

# FAITHWEAVER

Weaving faith into today's families

## NOW<sup>®</sup>

**FALL  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**SENIOR HIGH  
HANDBOOK**

**Group**  
Real. Bold. Love.

# FAiTHweAVER

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

**FALL  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**SENIOR HIGH  
HANDBOOK**

The logo for the Group, featuring the word "Group" in a stylized, italicized font with a cluster of small dots above it.

# FAITHWEAVER NOW

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

**FaithWeaver NOW® Bible Curriculum, Senior High Handbook, Fall**

Copyright © 2003 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, Chad Kimberley, Jim Kochenburger, Pamela Malloy, Erin McKay, Emily Smith, Kelli B. Trujillo, Roxanne Wieman, and Paula Yingst

Editors: Amy Nappa, Jessica Sausto, Owen Shattuck, Ali Thompson, Christine Yount Jones

Copy Editors: Lyndsay Gerwing, Becky Helzer, 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

Cover Photographer: Rodney Stewart

Illustrator: Matt Wood

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 978-1-4707-6802-7

Printed in the United States of America.

001 USA 0522



# Contents

**Introduction and Welcome ..... 5**

**The Studies**  
.....

**Study 1: David Becomes King**  
2 Samuel 5:1-5; Psalm 37  
..... **8**

**Study 2: David Is Merciful to Mephibosheth**  
2 Samuel 9  
..... **16**

**Study 3: God Forgives David**  
2 Samuel 11:1–12:10; Psalm 51:1-12  
..... **22**

**Study 4: Absalom Rebels and Is Defeated**  
2 Samuel 15:1-12; 17:1-12; 18:1-18  
..... **30**

**Study 5: Solomon Asks for Wisdom**  
1 Kings 2:1-4; 3:3-28  
..... **38**

**Study 6: Solomon Writes Many Proverbs**  
1 Kings 4:29-34; Proverbs 1:1-7  
..... **46**

**Study 7: Solomon Turns Away From God**  
1 Kings 11:1-13  
..... **54**

**Study 8: The Kingdom Divides**  
1 Kings 11:28–12:24  
..... **62**

**Study 9:     Elijah Helps a Widow**  
                  1 Kings 17:7-24  
..... 70

**Study 10:   Elijah Challenges the Prophets of Baal**  
                  1 Kings 18:16-40  
..... 78

**Study 11:   God Speaks to Elijah in a Whisper**  
                  1 Kings 19:9-18  
..... 84

**Study 12:   God Takes Elijah to Heaven**  
                  2 Kings 2:1-15  
..... 92

**Study 13:   Jehoshaphat Trusts God for Victory**  
                  2 Chronicles 20:1-30  
..... 100





## 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 Senior High Handbook!



The fact that you're reading this shows how much you care about your faith. You take your relationship with Jesus seriously. You want to live like him. But it can be hard sometimes, especially as a teenager, and with **FaithWeaver NOW** we're going to help you grow in your faith.

You'll learn together with—and from—other students who wrestle with the same issues you do. Together, you'll work through those issues and give each other brand-new insights into how to weave faith into your life. You'll have fun learning together. You'll discover things you never knew about yourself, 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 life and walk with God for a lifetime.

Here's what you'll find in your FaithWeaver NOW Senior High 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.



### **THE JESUS CONNECTION**

This brief devotion will help you think through how this week's study applies to your life and how to pray about this week's point.



### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

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





### ■ ■ ■ DAILY CHALLENGE

Here you'll have some options for how to apply each study to your life. Mark the one you choose as a reminder to live out your faith.



### ■ ■ ■ QUOTABLES

A get-you-thinking quote about faith, life, and whatever you're learning about that week.



### ■ ■ ■ FAITH JOURNAL

Use this section to reflect honestly about the study each week when you go home. There's even space for you to write about your insights.



### ■ ■ ■ TALK WITH YOUR FAMILY

You've learned a lot today, and so has your family. Why not cement the learning by exploring today's point together? You can do that by using the activity and discussion in this section.

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







# David Becomes King

2 Samuel 5:1-5; Psalm 37



## ►Bible Point

We can rely on God.

## Key Verse

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1).

## 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





**BIBLE BACKGROUND**

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.**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---





## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## 1

FAITH  
CONNECTION

- What was the hardest thing to do without your thumbs? Why was it so hard?
- What are some other everyday tasks that would be difficult to accomplish without thumbs?
- What are some similarities between relying on our thumbs and relying on God in our everyday lives?
- What are some examples of everyday things that, without even realizing it, we rely on God to do?

## MEDIA

## CONNECTION (OPTION)

- Explain whether you agree or disagree with the song.
- What's one of the hardest things you've had to go through?
- Tell about someone you most often relied on during that tough time.
- What do you think is the most important thing to do when going through tough times? Explain.

## 2

BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

**Read:** 2 Samuel 5:1-5; Psalm 37

- What did you learn from David's reliance on God that applies to your own life?
- Explain which "how" and "why" would be your personal number one answer.
- What's an area of your life where it's hardest to rely on God?





**3**

**WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE**

**Can't Live Without Him**

- Which words or phrases on our wall of stickies apply to how we rely on God?
- Tell about a time you relied on God and he responded in one of the ways listed on the wall.
- Based on what we've read and talked about today, what's one way you need to rely on God more?



**Commitment Collage**

**Read:** Psalm 46:1

- If you're willing to share, what did you write on your sticky note and talk to God about?
- How did this prayer activity change the way you view relying on God?
- How has God shown you he's worthy of your reliance?



**Quotables**

"We did not know what was ahead of us, but I was certain of one thing—that Jesus would never leave us nor forsake us and that, for a child of God, no pit could be so deep that Jesus was not deeper still."  
(Corrie ten Boom, who hid Jews during the Holocaust and was sent to a concentration camp, in *Prison Letters*)

**Daily Challenges**

Choose one or more of these Daily Challenges to do this week.

- Search for other verses in your Bible that remind you that God is always in control, and that we can always rely on him no matter what we're going through. Write those verses down and keep them where you can look at them as you need them.
- Where do you take God for granted right now? Invite him into those areas of your life. You could pray before every test, practice, or important event, asking for God's help and wisdom.
- Who do you know who really needs to rely on God right now? Share with him or her what God has done in your own life, and show God's faithfulness by being there for that person.

**Faith Journal**

What is the hardest thing about relying on God?

---

---

---

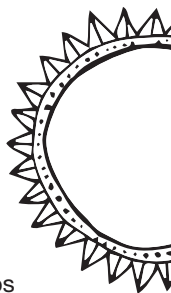
---

---

---

---

---



## Talk With Your Family

As a family, go online to find pictures or information about concentration camps during the Holocaust. Look through them together in order to get a good idea of Corrie ten Boom's living conditions as she wrote her letters. Then discuss these questions:

- What strikes you about Corrie's attitude? What is so amazing about it?
- How do you think Corrie found the strength to maintain that attitude?

Read Psalm 46:1-3, 10-11 with your family, and discuss these questions:

- When in your life have the mountains seemed to be falling and the oceans roaring?
- How do you usually respond to really difficult situations?
- Why do you or don't you believe that you can rely on God even in the most difficult moments of life?

Corrie's letters from prison and concentration camp are amazing testaments to her faith. As a family, write your own faith letters recounting difficult times in your lives and how God saw you through them. Seal the family's letters in an envelope, and keep them in a special place as a reminder that you can rely on God even in the most difficult times.

(To find out more about Corrie ten Boom and her family, read *The Hiding Place*.)





## Psalm 37

## Why?

List the many reasons David mentions that we should rely on God.

[illegible][illegible]

The FaithWeaver NOW Senior High Handbook weaves transformative experiences into every lesson and includes activities that make the Bible unforgettable.

*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 refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1).	We can rely on God.
WEEK 2	David Is Merciful to Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9)	"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves" (Romans 12:10).	Being kind honors God and others.
WEEK 3	God Forgives David (2 Samuel 11:1-12:10; Psalm 51:1-12)	"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).	God wants us to repent when we sin.
WEEK 4	Absalom Rebels and Is Defeated (2 Samuel 15:1-12; 17:1-12; 18:1-18)	"He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8).	A self-centered attitude hurts God and others.
WEEK 5	Solomon Asks for Wisdom (1 Kings 2:1-4; 3:3-28)	"If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him" (James 1:5).	God gives us wisdom.
WEEK 6	Solomon Writes Many Proverbs (1 Kings 4:29-34; Proverbs 1:1-7)	"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding" (Proverbs 9:10).	We become wise by following God's Word.
WEEK 7	Solomon Turns Away From God (1 Kings 11:1-13)	"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).	Be devoted to God.
WEEK 8	The Kingdom Divides (1 Kings 11:28-12:24)	"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).	Choose to follow God.
WEEK 9	Elijah Helps a Widow (1 Kings 17:7-24)	"So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'... But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:31, 33).	Trust God completely.
WEEK 10	Elijah Challenges the Prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:16-40)	"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).	Choose to serve God.
WEEK 11	God Speaks to Elijah in a Whisper (1 Kings 19:9-18)	"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand" (Isaiah 41:10).	When we feel alone, God is with us.
WEEK 12	God Takes Elijah to Heaven (2 Kings 2:1-15)	"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31).	God wants us to be faithful.
WEEK 13	Jehoshaphat Trusts God for Victory (2 Chronicles 20:1-30)	"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7).	God helps us with our problems.





# **THIS IS A SAMPLE**

**The number of pages is limited.**

Purchase the item for the complete version.

