

WHAT-A-CHURCH
— BUILDING —
DISCIPLESHIP
===== AT HOME =====

WRITTEN BY RACHEL WATSON

What a strange and unexpected season we are in! This curriculum was created to meet the Christian formation needs of families with elementary age children during this season where we cannot gather together. The materials for the lessons can be collected in a paper grocery bag and picked up by/delivered to the families in the church.

Gathering around the kitchen table, families create a sacred space for Christian education in the ordinary spaces of their home made extraordinary with God. Moms and dad become the teachers of faith and discipleship, building both Biblical literacy through the sharing of the stories of the disciples and Christian discipleship through the participation in weekly discipleship activities.

This curriculum is twelve weeks long, covering stories of Andrew, Peter, Phillip, Thomas, Mary and Martha, Lydia, Priscilla, Aquila, and Apollos, and Joanna and Susanna. The story is paired with a game, craft, and discipleship activity. While the stories could be used in any order, they are arranged in units focusing on prayer, service, and the reading and pondering of the Word.

As the activities are completed, the corresponding burger pieces are cut out and glue together to build a complete burger. And since each family has the choice as to which and how many activities to complete each week, every burger is different! Invite families to share pictures of their burgers and Sunday school activities with the whole church!

Below is the list of all the components that could be included in the take-home kit.

Worship Space

God is Love Cross kit from Oriental Trading Company

Good Shepherd kit from Oriental Trading Company

shallow plastic tray (clear plastic plant pot saucer), handful of aquarium gems, and a shell
fish bank
noisemaker
led candle
green bandana
white bandana

Prayer Manipulatives

heart gems
bird seed
pony beads and pipe cleaner
bandaids
goldfish
fruit snacks
2 small wooden cubes
flashlight
crayon
This is Who God Loves Mirror kit from Oriental
Trading Company (or small handsize mirror)
My Faith is Built on Jesus Lego Egg from Oriental
Trading Company (or Ziploc of lego pieces)

Crafts

foam door hanger
15 perler beads and half length pipe cleaner
star, heart, blue, clear, brown, and purple pony bead
and pipe cleaner
yarn and plastic children's sewing needle
foam sheets
tissue paper (orange, red, yellow)
sidewalk chalk
small canister of pringles (lunch size)
stickers
paper cup
straws
construction paper
red and white checkered deli paper
(to glue your finished burgers on)

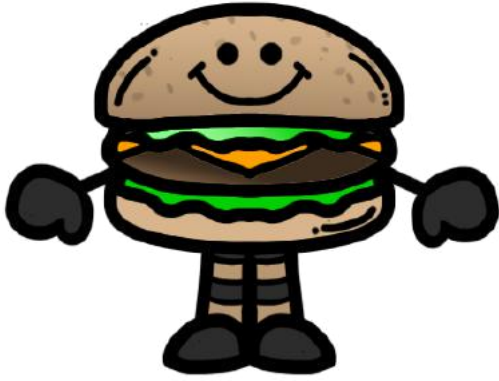
I hope you have as much fun creating memories with these lessons as I did creating them for you!

Wishing you well,

Rachel

WHAT-A-CHURCH

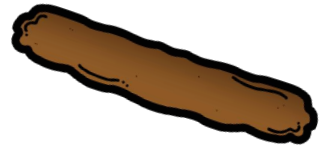
Take-Out Sunday School



This fall, let's build our own biblical hamburgers! Here's how this works:

Each week, choose one hamburger bun. Now, you've got a bun, but you have to put the meat and the toppings on it!

First, put a few hamburger patties on there. Choose any of the activities—they will all work with every story. You can have a simple single patty or stack them up for a double or triple (or more) decker burger.



Then, if you'd like, add all the fixin's. We all know that a basic burger is delicious, but the extra toppings will make it even better.



Cheese slices are prayerful activities. There are lot of ways to talk to God and many things to talk to God about. Each of these activities uses a physical object to help focus on one way and reason to talk to God. You can add them to your hamburger as you go.

Ketchup and mustard are crafts that have a biblical basis of some kind. While each has a suggested bible story, you can do them in any order you'd like.



Tomatoes are family games that correspond to the Bible stories. Put on your tennis shoes and get ready for fun activities and games.

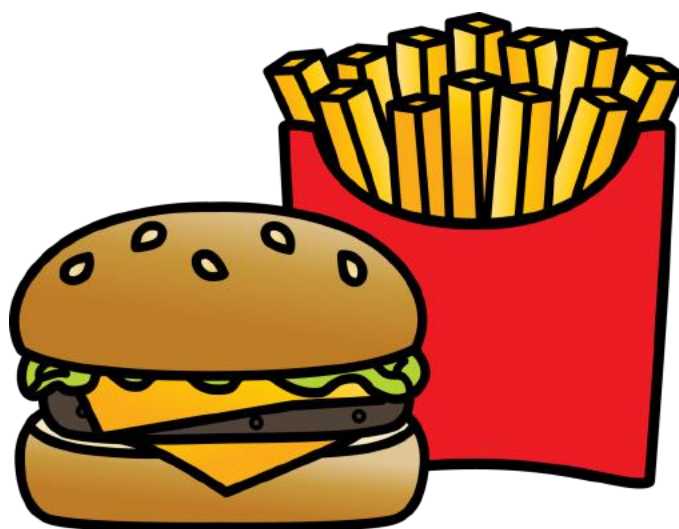
Each piece of lettuce is an activity that you can complete throughout the week. These spiritual practices help carve a sacred moment out of a busy day.



As you complete the activities, cut out the pieces and glue them to a burger wrapper to build your burger! Then pack the burgers in your What-a-Church bag to show us when it is complete!

Setting the Table

First, we prepare a space for worship and learning. A large shallow box or a clean pizza box is perfect for this. On Sundays you can open the lid for an instant worship space. After worship, close the lid and store for next week. You can always pull it out during the week for moments of prayer with your family. (Be sure to empty out the water in the baptismal font before you store the worship box for the week.)



God Is Love Cross (cross and sticker kit.) As a reminder of our stained glass at church and the big cross in the Sanctuary, build the cross and place in your worship space. Remember that you are a beloved child of God!

White and Green Bandanas: Use along with your green bandana as a table parament in your worship space to remind you of the worship season of the year (Green and growing: Ordinary Time, White: All Saint's Day and Christ the King Sunday.).

Liturgical Calendar A liturgical calendar reminds us of the constancy of God's Providence in the never-ending cycle of the seasons and provides a framework for the telling of the Holy stories throughout the year. You can print and cut out the Liturgical Calendar and affix it to the box. Use a clothespin, moving it one space a week to mark the Sundays of the church year. This liturgical calendar is one example of such a resource: One Page Liturgical Calendar (Year A) by Barbara Lyons- <http://liturgyletter.com/free-2019-2020-year-a-one-page-liturgical-calendar>

Good Shepherd (craft kit with sheep) This will serve as a reminder that the Good Shepherd meets us at the Table, whether it is the one in our sanctuary or the ones in our kitchens, and cares for us in times of trouble and in moments of celebration.

LED Candle Turn on during the Prayer for Illumination as a prayer inviting the Holy Spirit to open your ears and heart to hear the Bible story of the day.

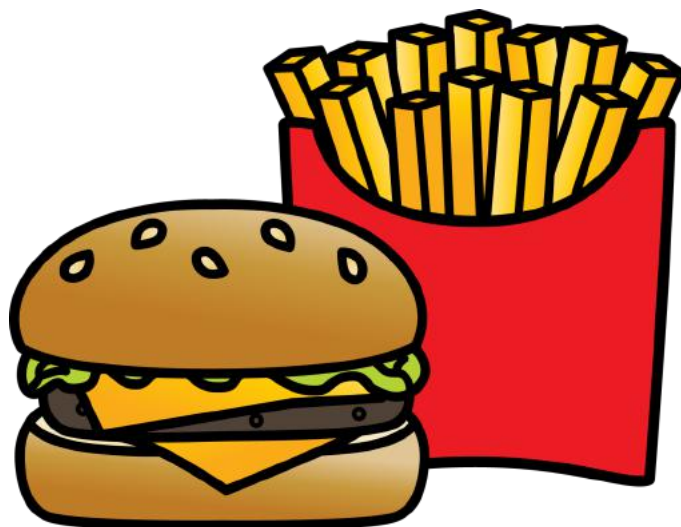
Children's Hymnal Use to sing songs at the start of the Sunday School lesson or before or after the church service.

Baptismal Font Place the shell and the pebbles in the tray and add some water. At the beginning of the worship time, you can dip your fingers into the water and place the water on your forehead to remember your baptism, God's love for you, and that you belong in God's great big family.

Noisemaker (kazoo or clapper) After the benediction (the last part of the worship service) make a joyful noise of praise to God for a count of 10 seconds.

Fish Bank Offering Box Put a few coins in the fish bank every week and bring back to church when we are able to gather together or donate the money to one of the mission partners of the church.

You can also add your own special elements to the worship box (rocks, flowers, pictures, letters, kids drawings, prayer beads, and other meaningful objects or prayer reminders).



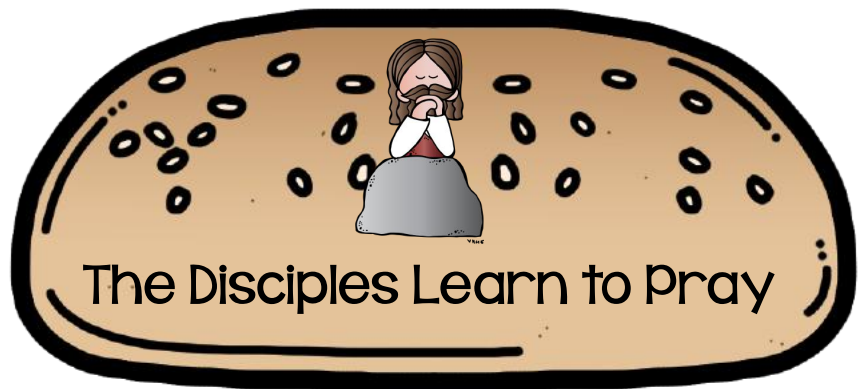
CALLED

START YOUR JOURNEY HERE
WITH THE STORY OF JESUS
AND THE FIRST DISCIPLES.



PRAYING

THESE STORIES MODEL PRAYER
AS A CHARACTERISTIC OF
DISCIPLESHIP.



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SERVING

THESE STORIES MODEL THE
ACT OF SERVING OTHERS AS A
CHARACTERISTIC OF
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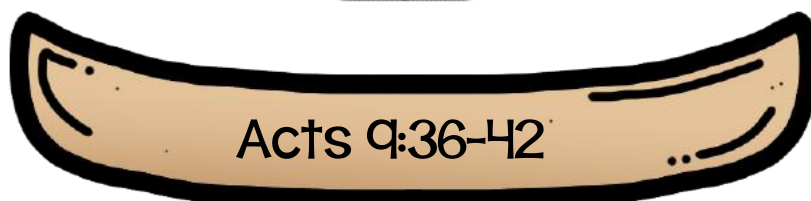
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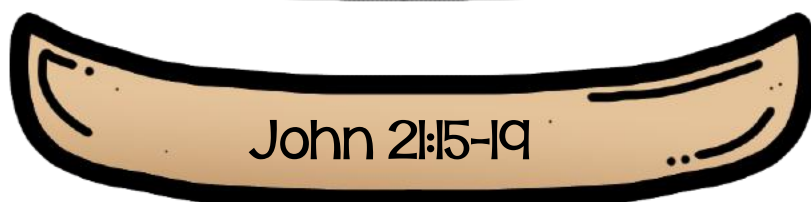
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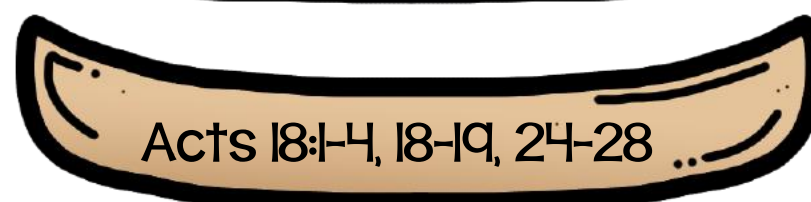
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STUDYING

THESE STORIES MODEL THE ACTS
OF LEARNING AND TEACHING
AS A CHARACTERISTIC OF
DISCIPLESHIP.



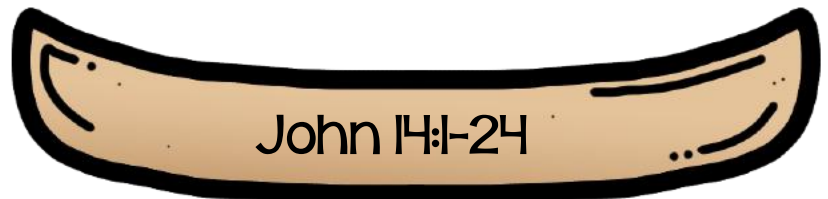
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CALLED

YOUR JOURNEY CONTINUES AS A
DISCIPLE CALLED BY CHRIST.
END THIS SEMESTER WITH THE
STORY OF THE GREAT COMMISSION.



look for feelings

look for feelings

look for feelings

look for feelings

act+ it out

act+ it out

act+ it out

act+ it out

sing a song

sing a song

read +two +translations

read +two +translations

read +two +translations

sing a song

sing a song

read +two +translations

super fast

super fast

super fast

super fast

funny voices

funny voices

funny voices

funny voices

ask it questions

ask it questions

draw a picture

draw a picture

draw a picture

ask it questions

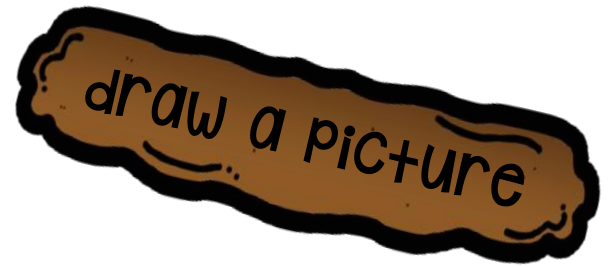
ask it questions

draw a picture

What did this story make you think about? Draw a picture of it!

Can you make a comic strip about this story? What happens first, second, next, and last?

What is the most important part? What could you take out and still have all you need?



What do you wish you could ask the characters?

What do you think the author left out or didn't answer very well? If you could sit down with the author, what would you ask?

What do you wonder about the story?

If you had to tell this story in 20 words or less, what would you say? You would have to leave out a lot of information and keep only the most important parts.

Try to tell the story while someone else counts the words as you go. Can you say it all in 20 words or less? Can they?



You can make up voices for each of the characters in the story. Do they have squeaky voices or deep rumbling voices? Do they talk fast or really, really slow?

What happens if you pretend a mouse is telling you the story? Or a big grumbly bear? Or a mad teacher? Or a happy grandma? Does it sound different or is it just the same?

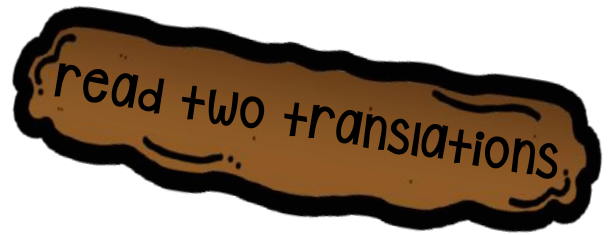


Read the story through one time. Then decide how you could act it out. Ask the child to think about how many actors you would need. What are they doing? What do they say? Where are they?

Ask your child which character they would most like to play and why. Ask which one they think you should be.

Consider reading the story out of a children's story Bible and then from the NRSV. Older kids can read from various versions and compare how they are similar and different. Sometimes noticing differences makes you wonder why.

Share what you think the story means and see if your child thought the same things. Maybe you interpreted the story differently.



Listen to the story and stop periodically to think about how all of the characters are feeling. Why are they sad, scared, mad, or happy? How would you feel if you were there? What would you tell them if you were there? Would you try to help them make better choices or to feel better about what was happening? What do you know that they don't know?

The Disciples

Come Follow Me (Calling of the Disciples)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KhA0mj84Tuw>



Praying

The Lord's Prayer (The Lord's Prayer)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YdGIId-ZJtSU>

Standing in the Need of Prayer (Lydia)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FSUee0WauB0>

Serving

The Servant Song (James and John)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kdmgpMfnjdU>

Feeding of the 5000 (Feeding of the 5000)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QQ5PuELGCew>

I Will Follow Jesus (Joanna and Susanna)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jyHIA0hmPfg>

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus (Tabitha)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRm-AIdeBP_s

Worship and Proclamation

Lord I Lift Your Name on High (Priscilla, Aquila, and Apollos)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zX5qA_me0HA

Praise Him Praise Him

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Srbmk3zrsss>

I've Got the Joy-Joy-Joy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ah6ipfoR02Q>

Reading and Learning

The B-I-B-L-E (Mary and Martha)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4pvlvugHs-U>

Standing on the Promises of God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xCJ8i7u9R7I>

Come and Go With Me (Thomas)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dVOFpRP_7ks

The Great Commission

The Great Commission (The Great Commission)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXMLV9BiNek>

The Summons

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o469PRLdbHU>

Crayon

Prayer

Mirror

Prayer

Flashlight

Prayer

TSP Dice

Prayer

Bandaid

Prayer

Heart to Heart

Prayer

Lego

Prayer

Birdseed

Prayer

Bead

Prayer

Pencils

Prayer

Puzzle

Prayer

Goldfish and Gummies

Prayer

#UPCFlatJesus

Pray Time



Legos (prayers for others, neighborhood)

God gives each of us gifts to help build each other up and help each other.

As you make a tower with the blocks, say thanks for the gifts of the Spirit and ask God to help you build up and help your neighbors.



Crayon (prayers for creation, creativity, thankfulness)

Choose a crayon and draw things that are the same color as the crayon you picked. Or take a walk and look for all the things you see that are that color. Say thanks to God for God's creativity in making everything! Say thanks to God for the creativity and talents that God has given us.



Bead Bracelet (prayers for friends, gift for sibling)

Spread the beads out on a flat surface. Use the pipe cleaner to pick up the beads by poking it through the middle of the bead. While the beads are gathering on your pipe cleaner, say a prayer for friends (cousins, siblings, friends from school and church, etc.) who are connected to you and care about you.



Mirror (prayers for you, prayers for vocation)

God made you special and God loves you so much! Look in the mirror and name the things that make you special—what special gifts has God given you? Or ask God to help you reflect the love of God as you love your family and neighbors.



Heart Gems (prayers of gratitude)

Pass between family members when they do something loving or helpful as a way to say a prayer of gratitude. Or pick a time each week to think about helpers in our world and thank God for helpers who show God's love in this world.



Birdseed (prayers for creation, hope)

Each of those seeds has great potential. They might fall in the dirt and grow into a plant. That plant might be food for a bee or a butterfly. Or they might be eaten as food, giving strength to birds and squirrels. When you spread the birdseed, say a prayer for all those creatures. Think about how that tiny seed could make such a big difference!



Band-aids (Saying I'm sorry, prayers for healing)

Sometimes we hurt other people with words we say or things we do. When we do, we can say we are sorry. This lets the other person know that we care and mends a broken relationships. Give the bandaid to someone when you need to say I'm sorry when you accidentally hurt someone's feelings. The band-aids are also a reminder that God heals our hurts. When we are sick or injured or someone has hurt our feelings, we give ourselves the bandaid and ask God to help heal our hurts.



Goldfish and Fruit Snacks (prayers for our church family)

These are a reminder of what Sunday school tastes like! Say a prayer for members of our church family while you eat a Sunday school snack.



TSP Prayer Dice (prayers of the people prayers)

Have a grown up use a permanent marker to write a T on two sides of one die, P on two more sides, and S on the last two side. On the other die, write me, family, church, my neighbors, the world, and God. Roll the TSP die. If it is a S, say a prayer asking for forgiveness (sorry). If it is a T or P, roll the other die to complete your prayer. For a T, give thanks for the topic on the second die (thanks). For a P, say a petition prayer for the topic on the second die, starting with please (please).



Flashlight (prayers for help)

God is always watching over us and taking care of us, even if we feel lost or lonely. If you are feeling sad or scared, know that God can always find you and take care of you. What can you find with your flashlight?



Pipe Cleaners (focusing, centering during worship)

The pipe cleaner can be folded into shapes, rubbed and petted gently, and wrapped into a spiral around a pencil or crayon. This can help keep little hands busy during quiet thinking or listening times!



Flat Jesus

Cut out and color and take pictures with Jesus around your house and backyard, and anywhere else you go this summer. You can be in the picture with Jesus too. This is to help remind you that Jesus is with you all the time, no matter where you go.



D.S.art



fishers of people



diy weaving loom



helping hands



generous giver



fish and bread



campfire circle



sewing patterns



this I know



discipleship



prayer bracelet



my prayer journal



many rooms



The first two disciples, Simon Peter and Andrew, were fishermen. When Jesus called them to follow him, he told them that he would send them out to fish for people.

The fish served as a symbol and type of password for the earliest Christians. If they drew a half circle in the sand and the other person knew to draw another half circle to complete the picture of the fish, they knew that they were among church friends.

Make a fish with pipe cleaners and beads!

Materials:
pipe cleaners
beads

String several beads onto a pipe cleaner until the pipe cleaner is between $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ covered with beads. Then slide the beads into the center of the pipe cleaner and then bend the ends toward each other, crossing them where the beads end. Twist the pipe cleaner ends around each other to secure a fish shape and prevent beads from falling off.





When the disciples asked Jesus how to pray, he taught them a prayer we still pray today! We call it the Lord's Prayer and it is a good prayer to memorize. Do you already know it? Do you know any other prayers that you have memorized already (like a bedtime prayer or grace)?

This bracelet will help you remember the words and you can keep it with you to be able to remember it whenever you need it!

Materials:

one chenille stem (any color)

one bead of each of the following colors: (heart, teal, brown, clear, star, purple)

Say the prayer together, stopping at the end of each line to string the bead. Discuss what it means. When you are finished, overlap the ends of the stem to make a circle big enough for the child's hand to go through. Cut off all but an inch of extra stem and twist the ends around each other so that it is not sharp. Now say the prayer again, moving the beads as you say each part.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

(heart bead because God is love)

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

(blue/green bead to remind us of the earth)

Give us this day our daily bread.

(brown bead like a loaf of freshly baked bread)

And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

(clear bead to help us remember to forgive and start new)

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

(star bead because we ask God to lead the way)

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

(purple bead because it is a royal color)

diy weaving loom



Lydia was a business woman. She sold fancy purple cloth. When she was in a town, she would go to the place where people gathered to worship and pray. That was where she met Paul and learned more about Jesus. Then she went and told all of her friends the good news about Jesus.

Can you make purple (or many-colored) cloth like Lydia might have sold?

Materials:

Piece of cardboard, approximately 5 x 7 inches

Yarn

Tape

Scissors

plastic sewing needle

Fork (optional)

Make Your Loom

Snip evenly spaced cuts across one of the short ends of the loom (cardboard). You can make as many cuts as you like, but be sure to space them evenly. For younger kids, make fewer cuts and space them wider apart. For older kids, make more cuts closer together.

Make identical cuts at the other end of your loom.

Warp and Weft (the warp is the yarn that goes up and down on the loom)

Tape a long piece of yarn to the back of your loom. Secure this piece of yarn in the first slit on one end of your loom. Pull it down to the matching slit of the bottom and bring it back up to the next slit. Continue wrapping the yarn around the cardboard making sure that it is tight, but doesn't bend the cardboard. When all the slits have yarn, cut the yarn and tape it to the back of the loom.

Weave

Thread a 1-2 foot length of yarn through your sewing needle. Longer pieces of the yarn are more likely to get tangled! Starting at one end of the loom, weave your needle under and over the warp strings on your loom. Each time you finish a row, use the fork (or your fingers) to push the rows together. Continue back and forth across the loom until the yarn runs out. Finish at an edge and leave the tail hanging loosely at that edge. Begin where you left off, with a new color or with more of the same yarn. Leave a little tail when you begin with this new piece of yarn. You'll tie the tails together when you finish your project. Continue weaving until your project reaches a length that you're happy with or until you reach the end of your loom. Cut the yarn, leaving a little tail. Depending on how tightly you pull, your project may vary in width as you weave. It's okay, just keep trying!

Remove from the Loom

Knot the pairs of loose strings together and snip off the extra yarn. Then cut through the warp strings on the back of the loom and take the string out of the slits in the cardboard. Tie the loose string that you started with and ended with to the nearest warp string.

Tada! You made cloth!

See <https://happyhooligans.ca/cardboard-loom-weaving-activity-for-kids/> for pictures!



James and John wanted Jesus to make them powerful rulers, but Jesus reminded them that good leaders are people who try to take care of others and lead with love.

In what ways do you help others?

Materials:
construction paper
crayons

Trace your hand on a piece of construction paper. Cut out the handprint. Trace your hand again and cut out the new handprint. Cut out hearts in many different colors (or use white paper and decorate the hearts). On each heart, write or draw something you can do to help others.

Stack up the hearts and put one handprint on top and one on the bottom. Staple to secure them.



The little boy gave what he had to Jesus. Jesus took these gifts and made them feed so many people. Sometimes we can feel like we cannot do very much or that our gifts are not big enough. But all our gifts are important to Jesus. And just like Jesus made those few loaves and fishes into a great big meal, with Jesus, our gifts can make a big difference!

What are some gifts that you have that you can share with Jesus and with the church? (*abilities, talents, money, and time*)

Materials:

Oven toasted wheat cereal squares

Fish-shaped crackers

Drawing paper

Liquid glue

Pencils

Crayons

Give your child a sheet of drawing paper. Ask them to draw a self-portrait of something they can give to Jesus. It can be a talent, a skill, or something they like to do.

Use the cereal and the crackers to make a border for their picture. Discuss how the cereal squares and crackers look like what Jesus fed to the crowd of 5,000. Set the art aside to dry.

Then share a little snack of fish and grains together!



Joanna and Susanna traveled with Jesus and the other disciples. They were willing to share what they had to help Jesus as he traveled around teaching about God and God's love for them (and us!)

As a church, we participate in missions around the world with special offerings throughout the year.

Make a bank to collect coins to give to one of these special offerings that is collected in December (Christmas Joy Offering).

Materials:

pringles can

construction paper

crayons

tape

Share the chips with your family while you read the story of Joanna and Susanna. I wonder what it was like to travel with Jesus?

When you are finished, make sure that all the crumbs are out of the can. Then cut a piece of construction paper to fit around the outside of the can. Make it just a little longer than the circumference of the can, so you can overlap them just a little bit. Use the crayons to decorate your can. You can draw pictures of the disciples! Remember to include yourself—you are a disciple too! Then wrap the paper around the can and secure with tape.

Have mom or dad use a pair of scissors to cut a slit in the lid of the can big enough for your coins to fit through.

sewing patterns



Tabitha was known for her generous acts of charity. She was also a talented seamstress who sewed clothes for those who were in need. She used the gifts and talents she had to share with others.

What gifts do you have that you can share with others? What are you good at? How can you use that to help others?

Materials:

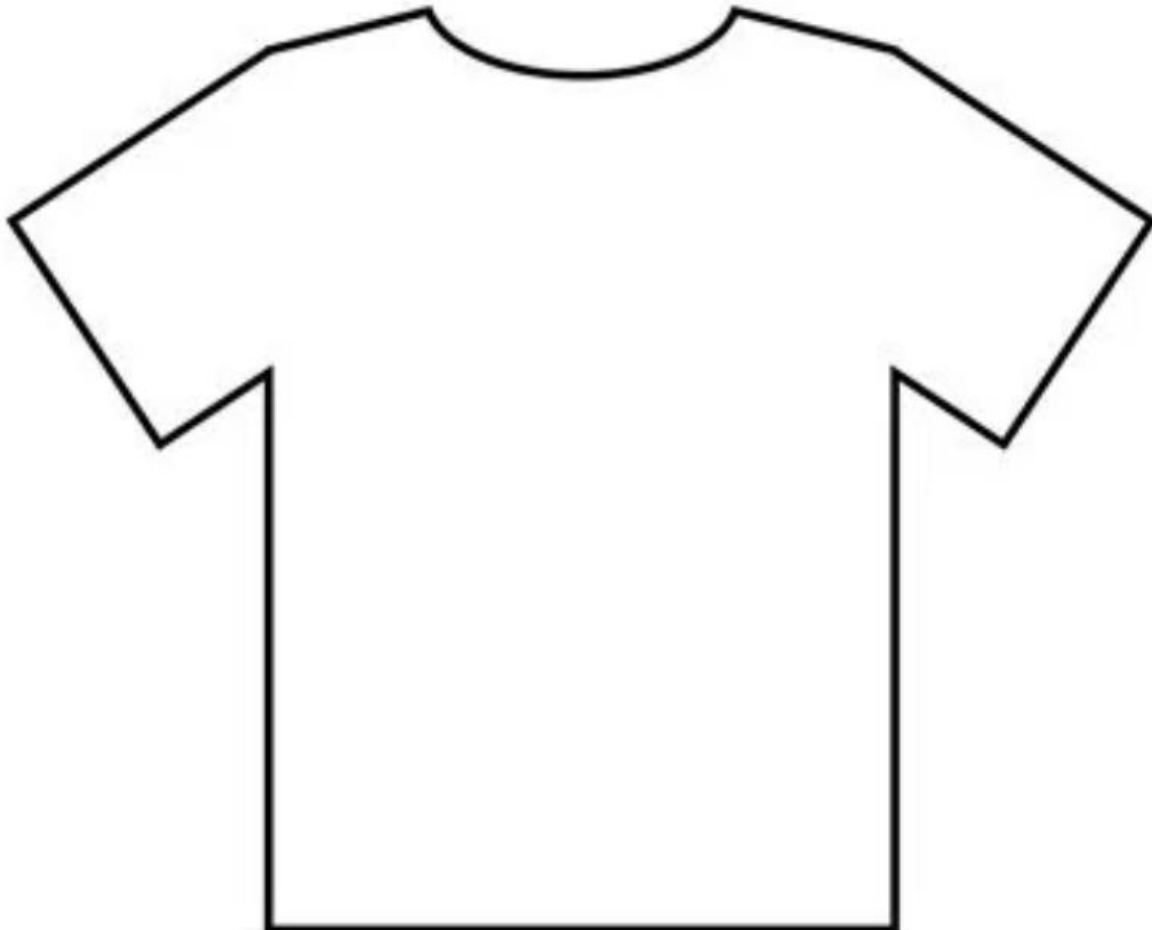
foam sheets

plastic children's sewing needle

yarn

Use the pattern below and cut two shirt shapes from the foam sheets. Have mom and dad mark dots around the edge about a 1/2 inch apart and punch a hole at each dot with a needle or hole punch. Little ones will need a bigger hole-punched hole with holes spaced farther apart. Thread the plastic needle with a piece of yarn and have the children sew from dot to dot.

They can decorate the shirt with crayons if they would like.



campfire circle



Jesus met the disciples on the beach and they shared a breakfast of fish after their miraculous catch.

Materials:

Toilet paper rolls
Brown marker or crayon
Red, orange, and yellow tissue paper
Glue
Construction paper
Crayons

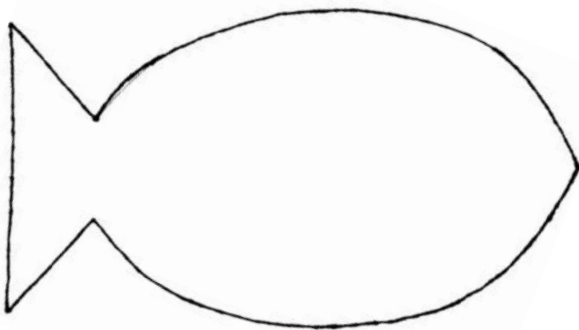
Each campfire will need a few toilet paper rolls. Using your marker, draw wood grain on your toilet paper rolls. Arrange your rolls and hot glue them to look like a campfire, leaving space in the middle for your flames to be glued in. Stagger the red, orange, and yellow tissue papers and bunch them up in the middle to resemble flames and glue them to the center of your campfire.

build a campfire



****You can put a battery operated tea light or candle in the middle of the tissue paper to make the fire flicker!****

Use the fish pattern below to cut out and color fish to cook on the campfire.





Priscilla and Aquila were disciples. Paul had taught them all about Jesus. When they met Apollos, they helped him learn more about Jesus too!

What do you know about Jesus?

Materials:
sidewalk chalk

Talk with your family about what you know about Jesus and being a disciple. What kinds of things did Jesus teach? Draw a picture showing something that Jesus taught us with the sidewalk chalk.

my prayer journal



Mary and Martha were disciples of Jesus. When Jesus came to visit them, Martha was very busy making sure that her guest was cared for. Mary was busy listening to Jesus as he taught. Jesus reminded them that service is an important part of discipleship, but so is listening and learning.

We listen and learn about Jesus when we read Bible stories and when we pray. Let's make a book where you can write down your memory verses and prayers.

Materials:

Blank composition book or spiral notebook (or sheets of typing paper stapled together)

Assorted writing utensils (markers, gel pens, glitter pens, etc.)

Scrap paper

Scissors

Glue sticks

Have the child write their name on the front cover of the journal. Have them color the label below and glue it to the front cover. Then let kids decorate their journal covers using markers or pens or by cutting out paper scraps to glue to the cover in a neat design.

The children can cut out, decorate, and glue the bible verses into their journal, they can find new bible verses to copy and illustrate, or they can write down their prayers in pictures or words. (Remember that our littlest disciples write with symbols of their own and although we might not recognize their "letters," they are communicating in writing. Ask them to read their words to you!)

Listen and

Learn

Listen and

Learn



Jesus told the disciples that he was going to prepare a room for them in God's house. In God's house, there is room for everyone! Can you imagine how special that house must be?!

Before you were even born, your mom and dad prepared a space for you in your home. If you have moved, you may have a new space that you helped prepare. What makes your space special? Make a door hanger for your room that reminds you that just like this space in this home, you will always have a special space in God's house!

Materials:

Foam door hanger

Stickers

Markers or crayons

Have the child write their name on the front cover of the journal. Have them color the label below and glue it to the front cover. Then let kids decorate their journal covers using markers or pens or by cutting out paper scraps to glue to the cover in a neat design.

The children can cut out, decorate, and glue the bible verses into their journal, they can find new bible verses to copy and illustrate, or they can write down their prayers in pictures or words. (Remember that our littlest disciples write with symbols of their own and although we might not recognize their "letters," they are communicating in writing. Ask them to read their words to you!)

God has room

God has room

for all of us!

for all of us!



Jesus told the disciples to go out and tell the world about the gospel. That includes you too!

What can you share about the gospel?

Materials:

paper cup
pipe cleaner
scissors
glue
stickers

To prepare, have a mom or dad cut out the bottoms of the cups. Poke two holes in the cup for the handle and cut the pipe cleaner in half.

Insert the ends of the pipe cleaners into the holes you made, and bend the ends inside the cup. Glue the scripture tags (below) to the megaphones, and provide stickers to decorate. Practice spreading the good news that Jesus loves you with your megaphone!



**GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND
PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS
TO THE WHOLE CREATION!**

**GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND
PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS
TO THE WHOLE CREATION!**

Memory Game

Nature Walk

Opposite Day

Loaves and Fishes

Campfire praises

Serving charades

Twenty questions

Time to Listen

Follow the Leader

Gone Fishing

New Friends

Great Commission Tag

Gone Fishing

Things to gather:

12 fish cutouts
marker
straw (one for each player)
blue towel or sheet
small cloth or paper



Directions:

Spread out a blue blanket as the water. Place a piece of cloth or a brown piece of paper to be the net. Cut out paper fish (little ones) and write the names of the twelve disciples on them. Put them all throughout the water. Give each kid a straw and use it to move the fish to the net.

Memory Game

Things to gather:

memory card printable
(in this section)
scissors (to cut out the cards)



Directions:

Turn all the cards upside down. Take turns turning two cards face up and discussing the prayer together. If the pair matches, you can keep the pair. If they don't, turn them back over and try again!

Nature Walk

Things to gather:

Michael Row the Boat Ashore
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iwPGe3D0-Sg>
Shall We Gather At the River
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8hdxTbkOug>



Directions:

Take a walk to a nearby stream or creek. Sit by the creek and pray or sing a song. What did you like the most? What was the most interesting thing you saw? Say thanks to God for God's creation!

Opposite Day

Things to gather:



Directions:

Have players stand and face you, with plenty of room on all sides. Then play the opposite game. Instruct the kids to do whatever is the opposite of your instructions. (If you say turn left, they turn right. If you say stand up, they sit down.) Have kids sit out as they make mistakes until you are left with a winner.

Loaves and Fishes in the Basket

Things to gather:

clothespins or something flat and weighty
loaves and fishes patterns
laundry basket



Directions:

Cut out the bread and fish patterns and clip a clothespin to it to give it weight (so it doesn't fly in the breeze). Then take turns tossing the bread and fish back into the basket. How many did you get in?

Follow the Leader

Things to gather:



Directions:

Take a walk around the neighborhood. The leader gets to choose where to go and how to walk (march, jump, weave, run, tiptoe, stomp, baby steps, etc). The followers follow in their footsteps. Then trade places on the way back!

Serving Charades

Things to gather:
marker, shoe, bible, phone, toy



Directions:

Put the items in the middle. On your turn, pick one item and show how you could use that item to help someone else without using any words. (For example—draw a picture for a friend or tie a shoe for a younger child.) Can your partner guess what you are doing to help others?

Campfire Praises

Things to gather:
campfire craft
snacks (optional)
hymnal



Directions:

Gather around your “campfire” and sing church camp songs together. Words and links are included in this packet or in your children’s hymnal. Watch the Christian Formation newsletter for links to some of them sung by Miriam’s Daughters!

New Friends

Things to gather:
small plates
cups
koolaid, juice, or herbal tea
cookies



Directions:

Set up a tea party and invite your family to come join you just like Priscilla and Aquila did! Can you share a story about God with your friends?

Time to Listen

Things to gather:



Directions:

Play Mary Says. The leader tells the players what to do (like jump up and down or clap your hands), but the players can only follow the directions if the leader says, “Mary says ____.” Be sure to listen carefully!

Twenty Questions

Things to gather:

20 counters to help keep track of the questions.



Directions:

Think of a person, animal, or object. (Younger children may need to find an object and hide it in a bag so they can look at it to answer the questions.) The player asks 20 yes or no questions (Is it blue? Is it cold? Is it in the house?) to see if they can guess what the object, person, or animal is.

Great Commission Tag

Things to gather:



Directions:

Find a big place to play. Choose one person to be the first disciple. They should try to tag the other players. When you are tagged, you become a disciple and get to help tag the other players. Soon everyone will be a disciple!

Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed by thy name.



Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed by thy name.

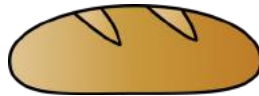


Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.



Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day
our daily bread.



Give us this day
our daily bread.



And forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors.



And forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors.

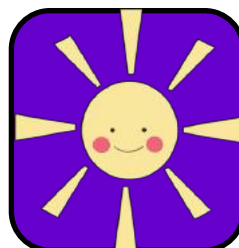
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,



Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,



For thine is the kingdom
and the power
and the glory forever!



For thine is the kingdom
and the power
and the glory forever!

AMEN!



AMEN!



Good Morning Prayer

five finger prayer

Saying Thank You

Feeding Others

Offering Calendar

Sing Praise Songs

Helping Hands

Read the Word

I Wonder...

Prayer Journal

Getting Ready...

There is no separate activity for the first week of the curriculum. Instead, spend this week preparing your home worship space and making the new elements included in this edition!



Good Morning Prayer

One of the ways we practice discipleship is through prayer. This week, learn a new prayer. See if you can memorize this prayer together. Moms and dads can help acting out and pointing to the body parts as you say the prayer together.



Christ with me (give yourself a hug)
Christ before me (point to the ground in front of you)
Christ behind me (point to the ground behind you)
Christ above me (point up to the sky)

Christ on my right (point to the right)
Christ on my left (point to the left)

Christ when I lie down (lay down)
Christ when I sit down (sit up)
Christ when I arise (jump up)

Christ in the heart of every one who thinks of me (put hands over your heart)
Christ in the mouth of every one who speaks of me (point to your mouth)
Christ in every eye that sees me (point to your eyes)
Christ in every ear that hears me. (point to your ears)
Amen.

Prayer of Saint Patrick

five finger prayer



One of the ways we practice discipleship is through prayer. This week, learn a way to pray each day using your hand as a guide.

Sit facing each other. The parent can take their child's hand in theirs and touch each finger and remind them of whom that finger reminds us. Then the child and parent can pray together.

Thumb (people who are close to you) These are your close friends and family, often the first you think about when you pray. Give thanks to God and ask his protection on your parents, siblings, friends, and classmates.

Pointer (people who point the way) These are leaders in your life, such as teachers and pastors. Offer God your thanksgiving for them and ask him to help them in their important work.

Tall Finger (people in authority) The big people in the world need prayer too. Ask God to give wisdom to our government, military, and police.

Ring Finger (people who are weak) This is your weakest finger. We should remember others who are sick, live in poverty, or are treated badly. Pray that Jesus would give them new strength.

Little Finger (your own needs) God wants to hear your needs too, especially when you put others first. Pray for your own growth in mind, body, and spirit.

<https://ministry-to-children.com/five-finger-prayer/>

Saying Thank You



One of the ways we practice discipleship is through servanthood. But it is important to remember to thank those who do acts of service for us as well. This week, practice saying thank you.

Cut a bunch of hearts out of construction paper (or use the heart gems in your prayer kit). Every time you see someone do an act of service for you or for someone else, say, "Thank you. You (say what you saw them do) so (say what that action make possible). That was helpful." For example, you could say, "You put the milk away so that it would not go bad. That was helpful." or "You picked up the papers and threw them away so that no one would trip or slip on them. That was helpful." Then put a heart in a cup. At dinner, see how many acts of service you saw today.

"Thank you. You (say what you saw them do) so (say what that action make possible). That was helpful."

Feeding Others



One of the ways we practice discipleship is through servanthood. When Jesus fed the five thousand, he was feeding people who needed food, but didn't have any. This week, help feed the hungry.

You could:

Prepare sandwich lunches for people experiencing homelessness in your city.

Pack a few care kits to keep in your car with a bottle of water, a pack of peanut butter crackers, a can of tuna fish, a pair of socks, a granola bar, a pack of Kleenex, and a note of encouragement.

Check with your church mission committee to see what missions your church supports.

helping hands



One of the ways we practice discipleship is through servanthood. This week, help others by helping out around the house with acts of service.

Each day, think about one way that you would like to help your family. It might be by completing a chore for a family member or by tidying up an area of the house without being asked first. Maybe it could be by making a card or giving a hug to someone who needs extra encouragement that day.

Each day, offer to lend a helping hand and help someone else complete a chore. It could be a parent or a sibling!

Offering Calendar



One of the ways we practice discipleship is through service. Sometimes we offer what we have in abundance to help those who have less. This week (or longer), use this bingo board to collect money in your pringles bank to support Presbyterian missions.

Self-Development of People (SDOP)	Acts of Kindness	OGHS Interactive Engagement Map	Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP)	Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)
In 2007, a community in India was awarded \$7,200 to create a silk worm rearing project. Members of the group were able to earn regular income as a result. Add 72¢ in thanksgiving for this project's success.	All of the programs supported by our OGHS offerings are successful because of caring people. Write a note to a caring person in your life telling them why they are important to you.	Click at random on a PHP (green circle) grant, read about it, and say a prayer for the work being done at that site. www.pcusa.org/oghsmap	The PHP helps people in all parts of the world. Brainstorm with your family all of the different types of food that you like to eat, and add one coin for each country who's food is among your favorites.	In a natural disaster, electricity is usually the first utility to be lost. Add one coin for every outlet and light switch in the room you currently are in.
SDOP helps people in need like Atlanta-based Women in Agriculture Association, a farmers' group promoting locally grown products in the community. Add one coin for every veggie in your fridge.	Pay three genuine compliments today to people who are NOT immediate family members. Why not try: a kid at school who you don't know well, a cashier at a store, or a teacher?	Click at random on an SDOP (red diamond) grant, read about it, and say a prayer for the work being done at that site. www.pcusa.org/oghsmap	"Phat Beets Produce" in Oakland, CA, is supported by PHP as they provide education, access to good food and opportunities for youth. Add two coins for each family member who likes beets!	After a disaster, clean water is very important, and is often one of the first things to be distributed. Add the cost of a bottle of water to your bank.
A program in Oregon trains youth to repair and maintain bikes so that they can learn skills and earn income. Add two coins for each bicycle that your family owns.	The next time you are at church, make an effort to greet someone you don't know. Say "good morning" to a person you see in the pew but haven't met, or thank the host at the cookie table at coffee hour!	Find a project on the map in a place that you've always wanted to visit. Read about the work being done there and say a prayer for that project. www.pcusa.org/oghsmap	12 wells and hand pumps were built in communities in Sierra Leone and Liberia that have limited access to clean water. Add 12 coins in thanksgiving for the clean water that is carried by those wells and pumps.	People often lose (or have to leave) everything after a disaster. PDA gives kitchen essentials to people trying to rebuild. Add two coins for every pot/pan in your kitchen.
Women and children are more likely to be affected by poverty and hunger. Because of this, many SDOP projects are woman-focused. Add five coins in honor of special women & children.	Make some kindness rocks to leave around your community to brighten someone's day. Learn more here: www.thekindnessrockproject.com	On the left side column, check only the yellow star icon to sort YAV sites. Pick a place where you'd like to serve and read about the work being done at the volunteer site there. www.pcusa.org/oghsmap	As many as 1 in 5 children in the US will experience hunger this year. Add coins equal to the cost of your favorite snack food to your fish bank.	Many Presbyterian Camp and Conference Centers act as host sites for PDA disaster relief workgroups. Put in one coin for every member of your family who has attended camp.
The Youth in Business project offers teens in Baltimore the opportunity to sell shirts to help keep them off the streets and to stay away from gangs. Add one coin for every T-shirt in your dresser.	Secretly do something for a member of your family. (Clean up a mess you didn't make. Empty all the trash cans in the house, leave a note of appreciation on someone's pillow. . .)	Click at random on a PDA (blue or purple square) grant, read about it, and say a prayer for the work being done at that site. www.pcusa.org/oghsmap	In Papaye, Haiti, farmers are learning how to grow moringa trees. The leaves of this tree are a great superfood for hungry people. Add one coin for every tree in your yard.	The hurricanes in the fall of 2017 were so severe that schools in the Caribbean were closed for months. Add one coin for each year you have spent in school.

F I S H B A N K B I N G O

Sing Praise Songs

One of the ways we practice discipleship is through worship. This week, sing praise songs with your family.



Pull out your children's hymnal and choose a praise song (or two or three) to sing each day. Ask mom or dad if they have any songs that they remember from Bible School or Sunday School when they were little.

Make a joyful noise!

Read the Word

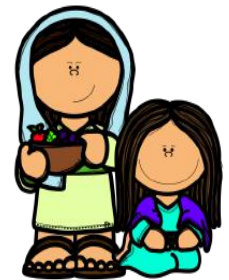
One of the ways we practice discipleship is through studying the scriptures. This week, read a Bible story together each night before bed.



You can reread your favorites from the Old Testament Hero Stories we studied in the summer or you can pick a Psalm to read. Psalm 23 and 100 are good places to start. You could read about Jesus as a baby in Matthew or read one of the parables that we have been reading in church.

Prayer Journal

One of the ways we practice discipleship is through talking and listening to God in prayer. This week, start a prayer journal. Write a prayer in your journal each day.



Find a quiet place to sit and think. You can use your prayer candle, if you'd like. Bring the prayer journal you made in Sunday School and some crayons, markers, or pencils. Take a deep breath and sit quietly for a minute. Think of something that happened today that brought you joy or made you feel loved. Draw a picture of that thing. Think about how you felt when that happened and sit quietly for a minute. Then think of something that happened today that wasn't joyful or didn't fill you with love. Draw a picture of that thing. It is okay to feel sad or mad about these things. We can take those hard feelings to God in prayer and ask God to help us find peace. Think about how you felt and sit quietly for a minute. End your prayer by saying Amen.

I wonder...

One of the ways we practice discipleship is by asking questions about our faith. Sometimes our moms and dads and teachers and pastors might know the answers, but often they are thinking about the mysteries of faith too. That's okay! God is so great and so powerful and so loving and so gracious that we can't always understand it, but we learn more about it when we ask our hard questions and talk about it with other disciples.



This week, take a few minutes each day to sit with a parent and ask questions about God. Don't forget that you can ask your pastors if you want to. (You can have mom and dad email them. They might even call you back to talk in real voices!) They love to talk about God quite a bit and they love to talk to you too!



There is no separate activity for the last week of the curriculum. Spend this week, thinking over the practices of discipleship you practiced this fall and choose one of your choice to repeat again!



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