

FAITHWEAVER

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

**SPRING
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**SENIOR HIGH
HANDBOOK**

Group

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SUNDAY SCHOOL**

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Real. Bold. Love.

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, Senior High Handbook, Spring

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ISBN 978-1-4707-6653-5

Printed in the United States of America.

001 USA 1121



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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Even the Sunday school Bible curriculum you used just a couple of years ago is already out of date.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 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.

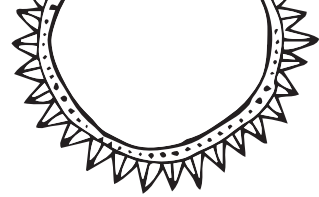


TALK WITH YOUR FAMILY

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!





Jesus Teaches About Good Fruit

Luke 6:43-45



► Bible Point

Acting like Jesus shows we're Christians.

.....

Key Verse

"In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

.....

Jesus Compares Trees to Authentic Faith

.....

In his references to good and bad trees in this passage, Jesus is obviously drawing an analogy to the fruit that people bear. Notice that the distinction is not between healthy apple trees and diseased apple trees. It is between fruit trees and thorns or briars; it is the kind of tree that makes the difference. Many kinds of trees look good but don't produce fruit. So it is with people. Jesus seems to be saying that a person who is not really a servant of God, no matter how good he or she seems to be, cannot possibly produce fruit for him. Conversely, someone who really is God's servant will automatically produce fruit.

The Heart Is Known Through Actions

.....

Then in Luke 6:45, Jesus expounds on the principle he introduced in the tree metaphor. What comes out of us through our speech and behavior flows from what is within. If what is inside us is good and God-honoring, our lives will honor God. If what is inside us is evil, our lives will not honor God. No matter how hard we try to make good impressions, no one will be fooled for long if our hearts are deceitful.





BIBLE BACKGROUND



**THE JESUS
CONNECTION**

As we make our relationship with Jesus a priority, we'll find our actions will bear fruit that will please him.

Read aloud Luke 6:43-45. What can you do to store good things in your heart? In what circumstances can you bring good things out of the good you've stored in your heart? If you passionately follow God, the good you've stored will flow out to a needy world. Ask God to show you someone in your church who has a need. And then do the good thing and help that person. Don't forget to pray for the person!



You can write your prayer here.





DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

FAITH CONNECTION

- Was this easy or difficult to guess? Why?
- How did the group leader show you what the object was? What clues did he or she give you?
- What specific clues do you think are seen in the lives of Christians?
- How do we show we're Christians?

MEDIA

CONNECTION (OPTION)

- What kind of attention do these people get? Why do they get this attention?
- How are the rest of us recognized? What kind of attention do we get, and why?
- What kinds of things do you think God places value on? How is it similar to or different from what the world values?
- How do we show we're Christians?

2

BIBLE EXPLORATION

Read: Matthew 7:16-20; Luke 6:43-45; Romans 8:23; Philippians 1:11; James 1:18; Galatians 5:22-23

- What does it mean that trees bear after their own kind?
- If we bear after Christ, what should our fruits be?
- If we are to bear a resemblance to Christ, what would some of the fruits in our lives be?
- Did you learn anything new about how we should show we're Christians? Explain.





3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Read: Matthew 5:16

- What does this verse tell you about how we can show we're Christians?
- What does it tell you about why we should show others we're Christians?



Quotables

"You should do identically as Jesus did. He did the Father's Will. He lived the Father's Will. He spoke the Father's Words."—E.W. Kenyon, In His Presence

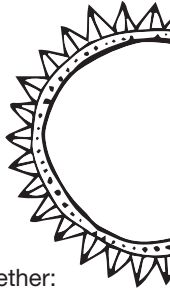
Daily Challenges

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

- Do one random act of kindness in secret for someone at school this week. (Don't get caught, or it doesn't count!)
- In what areas do you bring honor to Christ by your actions? In what areas do you fall short? Choose one behavior that you could improve upon, and resolve to do things differently for the next seven days.
- Make a fresh fruit salad for your family. As you serve your family members, share with them what you've learned this week about what it means to bear good fruit for Jesus Christ.

Faith Journal

People are to know we are Christians by our fruits—our inner qualities and the actions that flow from them. One thing I do that might not reflect Christ is _____. But I can change that by _____.



Talk With Your Family

Read Matthew 7:16-20 with your family, and then discuss these questions together:

- Do you think people can recognize you by your fruits? Explain.
- Why is it important to act on our good fruits, rather than just talking about them?

On a piece of poster board, draw a tree with four to six leafless branches. Discuss activities you might do as a family that would show the fruits of God's love and Christ's presence in your lives. For example, you might volunteer at a food bank or a homeless shelter or visit elderly shut-ins or people in a nursing home. Identify an un-met need that you and your family can help to meet. List the possibilities, one on each branch of the tree. As you undertake the activities, have each family member draw and color a leaf on the appropriate branch of the tree. Soon the tree will be filled with leaves, and your fruits will be bringing God's love to those who need it most.



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	Jesus Teaches About Good Fruit (Luke 6:43-45)	"In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).	Acting like Jesus shows we're Christians.
WEEK 2	Jesus Tells the Parable of the Lost Son (Luke 15:11-32)	"But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love" (Nehemiah 9:17).	God will forgive us when we sin.
WEEK 3	Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet (John 13:1-17)	"If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all" (Mark 9:35).	Jesus wants us to serve others.
WEEK 4	Jesus Is Tried and Crucified (Luke 19:28-40; 23:1-49)	"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).	Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins.
WEEK 5	Jesus Appears to Mary (John 20:1-18)	"That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).	Jesus is alive.
WEEK 6	Apostles Defend Their Faith (Acts 5:12-42)	"Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance" (James 1:2-3).	Keep following God, even when it's hard.
WEEK 7	Saul Meets Jesus Near Damascus (Acts 9:1-20)	"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17).	Jesus changes our lives.
WEEK 8	Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead (Acts 9:36-43)	"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective" (James 5:16).	God answers when we pray.
WEEK 9	An Angel Frees Peter From Jail (Acts 12:1-18)	"For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways" (Psalm 91:11).	Angels protect and help God's people.
WEEK 10	Lydia Is Converted (Acts 16:9-15)	"Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season" (2 Timothy 4:2).	Be prepared to tell others about Jesus.
WEEK 11	Paul's Jailer Believes in Jesus (Acts 16:16-34)	"They replied, 'Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved'" (Acts 16:31).	Jesus saves us.
WEEK 12	Paul Describes Living by God's Spirit (Romans 8:9-17)	"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23).	When we live by God's Spirit, God changes us.
WEEK 13	Paul Describes Genuine Love (1 Corinthians 13:1-13)	"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs" (1 Corinthians 13:4-5).	God teaches us how to love.



THIS IS A SAMPLE
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