



Monthly Study Guide

YOUNG BIBLE HEROES

This sample study guide focuses on the examples of young individuals in Scripture who showed extraordinary examples of faith.

Suggested studies and discussions that optimize lessons, concepts and activities from the *Encourage, Equip, & Inspire* manual are listed for a four-week period. Options are not listed in a daily order. Simply choose the options that best fit your family and schedule.

IDEAS FOR SPECIFIC AGES



Preschooler

There are several examples in Scripture of a child being “weaned” or reaching “weaning age.” The general consensus among Bible scholars is that this age ranged from between roughly two to four years old. So Moses was probably a typical preschooler’s age when he was taken to Pharaoh’s daughter to be raised as a prince of Egypt. And this was likely Samuel’s age when Hannah took him to Eli the priest to serve God. Imagine the conversations these parents had with their children! Teach your children about how much God loves them and that they have special gifts they can use to serve God.



Grade-schooler

Josiah, the great-grandson of King Hezekiah, became King of Israel at eight years old and ruled righteously (you can read about his early years in [2 Chronicles 34](#)). Discuss Josiah’s example with your children and how he must have felt when he was anointed as king. Encourage your children to be like Josiah, standing up for what’s right and not compromising God’s Commandments.





Preteen

Jesus was 12 years old when He sat in the temple and amazed the scholars by His level of wisdom and comprehension from the Scriptures. Encourage your preteens to study their Bibles regularly. They might enjoy a study Bible geared toward their interests. Show them how to use a concordance to study a theme in Scripture or how to study commentaries to understand the context of a particular passage.



Teen

The Bible doesn't record the exact age of Elihu, the young man who spoke out against Job's three accusatory "friends." But we do know he was considerably younger, perhaps a teenager. We also know he spoke with great wisdom and understanding. Discuss Elihu's example with your children and why listening before speaking is so important. Encourage your teens to seek out and apply wisdom in their lives as they interact with others.





WEEK 1

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Read through the People of the Bible lesson “David, a Youth Whose Heart Pleased God.” Your children may enjoy reading this lesson by themselves as well. Look up each scripture reference to get the full context of the narrative.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Discuss with your children the concept that God looks at the heart of an individual, seeing beyond outward appearance. Do most people do this? What qualities must God have seen in David, even as a young man, to believe him capable of becoming a king?</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Because of David’s skill at playing the harp, he was invited to King Saul’s court and even became his armorbearer, a position of prestige (1 Samuel 16:21). David would have learned a considerable amount by spending so much time in the government offices, yet he didn’t try to take the crown away from Saul. Discuss with your children the humility, patience, and wisdom David exhibited during this time.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Before David went out to fight Goliath, it is recorded that he said God would deliver him (1 Samuel 17:37). What events in David’s life might have built such a strong faith in God? Discuss these with your children. Share your own faith-building stories with them.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Take some time to identify your own “giants”—obstacles that prohibit you from placing complete trust and confidence in God. Spend time in prayer thanking God for all the “giants” He has already helped you overcome and ask Him to help you overcome the remaining ones.</p>

Notes



WEEK 2

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Read through the People of the Bible lesson “The Little Maid From Israel, a Leper, and a Miracle” (locate it in the “What’s New?” section of the EEl website). Your children may enjoy reading this lesson by themselves as well. Look up each scripture reference to get the full context of the narrative.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Even though Naaman and his wife lived in Syria and worshipped pagan gods, they both believed the young Israelite girl when she told them of the prophet of God (Elisha) who could heal Naaman’s leprosy. What kind of character qualities must she have had for her mistress and master to place such trust in her words? Discuss these with your children.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The young maid could have said nothing about a possible cure for Naaman. She was, after all, an abducted slave and may not have been treated well. Yet she spoke up, showing compassion and concern. Read through Matthew 5:43-48 and reflect on what this young girl had clearly already learned on this subject.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Bible doesn’t tell us more about this young girl, but notice Naaman’s change of heart recorded in 2 Kings 5:15. How might life have been different for the young servant girl upon Naaman’s return to his home? You and your children may enjoy writing or acting out a possible scenario as you complete the “Help Wanted!” activity at the end of the lesson.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Even if she didn’t receive a reward, the little maid’s courage in speaking up and having bold faith brought glory to God. Ask God to reveal to you how you can show such bold faith in your life.</p>

Notes



WEEK 3

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Read through the People of the Bible lesson “Timothy, a Boy Who Grew Up To Serve God.” Your children may enjoy reading this lesson by themselves as well. Look up each scripture reference to get the full context of the narrative.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Reflect on what the Church was like while Timothy was growing up. How might this have impacted Timothy? In what ways was the Church and surrounding culture similar to today? In what ways different?</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Timothy was taught the Scriptures by his mother and grandmother, but his father was a gentile. Timothy may have felt conflicted or that he didn’t quite fit in with either community. Do you and your children ever feel different because of religion compared to your coworkers, peers, or members of your community? Discuss these challenges and perspectives with your children.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Paul instructed Timothy to set an example “in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12). Focus on each of these one day this week and ask God for help in setting the proper example. At the end of the week, read through verses 12-16 and assess your progress. Where can you improve?</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Timothy knew the Scriptures and had a heart for learning. Choose at least one of the Bible verses from the “Which Scriptures?” resource of the Memorizing Scripture section and do the interaction with your child.</p>

Notes



WEEK 4

<input type="checkbox"/>	Choose your own example in Scripture of a young individual of extraordinary faith. Some options include: Moses, Miriam, Samuel, Josiah, Elihu, Daniel, and of course Jesus Christ Himself.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Read through the scriptures relevant to the childhood of the individual you've chosen. What qualities did this individual exhibit as a child? Would you have done or said the same in their position? What qualities do you or your child share with this individual?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Choose one verse or passage that summarizes the character or makes a statement about the individual you have chosen, such as: "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men" (Luke 2:52). Write it down and display it. Reflect this week on what you can personally learn and apply from this summary statement.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Find an article on LifeHopeandTruth.com or listen to a sermon about the individual you have chosen. Discuss with your children any new perspectives you gleaned from your study.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Meditate on what we can learn from children in general. For a deeper study on this subject, you may enjoy the article " Children: A Blessing That Keeps On Giving " from our Christian Family section (available on our website in the "What's New?" section).

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