

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

**SUMMER
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**SENIOR HIGH
HANDBOOK**

Group

FAITHWEAVER

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

**SUMMER
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**SENIOR HIGH
HANDBOOK**

Group
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, Summer

Copyright © 2002, 2017 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.

Credits

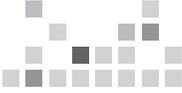
Contributing Authors: J im Hawley, Jim Kochenburger, Pamela Malloy, James W. Miller, Siv M. Ricketts, Christina Schofield, Alison Simpson, Emily Smith, David Trujillo, Kelli B. Trujillo, Vicki L.O. Witte
Editors: Laycie Costigan, Jennifer Hooks, David Jennings, Stephanie Martin, Jessica Sausto, Lee Sparks, 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: Jeff Brunacci, Kate Elvin, Suzi Jensen, Randy Kady, 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

ISBN 978-1-4707-5913-1

Printed in the United States of America.

001 USA 0220



Contents

Introduction and Welcome5

The Studies

Study 1: Elisha Helps a Widow and Her Sons
2 Kings 4:1-78

Study 2: God Heals Naaman’s Leprosy
2 Kings 5:1-1614

Study 3: Jonah Learns a Lesson
Jonah 1–320

Study 4: Jonah Complains About God’s Compassion
Jonah 3:10–4:1128

Study 5: God Calls Isaiah
Isaiah 6:1-834

Study 6: Josiah Promises to Follow the Lord
2 Chronicles 3440

Study 7: Daniel’s Friends Are Safe in the Fiery Furnace
Daniel 346

Study 8: God Protects Daniel in the Lions’ Den
Daniel 6:1-2352



Study 9: God Promises to Restore Israel After the Exile
 Jeremiah 29:4-14 **58**

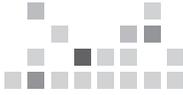
Study 10: Nehemiah Seeks God’s Forgiveness for Israel
 Nehemiah 1:1-2:9 **64**

Study 11: Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall
 Nehemiah 2:11-6:19 **70**

Study 12: Esther Saves Her People
 Esther 2-9 **76**

Study 13: Job Remains Faithful in Suffering
 Job 1:1-2:10; 42:1-6, 10-17 **82**





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.

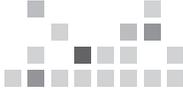
■ ■ THE JESUS CONNECTION

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.

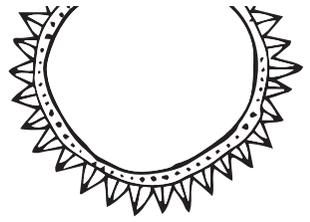


TALK WITH YOUR FAMILY

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!





Elisha Helps a Widow and Her Sons

2 Kings 4:1-7



► Bible Point

God cares for needy people.

.....

Key Verse

“He [God] defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the alien, giving him food and clothing” (Deuteronomy 10:18).

.....

Elisha the Prophet

.....

Elisha was a prophet who ministered in Israel during the time of the divided kingdoms of Israel and Judah. Elisha's ministry spanned the reigns of four kings: Joram, Jehu, Jehoahaz, and Jehoash. And he was even consulted by Jehoshaphat, a king of Judah.

In 2 Kings 4:1-7, it is interesting to note that the husband who died had been from “the company of the prophets.” During this time in Israel in which few people followed God, groups of people gathered to promote the worship of God, with older prophets acting as spiritual mentors to younger ones. Thus it is quite possible that Elisha was familiar with the widow and her sons.

It Seems Cruel, But...

.....

Apparently the man who died had left significant debt. Though it seems cruel, Mosaic law provided that a creditor could force debtors or the children of debtors into slavery in exchange for unpaid debt. And even though the widow had just lost her husband, a creditor was apparently threatening to take her two sons.

The oil the woman possessed wasn't even enough to cook with. The Hebrew word for *oil* used here indicates that she had only a small flask of oil that was used for anointing, not cooking.

God's Creative Plan

.....

God didn't respond to the widow's need by having Elisha produce a bag of gold coins that would enable her to pay her debt. Instead, knowing that they had only a tiny bit of oil, Elisha asked her and her sons to gather jars from their





DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

FAITH CONNECTION

- What was it like playing this game without being able to say what you needed?
- Why did you need to help each other accomplish the goal?
- Why are people sometimes afraid to ask for help when there's something they need?

2

BIBLE EXPLORATION

Read: 2 Kings 4:1-7

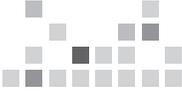
- Talk about someone you've encountered in extreme need, like this widow.
- What were some roles you noticed people taking on in the way the widow was helped? How have you played one of those roles in the life of a needy person?
- If you had to pick percentages, what percent of the work to meet the widow's needs was God's, and what percent was done by people? Explain.

MEDIA CONNECTION (OPTION)

Read: 2 Kings 4:1-7

- Talk about someone you've encountered in extreme need, like the widow in our Bible passage or like Jim in our movie.
- In what ways do you see needs like these often showing up nowadays?
- What were some roles you noticed others taking on in the way the widow or Jim got help? How have you played one of those roles in the life of a needy person?
- If you had to pick percentages, what percent of the work to meet the widow's needs was God's, and what percent was done by people? Explain.





3

**WEAVING FAITH
INTO LIFE**

To the Rescue!

- What were some of the solutions you thought the superheroes could offer?
- Explain whether God's solutions seemed better, the same, or worse than superhero solutions.
- Why don't God's answers to our needs always seem as glamorous as overflowing jars of oil or Superman's heroic rescues?

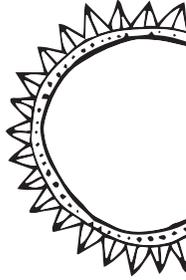
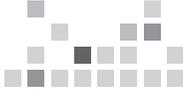


Fill the Jars

Read: Deuteronomy 10:18

- What was it like to think so specifically about the kinds of help these people need?
- What were some of the most interesting ideas you read?
- Why do you think God uses people like us to help those in need?





Talk With Your Family

With your family, read John 6:1-13, and then discuss these questions:

- What are the most obvious needs in this passage? less obvious?
- What can you tell about God from Jesus' attitude toward these people?
- What's significant to you about the source of the food—the little boy?
- The boy gave all the food he had, but was still able to eat lunch. When have you given to someone in need and felt more blessed as a result?
- What does this passage show about what God can do with our acts of service?
- What can you offer to God that will help meet the needs of those around you?

Pray together about activities you're already involved in that offer help to others, such as volunteering, charitable donations you give regularly, or people in your life that seek you for personal counsel. Ask that God would multiply your efforts to show his care for people in need.



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	Elisha Helps a Widow and Her Sons (2 Kings 4:1-7)	"He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the alien, giving him food and clothing" (Deuteronomy 10:18).	God cares for needy people.
WEEK 2	God Heals Naaman's Leprosy (2 Kings 5:1-16)	"Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time" (1 Peter 5:6).	God wants us to be humble.
WEEK 3	Jonah Learns a Lesson (Jonah 1-3)	"The ways of the Lord are right; the righteous walk in them, but the rebellious stumble in them" (Hosea 14:9).	Following God is always the right choice.
WEEK 4	Jonah Complains About God's Compassion (Jonah 3:10-4:11)	"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).	God wants us to love everyone.
WEEK 5	God Calls Isaiah (Isaiah 6:1-8)	"Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker" (Psalm 95:6).	God is holy.
WEEK 6	Josiah Promises to Follow the Lord (2 Chronicles 34)	"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).	God's Word changes our lives.
WEEK 7	Daniel's Friends Are Safe in the Fiery Furnace (Daniel 3)	"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong" (1 Corinthians 16:13).	Stand strong for God.
WEEK 8	God Protects Daniel in the Lions' Den (Daniel 6:1-23)	"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7).	God protects us.
WEEK 9	God Promises to Restore Israel After the Exile (Jeremiah 29:4-14)	"'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'" (Jeremiah 29:11).	We seek God no matter what happens.
WEEK 10	Nehemiah Seeks God's Forgiveness for Israel (Nehemiah 1:1-2:9)	"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).	We seek God's forgiveness.
WEEK 11	Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall (Nehemiah 2:11-6:19)	"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men" (Colossians 3:23).	God helps us face challenges.
WEEK 12	Esther Saves Her People (Esther 2-9)	"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).	Everyone can serve God.
WEEK 13	Job Remains Faithful in Suffering (Job 1:1-2:10; 42:1-6, 10-17)	"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint" (Isaiah 40:31).	God brings us hope when we're hurting.



THIS IS A SAMPLE
The number of pages is limited.

Purchase the item for the complete version.

