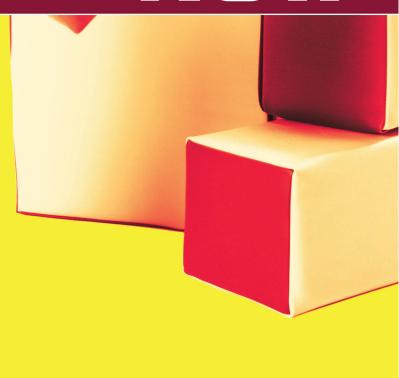


# FAITHVEAVER Weaving faith into today's families Rows \*\*The company of the compan





WINTER SUNDAY SCHOOL

INFANTS TODDLERS
NEACHER GUIDE



# FAITHVEAVER Weaving faith into today's families Remarks to the second se

WINTER SUNDAY SCHOOL

INFANTS TODDLERS
TEACHER GUIDE





# 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

### 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 flammabil-ity, 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, Infants, Toddlers and 2-Year-Olds, Winter

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### Credits

Contributing Authors: Enelle G. Eder, Larry Shallenberger, Courtney Jennings Wright

Editors: Jennifer Hooks, Lee Sparks, Ali Thompson, Christine Yount Jones Copy Editors: Erica Feucht, Deborah Helmers, Becky Helzer, Andrea Zimmerman

Chief Creative Officer: Joani Schultz

Cover Design and Art Direction: Jeff Spencer

Interior Design Team: Jeff Brunacci, Randy Kady, Rebecca Swain

Cover Photographer: Rodney Stewart Production Manager: Peggy Naylor

Illustrator: Nancy Munger

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ISBN 978-1-4707-6874-4

Printed in the United States of America.



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 $^{\star}$  Due to the way Christmas falls, we recommend moving the lessons as needed to line up

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# 4

# The future of Sunday school + family ministry is NOW.



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 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 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 Achulty Joani Schulde

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

Winter Quarter Introduction



# Solomon Tells of Jesus' Coming

Psalm 72:1-19

A s young children observe their parents and other adults, they believe that adults can do anything. As children mature, they will begin to lose this sense of awe. Now is the perfect time to instill in little ones a lasting sense of wonder about Jesus by communicating our enduring admiration and enthusiasm about what he does and who he is.

### INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Listen to "Jesus Loves Me" and "They All Came to Worship Jesus."	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
Bible Exploration	about the amazing things seeds		
	Singin' in the Rain Play in water, and hear about how Jesus makes people happy.	watering can full of warm water, large bowl, towel	
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith	Shine Play with a flashlight, and hear how Jesus made the sun.	AA battery Teacher Pack: flashlight	Put the battery in the flashlight.
Into Life	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 1 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





► Bible Point
Jesus does great things.

Key Verse Jesus is the way to God (adapted from John 14:6).

Weaving Faith Into Life Children will learn that Jesus does amazing things.

.....

Infants, Toddlers & 2s

Lesson 1



# **TODDLER**

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Sing or listen to "Jesus Loves Me" and "They All Came to Worship Jesus."	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
Bible Exploration	All in a Day's Work Act out some of the amazing things Jesus does.	Bible	Bookmark Psalm 72:1-19 in your Bible.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	A Song Fit for a King Play rhythm instruments.	variety of toys that rattle	
	I "Can" Care Collect food for the needy.	several cans of food, grocery bag	
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 1 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.



Lesson 1

Infants, Toddlers & 2s



# 2-YEAR-OLD

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Sing or listen to "Jesus Loves Me" and "They All Came to Worship Jesus."	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	Crowns Decorate crowns as they hear what amazing things Jesus does.	Bible, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Crown" page (at the end of the lesson) <b>Teacher Pack:</b> jewel stickers	Bookmark Psalm 72:1-19 in your Bible. Remove the Lesson 1 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.
	Scepters Make scepters to remind them of the amazing things Jesus does.	1 paper-towel tube per child, markers, adhesive bandages	
Weaving Faith Into Life	Homage Bring the amazing king good gifts, and sing a song.	1 can of food per child	
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text..



Infants, Toddlers & 2s



# Solomon Tells of Jesus' Coming

Psalm 72:1-19



# BIBLE BACKGROUND FOR LEADERS

# **Writing Psalm 72**

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!

# 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

preachera martyra savior? Concentrate on the last one—savior. Spend two minutes prayerfully considering how Jesus is your Savior. You can write your prayer here.

Winter Quarter

Lesson 1



### INFANT



Tip Don't know the melodies to the songs in this guide? Download the 99-cent Kids Songs app by Alkeo and play the tunes for 200+ common children's songs.

# Sing and Celebrate

# What You'll Do

Sing "Jesus Loves Me" (track 3 on the CD) to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me" as a lullaby to calm a fussy baby.

Jesus loves me—how do I know? In many ways his love does show. He is kind, and he is great. He is coming; I can't wait!

Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, He does amazing things. (Repeat.)

Sing "They All Came to Worship Jesus" (not on the CD) to the tune of "Did You Ever See a Lassie?" As you sing, help a baby clap his or her hands on the word "Jesus."

They all came to worship Jesus, yes, Jesus, yes, Jesus. They all came to worship Jesus—a gift from the Lord. There's Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and wise men. They all came to worship Jesus—a gift from the Lord.

After singing, say: ▶ **JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS.** 



# **Amazing King**

## What You'll Do

Recite this verse and do the motions with a baby:

Say: Jesus is our king. (raise baby's hands to form a crown on top of his or her head)

JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS. (place baby's hands on his or her cheeks)

He's like the sun above. (raise baby's hands above his or her head)

He's like the rain that comes down. (lower baby's hands to knee level)

Infants, Toddlers & 2s

Lesson 1



**Everything grows because of Jesus' love.** (hold baby high)

He picks us up when we fall. (gently set baby on the floor; then pick him or her up) He is strong when we are weak. (tickle baby's arms)

**Jesus helps us when we call.** (point to baby's mouth)

Jesus is our king. (raise baby's hands to form a crown on top of his or her head)

▶ **JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS.** (place baby's hands on his or her cheeks)



# Singin' in the Rain Supplies

watering can full of warm water large bowl towel

# Singin' in the Rain

# What You'll Do

Gently pour the water from the watering can into the bowl. Let the baby touch the falling water and splash the water in the bowl.

Say: It feels good to play in the water, doesn't it? Water can make us feel happy. A long time ago, a man in the Bible wrote a song about Jesus. His song said that Jesus makes people happy. We're happy because ▶ JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS.

Dry the baby's hands with the towel.

# Shine Supplies

AA battery **Teacher Pack** flashlight

# Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

# Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 1 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

# Shine

# What You'll Do

Dim the room lights.

Say: ▶ JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS. Jesus made the sun. And Jesus made the light. Turn on the flashlight, and let a baby play with it. Help the baby point the beam of light around the room. Say: ▶ JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS.

# Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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

Winter Quarter

Lesson 1



### TODDLER



**Tip** Don't know the melodies to the songs in this guide? Download the 99-cent Kids Songs app by Alkeo and play the tunes for 200+ common children's songs.

# Sing and Celebrate

# What You'll Do

Sing or listen to these simple songs. During "Jesus Loves Me" (track 3 on the CD) sung to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me," have children sway back and forth.

Jesus loves me—how do I know? In many ways his love does show. He is kind, and he is great. He is coming; I can't wait! Yes, Jesus loves me,

Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, He does amazing things. (Repeat.)

Sing "They All Came to Worship Jesus" (not on the CD) to the tune of "Did You Ever See a Lassie?" As you sing, sit on the floor and sway from side to side.

They all came to worship Jesus, yes, Jesus, yes, Jesus. They all came to worship Jesus—a gift from the Lord. There's Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and wise men. They all came to worship Jesus—a gift from the Lord.

After singing, say: ▶ **JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS.** 



### **EXPLORATION**

# All in a Day's Work

### What You'll Do

Gather a group of toddlers around you, and open your Bible to Psalm 72.

Say: This is God's special book. In God's book, King Solomon tells that ▶ JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS. Read the following list, and do the motions in the parentheses:

All in a Day's Work Supplies

Bible

All in a Day's Work Easy Prep

Bookmark Psalm 72:1-19 in your Bible.

Infants, Toddlers & 2s

Lesson 1



Jesus is a good and loving king. (hug a toddler) Jesus takes care of people who are sad or hurt. (pat a toddler) Jesus helps people stop fighting. (hug a toddler) Everyone can sing happy songs to Jesus. (sing "Jesus Loves Me")

Say: > JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS. Let's pray and thank Jesus for the great things he does.

Pray: Dear Jesus, you do great things. Thank you for the great things you do. In your name, amen.



# 3 WEAVING FAITH

# A Song Fit for a King Supplies

variety of toys that rattle

# A Song Fit for a King

# What You'll Do

Say: The king in the Bible wrote a song about Jesus. We can share our music with God, too. Let's make fun music while we sing.

Let children choose a rattle toy. Sing "They All Came to Worship Jesus," and encourage children to shake their rattles with the rhythm of the song. After singing, say: ▶ **JESUS** DOES GREAT THINGS.

They all came to worship Jesus, yes, Jesus, yes, Jesus. They all came to worship Jesus—a gift from the Lord. There's Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and wise men. They all came to worship Jesus—a gift from the Lord.

# I "Can" Care Supplies

several cans of food grocery bag

# I "Can" Care

# What You'll Do

Have children sit in a circle, and set the canned food in the center of the circle. Set an open grocery bag next to the cans.

Say: Jesus takes care of people. He takes care of us. We can be Jesus' helpers by sharing this food with people who need it.

Have each child hold or touch a can of food. As kids touch the cans, encourage them to pat their tummies. Say: Mm-mm. Jesus gives us good food to eat. We can share this good food. Help kids place the cans inside the grocery bag. ▶ JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS.

Winter Quarter

Lesson 1



# Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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





# GETTING

### STARTED

■ **Tip** Don't know the melodies to the songs in this guide? Download the 99-cent Kids Songs app by Alkeo and play the tunes for 200+ common children's songs.

# Sing and Celebrate

# What You'll Do

Sing "Jesus Loves Me" (track 3 on the CD) to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me." While you sing, have children hug themselves on the words, "Jesus loves me."

Jesus loves me—how do I know? In many ways his love does show. He is kind, and he is great. He is coming; I can't wait! Yes, Jesus loves me,

Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, He does amazing things. (Repeat.)

Sing "They All Came to Worship Jesus" (not on the CD) to the tune of "Did You Ever See a Lassie?" As you sing, have children form a line and move through the room like a train.

They all came to worship Jesus, yes, Jesus, yes, Jesus. They all came to worship Jesus—a gift from the Lord. There's Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and wise men. They all came to worship Jesus—a gift from the Lord.

After singing, say: ▶ JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS.



# Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

# Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 1 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.



# Crowns Supplies

Bible

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Crown" page (at the end of the lesson)

Teacher Pack jewel stickers

# Crowns Easy Prep

Bookmark
Psalm 72:1-19 in your
Bible. Remove the
Lesson 1 pages from
each My Bible Snuggles
student book.

# Scepters Supplies

1 paper-towel tube per child markers adhesive bandages



# Crowns

# What You'll Do

Give each child a "Crown" page. Open your Bible to Psalm 72.

Say: This is God's special book. In God's book, we learn about a man who wrote a song about how ▶ JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS. When I say something great that Jesus does, I'll clap my hands—and you clap with me. Let's practice. Clap your hands and encourage kids to clap with you. Then you can take a jewel sticker and add it to your crown.

Jesus is a good king. Pause and clap. Jesus takes care of people who are sad and hurt. Pause and clap. Jesus helps people stop fighting. Pause and clap. Jesus loves each of us. Pause and clap.

▶ JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS. Our pretty crowns will remind us how great Jesus is.



# **Scepters**

### What You'll Do

Set out paper-towel tubes, markers, and bandages.

Say: Today we learned that Jesus is a king who does great things. A king carries a scepter. A scepter is a fancy stick that lets everyone know the king is special. Let's make scepters for Jesus to remind us of the great things he does. Give each child a tube, and help kids decorate their tubes with markers.

We learned that Jesus takes care of hurting people. Let's put bandages on our scepters to remind us. Give children each a bandage or two, and help kids apply the bandages to their scepters. We learned that Jesus shows love to people. Let's decorate our scepters with hearts to remind us. Help children each draw a big red heart on their tube.

Say: ► JESUS DOES GREAT THINGS. When you look at your scepters, you'll remember the great things Jesus does.

Winter Quarter

Lesson 1



# Homage

# What You'll Do

Have children sit in a circle, and set out the cans of food.

Say: People from far away would bring Jesus gifts. We can bring Jesus gifts, too. One gift we can give is food to people who need it. Let's pretend we're giving Jesus a gift by sharing food.

Pick up a can of food. Encourage children to do the same and follow you as you march around. March for about 30 seconds, and then have children return to the circle and stack the cans in a pile. Tell kids you will give the food to other people.

Pray: Jesus, we give you this food as a gift. Thanks for all the great things you do. In Jesus' name, amen.

# Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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



# Homage Supplies

1 can of food per child

# Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)



# **Growing With Jesus**



# Wide-Eyed Wonder

As young children watch their parents and other adults, they may feel that adults can do anything. As children mature they will lose this sense of awe. However, we can increase a child's sense of wonder at what Jesus does by communicating admiration and enthusiasm as we tell Bible stories about Jesus.

Your child learned that God helps us just as he helped David and gave him a crown (from Psalm 72:1-19). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can do these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

### INFANT

## Shine

Dim the room lights, and let your baby play with a small, pen-sized flashlight. Help your baby point the beam of light around the room.

Say: The Bible says that the great things that Jesus does will last as long as the sun. This flashlight gives us light like the sun does.

### **TODDLER**

# All in a Day's Work

Say: Jesus does great things. Read the following list, and do the motions in the parentheses with your child:

Jesus is a good and loving king. (hug your toddler)

Jesus takes care of people who are sad or hurt. (pat your toddler)

Jesus helps people stop fighting. (hug your toddler)

Everyone can sing happy songs to Jesus. (sing "Jesus Loves Me")

### 2-YEAR-OLD

# Homage

Say: Lots of people brought Jesus gifts. We can bring Jesus gifts, too.

Encourage your child to find a prized toy or stuffed animal. Then have your child follow as you march around the room. Then stop and have your child set down the prized item. Say: We can bring our gifts to Jesus.



OK TO COPY

### Help your child become a FaithWeaver with these ideas:

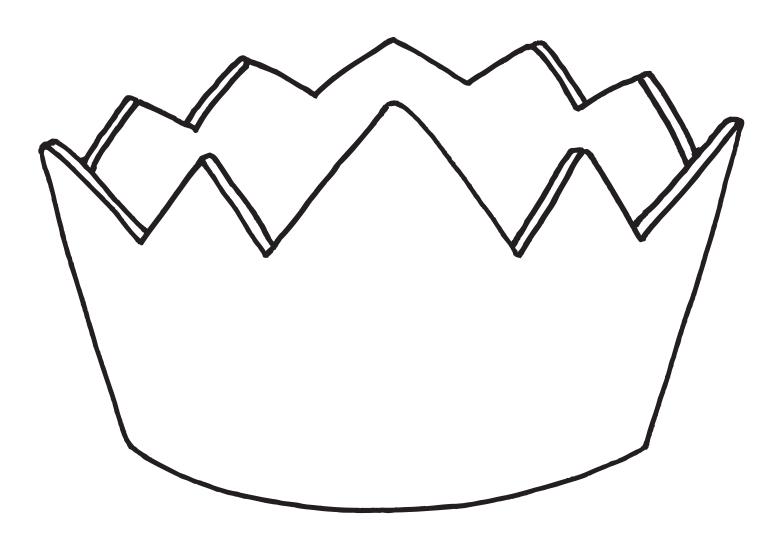
- Take your child along as you donate items such as food, money, or clothing. Tell your child that sharing what we have is just like giving Jesus gifts.
- Let your child pretend to be the "king of the house." Make a simple crown for him or her to wear. Explain that Jesus is our king who does great things.

Winter Quarter

Lesson 1



# Crown







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	Solomon Tells of Jesus' Coming (Psalm 72:1-19)	Jesus is the way to God	Jesus does great things.
WEEK 2	An Angel Appears to Joseph (Isaiah 7:13-14; Matthew 1:18-25)	(adapted from John 14:6).	God is good.
*WEEK 3	Jesus Is Born (Luke 2:1-20; Hebrews 1:1-4)		Jesus was born.
WEEK 4	Foreign Visitors Worship Jesus (Matthew 2:1-12)	If we believe in Jesus, we become God's children (adapted from John 1:12).	We worship Jesus.
WEEK 5	Joseph Takes His Family to Safety in Egypt (Matthew 2:13-23)		God takes care of us.
WEEK 6	Jesus Is Baptized (Matthew 3:13-17)		Jesus is God's Son.
WEEK 7	Peter and Andrew Meet Jesus (John 1:35-42)	Come to me and rest (adapted from Matthew 11:28).	Jesus is our friend.
WEEK 8	News About Jesus Spreads (Matthew 4:12-25)		Follow Jesus.
WEEK 9	Jesus Gives the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)		Following Jesus makes us happy.
WEEK 10	Jesus Teaches That We Are to Be Salt and Light (Matthew 5:13-16)	"Let the little children come to me" (Mark 10:14).	Help others see Jesus.
WEEK 11	Jesus Walks on Water (Matthew 14:22-33)		Jesus helps us believe.
WEEK 12	Zacchaeus Climbs a Tree to See Jesus (Luke 19:1-10)		Jesus loves everyone.
WEEK 13	Jesus Blesses the Children (Mark 10:13-16)		You're important to Jesus.

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

## 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!

  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...



### **My Bible Snuggles\***

This convenient booklet collects all of the reproducible coloring and take-home pages from this quarterly teacher guide to save you the time and expense of photocopying.

\*Optional—get one for each of your little ones.



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

Purchase the item for the complete version.