



FAITHWEAVER

Weaving faith into today's families

NOW[®]



FALL
SUNDAY SCHOOL

PRE-K&K **AGES 5&6**
TEACHER GUIDE

FAiTHweAVER

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



FALL
SUNDAY SCHOOL

PRE-K&K
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

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, Pre-K & K/Ages 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Even the Sunday school Bible curriculum you used just a couple of years ago is already out of date.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

Children whose parents provide for their needs and give them love and attention can view God as a heavenly being with characteristics like a father. These children can easily trust God to meet their needs, just as they trust their parents. However, children who have experienced abusive relationships may need extra guidance as they learn to trust adults as well as God. Use this lesson to help children know they can count on God.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Welcoming Song Sing or listen to praises for God.	signal, CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Key Verse Activity	Powerful Help Move a table alone and with helpers.	Bible, table	
3 Bible Exploration	Theo's News Find out what a clock has to do with today's Scripture.	Surprise Box (any box will do), Theo puppet, clock with hands and numbers, CD player Teacher Pack: CD	Put the clock inside the Surprise Box, and hide the box where it's easily accessible.
	Bible Time: God Helps David Count on others to help them, and learn how David counted on God's help.	Bible, My Bible Playground, one 6-inch piece of yarn per child Teacher Pack: jewel stickers	Remove the Lesson 1 pages from each My Bible Playground student book.



► Bible Point

We can count on God.

Key Verse

God is our help (adapted from Psalm 46:1).

Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will count on God to take care of them.



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
4 Weaving Faith Into Life <i>about 20 min.</i> <i>(Choose 2 centers.)</i>	Center 1: King David Use dramatic play to show how God might have helped David.	blocks, action-figure toys	
	Center 2: "Count on God" Snacks Make "clock" snacks.	½ bagel per child, cream cheese, plastic knives, raisins, carrot strips, clock from Theo's News, antibacterial gel (optional)	
	Center 3: Help From a Friend Blow a cotton ball across the floor with help from a friend.	cotton balls, 1 drinking straw per child, masking tape	Use masking tape to mark a straight line along one side of your room about 7 feet away from the wall.
	Center 4: David's Crown Make crowns fit for a king.	one 4x20-inch strip of construction paper per child, scissors, roll of aluminum foil, bright stickers and craft supplies, stapler or tape	
5 Lasting Impressions <i>about 10 min.</i>	Be a FaithWeaver Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.	My Bible Playground	
	Be My Helper Prayer Sing and do motions for an action prayer.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
	Weaving Faith at Home Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.	My Bible Playground	Tear out the letter to parents from the back of each My Bible Playground 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.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.



Welcoming Song Supplies

signal
CD player
Teacher Pack
CD: "When I Go to
Church" (track 3)

Powerful Help Supplies

Bible
table

1 GETTING STARTED

Welcoming Song

Tips 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. Consistently use the same signal to announce a transition to the next activity. You could flip the lights off and on, use a train whistle, have a puppet rustling inside a bag, or sing cleanup songs. Keep it simple, consistent, and fun.

What You'll Do

As the children arrive, greet each one with a smile. When it's time to begin, use your signal to gather the children together in a circle. Stand in the center of the circle with the children gathered around you holding hands. Have the children walk around in a circle and sing "When I Go to Church" (track 3 on the CD) to the tune of "Do Your Ears Hang Low?"

 **When I go to church, I see all my special friends.
Where I learn about God's love, and how it never, ever ends.
And I learn about how Jesus came to die for all my sins.
When I go to church.
(Repeat 2x.)**

Say: **It's wonderful to sing to God because God is always with us. I'm so happy that
► WE CAN COUNT ON GOD.**

2 KEY VERSE ACTIVITY

Powerful Help

What You'll Do

Have the children form a circle and sit down. Open your Bible to Psalm 46:1, and show the children the words.

Say: **Our Key Verse from the Bible says, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." This means that God is our help. Let's say it together.** Lead the children in repeating the simplified Key Verse with you: **God is our help (Psalm 46:1).**

Choose one child to move a classroom table; let him or her struggle to move it.

Say: **Now let's all be God's helpers and help [child's name] move the table back.**
Allow the children to move the table.

Talk With Kids

Ask:

- Why was it easier to move the table with help?
- Why is it easier to do things with God's help?

Say: ► **WE CAN COUNT ON GOD.** He's our help in everything we do. God helps us do big jobs or little jobs. God can help us when we move tables, do our chores at home, or finish our work at school. Let's say our Key Verse together one more time. Lead the children in saying the Key Verse: **God is our help (Psalm 46:1).**

3 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Theo's News

What You'll Do

Say: **Friends, it's time for Theo's News!**

Have the children sit in a circle, and then play "Here, Theo" (track 2 on the CD). When the CD segment ends, bring out the Surprise Box, and put Theophilus the FaithRetriever puppet on your hand. Then follow along with the script.

Theo: Hi, everybody!

Teacher: Hello, Theo! Tell us what interesting news you've dug up about the Bible today.

Theo: I hid it in the Surprise Box.

Teacher: Let's look inside to see what Theo dug up for us today.

(Choose a child to open the Surprise Box, and have the kids pass the clock around the circle so everyone can see it up close. Give the children time to guess what they'll learn about in the Bible today.)

Teacher: Theo, why did you hide this clock in the Surprise Box?

Theo: Because there are numbers on the clock.

Teacher: What do numbers have to do with the Bible today?

(Pause for kids to guess why numbers might be important to the Bible today.)

Theo: Because you can count the numbers to tell you what time the clock says, just like ► **WE CAN COUNT ON GOD** to be our helper. In the Bible, you'll learn that it's important to count on God.

Teacher: We'll learn about a man who counted on God to help him be a good king.

Theo: Have fun, boys and girls!

Teacher: Say goodbye to Theo.

Encourage the children to wave or say goodbye to Theo. Then put Theo away in a safe place for next week's use.



Theo's News Supplies

Surprise Box (any box will do)
CD player
Theo puppet
clock with hands and numbers
Teacher Pack
CD: "Here, Theo" (track 2)

Theo's News Easy Prep

Put the clock inside the Surprise Box, and hide the box where it's easily accessible.



Bible Time: God Helps David Supplies

Bible
My Bible Playground
one 6-inch piece of yarn
per child
Teacher Pack
jewel stickers

Bible Time: God Helps David Easy Prep

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

Bible Time: God Helps David

What You'll Do

Open your Bible to 2 Samuel, and show the children the words.

Say: **We learn in the Bible today that ► WE CAN COUNT ON GOD.** Have kids repeat the Bible Point after you. **Counting on God means that we can depend on God to help us and to always be here for us.**

Give each child a piece of yarn. Have children try to tie the yarn into a knot, using only one hand.

Ask:

- **If you can't tie a knot, what could you do?** Give the children about two minutes to come up with some solutions and help each other tie a knot.
- **Who did you count on to help you tie a knot?**
- **Who are people you can count on to help you at school or home?**

Say: **We need help doing lots of things. We might count on our parents, brothers or sisters, teachers, or friends to help us. ► WE CAN COUNT ON GOD to help us, too. God helps us at home, at school, and at church—everywhere we go.**

Give each child Lesson 1 from My Bible Playground, and have kids write their names on their papers. Also hand out the jewel stickers.

Say: **In the Bible, we learn about how David became a king. I'm going to tell you what happened, and you'll copy the motions that I do.** Have children do the motions in parentheses with you as you read the following.

God had told David many years earlier that he would be king. (*pretend to put a crown on your head*)

But mean King Saul tried to have David killed. (*pretend to put your arms up against an attacker*)

And David spent many years running from Saul. (*run in place*)

After Saul died, the people asked David to be the king of Israel. (*lie down on the floor to pretend to be dead like Saul, and then jump up as David*)

Being a king is a big job, and David needed help. (*look around as though looking for help*)

David needed someone he could count on who was wise. David prayed to God. (*put your hands together in prayer*)

Say: **As the king of Israel, David knew he'd have to count on God for help in knowing what to do. David was king for 40 years because he counted on God's help. ► WE CAN COUNT ON GOD, just as David counted on God.**

Have children form pairs. Then have children take turns telling each other different things they can count on God for, such as for comfort when they're afraid or to help them feel better when they're sick. For each way a child can think of to count on God, let him or her place a sticker on the crown shown on the My Bible Playground page. When kids have finished, have kids count aloud the number of jewels on their crowns.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

- How does a king know what to do?
- Who could a king count on for help?
- Why do you think God helps us?

Say: ► **WE CAN COUNT ON GOD to help us and to always be here for us. David knew that if he counted on God, God would take care of him. Just like David, ► WE CAN COUNT ON GOD to help us every day.**

4 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Choose at least two of the learning centers to help reinforce today's Bible lesson. Gather the needed materials, and put the supplies in an out-of-sight area until you're ready for them. Allow the children to choose which center they'd like to explore first. Then circulate among the children as they create and explore. Encourage them to make connections between their activities and the Bible by asking them the questions included with each description.

CENTER 1:

King David

What You'll Do ■■■■

Form pairs, and have partners use building blocks to build a block kingdom. Have children use the toy figures to act out things that David may have needed God's help to do in his kingdom. Children could also use the blocks to create a house similar to the one they live in and use the action figures to act out things they need God's help to do.

Say: **David knew that he would need to count on God to help him be the king.**

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

- What things did David need God's help with?
- What things do you need God's help with?



Center 1: King David Supplies

blocks
action-figure toys





Center 2: "Count on God" Snacks Supplies

½ bagel per child
cream cheese
plastic knives
raisins
carrot strips
clock from Theo's News
antibacterial gel
(optional)

ALLERGY ALERT

Center 3: Help From a Friend Supplies

cotton balls
1 drinking straw per child
masking tape

Center 3: Help From a Friend Easy Prep

Use masking tape to mark a straight line along one side of your room about 7 feet away from the wall.

Say: David knew he could count on God, and ► **WE CAN COUNT ON GOD**, too.

CENTER 2:

"Count on God" Snacks

What You'll Do

Place the clock where kids can see it. Have children wash their hands (or use antibacterial gel). Remind children that just as we count on clocks to help us tell the time, ► **WE CAN COUNT ON GOD** to be our helper anytime. Show the children how to spread cream cheese on their bagel halves, add raisins for the numbers on the clock, and add two carrot strips for the hands on the clock. Have children ask one another, "What time is it?" while other children respond, "Time to count on God."

Say: ► **WE CAN COUNT ON GOD** to be our helper, at any time of the day or night. This week as you look at the clocks in your house, remember that God is our help and you can count on him every minute of every day.

Give thanks to God for the treats, and encourage children to enjoy their "clock" snacks.

CENTER 3:

Help From a Friend

What You'll Do

Have children form pairs. Give each pair one cotton ball and two drinking straws. Instruct each pair to stand about 4 feet from the masking-tape line. Have partners take turns getting on the floor and using a straw to blow a cotton ball across the floor to the line. Then have each pair work together to blow the cotton ball across the line.

Talk With Kids

Ask:

- Was it easier to blow the cotton ball by yourself or with your partner? Why?
- How do you feel when you have a friend to help you with a job?

Say: **We feel good when someone helps us do our job, especially if the job is a hard job to do.** ► **WE CAN COUNT ON GOD** to help us, whether our jobs are big or small.

CENTER 4:

David's Crown

What You'll Do

Say: **When David became king, he sat on a throne, was given a royal robe, and wore a beautiful crown. Only the king could wear this crown. The king was the special leader. David was a very special leader because he counted on God for help, and God was always with David. Let's make a crown and pretend we're kings who count on God.**

Give each child a strip of construction paper. Let them cover the paper with aluminum foil and then decorate their crowns by attaching colorful stickers and craft supplies. Staple or tape each child's crown to fit his or her head.

Talk With Kids

Ask:

- What's it like to wear a crown like a king?
- How can you count on God like David did when he was king?

Say: **Wear your crown home and when people ask you why you have a crown on, tell them it's because ► WE CAN COUNT ON GOD.**

5

LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Be a FaithWeaver

What You'll Do

After the children have cleaned up their centers, bring everyone back to a circle area on the floor. Review the lesson activities and the Bible Point, and then encourage the children to share what they remember about the Bible today.

Also use this time to challenge kids in their faith. Encourage them to choose a Daily Challenge for applying today's lesson to their lives this week. Use this challenge for encouraging your children's growing relationships with Jesus.

Talk With Kids

Say: **Today we learned that ► WE CAN COUNT ON GOD. I'd like each of you to choose a Daily Challenge to help you remember that you can count on God this week.**



Center 4: David's Crown Supplies

one 4x20-inch strip of
construction paper per
child
scissors
roll of aluminum foil
bright stickers and craft
supplies
stapler or tape

Be a FaithWeaver Supplies

My Bible Playground



Be My Helper Prayer Supplies

CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: "Be My Helper"
(track 9)

Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Playground

Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

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

Give kids these three ideas to choose from:

- **Thank God for the weather outside, and ask your mom or dad why God made the weather that way.**
- **Thank God for giving you food.**
- **Thank God for your mom or dad, and then make your mom or dad a card to say thank you for taking care of you.**

Allow the kids to either choose from these three ideas or take a minute to think of a few new ideas together. Then have them tell which idea they've chosen. Make sure you choose a challenge as well and tell kids which challenge you chose. Your commitment will inspire children and will give them an opportunity to see God at work in your life as well as in theirs!

Be My Helper Prayer

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Lead children in singing "Be My Helper" (track 9 on the CD) to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It." Encourage the children to sing and do the motions with you.

🎵 **Dear God, help me when my jobs are very big.** (*open arms wide*)
Dear God, help me when my jobs are very small. (*hold hands close together with palms facing*)
If they're big (*open arms wide*)
or if they're small, (*hold hands close together*)
I need help with one and all.
Dear God, help me when my jobs are big or small. (*open arms wide, and then hold hands close together*)

End the prayer by saying together, **"In Jesus' name, amen."**

Weaving Faith at Home

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have children take home their My Bible Playground pages whether they worked on them or not. Have the children tell their parents the challenge they committed to in the "Be a FaithWeaver" activity. Encourage the parents to help their kids fulfill this commitment throughout the week. 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 e-mailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

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:

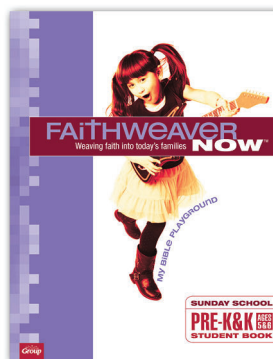
	BIBLE CONTENT/SCRIPTURE	KEY VERSE	BIBLE POINT
WEEK 1	David Becomes King (2 Samuel 5:1-5; Psalm 37)	God is our help (adapted from Psalm 46:1).	We can count on God.
WEEK 2	David Is Merciful to Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9)		God wants us to be kind.
WEEK 3	God Forgives David (2 Samuel 12:1-7; Psalm 51:1-12)		Tell God you're sorry when you do wrong.
WEEK 4	Absalom Rebels and Is Defeated (2 Samuel 15:1-12; 17:1-12; 18:1-18)		God says don't be selfish.
WEEK 5	Solomon Asks for Wisdom (1 Kings 2:1-4; 3:3-28)	"Trust in the Lord with all your heart" (Proverbs 3:5).	God teaches us.
WEEK 6	Solomon Writes Many Proverbs (1 Kings 4:29-34; Proverbs 1:1-7)		The Bible shows us how to live.
WEEK 7	Solomon Turns Away From God (1 Kings 11:1-13)		Worship God only.
WEEK 8	The Kingdom Divides (1 Kings 11:28-12:24)	"Do not worry" (Matthew 6:31).	Obey God.
WEEK 9	Elijah Helps a Widow (1 Kings 17:7-24)		God takes care of us.
WEEK 10	Elijah Challenges the Prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:16-40)		Serve God.
WEEK 11	God Speaks to Elijah in a Whisper (1 Kings 19:9-18)	Do not fear; God is with you (adapted from Isaiah 41:10).	God is always with us.
WEEK 12	God Takes Elijah to Heaven (2 Kings 2:1-15)		God can help us be good friends.
WEEK 13	Jehoshaphat Trusts God for Victory (2 Chronicles 20:1-30)		God helps us.

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...



***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.

