



FAITHWEAVER

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

**FALL
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**PARENT
HANDBOOK**

Group

Real. Bold. Love.

FAITHWEAVER

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

**FALL
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**PARENT
HANDBOOK**

The logo for the Group, featuring the word "Group" in a white, italicized serif font, positioned below a cluster of small white dots that form a semi-circular arc.

FAITHWEAVER NOW

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

Learner-to-learner interaction enhances learning and builds Christian friendships.

Experiential

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

Applicable

The aim of Christian education is to equip learners to be both hearers and doers of God's Word.

Learner-based

Learners understand and retain more when the learning process takes into consideration how they learn best.

Group

group.com/sunday-school

FaithWeaver NOW® Bible Curriculum, Parent Handbook, 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Even the Sunday school Bible curriculum you used just a couple of years ago is already out of date.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 passage in age-appropriate ways.
- Kids don't just hear the Word. They experience it.
- Simple and easy lessons fit even the busiest lives.
- Kids see God in their everyday world.
- The Scope & Sequence goes through the Bible every three years.
- You can customize it however you like, with both print and digital versions.



Create a vibrant family ministry that's new...that's wow...that's NOW. FaithWeaver NOW gives you a fresh strategy for being more successful than ever in bringing families closer to Jesus.

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



Welcome to the

FaithWeaver NOW Parent Handbook!



First of all, thank you for everything you do as parents. The fact that you're reading this shows how much you care about your kids. You want to be a good parent. A Christ-like parent. It's the toughest and most important job in the world, and with **FaithWeaver NOW Parent** we're going to help you do it even better.

You'll learn together with—and from—other parents who wrestle with the same issues you do. Together, you'll work through those issues as parents and give each other brand-new insights into how to weave faith into your family's life. You'll have fun learning together. You'll discover things you never knew about your children, about each other, and about God. You'll laugh together. You'll probably cry together, too. But most importantly, you'll discover how to weave faith into your families and help your kids walk with God for a lifetime.

Because it's FaithWeaver NOW, you and your kids will explore the same Scripture each week. And while your kids are digging deeper into God's Word and discovering how it applies to them, you'll look at those same passages, seeing how they apply to the particular issues you face with your kids and learning how to have confident conversations with your kids about those issues. As you talk more with your kids about their relationship with God, you'll connect with them in ways you never imagined.

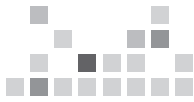
Here's what you'll find in your FaithWeaver NOW Parent Handbook—including how to use each piece to get the most out of each week:



BIBLE BACKGROUND

This is a more in-depth look at the week's Bible passage. Use it to gain a deeper understanding of God's Word.





WEAVING FAITH INTO FAMILIES

This brief devotion will help you think through how this week's lesson applies to your family and how to pray for them this week.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These are the questions you'll go through as a group, including the specific passages you'll look at. Use this page to follow along during the lesson.



NOTES

Use this space to write your prayers, thoughts, discoveries, and great ideas from other parents.



INSIGHT FOR PARENTS

Each week, you get a hands-on idea to take what you've learned and share with your kids.



FAITH TALK STARTER

These quick tips will help you have confident conversations about faith with your kids. Use one, or use them all.



PRAYER STARTER

You've learned a lot today, and you can't wait to share it with your kids. But you know you need God's help. Use this prayer-starter to talk to God. There's a little extra room to write out your prayers, if you'd like.

So again, welcome to the world of **FaithWeaver NOW Parent!** May God bless your journey together—as parents and as faithweavers!



The Israelites Cross the Red Sea

Exodus 13:17–14:31



► **Bible Point**
God helps us when we're afraid.
.....

Key Verse
"He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me" (Psalm 23:3-4).
.....

God Cares for His People

As the mass of more than 2 million Hebrews left Egypt, God knew that facing the warlike Philistines immediately would likely have made the Hebrews lose hope and turn back to Egypt. The pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night must have been awesome and comforting.

God's Unusual Strategy

God instructed the Israelites to turn back somewhat toward Egypt and camp at a spot between Migdol and the Red Sea. God had a bigger plan than anyone else could know. Pharaoh would've been confident that he could easily defeat the Israelites.

The Israelites were slaves of the Egyptians only days prior to this event. They'd been beaten by the whips of the slave drivers and were familiar with the weapons the Egyptians carried. They must've realized that their fighting talents were nothing compared with the Egyptians'. And they were backed against the sea, with mountains on two sides and the Egyptians bearing down on them. The situation must've seemed hopeless.

God Shows His Power

We can realize that God had all this planned. He knew that the people would be frightened. He knew that they would doubt him. But he also knew that his power would be remembered forever. God knew that he would prevail, that the Hebrews would be saved from Pharaoh, and that the result would be a people growing greatly in their faith in him.

It may seem odd that no record of this event has been found in Egyptian history. However, it's likely that all records





BIBLE BACKGROUND

were wiped from the books because it would've been an embarrassment for the world to know that mighty Egypt had been devastated by its own lowly slaves.



**WEAVING FAITH
INTO FAMILIES**

What a friend we have in Jesus! Jesus wants to hear all about our lives—not just the good stuff, but our concerns and fears, too. Jesus wants to help us when we're afraid. In the case of the Israelites, God rescued them from the pursuing Egyptians. Sometimes God will rescue us from whatever it is we fear, too. But other times he responds to our prayers by giving us his indescribable strength to face our fears. God's peace can make our fears evaporate. What are you and your kids facing that you fear? How can God change you in the face of those fears? Ask God to give you and your family his strength and peace to face any fears.

You can write your prayer here.





DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1 GETTING STARTED

QUESTION 1

What, if anything, consistently scares each of your kids?

QUESTION 2

When your kids are scared, what tends to help them, and why?

2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Read: Exodus 13:17–14:31 • Group 1: Exodus 13:17–14:4 • Group 2: Exodus 14:5–20 • Group 3: Exodus 14:21–31

QUESTION 3

When have you experienced God's deliverance when you were afraid? What did God do, and how did it ease your fears?

QUESTION 4

What makes it easy—or difficult—for you and your kids to trust God for help when you're afraid? Explain.

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO FAMILIES

QUESTION 5

What fear (or fears) is your family currently facing?

QUESTION 6

What do you think it means when God doesn't deliver us out of a scary situation?

QUESTION 7

When your family faces fears, what role does—or can—prayer play?

QUESTION 8

How can you help your kids take their fears to Jesus?



Insight for Parents ■■■■■■

Enlist your whole family in creating a poster or other work of art that'll help you all remember the ways God has helped your family. Use the title "I am the Lord your God who...." Update the poster every time God helps a family member amid fear.

Faith Talk Starter ■■■■■■

Talk about a time your family faced a scary situation. Maybe you were trapped in a car during a violent storm, or perhaps your house was broken into. Have each family member share what they remember about the situation and talk about how they felt before, during, and after. Then ask each person to share a time they've been afraid in the past week. Encourage everyone to think of ways God can help when we're afraid.

Prayer Starter ■■■■

What fears do your kids struggle with? Pray that each one will take their fears to Jesus. And pray that God will give your children his peace amid their fears.



Notes Write your prayers, ideas, and other thoughts here.



The FaithWeaver NOW Parent Handbook weaves transformative experiences into every lesson and includes activities that help parents make the Bible unforgettable for their families.

This quarter you'll explore these Bible passages:

	BIBLE CONTENT/SCRIPTURE	KEY VERSE	BIBLE POINT
WEEK 1	The Israelites Cross the Red Sea (Exodus 13:17-14:31)	"He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me" (Psalm 23:3-4).	God helps us when we're afraid.
WEEK 2	God Sends Quail and Manna (Exodus 16:1-26)	"You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever" (Psalm 23:5-6).	God gives us what we need.
WEEK 3	God Provides Water (Exodus 17:1-7)	"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters" (Psalm 23:1-2).	God is patient with us.
WEEK 4	God Gives the Ten Commandments (Part 1) (Exodus 19:16-20:21)	"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts" (Deuteronomy 6:5-6).	Honor God by obeying him.
WEEK 5	God Gives the Ten Commandments (Part 2) (Exodus 19:16-20:21)	" 'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother,' and 'love your neighbor as yourself' " (Matthew 19:18-19).	God tells us how to respect others.
WEEK 6	The Israelites Worship a Golden Calf (Exodus 32:1-25)	"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).	Only God deserves our worship.
WEEK 7	The Israelites Build the Tabernacle (Exodus 35:4-36:38)	"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Colossians 3:17).	We all can serve God.
WEEK 8	Moses Sends Spies Into the Promised Land (Numbers 13:1-14:23)	"Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58).	Be brave for God.
WEEK 9	Balaam's Donkey Talks (Numbers 22:1-38)	"Come and see what God has done, how awesome his works in man's behalf!" (Psalm 66:5).	Pay attention to God.
WEEK 10	Joshua Becomes Leader of Israel (Joshua 1:1-11)	"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).	God is with us.
WEEK 11	Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho (Joshua 2:1-24)	"And without faith it is impossible to please God" (Hebrews 11:6).	We can have faith that God will do big things in our lives.
WEEK 12	The Israelites Cross the Jordan River (Joshua 3:1-4:24)	"Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done" (1 Chronicles 16:8).	Remember what God has done.
WEEK 13	God Gives Victory Over Jericho (Joshua 6:1-27)	"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you" (Luke 11:9).	God's power works for good.



THIS IS A SAMPLE
The number of pages is limited.

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