my people.
Fulfillment "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).	Promise "In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety" (Jeremiah 33:16).	INTERPRETATION When the time is right, I will save my people in Judah. I will make my people in Jerusalem truly safe.
Fulfillment "The next day the great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the King of Israel!' " (John 12:12-13).	Promise "This is the name by which it will be called: The Lord Our Righteousness" (Jeremiah 33:16).	INTERPRETATION The person I will send will be special. He will make everyone righteous. He will be called The Lord Our Righteousness.



Winter Quarter

Lesson 1

FAITHWEAVER Weaving faith into today's families

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.

WINTER SUNDAY SCHOOL GRADES 586

This quarter you'll explore these Bible passages:

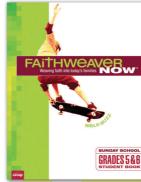
	BIBLE CONTENT/SCRIPTURE	KEY VERSE	BIBLE POINT
WEEK 1	Prophets Foretell Jesus' Coming (Jeremiah 33:14-16)	"All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 'The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel'—which means, 'God with us'" (Matthew 1:22-23).	Jesus fulfilled God's promise.
WEEK 2	Zechariah Prophesies About Jesus (Luke 1:68-79)	"For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him" (John 3:17).	The world needs Jesus.
WEEK 3	John Prepares People for Jesus' Coming (Luke 3:7-18)	"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).	Repenting prepares us for Jesus.
WEEK 4	The Son of God Is Born! (Luke 1:26-45; 2:1-20)	"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).	Celebrate Jesus' birth.
WEEK 5	Jesus Grows Up (Luke 2:39-52)	"I and the Father are one" (John 10:30).	Jesus is special.
WEEK 6	The Word Became Flesh (John 1:1-18)	"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).	We can be God's children.
WEEK 7	Satan Tempts Jesus (Luke 4:1-13)	"Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted" (Hebrews 2:18).	Jesus helps us resist temptation.
WEEK 8	Jesus Performs His First Miracle (John 2:1-11)	"But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31).	Jesus can do miracles.
WEEK 9	Jesus Teaches in a Synagogue (Luke 4:14-21)	"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost" (Luke 19:10).	Jesus came for all people.
WEEK 10	Jesus Is Rejected in His Hometown (Luke 4:22-30)	"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength" (Deuteronomy 6:5).	Believe in Jesus.
WEEK 11	Moses and Elijah Appear With Jesus (Luke 9:28-36)	"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14).	Jesus is God's Son.
WEEK 12	Jesus Teaches About Rewards (Luke 6:17-26)	"Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things" (Colossians 3:2).	Jesus blesses people who have faith.
WEEK 13	Jesus Teaches About Loving Enemies (Luke 6:27-38)	"Do to others as you would have them do to you" (Luke 6:31).	Jesus says to treat others as we want to be treated.

PLUS...

Access all these FREE FaithWeaver NOW digital resources at 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! See inside kit 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, ageappropriate student book for every child! Each week, you'll get...

- Engaging activities that bring the Bible to life for every child
- Easy faith conversationstarters for kids to take home
- Meaningful at-home activities for families to dig into Scripture
- *You'll need one per child. Sold separately.



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