



THE WHOLE HOLY BIBLE

IN A YEAR

FOR KIDS!

WEEK 1

Washed for Good!

- Genesis 1:2
- Matthew 3:16-17
- Matthew 4:18-20

Water is an element God uses for new beginnings. What is something new you want to start to grow in your faith this year?

This Week – Take a moment to sit and pray with God!

WEEK 3

New (Jesus) Math

- Exodus 18:18-21
- Matthew 20:26
- Matthew 15:35-36

God uses his leaders to serve his people. He will always provide for us, and we can work together to make heaven more crowded! When is a time you put some else's needs before your own?

This Week – Serve your family and friends by helping before they ask!

WEEK 2

Multiplying the Harvest

- Genesis 45:12-15
- Matthew 13:22
- Matthew 9:6

God has shown his love through people in the bible and through Jesus. When we remember these stories and how to share his love, more people come to know who God is! How have you seen God's love in your life?

This Week – Find a way to share God's love with someone!

WEEK 4

Who Will Be in Heaven?

- Exodus 34:10
- Matthew 22:9-10
- Matthew 25:40

Life in earth is not a perfect life, because our sin separates us from God. But when we follow his teachings, and believe that Jesus died for our sins, we will get to live with him in Heaven! What do you imagine Heaven to be like, and how can you experience glimpse of Heaven on earth?

This Week – Be like Jesus focus on someone who needs an extra bit of love in their day, like a nice compliment or someone to just sit and listen!

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WEEK 1

- Mark 4:30-32 – Parable of the Mustard Seed
- Leviticus 2:14 – First of the Harvest
- Mark 4:8-9 – Seed Falls on Good Soil

God asks that we give him our absolute best. Our love, faith, good decisions and caring for others all glorify him. When we give him all of our love, he returns that love and more!

Question: Just like you grow up tall and older, how might your faith grow up this week?

Challenge: Take two minutes to listen to God this week. Draw a picture or write a prayer to him!

WEEK 2

- Mark 6:41 – Feeding 5,000
- Numbers 11:7-8 – Manna From Heaven
- Mark 9:50 – Salt of the Earth

God provides for his people. While he has shown great power in feeding physical hunger, he does more to feed our souls! When we take time to praise him, pray, sing and read our Bibles, our souls are fed like we just ate a full-course meal.

Question: What emotions do you feel after you have spent time praising God?

Challenge: If you have not listened to the God's Story for Kids podcast, listen to it this week. If you have listened to the podcast, find a VBS song you like to dance to! All of this can be found on our YouTube page.

WEEK 3

- Mark 14:7 – Washing Jesus' Feet
- Numbers 20:8 – Water From Rock
- Mark 12:43-44 – Poor Widow

God asks for what we can give him. Some people have more to give while some have less. When we are able to give to those who need help, we are helping show God's love. Jesus showed us what it is like to care for those in need, and he asks that we look for ways to care for others.

Question: What is something that God can help you with this week?

Challenge: Look for a friend, classmate or teammate who needs your help this week!

WEEK 4

- Luke 4:8 – Only Worship God
- Deuteronomy 8:18 – Remember the Lord Your God
- Luke 4:18 – Rejected at Nazareth

God asks for what we can give him. Some people have more to give while some have less. When we are able to give to those who need help, we are helping show God's love. Jesus showed us what it is like to care for those in need, and he asks that we look for ways to care for others.

Question: What is a promise you have kept and followed through?

Challenge: God promised to always love us. Take a picture of something that shows God's love for you!

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WEEK 1: Where Do You Stand?



- Luke 6:48
- Luke 5:10b-11
- Deuteronomy 30:20

God calls us to use his Word and good works as a guide on how to live our lives just like he wants us to! And when we build our life on what the bible says, it's like we have solid bricks that we lay out. As we continue to live our life through God, we build higher and stronger, like Legos!

Question: What is a strong value, like kindness or respect, that you have used this week?

Challenge: Go look outside where you live and look at where your home is built. Can you see how strong the base is?

WEEK 2: Women Who Walk



- Luke 10:38-42
- Luke 8:19-21
- Joshua 2:4-6

God loves all his children exactly the same, but we as humans have a harder time treating everyone equally. In biblical times, women didn't have the same opportunities to work or choices they could make as the men did. All through the bible we can see how God used strong women in the Old Testament like Rahab, and chose a special mother, Mary, to raise Jesus. God shows us to treat everyone as equals because we all have special gifts!

Question: Who is a strong woman figure you have in your life?

Challenge: As you go throughout your week, say a special thank you to the women you see like teachers, doctors, restaurant servers, and your family members!

WEEK 3: Does God Send Suffering?



- Judges 2:18-19
- Luke 12:8-10
- Luke 12:29-31

God loves us, and he created us to be perfect. But humans all through history have made mistakes that created a gap between us and God. God loves us so much that he sent Jesus to save us and close that gap. God doesn't make bad things happen, but he can help us when we do face challenges. We have to trust him especially when we have problems!

Question: Who is someone that helped you solve a problem this week?

Challenge: Take a walk and look for things that bring you joy! Maybe it's flowers, birds singing, or the sun shining!

WEEK 3: Who's In & Who's Out



- Luke 18:16
- Luke 15:20
- Ruth 1:16

God finds great joy when we grow in our faith, and he knows kids like you are very important because as you grow up, you will help tell others about how much God loves them! You have an important job to share your faith with others because we want Heaven to be more crowded with all of our friends!

Question: What is something new you learned this week in school, sports, or church?

Challenge: Play a trivia game with your family, but use facts about you. See if you learn something new about the family you see every day!

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WEEK 1: The Humble King



- 1 Samuel 3:9-10
- Luke 19:37
- Luke 19:8-10

God sent Jesus to save us, and he grew up as a humble man who did everything he could to show the love of God to a hurting world. God knows how hearts, and even when we mess up, we can ask for forgiveness and God will forgive us. He asks that we listen to His teachings from the Bible so we can also praise Him go out and show the love of God to a hurting world.

Question: How have you thanked God this week?

Challenge: Take five minutes to have quiet time with God! You can draw a picture, sit outside and listen to the birds and watch clouds, or take a walk around your backyard.

WEEK 2: We Are the Champions



- 2 Samuel 17:48-49
- Luke 24:6
- Luke 22:28-30

Jesus saved us! He loves us so much, he wants us to celebrate with him in Heaven! Jesus died, but he rose again to show that death has no power over us when we have a friendship with Jesus. When we go to church, read our bible, and pray and talk to him, we are strengthening our relationship with God, and showing him that we love him too!

Question: What is something new you learned about Easter this year?

Challenge: Find time to thank Jesus for his sacrifice today!

WEEK 3: Life-Changing Conversations



- 2 Samuel 7:12-13
- John 3:16-17
- John 4:13-14

God has shown us who he chooses to speak to, He speaks to people like you and me even if it's how we expect him to! He has important things to say to us, especially about how he wants us to love and follow him. Sometimes he talks to us at church through the storytellers and songs, sometimes he talks to us when we read the bible, and sometimes he talks to us when we quietly pray with him. It takes practice to learn how to hear him, and you will continue to grow close with him!

Question: What is your favorite thing to listen to?

Challenge: HopeKids has a podcast called God's Story for Kids on our YouTube channel: @HopeKidsOnline. Find some time this week to listen to this week's episode with Hank and Sophie!

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WEEK 4: Can You See the Light?



- 1 Kings 3:9
- John 9:6-7
- John 8:12

God knows that we will make mistakes. But sometimes sin is like a shadow that blocks out God's love. When we keep making the same mistakes, the darkness keeps creeping in and gets bigger. But Jesus, the light of the world, made sure that the darkness will go away when we ask for forgiveness! God showed the Israelites through wise kings and prophets to prepare for Jesus. And in the New Testament, Jesus shows us through miracles that he will heal our brokenness from sin. Praise Jesus!

Question: What does it feel like to be in a dark room?

Now, how does it feel when someone turns on the light? How can we feel the same feelings with God?

Challenge: Go outside on a sunny day, and have someone trace your shadow in chalk. Now, step away and make your shadow outline colorful and bright just like God's light in our lives!

WEEK 5: The Surprising Road of Restoration



- 2 Kings 8:5-6
- John 21:17
- John 16:7

When something is broken and then is fixed it has been resorted to what it originally looked like. The world was broken for a long time. When God sent Jesus to die for our sins, and be raised to life again, he fixed or restored our path to Heaven! God fixed what was broken, and there are stories all through the bible that show how he was fixing it, physically through miracles that fixed people and spiritually that fixed friendships!

Question: Have you ever broken something that belonged to someone else? Did you try to cover it up? When we don't tell the truth, how does that affect our relationships with friends and family?

Challenge: Take a sheet of paper and crumple it up into a small little ball. Now, try to make the paper smooth again. Did it work? We can't fix out sins by ourselves, but we can ask for forgiveness from Jesus! When we get to heaven, our "paper" will be all smooth again, he is the only one that can do that!



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kids explore the Bible in a
fun and engaging way**

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WEEK 1: Filled with the Spirit



- 1 Chronicles 11:3
- Acts 2:1-4
- Acts 2:17

God makes many promises, and he keeps them. His plan is always greater than ours, and sometimes it may take longer than we want. God has never broken a promise! He didn't leave us when Jesus rose again and went back to heaven; he sent the Holy Spirit who lives in all of us who believe. The Holy Spirit continues to show us the promise of God's love, and his Spirit still does miracles today!

Question: What's a promise you have kept with someone? How is that trust important to your friendship?

Challenge: Take a small mirror, CD or DVD and hold it up to a window on a sunny day. You can see a rainbow on the floor, walls or ceiling! Remember, whenever you see a rainbow, that is God keeping his promises!

WEEK 3: Christianity is a Team Sport



- 2 Chronicles 5:2
- Acts 18:26
- Acts 19:5-7

God didn't create us to work alone; he gave us friends and family! Jesus didn't work alone – he had disciples that learned from him, and when Jesus went back to heaven, these disciples continued to do God's work and tell everyone about Jesus. We are stronger together!

Question: Have you worked on a team before, like sports or on a school project? What happens when everyone works together?

Challenge: Try to build a tower using blocks or cups, and see how high you can build. You can't use your hands to keep it steady. Now, invite your family to help you, and they can use their hands to keep the tower steady. Were you able to build higher, or build it successfully without it falling over? Teamwork makes it easier!

WEEK 2: Moms of Eternal Influence



- Acts 9:39-40
- Acts 12:12-14
- 1 Chronicles 16:34-35

God gave us amazing gifts when he gave us our moms, grandmothers, aunts, sisters and friends who are women! The women in our lives are strong – they make sure we feel better, care for us and others, go to work and work at home, and they have many talents! He chose important women in the Bible to share his good news with others.

Question: What is something that makes your motherly figure special?

Challenge: Give an extra hug and thanks to the women in your life this Mother's Day!

WEEK 4: Shakers & Soakers



- 2 Chronicles 30:2-4
- Acts 28:22-23
- Acts 24:15-16

God asks for what we can give him. Some people have more to give while some have less. When we are able to give to those who need help, we are helping show God's love. Jesus showed us what it is like to care for those in need, and he asks that we look for ways to care for others.

Question: What was the last choice you had to make? Did it change anything about your day?

Challenge: Play "Would You Rather" with your family: Hot or cold? Beach or mountains? Sweet or salty? TV or movies? Creamy peanut butter or crunchy? Spring break or winter break? Color or black and white? Easter or Christmas?

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WEEK 1: Unity in Christ



- Romans 1:17
- Romans 3:23-24
- Ezra 3:10-11

Have you ever made a mistake? As humans, we make mistakes all the time, and God knows that. He sent Jesus to forgive our sins – even the sins we don't know about yet! When we say we are sorry and ask for forgiveness, God has already forgiven us. It's because of Jesus that we get to live in heaven with God forever!

Question: When was the last time you had to forgive someone? How did that make you feel?

Challenge: Grab these things to do an experiment: baking soda, vinegar, Kleenex, plastic baggie, and a bowl. Pour some vinegar into the bag (enough to cover the bottom). Then put three spoonfuls of baking soda into the Kleenex. Put the Kleenex into the baggie and zip it quickly! (The Kleenex helps delay the reaction so you can close the baggie.) What happened? The baggie blew up so fast it exploded! That is what happens when we don't forgive others – our feelings stay inside until we feel like we will explode!

WEEK 3: Rise Up, Oh Children of God!



- Romans 12:2
- Romans 10:9-10
- Esther 9:22

God loves us all equally, and he asks that Christians act differently than the sinful world. Every day people's feelings get hurt, people get angry and they try to make others feel bad, too. But God asks that we act in love and kindness, even if we don't always get kindness in return. It can be hard to follow God's way, and it takes practice, but we can always remember that God is with us no matter what!

Question: What would you do if you hear someone say mean things to another person on the playground at school? What is the harder choice: acting like everyone else or acting like how God wants you to do?

Challenge: Find a rock in the garden or around where you live that is about the size of your palm. Color or paint the rock to say "Jesus loves you." The next time you leave your house, find a place to leave the rock where someone else will find it. A little bit of joy can go a long way, and reminding people that Jesus loves them can turn a frown upside down!

WEEK 2: The Power of Hope in a Hurting World



- Romans 8:39
- Romans 5:1-2
- Nehemiah 8:6

Do you know the definition of *hope*? It means to have the feeling of something good happening – like hoping you get the present you want for your birthday or hoping to go on a really cool vacation over the summer. God saw that his people were feeling hopeless, like nothing good would ever happen ever again. God saved us with Jesus, and Jesus brought hope back to his people. Our hope in Jesus shows that there are good things coming when we get to meet him; no more sadness or anger. That hope makes it easy to celebrate Jesus and praise God at church!

Question: What is something you hope to happen this summer?

Challenge: Make a summer "hope list" with your family – things you want to do before the summer is over. Everyone gets to pick one thing they hope to do together. It can be something like getting ice cream, going on a family bike ride or visiting the Iowa State Fair.

WEEK 4: What Do I Owe You?

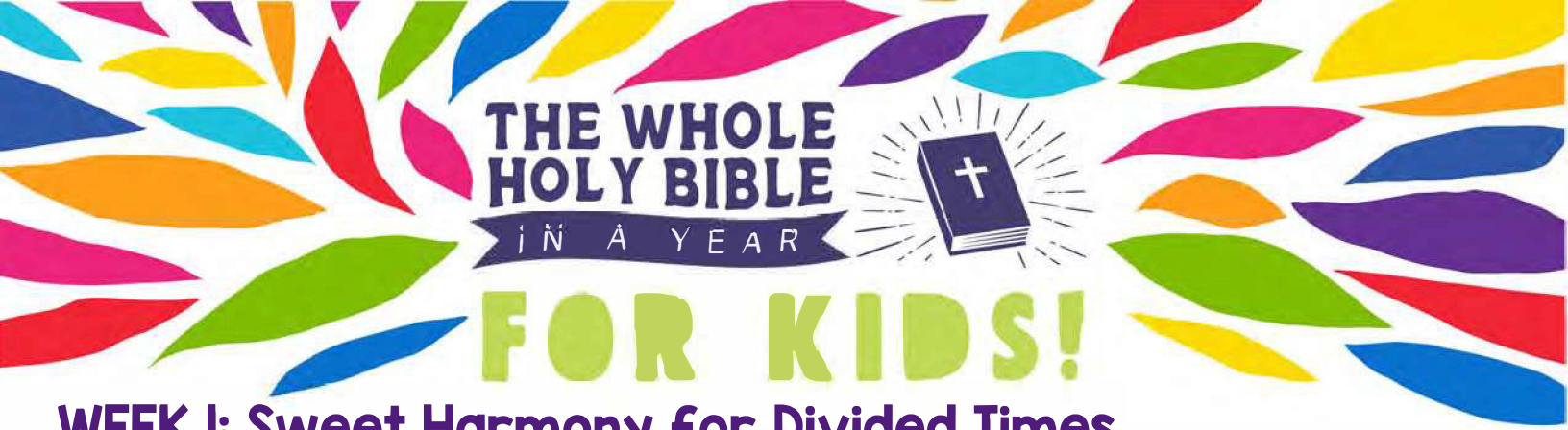


- Romans 13:8
- Romans 14:13
- Job 1:20-22

Sometimes it's easier to keep score when someone hurts your feelings. Maybe you think it will feel better if you do something mean back to them. God knows this will only make things worse, and he wants us to work together to make the world a better place. God doesn't keep score of every one of our mistakes, so we shouldn't do that to each other.

This week your challenge is to answer these questions:

- Your friend tells everyone not to play with you at recess today. You are left alone to play. Can you forgive them? How would you show them they are forgiven?
- You are waiting for your parent to pick you up after school, but they are running late. You are the last to be picked up and have to wait a long time. Can you forgive your parent? How can you show them they are forgiven?
- Your teacher says they are going to give you a prize today for all your hard work in class. A week has gone by and they haven't given you the prize. Can you forgive your teacher? How can you show they are forgiven?



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WEEK 1: Sweet Harmony for Divided Times

1 Corinthians 1:10 • 1 Corinthians 1:30 • Job 42:10

God wants us to work together, but sometimes all you want is to have things your way! When we disagree with each other, like whose turn it is to pick a movie or what to play at recess, it doesn't bring us close together. Sometimes when we disagree all the time, we lose friendships with others. When we work together, it makes it easier to spread God's love! We can work as a team to make the family of God bigger and stronger.

Question: Have you ever had a disagreement with someone? How did it end? Challenge: Pick someone to do this team building activity: Start sitting down with your backs touching and your elbows linked together. Now, work together to stand up! It takes some time to figure it out, but once you get the hang of it, try to do it faster!

WEEK 2: Run the Race to Win

1 Corinthians 9:24-25 • 1 Corinthians 10:24 • Psalm 9:1-2

When you play a game do you prefer to win or lose? We play to win! It feels good when we get the glory, but actually God wants all of our glory! Our prize for following God and believing in Jesus is eternal life with him in heaven. The best part is that everyone can win this prize, no matter who you are, God loves you!

Question: What was the last time you won something? Do you still have the prize? Challenge: Using craft supplies in your house, make a trophy or prize that can remind you of God's love and his promise that you get to see him in heaven one day!

WEEK 3: How to Find the Better Way

1 Corinthians 13:7 • 1 Corinthians 12:4-6 • Psalm 40:16

God makes each one of us special; there isn't anyone like you in the entire history of the world! God gave you special gifts to glorify him. This doesn't mean a present from God, like you would get on your birthday, but it's something special that God gave just to you. It may take some time to figure out what this special gift is & you may already be using it! That's why it's so important to build your relationship with God through church, HopeKids, VBS, reading the Bible & praying to him!

Question: What is the best gift you've ever gotten? Challenge: Write a list of things you enjoy doing when you praise God. It can be at home, at school, at church, or when you are by yourself. The list can be long or short. See if there is something in common with these ideas, like helping others or being creative. It's easy to praise God when we are doing exactly what he made us for!

WEEK 4: Right Place, Right Time!

2 Corinthians 5:20 • 2 Corinthians 1:4 • Psalm 62:1-2

God doesn't make mistakes. His plan for our lives is perfect even if we don't know what he is trying to teach us in the moment. Reading through this devotion right now, it's not an accident. He will use this teaching to remind you of his love & comfort so you may share it with someone else who needs to be reminded of how important and valued they are to God!

Question: What is something that brings you comfort or makes you feel safe? Challenge: Draw a cross outline on a piece of paper so there is space inside to write. Outside of the cross, write down words or feelings that are sad, mad or make you feel bad. Inside the cross, write things that make your life happy, thankful that make you feel glad. All the things inside the cross are parts of God's plan for you!

WEEK 5: Turn Your Pain into Gain!

2 Corinthians 12:9 • 2 Corinthians 7:10 • Psalm 86:11-13

There will be times in life when you feel like you can't do something, and that is when it's most important to listen to God! It may be something physical, or it could be emotionally or spiritually difficult to do. God has grace for the mistakes we make, and through that grace, he gives us strength to push through!

Question: What makes you feel strong? Challenge: Answer what you would do in these situations, then answer how God wants you to act:
1. In a restaurant, someone spills a drink on your lap right after you lost your soccer game.
2. Your friend dropped something, and everyone laughed and watched them try to pick it up.
3. Your mom or dad made a promise, but then a few days later forgot all about it.



WEEK 1 - The Spirit-Driven Life

Galatians 2:16 | Galatians 5:22-23 | Psalm 103:1-2

God sent His Spirit to live on Earth with us so we are always surrounded by God's love! When we live our lives the way the Holy Spirit leads us, we become more kind, understanding of others, and it makes it easier to love everyone we meet. This doesn't mean life will be perfect, but when we follow the Fruits of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control) it can make it a little easier.

Question: What Fruit of the Spirit do you think you follow best right now? What Fruit could you improve? Challenge: As you go through your week, try your best to follow each Fruit of the Spirit!

WEEK 3 - Finding Joy & Peace in a World Adrift

Philippians 4:4-5 | Philippians 1:27 | Proverbs 2:9-11

God is filled with joy when He sees you, He loves you so much! When we are happy, excited, and filled with joy, He celebrates with you. Sometimes it is hard to find joy when you have had a hard day, but when you talk to God about your worries, He listens. Even little joys can make an ok day great! Laughing with your friends, or getting a hug from mom or dad can bring joy!

Question: Who brings you joy in your life? Challenge: Look around you, and make a list of what brings you joy that isn't something you own, like toys or electronics.

WEEK 2 - Amazing Grace and You

Ephesians 2:7 | Ephesians 5:1-2 | Psalm 136:1-9

There is nothing that we can or can't do to make God love us any less! He gave us everything, even though we don't deserve it, so that we can live with Him in heaven forever. Because he has shown us his great love, we can share is love with those around us!

Question: How have you seen God's love this week? Challenge: Put a few spoonfuls of baking soda into a cup and slowly pour in the vinegar. It overflows just like God's love for us!

WEEK 4 - Give Me Jesus!

Colossians 2:9-10 | Colossians 1:19-20 | Proverbs 18:10

Jesus is the best thing that happened to us since God created the world. Jesus died for our sins so that we are forgiven and made clean. This allows us to live with God in Heaven for all eternity, where there is no sadness or pain. When we believe Jesus is God's only son who died for our sins, and tell people that we believe in Him, there is a Jesus party waiting for us! Sometimes we get glimpses of heaven on earth, like at VBS, spending time with our loved ones, or or even smaller things like seeing a pretty sunset!

Question: If you could ask Jesus anything you wanted, what would you ask? Challenge: Jesus is always with us, so write or draw a picture of things today where you felt Jesus' love!



WEEK 1 - Well-Placed Hope in a Future Forever

1 Thess. 4:14 | 2 Thess. 1:11-12 | Ecclesiastes 3:11

God loves us so much, he sent Jesus to die for our sins. When Jesus rose again, it was like a bridge between humans and God was made so we can live with him in heaven! While no one knows what heaven looks like, we can see glimpses here on Earth; for example, HopeKids. We sing, we pray, we read Bible stories and we worship God all together.

Question: What is something in your life that make you feel close to God? Challenge: Find a rock and decorate it. Find a place to hide it around your room. When you find it, say a prayer and hide it again!

WEEK 3 - On a Mission From God!

2 Timothy 1:9 | 2 Timothy 2:24-25 | Isaiah 6:8

God calls us on a mission to tell others about his love! He uses anyone from people who have high standing in power, to those who are young, to those who have nothing. Anyone who believes in Jesus Christ is on this mission. Our mission statement at Lutheran Church of Hope is to reach out to the world around us and share the everlasting love of Jesus Christ. We want to make heaven more crowded with believers!

Question: Who is someone you can talk about Jesus with? Challenge: Your mission is to write encouraging words and pictures outside on sidewalk or the driveway, so people walking by may see these words of kindness and love and feel Jesus is with them.

WEEK 2 - What God Can Do For & Through you

1 Timothy 1:16 | 1 Timothy 4:12

God loves us so much, even though we make mistakes. Paul tells us that he considers himself to be the worst of all before he came to know Jesus. He goes on to inspire Christians in his time and inspire us still today. God can do incredible things through us at any age, and we can learn to listen to him through the words spoken at church, HopeKids, VBS, the Bible and prayer.

Question: What do you think you excel at? How can you use that to glorify God? Challenge: Think of your most favorite way to praise God. Now invite someone to do that with you!

WEEK 4 - One Body United in Christ

Titus 3:5-6 | Philemon 1:6 | Isaiah 26:8

Lutheran Church of Hope Core Value #5: We are one body, united in Jesus Christ. We are a church of individuals, different in many ways, yet called together by God to be one in ministry and mission. As members of the same body, we become more effective when we work in harmony as a unified whole. Among us, love for one another is the norm, conflicts are resolved according to the teaching of Jesus, and we seek to build each other up.

Question: What is something that makes you unique? Challenge: Tape the paper up on a wall, turn to the side and use a flashlight to create a shadow. Have someone outline your head, and fill it in with ways your talents belong in the Body of Christ.



WEEK 1: Above > All

Hebrews 1:4 | Hebrews 2:10 | Isaiah 40:26

God sent Jesus down to earth, and that made Jesus a human like us, yet still God. We are now his brothers and sisters, and God is our Father. Even the angels worship Jesus, he has the power to save us from our sins. Nothing we can do will make God love us any less!

Question: God created everything and gave it a name. What would you create and name it? Challenge: Create something new that is just for you, and give it a special name.

WEEK 3: Keep the Faith!

Hebrews 12:2 | Hebrews 10:23-24 | Jeremiah 3:14-15

God has never broken a promise, so we can trust that he will always be there. But it's hard when we can't see him face to face. Faith is believing in God, even though you can't see him. That's why he gives us pastors at church to talk about him; loving family and friends to show his love; and, most important, the Bible, so we can always read about his amazing works!

Question: Who is someone else in your life you can trust? Challenge: Think about things you can't see, but you still know it is there. Like gravity, it keeps us on the ground!

WEEK 2: Something Old, Something New ... for You!

Hebrews 9:26 | Hebrews 6:18 | Isaiah 55:3-5

God created a new promise with us when he sent Jesus to die for our sins. He promised that our sins are forgiven forever, and that when it is time, we will join him in heaven to live the perfect lives we are created for! We have hope in Jesus that the pain and sadness in this world will never touch us again when we enter heaven. God did all this because he loves you!

Question: What would you ask God when you enter heaven? Challenge: Even though Jesus was the ultimate sacrifice, what can you give up this week that distracts you from God?

WEEK 4: The Strength of Sincere Humility

James 4:8 | James 1:13-14 | Jeremiah 22: 3

Sometimes it is easy to blame someone else for our problems or not be truthful. We can even blame God for things going wrong in our lives. God doesn't cause bad things to happen, but we as people may find it easier to be mad at God or others instead of doing the hard work of learning from our mistakes.

Question: What was the last lesson you had to learn from? Challenge: The next time you find yourself learning from a mistake, take a calming breath and a few moments to think what can make it better even though it may not be the easy choice.



WEEK 5: Temple Building Blocks

1 Peter 2:4 | 1 Peter 1:3 | Jeremiah 50:4-5

Before modern buildings, workers would find a large stone so they could to start their buildings on a solid foundation. This stone is the largest of the building, and from that corner, the whole rest of the building would be built. Jesus is the cornerstone of our faith; he is the first building block as we grow in our faith.

Question: How can you build your relationship with Jesus this week?

Challenge: Find some cups, cardboard, rocks or sticks and see how tall you can build a tower!



WEEK 1: Christianity Is a Growing Experience

2 Peter 1:5 | 2 Peter 3:17-18 | Lamentations 3:56-57

Hope's fourth core value that we strive to uphold is that following Jesus is a growing experience: We can't outgrow Christian faith. As Christians today, we strive to bring people to a relationship with Jesus. We can grow through coming to HopeKids, VBS and other events for families at church. As we grow in our faith, we listen to what God tells us, and give him our time, love and respect.

Question: What do you want to be when you grow up? Challenge: We grow by doing new things! What is something new you can try this week?

WEEK 3: Hey Jude!

Jude 1:20-21 | 2 John 1:5-6 | 3 John 1:11

Again and again the Bible tells us to love others as you want to be loved, and God asks us to love each other. Sometimes it's harder than others to remember these teachings. Each of these verses came from letters telling those reading it how to love others! We will never stop learning how to treat each other with love, kindness and respect.

Question: When have you had to choose to show love to someone? Challenge: Do you know what happens when dish soap is dropped into a bowl of water and black pepper? The pepper separates! When we are not kind to others, they stop wanting to hang out with us.

WEEK 2: Time to Come Clean with God

1 John 1:9 | 1 John 2:7-8 | Ezekiel 18:21

Have you ever looked out the window after a fresh snowfall? When there are no footprints or any color except pure white, it looks perfect. When we think of what Jesus did for us by dying on the cross to forgive our sins, he made our souls look like pure white snow. Our sins are wiped clean by God, which we could never do by ourselves!

Question: What was the last thing you got that was brand new? Challenge: The next time you clean your room, think about how Jesus cleans our hearts. Say a prayer of thanks as you clean up!

WEEK 4: Apocalypse Now?

Revelation 21:4 | Daniel 3:25 | Hosea 6:6

We have hope in Jesus, that when he comes again, the pain and suffering in this world will be gone. We don't know when this will happen, and no matter what anyone on earth says, only God knows. And he promises no more death, sadness, crying or pain. He has shown many miraculous things through the Bible, and his promises have never failed. While we wait for this day, we will continue to love others and share the Good News of Jesus with everyone we meet!

Question: What is your hope for the future that will change for good? Challenge: Draw a picture of what you think the new earth will look like with no more sadness and pain.



WEEK 1: A Surprising Glimpse of Heaven

Joel 2:13 | Amos 5:8 | Obadiah 1:17

Through the whole Bible, ever since the beginning when Adam and Eve sinned for the first time, God has been telling us what heaven will be like. He has told us time and time again there will be a new world and all his perfect creation will live with him together forever! He continues to surprise us with his grace and forgiveness.

Question: What has surprised you about reading the Bible?

Challenge: How can you surprise someone this week with a kind deed?

WEEK 3: King of Kings & Lord of Lords

Habakkuk 3:18 | Zephaniah 3:17 | Haggai 2:5

As we get closer to Christmas, we are called to rejoice in the promise that God has given us! Through his son, Jesus, who came as a little baby, we know that there is a future for us in heaven. We can rejoice, or show great joy, every day!

Question: How do you rejoice this Christmas season?

Challenge: Find a way this week to spread joy to someone.

WEEK 2: Glory, Glory, Hallelujah

Jonah 2:9-10 | Micah 2:12 | Nahum 1:7

We have hope in God, that one day we get to spend forever with him! He shows his power through the books in the Old Testament and how fiercely he loves us! We will continue to praise him for all his good works he provides for us.

Question: What does hope mean for you?

Challenge: Memorize Nahum 1:7 so you will always remember the Lord is good!

WEEK 4: A Light to the Nations!

Zechariah 2:10-11 | Malachi 3:1

God told his people for years through multiple prophets that he will come to earth and be with us! The world was covered in dark sin, and Jesus was the light that the world needed to see God's love clearly and brightly!

Question: What are you most thankful for this season?

Challenge: Sit and enjoy the Christmas lights. They dazzle and shine, and they remind us of God's amazing love!