

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.



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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.



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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!



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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.



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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!



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How to Use The Gospel Project for Babies & Toddlers

Understanding the basics

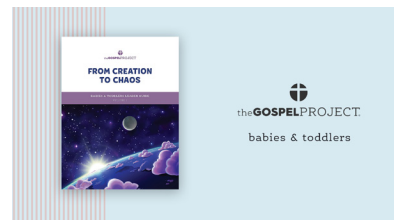
show slide 1:

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.



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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.

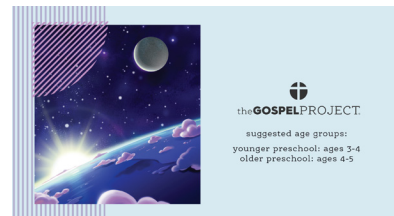


slide 1

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

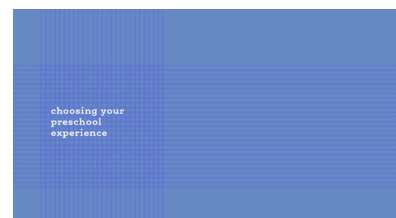
show slide 3:

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

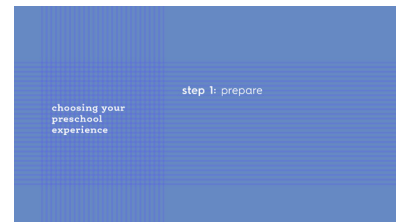


slide 3

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.

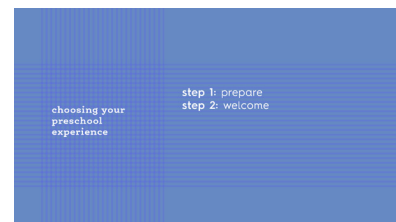


slide 4

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.



slide 5

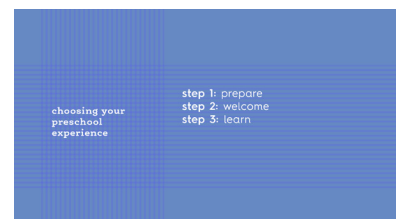
This is also a great time for your Older Preschoolers to complete their Activity Page.

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.

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.



slide 6

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.

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.



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

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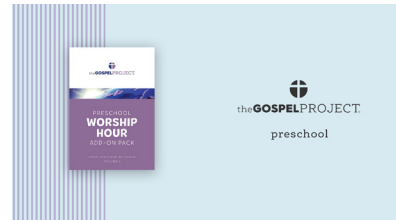
Inside the Younger Preschool leader guide, you’ll find a Bonus Teaching Hour with additional activities to use during a second hour of programming. Or, if you only have one hour, leaders can consider using some of these activity options with the others.



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show slide 11:

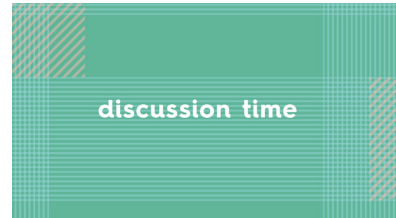
If you are using the Preschool Worship Guide, the worship session is similar to what we have just described, only with different activities and some additional worship music to incorporate into a session.



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.



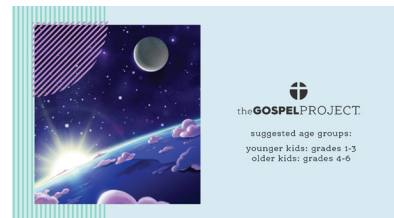
slide 1

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.



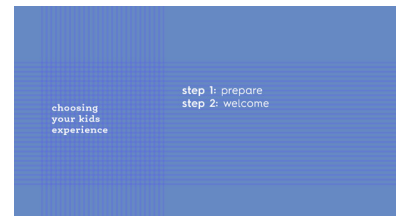
slide 4

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.

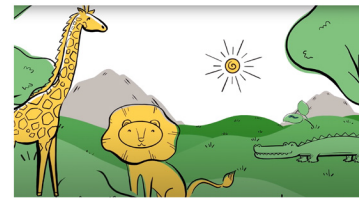


slide 6

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.



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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.

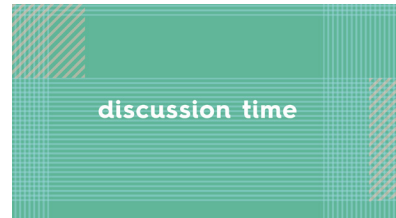
The session ends with a time for kids to reflect and pray together. At dismissal, leaders give each kid a Big Picture card to help them continue to review at home.



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.



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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.

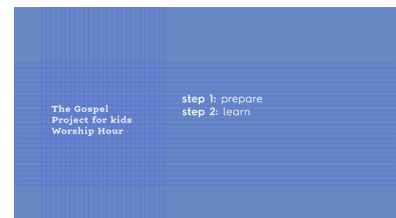


slide 4

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.

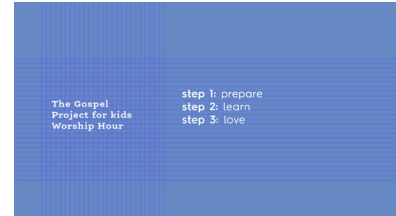
Read the story straight from the Leader Guide, use the suggested Kids Sermon Outline to craft a message, or play the Bible story video.

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

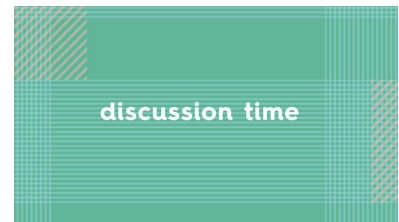
These challenges provide a helpful, but fun and encouraging way, for kids to put their faith in Christ into action.

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.



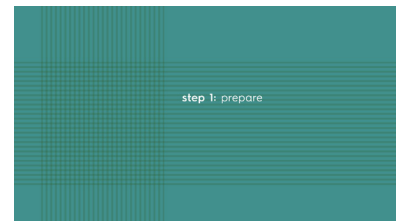
slide 3

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.

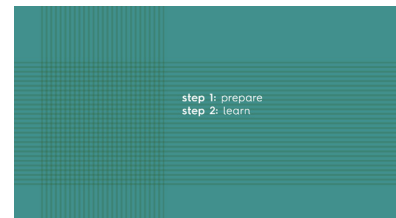


slide 4

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.

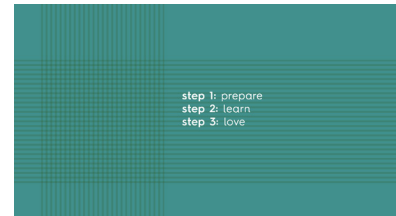
The midweek session continues with a reminder of what the spiritual disciplines are, followed by a related group game.

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.

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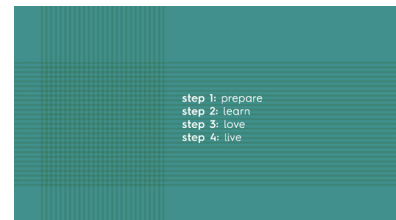
The next portion of the midweek session focuses on practicing the spiritual discipline. Leaders can choose from activity options, or do them both if time allows.



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