

**GRADE 1 CRE REVISED NOTES**

**NEW VERSION**



[Company address]

**GRADE 1 CRE REVISED NOTES**

**STRAND ONE: CREATION**

Teaching children about their uniqueness through the Word of God is a powerful way to help them understand their inherent worth and the special value they bring to the world. Below are key Bible verses along with ideas on how to share these messages effectively with kids:

### Bible Verses:

1. **Psalm 139:14** – "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful; I know that full well."
   * **Message:** Every person is a unique and wonderful creation of God. Help children understand that they are intentionally designed by God, and encourage them to celebrate their individuality and the qualities that make them special. Reinforce the idea that their worth is rooted in how God created them.
2. **Jeremiah 29:11** – "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 a hope and a future."
   * **Message:** God has a unique and purposeful plan for each person’s life. Remind kids that they are part of a bigger picture and that their lives have meaning. Encourage them to trust that God’s plan for them is filled with hope, purpose, and a bright future.

###### Activities to Celebrate Uniqueness

1. **Personalized Art Project**:
   * Have kids create an art project that represents their unique qualities, talents, and interests. They can draw, paint, or use craft materials to showcase what makes them special.

###### Compliment Circle:

* + Sit in a circle and have each child share something they appreciate about themselves and something they appreciate about another person in the group. This helps build self-esteem and mutual appreciation.

###### Bible Journaling:

* + Encourage kids to keep a journal where they write down Bible verses and reflect on how those verses relate to their own lives and uniqueness.

###### Talent Show:

* + Organize a talent show where kids can showcase their unique skills and talents, whether it's singing, dancing, drawing, or any other ability. Celebrate each child's contribution.

###### Prayer and Reflection:

* + Guide kids in a prayer session where they thank God for their unique qualities and ask for guidance in using their gifts to help others.

Genesis 1:27 (NIV) states: "So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

**Message**: According to this verse, God created humans in His own image, and He created them as male and female. This highlights that both boys and girls are uniquely made by God, each with their own special qualities and purpose.

###### Activity to Reinforce Understanding

1. **Discussion**:
   * Talk with kids about how God created them as either boys or girls.
   * Emphasize that both genders are equally valuable and loved by God.

###### Craft Activity:

* + Provide materials for kids to make self-portraits, reflecting on how they are wonderfully made by God.
  + Use materials like paper, crayons, markers, and any other craft supplies. Isaiah 43:1 (NIV) says:

"But now, this is what the Lord says—he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: ‘Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.’"

**Message**: God reminds us that He created us, knows us by name, and we belong to Him. We don't need to be afraid because He is always with us, watching over and protecting us.

###### Activity to Reinforce Understanding

1. **Discussion**:
   * Talk with kids about how God knows each of them by name and loves them deeply.
   * Emphasize that they can trust God and not be afraid because He is always with them.

###### Craft Activity:

* + Have kids create name tags or bracelets with their names on them, representing that God knows them personally.
  + Use materials like paper, markers, beads, and string.

###### Memory Verse:

* + Encourage kids to memorize Isaiah 43:1 and reflect on its meaning in their daily lives.

### Isaiah 49:16 (NIV) says:

"See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me."

**Message**: This verse highlights God's deep care and love for each person. It signifies that we are always in God's thoughts and that He holds us close to Him, just like something that is engraved on His hands.

###### Activity to Reinforce Understanding

1. **Discussion**:
   * Talk with kids about how God has engraved them on the palms of His hands, showing how special they are to Him.
   * Emphasize that God is always thinking about them and watching over them.

###### Craft Activity:

* + Have kids trace their hands on a piece of paper and write their names inside the handprint, symbolizing that they are engraved on God's hands.
  + Use markers, crayons, and stickers to decorate the handprints.

###### Memory Verse:

* + Encourage kids to memorize Isaiah 49:16 and reflect on its meaning in their daily lives.

It's wonderful to know that God knows each of us by name and cares deeply about us. Here are some ways to help kids appreciate and understand this special truth:

###### Bible Verse

Isaiah 43:1 (NIV) - "But now, this is what the Lord says—he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: ‘Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.’"

###### Activities to Reinforce Understanding

1. **Name Art**
   * **Materials**: Paper, markers, crayons, stickers.
   * **Activity**: Have kids write their names on a piece of paper and decorate it with drawings, stickers, and colors. Discuss how God knows each of their names and values them.

###### Personalized Prayer

* + **Activity**: Guide kids in a personalized prayer, thanking God for knowing them by name and asking for His guidance and protection.
  + **Example Prayer**: "Dear God, thank You for knowing me by name and loving me. Please help me to always remember that I am special to You. Amen."

###### Memory Verse Craft

* + **Materials**: Craft supplies like paper, glue, glitter, and string.
  + **Activity**: Create a craft project with the memory verse (Isaiah 43:1) and their names. Hang it up as a reminder of God's love and care.

###### Story Time

* + **Activity**: Read a story or Bible story that emphasizes God's knowledge and love for each person.
  + **Example Story**: The story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10) shows how Jesus knew Zacchaeus by name and called him to come down from the tree.

###### Song of Praise

* + **Activity**: Sing a song that celebrates God's love and knowledge of us. Songs like "Jesus Loves Me" can be a great choice.
  + **Example Lyrics**: "Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so."

### Importance of self awareness.

* + It helps them in understanding of themselves as they learn about their strengths, weaknesses, emotions, values, challenges, and hopes and dreams.
  + It helps prepare the child for success as they can self-reflect, be aware of what went wrong, adjust, and improve.
  + Self-awareness skills help your kid manage their behaviors and emotions so they can better connect with others.
  + Being aware of self enables your youngster to advocate for themselves.
  + Your child can learn coping strategies and calm themselves when they feel frustrated and upset.
  + When your kid is more aware, they can more clearly express their wants, needs, and feelings.
  + Children can also better share ideas and cooperate with their peers and other people when they are self-aware.
  + They are better able to resolve conflict when they understand how their actions affect other people.
  + Children are able to build and improve their confidence and emotional awareness, develop character, and embrace a growth mindset.

## My Family

Understanding family members and their roles is important for kids. Here are some common family members that kids can name:

**Immediate Family Members**

1. **Father (Dad)**
2. **Mother (Mom)**
3. **Brother**
4. **Sister**

**Extended Family Members**

1. **Grandfather (Grandpa)**
2. **Grandmother (Grandma)**
3. **Uncle**
4. **Aunt**

###### Activity to Reinforce Understanding

1. **Family Tree Craft**:
   * **Materials**: Paper, markers, crayons, stickers, glue.
   * **Activity**: Help kids create a family tree by drawing and labeling each family member. They can use stickers or drawings to represent each person.

###### Photo Album:

* + **Materials**: Photos of family members, a small album or scrapbook.
  + **Activity**: Have kids create a photo album with pictures of their family members and label each person.

###### Storytelling:

* + **Activity**: Encourage kids to share stories about their family members, such as favorite activities or special memories.

###### Role-Playing:

* + **Activity**: Role-play different family members and their roles. For example, pretend to be the mother cooking or the father reading a bedtime story.

### Times of prayer with family members

It can be a wonderful practice for families to pray together. Here are some common times families might pray together at home:

1. **Morning Prayer**: To start the day with blessings and guidance.
2. **Before Meals**: Saying grace to give thanks for the food.
3. **Evening Prayer**: To reflect on the day and ask for a good night's rest.
4. **Special Occasions**: During family celebrations, holidays, or special events.
5. **In Times of Need**: When facing challenges or seeking guidance.
6. **Bedtime Prayer**: To end the day with gratitude and peace.

### Instances to lead in prayers

Encouraging kids to lead prayers at home can help them develop confidence and a sense of responsibility. Here are some instances when kids might lead prayers at home:

###### Before Meals

* + **Instance**: Saying grace before breakfast, lunch, or dinner.
  + **Example**: "Dear God, thank You for this food. Bless it to our bodies and help us to be grateful. Amen."

###### Morning Prayer

* + **Instance**: Starting the day with a prayer.
  + **Example**: "Dear God, thank You for a new day. Please guide us and keep us safe. Amen."

###### Bedtime Prayer

* + **Instance**: Ending the day with a prayer before going to bed.
  + **Example**: "Dear God, thank You for today. Please watch over us as we sleep. Amen."

###### Family Devotion Time

* + **Instance**: Leading a prayer during family devotion or Bible study.
  + **Example**: "Dear God, thank You for our family. Help us to learn more about You and love each other. Amen."

###### Special Occasions

* + **Instance**: Praying during birthdays, holidays, or other special events.
  + **Example**: "Dear God, thank You for this special day. Please bless [name] and help us to celebrate with joy. Amen."

###### In Times of Need

* + **Instance**: Leading a prayer when someone is sick, in need, or facing a challenge.
  + **Example**: "Dear God, please help [name] to feel better. Give them strength and comfort. Amen."

### Items they share at home

Sharing is a valuable lesson for kids to learn, and there are many items at home that they can share with their family members. Here are five common items kids might share at home:

###### Toys

* + **Examples**: Action figures, dolls, building blocks, board games.

###### Books

* + **Examples**: Storybooks, coloring books, educational books.

###### Electronics

* + **Examples**: Tablets, computers

###### Food and Snacks

* + **Examples**: Fruits, cookies, chips, and other treats.

###### Art Supplies

* + **Examples**: Crayons, markers, paints, and coloring pencils.

### Matthew 7:7 (NIV) says:

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

###### Activity to Help Kids Memorize the Verse

1. **Repeat After Me**:
   * Have kids repeat each part of the verse after you. Break it down into smaller sections if needed.
   * Example: "Ask and it will be given to you" (pause for kids to repeat), "seek and you will find" (pause), "knock and the door will be opened to you" (pause).

###### Hand Motions:

* + Create simple hand motions to go along with each part of the verse to make it more engaging.
  + Example: For "ask," raise your hands as if asking a question; for "seek," use your hand to mimic looking around; for "knock," pretend to knock on a door.

###### Memory Game:

* + Write each word of the verse on separate cards or pieces of paper.
  + Mix them up and have kids arrange them in the correct order.

###### Song or Chant:

* + Turn the verse into a simple song or chant to make it easier to remember.
  + Example: Sing the verse to the tune of a familiar nursery rhyme.

###### Drawing and Coloring:

* + Have kids draw pictures that represent the verse and write the words of the verse around the drawings.
  + Example: Draw a door with a person knocking on it and write "knock and the door will be opened to you."

### Creation of Plants and Animals

#### Plants and animals created by God

Let's explore some of the wonderful plants and animals that God created:

###### Plants

1. **Oak Tree**
   * A strong and mighty tree with acorns.

###### Rose

* + A beautiful flower with colorful petals and a lovely fragrance.

###### Sunflower

* + A tall plant with bright yellow flowers that follow the sun.

###### Apple Tree

* + A fruit tree that produces delicious apples.

###### Cactus

* + A plant that thrives in the desert with spiky leaves.

###### Animals

1. **Lion**
   * Known as the king of the jungle, with a majestic mane.

###### Elephant

* + The largest land animal with a long trunk and tusks.

###### Dolphin

* + A playful and intelligent marine mammal.

###### Butterfly

* + An insect with colorful wings that goes through metamorphosis.

###### Eagle

* + A powerful bird of prey with sharp talons and excellent eyesight.

### Ways of keeping the home environment cleaning

Keeping the home environment clean is important for maintaining a healthy and pleasant living space. Here are some ways kids can take part in keeping their home environment clean:

###### Tidying Up Toys

* + **Activity**: Put away toys after playing.
  + **Steps**: Use toy bins or shelves to organize toys and keep the play area neat.

###### Helping with Dusting

* + **Activity**: Dust furniture and surfaces.
  + **Steps**: Use a duster to remove dust from tables, shelves, and other surfaces.

###### Sweeping and Vacuuming

* + **Activity**: Sweep floors.
  + **Steps**: Use a broom to clean dirt and debris from the floors.

###### Making Beds

* + **Activity**: Make their own beds every morning.
  + **Steps**: Straighten the sheets, fluff the pillows, and arrange the blankets neatly.

###### Sorting Laundry

* + **Activity**: Help sort laundry by color and type.
  + **Steps**: Separate clothes into piles of whites, colors, and delicates. Assist with folding clean laundry.

###### Watering Plants

* + **Activity**: Water houseplants and garden plants.
  + **Steps**: Use a watering can to give plants the right amount of water.

###### Cleaning Up After Meals

* + **Activity**: Clear the table and help wash dishes.
  + **Steps**: Put away dishes, wipe the table, and assist with washing or loading the dishwasher.

###### Taking Out the Trash

* + **Activity**: Help take out the trash and recycling.
  + **Steps**: Collect garbage from different rooms, tie the bags, and place them in the designated bins outside.

###### Let's picture-read the verses from Genesis 1:11 and Genesis 1:24 to help kids understand the creation story:

**Genesis 1:11 (NIV)**

**Verse**: "Then God said, 'Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.' And it was so."

###### Picture-Reading:

* + Imagine a beautiful land filled with different types of plants and trees.
  + Visualize plants growing and bearing seeds, and trees producing fruits with seeds inside.
  + Think of a lush, green landscape with various kinds of vegetation, all created by God.

###### Genesis 1:24 (NIV)

**Verse**: "And God said, 'Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.' And it was so."

###### Picture-Reading:

* + Picture a land filled with different types of animals.
  + Visualize livestock like cows and sheep grazing on the grass.
  + Imagine small creatures like rabbits and insects moving along the ground.
  + Think of wild animals like lions and elephants roaming the land, all created by God.

**THE HOLY BIBLE**

## The word of God

##### Ways of handling the bible

Teaching kids to handle the Holy Bible with respect and care is important. Here are five ways to help them understand how to handle it properly:

###### Clean Hands

* + **Explanation**: Before handling the Bible, make sure your hands are clean.
  + **Reason**: This helps keep the pages clean and shows respect for the sacred text.

###### Use Bookmarks

* + **Explanation**: Use bookmarks to mark your place instead of folding pages.
  + **Reason**: This prevents damage to the pages and makes it easier to find where you left off.

###### Proper Storage

* + **Explanation**: Store the Bible in a clean, dry place.
  + **Reason**: This protects it from damage, such as water or dirt.

###### Gentle Handling

* + **Explanation**: Turn pages gently and avoid tearing or bending them.
  + **Reason**: This ensures the Bible remains in good condition for a long time.

###### Respectful Reading

* + **Explanation**: Read the Bible with reverence and focus.
  + **Reason**: This helps kids understand the importance of the words and teachings inside

Taking care of the Holy Bible is important to ensure it remains in good condition and reflects its significance. Here are some ways you can say how you take care of the Holy Bible:

###### Keeping Hands Clean

* + "I always make sure my hands are clean before I touch the Bible so that the pages stay clean."

###### Using Bookmarks

* + "I use bookmarks to mark my place instead of folding the pages, so the Bible stays neat."

###### Proper Storage

* + "I store the Bible on a clean, dry shelf where it's safe from spills and damage."

###### Handling with Care

* + "I turn the pages gently and avoid bending or tearing them to keep the Bible in good condition."

###### Reading Respectfully

* + "I read the Bible with respect and focus, understanding that it is a special and sacred book."

### Respecting the Holy Bible is important for several reasons:

###### It is God's Word

* + The Bible is considered the inspired Word of God, containing His teachings, guidance, and commandments for living a righteous life. Respecting the Bible shows reverence for God's message.

###### It Teaches Us About Faith

* + The Bible provides stories, teachings, and examples of faith that help us grow spiritually and deepen our relationship with God. Respecting the Bible acknowledges its role in our spiritual development.

###### It Offers Wisdom and Guidance

* + The Bible contains valuable wisdom and principles for living a moral and meaningful life. By respecting the Bible, we show appreciation for the guidance it offers in making decisions and navigating challenges.

###### It Connects Us to Our Heritage

* + The Bible is a sacred text that has been passed down through generations. Respecting the Bible honors the spiritual heritage and traditions of those who came before us.

###### It Fosters a Sense of Reverence

* + Treating the Bible with respect fosters a sense of reverence and awe for the divine. It helps us approach our faith with humility and gratitude.

###### How to Show Respect for the Bible

1. **Handle it with Care**: Keep the Bible clean, use bookmarks, and store it in a safe place.
2. **Read it Regularly**: Spend time reading and studying the Bible to understand its teachings.
3. **Apply its Teachings**: Live according to the principles and values taught in the Bible.
4. **Share its Message**: Share the wisdom and teachings of the Bible with others in a respectful manner.
5. **Pray for Understanding**: Ask God for guidance and understanding when reading the Bible.

### The divisions of the bible

The Holy Bible is divided into two main sections:

###### Old Testament

* + **Description**: The Old Testament is the first part of the Bible and contains books that were written before the birth of Jesus Christ. It includes the history, laws, prophecies, and poetry of the ancient Israelites. Key books include Genesis, Exodus, Psalms, and Isaiah.

###### New Testament

* + **Description**: The New Testament is the second part of the Bible and focuses on the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, as well as the early Christian Church. Key books include the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), Acts of the Apostles, and the letters of Paul (e.g., Romans, Corinthians).

The first two books in the New Testament are:

1. **Matthew**
2. **Mark**

### Bible story

##### Joseph and his brothers

Certainly! The story of Joseph's coat of many colors is found in Genesis 37:3-4. Here are the verses:

###### Genesis 37:3-4 (NIV):

1. "Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him.
2. When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him."

###### Message:

* + Joseph's father, Jacob (also called Israel), loved Joseph more than his other sons and made him a special coat of many colors to show his love.
  + Joseph's brothers became very jealous and resentful of him because their father showed favoritism towards Joseph.

###### Activity to Reinforce Understanding

1. **Story Time**:
   * Read the story of Joseph's coat of many colors from a children's Bible or illustrated book.
   * Discuss the themes of favoritism, jealousy, and God's plan for Joseph's life.

###### Craft Activity:

* + Have kids create their own "coat of many colors" using paper, markers, crayons, or fabric scraps. They can decorate a picture of a coat with colorful patterns.

###### Role-Playing:

* + Act out the story with family members. Assign roles for Joseph, his brothers, and their father Jacob.

###### Discussion:

* + Talk about the importance of treating everyone with love and kindness, and how jealousy can affect relationships.

###### Genesis 37:5-8 (NIV) Verses:

1. Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more.
2. He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had:
3. We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it."
4. His brothers said to him, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said.

###### Picture-Reading:

* Imagine Joseph and his brothers working in the field, binding sheaves of grain.
* Visualize Joseph's sheaf standing tall and upright while his brothers' sheaves bow down to his.
* Think about the jealousy and anger his brothers felt when they heard about his dream.

###### Genesis 37:9-11 (NIV) Verses:

1. Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. "Listen," he said, "I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me."
2. When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, "What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?"
3. His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

###### Picture-Reading:

* Imagine Joseph sharing his second dream with his brothers and father.
* Visualize the sun, moon, and eleven stars bowing down to Joseph.
* Think about the confusion and jealousy his brothers felt, and how his father pondered the meaning of the dream.

###### Activity: Picture-Reading in Groups

1. **Group Discussion**:
   * Divide kids into groups and have each group discuss what they imagined while picture-reading the verses.
   * Encourage them to share their thoughts and feelings about Joseph's dreams and his brothers' reactions.

###### Drawing Activity:

* + Have each group draw pictures of Joseph's dreams, including the sheaves of grain and the sun, moon, and stars.
  + Share and discuss the drawings with the whole group.

## How we should treat our siblings

Sharing experiences about treating brothers and sisters with kindness and respect is important for building strong family bonds. Here are some ways kids can treat their siblings well:

###### Sharing and Caring

* + **Experience**: "Whenever I get a new toy or snack, I make sure to share it with my brother. It makes us both happy, and we have more fun playing together."

###### Helping Each Other

* + **Experience**: "When my sister has a difficult homework assignment, I help her understand it. She does the same for me when I need help. We learn from each other and feel supported."

###### Respecting Personal Space

* + **Experience**: "I knock on my brother's door before entering his room to respect his privacy. He does the same for me, and it helps us maintain a healthy boundary."

###### Playing Together

* + **Experience**: "We spend time playing board games, riding bikes, and doing creative activities together. It's a great way to bond and create happy memories."

###### Encouraging and Cheering

* + **Experience**: "When my sister participates in a school event or sports game, I cheer for her and encourage her. She feels more confident and knows I believe in her."

###### Apologizing and Forgiving

* + **Experience**: "Sometimes we argue or make mistakes, but we always say sorry and forgive each other. It helps us move past conflicts and stay close."

###### Showing Kindness

* + **Experience**: "I try to do small acts of kindness for my brother, like helping him with chores or making his favorite snack. He appreciates it, and it strengthens our relationship."

###### Listening and Understanding

* + **Experience**: "When my sister wants to talk about something important, I listen carefully and try to understand her feelings. She does the same for me, and it helps us feel heard and valued."

###### Celebrating Achievements

* + **Experience**: "We celebrate each other's achievements, no matter how small, like getting a good grade or finishing a project. It makes us feel proud and motivated."

## Values need for peaceful co-existence

Peaceful co-existence is essential for creating a harmonious and supportive environment. Here are three key values needed for peaceful co-existence:

###### Respect

* + **Explanation**: Respect involves acknowledging and valuing the differences in others, including their beliefs, opinions, and personal boundaries.
  + **Example**: Showing respect can mean listening attentively when someone speaks, being considerate of their feelings, and treating them with kindness regardless of differences.

###### Empathy

* + **Explanation**: Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of others. It involves putting yourself in someone else's shoes and seeing things from their perspective.
  + **Example**: Empathy can be shown by offering support to someone in need, being compassionate during difficult times, and expressing understanding and care.

###### Cooperation

* + **Explanation**: Cooperation is the act of working together towards a common goal or purpose. It involves teamwork, communication, and a willingness to help others.
  + **Example**: Cooperation can be demonstrated by collaborating on group projects, sharing responsibilities, and finding solutions together.

## The Chariot of fire

Let's picture-read the verses from 2 Kings 2:1 and 2 Kings 2:11-12 to help kids visualize and understand the story of Elijah being taken up to heaven.

###### 2 Kings 2:1 (NIV)

**Verse**:

1. "When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal."

###### Picture-Reading:

* + Imagine Elijah and Elisha walking together, knowing that the Lord is about to take Elijah up to heaven.
  + Visualize a sense of anticipation and reverence as they journey from Gilgal.

###### 2 Kings 2:11-12 (NIV)

**Verses**:

1. "As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind."
2. "Elisha saw this and cried out, 'My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!' And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his garment and tore it in two."

###### Picture-Reading:

* + Imagine Elijah and Elisha walking and talking when suddenly, a magnificent chariot of fire with horses of fire appears.
  + Visualize the chariot separating Elijah and Elisha, and Elijah being taken up to heaven in a whirlwind.
  + Picture Elisha watching in awe and sorrow, tearing his garment as a sign of grief and respect.

###### Activity: Picture-Reading in Groups

1. **Group Discussion**:
   * Divide kids into groups and have each group discuss what they imagined while picture-reading the verses.
   * Encourage them to share their thoughts and feelings about Elijah's miraculous ascent to heaven and Elisha's reaction.

###### Drawing Activity:

* + Have each group draw pictures of the scene with Elijah, Elisha, the chariot of fire, and the whirlwind.
  + Share and discuss the drawings with the whole group.

## ways of having a good relationship with God

Building a good relationship with God is important for kids to develop their faith and spirituality. Here are three ways kids can nurture their relationship with God:

###### Prayer

* + **Explanation**: Talking to God through prayer is a way to share thoughts, feelings, and ask for guidance.
  + **Practice**: Encourage kids to pray daily, whether in the morning, before meals, or at bedtime. They can thank God, ask for help, and express their love for Him.

###### Reading the Bible

* + **Explanation**: The Bible contains God's teachings and stories that help us understand His love and guidance.
  + **Practice**: Help kids read a few Bible verses or a story each day. Discuss what they learned and how they can apply it in their lives.

###### Showing Kindness and Love

* + **Explanation**: Acting with kindness and love towards others reflects God's love and teachings.
  + **Practice**: Encourage kids to perform acts of kindness, such as helping a friend, sharing with others, or saying kind words. Remind them that these actions please God and strengthen their relationship with Him.

### Ways they respect the parents at home

Respecting parents or guardians is important and helps create a loving and supportive home environment. Here are some ways kids can show respect at home:

###### Listening Attentively

* + **Example**: Pay attention when parents or guardians are speaking, and follow their instructions.
  + **Practice**: Make eye contact, avoid interrupting, and respond politely.

###### Helping with Chores

* + **Example**: Assist with household tasks like cleaning, cooking, and organizing.
  + **Practice**: Take responsibility for assigned chores and offer to help with additional tasks when needed.

###### Using Kind Words

* + **Example**: Speak politely and kindly to parents and guardians.
  + **Practice**: Say "please," "thank you," and "excuse me," and avoid using rude or disrespectful language.

###### Expressing Gratitude

* + **Example**: Show appreciation for the care, support, and love provided by parents and guardians.
  + **Practice**: Say "thank you" often and acknowledge their efforts.

###### Respecting Rules and Boundaries

* + **Example**: Follow household rules and respect personal boundaries set by parents and guardians.
  + **Practice**: Understand and abide by curfews, screen time limits, and other guidelines.

###### Apologizing and Forgiving

* + **Example**: Apologize when making a mistake and forgive when there are misunderstandings.
  + **Practice**: Say "sorry" sincerely and work to resolve conflicts peacefully.

## THE EARLY LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST

### The Birth of Jesus Christ

Sure! Let's picture-read the birth of Jesus according to Luke 2:4-13 to help kids visualize and understand the story.

###### Luke 2:4-13 (NIV)

**Verses**:

1. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.
2. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.
3. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born,
4. and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.
5. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.
6. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.
7. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will

cause great joy for all the people.

1. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.
2. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a

manger.”

1. Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

###### Retelling the Story

1. **Joseph and Mary Travel to Bethlehem**
   * Joseph and Mary traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem because they needed to register for a census. Joseph was from the family line of King David.

###### The Birth of Jesus

* + While they were in Bethlehem, Mary gave birth to her firstborn son, Jesus. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, as there was no room available in the inn.

###### Shepherds in the Field

* + Nearby, there were shepherds watching over their flocks at night. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them. The shepherds were very afraid.

###### The Angel's Message

* + The angel told the shepherds not to be afraid and brought them good news of great joy for all people. The angel announced that a Savior, the Messiah, had been born that night in Bethlehem. The angel told them they would find the baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.

###### Angels Praising God

* + Suddenly, a large group of angels appeared, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

## Jesus Christ in the Temple

Let's picture-read the verses from Luke 2:42-49 to help kids visualize and understand the story of young Jesus in the temple.

###### Luke 2:42-49 (NIV)

**Verses**:

1. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom.
2. After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it.
3. Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends.
4. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.
5. After three days, they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.
6. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers.
7. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."
8. "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?"

###### Picture-Reading in Turns

1. **Verse 42**:
   * **Picture**: Jesus, at twelve years old, traveling with his parents to the festival in Jerusalem.
   * **Visualize**: The bustling city and the excitement of the festival.

###### Verses 43-45:

* + **Picture**: Jesus staying behind in Jerusalem as his parents begin their journey home, unaware that he stayed.
  + **Visualize**: Mary and Joseph traveling with a large group of relatives and friends, later realizing Jesus is missing, and then hurrying back to Jerusalem.

###### Verse 46:

* + **Picture**: After three days of searching, Mary and Joseph find Jesus in the temple courts.
  + **Visualize**: Jesus sitting among the teachers, listening and asking questions, and the teachers being amazed at his wisdom.

###### Verse 47:

* + **Picture**: The teachers and others in the temple being impressed and amazed by Jesus' understanding and answers.
  + **Visualize**: The expressions of amazement on the faces of those listening to Jesus.

###### Verses 48-49:

* + **Picture**: Mary and Joseph finding Jesus and expressing their concern, while Jesus responds calmly.
  + **Visualize**: Mary's worried face as she speaks to Jesus and Jesus explaining that he needed to be in his Father's house.

###### Activity: Picture-Reading in Groups

1. **Group Discussion**:
   * Divide kids into groups and have each group discuss what they imagined while picture-reading the verses.
   * Encourage them to share their thoughts and feelings about the story of Jesus in the temple and his response to his parents.

###### Drawing Activity:

* + Have each group draw pictures of different parts of the story, such as Jesus in the temple, Mary and Joseph searching, and the teachers being amazed.
  + Share and discuss the drawings with the whole group.

###### How Jesus Obeyed His Parents

1. **Respecting Their Authority**:
   * Despite being aware of His divine mission, Jesus respected His earthly parents' authority. He didn't argue or defy them when they expressed their concern.

###### Returning with Them:

* + After being found in the temple, Jesus obeyed His parents and returned home with them to Nazareth. This act of obedience shows His respect for their guidance and care.

###### Continuing to Be Obedient:

* + Luke 2:51 states, "Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart." This verse emphasizes that Jesus continued to be obedient to His parents as He grew up.

Here are some common activities kids engage in during Sunday or Sabbath School:

###### Bible Stories

* + **Activity**: Listening to and discussing Bible stories.
  + **Example**: Learning about Noah's Ark, David and Goliath, or the birth of Jesus.

###### Singing and Worship

* + **Activity**: Singing songs and hymns, and participating in worship.
  + **Example**: Singing "This Little Light of Mine" or "Jesus Loves Me."

###### Crafts and Art Projects

* + **Activity**: Creating art projects related to Bible stories or themes.
  + **Example**: Making a paper crown for the story of King David or coloring a picture of Noah's Ark.

###### Memory Verses

* + **Activity**: Learning and reciting Bible verses.
  + **Example**: Memorizing John 3:16 or Psalm 23:1.

###### Games and Activities

* + **Activity**: Playing games that reinforce biblical lessons.
  + **Example**: Bible-themed scavenger hunts or trivia quizzes.

###### Group Discussions

* + **Activity**: Engaging in group discussions about faith and life lessons.
  + **Example**: Talking about the importance of kindness, forgiveness, and helping others.

###### Prayers

* + **Activity**: Participating in group prayers.
  + **Example**: Praying for family, friends, and people in need.

###### Drama and Skits

* + **Activity**: Performing skits and plays based on Bible stories.
  + **Example**: Acting out the parable of the Good Samaritan or the story of Jonah and the Whale.

###### Storytelling

* + **Activity**: Telling and listening to stories that teach moral and spiritual lessons.
  + **Example**: Sharing stories about the lives of saints or missionaries.

###### Service Projects

* + **Activity**: Engaging in service projects that help others.
  + **Example**: Making care packages for the needy or writing letters to missionaries.

## Baptism of Jesus Christ

Let's picture-read the verses from Matthew 3:13-15 to help kids visualize and understand the story of Jesus being baptized by John the Baptist.

###### Matthew 3:13-15 (NIV) Verses:

1. "Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John."
2. "But John tried to deter him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?'"
3. "Jesus replied, 'Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.' Then John consented."

###### Picture-Reading in Turns

1. **Verse 13**:
   * **Picture**: Jesus traveling from Galilee to the Jordan River.
   * **Visualize**: Jesus walking towards the river where John the Baptist is baptizing people.

###### Verse 14:

* + **Picture**: John the Baptist initially refusing to baptize Jesus.
  + **Visualize**: John expressing his humility, saying that he needs to be baptized by Jesus instead.

###### Verse 15:

* + **Picture**: Jesus insisting that it is proper for John to baptize Him to fulfill all righteousness.
  + **Visualize**: Jesus and John agreeing, and John consenting to baptize Jesus.

###### Activity: Picture-Reading in Groups

1. **Group Discussion**:
   * Divide kids into groups and have each group discuss what they imagined while picture-reading the verses.
   * Encourage them to share their thoughts and feelings about Jesus' baptism and the importance of the event.

###### Drawing Activity:

* + Have each group draw pictures of different parts of the story, such as Jesus approaching the Jordan River, John hesitating, and John baptizing Jesus.
  + Share and discuss the drawings with the whole group.

## How Jesus showed humility during baptism

Jesus showed humility during His baptism in several significant ways. Here are some key points:

###### Accepting Baptism by John

* + **Explanation**: Even though Jesus is the Son of God and sinless, He chose to be baptized by John the Baptist. This act of humility shows His willingness to identify with humanity and set an example for others.
  + **Example**: By accepting baptism, Jesus demonstrated that He was not above the practices and rituals meant for people, even though He was without sin.

###### Submitting to God's Plan

* + **Explanation**: Jesus submitted to God's plan and recognized the importance of fulfilling all righteousness. He understood that His baptism was part of God's plan for His life and mission.
  + **Example**: Jesus' response to John in Matthew 3:15, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness," shows His obedience and submission to God's will.

###### Setting an Example for Others

* + **Explanation**: By being baptized, Jesus set an example for His followers. He showed that baptism is an important step in following God and committing to a life of faith.
  + **Example**: Jesus' actions encouraged others to follow in His footsteps and be baptized as a sign of their faith and commitment to God.

### Importance of baptism to Christians today

The baptism of Jesus Christ is very important to Christians today for several key reasons:

###### Example of Obedience

* + **Explanation**: Jesus' baptism shows His obedience to God the Father. It sets an example for Christians to follow in being obedient to God's will and commands.
  + **Lesson**: Just as Jesus obeyed God by being baptized, Christians are encouraged to obey God's teachings and follow His path.

###### Beginning of His Ministry

* + **Explanation**: Jesus' baptism marks the beginning of His public ministry. It is the point where He started teaching, healing, and performing miracles.
  + **Lesson**: It shows the importance of committing to God's work and purpose in our lives.

###### Identification with Humanity

* + **Explanation**: By being baptized, Jesus identified Himself with humanity's need for repentance and forgiveness, even though He was without sin.
  + **Lesson**: It reminds Christians that Jesus understands and shares in our human experiences and struggles.

###### Receiving the Holy Spirit

* + **Explanation**: During His baptism, the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus in the form of a dove, and God's voice proclaimed Him as His beloved Son.
  + **Lesson**: This event highlights the importance of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer and signifies God's approval and blessing.

###### Symbol of New Life

* + **Explanation**: Baptism symbolizes cleansing from sin and a new beginning. It represents a commitment to living a new life in Christ.
  + **Lesson**: For Christians, baptism is a public declaration of faith and a symbol of spiritual rebirth.

### Wedding at Cana of Galilee

Let's picture-read the story of Jesus changing water into wine from John 2:1-10 to help kids visualize and understand the miracle.

###### John 2:1-10 (NIV)

**Verses**:

1. On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there,
2. and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.
3. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."
4. "Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come."
5. His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."
6. Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.
7. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim.
8. Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so,
9. and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside
10. and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

###### Picture-Reading in Turns

1. **Verses 1-2**:
   * **Picture**: A joyful wedding celebration in Cana. Jesus, His mother Mary, and His disciples are attending the wedding.
   * **Visualize**: The festive atmosphere, people enjoying the celebration, and Jesus being part of the crowd.

###### Verses 3-4:

* + **Picture**: Mary noticing that the wine has run out and telling Jesus about the problem.
  + **Visualize**: Mary's concerned expression as she talks to Jesus, and Jesus responding that His hour has not yet come.

###### Verse 5:

* + **Picture**: Mary instructing the servants to do whatever Jesus tells them.
  + **Visualize**: The servants listening attentively to Mary and preparing to follow Jesus' instructions.

###### Verses 6-7:

* + **Picture**: Six large stone water jars used for ceremonial washing. Jesus tells the servants to fill the jars with water.
  + **Visualize**: The servants filling the jars to the brim with water, following Jesus' command.

###### Verses 8-9:

* + **Picture**: The servants drawing some water from the jars and taking it to the master of the banquet. The master tastes the water that has been turned into wine.
  + **Visualize**: The astonished look on the master's face as he realizes the water has become wine, and the servants knowing the miracle that has taken place.

###### Verse 10:

* + **Picture**: The master of the banquet praising the bridegroom for serving the best wine last.
  + **Visualize**: The bridegroom and guests enjoying the miraculous wine, not knowing the source, but appreciating the quality.

###### Activity: Picture-Reading in Groups

1. **Group Discussion**:
   * Divide kids into groups and have each group discuss what they imagined while picture-reading the verses.
   * Encourage them to share their thoughts and feelings about the miracle of changing water into wine.

###### Drawing Activity:

* + Have each group draw pictures of different parts of the story, such as the wedding celebration, the stone water jars, and the master of the banquet tasting the wine.
  + Share and discuss the drawings with the whole group.

The wedding at Cana, where Jesus performed His first miracle by changing water into wine, provides a great example of obedience to instructions. Here are some key points on how the characters in the story demonstrated obedience:

###### Mary's Faith and Instruction

* + **Example**: Mary, Jesus' mother, showed faith in Jesus' ability to solve the problem of the wine running out. She instructed the servants, "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5).
  + **Lesson**: Trust and have faith in those who guide us with wisdom. Listen to and

follow their instructions, even if we don’t fully understand the plan.

###### Servants' Obedience

* + **Example**: The servants obeyed Jesus' instructions without hesitation. They filled the six stone water jars with water, even though it seemed unusual.
  + **Lesson**: Obey instructions promptly and without questioning the purpose. Sometimes, following instructions can lead to unexpected and wonderful results.

###### Fulfillment of a Need

* + **Example**: By obeying Jesus' instructions, the servants played a part in the miracle of turning water into wine, fulfilling the need for wine at the wedding.
  + **Lesson**: Our obedience can contribute to meeting important needs and bringing about positive outcomes.

###### Applying These Lessons:

* + **Follow Directions**: When given instructions by parents, teachers, or leaders, follow them carefully and respectfully.
  + **Trust in Guidance**: Have faith in the guidance provided by those who care for you and lead you.
  + **Be Ready to Help**: Be willing to assist others when they need help, just like the servants at the wedding.

### how they depend on God to provide for their needs

Depending on God to provide for our needs is an important part of faith for many families. Here are some experiences kids might share about how they rely on God:

###### Prayer for Daily Needs

* + **Experience**: "Every night, we pray together as a family. We ask God to provide for our daily needs like food, shelter, and good health. We trust that God will take care of us."
  + **Lesson**: Prayer helps us connect with God and trust in His provision.

###### Gratitude for Blessings

* + **Experience**: "At mealtime, we always say a prayer of thanks for the food we have. We know that God has blessed us with everything we need, and we are grateful."
  + **Lesson**: Being thankful reminds us of God's goodness and provision.

###### Relying on God's Guidance

* + **Experience**: "When I was nervous about starting a new school, I prayed to God for courage and guidance. God helped me find new friends and feel more comfortable."
  + **Lesson**: Trusting in God for guidance and support helps us overcome challenges.

###### Sharing with Others

* + **Experience**: "Our family donates clothes and toys to those in need. We believe that God provides for us so we can share with others."
  + **Lesson**: God's provision allows us to be generous and help those in need.

###### Faith in Difficult Times

* + **Experience**: "When my dad lost his job, we prayed as a family for God to help him find new work. We trusted that God would provide, and He did. My dad found a new job that he loves."
  + **Lesson**: Faith in God's provision helps us stay strong and hopeful during tough times.

## Healing Simon’s mother-in-law

###### The Healing of Simon's Mother-in-Law

**Setting the Scene** One day, Jesus went to the house of Simon (who is also known as Peter). Simon's mother-in-law was very sick with a high fever, and she was lying in bed.

**Jesus' Compassion** When Jesus arrived, the family told Him about her illness. Jesus cared deeply about people, so He went to where she was lying.

**The Miracle** Jesus stood beside her and gently touched her hand. He spoke to the fever and commanded it to leave her. Immediately, the fever left her, and she felt completely well.

**Her Response** Simon’s mother-in-law was so grateful that she got up right away and began to serve Jesus and the people in the house. She was thankful for the healing and wanted to show her gratitude by helping and serving others.

###### Key Lessons

1. **Jesus Cares for Everyone**: Jesus showed compassion and cared for Simon's mother-in-law by healing her.
2. **Jesus' Power to Heal**: Jesus has the power to heal sickness and make people well.
3. **Gratitude**: Simon's mother-in-law expressed her gratitude by serving others after she was healed.

### How to show Gratitude

Simon’s mother-in-law showed gratitude to Jesus by serving Him and those around her after she was healed. Here are some ways kids can show gratitude to others, inspired by her example:

###### Helping Others

* + **Example**: Just as Simon’s mother-in-law served Jesus, kids can help their family and friends with chores, schoolwork, or any tasks they might need assistance with.
  + **Practice**: Offer to set the table, help with groceries, or assist a friend with their homework.

###### Saying Thank You

* + **Example**: Expressing gratitude with kind words is important. Kids can say "thank you" to people who help them or do something nice for them.
  + **Practice**: Make it a habit to say "thank you" to teachers, parents, friends, and anyone who shows kindness.

###### Writing Notes or Cards

* + **Example**: A heartfelt note or card can show appreciation.
  + **Practice**: Create handmade thank you cards for teachers, relatives, or friends to express gratitude for their support and kindness.

###### Giving Small Gifts

* + **Example**: A small gift can be a token of appreciation.
  + **Practice**: Give a handmade craft, a drawing, or a small treat to someone who has been helpful or kind.

###### Acts of Kindness

* + **Example**: Performing acts of kindness is a great way to show gratitude.
  + **Practice**: Do something nice for someone without being asked, like picking up litter, holding the door open, or sharing a snack.

# CHRISTIAN VALUES

## Sharing

Sharing items at home helps bring families closer together and teaches kids the importance of cooperation and generosity. Here are some common items that families might share at home:

###### Food and Meals

* + **Example**: Family members share meals together, such as breakfast, lunch, and dinner. They may also share snacks and special treats.

###### Books and Toys

* + **Example**: Kids can share their favorite books and toys with their siblings. This promotes sharing and taking turns.

###### Household Chores

* + **Example**: Families often share responsibilities for household chores, such as cleaning, cooking, and doing laundry. Working together makes tasks easier and faster.

###### Electronics and Gadgets

* + **Example**: Families may share electronic devices like tablets, computers, and game consoles. Setting time limits and taking turns ensures everyone gets a chance to use them.

###### Clothing and Accessories

* + **Example**: Siblings might share clothes, shoes, and accessories, especially if they are similar in size. This can be fun and helps save money.

###### Art Supplies

* + **Example**: Kids can share art supplies like crayons, markers, paints, and paper. Creating art together fosters creativity and teamwork.

###### Sports Equipment

* + **Example**: Families may share sports equipment such as bicycles, soccer balls, and tennis rackets. Playing sports together encourages physical activity and bonding.

###### Furniture and Living Spaces

* + **Example**: Family members share common living spaces like the living room, dining room, and backyard. Respecting each other's space and keeping shared areas tidy is important.

###### The Miracle of Feeding the 5,000

**Setting the Scene** One day, Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee and a large crowd followed Him because they had seen the miracles He was performing by healing the sick. Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with His disciples. The Jewish Passover Festival was near, so many people were gathered.

**The Problem** As Jesus looked at the large crowd, He realized they were hungry and needed food. He asked Philip, one of His disciples, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" Philip replied, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

**The Little Boy’s Gift** Another disciple, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up, "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?" The little boy had offered his simple lunch to Jesus.

**The Miracle** Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass, so the people sat down. About five thousand men were there, not counting women and children. Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were seated. He did the same with the fish.

**The Amazing Result** Everyone ate as much as they wanted. After they had all had enough, Jesus said to His disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." They collected twelve baskets full of leftovers from the five barley loaves.

###### Key Lessons

1. **Jesus' Compassion**: Jesus cared about the people's needs and wanted to feed them.
2. **Faith and Generosity**: The little boy showed great faith and generosity by offering his small lunch to Jesus.
3. **Jesus' Power**

## Keeping the environment clean

Keeping the environment clean is important and aligns with the lessons we can learn from John 6:12-13, where Jesus instructed the disciples to gather the leftover pieces so that nothing would be wasted. Here are some ways kids can help keep the environment clean:

###### Pick Up Litter

* + **Explanation**: Just like the disciples gathered the leftovers, kids can help pick up litter in their surroundings.
  + **Practice**: When you see trash on the ground, pick it up and put it in a trash can. You can also join community clean-up events.

###### Recycle and Reuse

* + **Explanation**: Recycling and reusing materials help reduce waste and keep the environment clean.
  + **Practice**: Sort your trash into recyclable items like paper, plastic, and glass. Find creative ways to reuse items, such as turning old containers into art supplies holders.

###### Save Resources

* + **Explanation**: Conserving resources like water and energy helps protect the environment.
  + **Practice**: Turn off lights when you leave a room, use water wisely, and avoid wasting food.

###### Plant Trees and Gardens

* + **Explanation**: Planting trees and gardens can improve air quality and make the environment more beautiful.
  + **Practice**: Participate in tree-planting activities or start a small garden at home or school.

###### Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle

* + **Explanation**: The 3 Rs are important for minimizing waste and protecting the environment.
  + **Practice**: Reduce the amount of waste you create, reuse items when possible, and recycle materials properly.

###### Educate Others

* + **Explanation**: Teaching others about the importance of keeping the environment clean can have a positive impact.
  + **Practice**: Share what you know with friends and family, and encourage them to take care of the environment too.

###### Key Lesson from John 6:12-13

In John 6:12-13, Jesus teaches us the importance of not wasting resources and taking care of what we have. By keeping the environment clean, we can follow this lesson and show respect for the world God has given us.

## Obedience

Obeying parents is very important, and the Bible teaches us about this in Ephesians 6:1-3. Here are some key reasons why obeying parents is important for kids:

###### Ephesians 6:1-3 (NIV) Verses:

1. "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."
2. "Honor your father and mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise—
3. "so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

###### Key Points on the Importance of Obeying Parents

1. **It is the Right Thing to Do**
   * **Explanation**: The Bible teaches that obeying parents is the right and proper action. It helps us live in harmony with God's will.
   * **Lesson**: Obeying parents aligns with God's commandments and shows respect for the authority they have been given.

###### Honoring Parents

* + **Explanation**: Honoring your father and mother is one of the Ten Commandments. It shows that we value and respect our parents.
  + **Lesson**: By obeying and honoring parents, we demonstrate love and appreciation for the care and guidance they provide.

###### Blessings and Promises

* + **Explanation**: The commandment to honor parents comes with a promise. God promises that things will go well for those who obey their parents, and they will enjoy a long life on earth.
  + **Lesson**: Obeying parents brings blessings and helps create a positive and loving family environment.

###### Additional Reasons to Obey Parents

1. **Learning and Guidance**
   * **Explanation**: Parents provide valuable lessons and guidance to help children grow and make good decisions.
   * **Lesson**: By obeying parents, kids can learn important life skills and gain wisdom from their experiences.

###### Safety and Protection

* + **Explanation**: Parents set rules and guidelines to keep their children safe and protect them from harm.
  + **Lesson**: Obeying parents helps ensure the safety and well-being of kids.

###### Building Trust

* + **Explanation**: When children obey their parents, it builds trust and strengthens the parent-child relationship.
  + **Lesson**: Trust fosters a loving and supportive family environment.

Practicing obedience at home, guided by Ephesians 6:2-3, involves honoring and respecting parents. Here are some practical ways kids can show obedience at home:

###### Listening Attentively

* + **Example**: Pay attention when parents are speaking and follow their instructions without arguing.
  + **Practice**: Make eye contact, avoid interrupting, and respond politely.

###### Helping with Chores

* + **Example**: Assist with household tasks like cleaning, cooking, and organizing without being asked multiple times.
  + **Practice**: Take responsibility for assigned chores and offer to help with additional tasks.

###### Showing Respect

* + **Example**: Speak kindly and respectfully to parents, using polite language.
  + **Practice**: Use words like "please," "thank you," and "excuse me."

###### Being Honest

* + **Example**: Always tell the truth and be honest with parents about activities and feelings.
  + **Practice**: Admit mistakes and learn from them, rather than hiding or lying.

###### Following Rules

* + **Example**: Adhere to family rules and guidelines, such as curfews, screen time limits, and bedtime routines.
  + **Practice**: Understand the importance of rules and follow them consistently.

###### Expressing Gratitude

* + **Example**: Show appreciation for the care and support parents provide.
  + **Practice**: Say "thank you" often and acknowledge their efforts.

###### Showing Love and Care

* + **Example**: Demonstrate love and care through actions and words.
  + **Practice**: Give hugs, say "I love you," and do kind things for parents, like making a card or helping with a task.

## Honesty

Ephesians 4:25 teaches us the importance of telling the truth. Here are some key reasons why telling the truth is important:

###### Ephesians 4:25 (NIV)

**Verse**: "Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body."

###### Key Reasons for Telling the Truth

1. **Honesty Builds Trust**
   * **Explanation**: Telling the truth helps build trust between people. Trust is the foundation of strong and healthy relationships.
   * **Lesson**: When we are honest, others can rely on us and feel confident in our words and actions.

###### Promotes Unity and Harmony

* + **Explanation**: Truthfulness promotes unity and harmony within communities, families, and friendships. It helps create a peaceful and supportive environment.
  + **Lesson**: By being truthful, we contribute to a sense of togetherness and cooperation.

###### Reflects Integrity and Character

* + **Explanation**: Being honest reflects our integrity and character. It shows that we have strong moral principles and are committed to doing what is right.
  + **Lesson**: Telling the truth demonstrates that we value honesty and integrity in our lives.

###### Prevents Conflicts and Misunderstandings

* + **Explanation**: When we are truthful, it helps prevent conflicts and misunderstandings that can arise from lies and deceit.
  + **Lesson**: Being honest helps maintain clear communication and avoids unnecessary problems.

###### Fulfills God's Command

* + **Explanation**: Ephesians 4:25 instructs us to speak truthfully because it is a command from God. Following this command shows our obedience and respect for God's teachings.
  + **Lesson**: By telling the truth, we honor God's Word and live according to His will.

## Demonstrating Honesty

It's important to demonstrate honesty by not taking things that belong to others. Here are some ways kids can practice honesty and respect others' belongings:

###### Ask for Permission

* + **Explanation**: Always ask for permission before using or borrowing something that belongs to someone else.
  + **Practice**: If you want to use a friend's toy or a sibling's book, ask them first. Respect their answer, whether it's yes or no.

###### Return Borrowed Items

* + **Explanation**: If you borrow something from someone, make sure to return it in good condition and in a timely manner.
  + **Practice**: Keep track of borrowed items and return them as soon as you're done using them. Thank the person for letting you borrow their item.

###### Respect Personal Space

* + **Explanation**: Understand and respect the personal space and belongings of others.
  + **Practice**: Don't take or use things that aren't yours without asking. Remember that everyone has the right to their own belongings.

###### Be Honest About Mistakes

* + **Explanation**: If you accidentally take something that isn't yours, be honest about it and return it right away.
  + **Practice**: Admit your mistake, apologize, and give the item back to its rightful owner.

## Practicing punctuality

Practicing punctuality is important for developing good habits and showing respect for others' time. Here are some ways kids can practice punctuality at school and home:

###### At School

1. **Set a Routine**
   * **Example**: Establish a morning routine to ensure you are ready for school on time.
   * **Practice**: Wake up early, get dressed, eat breakfast, and pack your school bag the night before.

###### Use an Alarm Clock

* + **Example**: Use an alarm clock to help you wake up on time.
  + **Practice**: Set your alarm for a consistent time each day to build a habit of waking up early.

###### Prepare School Supplies

* + **Example**: Organize your school supplies and homework the night before.
  + **Practice**: Pack your backpack with all the necessary items to avoid last- minute searches.

###### Plan Your Time

* + **Example**: Plan how long it takes to get to school and aim to arrive a few minutes early.
  + **Practice**: Leave home with enough time to account for any unexpected delays.

###### At Home

1. **Create a Schedule**
   * **Example**: Make a daily schedule to manage your time effectively at home.
   * **Practice**: Include time for homework, chores, meals, and relaxation.

###### Set Reminders

* + **Example**: Use reminders to help you stay on track with your activities.
  + **Practice**: Set alarms or use a planner to remind you of important tasks and deadlines.

###### Help with Family Activities

* + **Example**: Be on time for family meals, outings, and events.
  + **Practice**: Pay attention to family schedules and be ready when it's time to go or do something together.

###### Respect Others' Time

* + **Example**: Show respect for family members' time by being punctual.
  + **Practice**: If you promise to do something at a certain time, make sure you do it promptly.

Getting home and to school on time is important for several reasons. Here are some key points for kids:

###### Respect for Others

* + **Explanation**: Being punctual shows respect for others' time, including teachers, family members, and classmates.
  + **Lesson**: Arriving on time demonstrates that you value and appreciate their efforts.

###### Positive Habits

* + **Explanation**: Developing the habit of punctuality helps build responsibility and discipline.
  + **Lesson**: These positive habits will benefit you throughout your life, in school, work, and personal relationships.

###### Reduced Stress

* + **Explanation**: Arriving on time prevents the stress and anxiety that can come from being late and rushing.
  + **Lesson**: Punctuality helps create a calm and organized start to the day.

###### Avoiding Disruptions

* + **Explanation**: When you arrive late, it can disrupt the flow of activities and learning for others.
  + **Lesson**: Being on time helps maintain a smooth and uninterrupted routine for everyone.

###### Time Management Skills

* + **Explanation**: Practicing punctuality helps develop good time management skills.
  + **Lesson**: Learning to manage your time effectively is a valuable skill that will help you succeed in various aspects of life.

###### Setting a Good Example

* + **Explanation**: Being punctual sets a positive example for others, including friends and younger siblings.
  + **Lesson**: Your behavior can inspire others to also be on time and responsible.

**Thankfulness**

1 Thessalonians 5:18 teaches us to give thanks in all circumstances. Here are three ways kids can express gratitude to their parents or guardians:

###### Saying Thank You

* + **Explanation**: A simple "thank you" can mean a lot. It shows appreciation for the love, care, and support parents provide.
  + **Practice**: Say "thank you" regularly for the big and small things parents do, like cooking meals, helping with homework, or providing guidance.

###### Helping Out

* + **Explanation**: Offering to help with chores and tasks shows appreciation and eases the parents' workload.
  + **Practice**: Volunteer to set the table, clean up, or help with grocery shopping. Doing chores without being asked is a great way to show gratitude.

###### Spending Quality Time

* + **Explanation**: Spending time together strengthens the bond and shows that you value their company.
  + **Practice**: Suggest fun activities to do together, like playing games, going for a walk, or watching a movie. Engage in meaningful conversations and listen attentively.

## Practicing thankfulness at home

Practicing thankfulness at home is a beautiful way to show gratitude and appreciate the blessings we have. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 encourages us to "give thanks in all circumstances." Here are some practical ways kids can practice thankfulness at home:

###### Expressing Gratitude

* + **Explanation**: Regularly say "thank you" to family members for their kindness and help.
  + **Practice**: Thank your parents for cooking meals, helping with homework, or giving you a ride. Thank your siblings for sharing and playing with you.

###### Keeping a Gratitude Journal

* + **Explanation**: Writing down things you are thankful for each day can help you focus on the positive aspects of life.
  + **Practice**: Each evening, write or draw something you are grateful for in a journal. It could be a fun activity you did, a kind word from a friend, or a special moment with your family.

###### Praying Together

* + **Explanation**: Praying as a family is a wonderful way to thank God for His blessings and ask for His guidance.
  + **Practice**: During family prayer time, take turns expressing thanks for specific blessings, such as good health, a loving family, or a safe home.

###### Making Thank You Cards

* + **Explanation**: Creating and giving thank you cards is a thoughtful way to show appreciation.
  + **Practice**: Make handmade thank you cards for your parents, siblings, or other family members. Write a heartfelt message inside to show your gratitude.

###### Sharing Meals and Special Moments

* + **Explanation**: Sharing meals and spending quality time together as a family can be a way to show thankfulness for each other's presence.
  + **Practice**: During meals, take a moment to express gratitude for the food and for being together. Share highlights of your day and celebrate each other's achievements.

# THE CHURCH

## A house of God

#### ways they respect the church as a place of worship

Respecting the church as a place of worship is important for maintaining a reverent and peaceful environment. Here are some ways kids can show respect in church:

###### Being Quiet and Calm

* + **Explanation**: Speak softly and avoid making loud noises to maintain a peaceful atmosphere.
  + **Practice**: Walk quietly, refrain from talking during services, and avoid running or playing inside the church.

###### Dressing Appropriately

* + **Explanation**: Wear neat and modest clothing that shows respect for the sacred space.
  + **Practice**: Choose outfits that are clean and suitable for a place of worship.

###### Participating in Worship

* + **Explanation**: Actively engage in worship services by singing, praying, and listening attentively.
  + **Practice**: Follow along with the hymns, prayers, and readings, and pay attention to the sermon.

###### Keeping the Church Clean

* + **Explanation**: Help keep the church clean and tidy by picking up trash and taking care of personal belongings.
  + **Practice**: Throw away litter, avoid bringing food or drinks into the sanctuary, and clean up after yourself.

###### Showing Respect to Others

* + **Explanation**: Be considerate of others by being respectful and polite.
  + **Practice**: Greet others with kindness, avoid interrupting, and show respect to church leaders and fellow worshippers.

###### Following Church Rules

* + **Explanation**: Adhere to the guidelines and rules set by the church to ensure a respectful and orderly environment.
  + **Practice**: Follow instructions from church leaders, participate in services as expected, and respect sacred objects and spaces.

## Benefits of going to church

Going to church has many benefits for kids. Here are some key benefits:

###### Learning About Faith

* + **Explanation**: Church helps kids learn about their faith, the teachings of the Bible, and the life of Jesus.
  + **Benefit**: It provides a strong foundation for their spiritual growth and understanding.

###### Building a Sense of Community

* + **Explanation**: Attending church allows kids to be part of a community where they can make friends and build relationships with others who share their faith.
  + **Benefit**: It fosters a sense of belonging and support.

###### Moral and Ethical Guidance

* + **Explanation**: Church teaches important values such as kindness, honesty, respect, and forgiveness.
  + **Benefit**: It helps kids develop good character and make positive choices in life.

###### Participating in Worship

* + **Explanation**: Church provides opportunities for kids to engage in worship through singing, praying, and listening to sermons.
  + **Benefit**: It helps them connect with God and express their faith.

###### Learning to Serve Others

* + **Explanation**: Church often involves activities and projects that encourage kids to serve and help others.
  + **Benefit**: It teaches the importance of compassion, generosity, and helping those in need.

###### Receiving Encouragement and Support

* + **Explanation**: Church provides a supportive environment where kids can receive encouragement from mentors, teachers, and fellow members.
  + **Benefit**: It helps them feel valued and motivated to grow in their faith.

## Activities done in church

Sure! Let's role-play some common activities kids do in church, such as praying, reading the Bible, singing, and dancing. You can try these role-play scenarios at home or with friends to practice and have fun:

###### Praying

* + **Scenario**: Gather in a circle and take turns saying a short prayer.

###### Role-Play:

* + - One child starts by saying, "Dear God, thank you for this day. Please bless our family and friends."
    - The next child continues with, "Help us to be kind and loving to others. Amen."

###### Reading the Bible

* + **Scenario**: Choose a Bible story to read aloud and discuss its meaning.

###### Role-Play:

* + - One child reads a passage, such as the story of David and Goliath.
    - After reading, the children discuss the lesson, for example, "David trusted God and was brave. How can we be brave in our lives?"

###### Singing

* + **Scenario**: Sing a favorite church song or hymn together.

###### Role-Play:

* + - Choose a song like "This Little Light of Mine" or "Jesus Loves Me."
    - Everyone sings along with enthusiasm and joy, clapping and using hand motions if appropriate.

###### Dancing

* + **Scenario**: Dance to a lively church song as a form of worship and celebration.

###### Role-Play:

* + - Play a song with a good rhythm, like "Every Move I Make" or "Father Abraham."
    - Dance and move to the music, expressing your joy and praise.

###### Listening to a Sermon

* + **Scenario**: Pretend to listen to a short sermon and discuss what you learned.

###### Role-Play:

* + - One child pretends to be the pastor and gives a brief message about kindness.
    - After the "sermon," the group discusses how they can show kindness in their daily lives.

###### Participating in a Group Activity

* + **Scenario**: Do a craft or group activity related to a Bible story.

###### Role-Play:

* + - Make a craft, like creating paper crowns for the story of King David.
    - Share and talk about your creations with the group.

## A House of Prayer

Matthew 21:13 (NIV) says:

"It is written," he said to them, "'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it 'a den of robbers.'"

###### Picture-Reading Activity for Kids

Let's imagine what this verse looks like and what it teaches us.

###### House of Prayer:

* + **Picture**: Imagine a beautiful, peaceful church or temple where people come to pray and worship God.
  + **Visualize**: People quietly praying, singing hymns, and showing reverence to God.

###### Den of Robbers:

* + **Picture**: Now, imagine a place that should be holy and sacred, but instead, people are using it for dishonest activities like buying, selling, and cheating others.
  + **Visualize**: Jesus is standing with a serious expression, driving out those who are not respecting the house of prayer.

###### Key Lessons:

1. **Respect for Worship Places**: The verse teaches us to respect churches, temples, and other places of worship as sacred spaces for prayer and reverence.
2. **Honesty and Integrity**: It reminds us to be honest and not use sacred spaces for selfish or dishonest purposes.
3. **Jesus' Teachings**: Jesus emphasizes the importance of maintaining the purity and sanctity of places dedicated to worshiping God.

Here are a few simple thanksgiving prayers inspired by Matthew 21:13 for kids:

###### Prayer 1: Thank You for Our Blessings

"Dear God, thank You for all the blessings You have given us. Thank You for our family, friends, and all the good things in our lives. Help us to always remember to be grateful and to share our blessings with others. Amen."

###### Prayer 2: Grateful for Each Day

"Dear Lord, thank You for this beautiful day. Thank You for the food we eat, the clothes we wear, and the love we share. We are so grateful for Your kindness and care. Amen."

###### Prayer 3: Thankful Hearts

"Dear Jesus, thank You for being with us every day. Thank You for Your love and protection. Help us to have thankful hearts and to always praise Your name. Amen."