

Ages 9-11

God's Word			
Cognitive	Nurturing Implications		Additional Tips For Home
<p>Can think logically</p> <p>Rules: Right and Wrong</p> <p>Think concretely</p> <p>Desire to make own choices</p> <p>Can make connections with what happened in the past and project what may happen in the future</p> <p>Can think chronologically</p> <p>Development of classification, conservation and reversibility in thought</p> <p>Have good memories</p> <p>Developing reading and writing skills</p> <p>Aware that adults are not always right and by age 11 begin to challenge adults' thinking</p>	<p>Allow children this age to choose from a variety of challenging activities.</p> <p>Be sure to include all types of learning styles.</p> <p>Use games to introduce and review factual material.</p> <p>Provide opportunities to think, reason, and solve problems.</p> <p>Keep to concrete ideas - those which can be experienced with the senses.</p> <p>Wondering questions ("I wonder...") are still good at this age.</p>	<p>Have the ability to list in chronological order and give basic information on major Old and New Testament characters.</p> <p>Have the ability to list major Biblical events in chronological order.</p> <p>Can name books of the Bible.</p> <p>Can memorize a few key passages.</p> <p>Can classify Biblical books and major characters.</p> <p>Can do simple map studies.</p> <p>Can use a Bible dictionary.</p> <p>Can begin to grasp the continuing story of early church founders and events beyond the Biblical account.</p>	<p>This is a great age for sharing high points and low points of the day and lifting these things to God in prayer.</p> <p>Use teachable moments throughout the day to compare life circumstances to God's Word. Teach by asking questions about a particular story rather than preaching. (Be careful not to use God's Word to trivialize your child's experiences. <i>i.e. Your child scrapes her knee. Do not respond by saying something like: "I know that hurts but when Jesus died on the cross he suffered even more."</i>)</p>

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Relationships			
Social/Emotional	Nurturing Implications		Additional Tips For Home
<p>Need to know what their place in society is</p> <p>Eager to fit in with peers</p> <p>At 10-11 boys and girls often enjoy being “liked” by the opposite sex</p> <p>Enjoy organized group activities</p> <p>There is a desire to please important persons and perform one’s duty to society.</p> <p>Hero worship</p> <p>Understanding of right and wrong: <i>Right is what good people do or what the law says one should do. Make allowances for intentions. Understands the moral perspective of friends and society.</i></p>	<p>Provide for group activities.</p> <p>This is a time when children are beginning to seek their place in the church. Consequently, we need to give them opportunities to grow and serve in the church.</p> <p>Give children opportunities to write on the board, read, pray, select groups, distribute material.</p> <p>Begin to instill a wider kingdom view which includes people of all ethnicities and cultures.</p> <p>Consider visiting a church which is primarily made up of a different ethnicity.</p>	<p>Children this age desperately want to fit in. Be sure to squelch any put-downs and encourage a positive attitude.</p> <p>It is important that we help each child know she/he is important to God and that God desires to have a relationship with him/her and invite him/her into the kingdom.</p>	<p>Praise and encourage your child for who they are as much as for what they do.</p> <p>Provide opportunities for your child to walk alongside you and learn. But be prepared to have it take more time and allow time for mistakes.</p> <p>Your involvement in the church body will greatly affect theirs both now and in the future.</p> <p>The more visually present your relationship with God, the more your child will be ready to grow in their relationship with God.</p> <p>Children this age watch who you spend time with, so they will know who they should interact with.</p>

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Outward Action: Service and Missions			
Physical	Nurturing Implications		Additional Tips for Home
<p>Rapid growth</p> <p>Girls often develop faster than boys</p> <p>Fine motor skills developed</p> <p>Boys moving ahead of girls in strength and endurance</p> <p>Increased curiosity about sex</p> <p>Enjoy active projects and are often loud</p>	<p>Children this age can make some significant things for others.</p> <p>Offer mission trips for families.</p> <p>Have these children make up the “rules” for the classroom, and then post them. It will give them ownership and enable you to maintain a more disciplined class.</p> <p>Remember to offer “doing” elements for children rather than expect them to sit at a table for an hour. Plan in movement and give them responsibility.</p>	<p>Service Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Visiting nursing homes * Helping out at a food shelf * Helping the elderly with yard work * Writing to missionaries * Writing post cards to friends who are absent * Helping the church with big mailings or stuffing bulletins * Helping with set up or take down at church * Baking cookies for shut-ins or neighbors 	<p>When you serve others it becomes a thing of value to your children.</p> <p>Serving together will have an even greater impact.</p> <p>Consider going on a mission trip together.</p> <p>Remember that children need positive touch from their parents. If they don’t get it at home, they will look for it elsewhere.</p> <p>Remember to discuss behavioral expectations with your children and the potential consequences such as losing a privilege for a time. Children need the security of clear boundaries but they need to know what they are in order to abide by them.</p>

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Worship			
Spiritual	Nurturing Implications		Additional Tips for Home
<p>Able to sense the presence of God and deepening feeling of love for God</p> <p>Understand salvation</p> <p>Developing a sense of morality</p> <p>Able to seek God's guidance</p> <p>Ability to list in chronological order and give basic information on major Old and New Testament characters</p> <p>Ability to list major Biblical events in chronological order</p> <p>Name books of the Bible</p> <p>Memorize a few key passages</p> <p>Classification of Biblical books and major characters</p> <p>Simple map studies</p> <p>Can use a Bible dictionary</p> <p>Can begin to grasp the continuing story of early church founders and events beyond the Biblical account</p>	<p>Children will feel more a part of the church if they can share and participate.</p> <p>Apply Biblical truths to a children's everyday experience. Although they understand the concepts of past and future they live in the NOW.</p> <p>Offer more opportunities for children to share through prayer.</p> <p>Help children grasp the concept that God is always with them and can be worshipped every moment by how they think, talk, and act.</p> <p>Children this age can also readily understand the elements and styles of worship.</p>	<p>Give these children an opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Read Scripture. * Sing in a choir. * Usher. * Pray. * Be a part of a drama. * Bring in banners. * Give a testimony of faith. <p>Do this through nurturing and coaching and offer opportunities for families to do these things together.</p> <p>Plan movement in the service. Some people complain about standing up and sitting down but this is good for children.</p>	<p>It is important that you discuss worldly issues with your children. They do not live in a bubble. They need to be exposed to other ways of thinking in order to know how to make decisions based on God's truth.</p> <p>Encourage your children to worship with the church body and at all times by putting God first in their lives.</p> <p>Share with them the love and grace of God so they do not see God as just a disciplinarian.</p> <p>Pray, read God's Word, and worship together with the expectation that you will meet God and that God will speak to you.</p> <p>Find some one on one time with your child to have fun and to talk about faith/life issues.</p>