



## GOD IS CREATOR

**MEMORY VERSE:** Nehemiah 9:6

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** God Created the World (Genesis 1:1–2:3)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Suriname

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** This week TeamKIDs heard the story of creation from Genesis 1:1–2:3. We emphasized that God spoke everything into existence in six days and focused on the specific order of creation. Creation culminated with humans as a special part of God's creation, whom He created in His image. He created people specifically male and female, called them very good, and gave them work to do in the garden. Only God deserves to be worshiped because He alone is the true Creator who can create from nothing.

God is first and foremost over all creation. He alone is supreme and deserves all worship and praise. He created everything from nothing although He himself doesn't need any of it. God has existed all on His own without the help or involvement of any other part of creation and could go on existing for all eternity with or without that which He made. He is worthy of praise, not because He needs it, but because we need Him. This week, help your kids understand that people can be creative, but only God is creator. That's why we can worship Him.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, start a family list of 26. Why 26? That's the number of letters in the alphabet. Work as a family to brainstorm a part of creation that you are thankful for that begins with each letter of the alphabet. For young kids, this reinforces spelling and sounding out words. For older kids, make it more challenging by allowing each family member to compose their own list, attempting to name items that no one else in the family duplicates. At the dinner table each night, share new items from your alphabet creation list and include a moment in your meal blessing to worship and thank God for those parts of His creation.

**BONUS VERSE:** Genesis 1:31



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Instructions: Distribute to parents at the end of Meeting 1.



## GOD IS HOLY

**MEMORY VERSE:** Psalm 99:9

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** God used Joshua to Lead the People (Joshua 3)

**MISSION EMPHASIS:** Thailand

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** This week TeamKIDs heard the story of God leading Joshua and all Israel to cross the Jordan River in Joshua 3. We emphasized that God is holy and perfect, set apart from all creation. God was with Israel in Egypt and present leading them during the entire wilderness period. Because of who He is and what He has done, He deserves all our attention and worship. Just like Israel set up an altar to honor God on the other side of the Jordan, we can honor God for His perfect work in our lives as well. We cannot understand God in the same terms that we do His creation. The Bible describes God as having sight and hands, not because He is human and limited like us. The Bible describes God that way so that people, in our human simplicity can understand even part of who God is and how He works. The truth is that God is wholly and completely set apart from all creation. This week remind your kids of the truth that God is holy and perfect in every way for all time. People must worship God and recognize Him as the holy and perfect almighty God that He is.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, make an art project to remind your kids about this week's lesson. Find twelve or more large smooth stones and fashion them into a small circle or other shape on your porch or in your yard to remind you of the alter the Israelites made to Joshua. On each of the stones, use a dark permanent marker to write any number of the following: character traits of God, special family Bible verses, things for which you are thankful, or blessings God has worked in your family.

**BONUS VERSE:** Joshua 24:24



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Instructions: Distribute to parents at the end of Meeting 2.



## GOD IS MERCIFUL BIBLE

**MEMORY VERSE:** James 5:11

**PASSAGE:** God Answered Hannah's Prayer (1 Samuel 1:1-20)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Cuba/Ecuador

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** This week TeamKIDs encountered Hannah and her specific prayer request for a child in 1 Samuel 1:1-20. She was desperate for God to intervene in her life and answer her longing for a son. In this Old Testament encounter, your child learned the truth that God loves people and shows His love in ways that we don't deserve. God didn't bless Hannah because she was worthy, but because He is a compassionate and merciful God who hears and answers prayers.

How incredible that the great and powerful God of His created universe would find it within Himself and His love to hear from simple people like Hannah. This week's lesson explained that to your child. Not only did God continue to accomplish His perfect plan to birth Samuel the prophet who would anoint kings and lead people, God heard the heartfelt request of a hurting woman and showed to her His unfailing mercy and compassion. This week, teach your child that God hears and answers people. This is an act of His kindness and also His sovereign will working out His perfect plans in our lives.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, share with your kids some of the significant prayer requests that God has answered as part of your testimony. With older kids, be bold enough to share some of the prayer requests that God answered in a way contrary to what you wanted. Explain how God's plan was best even though you hoped for a different outcome. Carve out a special moment this week to pray as a family, asking each member to share their greatest prayer concern and praying specifically for each person before moving on to the next. Extend this prayer time by including family members outside of the home as well as close friends.

**BONUS VERSE:** Isaiah 45:5



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## GOD IS SOVEREIGN

**MEMORY VERSE:** Proverbs 28:13

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Adam and Eve Sinned (Genesis 3)

**MISSION EMPHASIS:** Kazakhstan

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** This week TeamKIDs were reminded of the presence of sin in all of our lives through the story of Adam and Eve in Genesis 3. From the beginning of creation, people's need for a Savior has been evident. Separated from God because of sin, there is nothing people can do to reconcile themselves to a holy, perfect God. Sin is any action or attitude that disobeyed God, betrays Him, or fails to do good. Sin is punishable by death and only the perfect love of God could come to people in their sin and offer atoning forgiveness as a way out. Your kids need to understand the gravity of sin because it's the only way we can ever fully grasp the weight of God's perfect love for us.

Sin is an essential part of salvation discussions. Without an understanding that mankind is separated from God because of sin, people do not understand their ultimate need for forgiveness. Without the desire to be forgiven and reconciled to God through Jesus and His sacrifice, the concept of salvation isn't fully grasped. Just like this week's memory verse says, whoever confesses their sin will receive mercy. That is forgiveness which leads to salvation.

**AT HOME:** Conduct a fun science experiment this week. You will need a full bottle of pancake syrup and a large bowl. You will also want a sink close by with warm water and some hand towels to avoid unnecessary messes. Fill the bowl with the entire bottle of syrup. Allow kids to take turns putting their hands in and feeling the sticky mess. Explain that sin is sticky like this syrup. It gets all over you and is hard to get off. Sin can also taste really good but ultimately it's really bad for you. This syrup may taste good, but if you ate this bottle, you would be incredibly sick. It creates a big mess and we need help to clean up. That's where Jesus comes in. Take time to clean up and pray a prayer thanking God for sending Jesus to save us from our sin.

**BONUS VERSE:** Romans 10:9



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## GOD IS HOLY

**MEMORY VERSE:** Psalm 86:9-10

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Solomon Worshiped God (1 Kings 8)

**MISSION EMPHASIS:** South Africa

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** God created everything out of nothing and lovingly offers salvation to people through His son Jesus. That isn't the only reason to praise Him. This week, TeamKIDs discovered the story of Solomon in 1 Kings 8 leading Israel to worship God, not just because He created them and chose to love them, but because God is Holy and deserves our affection and attention. God's greatest characteristic is holiness. He is set apart from all of creation. Because of His nature and character, He deserves praise. Kids can learn how to praise God, but first, they need a foundation. This week focused on why we praise God.

Worship is any action or attitude that expresses praise, love, and appreciation for God. While some may simplify worship to singing, it is so much more. It can be both personal and corporate and God truly desires both. This week's meeting explained worship as expressed acts of obedience to God. God lovingly longs for each individual to approach His throne in an attitude of total reverence, awe, and worship. He also instructs us to assemble and worship Him together.

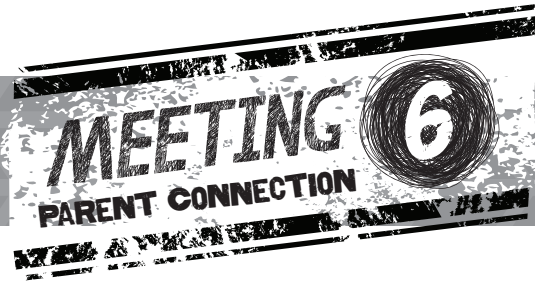
**AT HOME:** This week at home, work on the TeamKID meeting Bible verse together. Allow each family member who can write to print the verse on a piece of paper or index card. If you have a large family, each member can write the verse on one sheet. If your family is smaller, each person should write the verse twice on two different sheets or cards. Post them around your house. Throughout the week, move them around so that your kids never know where a copy of the verse might pop up. Every time they see one, the rule is that they have to stop and say the verse aloud. With preschoolers, work with them to learn the verse repeating single words or small phrases together. Have fun writing God's word in your home and in your own heart this week too.

**BONUS VERSE:** 1 Chronicles 16:9



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## GOD TEACHES HOW TO LIVE

**MEMORY VERSE:** James 1:22

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Peru

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** This week TeamKIDs entered the story of the 10 Commandments found in Exodus 20. The Bible is our guide for living and gives us everything we need to live a Christian life. It starts with the law of God given by God as a gift to God's people. The law guaranteed the fact that man would sin and be in desperate need of a savior. In His grace, God provided Jesus who was not only the sacrifice for our sin but also obeyed God's law perfectly.

In this meeting kids learned that the Bible isn't just any other book. It's not a novel or a textbook. It isn't just a book of history or even a volume of books related to mankind. It's a manual for how we live life today. The commands of God, to some degree, might feel dated or overdue. In their essence, the law of God gives us wisdom for everyday life and a connection point to our need for God. Because mankind can never keep it perfectly, God's law highlights our need for a Savior, who was able to live life according to the commands of God.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, do something fun as a family to engage the story of Moses. Access and watch a film about Moses that chronicles the story of God's chosen Hebrew leader from his birth to the escape from slavery across the Red Sea. Tell the story of Moses and the exodus from Egypt as a family. After you've had the chance to review Moses' story, head to the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20. Talk about each commandment and work on memorizing them as a family. Thank God for His word that helps us know how to live.

**BONUS VERSE:** 1 Timothy 4:12



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## JESUS IS GOD INCARNATE

**MEMORY VERSE:** John 1:14

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Jesus was Born (Luke 2:1-20)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Scotland

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** This week's TeamKID meeting picks up right where the previous week dropped off. Your child didn't leave Exodus 20 last meeting to stumble on Exodus 21 this week. Instead, TeamKIDs will discover God's word made flesh in Jesus by reading selections from Luke 2. The concept of God being found in human likeness is one of the more difficult foundations to grasp. Through the incarnation of Jesus, your child will learn why God came in human form and what it's like to be fully God and fully man. Jesus came so we could see God and be united with Him for eternity.

One of the descriptors kids may have heard to talk about Jesus is the word incarnate, which means "in human form." Jesus can certainly be understood as God's Son, but He should also be characterized as God himself or God in flesh or human form. Isaiah, the prophet called Jesus Immanuel, which means "God with us." This week's meeting helps your child know and understand that Jesus is God incarnate, come to be with us so that He could save us.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, get generous. No matter what month it is, shop and buy a present for someone you know. Make cards. Wrap your gift and prepare to give it away. As you are identifying who to buy for and what to buy, continue to remind your kids that Jesus is God's best gift to us, the gift of God's presence in the world. As you prepare to give a few good gifts of your own, take time to thank God by celebrating the best gift ever given, His Son into the world.

**BONUS VERSE:** Luke 19:10



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## JESUS WENT TO THE TEMPLE

**MEMORY VERSE:** Hebrews 4:12

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Jesus Went to the Temple (Luke 2:41-52)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Syria

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** This week TeamKIDs encountered a Jesus not much older than they are. Twelve-year-old Jesus went to the temple with his parents, family, and friends. He stayed behind in the temple for days to listen and ask questions. The Bible passage for the meeting in Luke 2 concludes with an explanation of how Jesus grew wise and strong. The truest wisdom in life comes from a connection to God's word. God wants people to have a relationship with Him through prayer and scripture reading. It's how we communicate with God and how He communicates with us.

TeamKID is one opportunity for your kids to grow spiritually. The way that people grow spiritually is through understanding God's word, the Bible. Studying scripture is more than learning stories and memorizing facts and verses—it's engaging the God of this universe and communing with Him. Prayer and scripture is how God communicates with us and allows us to communicate with him. As you lead your family this week, be reminded of the great blessing you have to disciple your kids to learn more about God through His Word and the importance of having a relationship with Jesus.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, take Luke 2:52 to the practical degree. Fold a piece of paper into four equal sections by creasing it in half twice. Unfold the page and write the following four headers, one in each quadrant: wisdom, stature, favor with God, and favor with people. Take some time this week and ask your kids to identify ways we can grow in each of those areas. Add them to the list. Things like exercise and vegetables will likely make it into the stature column. Reading and learning should find themselves in the wisdom column. Complete your list and underline those you already do as a family. Circle the ones you plan to incorporate as soon as this week. Post it on your fridge or another prominent place and refer to your quadrants of growth throughout the week.

**BONUS VERSE:** Luke 2:52



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## JESUS WAS A TEACHER

**MEMORY VERSE:** 1 John 4:7-8

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Ghana

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** TeamKIDs learned that God's greatest gift to mankind is Himself and He comes to us in love. God's love is his most essential characteristic. In this meeting TeamKIDs studied the love of God through the story of the prodigal son. The parable of the prodigal son in Luke 15 illustrates God's great love for us.

When asked to sum up the Old Testament law, Jesus chose love as the unifying theme—to love God and love others. He once described the greatest love as being willing to lay down one's life for friends. Love is one of God's greatest characteristics and comes to people as a gift that they can never earn or deserve. God loves and values people as part of His creation so much that He was willing to sacrificially show that love through the death of His own Son. This meeting of TeamKID helps your kids know and frame God's everlasting gift of love.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, take an evening and make it all about togetherness. Eat cereal for dinner. Watch reruns of your favorite family sitcom or kid-friendly show. Pop popcorn. Play a few games. Take funny photos. Play flashlight hide-and-seek in your house. Just do fun things. As a closing devotional before bed, explain that love to many people is spelled T-I-M-E. As kids learn more about God, they should understand that the way He showed His love best is giving Himself in the form of Jesus. The way people can show that love in return is by spending time with Him and also enjoying time spent together. Explain that God takes pleasure in His children when they enjoy time together and when people thank Him for their families. Close by expressing feelings of love to one another.

**BONUS VERSE:** John 13:35



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Instructions: Distribute to parents at the end of Meeting 9.





## JESUS PERFORMED MIRACLES

**MEMORY VERSE:** John 11:25

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Jesus Healed Ten Men (Luke 17:11-19);  
Jesus Raised Lazarus (John 11:1-44)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Cuba/Equador

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** This TeamKID meeting led your child to two incredible miracles of healing. Jesus cured a group of ten men with leprosy and raised Lazarus from the dead. He displayed the power of God and showed people the glory of God. Jesus is still in the business of doing miracles and pointing people to His Father's glory.

The miracles of Jesus were extraordinary. That is because Jesus, Himself, was far more than ordinary. One of the more complex concepts to understand is that Jesus was not part God and part human. He was fully both. Being fully human means that Jesus experienced all of the pain, struggle, longing, and physical entanglement that we do in our finite bodies. Being fully God means that Jesus had access to the unlimited power of God. Jesus was the presence of God and the power of God in human form. In this lesson, your child learned about Jesus being fully God and fully human.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, make a miracle cake. Simply microwave a box of vanilla or chocolate cake mix and the 12-oz soda of your choice for 8-10 minutes. Make sure to use a microwave safe bowl. The cake may still appear to be doughy in the center but will continue to cook and set after turning in the quick-cooking microwave oven. The miracle isn't the cake mix but the reaction that happens when the soda in it heats up. As you're enjoying your surprisingly good treat, name miracles of Jesus. Cite everything from calming the storm to walking on water to healing the man born blind. Include, of course, the resurrection. Celebrate, with cake, the miracles of Jesus this week and the truth of God's power that lives in Jesus.

**BONUS VERSE:** Acts 4:12



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Instructions: Distribute to parents at the end of Meeting 10.



## JESUS IS THE SAVIOR

**MEMORY VERSE:** 1 Peter 2:24

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** The Crucifixion and Resurrection (Matthew 26:36-28:10)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Burkina Faso

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** All of the Bible culminates in one grand climactic moment. All of human history centers on one inconceivable, literally death defying act. Jesus Christ died and rose again. This week's meeting of TeamKID is all about Christ the Savior dying to fulfill God's promise of redemption. Through the narrative story of Christ's final passion in Matthew 26-28, TeamKIDs will witness the reason Jesus came and the incredible love God shows us through Him. Jesus bore the weight of our sin even though He Himself was sinless. He did that so that we might live in right standing with God.

Jesus was more than a teacher. He was more than a miracle worker. Jesus was the long awaited Messiah and Savior. During the meeting, TeamKIDs will identify savior as "one who saves" and come to grips with the reality that Jesus came to save people from the penalty of their sin. It is because of His death that we can receive forgiveness, because the death of a perfect, sinless sacrifice is what paid the just penalty for all our sins. All of this was to fulfill God's promise of redemption. Jesus is the way to be saved.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, design artistic acronyms for every member of the family. Draw and color each person's name vertically down the left side of the paper. Use each letter in their name to pen a specific characteristic or attribute true about that family member. Work together if your children are younger. If older, draw names out of a hat and have each person complete the acronym for the assigned member. Come back together to share. Conclude your time working together to create an artistic acronym for Jesus. Make sure that the S stands for the obvious considering this week's meeting—Savior. Parents, as a bonus, share the story of how you discovered Jesus and how He became your Savior.

**BONUS VERSE:** Ephesians 2:8



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## JESUS IS THE MESSIAH

**MEMORY VERSE:** John 14:26

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Jesus Promised the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4-11)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Tajikistan

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** This week TeamKIDs learned about the third and equally important part of the Holy Trinity. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit on several occasions, including His final words to His disciples in this week's Scripture passage, Acts 1:4-11. It's an abstract concept for kids to understand. This meeting helps them to know that the role of the Holy Spirit is to help people understand God's plan of salvation and to come into a person's life as comforter and counselor when a person trusts Jesus as Savior and Lord.

The Trinity is the perfect unity of God the Father, Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit of God. Creator God is sovereign over all. He sent Jesus to accomplish the work of salvation on the cross. When a person comes to faith in Jesus and experiences salvation, God sends the Holy Spirit into the heart and life of that person. This meeting should help TeamKIDs understand that the Holy Spirit is God's presence alive in the world and active in every believer to guide them as they live.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, make a family map of all the places you have traveled together out of town, out of state, or abroad. Discuss together as a family places that you would like to go together in the near or distant future. Read Acts 1:8 together and discuss where your family might best be Christ's witnesses just like He explained to His disciples. Picture your Jerusalem [where you live] and your Judea [the region surrounding your town]. Also talk about and explain your Samaria [those neighbors who are different culturally and demographically] and also the rest of the unreached world. Close by praying for people to be reached and for your family to be filled with the Holy Spirit and share Jesus without fear.

**BONUS VERSE:** John 4:24



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## GOD CREATED PEOPLE

**MEMORY VERSE:** Genesis 2:7

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** God Created People (Genesis 2:2-24)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Pakistan

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** We are learning that out of all of God's creation, people are most important to Him. He created people differently from all other parts of His creation. When God created man, He formed him with His own hands and breathed the breath of life into him. Unlike all other living things, we are formed in God's image. We are also discovering that each person is unique and valuable to God. His Son, Jesus, was sent to die so that each one of us could have a relationship with Him. When we consider all that God has done for us, our response should be to love Him.

**AT HOME:** Remind your child that he is unique and precious to both God and you by pointing out some of the special things you love about him. Explain that God created people to have a relationship with Him, and that relationship begins when we receive Jesus as our Savior. Discuss ways that we can grow in our relationship with God, such as praying, reading God's Word, worshiping with other believers, and so forth.

Consider the following activity to reinforce the subject matter, enrich understanding, and encourage open discussion:

Distribute paper and sketch out plans for your own perfect people. Feeling scientific? Decide to craft perfect robots instead. Draw them out and list their abilities, character traits, and skills in the margins of your drawing. It's okay to go wild and even superhuman. Share your designs with one another and talk about the people that God made. Discuss reasons why you think God gave humans the gift of language but not flying. Ask your kids to imagine why God made it possible for us to walk and run but not spit fire. Explain by celebrating the unique ways that God created people in general and your family members specifically. Talk about how God made and loves people.

**BONUS VERSE:** 2 Timothy 2:15



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## GOD HAS A PLAN FOR EVERY PERSON

**MEMORY VERSE:** Jeremiah 29:11

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** God Chose David (1 Samuel 16)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Ivory Coast

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** We are learning that God has a plan for every person's life. We saw this evidenced in the life of David. In our meeting today, God chose David to be the next king of Israel. David, who was a shepherd, did not look like a king, but when God saw David, he saw a man after His own heart. God used many things David learned as a shepherd to prepare him to become a king. We can trust that God is also working out our lives according to His plan. Today we shared the plan of salvation with your child because at the center of God's plan is His desire that every person trust in Jesus as Savior and Lord. At home: Tell your child that in the story they read today, David was probably between the ages of 10 and 15. Compare that to their age or to the age of someone they know. Ask them what they want to be when they grow up. Share with them how God used experiences from your childhood or young adulthood to direct you to the job you have now.

Consider the following activity to reinforce the subject matter, enrich understanding, and encourage open discussion.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, decorate some paper crowns. You can search online and cut your own template, score some free ones at a local fast food chain, or buy some craft crowns at a local craft store. Have fun with stickers, markers, craft paper, glue, and even toy jewels. As you enjoy the creative side of family time, talk about God choosing David to be king and the ways that David praised God. Highlight at home the fact that David wrote many Psalms as praise offerings and prayers to God. God made each of us to think, work, and play well but ultimately to give Him praise and adoration.

**BONUS VERSE:** James 1:22



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## GOD WANTS US TO OBEY

**MEMORY VERSE:** Psalm 139:14

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** David Becomes King (2 Samuel 5-8)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Niger (Nih-Zheer)

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** There was a time in history when God set kings for the people of Israel. Saul was the first king. David was appointed the next king when he was still young. When King Saul died, David became king. He moved the people to Jerusalem to lead. King David did what God told him to do. When he obeyed God, the people of Israel and the city were protected from the Philistines. David moved the tabernacle to Jerusalem for the people to worship. God told them how to move the ark of the covenant, a special box with items to help them remember how God had been faithful to them in the past. Once it was in place, David and all the people worshiped. David recognized that God was the source of his strength. David continued to obey God throughout his life and God honored the covenant He had with the people. We talked about David being a great king because he listened to and obeyed God. We challenged the children to use the gifts and skills God gave them.

**AT HOME:** Discuss with your child how God made them with unique characteristics. Talk about any special skills that God gave them and may need to be developed as they grow up. Talk with your child about the consequences they have for disobeying you. Discuss how it is important to obey God as well as parents. Set up a consequence chart with your child and let them help decide what kinds of ways they can be obedient both to parents and to God. Make sure to include rewards for good behavior so you can celebrate together. Play a game as a family and as you play, discuss how following the rules makes the game more fun for everyone.

**BONUS VERSE:** 1 Corinthians 3:16



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## GOD WANTS US TO TRUST HIM

**MEMORY VERSE:** Psalm 9:10

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Daniel Obeyed God (Daniel 1:1-20)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** China

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** We listened a story of Daniel and how he and his friends were taken captive in Babylon. They were to be trained for three years to work for the king. In addition to changing their names, learning the language, and being educated in the knowledge of Babylon, a part of the plan was for them to be able to eat food from the king's table. However, Daniel realized that eating this food would dishonor God because it was not how his people, the Israelites, chose and prepared their food. Daniel asked for them to be able to eat only vegetables and drink water. God showed favor on him in that his request was granted if they stayed healthy. After ten days, it was shown that not only did they look healthy, God enabled them to learn better than all the others who had eaten the food from the king. God honored Daniel's desire to please God by enabling them to continue to do it God's way even though they were facing a difficult time in a strange new land. This is only the beginning portion of the experiences of God working through Daniel in Babylon.

**AT HOME:** Talk about times when your child may have had to face being the new kid in an unfamiliar situation. Ask them to tell you how they felt. Remind them that God goes with us and we can ask Him to help. Share that the example of Daniel helps us know that we have the strength to stay strong and obey God even in a new situation among strangers. The memory verse for this week is "Those who know your name trust in you because you have not abandoned those who seek you, Lord." Psalm 9:10. This would be a great verse for your entire family to learn because it is a reminder that God is always with us. Invite your child to write it and place it on your dining table or on the refrigerator door.

**BONUS VERSE:** Psalm 56:3



Item 84: Meeting 16 Parent Connection  
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Instructions: Distribute to parents at the end of Meeting 16.



## GOD WANTS US TO FOLLOW JESUS

**MEMORY VERSE:** 1 Peter 2:21

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Jesus Taught His Disciples (Matthew 5-7)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Thailand

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** We are learning that God wants all believers to be lifelong disciples, or followers of Jesus. God provides resources including His Word—and other believers—to help disciples grow in their faith. Jesus taught His original disciples how to live and how to love God and each other. All believers can follow the teachings of Jesus.

This week TeamKIDs heard select passages from the Sermon on the Mount and learned the key truth that Jesus taught His disciples how to follow Him. Believers may sometimes fall behind, but constant is always the goal. Followers of Jesus should want to continually learn to become more like Christ. Learning to follow Jesus, according to the close of His own sermon, is not only about listening to His words. We must do what He says.

**AT HOME:** This week engage in family discussion. Use the following prompts to review what your child has learned and to extend the concepts taught in TeamKID meetings. Make talking about God in your home a very natural, organic part of everyday life.

1. What is a disciple? Explain that TeamKID is a discipleship program for children. Discuss what it means to be a disciple of Christ.
2. Play a game of "Follow the Leader" using the memory verse. If your child remembers the verse have her recite it (be the first leader), then give every family member a turn.
3. Pray the words of the Sermon on the Mount together. For example: "Dear God, help me to be poor in spirit so that I can one day see you."
4. Review the meaning of the story of the man who built his house on the sand vs. the man who built on the rock. What does it mean? (Matthew 7:24)

**BONUS VERSE:** Proverbs 3:5-6 (also the TeamKID Club Verse)



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## GOD IS JUST AND RIGHTEOUS

**MEMORY VERSE:** Deuteronomy 32:3-4

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** The Flood (Genesis 6:9-8:19)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Argentina

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** We are learning about God's character. He is just and righteous. At the time Noah lived, the world was evil. Because God is holy and just, punishment was necessary. When God destroyed the earth in a flood, only Noah and his family were spared, because Noah was found righteous in the eyes of God. Anything God chooses to do is righteous, simply because He is God. His way is the only way. While most children know the story of "Noah and the Ark," this week's meeting focuses on God's character: his justice and righteousness.

**AT HOME:** This week engage in family discussion. Use the following prompts to review what your child has learned and to extend the concepts taught in TeamKID meetings. Make talking about God in your home a very natural, organic part of everyday life.

1. God keeps His promises. What promise did God make to Noah? How do you know you can trust God?
2. Use building blocks to construct an ark. Discuss what it must have been like for Noah and his family living on the ark with so many animals.
3. How do you think Noah and his family (and the animals!) felt when they were finally able to leave the ark and go outside? They must have felt safe and loved. When God keeps His promises to us, He shows us his perfect, unchanging character.

**BONUS VERSE:** 1 Thessalonians 5:18



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## THE CHURCH TEACHES ABOUT GOD

**MEMORY VERSE:** Acts 11:26

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Ezra Read the Scriptures (Nehemiah 8)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Senegal, West Africa

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** In today's meeting, Nehemiah, the provincial governor of Judah, brought the Israelites together to hear a priest named Ezra read the Scripture in Jerusalem. The people listened, felt convicted of their past sins, and obeyed. After being inspired by God's Word spoken by Ezra, the people celebrated the 7-Day Feast of the Tabernacles where they gathered branches and made booths to commemorate their rescue from slavery in Egypt when they lived in shelters in the desert. After hearing Ezra's reading of the word, the people obeyed God's law, as it was written, with "the joy of the Lord as their strength."

**AT HOME:** This week engage in family discussion. Use the following prompts to review what your child has learned and to extend the concepts taught in TeamKID meetings. Make talking about God in your home a very natural, organic part of everyday life.

1. Explain that when all the people came to hear Ezra read God's word, it was kind of like a church service today. Ask what your child's favorite parts of your church service are.
2. Allow your child to read selected passages from this week's meeting aloud. To add a dramatic flair, have her stand on a step stool to demonstrate Ezra standing on a high, wooden platform.
3. Consider having your family devotion time in "tents" (forts made of blankets) like the people did for the Feast of Tabernacles.
4. What does the "Joy of the Lord" look like in a practical way? Allow each family member to give an example.

**BONUS VERSE:** Psalm 119:11



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## THE CHURCH HELPS OTHERS

**MEMORY VERSE:** Hebrews 13:16

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** The Antioch Church (Acts 11:19-30)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Nepal, Asia

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** We are learning that God, as an expression of His love, uses the church to meet the needs of people in the community and around the world. Our Bible story focus was the young church at Antioch, who cheerfully gave to those in need.

**AT HOME:** This week engage in family discussion. Use the following prompts to review what your child has learned and to extend the concepts taught in TeamKID meetings. Make talking about God in your home a very natural, organic part of everyday life.

1. Antioch was the place where believers were first called "Christians." What does it mean to truly be a Christian?
2. Saul and Barnabas worked together to serve God. Work together as a family to determine a meaningful cause, monetary or service oriented. Consider delivering a gift personally to a person who really needs it, as Saul and Barnabas did.
3. Talk to your church leaders to get a breakdown of where each week's offering goes and share it with your family. Make sure kids understand that the money given to the church is used for causes that serve God.

**BONUS VERSE:** 1 Peter 4:9



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## THE CHURCH PRAISES GOD

**MEMORY VERSE:** Psalm 9:2

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** The People Sang Praises to God (Ezra 2:70; 3:8-13)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Senegal, West Africa

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** We are learning God wants people to gather to worship him and that corporate worship is a way to respond to God. In today's meeting, we read about the temple being rebuilt, fifty years after it had been destroyed. David had left clear instruction for the use of music as a part of worship in the temple. Some were joyful to see the foundation of the new temple, but some of the older people who remembered the old temple were sad. Some shouted with joy while others wept. The sounds all mixed together to form worship that was pleasing to God. Biblical worship should be a balance of somber reflection and joyful praise. Both are acceptable forms of worship.

**AT HOME:** This week engage in family discussion. Use the following prompts to review what your child has learned and to extend the concepts taught in TeamKID meetings. Make talking about God in your home a very natural, organic part of everyday life.

1. Enjoy worship music together as a family in your home and/or vehicle. Discuss the meaning of the words and the beauty of the music. Explain that God is pleased when we worship him and worship should be an important part of our Christian walk.
2. Discuss how different your church service would be without music.
3. Take a Psalm or other loved Bible passage and put it to music to make an original praise song!

**BONUS VERSE:** 1 John 4:21



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## THE CHURCH GIVES TO GOD

**MEMORY VERSE:** Malachi 3:10

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** The Widow's Offering (Luke 21:1-4)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Bolivia

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** We are learning that God wants people to be good stewards of money, time, talents, and possessions. In today's meeting, kids heard the Bible story of the widow who gave all she had. The offerings we give with the right attitude, are being given to God.

**AT HOME:** This week engage in family discussion. Use the following prompts to review what your child has learned and to extend the concepts taught in TeamKID meetings. Make talking about God in your home a very natural, organic part of everyday life. Suggested prompts/activities include:

1. Discuss the meaning of the word sacrifice. Talk about ideas of ways your family could sacrifice for a worthy cause. Consider keeping a family piggy bank to collect money to give.
2. Ask: "Did someone (a parent or teacher) ever make you give something away that you really wanted to keep? How did it feel?" Explain that would be considered the opposite of cheerful giving! It is not natural for us to want to give. We have to pray that God would change our hearts and give us joy to give cheerfully.
3. Giving doesn't always involve money. We can also share time, talents, and possessions. Think of specific ways you can give individually and as a family.

**BONUS VERSE:** Malachi 3:10



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## THE CHURCH REMEMBERS JESUS

**MEMORY VERSE:** 1 Corinthians 11:26

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** The Last Supper (Luke 22:7-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** India

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** We are learning that the Lord's Supper is a special observance to remind people of what Jesus did for all Christians when He died on the cross. His body was broken (represented by bread) and his blood was shed (represented by the cup) to pay the price for our sins.

Today's Bible story focuses on the Last Supper, the observance of the Passover feast where Jesus and His disciples were all together for the last time. The Last Supper serves as the model for the observance of the Lord's Supper that is shared as a part of our church services. It is important to block out distraction and truly remember Jesus, as He first instructed the disciples, when the Lord's Supper is served.

**AT HOME:** This week engage in family discussion. Use the following prompts to review what your child has learned and to extend the concepts taught in TeamKID meetings. Make talking about God in your home a very natural, organic part of everyday life.

1. Talk about what your child can expect when the Lord's Supper is served at church. Explain that only Christians participate, so if your child has not yet committed her life to Jesus, encouraged her to learn more about God so that she can become a Christian and one day take part.
2. Stress that during the Lord's Supper, the focus should be on Jesus, and remembering the things He has done for us. Starting with his sacrifice on the cross, talk specifically about what those things are. Give examples of what Jesus means to you, and allow your child to share her own examples.
3. Consider serving a traditional Passover meal, like the one that might have been served at the Last Supper.

**BONUS VERSE:** Isaiah 53:5



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## THE CHURCH OBEYS JESUS

**MEMORY VERSE:** Mark 16:16

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Jesus Was Baptized (Matthew 3)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Nepal

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** We are learning that baptism by immersion is a symbol of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. Baptism is a church ordinance that shows that a person has trusted Jesus as Savior and Lord.

Today's Bible story focuses on Jesus' baptism, which serves as an example of obedience to God. John the Baptist, who baptized Jesus, was a dedicated prophet who had prepared the way for Jesus' ministry.

**AT HOME:** This week engage in family discussion. Use the following prompts to review what your child has learned and to extend the concepts taught in TeamKID meetings. Make talking about God in your home a very natural, organic part of everyday life.

1. John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus. Talk about ways Christians can prepare the hearts of others to receive Jesus as savior.
2. Remind your child that God was pleased when Jesus was baptized (He even said so in a voice from heaven!). Talk about what it means to be baptized, and make a special point to remember and discuss your child's baptism. If your child has not made a decision to follow Jesus, express your enthusiastic anticipation of the special event.
3. After being baptized, when Jesus came up from the water, the skies opened and God's Holy Spirit came down like a dove to Jesus. A voice from heaven said: "This is My beloved Son. I am pleased with Him!" Using white paper, have your child trace both hands and glue or staple them together to form the shape of a dove with outstretched wings. Ask her to write ways God is pleased with His children (including baptism), on the wings of the dove.

**BONUS VERSE:** Matthew 28:19-20



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## THE BIBLE IS TRUE

**MEMORY VERSE:** Psalm 119:160

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Paul Taught the Thessalonians and Bereans (Acts 17:1-15)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Greece

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** This week at TeamKID, kids learned the value of approaching scripture as the truth of God and using scripture to measure truth. The Bible is our sole authority in life because it comes directly from God. The truths found in God's word are without error and will last forever. His word never changes and can always be trusted.

There are countless ideas in the world about life, love, eternity, and salvation. The Bible is the only truth we can count on. This week TeamKIDs were reminded that God's Word is true and can be trusted. Through the story of Paul's teaching in Thessalonica chronicled for us in Acts 17, TeamKIDs met the Bereans. There were some in this chapter who rejected Paul's teaching and even sought to harm the apostle. The Bereans, instead, took Paul's words and measured it with scripture to discover that it is indeed true. Because of their careful study, they found Paul's words to be true and trusted the message of Jesus.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, make a list of things you know with certainty to be true. They can be personally true about your family, such as, "We vacationed last summer at the beach." They can be scientifically true such as, "caterpillars can transform into butterflies." They can be preferentially true such as, "We like tacos or chocolate cake." Ask your kids, "How do you know that these are true?" Based on experience or personal knowledge. Next list things we only know to be true based on hearsay such as, "Grandpa fought in Vietnam," or "Uncle James went to Baylor." These things, we know to be true because we've heard them. Explain that we can also do proper research to verify them.

Connect the dots to the Bereans who had not personally experienced Jesus, but verified the truth of Paul's claims with what they did know to be true from Scripture. Keep your list of truth going throughout the week, always identifying which column it goes in: that which you know based on personal experience and that which you've only heard, but must verify.

**BONUS VERSE:** Luke 10:27



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## THE BIBLE IS ABOUT GOD

**MEMORY VERSE:** Isaiah 40:28

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** The Exodus (Exodus 12:24–14:32)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Russia

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** This week, TeamKIDs will hear the story of Israel's exodus from Egypt in great detail while studying excerpts from Exodus 12-14. Through this story, kids won't only learn details about God's rescue but important truths about His nature and character. The Bible doesn't just teach us what God says and does. The Bible teaches us who God is. What is He like? What does He want us to know about Him? The Bible is ultimately God's message about Himself including His plan of salvation. This week is a foundational truth for every follower of Jesus.

The Bible for kids is often a series of really great narratives. Noah and the Ark, David and Goliath, Daniel in the den of lions, as well as Jesus multiplying food and healing people. Children more naturally gravitate to plots in scripture as opposed to poetry or prophecy. While the beauty of the songs and poems within the Bible tell us specific things about God's character, so do the plots. No matter the names of the characters involved, God is always the central figure in every story and each one tells us important truths about His nature. The Bible and every type of literature within it is God's story about Himself.

**AT HOME:** This week, make 10 Commandment Flash cards. Work on assembling them in order as a family. This will aid in memorization. Next, come up with your own family code and include ten specific characterizations for your family to aspire. These items won't be commandments, although they may double as great family rules. Consider what items would make your list and how each one might highlight God's plan for your family to love others, represent Jesus, and live in faith-filled obedience.

**BONUS VERSE:** Genesis 12:1-3



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## THE BIBLE IS GOD'S WORD

**MEMORY VERSE:** 2 Timothy 3:16

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Jeremiah Wrote God's Words (Jeremiah 36)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Burkina Faso

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** The Bible was written by people who listened to God. Jeremiah is one of those people. After hearing from God, Jeremiah taught the people what God had taught him. In today's story Jeremiah asked his scribe, Baruch, to write on a scroll all the words God told him that day. Then Baruch read those words to the people. The king heard about this reading, took the scroll, and burned it. God gave Jeremiah those words again, and even more words. Children discovered that even when someone tries to hurt the word of God, the word still stays true. Here is that story:

**AT HOME:** This week, discuss with your child(ren) in the car, while doing chores, or around the table. Sample discussion starters and activities:

1. Post on your refrigerator a paper with the alphabet down the left-hand side. Then during the week challenge your family with this: The Bible truth for your TeamKid group this week was "The Bible was written by people who listened to God." What are some ways we can listen to God that begin with each letter of the alphabet? Samples include: Ask God what to do, Bible, Commandment about that?, Determine how Jesus handled a similar situation...
2. The Bible skill we practiced was: identifying Bible writers who wrote multiple books. Try these activities to practice at home and to reinforce what was practiced at the TeamKid meeting:
  - Since children love to discover things on their own, show them the Bible book introductions in their own Bible. For the first few books, help them find the person who wrote each book; then let them find those people on their own if they want.
  - Make a chart of Bible book writers, to show who wrote more than one bible book. For example, Paul wrote 13 New Testament letters.

**BONUS VERSE:** 1 Corinthians 13:4



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## THE BIBLE TEACHES HOW TO LIVE

**MEMORY VERSE:** John 3:16

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Jesus and Nicodemus

(Luke 4:14-22; John 3:1-21; Romans 3:23; 5:8-10; 6:23; 10:9-20; 1 John 1:8-10)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Japan

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** Jesus is not only God; He is also the best teacher ever. One of His powerful lessons is how to come to God and live life with God. That's called salvation. His teaching didn't end there, though! Jesus also taught about how to solve problems, how to show love, how to pick what matters, and how to do real life. Jesus has been through everything you have! Jesus taught at a synagogue (place of worship), taught on a boat, taught on a mountain, taught when getting a drink of water, and much more. Today we see him teaching in the dark.

Nicodemus was a religious leader in his community. He was also a powerful government official. Nicodemus knew there was something different about Jesus. Jesus' teachings were new to Nicodemus, and Nicodemus wanted to learn more. The conversation that Jesus and Nicodemus had that night forever changed who he was.

**BONUS VERSE:** Psalm 23:1



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## THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

**MEMORY VERSE:** Ephesians 4:11

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Paul Taught About Spiritual Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:1-22, 27-31)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Niger

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** This week your child learned about spiritual gifts in TeamKID.

In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul taught the believers in Corinth about their spiritual gifts. God endows each person with abilities and talents. When a person trusts Jesus for salvation, in addition to those special characteristics, they are also given a spiritual gift through the power of the Holy Spirit. All of a Christ-follower's gifts are to be used in a way that pleases God and helps grow the church. It takes everyone doing their part to fully represent Christ and make a difference in the world. This is how Christians function together as one body.

Your child learned that all gifts come from God but that not everyone gets the same gifts. This lesson helps the children see that they are all a part of the body of Christ, as believers. Having different gifts allows the church to work together. Every part is important even if it does not seem like it is or is not as visible as another. All gifts are important in doing God's work. Encourage the children to think about what gifts may have been given to them and how they can use them.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, do some re-gifting. Get some gift wrap supplies. Assign every family member the task of going through the house and choosing some small item that really reminds them or represents another family member. Celebrate like it's Christmas morning and open those gifts with simple explanations of why each was chosen. Explain that God gives a spiritual gift to every person who trusts in Jesus for salvation and becomes a Christian. These gifts line up with His great purpose for our lives. He helps us know what those gifts are and how we can use them.

**BONUS VERSE:** Deuteronomy 16:17



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## THE BIBLE IS A BOOK FOR TODAY

**MEMORY VERSE:** Psalm 119:16

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** The People Found a Lost Scroll (2 Kings 22:1-23:3)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Burkino Faso

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** Today in TeamKid we learned that the Bible is God's word. It can be trusted and when it is read and studied, it will guide us through life. It will help us make the right choices and know right from wrong. God's word is meant to be a roadmap through this crazy thing we call life.

One day this week put together a puzzle with your child. As you are working on it, relate how a puzzle is like the Bible, in that it is made up of many pieces, but they all fit together to make a complete picture. The Bible was written by many different people, yet the words all go together to become the complete and powerful Word of God.

Encourage your child to find a time each day to read God's word. Maybe decide to do it together or to challenge each other to make this a priority. Have your child choose a Bible verse to memorize and take time to repeat it together once a day. The Bible says "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." Psalms 119:11. Read, study, and memorize the Bible. It is God's word. If your child sees that it is important in your life, they will most likely do the same.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, play a special game of hide and seek. Choose your spots based on the ages of your kids. The older the kid, the harder the hiding spots. Hide a family Bible somewhere in the house and let the rest of the family loose to play a game of hot/cold depending on where the Bible is. The closer kids are to the Bible, the hotter they are. The further kids are from the Bible, the colder they are. Talk about why Josiah and the others might have celebrated finding God's word. For older kids, talk about why Josiah was sad. Not having the Bible meant that Israel didn't know how to follow God. He was sad for the time they lost. Talk about how your family Bible can be kept close and followed closely so that you can remain close to God.

**BONUS VERSE:** Proverbs 22:1



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## THE CHURCH TELLS OTHERS ABOUT GOD

**MEMORY VERSE:** Acts 16:10

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Paul Helped Priscilla and Aquila (Acts 18:1-4,11,18-19,24-28)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** The Amazon Jungle

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** Today in TeamKID the children learned about Paul. Paul traveled to many places telling about Jesus. When he visited a city called Corinth, he met a couple named Aquila and Priscilla. They were tentmakers by profession. Paul was also a tentmaker so he stayed and helped them and at the same time sharing with them and others about Jesus. When he left, Aquila and Priscilla went with them to tell others the good news of salvation through Jesus. They parted ways in Ephesus but Aquila and Priscilla remained faithful in spreading the gospel and the Bible says they invested in the life of a man named Apollos. He went on to share with others.

The major point of our Bible story today is that God wants us to tell others about Jesus. He wants to use each of us, no matter what our talents or professions. We can share the good news of hope with others around us. Encourage your child to talk about what a missionary is and what missionaries do.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, put together a family newsletter. Put together some photos from the previous year, and compose updates on each family member. Share favorite moments, accomplishments, transitions, and celebrations. Make your life with Christ the feature story. Share with your audience the difference that Jesus has made in your family and articulate your desire to help others know Him, too. Consider sending your update to based on your Christmas card list and address book of distant family members and also close friends. Just like Paul helped others know about Jesus, your family can, too.

**BONUS VERSE:** Acts 9:15



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## THE CHURCH DOES GOD'S WORK

**MEMORY VERSE:** Hebrews 13:7

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** The Church Chose Leaders (Acts 6:1-7; 8:26-40)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** London, England

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** Today's TeamKID meeting was in 2 parts. The first was taken from Acts 6 where the church in Jerusalem needed someone to care for the widows and the orphans. Out of this need, the disciples had the church choose 7 men to do that particular job. TeamKIDs learned that there are many ways to serve God in the church. They were encouraged to find ways to be helpers.

The second part of the Bible lesson was the story of Philip and the Ethiopian. Philip was told by an angel to go to a road in the desert. There he found a man who was reading a scroll of Isaiah but did not understand what he was reading. Philip was able to help the man, and he believed that Jesus was the son of God. Philip baptized him when they came to some water.

Both parts of today's stories can be modeled. Your child is watching to see how you serve others in church. If you are not currently serving in some capacity, it may be a great time to talk with your child about ways you both can find a way. Pray about this together. Also pray for someone to share Jesus with. Ask each other during the week if that opportunity has come. This is a great way to connect with your child and grow in your faith, together!

**AT HOME:** This week at home, introduce your child to the church leadership structure. They likely know the name of the pastor and a few staff members. Do they understand your church elders, council, or deacon body? Do they know your ministry leadership teams and the term laity? Help kids know that believers within your church use their gifts and abilities to serve in ministry leadership functions to help the church grow and thrive. Pray for your church leadership members by name this week.

**BONUS VERSE:** Matthew 10:2-4



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## THE CHURCH IS FOR EVERYONE

**MEMORY VERSE:** John 15:12

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Peter Told Cornelius about Jesus (Acts 10)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** Argentina

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** Today your TeamKID learned that everyone is special and equal in God's eyes. The Bible story was of Peter, a Jew, who was taught from birth that Gentiles were unclean and he should never enter their home or eat with them. He also was taught that certain foods were unclean. In a vision, God showed him that this was wrong and that he was to go and visit a Gentile named Cornelius. Peter obeyed and the result was a friendship between the two men, and more importantly, Cornelius and his family and friends learned about Jesus and found salvation. There is no limit on who can become a child of God or who can worship in the church. Sharing Christ with everyone is what God wants from His children.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, go missional. Select an international cuisine and choose between going out, carry out, or cooking whatever menu items will help you highlight that particular ethnicity of food. Conduct a bit of research about that country and plan to share those facts around the table over dinner. Read and memorize this week's memory verse, Galatians 3:28. Highlight the truth that God loves all people. Communicate as a family your desire to see the nations reached with the good news of Jesus Christ. Pray for pastors, churches, and missionaries in countries represented by your international mealtime.

**BONUS VERSE:** John 2:11



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## THE CHURCH PRAYS

**MEMORY VERSE:** James 5:16

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** People Prayed for Peter (Acts 12:5-19)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** South Africa

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** This week at TeamKID your child heard a story about Peter being rescued by an angel from prison. His rescue was the result of people praying for his release. Prayer is a powerful tool against the evils in this world. Not only does God hear all our prayers, He answers them, as well. It is important to understand that He doesn't always answer them the way we think He should. He is not a "coke machine Jesus" where we put in a prayer and He gives us what we want. He loves us too much for that. He knows what we need and therefore answers our prayers in ways that will benefit us and to help us grow stronger.

**AT HOME:** This week at home, spend some time listening to popular Christian music. Talk about the lyrics of the songs you hear and like and ask your kids what they mean. Ask kids to sum up whatever truths they hear about God. Is the song highlighting His sovereign power, His loving kindness, our need for Him, His control over all things, His mercy or grace, or another concept about God? Explain that God is sovereign and in control over all things. Explain how important it is to know and believe the truth about God. Explain how even the songs we listen to can help us know God and reinforce important truths about Him.

**BONUS VERSE:** John 16:7



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## THE CHURCH IS IMPORTANT TO GOD

**MEMORY VERSE:** 1 Peter 4:9

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** A Couple Helped Elisha (2 Kings 4:8-17)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** India

**WHAT WE LEARNED:** Today we read about the couple in Shunem who provided God's prophet, Elisha, with food and a room anytime he traveled through their area. The couple showed love and kindness to Elisha by being hospitable. In return for their hospitality, Elisha prayed God would give the couple a son.

During this week's meeting, we learned that hospitality means "to entertain or receive a stranger or visitor into one's home as an honored guest and to provide the guest with food, shelter, and protection." We can show love and kindness to others by being hospitable. It pleases God when we love others in our community and our world because people are important to God.

**AT HOME:** Ask your child to tell you what it means to show hospitality. Increase their understanding by talking together about times your family was hospitable to others or a time when someone showed hospitality to you. Remind your child that being hospitable is one way we can show love and kindness to others. Point out that God showed us the ultimate act of love and kindness when He sent His Son, Jesus, to save us. Consider the following activity to reinforce the subject matter, enrich understanding, and encourage open discussion: Plan a play date for your child by allowing him to invite a friend to your home. Before the visit, discuss ways the child can help his guest feel welcome. Consider allowing him to help prepare a snack to serve and planning a few activities to play. Remind him to help with the preparations without complaining. Afterward, discuss with your child how it felt seeing her guest enjoy the play date. Ask what else could have been done to make the friend feel. Thank your child for being hospitable.

**BONUS VERSE:** Matthew 28:5-7



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## THE CHURCH HAS A MISSION

**MEMORY VERSE:** Matthew 28:19-20

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Paul Became a Missionary (Acts 13)

**MISSIONS EMPHASIS:** England

**MEMORY VERSE:** We are learning that the church at Antioch sent out Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey. It was the Holy Spirit that led the church members to fast, pray, and lay hands on the men before they left for Cyprus. The missionaries would meet opposition, but they boldly continued to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. We discussed that it is each church's responsibility to prepare people to be on mission with God. Today's memory verse, the Great Commission, commands the church to make disciples, baptize and teach. The following questions were discussed:

- How does our church obey the Great Commission?
- What can you do to share Jesus with others?

**AT HOME:** Talk openly with your child about ways they can share what they know about Jesus with others. Explain that they do not have to travel to a foreign country to be a missionary. They can look for opportunities every day at school and around the neighborhood to share the love of Jesus. Consider writing places your family travels to every week on a small slip of paper and placing them in a container. Place the container on the kitchen table and pick a slip at convenient mealtimes to discuss how family members can reach out to others with the love of Christ at that location. Consider sharing a time you or another family member have had the chance to tell others about your relationship with Christ or invite others to church activities. Remember to pray with your family about the ways your church can obey the Great Commission by sharing the good news about Jesus with others.

**BONUS VERSE:** Isaiah 6:8



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