



# FAITHWEAVER

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



**BIBLE TREK**

**SPRING  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL  
STUDENT BOOK**

**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.

**Tear out pages  
one by one from  
this book, starting  
with Lesson 1 at  
the center of the  
book.**

## Group

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

FaithWeaver NOW® Bible Curriculum, Grades 5 & 6 Student Book: Bible Buzz, Summer

Copyright © 2002 and 2016 Group Publishing, Inc.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any manner whatsoever without prior written permission from the publisher, except where noted in the text and in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews. For information, visit [group.com/permissions](http://group.com/permissions).

### Credits

Contributing Authors: Tim Baker, Sarah Macy Bohrer, Karla Keathley-Hagan, Julie Meiklejohn, Siv M. Ricketts

Editors: Stephanie Martin, Amy Nappa, Owen Shattuck, Jessica Sausto, Ali Thompson

Copy Editors: Lyndsay Gerwing, Deborah Helmers, Becky Helzer, Sarah Yepishin, Andrea Zimmerman

Chief Creative Officer: Joani Schultz

Cover Design and Art Direction: Jeff Spencer

Interior Design Team: Jared Bigham, Jeff Brunacci, Joyce Douglas, Kate Elvin, Suzi Jensen, Dolly Palmer, Rebecca Swain

Illustrators: Zachary Pullen, Jeff Spencer, and Matt Wood

Cover Photography: [iStockphoto.com/Mathew Sherf](http://iStockphoto.com/Mathew-Sherf) and Aleks Le

All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. [www.zondervan.com](http://www.zondervan.com)

ISBN 978-1-4707-6703-7

Printed in the United States of America.

001 USA 0222



## Dear Parents,

Your family is important to our church, and we want to support your role as spiritual leader to your child.

In our effort to provide the highest quality Christian education, we are using **FaithWeaver NOW**® Sunday school. FaithWeaver NOW makes Bible learning fun by using a variety of active experiences to help students learn in the ways they learn best.

FaithWeaver NOW also helps people of all ages “weave faith into life” by applying the Bible to their lives throughout every week. With FaithWeaver NOW, students walk through the Bible over the course of three years.

Research shows that the most powerful influence on children’s faith development is the conversation about faith that takes place in the home. We want to partner with you in your child’s Christian education.

With the resources that are part of FaithWeaver NOW, you can make a huge contribution to your child’s Christian growth by leading activities and discussions that help make connections and apply what’s learned at church to daily life. That’s why every week your child will receive a take-home page that includes ideas for family discussions and activities that will help cement what your child learns at church.

All FaithWeaver NOW resources—for infants through adults—explore the same Bible passage each week, making it easier for you to help your family grow in faith together.

This quarter, we hope you’ll find encouragement in your role as a parent and a spiritual leader to your child. May these tools serve to remind you how important you are in your child’s life—and how blessed you are to be entrusted with this awesome responsibility!

God bless you,

Your **FaithWeaver NOW** Church





# Bringing It Home

Read this quote with your family, and then talk it over.

“A political leader must keep looking over his shoulder all the time to see if the boys are still there. If they aren’t still there, he’s no longer a political leader.”

—BERNARD BARUCH, U.S. FINANCIER

- **Political leaders of all sorts are only leaders if people are following them. Do you think Jesus is a leader worth following even if nobody else follows? Why or why not?**
- **Why might someone look at your family and decide you’re following Jesus? Why might someone conclude you’re NOT Jesus-followers?**

- Follow Jesus by taking a risk to stand up for your faith.
- Pray about any big decisions this week and journal about them, committing to follow Jesus in whatever decision you make.
- Find a partner, commit to a way to follow Jesus, and call or text each other every day to share how it’s going.

Daily Challenge

## Try This

In many cultures, history is passed along orally. That is, there isn’t a written history, just a series of stories that capture events from the past. Have each family member place one item that reminds him or her of following Jesus in a shoe box or other container. Maybe it’s a baby shoe that’s long been outgrown and is a reminder of someone taking a first step in following. Or it might be a checker piece from an old game your family played while showing Jesus’ love. Whatever the item, ask the person who picks it to tell the story. Keep the box where you can add items throughout the week to create an oral history of how you’re following Jesus.

## Reading the Bible This Week

**Sunday**/PSALM 25:1-3 • WHAT HAPPENS IN YOUR LIFE WHEN YOU TRUST AND FOLLOW GOD?

**Monday**/MARK 2:14-16 • JESUS LOVED THE UNLOVABLE AND RARELY SPENT TIME WITH THE POPULAR CROWD. HOW CAN YOU FOLLOW HIS EXAMPLE WITH PEOPLE AT SCHOOL?

**Tuesday**/PSALM 119:165-167 • WHAT ARE SOME REASONS TO READ YOUR BIBLE?

**Wednesday**/JOHN 10:4-5 • FOLLOWING JESUS

REQUIRES YOU TO KNOW HIS VOICE. HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW IT? HOW CAN YOU LEARN TO HEAR IT BETTER?

**Thursday**/MARK 1:16-18 • JESUS ASKS FOR US TO FOLLOW SO HE CAN LEAD US SOMEWHERE. WHERE IS HE LEADING YOU?

**Friday**/1 JOHN 1:9 • WHAT DO YOU NEED TO BE FORGIVEN FOR? HOW CAN FORGIVENESS HELP YOUR ABILITY TO FOLLOW?

**Saturday**/1 PETER 2:21-25 • WHY DO YOU FOLLOW JESUS?



# Bible Trek

## BIBLE TREK STUDY 1

**BIBLE POINT:** Commit to follow Jesus.

**KEY VERSE:** "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile" (Romans 1:16).

### Jesus Teaches About Commitment

MARK 8:31-38

## Think It Over

First Peter answers one of Jesus' questions correctly. But then Peter tries to tell Jesus he's wrong about something else. That doesn't go over so well.

Peter was having the ultimate bad day.

What's a fisherman to do?

Follow, that's what.

Peter forgot that Jesus was in charge. Even if Peter wasn't happy about hearing Jesus predict that a cross was waiting for Jesus, he sure wasn't in any position to challenge the point. Jesus was the Messiah—Peter wasn't. Jesus was in charge—Peter wasn't. Jesus was setting the agenda—Peter wasn't. So Peter learned a lesson we need to learn (and relearn), too: When we follow Jesus, we follow him no matter what. No matter where. No matter when.

- Describe a time you followed Jesus even though it was hard.

---

---

---

- What's something you think Jesus wants you to do? Why?

---

---

---

- Why is it worth it to follow Jesus despite the cost?

---

---

---

## Just for Fun

Here are words to live by...or are they? You decide...and then write your own quotable quote!

### Ben Franklin's Basic Law of Confidentiality:

*Three may keep a secret, if two of them are dead.*

### William's Law:

*There is no mechanical problem so difficult that it cannot be solved by brute strength and ignorance.*

### Terman's Law of Innovation:

*If you want a track team to win the high jump, you find one person who can jump 7 feet, not seven people who can jump 1 foot.*

### The Beautiful-Princess Law:

*Before you meet any handsome prince, you have to kiss a lot of toads.*

*(From 1,001 Logical Laws, Accurate Axioms, Profound Principles, Trusty Truisms, Homey Homilies, Colorful Corollaries, Quotable Quotes, and Rambunctious Ruminations for All Walks of Life)*

Your Brilliant Words to Live By:

---

---

---

---

"Follow good people and you will learn to be good; follow beggars and you will sleep outside the city gates." —Chinese proverb



ADVENTURE

1

# Join Together

## Here's What You Need to Do...

### 1. TO START OFF...

Say hi to the other people in your group. Then, with your group, follow the rest of the instructions for your adventure!

### 2. GET SUPPLIES.

You'll need a ball of string or yarn. If you have more than 15 students in your group, form two smaller groups and cut two long pieces of string.

### 3. START BONDING!

You've been thinking and talking and reading about what it means to follow Jesus. And one of the most important things to following Jesus is encouragement! This activity will help demonstrate both how unifying and how encouraging it is to be surrounded by people who also want to follow Jesus.

### 4. THREAD THE STRING THROUGH.

One person should take an end of the string and thread it through his or her

clothes. You can all decide on how you want this to go—the easiest way is probably in the collar and out a sleeve. Even though this will also be a serious time, make a rule such as you can't help the string through but can only drop it in and then shake it around until it comes out again. Just don't lose it! Because once the first person threads the string through, the second person will sit (or stand) next to the first person and do the same thing. You'll follow each other until you're all in a line, connected by the string. But don't start yet because that's not all...

### 5. THE MOST IMPORTANT PART.

After each of you gets the string through and hands it to the next person, you must share one thing about the way you feel about following Jesus. Is it a scary thing? challenging? comforting? Also, think of how this will encourage someone else in following Jesus.

### 6. TALK ABOUT IT.

Once you're all connected and have shared what it means to you to follow Jesus, discuss what you just did.

- How was this activity fun? How was it challenging? How is this sometimes just like following Jesus?
- What feelings do you have about following Jesus? Are you happy with the way you feel, or would you want something to change?
- What did this exercise teach you about yourself? about others in your group?





# Choose Your Own Adventure

## ADVENTURE

2

# Encouraging Words

Here's What You Need to Do...

### 1. TO START OFF...

Say hi to the other people in your group. Then, with your group, follow the rest of the instructions for your adventure!

### 2. FORM PAIRS.

You'll work with your partner to create an encouraging analogy you'd like to read if you were struggling to follow Jesus. If you're struggling with following Jesus right now, prepare to be encouraged.

### 3. WRITE.

You'll need paper and a pen. One person in your pair is the Word-smith and the other is the Chief Scribe. Your goal is to draft one or more analogies that reassure someone who's struggling and remind him or her of the benefits of following Jesus. For example,

you might write about someone who stopped buying candy to save up for an iPad, and why those sacrifices were worth the cost. Then compare that with the benefits of following Jesus.

### 4. SHARE.

Read your best analogy to the other pairs, and be encouraged as they read theirs.

### 5. TALK ABOUT IT.

- What did the analogies you wrote reveal about the obstacles you expect to come up against when you're following Jesus?
- What did they reveal about the benefits?

### 6. PREPARE TO SHARE.

As a whole group, pick a few analogies to share with the other adventure group.



The FaithWeaver NOW Student Book is woven into every lesson to provide an essential transformative experience that makes the Bible unforgettable.

**BONUS...every Student Book includes weekly take-home activities!**

**SPRING  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL  
STUDENT BOOK**

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

|         | BIBLE CONTENT/SCRIPTURE                                    | KEY VERSE  | BIBLE POINT                               |
|---------|--|--|---|
| WEEK 1  | Jesus Teaches About Commitment (Mark 8:31-38)              | "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile" (Romans 1:16).  | Commit to follow Jesus.                   |
| WEEK 2  | Jesus Clears Merchants From the Temple (John 2:13-22)      | "Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker" (Psalm 95:6).   | God wants sincere worship.                |
| WEEK 3  | Jesus Explains Why God Sent Him (John 3:12-21)             | "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).   | Jesus came to save us.                    |
| WEEK 4  | Jesus Notices a Widow's Giving (Mark 12:41-44)             | "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).  | Give cheerfully to God.                   |
| WEEK 5  | People Rejoice as Jesus Enters Jerusalem (Mark 11:1-11)    | "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:10-11).   | Jesus is our king.                        |
| WEEK 6  | Jesus Is Alive! (Mark 16:1-8)                              | "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies.'" (John 11:25).   | Jesus is alive.                           |
| WEEK 7  | Jesus Appears to His Disciples (John 20:19-31)             | "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see" (Hebrews 11:1).  | Believe in Jesus.                         |
| WEEK 8  | Paul Teaches About Spiritual Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:4-27) | "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10).   | God gives us gifts to serve him.          |
| WEEK 9  | Peter Tells the Sanhedrin About Jesus (Acts 4:5-14)        | "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9).   | Trusting God makes us brave.              |
| WEEK 10 | Philip Tells the Ethiopian About Jesus (Acts 8:26-40)      | "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).   | Follow where God leads.                   |
| WEEK 11 | Peter Visits Cornelius (Acts 10:1-44)                      | "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20). | Tell everyone about Jesus.                |
| WEEK 12 | Barnabas Encourages Christians in Antioch (Acts 11:19-26)  | "But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness" (Hebrews 3:13).   | Encourage each other to believe in Jesus. |
| WEEK 13 | Jesus Sends Power From God (Acts 2:1-21)                   | "But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you" (John 14:26).   | God gives us the Holy Spirit.             |





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

Purchase the item for the complete version.

