



the **GOSPEL** PROJECT.

gospel means good news. but launching a new curriculum—even one that's all about good news—can feel overwhelming.

That's why we've created this presentation guide. It is designed to help you:

- communicate clearly with your team
- lead well through the transition
- help your church build a gospel-centered culture of discipleship, community, and mission through weekly Bible study for all ages

tips for leading your team through this training:

Each presentation is customizable for your context and needs, so use what makes sense for you and your team. As you prepare, here are a few recommendations:

- These presentations provide an overview of each resource across all ages, so focus on what's most important for your ministries.
- Have printed samples of curriculum in your meeting area so your team can see the resources for themselves.
- Whether you're new to the Gospel Project or have been using it from the beginning, there's a lot to take in for this new cycle, so be sure to leave time for discussion.
- Take advantage of all the presentation resources available at gospelproject.com/launch.

Most importantly, make much of Jesus even as you prepare your team to lead their groups through the big story and big truths of Scripture.

what makes the Bible make sense

the vision of the gospel project

show slide 1:

How should we understand the Bible? Whether you're a new Christian, a mature believer, or someone trying to figure out what this book even is, we need to understand this in order to be able to make sense of what it says.



slide 1

Many people, regardless of their background, see the Bible as basically an instruction manual. A book of rules to obey and examples to follow. But that's not how we are meant to understand the Bible, because it's not what the Bible is about. And when we treat it this way, things generally go bad.

Take, for example, a group of religious leaders from Jesus' day called the Pharisees. They devoted their lives to studying the Bible and trying to follow their interpretation of its commands as closely as possible. They saw the Bible as an instruction manual, with strict obedience to their interpretation of its commands as the secret of eternal life.

Then Jesus began His ministry, proclaiming that the kingdom of heaven is near. Eating and drinking with sinners and tax collectors, the outcasts of society. Performing miracles, healing the sick, doing good works on the Sabbath, the day of rest.

Declaring the teaching of the Pharisees' wrong.

Jesus infuriated the Pharisees, but no matter how they tried to get people to see that He was wrong, they failed. Jesus consistently put them to shame. And in John 5, after the Pharisees challenged Jesus for healing a blind man on the Sabbath and calling Him a blasphemer, Jesus offered one of His most blistering condemnations—and He did it by challenging their view of the Bible itself.

show slide 2:

He said, “You pore over the Scriptures because you think you have eternal life in them, and yet they testify about me.”

Jesus’ words were, and are, earth-shattering, not just because of the strength of their condemnation, but because they reveal what we’re missing when we read the Bible as an instruction manual. They are the key to the puzzle that the Bible can seem to be for us. When we see the Bible as primarily being filled with commands and examples to follow, we may study the Bible diligently. We may pore over every page searching for the secret of eternal life. But we may miss the One who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

We need to look at Scripture the way Jesus does, as testifying about Him. When we do, it changes how we understand the Bible, and how we live in light of it.

We recognize the Old Testament as the foundation and foreshadowing of everything that happens in the New, the first part of one big story told from Genesis to Revelation.

We see the New Testament as good news of great joy for all people because Jesus came to fulfill the Law, to rescue us through His death and resurrection, and restore the relationship with our Creator that sin ruined.

And we can live faithfully in the world right now, as good news people in a bad news world. People who know how the story God is telling ends, a story that says that all the bad we experience right now in this world will come to an end in the world to come, when Jesus returns to make all things new.

“you pore over the scriptures
because you think you have
eternal life in them, and yet
they testify about me.”

John 5:39, esb

slide 2

show slide 3:

This is the understanding we need to fully make sense of the Bible in the way God intended.

As much as the Bible helps us to live wisely, and provides powerful examples of courage and compassion, we cannot reduce it to being about such things. God wants us to see something so much more than that, something so much bigger—that the gospel is at work from beginning to end.

That Jesus is at its center.

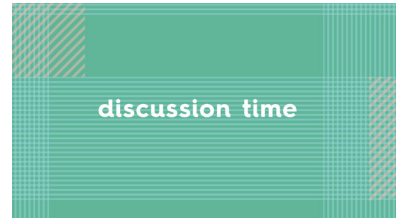
the Bible makes sense
when **Jesus** is at
its center.

slide 3

We need His help to see this—and we need His help so that we might help others see it as well. To be people who say with John the Baptist, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world”, people with good news to share with the whole world.

show slide 4 & discuss the following:

- How were you taught to understand the Bible, whether while growing up or as an adult?
- How does the way of understanding the Bible we’ve just discussed differ from what you were taught?
- Why does it matter that we keep Jesus at the center of our Bible teaching?



slide 4

learn, love, and live

the heart of discipleship

show slide 1:

How would you sum up the heart of discipleship in just three words? Consider these: Learn, love, and live.

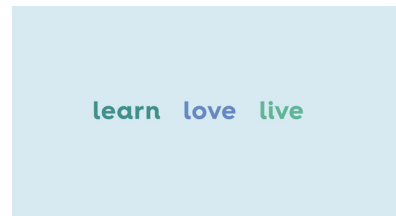


slide 1

show slide 2:

Those three words capture the essence of our mission as disciple makers of any age. We want people to learn who God is. We want them to develop a genuine love for Him because of who He is and what He has done. And we want to help them to live for God, showing their love for Him with their whole lives.

But how do we know this to be true? Often when we think of discipleship, we look at it from the perspective of learning—formal instruction in the essential truths of the Christian faith. And discipleship certainly is that. But it's more than learning. It's living the truth as well; obeying God's commands is the ultimate response of what we learn. But in between those is love, something so important that Jesus said it was the first and greatest of all the commandments: to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37).



slide 2

True discipleship, discipleship as Jesus understands it, has love for God at its foundation. Love that is based upon what we know about God, His nature, His character, and His plans for this world. Love that expresses itself in how we live in this world right now. And as we make disciples, that is our goal, to help people to learn the gospel story of Scripture, to grow in their love for the Author of the story, and then live out their part in God's ongoing gospel story. To learn, love, and live.

This three-part discipleship structure is woven into what is considered the seminal passage on discipleship, especially discipling children: Deuteronomy 6:4–9. This passage, known as the Shema, focuses on discipleship in the home, but its principles apply to discipleship in all contexts and for all ages.

show slide 3:

The Shema begins, “Listen, Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

The foundation of the Shema, of discipleship, is knowing who God is. That’s what “orthodoxy” is all about: believing the truth about God.

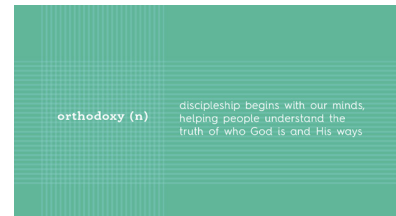


slide 3

show slide 4:

Discipleship begins with our minds. We need to help people understand who God is and His ways. We need to help them engage their minds, to think deeply, about the gospel.

But discipleship isn’t simply about transferring information. It doesn’t stop at the head, but goes on to deal with the heart. This is what we see as the Shema continues in Deuteronomy 6:5 and 6.

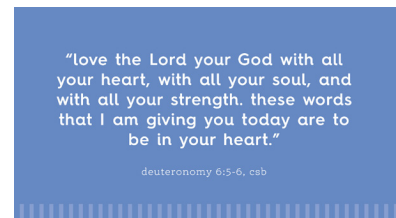


slide 4

show slide 5:

It says, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart.”

God’s intention is that the truth of who He is and the beauty of what He has done to restore our broken relationship with Him should stir our affections for Him and others. This is why Jesus pointed to the commands to love God and love others as the two greatest in Scripture. Love is the divinely appointed conduit for us to take what we know and put it into practice.



slide 5

show slide 6:

As critical as this part of discipleship is, it is often neglected for some reason. The tendency is to move straight from learning to living, which robs people of the beauty of the gospel and the opportunity to rightly engage their feelings called orthopathy.



slide 6

Being moved deeply—filled with gratitude, love, and awe—is the only reasonable response to what we learn. We don't just target the head, then, we also go after the heart. But if discipleship ended here, it would be incomplete. Love is not love without action.

The Shema begins by telling us who God is. It continues with a call to love the God we know. It concludes this way:

show slide 7:

“Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Bind them as a sign on your hand and let them be a symbol on your forehead. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your city gates.”

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deuteronomy 6:7-9, ccb

slide 7

Knowing and loving God rightly will result in living rightly, called orthopraxy. What we believe about God and our love for Him will show in how we live before a watching world.

show slide 8:

Living as God's people on mission is a requirement of all who believe, a test to determine if a person actually has learned and loved.

This is what Jesus had in mind when He explained what separates the sheep and the goats in Matthew 25:31-46. Jesus pointed to each group's action as the reason they were either saved or they perished. Jesus was not teaching a works-based salvation in this passage, but rather He was assuming a holistic discipleship process.

orthopraxy (n)

discipleship is ultimately expressed not just in our knowledge or our emotions, but in our actions, as we live as God's people in the world

slide 8

His unspoken premise was that the righteous will do what they do because they know and love Him. It will be their natural and reasonable response to being in relationship with God.

The opposite is just as true: it is unreasonable to contend that a person is a disciple of Jesus if he or she fails to live any differently.

Our goal is not just to aim for the heads and hearts of those we are discipling, but also for their hands. We want people to live differently because of what they have come to learn and who they have come to love.

show slide 9:

This is what discipleship is all about for every person and every age in the church. It is holistic in nature, shaping the head, heart, and hands of the believer. It affects what we know, what we love, and the way we live. That's what discipleship is all about because it's what the gospel is all about. The gospel reveals the greatness of God and the depths to which He goes to save sinners, sending His Son Jesus to die on the cross and rise again. It creates a love for God in everyone who believes that is uncontainable.

The gospel changes lives and invites us to be a part of seeing more lives changed by its power. That's the heart of discipleship.

That's what the church, and the world, needs right now. And that's what God wants us to share with everyone around us.

this is what discipleship is all about. It is holistic in nature, shaping the head, heart, and hands of the believer.

slide 9

show slide 10 & discuss the following:

- Where do you see this discipleship model naturally occurring in your ministry?
- Which of these three aspects are you most naturally drawn to? Which do you see as being a challenge?
- How do you hope intentionally focusing on these three aspects will affect your ministry?

discussion time

slide 10

the gospel project for kids

an overview of all the Bible study resources

show slide 1:

The Gospel Project for Kids is designed to teach kids God's big story—His plan to rescue people from sin through Jesus. And if you might be wondering what all is involved and available—what do you need to teach kids the big story of Scripture. So in this portion of our time together, we're going to look at everything that's available in this Christ-centered curriculum and how it's all designed to work together.



slide 1

show slide 2:

The Preschool Ministry Starter Kit provides Bible study resources for Babies and Toddlers, Younger Preschoolers, and Older Preschoolers for about an hour-long experience. The Babies and Toddlers and Younger Preschool Leader Guides provide bonus teaching hour content you can use beyond that time frame.



slide 2

show slide 3:

The Preschool Worship Hour Add-On Pack provides brand-new content for a full second hour with that age group. Preschoolers will review the same Bible story and engage in all-new activities and worship songs. Every element is designed to create a worship experience just for preschoolers!



slide 3

show slide 4:

Your options for Kids resources are similar to those for Preschool, but with the addition of a midweek resource.

The Kids Ministry Starter Kit provides about an hour-long Bible study experience for Younger and Older Kids. Plus bonus materials for teaching preteens. From here, you have two options for a second hour, or you can use all three resources for three unique ministry experiences each week!



slide 4

show slide 5:

The Kids Worship Hour Add-On follows the same Bible story as the first hour. But while the first hour of content focuses on learning the gospel story, this resource focuses on loving God because of that gospel story. Kids will have the opportunity to explore their emotional responses to what they learn and how to channel their feelings as an act of worship to glorify God. Extra worship music is also provided to help you create a larger group worship experience.



slide 5

show slide 6:

The Kids Midweek Add-On takes a slightly different approach by focusing on helping kids live out the gospel. This content will loosely connect to the core Bible study content, but will concentrate more on spiritual disciplines such as Bible study, prayer, worship, evangelism, fellowship, rest, service, generosity, fasting, celebration, and silence. Each week, your kids will learn about a spiritual discipline and how to practice it. Then, they will have the opportunity to form smaller discipleship groups for prayer and encouragement.

Now that you've seen how this all works together, you can begin building your plan to reach kids with the gospel and help them learn, love, and live out God's plan in their lives!



slide 6

How to Use The Gospel Project for Babies & Toddlers

Understanding the basics

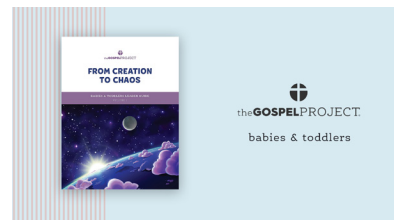
show slide 1:

Because they're so young, it's easy to see our ministry to babies and toddlers as child care, or primarily as ministry to parents by giving them the chance to participate in worship without their young children in tow. This is definitely a ministry to parents, but it is also an amazing opportunity to partner with parents in laying a foundation for a life-long love of Jesus.

With The Gospel Project, leading a meaningful Bible study experience for babies and toddlers is easy. To get started, all you need is a leader guide.



slide 1



slide 2

show slide 2:

Simply use the same leader guide for each group and focus on the portions written for the group you lead.

show slide 3:

Several activities are suggested for babies. Each week, choose the activities that work best for you and weave them into your normal rhythm.



slide 3

show slide 4:

You will notice that gospel gems are included in the text. Consider whispering these gems or even telling the toddler Bible story to the babies as you rock them, change them, feed them, or play with them.



slide 4

show slide 5:

For toddlers, you also choose the activities that will work best in your context and weave them into your normal rhythm. You will notice a circle time suggestion for telling the Bible story, but if you cannot make that work, you tell the story during some other part of your time, such as during snack or even one-on-one as the toddlers play.

show slide 6:

If you have a second hour with your toddlers, the Bonus Teaching Hour provides additional activities. Or, if you only have one hour, you can draw from these additional activities to give you even more options.

With all these resources at your fingertips, leading the youngest learners is easy, fun, and meaningful.

show slide 7 & discuss the following:

- What excites you most about what you've learned about this resource?
- How do you hope it will benefit the babies & toddlers in your ministry?



slide 5



slide 6



slide 7

how to use the gospel project for preschool

understanding the basics

show slide 1:

Leading a Bible study experience for preschoolers is not only fun and meaningful, but it's super easy with The Gospel Project. To get started, all you need is a leader guide, an activity pack for each preschooler, and the media from the Ministry Starter Kit or digital bundle.

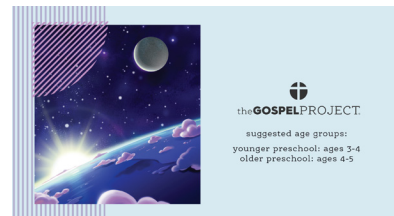


slide 1

show slide 2:

The preschool resources are provided in two age groups: Younger Preschoolers and Older Preschoolers.

You decide which context is best for teaching your preschoolers. In general, the Younger Preschool content is crafted for ages three and four while the Older Preschool content for pre-k and Kindergarten.



slide 2

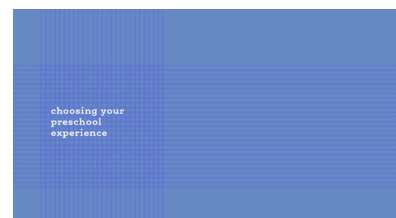
show slide 3:

You can frame your preschool experience around several different formats. Each format works well.

You can choose to form small groups for the entire session or divide the session between small groups and large groups.

This resource is made to be flexible and work with either of these approaches. Simply choose what works best in your context.

Every church is unique, as is every preschool group. For this reason, we don't try to prescribe how you should lead a session. Instead, we encourage you to become familiar with the various elements of a session. Think of them as tools in your tool belt to help you build the best ministry experience

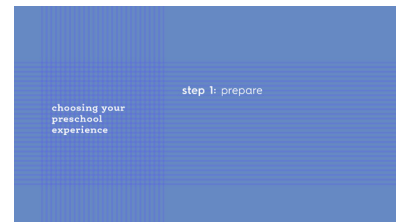


slide 3

for your preschoolers. With that in mind, let's walk through a session and explore each of these tools.

show slide 4:

Designed for the leader, the Prepare Pages feature a visual of the session with suggested times to devote to each part. You'll also find an encouraging leader Bible study. This is one of several ways that we want to help leaders teach from the overflow of God working in their lives. Other leader training items can be found at gospelproject.com.



slide 4

A supply list is provided to help you gather and organize the supplies needed for activities. We try to keep these supplies as simple as possible, but even still, you will want to be sure to have everything that you need. Now, let's look at what a typical session might look like.

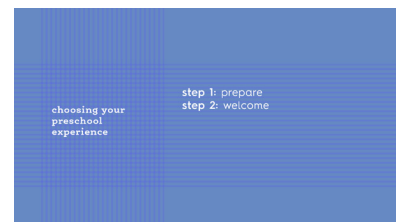
show slide 5:

"Welcome" is the first part of the session content. During this time, your goal is to do just that! Welcome all of the preschoolers and engage them as they connect with one another.

This is also a great time for your Older Preschoolers to complete their Activity Page.

A suggested "say" prompt helps leaders connect the learning activity preschoolers complete on that page with that session's Bible story.

Afterward, preschoolers can participate in an activity or two, again with suggested "say" prompts that explain the bigger purpose of the fun they just had.



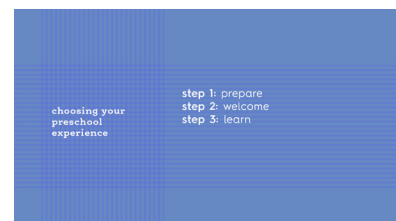
slide 5

show slide 6:

"Learn" is the next part of the session content. During this time, leaders will share the Bible story and help preschoolers understand what it means.

While Younger Preschoolers will engage in more activities and focus on the Bible story and key passage during this time, Older Preschoolers will engage in a fuller learning experience.

First, leaders can use either the Giant Timeline or Small Group Timeline to help preschoolers see where that day's Bible story fits into the bigger story of Scripture they have been learning.



slide 6

show slide 7:

Then, leaders can choose from a few options in sharing the Bible story. They can show the Bible story video, they can tell the story as found in the Leader Guide—which also provides storytelling tips for those who maybe aren’t as confident doing so—or leaders can do both!



slide 7

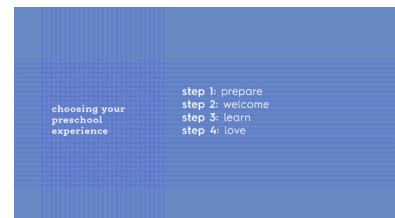
presentation option: play the preschool bible story video

A Bible story teaching picture is also provided for leaders to use during this time.

Afterward, leaders can show preschoolers how that session’s story points to Jesus by sharing the Christ connection, and then work on remembering the unit key passage and big picture question and answer. Finally, the missions moment helps preschoolers see what God is doing all around the world.

show slide 8:

“Love” is the third part of the session content. During this time, preschoolers will engage in additional activities to help them process what they are learning as they are encouraged to grow in their love for God.



slide 8

show slide 9:

“Live” is the last part of the session content. During this time, leaders can choose from more learning activities designed to help preschoolers move toward understanding the joy of obeying God. This is the suggested time for Younger Preschoolers to complete their Activity Pages, and if time allows, Older Preschoolers might want to color on theirs.



slide 9

The session ends with leaders giving each preschooler a Big Picture card at pick-up time.

show slide 10:

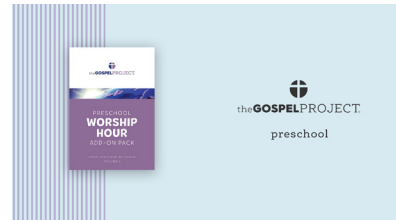
Inside the Younger Preschool leader guide, you’ll find a Bonus Teaching Hour with additional activities to use during a second hour of programming. Or, if you only have one hour, leaders can consider using some of these activity options with the others.



slide 10

show slide 11:

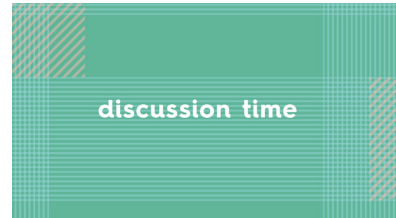
If you are using the Preschool Worship Guide, the worship session is similar to what we have just described, only with different activities and some additional worship music to incorporate into a session.



slide 11

show slide 12 & discuss the following:

- What excites you most about what you've learned about the preschool resource?
- What opportunities to do you see to strengthen your ministry to preschoolers with this curriculum?



slide 12

how to use the gospel project for kids

understanding the basics

show slide 1:

In this portion of our time together, I'm going to show you how easy it is to lead a Bible study experience for kids. To get started, all you need is a leader guide, an activity pack for each kid, and the media from the Ministry Starter Kit or digital bundle.

The kids resources are provided in two age groups: Younger Kids and Older Kids.



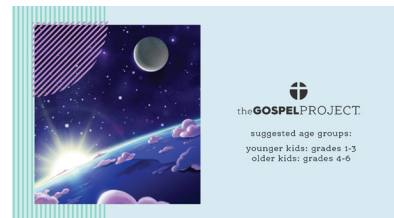
slide 1

show slide 2:

While we do not provide specific definitions of these because every context is unique, we craft Younger Kids content for about 1st through 3rd grade and Older Kids content for about 4th through 6th grade. If kindergarten kids are part of your elementary ministry the Younger Kids material can be used with that age group, too.

There is also a Preteen alternative option for the oldest of your kids who are making the transition into student ministry.

You can frame your kids experience around different formats, with each working well.



slide 2

show slide 3:

You can choose to form small groups for the entire session, or to form both small groups and a large group for different parts of the session. Again, the resource will work with either of these approaches. The choice is yours based on your context.



slide 3

This resource is made to be flexible and work with any of these approaches. Simply choose what works best in your context.

You can see that flexibility is quite important when it comes to using The Gospel Project for Kids.

The best way to get maximum flexibility out of the content is to get to know the various elements in a session and think of them as tools in your ministry tool belt. Choose from these tools to build the best ministry experience for your kids. With that in mind, let's now walk through a session to see each of the tools available to you.

show slide 4:

Designed for the leader, the Prepare Pages feature a visual of the session with suggested times to devote to each part. You'll also find an encouraging leader Bible study. This is one of several ways that we want to help leaders teach from the overflow of God working in their lives.



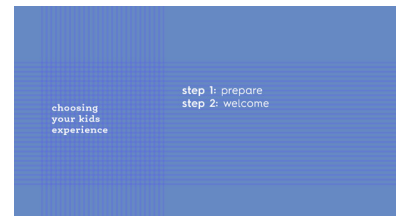
slide 4

Other leader training items can be found at gospelproject.com.

A supply list is provided to help you gather and organize the supplies needed for activities you choose to do. Now, let's look at what a typical session might look like.

show slide 5:

"Welcome" is the first part of the session content. During this time, your goal is to do just that! Welcome all of the kids who attend and engage with them as they connect with one another.



slide 4

A suggested conversation starter begins the session. As kids arrive, include them in the discussion and then use the suggested "say" prompt to help the kids connect what you just talked about with what follows. Then, help the kids complete their Activity Pages.

A suggested "say" prompt helps leaders connect the learning activity kids complete on that page with that session's Bible story. Afterward, kids can participate in an activity or two, again with suggested "say" prompts that explain the bigger purpose of the fun they just had.

show slide 6:

“Learn” is the next part of the session content. During this time, leaders will share the Bible story and help kids understand what it means.

First, leaders will review the unit’s big picture question and answer, which is one of the ways kids learn important doctrines of the faith.

Next, leaders can use either the Giant Timeline or Small Group Timeline to help kids see where that day’s Bible story fits into the bigger story of Scripture they have been learning.

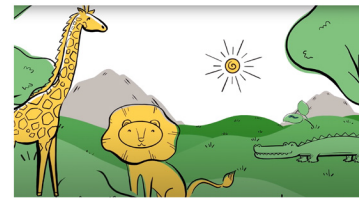


slide 6

show slide 7:

Then, leaders have a few options in sharing the Bible story.

They can read the story straight from the Leader Guide, tell the story in their own words using the storytelling tips provided, show the Bible story video, or use a combination of these techniques to help reinforce the story for kids.



slide 7

presentation option: play the kids bible story video

A Bible story teaching picture is also provided for leaders to use during this time.

Afterward, leaders can show kids how that session’s story points to Jesus by sharing the Christ connection. This is one of the most important features of a session.

Finally, the Missions Moment helps kids see what God is doing all around the world.

show slide 8:

“Love” is the third part of the session content. During this time, leaders will review the Bible story while giving kids the opportunity to work on their Bible skills.

A group discussion follows, allowing kids to continue processing what they are learning as they are encouraged to grow in their love for God.



slide 8

show slide 9:

“Live” is the last part of the session content. During this time, leaders can choose from more learning activities designed to help kids move toward understanding the joy of obeying God.

The session ends with a time for kids to reflect and pray together. At dismissal, leaders give each kid a Big Picture card to help them continue to review at home.



slide 9

show slide 10 & discuss the following:

- What excites you most about what you’ve learned about the kids resources?
- What opportunities to do you see to strengthen your kids’ knowledge of God and the gospel with this curriculum?



slide 10

how to use the gospel project for kids worship hour add-on

understanding the basics

show slide 1:

In this portion of our time, I'm going to show you how the Worship Hour Add-on Pack, or Kids Plus Digital Bundle can help you lead a meaningful worship experience for your kids.



slide 1

show slide 2:

The kids worship resource is crafted for kids in grades one through six. It's designed as one large group experience, with small groups forming for part of the time.

But if you need a different approach, the Worship Hour Add-on can work in any context, including as a large group or even small groups for the entire hour.



slide 2

show slide 3:

The Worship Hour content focuses on the Love aspect of the Learn, Love, Live discipleship plan.

While learning and living are included in the worship content, more attention is given to helping kids engage their emotions and use them in a positive way as they learn to love God.

Each session features an expected response.



slide 3

The expected response is a common way that kids will respond to the session's Bible story. This response will be emphasized during the worship hour.

No matter how they respond to the Bible story, kids will be encouraged to share their responses.

Flexibility is quite important when it comes to using Worship Hour content. Because every church is unique, we encourage you to get to know the various programming elements and think of them as tools in your ministry tool belt to use to build the best worship experience for your kids. With that in mind, let's now walk through a worship time to see each of these tools in action.

show slide 4:

Designed for the leader, the Prepare Pages feature a visual of the worship experience with suggested times to devote to each part. You'll also find an encouraging leader Bible study. This is one of several ways that we want to help leaders teach from the overflow of God working in their lives. Other leader training items can be found at gospelproject.com.

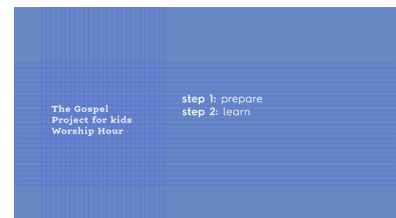


slide 4

A supply list is provided to help you gather and organize the supplies needed. Now, let's look at what a typical worship time might look like.

show slide 5:

We suggest that you begin worship through high-energy music. Leaders can also use this time to focus on learning as they help kids understand what worship is all about and explain the meaning of some of the lyrics that the kids are singing.



slide 5

Next, give an introduction to what has been covered in the prior weeks and what will be talked about that day. Then, leaders have several options for sharing the Bible story.

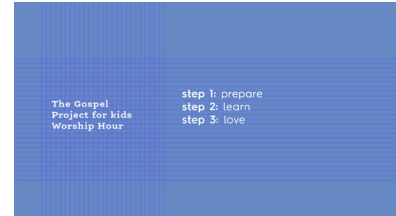
Read the story straight from the Leader Guide, use the suggested Kids Sermon Outline to craft a message, or play the Bible story video.

Afterward, leaders can show kids how that session's story points to Jesus by sharing the Christ connection. This is one of the most important features of a session.

The final part of this section of kids worship is a group demonstration. An object lesson emphasizes an important point from the Bible story. Most of the group demonstrations involve kid volunteers and a lot of fun!

show slide 6:

In this next section, the worship experience increases the emphasis on loving God and others as a response to the gospel. This is a great opportunity to form smaller discussion groups. These groups could remain in the same room and gather in different areas, or the groups could move to other rooms.



slide 6

Of course, be sure to follow your ministry guidelines such as making sure at least two adults are always present with kids.

During these discussion groups, leaders will ask four questions to help kids consider their feelings and help them learn to process those feelings in healthy ways. This is the heart of the kids worship experience.

Afterward, kids will gather together again and participate in a group activity, which is often a game of some sort. Suggested “say” prompts help leaders connect this activity to what the kids have been learning.

This time ends with a suggested block of slower, more contemplative worship music.

show slide 7:

The worship experience concludes with helping kids move toward living in joyful obedience to God. After a review of the Bible verse being memorized during that unit, the leader shares two ways for kids to apply what they learned during the week ahead.



slide 7

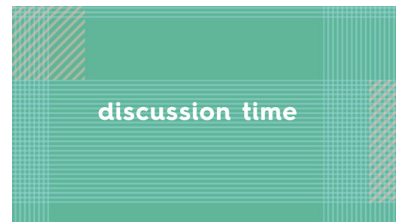
These challenges provide a helpful, but fun and encouraging way, for kids to put their faith in Christ into action.

The worship experience ends with a prayer and any announcements before dismissal.

If you have a longer worship time and need additional activities, or if you would prefer to swap out more of a game for another element during the worship time, an additional activity suggestion is provided at the end of each session’s content.

show slide 8 & discuss the following:

- What excites you most about what you've learned about the new worship resource?
- What opportunities to do you see to strengthen your kids' understanding and heart for worship through this resource?



slide 8

how to use the gospel project for kids midweek add-on

understanding the basics

show slide 1:

The Gospel Project for Kids offers a midweek add-on to help you bridge the days between your Sunday gathering. This resource prepares you to successfully lead a meaningful kids midweek experience.



slide 1

show slide 2:

The kids midweek session is crafted for kids in grades one through six.

It is designed as one large group experience, with small groups forming at the end, however, it will work well with other approaches. You could choose to have a large group or small groups the entire time. The choice is yours based on your context.



slide 2

The Learn, Love, Live discipleship plan runs throughout all The Gospel Project for Kids resources, but each one places a different emphasis on one aspect of it. The Bible study focuses on the Learn aspect. The Worship Hour emphasizes Love. And the Midweek focuses on the Live aspect, helping kids live for God and put their faith into action.

To do this, each session focuses on a spiritual discipline.

show slide 3:

Each unit will cover one of the spiritual disciplines: Bible study, prayer, worship, evangelism, fellowship, rest, service, generosity, fasting, celebration, and silence.



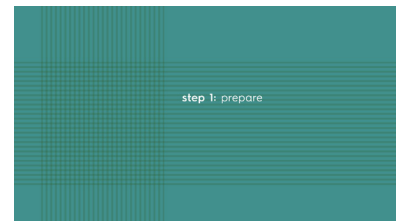
slide 3

Kids will learn about the discipline, how it helps them grow in their faith, and how to practice it.

Flexibility is quite important when it comes to using the midweek content. Because your ministry is unique, it's best to become familiar with the various elements of the resource and think of them as tools in your ministry tool belt to use as you build the best midweek experience for your kids. With that in mind, let's walk through a midweek session to see each of these tools in action.

show slide 4:

The prepare pages provide leaders with a visual of the midweek session and suggested times to devote to each part. You'll also find an encouraging leader Bible study. This is one of several ways that we want to help leaders teach from the overflow of God working in their lives. Other leader training items can be found at gospelproject.com.

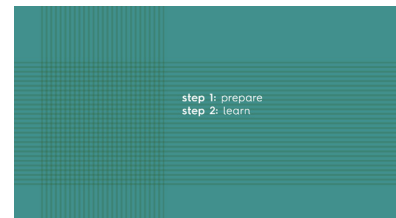


slide 4

A supply list is provided to help you gather and organize the supplies needed for activities you choose to do. Now, let's look at what a typical midweek experience might look like.

show slide 5:

The midweek session begins with a welcome time that engages kids as they arrive. Three activity options are provided. These options remain the same throughout a unit. You can choose one or two different activities each week, or you can do all three each week. These options are crafted so that kids can enjoy doing them more than once, and this also makes your preparation time easier.



slide 5

A supply list is provided to help you gather and organize the supplies needed. Now, let's look at what a typical worship time might look like.

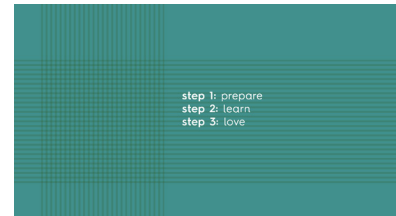
The midweek session continues with a reminder of what the spiritual disciplines are, followed by a related group game.

That unit's spiritual discipline is then addressed in greater detail, including showing where it is rooted in Scripture. When we look at Scripture during this time, our focus is on passages that clearly reveal each discipline. Sometimes this results in an overt connection to the passage from the core Bible study. Other times the connection is found in how kids are encouraged to apply each discipline.

We never want to force the Scriptures to say what they do not say, so rather than forcing a spiritual discipline into a passage when it is not there, we want to point kids to where that spiritual discipline is properly taught in the Bible. This learning time then ends by sharing a Christ connection, designed to show kids how the spiritual discipline being examined that day connects to Jesus.

show slide 6:

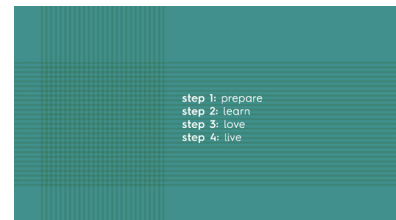
The next portion of the midweek session focuses on practicing the spiritual discipline. Leaders can choose from activity options, or do them both if time allows.



slide 6

show slide 8:

The final part of the midweek session is perhaps the most important one. During this time, kids will have the opportunity to gather in smaller groups and share with one another, encourage one another, and pray with one another.



slide 7

Once these discipleship groups are formed, the first goal is to get all of the kids warmed up to talk.

Group leaders can choose from three fun activity options to spark conversation. Once kids have warmed up, leaders walk kids through a time to discuss what they learned earlier in the session.

Leaders can simply ask these questions, or use the additional activity options provided. The next part of the discipleship group time is called “Walk in the Light.” Based on 1 John 1:7, this time allows for kids to confess struggles and sins in appropriate ways. Once again, several options are provided for group leaders to use during this time.

Finally, kids experience a time called, “Compete to Show Honor.” Based on Romans 12:10, kids are encouraged to outdo one another in honoring, or praising, others. Options are provided to help leaders structure this time as well. Before dismissal, discipleship group leaders share a challenge for their kids to complete during the week ahead.

The midweek session is a great way to help kids learn how to live out their part in the ongoing gospel story.

show slide 8 & discuss the following:

- What excites you most about what you've learned about this resource?
- What opportunities to do you see to strengthen your ministry with this resource?
- Which spiritual disciplines are you most excited about helping kids discover?



slide 8

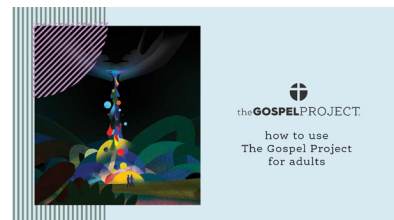
understanding the daily discipleship guide

the gospel project for adults

show slide 1:

Whether we're talking about Sunday school classes, seminars, or small groups, our aim is to make disciple-making disciples. No matter our background, no matter our familiarity or comfort with the Bible, that's what we're all meant to be.

The Gospel Project for Adults exists to help further that end as groups engage with the story of Scripture and the essential truths of the Christian faith with the best discipleship experience possible.



slide 1

show slide 2:

At the heart of that experience is the Daily Discipleship Guide, which places a strong emphasis on time in the Bible, learning to study it effectively personally and in community.

As you open the Daily Discipleship Guide, you'll see that each unit begins with a reflective introduction that both encourage the reader and serve to explore the how the unit works together to reveal a key essential doctrine. These are written by pastors, authors, and ministry leaders from all around the country, and help set the tone for everything that an individual or group will study over the next several weeks.



slide 2

show slide 3:

Each weekly session begins with five daily devotions. These are short reflections on passages that connect directly to each week's focal passages, as well as draw from the large body of Scripture to address the session's themes. The marginalia also includes callouts explaining key terms, defining



slide 3

essential doctrines, and providing helpful quotes from believers of times past and present. These devotions can be completed in as little as five minutes a day, and help prepare the reader's heart and mind for the larger group discussion.

The daily devotions comprise the majority of the content for each session and are intended to be a group member's first experience with the study each week. This allows for the group time to be an overflow of a member's personal time in the Word, but groups always have the option of doing the group time first and using the devotionals as a response.

The goal here is simple: to provide your groups with more, purposeful content that will help them gain a greater understanding and love for God and the gospel.

show slide 4:

The group discussion guide concludes each session, and includes the key points of the session, interactive questions, and activities to address the needs of a variety of learning styles, and session application questions that follow the head-heart-hands model that runs throughout The Gospel Project across all ages, helping your groups to consider how they will think, feel, and live differently in light of what they've learned in Scripture.

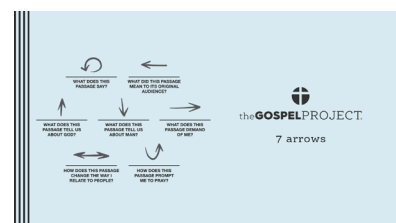
These application questions ideal for both high level discussion within the group time, as well as deeper exploration within a smaller group.

show slide 5:

Even though reading and studying the Bible has been proven time and again to be absolutely life-changing, fewer people than ever know how to do so effectively. So to help, we've incorporated a simple Bible study tool called the Seven Arrows of Bible Reading into the Daily Discipleship Guide. This tool helps group members learn the basic mechanics of Bible study by asking a few basic questions of any passage.



slide 4



slide 5

show slide 6:

But there's one more way we're helping people learn to study the Bible. And this is the most important way because we want people to use their own Bibles.

So as you read the Daily Discipleship Guide, you'll see that, while there are plenty of references, you won't find any printed Bible text within the resource itself.

Counterintuitive? Maybe. But one of the best ways to help people read and study the Bible is to encourage them to read the Bible they own, the Bible and Bible translation they chose for themselves.

So whether a person reads from the CSB, ESV, NIV, KJV, or any other translation, this helps them read focal passages in context and to see their place in the larger story. To learn the landscape of their Bibles as they study the Bible.

To instead of reading a passage from our book, read it from the Book.

And that's what it all comes back to. Engaging people with the Bible, helping them to learn to study it effectively personally and in community. And there is no better resource to help you further that end, for yourself and for others, than The Daily Discipleship Guide.



slide 6

show slide 7 & discuss the following:

- What excites you most about what you've learned about the daily discipleship guide?
- What opportunities to do you see to strengthen your group and personal discipleship through this resource?



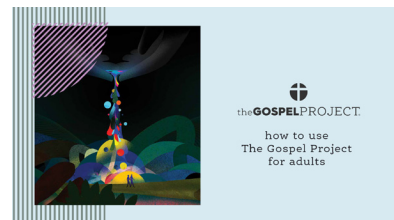
slide 7

understanding the leader resources

the gospel project for adults

show slide 1:

The goal of adult ministry, whether in small groups, Sunday school classes, or seminars, is to make disciple-making disciples. People whose minds, affections, and actions are shaped by their knowledge and love for God. This is what The Gospel Project exists to do as groups engage with the story of Scripture and the essential truths of the Christian faith, both individually and in community.



slide 1

So how does someone lead a class or group through The Gospel Project for Adults? This is a good question, and an important one. Leaders and facilitators need the right tools to effectively teach and lead, and there are two that exist for this Christ-centered Bible study series.

show slide 2:

The first is the leader guide, and provides teaching outlines, biblical commentary, and optional illustrations all in one convenient package—everything leaders need to effectively teach and lead each session.



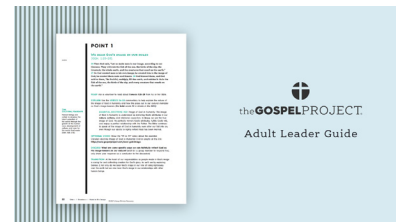
slide 2

Being equipped to lead begins with being fed as a leader. That's why each unit begins with a reflective introduction that sets the stage for everything that is to come in the unit.

As each session begins, leaders will find an outline of the big ideas for each week, helping them to see what their groups will learn, how they will see Christ, and how they should respond.

show slide 3:

Each of the study's main points are divided into two sections. The first is the teaching outline which includes questions designed to address the variety of learning needs represented in each group, interactive discussion, opportunities to engage groups with free video content that is focused on each session's essential doctrine, and thumbnails of the recommended leader pack items for that portion of the session. And if you're wondering what the leader pack is, hold that thought: we'll come back to it shortly.



slide 3

show slide 4:

The second half of each main point is the biblical commentary. This commentary is written by ministry leaders from a variety of backgrounds and offers a deep-but-accessible exploration of each focal passage, revealing its intended meaning and overall place in the storyline of Scripture. That desire for accessibility applies to how the commentary itself is written, but also the language we've chosen to use throughout the Leader Guide, especially when it comes to theological terms. Because there are some terms that we cannot not use, we've spent some extra time defining them for leaders who might be unfamiliar.



slide 4

So if a leader isn't really sure what the word "sovereignty" means, or how to easily define the Trinity—words that matter a great deal to the Christian faith—they'll have a handy resource at their fingertips. And the goal with this is really quite simple: no matter your familiarity or background, you can use The Gospel Project for Adults to effectively disciple your groups.

show slide 5:

At the conclusion of each teaching outline, leaders will find a section called "My Response."

This section focuses on how knowing God leads to changed affections or emotions which leads to changed lives.



slide 5

In other words, clear, Christ-centered Bible study will shape the head, heart, and hands of a Christian.

Each question in the response component is intended to focus on one of these three aspects, along with a short explanation of the implications of the study in each of these areas. These questions can be used both to lead

discussion in a larger gathering, as well as in smaller group contexts.

The final component of each session is one we've called "Extras." These are short additional commentary excerpts from trusted sources, included for those who want to dig even deeper on an aspect of a main point, as well as illustrations and optional interactive activities.

show slide 6:

Speaking of interactive activities and illustrations, that's where the leader pack also comes in. Inside this resource you'll find several posters and handouts, as well as digital materials to share with group members, and a new tool to help people memorize key verses of Scripture.



slide 6

These resources look beautiful, but they're also designed for functionality, with each poster designed so that it can easily be used as a presentation side that can be used in person, online, or in hybrid meetings.

These resources, the Leader Guide and Leader Pack, provide leaders with purposeful tools that will encourage their groups' growth in Christ.

And that truly is the reason behind everything we do in The Gospel Project for Adults: To help our groups see how the Scriptures testify about Him, to have their understanding of the Bible deepen and change, and see them live in light of the gospel, the good news we're all here for.

show slide 7 & discuss the following:

- What excites you most about what you've learned about the new leader resources for The Gospel Project?



slide 7

making the most of your time in every session

the gospel project for adults

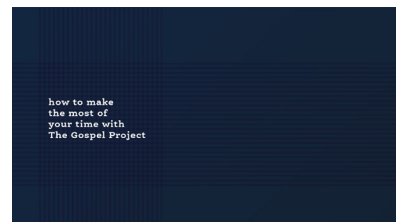
show slide 1:

Completing a session of any Bible study can be a challenge, even for the most experienced group leaders. There are many reasons for this of course:

The group itself may be really focused on one specific area of discussion, one of the hallmarks of a positive group experience.

Discussion may run longer than anticipated. Rabbit trails may threaten to derail your time together. Most commonly, it's a matter of time.

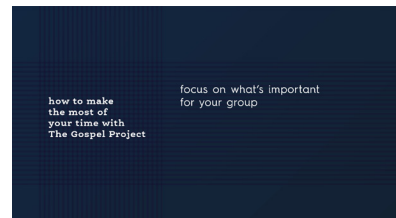
While most Bible studies, including The Gospel Project, are developed with 35–40 minutes of group time in mind, some groups have about half of that available to them. With the amount of content within each session, it can feel overwhelming. So how do group leaders make the most of their time? Here are three ways:



slide 1

show slide 2:

First, choose the key point(s) you need to emphasize the most with your group. As a group leader, you should spend between 30 minutes and an hour preparing for the session, reading through the teaching outline and commentary, and making notes on what elements of the session is most important for your group.

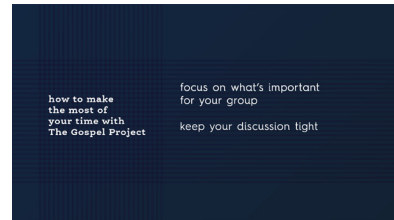


slide 2

As you read, perhaps you'll find that your group needs to focus almost the entire session exclusively on one of the three main points. If so, be sure to provide some context and summarize the other key points, but zero in on that one point. Maybe there's an element of all three points. Whatever the end result is, emphasize the elements most essential for your group.

show slide 3:

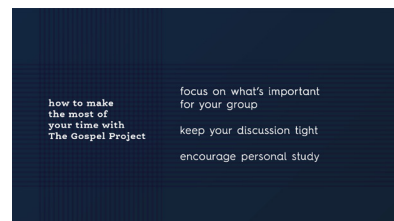
Second, keep your discussion tight. Every session features a mix of different kinds of questions: icebreaker, observation, interpretation, and application. You don't have to use them all. Keep discussion tightly controlled by limiting yourself to just a handful of these questions from throughout the session. I would recommend limiting yourself to four questions total in a very short group time, but if your group likes to interact, you may need to reduce that further.



slide 3

show slide 4:

Finally, encourage personal study among your group members. Even if you have plenty of time and get through the session content in your group time, you're still only going to scratch the surface of what can be taken away from the session. Strongly encourage personal reading and reflection before or after each session for participants to make the most of each study. The Daily Discipleship Guide is built with this in mind, providing five daily devotions that connect to the focal passages and major themes of each week's session.



slide 4

Remember, your goal is not to "get through" the content so much as to encourage one another as we grow in Christlikeness. So as you prepare, continue to pray and trust that God will lead you to focus on the material from each session that will accomplish that goal. That is our prayer for you as well.

understanding the resources

the gospel project for students

show slide 1:

What is the secret to a great student ministry? Maybe it's a great experience, with plenty of opportunities for laughter and fun. Perhaps it's strong teaching that helps students get a grip on a growing faith. While some might think these two are opposed, we like to ask: why can't it be both?



slide 1

Deep, faithful teaching and fun experiences aren't in conflict. And that's what students and ministry leaders will find with The Gospel Project for Students, which offers them a great experience as they dive into the story of Scripture and explore the essential truths of the Christian faith.

Central to that experience in The Gospel Project for Students are the Leader Guide and Daily Discipleship Guide. Both resources combine eye-catching visual, vibrant colors, and an easy-to-follow layout for leaders and group members of any experience level.

The Leader Guide provides student ministry leaders with everything they need to lead an effective, meaningful, and fun Bible study experience. And we really do mean everything. Throughout its pages, they'll find discussion questions, biblical commentary, and activity ideas.

show slide 2:

The Daily Discipleship Guide gives students an outline for each session's discussion and guidance on how they will apply what they've learned to their whole lives using the "Head, Heart, and Hands" model, addressing how what they've learned shapes their thinking, their emotions, and their actions.



slide 2

show slide 3:

To connect each session more deeply, students are encouraged to read and engage with five daily devotions that are included in the Daily Discipleship Guide and study the Bible for themselves using the Seven Arrows method. And that's important because the point isn't simply to read the passage. Students need to learn how to study the Bible for themselves. We don't want them to just take our word for what the Bible says. We want them to see that the Bible really does point to Jesus, as one big story of redemption.



slide 3

show slide 4:

But the story isn't all that your students learn from The Gospel Project. They also discover the essential truths of the faith, seeing them drawn out from the pages of Scripture. And this matters because we want to help students gain a deeper understanding of and appreciation for the essentials. That is, the essential truths of the Christian faith, to know what Christians believe and how to meaningfully engage in discussions about real questions people have about the faith, including their own. That's why the final session of each unit is devoted to a deeper dive into how a specific essential truth of the faith is revealed throughout.



slide 4

In the first volume alone, as we explore God's work in creating the world and then people, we see how He did it all for His glory.

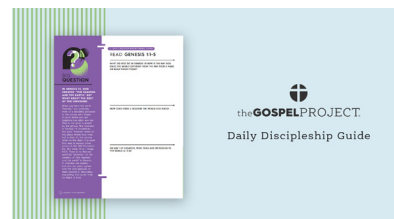
As we see humanity rebel against Him, we will explore how sin has become the default mode of the human heart.

And as we begin a survey of the family of Abraham down to Joseph, we will see how God providentially worked to preserve and build a nation from their descendants.

These sessions have a distinct look and feel from the rest of the unit to better allow for students to engage with our new doctrine discussion videos.

show slide 5:

This commitment to the big truths of the faith doesn't stop with the doctrine sessions, though. It's something that you'll find in every session of The Gospel Project for Students. Because many students, especially those who grew up going to church, are hesitant to ask hard questions, we've included a Big



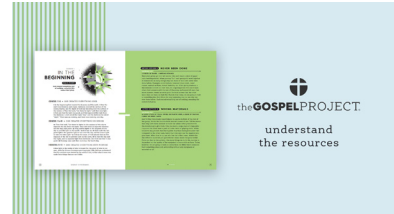
slide 5

Question feature that addresses the most difficult questions that may come from the study, and tackles them head on.

We want to help you nurture an environment where asking hard questions and finding honest answers are not only possible but encouraged, and this is one of the ways that we can do that.

show slide 6:

And that's what it all comes back to. Even as your groups engage with fun activities and spend time building relationships in their discussions, we want to help their faith take root and grow deep down. To help build and strengthen a foundation that will last a lifetime and stand against the challenges life brings right now. They need the gospel. They need the God of the gospel. And they'll meet Him with fresh eyes as they study the Word with The Gospel Project for Students.



slide 6

show slide 7 & discuss the following:

- What excites you most about what you've learned about the student Bible study resources?
- What opportunities to do you see to strengthen ministry as you use this curriculum?



slide 7