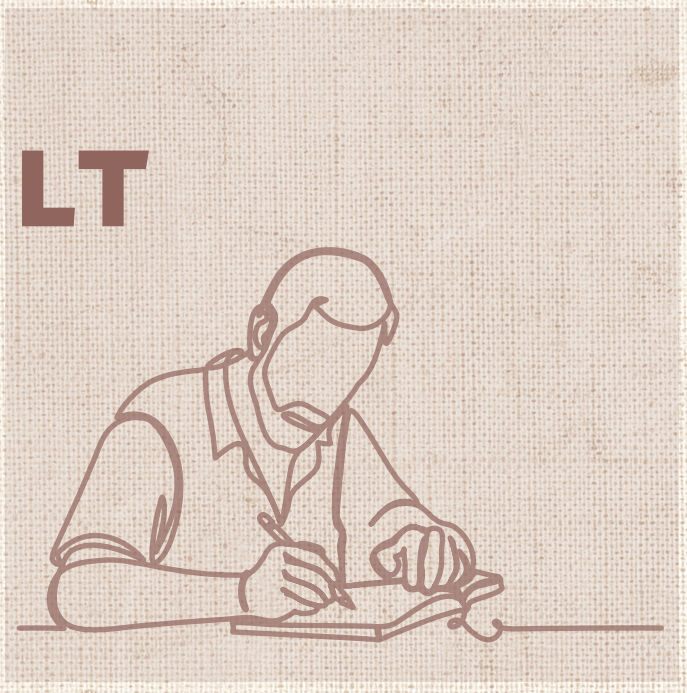
ADULT



NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2026

TEACHING GUIDE & RESOURCES

BEGINNINGS

GENESIS

D6 Curriculum

NOV-DEC 2026

ADULT
TEACHING GUIDE & RESOURCES

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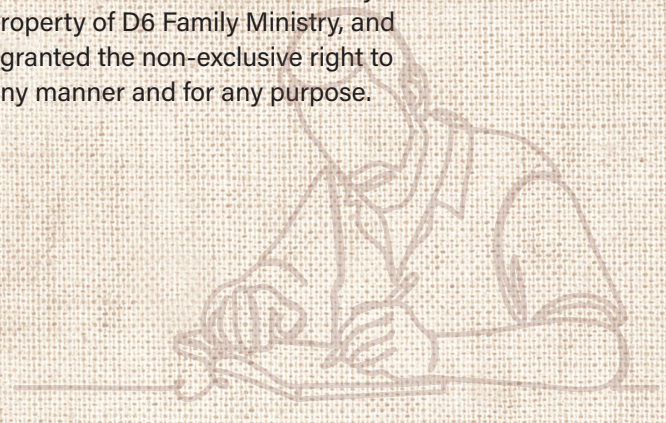
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D6 Curriculum

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WELCOME TO THE

D6 Adult Teaching Guide

Thank you for discipling others to grow in God's Word. Discipleship is strongest when the **church and home work together**.

HOW D6 CURRICULUM WORKS

Each lesson follows a simple, consistent flow to help you guide your group with confidence. Lessons give learners a broad understanding of Scripture and key biblical truths over time.

Elementary and teen students—and preschoolers when possible—study the same family themes as their parents and grandparents, creating natural opportunities for **faith conversations throughout the week**. As a teacher, you have the opportunity to help connect biblical truth from the classroom to everyday life and encourage ongoing discipleship beyond Sunday.

EACH LESSON INCLUDES THREE SIMPLE ELEMENTS:

Connect

Begin with an activity or discussion that introduces the lesson and engages your group.

Teaching the Truth

Walk through the main content of the lesson, built around key **Big Ideas** from Scripture that serve as anchor points for each lesson. **Live It Out** and **Discuss Together** provide discussion questions to help your group process and apply what they are learning in real time. Do not feel you have to teach all sections if your group gets focused on one.

Respond

Encourage learners to take a practical step beyond the lesson.

WHAT'S IN EACH LESSON

Gospel Connection

Highlights the gospel and the larger story of Scripture.

Leader Lens (for you)

Lesson-specific guidance and encouragement to help you teach with clarity and confidence.

Apologetics

Addresses commonly asked questions to help believers understand, defend, and apply biblical truth in today's culture. Use while teaching or throughout the week.

Go Deeper (select lessons)

Additional insight to better understand the passage, including cultural background, historical context, and theological meaning.

D6 Principle (at home)

Reinforces ways to help parents and families grow in faith together throughout the week. Share in class, through email or text, or alongside the weekly *As You Go* handout.

This guide is designed to **support you, not overwhelm you**. Use the elements that will best help your group engage with and apply God's Word.

TEACHING RESOURCES

Additional resources are available each week to help you prepare and teach with confidence. These include **PowerPoint slides**, the *Adult Teaching Outline*, ***Adult Member Outline***, *As You Go* **handout**, and other downloadable teaching helps.

A digital version of the Teaching Guide is also available and includes **live hyperlinks** to websites and Scripture passages for easier preparation and teaching. To access these resources, scan the QR code or visit: **d6.family/6958**

D6 DISCIPLESHIP JOURNALS

The D6 Adult Teaching Guide is designed to work alongside the ***D6 Discipleship Journals***, helping learners continue growing throughout the week and in your classroom. They are called "discipleship journals" because they include daily devotions, articles, apologetics, and notetaking pages for lessons and sermons, along with practical content that reinforces the biblical truths and family themes taught in each lesson.

D6 offers journals for different stages of life, including ***The Brink*** (young adults) and ***Fusion Generations*** (adults). Elementary and teen students study the same devotional Scripture passages as their parents and grandparents throughout the week, creating natural opportunities for deeper faith conversations between adults and kids, even beyond family connections.

Encourage learners to engage God's Word throughout the week through the use of the *Discipleship Journals.*

Scan to access handouts and digital materials or visit d6.family/6958

TIPS FOR LEADING YOUR GROUP

- **FOCUS ON CLARITY,** not covering everything. Some lessons will include more material than you can cover in your available time. Focus on the Big Ideas and discussion that will best help your group grow spiritually.
- **BEGIN PREPARING EARLIER IN THE WEEK** when possible. Thoughtful preparation gives you time to pray, reflect on the lesson, and allow the Holy Spirit to guide your teaching.
- **ALLOW TIME FOR DISCUSSION**, not just teaching.
- **USE A VARIETY OF TEACHING METHODS** to engage your group. Discussion, visuals, object lessons, stories, and current events can help learners actively participate.
- **ASK FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS** to deepen conversation.
- **CREATE A SPACE** where people feel comfortable sharing.
- While curriculum is a valuable tool, **TRUE SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION** ultimately depends on the work of the Holy Spirit and the ongoing partnership of the church and home.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

D6 Family App

Provides free resources designed to encourage generational discipleship and help families grow in faith together.

D6 Teacher Facebook Group

A place for D6 curriculum users to share ideas, ask questions, and encourage one another in ministry: facebook.com/groups/D6CurriculumTeachers

LESSON 1
NOVEMBER 1, 2026

FAMILY THEME

The Beginning of the World

Scan to access handouts and digital materials or visit d6.family/6958

LESSON AIM

Understand that God is the Creator, people are made in His image, and life has purpose because of Him.

STUDY TEXT

Genesis 1:1–2:3



BIG IDEAS

1. **God Created the World With Purpose (Genesis 1:1–25)**
2. **God Created People in His Image (Genesis 1:26–27)**
3. **God Created People for His Purpose (Genesis 1:28—2:3)**

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Genesis 1:1**) along with family members.

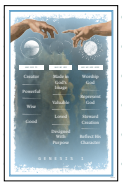
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AH 1-1



AH 1-2



AH 1-3

Leader Lens

Genesis 1 often sparks questions about science, the age of the earth, and the details of Creation. While those questions have value, do not lose sight of the primary purpose of the passage. Genesis 1 reveals the Creator. Continually bring the discussion back to what Genesis teaches about God's power, wisdom, goodness, and authority. Help learners move beyond simply understanding the Creation account to worshiping the God who made them and gives their lives purpose.

Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

CONVERSATION STARTER: Begin by asking: *When you look at the world around you, what is one thing that makes you stop and say, "Wow"?* Encourage group members to share examples from nature, space, animals, or the makeup of the human body. After discussion, explain that Genesis 1 helps us understand why creation inspires awe and what it reveals about God.

VIDEO: Consider showing this video, in which Victor Glover, an astronaut aboard *Artemis II*, addressed the world: tinyurl.com/D6Artemis. You could also consider showing pictures of earth from *Artemis II* or find the testimony of Butch Wilmore, who spent time on the International Space Station. Ask: *Why do so many astronauts describe feelings of awe and wonder when viewing the earth from space?* Then say: *Moments like these often leave people with a sense of wonder. Genesis 1 takes us back to the beginning and helps us understand why. Today we'll discover what creation reveals about God, the value He gives to every person, and the purpose He has for our lives.*

DEBATE: Divide into smaller groups and ask: *If you could only use one example from creation to show someone God's power and creativity, what would you choose?* Examples might include:

- DNA
- The human brain
- The ocean
- Mount Everest
- A hummingbird
- The stars

Let groups defend their choices. Then say: *Every example mentioned points to something important: creation is not random or meaningless. It reflects the wisdom, power, and creativity of its Creator. Today we'll explore what Genesis teaches about God, humanity, and the purpose for which we were created.*

Teaching the Truth

Distribute copies of the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 1-2) and display the AH 1-3 (*Genesis 1*) poster.

Gospel Connection

This lesson reminds us that Jesus was present at Creation and actively involved in creating the world (John 1:1–3). Although sin later distorted God's good creation, Jesus came to restore what was broken. Through

His death and resurrection, He makes it possible for people to be reconciled to God and to live according to His purpose. One day, Christ will complete His work by making all things new.

Most conservative biblical scholars believe Moses was the author of Genesis, although his name is not mentioned in the book itself. This view is supported in part by the fact that Moses authored the rest of the Pentateuch (Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy), with Genesis serving as the foundation for those books. Genesis introduces many of the Bible's most important themes, including Creation, humanity, sin, redemption, and God's relationship with His people.

Genesis 1–2 records God's creation of the world and humanity. These chapters reveal who God is, who we are, and why we are here. They remind us that God intentionally created all things, that every person is made in His image, and that humanity has been given a unique purpose within creation. As we study these foundational chapters, we gain a greater appreciation for God's power, wisdom, and goodness, and we are moved to worship the Creator who made us and gives our lives meaning.

✳ BIG IDEA 1 ✳

God Created the World With Purpose

Genesis 1:1–25

Genesis opens by introducing us to God, the central figure of Scripture and the Creator of all things. Rather than attempting to prove God's existence, the Bible begins with the assumption that He does exist. After all, according to Romans 1:19–21, God has made Himself known through creation, yet many people choose to suppress that truth. **Genesis 1:1** declares that God created the heavens and the earth, revealing Him as powerful, purposeful, and fully sovereign over creation. *Help your group notice that the Bible begins with God, not humanity. Before we learn anything about ourselves, we learn who God is.* The Hebrew name used for God in this passage is *Elohim*, a name that emphasizes His majesty and strength. From the opening words of Scripture, we see a God who acts with intention and authority.

The Hebrew word translated *created* is a verb used only in relation to God. This is a much stronger term than could be used for *made* or *formed*, emphasizing the fact that only God has the power and ability to create something from nothing. God accomplished this simply by speaking. Christians have often described this truth with the phrase *ex nihilo*, meaning "out of nothing." Creation exists because God willed it to exist.

Apologetics

Some interpret Genesis 1 primarily as poetry or symbolism rather than historical narrative. While the Bible contains many different literary genres, Genesis is presented as a historical account that records real people, real events, and God's actions in history. The rest of Scripture—including Jesus and the apostles—consistently treats the events of Genesis as historical. For this reason, Christians have traditionally understood Genesis as a factual account of God's creation of the world.

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 1-1) and PowerPoint 1 (editable).



PowerPoint 1

Go Deeper

Christians hold different views regarding the length of the creation days in Genesis 1. Many understand the Hebrew word *yôm* ("day") to refer to a literal 24-hour day because of the repeated references to evening, morning, and numbered days. When words have more than one possible meaning, the context indicates their meaning in that passage. When read within the context of Genesis 1, it seems to refer to literal days. Also, when *day* is modified by a number (*first day* or *second day*, etc.), it consistently means a literal day in the Old Testament. *Yôm* is repeatedly used in the Creation account with a modifying number and with *morning and evening*, which reinforces the intent to communicate these are literal days. Regardless of where believers land on this discussion, Genesis clearly teaches that God intentionally created the world and everything in it.

Live It Out: As you reflect on creation, let it remind you of God's power, wisdom, and authority as Creator.

Discuss Together:

- *What stands out to you about the way God created the world in Genesis 1?*
- *What does Genesis 1:1 teach us about God's power and authority?*

When creation is first described in **Genesis 1:2**, the earth is portrayed as unformed and empty. Into that darkness and disorder, God brought structure, beauty, and purpose. His first recorded words in Scripture were a command for light to appear, and light immediately obeyed (**verse 3**). Throughout Genesis 1, we see a consistent pattern: God spoke, creation responded, and God declared His work good. The repeated phrase "it was good" reminds us that creation reflects the wisdom and goodness of its Creator. The expression *evening and morning* first appears in **verse 5** after God separated the light from the darkness and continues throughout the Creation account.

As Creation unfolded, God brought increasing order and purpose to His world. On day two (**verses 6–8**), He established boundaries for the waters. On day three (**verses 9–13**), He formed dry land and caused vegetation to grow, preparing the earth to sustain life. On day four (**verses 14–19**), God created the sun, moon, and stars to govern days, nights, and seasons. On day five (**verses 20–23**), He filled the seas with fish and the skies with birds. Then on day six (**verses 24–25**), He populated the land with living creatures. At every stage, creation reflects God's wisdom, power, and intentional design. *Help your group see that creation reveals not only what God made, but what He is like. His wisdom, creativity, and goodness are reflected in His work.*

Just as a new building follows a blueprint, creation reflects the wisdom and design of its Creator. The details of the created world—from the vastness of the universe to the complexity of living things—display God's creativity and power. The more we learn about creation, the more opportunities we have to marvel at the One who made it. Genesis 1 invites us to see creation not merely as something to study, but as a reminder of the greatness and goodness of God.

Live It Out: Take time this week to notice God's handiwork in creation and let it lead you to worship, gratitude, and trust in Him.

Discuss Together:

- *What do we learn about God's character through the way He created the world?*
- *How can creation lead us to worship God without creation becoming the object of our worship?*

✳ BIG IDEA 2 ✳

God Created People in His Image

Genesis 1:26–27

In **verses 26–27**, Creation reached its climax as God created humanity. Unlike the rest of creation, human beings were made in God's image. While Christians have discussed exactly what this means, Scripture makes clear that human beings uniquely reflect God's character and are capable of knowing, loving, and relating to God. Being made in God's image gives every person inherent value and dignity because each person bears the imprint of his or her Creator. *Help your group see that human value is not based on ability, achievement, intelligence, age, or social status. Every person has worth because every person bears God's image.*

Being made in God's image has important implications for how we view other people. Throughout history, societies have often assigned greater value to some people and less value to others based on factors such as age, ethnicity, ability, social status, or personal achievement. Scripture presents a very different picture. Every person is made in God's image and therefore possesses inherent worth and dignity. This includes the unborn, the elderly, those with physical or intellectual disabilities, and people from every nation, language, and background. Human value is not determined by what someone can do, how they look, or how others perceive them. It is rooted in the fact that God created them in His image. Because of this, Christians should be known for treating all people with dignity, compassion, and respect and for standing up for those whose value is often overlooked or ignored. *Help your group see that the image of God is the foundation for human dignity. Every person they encounter—regardless of age, ability, background, or social status—bears God's image and deserves to be treated accordingly.*

> **Live It Out:** Look for opportunities this week to treat others with dignity and respect, remembering that every person is made in God's image.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *What does being made in God's image teach us about our value and worth?*
> - *How should the truth that every person bears God's image affect the way we treat others?*
> - *Why do you think people often assign greater value to some people than others?*
> - *How can Christians stand up for the dignity and value of people who are often overlooked or marginalized?*

Search "image of God" at carm.org for more on this topic.

D6

Principle

Parents and grandparents have a unique opportunity to help the next generation understand their identity and worth. Children who understand they and others are made in God's image are better equipped to resist messages that tie their value to appearance, achievement, or popularity.

✳ BIG IDEA 3 ✳

God Created People for His Purpose

Genesis 1:28—2:3

God not only created humanity in His image but also gave humanity a purpose. Men and women were created to represent God on the earth and faithfully steward His creation according to His design. Humanity's assigned role was twofold: to exercise dominion over the rest of creation (Genesis 1:26) and to fill the earth **(verse 28)**.

As God's representatives, humanity was entrusted with caring for creation in a way that reflected His wisdom, goodness, and authority. This is not a license for abuse and destruction of creation, but instead, it is our first responsibility as stewards of what the Lord has entrusted to us. At this point in creation, Adam and Eve were the only human beings on earth. They were assigned the responsibility of "filling" the earth.

> **Live It Out:** Consider one practical way you can reflect God's character through faithful stewardship of the people, resources, and responsibilities He has entrusted to you.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *What responsibilities come with being God's representatives on earth?*
> - *What are some practical ways we can steward God's creation faithfully?*

After blessing humanity and giving them their responsibilities **(1:28–30)**, God declared that everything He had made was "very good" **(1:31)**. Creation had unfolded exactly according to His design and brought Him great pleasure. When His work was complete, God *rested* on the seventh day **(2:2)**. This rest was not due to exhaustion as God never wearies. Instead, He established a pattern of work, worship, and rest that humans would be introduced to officially in Exodus 20:8. This pattern should be an essential part of each week as we worship God, dig into His truth, and rest. Each of these tasks better equips us to reflect God's image to the world. *Help your group see that God designed human life to include both meaningful work and meaningful rest. Rest is not laziness—it is part of God's design.*

> **Live It Out:** Build regular rhythms of worship and rest into your week, trusting God's design for both work and renewal.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *God rested on the seventh day. How does our culture view rest?*
> - *What does it look like to take a day of rest as God designed? How is this helpful to us?* (Set aside a day to worship God and rest from our

Go Deeper

Some Christians hesitate to talk about caring for creation because the subject has become politicized in modern culture. However, stewardship is not a political idea—it is a biblical one. God created the world and entrusted it to humanity's care. Christians are called to use God's resources wisely, not because creation itself is sacred, but because the Creator is worthy of obedience. Caring for creation is one way we honor the God who made it.

> work. This refreshes and renews us as we walk with God and carry out His calling on our lives.)

We have an Almighty God who formed a majestic creation and designed us to reflect His character and carry out His purposes. As we survey creation and consider the goodness of God, we should be driven to worship.

Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

FAITH AT HOME: One of the most important truths a person can learn is that their value comes from being made in God's image. Throughout the week, look for opportunities to remind your children, grandchildren, younger family members, or others you influence that their worth is not determined by appearance, athletic ability, grades, popularity, or accomplishments. Read Genesis 1:26–27 together and discuss what it means to be made in God's image. Ask family members or those you mentor to identify qualities of God they see reflected in people. Pray together, thanking God for creating each person with value, dignity, and purpose.

REFLECTION: God created humanity with both purpose and responsibility. Take a few moments this week to evaluate how you are stewarding the people, resources, abilities, and opportunities God has entrusted to you. Is there an area where you have become careless, distracted, or self-focused? Ask God to help you faithfully represent Him in that area. Write down one practical step you can take this week to better reflect His character through your actions and decisions. **AH 1-4 (*Entrusted*)** can help group members with this.

VOLUNTEERING/SERVING: Because every person is made in God's image, Christians should be known for treating others with dignity and compassion. Think about people in your community who are often overlooked, marginalized, or forgotten. Look for a practical way to serve someone this week through encouragement, hospitality, generosity, or acts of kindness. As you serve, remember that honoring people is one way we honor the God whose image they bear.

Notes:

Go Deeper

Examine Genesis 2:4–24 for a closer look at the creation of Adam and Eve. While chapter 1 gives an overview of the entire creation, chapter 2 zooms in on the sixth day of Creation. It focuses on God's design for Adam and Eve and their relationship with Him and with each other.

D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.



AH 1-4

Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.



AYG-1

As You Go (AYG-1) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. *As You Go* is also available for FREE download at D6curriculum.com/bonus. (No password required.)

Scan to access handouts and digital materials or visit d6.family/6958

LESSON 2
NOVEMBER 8, 2026

FAMILY THEME

The Beginning of Sin

LESSON AIM

Understand how sin entered the world, brought brokenness, and revealed humanity's need for the Savior God promised.

STUDY TEXT

Genesis 3:1–24



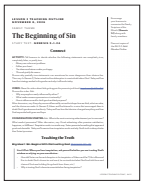
Scan to access handouts and digital materials or visit d6.family/6958

BIG IDEAS

1. **Sin Begins With Distrusting God (Genesis 3:1–6)**
2. **Sin Brings Brokenness and Consequences (Genesis 3:7–19)**
3. **God Responds to Sin With Grace and Hope (Genesis 3:15, 20–24)**

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Genesis 1:1**) along with family members.

Preview videos in advance. Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.


The Beginning of Sin

AH 2-1


The Beginning of Sin

AH 2-2

Leader Lens

Be careful not to reduce Genesis 3 to a lesson about making better choices. While sin has serious consequences, this passage ultimately points to humanity's need for a Savior and God's gracious plan of redemption through Jesus Christ.

Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

ACTIVITY: Tell group members you are going to make several statements, and they must decide whether each statement is completely true, completely false, or only partly true.

Examples:

- *Money can solve most problems.*
- *Follow your heart.*
- *You deserve whatever makes you happy.*
- *The ends justify the means.*

Discuss why partially true statements can sometimes be more dangerous than obvious lies. Then say: *Satan rarely tempts people with obvious lies. In Genesis 3, he mixed truth and deception to create doubt about God. Today we'll see how that strategy worked in the garden and why it still works today.*

VIDEO: To begin, consider showing this video about kids getting paid to promote junk food: tinyurl.com/JunkFoodInf. Discuss the video with your group. Ask:

- *Why are people so easily influenced by others?*
- *What makes someone persuasive or trustworthy?*
- *How is influence used for both good and bad purposes?*

After discussion, say: *Every day we are influenced by voices that shape how we think, what we value, and the choices we make. In Genesis 3, Adam and Eve listened to a voice that encouraged them to doubt God's goodness and authority. Today we'll see how that decision changed everything and how God responded with grace and hope.*

CONVERSATION STARTER: Begin by asking: *What is the most convincing advertisement you've ever seen? What made it persuasive?* After discussion, say: *Good advertising often promises satisfaction, happiness, or fulfillment. Temptation works in a similar way. Satan didn't present Eve with something obviously evil. He presented something that appeared good and desirable. Today we'll examine how temptation works and why God's truth is always better than Satan's promises.*

Teaching the Truth

Distribute the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 2-2).

Gospel Connection

This lesson reveals both humanity's greatest problem and God's gracious solution. When Adam and Eve distrusted and disobeyed God, sin entered the world and affected every person who would follow. Yet even as God

pronounced judgment, He promised that a Deliverer would come (Genesis 3:15). Jesus fulfilled that promise through His sinless life, sacrificial death, and victorious resurrection, making it possible for sinners to be forgiven and restored to a right relationship with God.

Genesis 2 ended with a tranquil scene of Adam and Eve living in a perfect world. Scripture is silent regarding the amount of time that elapsed between Genesis 2 and 3 (however the timespan was less than 130 years, based on Genesis 5:3), but as chapter 3 opens, things were about to take a drastic turn for the worse. The entrance of sin disrupted the innocence of the garden and brought brokenness into God's good creation. Yet even in the midst of judgment, God gave the first glimpse of the hope and redemption that would ultimately come through Christ.

✳ BIG IDEA 1 ✳

Sin Begins With Distrusting God

Genesis 3:1–6

In Genesis 1 and 2, God spoke and brought life, order, and goodness into the world. In Genesis 3, another voice entered the story. The serpent, whom Scripture later associates with Satan, approached Eve with deception and doubt. Scripture describes him as more crafty than any other creature. Adam and Eve were innocent and inexperienced with evil, but the serpent used his cunning to undermine their trust in God. The first temptation began not with an action, but with a question about whether God could truly be trusted. *Help your group see that temptation often begins with doubts about God's word, character, goodness, or authority rather than with an obvious invitation to sin.*

The serpent's temptation began by questioning God's word and His goodness. Rather than openly encouraging rebellion, he suggested that God was withholding something desirable from Adam and Eve. By focusing on what God had forbidden rather than all He had provided, the serpent planted seeds of doubt about God's character and intentions **(verse 1)**.

When Eve repeated God's command, the serpent directly contradicted what God had said. He denied the consequences of sin and suggested that God was keeping something good from them **(verses 2–5)**. Rather than trusting God's Word, Eve began evaluating the situation according to her own desires. The fruit appeared attractive, and she succumbed to temptation and chose to disobey God's command **(verse 6)**.

Although Satan initiated the temptation, Eve's own desires played a role as well (James 1:13–14). **Verse 6** highlights that the fruit looked good for food,

Apologetics

If God Is Good, Why Did He Allow Sin to Enter the World?

God created human beings with the ability to make real choices. Adam and Eve were not programmed to obey Him; they were created to love, trust, and follow Him willingly. Genuine love requires the freedom to choose. Tragically, humanity chose rebellion instead of obedience, and sin entered the world through that choice. God did not create evil, nor was He surprised by humanity's sin. Even before sin entered the world, God had a plan to redeem sinners through Jesus Christ (Genesis 3:15). Rather than abandoning humanity, He provided a Savior who would ultimately defeat sin, Satan, and death.

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 2-1) and PowerPoint 2 (editable).



PowerPoint 2

Go Deeper

Most Christians identify the serpent in Genesis 3 with Satan based on passages such as John 8:44, Revelation 12:9, and Revelation 20:2. While Genesis does not explicitly name Satan, the serpent's deception and opposition to God closely match the character Scripture consistently attributes to him. The passage clearly teaches that a spiritual enemy was working to undermine trust in God and lead humanity into sin. See creation.com/who-was-the-serpent for more details.

pleasing to the eye, and desirable for gaining wisdom. Temptation often appeals to legitimate desires but offers fulfillment through disobedience rather than trust in God. At its core, Eve's temptation involved choosing her own judgment over God's.

Eve's temptation also reflects a pattern seen throughout Scripture. John later described sin as involving the desires of the flesh, the desires of the eyes, and the pride of life (1 John 2:16). Similar themes appear in Satan's temptations of Jesus in Matthew 4:1–11. Unlike Adam and Eve, however, Jesus resisted temptation perfectly and remained faithful to the Father. *Point out that every temptation ultimately presents a choice between trusting God or trusting ourselves.*

> **Live It Out:** When you face temptation, ask yourself whether you are trusting God's wisdom or relying on your own desires.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *How did Satan use lies and deception in his temptation of Adam and Eve?* (He influenced Eve to doubt God's character and word; he contradicted what God had told them and claimed God was holding things back from them; etc.)
> - *Why is trusting God's character essential when facing temptation?*

Genesis 3 reminds us that spiritual warfare is real. From the beginning, Satan has sought to oppose God's purposes and lead people away from trusting Him. While believers face temptation from both external influences and internal desires, God has not left us defenseless. Through His Word, His Spirit, and the support of other believers, He equips us to stand firm against temptation.

Every believer will face temptation. While we cannot avoid every temptation, we can prepare for it. Just as athletes train before competition, Christians should develop habits that strengthen their faith before temptation comes. Spending time in God's Word, praying regularly, and establishing wise boundaries can help us recognize temptation and respond in ways that honor God.

> **Live It Out:** Take one practical step to prepare for temptation, such as spending time in God's Word, praying regularly, or seeking accountability from another believer.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *What situations or circumstances tend to make you more vulnerable to temptation?*
> - *What habits or relationships help you remain faithful when temptation comes?*

✳ BIG IDEA 2 ✳

Sin Brings Brokenness and Consequences

Genesis 3:7–19

Eve gave in to temptation when she chose to eat the forbidden fruit. Adam, however, was not merely a bystander. According to verse 6, he was with her and willingly participated in her disobedience. Both Adam and Eve chose to reject God's command. Temptation may create an opportunity for sin, but sin ultimately occurs when we choose our own way over God's.

Verse 7 reveals the immediate effects of sin. Instead of the fulfillment Satan promised, Adam and Eve experienced guilt, shame, and fear. Although the serpent had claimed they would become like God, their disobedience created brokenness. For the first time, they felt shame over their nakedness and attempted to cover themselves. Yet while they could hide parts of their bodies, they could not escape the reality of their sin.

Sin never delivers what it promises. Rather than producing lasting satisfaction, it ultimately results in guilt, shame, brokenness, and destruction. Adam and Eve discovered this immediately. Their sin damaged both their relationship with God and their relationship with one another.

Instead of walking openly with God, Adam and Eve hid from Him **(verse 8)**. The harmony that once characterized their relationship with God and with each other was replaced by fear, shame, and conflict. Rather than taking responsibility for their actions, they began shifting blame. What had once been a perfect relationship was now marked by the effects of sin **(verses 9–10)**. Prior to their disobedience, Adam and Eve had lived without shame (Genesis 2:25), but sin changed that reality.

> **Live It Out:** Instead of allowing guilt and shame to drive you away from God, let them prompt you to seek His forgiveness and grace.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why do people often try to hide their sin rather than confess it?*
> - *How can guilt and shame become an opportunity to turn back to God?*

In **verses 11–13**, God confronted Adam and Eve about their sin. His questions were not for His benefit, but for theirs. God already knew what had happened. Instead, He provided an opportunity for confession and repentance. Rather than accepting responsibility, Adam blamed Eve, and even implied that God was at fault for giving her to him. Eve, in turn, blamed the serpent. Sin often leads people to justify themselves rather than acknowledge their wrongdoing. *Encourage group members to consider how blame-shifting still appears in modern*

life and why confession is often difficult.

Adam and Eve's relationship with God and with one another had been broken by sin. Neither their relationship with each other nor their relationship with God would ever be the same, and the consequences of sin had just begun. God pronounced judgment on the serpent, and that judgment marked the beginning of an ongoing conflict between the forces of evil and humanity. Yet even in judgment, God gave a promise of hope that would be fulfilled in the future **(verses 14–15)**.

The consequences of sin extended to every area of life. The woman would experience pain in childbirth and difficulty in her relationships **(verse 16)**. The man would experience hardship as he worked the ground **(verses 17–19)**. Most significantly, death entered the human experience. What began with a single act of disobedience brought suffering, conflict, and death into God's good creation. The brokenness introduced in Genesis 3 continues to affect every person today.

> **Live It Out:** Take responsibility for your actions instead of blaming circumstances, other people, or outside influences.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why is it often difficult to admit when we are wrong?*
> - *What freedom can be found in confession, repentance, and receiving God's forgiveness?*

✳ BIG IDEA 3 ✳

God Responds to Sin With Grace and Hope

Genesis 3:15, 20–24

Even as God pronounced judgment for sin, He also gave a promise of hope. In **Genesis 3:15**, God declared that one day the offspring of the woman would crush the serpent's head. While the serpent would wound Him, the serpent's ultimate defeat was certain. Christians have long understood this verse as the first promise of the gospel because it points forward to Jesus Christ and His victory over sin, Satan, and death.

Thousands of years before Jesus came to earth, God announced His plan to rescue humanity. Through His sinless life, sacrificial death, and victorious resurrection, Jesus accomplished what Adam failed to do. He defeated the power of sin and made it possible for people to be forgiven and restored to a right relationship with God. Even in humanity's darkest moment, God responded with grace and hope. *Help your group see that Genesis 3 points beyond the Fall*

to God's plan of redemption through Jesus Christ.

God continued to demonstrate His grace toward Adam and Eve. Although they had sinned, He provided garments of animal skins to clothe them. God also protected them from eating from the tree of life and remaining forever in their fallen condition. Though being expelled from the garden was a consequence of sin, it was also an act of mercy. God would not allow humanity to remain eternally trapped under the curse of sin. While Adam and Eve were expelled from the garden, they were not abandoned by God. His promise of redemption remained **(verses 20–24)**.

> **Live It Out:** Thank God for His grace and spend time reflecting on how Jesus has provided forgiveness, hope, and victory over sin.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why is it significant that God promised a Deliverer even while He was pronouncing judgment for sin?*
> - *How does Genesis 3:15 help us see that the Bible tells one unified story?*
> - *In what ways did Jesus succeed where Adam failed?*
> - *How does the promise of forgiveness and redemption through Christ give us hope today?*

Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

FAITH AT HOME: Ask group members to think of a recent situation in which they needed to ask for forgiveness or extend forgiveness to someone else. Encourage them to read Genesis 3:8–13 with their family this week and discuss Adam and Eve's response to sin. Then have family members talk about why people often hide their mistakes or shift blame. Encourage group members to emphasize that while sin has consequences, God offers forgiveness and grace through Jesus Christ. Challenge families to practice confession, forgiveness, and restoration when conflicts arise at home.

REFLECTION: Distribute **AH 2-3** ***(Responding to Sin God's Way)***. In class or at home, have learners work through the handout individually, identifying areas of temptation, considering how they typically respond to sin, and reflecting on the hope and forgiveness available through Jesus Christ. Encourage them to develop a practical plan for resisting temptation, pursuing repentance, and walking in the freedom God provides through the gospel.

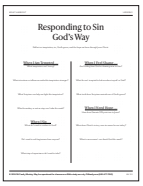
Go Deeper

Many theologians refer to Genesis 3:15 as the *Protoevangelium*, meaning "first gospel." Even as God pronounced judgment for sin, He gave a promise of hope. The verse foretells a coming offspring of the woman who would ultimately defeat the serpent. Christians have long understood this promise to point to Jesus Christ, who conquered sin, Satan, and death through His life, death, and resurrection. Thousands of years before Jesus was born, God revealed His plan of redemption. Genesis 3:15 reminds us that the gospel story begins much earlier than the New Testament.

D6

Principle

Help your children understand that sin has real consequences, but make sure your home is also marked by grace. Just as God confronted Adam and Eve's sin while continuing to love and care for them, parents should teach truth, encourage repentance, and extend forgiveness. A grace-filled home helps children see both the seriousness of sin and the goodness of the Savior.


Responding to Sin God's Way

AH 2-3

D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.



AYG-2

As You Go (AYG-2) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. *As You Go* is also available for FREE download at D6curriculum.com/bonus. (No password required.)

MENTORS WHO MATTER: Ask group members to identify a younger person they influence—a child, grandchild, student, teammate, coworker, or younger believer. Discuss how having a trusted mentor can provide accountability, encouragement, and biblical wisdom when facing temptation. Challenge learners to intentionally invest in someone this week by sharing how they have experienced God's forgiveness after failure or sin. Encourage them to explain how Genesis 3:15 points to Jesus and God's plan of redemption. Younger generations need examples of believers who take sin seriously while also resting in God's grace.

Notes:

Scan to access handouts and digital materials or visit d6.family/6958

LESSON 3
NOVEMBER 15, 2026

FAMILY THEME

The Beginning of Judgment and Rescue

Scan to access handouts and digital materials or visit d6.family/6958

LESSON AIM

Understand that God judges sin, provides a way of rescue, and faithfully keeps His promises, calling us to respond with trust, obedience, and worship.

STUDY TEXT

Genesis 6:5–22; 8:15–22

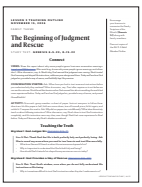


BIG IDEAS

1. **God Judges Sin (Genesis 6:5–7)**
2. **God Provides a Way of Rescue (Genesis 6:8–22)**
3. **God Is Faithful to His Promises (Genesis 8:15–22)**

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Genesis 1:1**) along with family members.

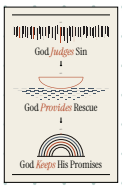
Preview videos in advance. Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.



AH 3-1



AH 3-2



AH 3-3

Leader Lens

The flood account can easily become a lesson about Noah's obedience or a debate about God's judgment. Keep pointing your group back to God. This passage reveals His holiness in judging sin, His mercy in providing rescue, and His faithfulness in keeping His promises. Help your group see that the ark points beyond Noah to the greater rescue God provides through Jesus Christ.

Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

VIDEO: Consider showing this report about why some people ignore hurricane evacuation warnings: tinyurl.com/D6Hurricane. After watching, ask: *Why do some people ignore warnings, even when the danger is real? What causes people to trust—or distrust—the source of a warning?* After discussion, say: *In Noah's day, God warned that judgment was coming long before anyone could see it. Noah trusted God's warning and obeyed His instructions, while everyone else ignored them. Today we'll see how God judged sin, provided a way of rescue, and faithfully kept His promises.*

CONVERSATION STARTER: Begin by asking: *When have you had to trust someone's instructions before you understood why they mattered?* Invite group members to share examples, such as following a doctor's treatment plan, trusting a GPS detour, or obeying a coach or other authority. After discussion, say, *Trust often requires us to act before we can see the outcome. Noah faced that kind of decision when God warned him about something the world had never experienced before. Today we'll see how God judged sin, provided a way of rescue, and proved Himself faithful.*

ACTIVITY: Give each group member a sheet of paper. Without demonstrating the steps or answering questions, instruct everyone to follow the same series of directions: fold the paper in half, fold one corner down, tear off a small piece, fold it again, and unfold it. Compare the results. Even though everyone received the same instructions, many of the papers will likely look different because people interpreted or modified the directions in their own way. Ask: *Why did our papers turn out differently? What does this activity teach us about following instructions?* After discussion, say: *Noah chose to trust God's instructions completely, and His instructions were very clear. Today we'll discover why Noah's obedience mattered.*

Teaching the Truth

Distribute copies of the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 3-2) and display the AH 3-3 poster.

Gospel Connection

The ark was God's appointed means of rescue from judgment. In the same way, Jesus Christ is God's appointed means of rescue from the judgment our sins deserve. Everyone who trusted God's provision by entering the ark was saved through the ark. Today, everyone who places their faith in Christ is rescued through Him.

Genesis 3 introduced humanity's first sin and its devastating consequences. In the generations that followed, sin did not remain isolated—it spread throughout the world. By Noah's day, violence, corruption, and rebellion against God had become pervasive. Yet even as God prepared to judge sin, He also prepared a way of rescue. This lesson reminds us that God's justice and His mercy are never at odds. He judges sin because He is holy, and He provides salvation because He is gracious.

✳ BIG IDEA 1 ✳

God Judges Sin

Genesis 6:5–7

More than 1,500 years had passed since Adam and Eve sinned in the garden. During that time, humanity multiplied, but so did the effects of sin. What began with one act of disobedience had spread throughout the human race. When God looked upon the earth, He no longer declared it "very good." Instead, He saw that the wickedness of man was rampant on the earth **(verse 5)**. Sin had corrupted not only people's actions but also their hearts. Every inclination of their thoughts was continually bent toward evil.

God's assessment reminds us that He sees more than outward behavior. He looks beyond actions to the condition of the heart. The violence, corruption, and wickedness that filled the earth were symptoms of a deeper problem—humanity had turned away from God. *Help your group see that sinful actions flow from a heart that has drifted from trusting and obeying God.*

Scripture tells us that God was grieved by humanity's sin **(verse 6)**. This does not mean God made a mistake in creating people or that He was surprised by their rebellion. God is all-knowing and unchanging. Rather, these words communicate God's deep sorrow over the devastating effects of sin. Because God is perfectly holy, He cannot ignore evil or treat it lightly. His grief reveals both His hatred of sin and His love for the people He created.

God's response to humanity's wickedness was judgment. He determined to bring a flood upon the earth because sin had become pervasive and destructive **(verse 7)**. While this judgment might seem severe, it reminds us that God is both holy and just. He is patient and merciful, yet He will not allow evil to continue forever without accountability. The Flood demonstrates that God takes sin seriously because He is the righteous Judge and the giver of life.

> **Live It Out:** Thank God that He is both perfectly holy and perfectly loving. Ask Him to reveal any areas where you need to turn from sin and trust Him more fully.

Apologetics

Why would a loving God judge the world with a flood?

The Flood demonstrates both God's justice and His mercy. Human wickedness had become widespread, and God judged sin because He is perfectly holy and righteous. Yet He also provided a way of rescue through Noah and the ark. There was even room in the ark for others if they would have trusted Him. God's love does not ignore evil; it confronts it while providing a way of salvation. The Flood reminds us that God judges sin, but He also rescues those who trust Him.

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 3-1) and PowerPoint 3 (editable).



PowerPoint 3

Apologetics

Many people wonder how the ark could hold so many animals. Genesis says Noah brought representatives of every "kind" of land animal rather than every species that exists today. The Hebrew word translated *kind* refers to broad categories of animals, not every modern breed or variety. In addition, the ark was enormous—approximately 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high using an 18-inch cubit—and provided ample space for the animals God brought to Noah (Genesis 6:20). For more information, visit answersingenesis.org or icr.org/creation-flood.

Discuss Together:

- *What does Genesis 6:5 teach us about the seriousness and spread of sin?*
- *Why is it important to understand that God is both holy and loving?*
- *How should God's hatred of sin shape the way we view our own sin today?*

✳ BIG IDEA 2 ✳

God Provides a Way of Rescue

Genesis 6:8–22

While the rest of humanity had turned away from God, Noah found favor in the Lord's eyes **(verse 8)**. Even as God prepared to judge the earth, He also prepared a way of rescue. The Flood reveals God's justice, but the ark reveals His mercy.

God instructed Noah to build an ark according to His specific design **(verses 14–16)**. These instructions were not arbitrary or burdensome. They were the means by which God would preserve Noah, his family, and representatives of every kind of land creature. Noah had never experienced a flood before, but he could trust that God's wisdom far exceeded his own. *Help your group see that God's commands are given for our good, even when we do not fully understand His purposes.*

Live It Out: Trust God's wisdom, even when you do not fully understand His instructions or His timing.

Discuss Together:

- *Why is it sometimes difficult to trust God's instructions when they don't make sense to us?*
- *What does the ark teach us about God's grace and His desire to rescue people?*

God also established a covenant with Noah **(verse 18)**. Throughout Scripture, God took the initiative in establishing relationships with His people. He promised to preserve Noah and his family through the coming judgment, and He faithfully fulfilled that promise. The covenant reminds us that God is not only just in judging sin but also faithful in keeping His promises to those who trust Him.

The chapter concludes by emphasizing Noah's response. **Verse 22** tells us that Noah did everything God commanded him. Noah demonstrated his faith by trusting God's Word and obeying His instructions, even though he had never experienced a flood before. Genuine faith expresses itself through obedient

trust in God.

> **Live It Out:** Respond to God's grace with faithful obedience, trusting that His commands are always for your good.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why do you think Noah was willing to obey God's instructions, even though he had never experienced a flood before?*
> - *What is one area where God is calling you to trust and obey Him more fully?*

✳ BIG IDEA 3 ✳

God Is Faithful to His Promises

Genesis 8:15–22

Noah obeyed God's instructions and entered the ark with his family and the animals God had brought to him (Genesis 7:1–9). As God had promised, the floodwaters covered the earth, bringing judgment upon humanity's sin (Genesis 7:10–24). Yet throughout the Flood, God remained faithful to Noah. In time, God "remembered" Noah, not because He had forgotten him, but because He acted according to His covenant promise (Genesis 8:1). As the floodwaters gradually receded, Noah patiently waited for God's direction before leaving the ark (Genesis 8:1–14).

When the earth was dry, God instructed Noah to leave the ark **(Genesis 8:15–19)**. Noah did not leave simply because the Flood had ended. He waited until God told him it was time. Just as Noah trusted God's instructions when building the ark, he also trusted God's timing when leaving it. God's rescue was complete, and Noah stepped into a renewed world under God's direction. *Help your group see that trusting God often includes waiting patiently for His timing, not just obeying His instructions.*

Noah's first recorded action after leaving the ark was to worship God **(verse 20)**. He built an altar and offered sacrifices to the Lord in gratitude for His deliverance. The animals he sacrificed came from the "clean" animals he was instructed to take on the ark (Genesis 7:2). Worship was Noah's first response to God's rescue. God accepted Noah's sacrifice and promised that He would never again destroy every living creature by a flood as He had done. He also declared that as long as the earth remains, the regular rhythms of creation—seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night—would continue **(verses 21–22)**. Although humanity still struggled with sin, God reaffirmed His faithfulness and His commitment to His creation.

Go Deeper

When Genesis says God "remembered" Noah (Genesis 8:1), it does not suggest that God had forgotten him. Throughout Scripture, remembering often refers to God acting according to His covenant promises. God's remembrance demonstrates His faithfulness. At just the right time, He acted to rescue Noah exactly as He had promised.

D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

Principle

Build a home where God's holiness, grace, and faithfulness are regularly taught and celebrated. Help your family understand the seriousness of sin and the rescue God provides. Respond together with gratitude and worship.


TRUSTING GOD
When I Can't See the Outcome

PRAYER

REMEMBER

AH 3-4

The Flood did not remove humanity's sinful nature, but it demonstrated that God keeps His promises. He judged sin, provided a way of rescue, and remained faithful afterward. Because God is faithful, we can trust Him in every season of life and respond to His grace with grateful worship. *Help your group understand that worship is a fitting response to God's grace and faithfulness. God's rescue should lead not only to gratitude but also to a life of ongoing worship and trust.*

> **Live It Out:** Respond to God's faithfulness with worship, trusting that He will keep every promise He has made.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why do you think Noah's first response after leaving the ark was worship?*
> - *What does God's promise in Genesis 8:21–22 teach us about His character?*
> - *How have you experienced God's faithfulness during a season of waiting or uncertainty?*
> - *What are some practical ways we can make worship our first response to God's faithfulness rather than our last resort?*

Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

REFLECTION: Noah trusted God through a long season of waiting, even when he could not see the outcome. Distribute **AH 3-4 (*Trusting God When I Can't See the Outcome*)**. Encourage learners to identify one area where they are waiting on God's direction, provision, or timing. Then have them complete the handout by reflecting on what God's Word says about their situation, how they can trust Him, and one practical step of obedience they can take this week.

FAITH AT HOME: Encourage families to spend time this week sharing stories of God's faithfulness. Ask each family member to describe a time when God answered prayer, provided for a need, or helped them through a difficult season. Finish by thanking God together for His faithfulness and reading Genesis 8:21–22 as a reminder that God always keeps His promises.

MENTORS WHO MATTER: Encourage learners to ask a mature believer to share about a season when they had to trust God's timing. How did God prove faithful? What did they learn while waiting? Hearing how God has worked in someone else's life can strengthen our confidence that He will remain faithful to His promises.

Notes:

Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.

Scan to access handouts and digital materials or visit d6.family/6958



AYG-3

As You Go (AYG-3) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. *As You Go* is also available for FREE download at D6curriculum.com/bonus. (No password required.)

LESSON 4
NOVEMBER 22, 2026

FAMILY THEME

The Beginning of Languages

Scan to access handouts and digital materials or visit d6.family/6958

LESSON AIM

Understand that human pride cannot prevent God from accomplishing His purposes.

STUDY TEXT

Genesis 11:1–9



BIG IDEAS

1. **Pride Resists God's Plan (Genesis 11:1–4)**
2. **God Opposes Pride (Genesis 11:5–9a)**
3. **God's Plan for the Nations Prevails (Genesis 11:8–9; Acts 2:1–12)**

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Genesis 1:1**) along with family members.

Preview videos in advance. Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.


The Beginning of Languages

AH 4-1


The Beginning of Languages

AH 4-2

Leader Lens

As you teach, emphasize both God's opposition to pride and His heart for the nations. It's easy for learners to leave remembering only the judgment at Babel. Help them also see God's larger story of redemption, culminating in Christ and the gospel being proclaimed to every nation.

Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

ACTIVITY: Bring LEGO® bricks (or other stackable items) and ask for two or three volunteers (or divide into teams). Give them one or two minutes to build the tallest, strongest, or most creative tower they can. When time is up, let the rest of the group vote on the winning tower. Then ask:

- *What made one tower better than another?*
- *Why do people enjoy building things that others admire?*

After discussion, say: *People have always enjoyed building impressive structures. In Genesis 11, however, the issue wasn't simply building a tower. It was the pride and rebellion that motivated it. Today we'll discover why the descendants of Noah built the Tower of Babel and what God did in response.*

VIDEO: Consider showing this short video about capturing images around the Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world: tinyurl.com/D6Burj. After watching, ask:

- *What impresses you most about this structure?*
- *What motivates people to build something like this?*
- *When can human achievement become a source of pride rather than gratitude to God?*

After discussion, say: *God created people with remarkable creativity and ability. In Genesis 11, however, people used those gifts to pursue their own glory instead of His. Today we'll see how God responded, and how His purposes ultimately prevailed.*

CONVERSATION STARTER: Begin by asking group members if they've ever heard someone say, "You can be anything you want to be." Do they agree or disagree with that statement? Why? After a few responses, ask: *How can we pursue our goals and ambitions without allowing them to replace God's purposes for our lives?* After discussion, say: *God created us with abilities and ambition, but He calls us to use them for His glory rather than our own. Today we'll see what happened when people pursued their own greatness instead of God's plan.*

Teaching the Truth

Distribute copies of the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 4-2).

Gospel Connection

Although sin scattered the nations at Babel, God never abandoned His plan to redeem them. At Pentecost, people from many nations heard the gospel in their own languages. Through Jesus, God is calling people from every nation and language into one family of faith.

In Genesis 6–8, all of humanity, with the exception of Noah and his family, was destroyed by a global flood. After leaving the ark, Noah and his descendants were commanded to multiply and fill the earth (Genesis 9:1, 7). The people we meet in Genesis 11 descended from this family. Like Noah, they possessed remarkable intelligence, creativity, and skill. Unlike Noah, however, they chose to pursue their own plans rather than obey the Lord's commands. Their story reminds us that human pride can never prevent God from accomplishing His purposes.

✳ BIG IDEA 1 ✳

Pride Resists God's Plan

Genesis 11:1–4

After the Flood, God instructed Noah's descendants to spread throughout the earth and fill it (Genesis 9:1, 7). As Genesis 11 begins, however, many of the people had settled together in the plain of Shinar instead of spreading out as God had commanded **(verses 1–2)**. They all spoke the same language, making communication and cooperation easy. Rather than following God's plan, they chose to establish themselves in one place and build a great city and tower.

The people set out to build a city and a tower reaching into the heavens **(verses 3–4)**. Their goal was not simply to accomplish an impressive construction project. They openly admitted they wanted to "make a name" for themselves and avoid being scattered across the earth. Their unity was centered on human achievement rather than obedience to God. *Help your group notice that the problem was not the tower itself but the pride and rebellion that motivated its construction.*

> **Live It Out:** Ask God to reveal areas where pride or self-promotion may be influencing your decisions, and choose to pursue His glory rather than your own.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why did the people want to "make a name for themselves"? What does that reveal about their hearts?*
> - *What are some ways people today try to "make a name for themselves" apart from God? When does healthy ambition become sinful pride?*

Most scholars believe the tower was a ziggurat, a stepped structure common in the ancient Near East that was often associated with false worship. Whether the people intended the tower to display their greatness, serve as a place of worship, or symbolize their security apart from God, the result was the same. They sought significance and identity through their own accomplishments

Go Deeper

Genesis 10 mentions the descendants of Noah being divided by their languages (verses 5, 20, 31), yet Genesis 11 begins by saying the whole earth had one language. Most scholars understand Genesis 10 as a broad overview of Noah's descendants, while Genesis 11 explains how those language divisions came about. Rather than presenting events out of order, Genesis 11 fills in the historical details behind the genealogies recorded in chapter 10.

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 4-1) and PowerPoint 4 (editable).



PowerPoint 4

instead of trusting God's purposes. Pride always tempts people to seek glory for themselves rather than giving glory to God.

The account reminds us that pride is often far more subtle than we realize. Like the builders of Babel, people today can pursue success, influence, or recognition for reasons that have little to do with honoring God. There is nothing wrong with using the abilities God has given us or pursuing excellence. The problem comes when our goals are driven by self-promotion rather than obedience to God's will. True significance is found not in making a name for ourselves but in faithfully following the One whose name is above every name.

> **Live It Out:** Consider one of your goals or ambitions, and ask whether it is bringing glory to God or building your own reputation.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *How can we use our abilities and accomplishments to honor God rather than promote ourselves?*
> - *What practical steps help us keep God's will at the center of our goals and ambitions?*

✳ BIG IDEA 2 ✳

God Opposes Pride

Genesis 11:5–9a

Verse 5 presents a striking irony. The people believed they were building a tower that reached into the heavens, yet God still had to "come down" to see their city and tower. The picture reminds us that no human achievement can elevate people to God's position or rival His authority. Human accomplishment may appear impressive from our perspective, but it is insignificant compared to God's greatness.

The people possessed remarkable abilities. Their shared language, cooperation, and ingenuity enabled them to accomplish great things together. These abilities were gifts from God and were never the problem. The problem was that they used God's gifts to pursue their own glory instead of His purposes. *Help your group understand that talents, intelligence, and success become dangerous when they are driven by pride rather than obedience to God.*

> **Live It Out:** Thank God for the abilities He has given you, and ask Him to help you use them according to His purposes.

Discuss Together:

- *God gave the people remarkable abilities, but they used them for the wrong purpose. What are some ways good gifts from God can be misused?*
- *Why is it important that our abilities be guided by God's purposes rather than simply our own desires?*

God responded by confusing the people's language **(verses 6–7)**. In an instant, the unity that had fueled their rebellion disappeared. Unable to communicate effectively, they could no longer continue building the city or the tower. What seemed like an obstacle to human progress was actually God's gracious intervention to restrain sin and redirect humanity toward His purposes.

The people had united in an attempt to resist God's command to fill the earth, but God's purposes could not be thwarted. After confusing their language, the Lord dispersed them over the face of the earth **(verses 8–9a)**. What the people refused to do willingly, God accomplished through His discipline. God's response reminds us that while people are free to make choices, His sovereign purposes will always prevail.

Live It Out: Trust God's purposes even when they differ from your own plans, knowing His will is always good.

Discuss Together:

- *Why wasn't the people's unity something God wanted to preserve? What does that teach us about the difference between unity and obedience?*
- *When have you experienced God redirecting your plans for a greater purpose? Looking back, what did you learn?*

✳ BIG IDEA 3 ✳

God's Plan for the Nations Prevails

Genesis 11:8–9; Acts 2:1–12

Although the Lord dispersed the people across the earth as an act of judgment **(Genesis 11:8–9)**, that judgment also accomplished His purpose of populating the earth. Human pride could not prevent God's plan. Even when people rebel against Him, God remains sovereign and faithfully accomplishes His purposes.

The story of Babel does not mark the end of God's concern for the nations. In the very next chapter, God called Abraham and promised that through his descendants all the families of the earth would be blessed (Genesis 12:1–3). From that point forward, Scripture unfolds God's plan to redeem people from

Go Deeper

In Genesis 11:7, God said, "Let us go down." Some understand the plural language as a reference to God's heavenly court, while others see it as an early hint of the Trinity, similar to Genesis 1:26. Although the verse does not by itself establish the doctrine of the Trinity, it fits comfortably with Scripture's fuller revelation of God. In either case, the emphasis is on God's sovereign authority over humanity.

Go Deeper

Some people describe Pentecost as a "reversal of Babel," but that description can be misleading. At Babel, God judged humanity by confusing their language and scattering the nations. At Pentecost, God did not remove those languages. Instead, He enabled people from many different language groups to hear the gospel in their own native tongues **(Acts 2:6–11)**. In both events, God used language to accomplish His purposes—first in judgment and later in the spread of the gospel. Rather than erasing the nations, the gospel reaches every nation.

Apologetics

Genesis 11 helps explain the origin of the world's language groups and the development of distinct nations. Although people today display a wide variety of physical characteristics, Scripture teaches that all people share the same ancestry through Adam and Eve and, after the Flood, through Noah and his family. The Bible recognizes many nations and peoples, but it presents humanity as one human race created in God's image. This truth reminds us that every person possesses equal dignity and is equally in need of the salvation found in Jesus Christ. For more on this, see tinyurl.com/AIGRaces.

every nation through Jesus Christ. What began with scattered nations ultimately became the stage upon which God would display His saving grace.

Centuries later, during the Feast of Pentecost, Jews and converts from many nations gathered in Jerusalem **(Acts 2:5–11)**. When the Holy Spirit came upon the believers, they proclaimed the mighty works of God in languages they had never learned. People from many nations heard the gospel in their own native languages. *Help your group see that God did not eliminate the different languages He had established at Babel. Instead, He used those languages to proclaim one gospel to many nations.*

From Genesis to Acts—and ultimately to Revelation—God's plan has always included the nations. One day, people from every tribe, language, people, and nation will worship the Lord together (Revelation 7:9–10). Babel reminds us that human pride divides, but the gospel unites people from every nation who place their faith in Jesus Christ.

> **Live It Out:** Thank God that His plan of salvation includes people from every nation. Ask Him to help you reflect His heart by praying for the nations and sharing the gospel with others.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *What does Pentecost teach us about God's desire for people from every nation to hear the gospel?*
> - *Why is it important to remember that all people are made in God's image and have value and dignity?*
> - *How does God's plan for the nations give you hope when the world seems divided?*
> - *How can our church reflect God's heart for people from every nation and culture?*

Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

TRUTH IN ACTION: God's plan has always included people from every nation, language, and culture. Challenge your group members to intentionally engage with someone from a different cultural or language background this week. It might be a coworker, neighbor, classmate, or someone they meet in the community. Encourage them to show Christ's love through a conversation, an act of kindness, or simply taking time to learn that person's story. Pray together that God would use these interactions to deepen your group's love for the nations and open doors for the gospel.

REFLECTION: Distribute **AH 4-3 (*Building for God's Glory*).** Give learners time to prayerfully evaluate whether their goals and ambitions are primarily bringing glory to God or building their own reputation. Encourage them to identify one practical step they can take this week to better align an area of their lives with God's purposes. Close by praying that God would cultivate humility and a desire to honor Him above all else.

FAITH AT HOME: Encourage parents and grandparents to remind the children in their lives that every person is made in God's image, regardless of language, culture, or appearance. As a family, choose a country or people group to learn about this week and spend time praying that more people there will hear the good news of Jesus. Simple conversations like these help children develop God's heart for the nations from an early age.

Notes:


Building for God's Glory

PRAYER

AH 4-3

D6®

Principle

Help your children see every person through God's eyes. Remind them that regardless of a person's language, culture, or appearance, everyone is made in God's image and deeply loved by Him. As a family, pray this week for a nation, missionary, or unreached people group, asking God to help more people hear the good news of Jesus.

D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.



AYG-4

As You Go (AYG-4) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. *As You Go* is also available for FREE download at D6curriculum.com/bonus. (No password required.)

Scan to access handouts and digital materials or visit d6.family/6958

LESSON 5
NOVEMBER 29, 2026

FAMILY THEME

The Beginning of God's Promise

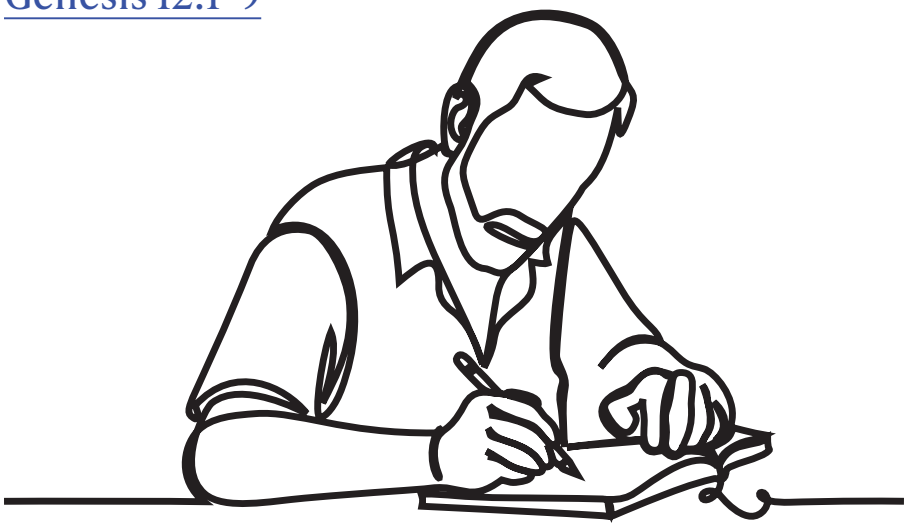
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LESSON AIM

Understand that God began His rescue plan through His covenant with Abraham and fulfilled His promise through Jesus Christ.

STUDY TEXT

Genesis 12:1–9



BIG IDEAS

1. **God Calls People to Trust Him (Genesis 12:1–3)**
2. **God Promised to Bless All Nations Through Abraham (Genesis 12:2–7; Galatians 3:8)**
3. **Faith Responds With Worship and Obedience (Genesis 12:7–9; Genesis 15:6)**

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Genesis 1:1**) along with family members.

Preview videos in advance. Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.


The Beginning of God's Promise

AH 5-1


The Beginning of God's Promise

AH 5-2

Leader Lens

This lesson marks a major turning point in Scripture as God begins His covenant plan to bring salvation to the nations through Abraham's descendants. Help your group see that Genesis 15:6 teaches a timeless truth: people have always been made right with God through faith. Abraham's obedience and worship did not earn God's favor—they flowed from trusting the God who always keeps His promises.

Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

CONVERSATION STARTER: Ask your group members to share something they were once told that sounded too good to be true. It might have been winning a prize, receiving an unexpected gift, getting a dream job, or hearing surprising news. After several people share, ask: *What made you skeptical? Why was it difficult to believe?* After discussion, say: *Some promises seem impossible because they are far beyond what we expect. Today we'll see how God made extraordinary promises to Abraham, and why he chose to trust the God who always keeps His word.*

VIDEO: To begin, consider showing one of these videos that illustrates what can happen when GPS directions go wrong: tinyurl.com/GPSFail1 or tinyurl.com/GPSFail2. After the video, ask: *Have you ever had GPS lead you somewhere unexpected? What did you do? Did you keep following it or decide to go your own way?* Allow a few responses. Then say: *Following God isn't the same as following GPS. Abraham didn't know exactly where he was going, but he knew the One who was leading him. Today we'll see why God's promises gave him the confidence to obey.*

OBJECT LESSON: Display a map of your state, the United States, or the world. Ask: *Have you ever moved to a place you had never visited before? Would you be willing to pack everything you own and move somewhere if all you knew was that God was leading you there? Why or why not?* Allow a few responses. Then say: *Abraham faced a similar decision. Today we'll discover why he left everything familiar to follow God's call and trust His promises.*

Teaching the Truth

Distribute copies of the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 5-2).

Gospel Connection

God began His rescue plan through His covenant with Abraham, promising that all the nations would be blessed through him. Jesus Christ fulfilled that promise, making salvation available to people from every nation. Like Abraham, we are made right with God through faith, not by our works.

In Genesis 1–11, the focus is on humanity as a whole—its creation, rebellion, judgment, and scattering. Beginning in Genesis 12, however, the story narrows to one man. God called Abram (later called Abraham) and entered into a covenant with him, promising to make him into a great nation and to bless all the families of the earth through his descendants. This covenant marked

the beginning of God's unfolding rescue plan that would ultimately be fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

✳ BIG IDEA 1 ✳

God Calls People to Trust Him

Genesis 12:1–3

Abram first appeared in Genesis 11:27–32, where we learn that he lived in Haran with his father, wife, and extended family. Joshua later reveals that Abram's family worshiped other gods before the Lord called him (Joshua 24:2). Into that ordinary setting, God graciously took the initiative. He called Abram to leave his country, his relatives, and his father's household to travel to a land God would reveal to him **(verse 1)**. Abram did not seek God first; God sought Abram and invited him into His unfolding plan of redemption.

God's call came with remarkable promises. He promised to make Abram into a great nation, to bless him, to make his name great, and to make him a blessing to others **(verses 2–3)**. God also declared that He would bless those who blessed Abram and judge those who dishonored him. Most significantly, God promised that all the families of the earth would be blessed through him. What began as a promise to one man would ultimately become God's plan to bring salvation to the world. *Help your group see that God's covenant with Abram was never intended to benefit Abram alone. From the beginning, God planned to bless the nations through him.*

> **Live It Out:** Remember that God's plans are always bigger than our own.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Which of God's promises to Abram would have been hardest for you to believe? Why?*
> - *What do God's promises to Abram reveal about God's character?*

Although God's instructions required Abram to leave behind everything familiar, the emphasis in these verses is not on Abram's sacrifice but on God's faithfulness. Every promise depended on what God would do, not on Abram's ability to accomplish it. Trusting God often means stepping forward without knowing every detail, believing that the One who calls us is faithful to keep His promises.

Apologetics

Some critics have suggested that Abraham was a legendary figure rather than a real historical person. Scripture consistently presents Abraham as a real individual. Jesus referred to Abraham as a historical person (John 8:56–58), and New Testament writers used his life as an example of genuine faith (Romans 4; Hebrews 11; James 2). Although archaeology cannot verify every event in Abraham's life, discoveries from the ancient Near East continue to demonstrate that the customs, geography, and culture described in Genesis fit the time period in which Abraham lived.

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 5-1) and PowerPoint 5 (editable).



PowerPoint 5

God's covenant with Abram included four major promises that shaped the rest of Scripture. Distribute **AH 5-3 (*God's Covenant With Abraham*)** to help group members see how God fulfilled each of these promises throughout the Bible.


God's Covenant With Abraham

AH 5-3

Live It Out: Identify one area where God is calling you to trust Him even though you cannot see the outcome. Commit to taking one step of faithful obedience.

Discuss Together:

- *Why is it sometimes difficult to obey God when we don't know what the future holds?*
- *How have you experienced God's faithfulness when you stepped out in obedience?*

✳ BIG IDEA 2 ✳

God Promised to Bless All Nations Through Abraham

Genesis 12:2–7; Galatians 3:8

God's promise to Abram was bigger than Abram himself. God promised to make him into a great nation, give him a great name, and make him a blessing to others **(verses 2–3)**. This was remarkable because Abram was 75 years old and childless. While 75 in Abram's day would have been around middle age, from a human perspective things were likely starting to seem impossible. Yet God's plan did not depend on Abram's age, strength, or circumstances. It depended on God's faithfulness.

The most far-reaching part of the promise was that all the families of the earth would be blessed through Abram. This promise reaches back to the scattering of the nations in Genesis 11 and points forward to God's plan to redeem people from every nation. God did not abandon the nations after Babel. Instead, He began His rescue plan through one man and one family, eventually forming the nation of Israel and bringing the Savior into the world through Abraham's descendants.

Live It Out: Thank God that His plan of salvation includes people from every nation. Pray for one opportunity to be a blessing to someone by showing Christ's love or sharing the gospel.

Discuss Together:

- *Why do you think God chose to bless the nations through one man and one family?*
- *How does God's promise to bless all nations change the way we view people from different cultures and backgrounds?*

Paul later explained that this promise was an early announcement of the gospel **(Galatians 3:8)**. Jesus Christ, Abraham's descendant, fulfilled God's promise

to bless the nations. Through His sinless life, sacrificial death, and victorious resurrection, salvation is offered to people from every language, people, and nation. *Help your group see that God's promise to Abram was not merely about land, descendants, or national identity. It was part of God's plan to bring salvation to the world through Christ.*

After Abram arrived in Canaan, the Lord appeared to him and confirmed that this was the land He would give to Abram's descendants **(verses 4–7)**. Abram did not yet possess the land, and he still did not have a son. Even so, God's promise stood firm. Abram had to believe what he could not yet see. The same God who began His promise in Genesis 12 would continue fulfilling it across generations until it reached its ultimate fulfillment in Jesus.

> **Live It Out:** Remember that God's promises are trustworthy even when you cannot yet see how He will fulfill them. Choose to trust Him in one area where you are waiting for His direction or provision.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why is waiting often one of the hardest parts of trusting God?*
> - *What promise of God do you find yourself needing to trust most right now?*

✳ BIG IDEA 3 ✳

Faith Responds With Worship and Obedience

Genesis 12:7–9; Genesis 15:6

As Abram traveled through Canaan, the Lord appeared to him and confirmed that this was the land He would one day give to his descendants **(Genesis 12:7)**. Abram responded by building an altar and worshiping the Lord. As he continued his journey, he built another altar near Bethel and called on the name of the Lord **(verses 8–9)**. Abram's worship demonstrated that his faith was more than intellectual agreement. He trusted God enough to obey Him and publicly identify himself as a worshiper of the one true God.

> **Live It Out:** Express your gratitude to God through intentional worship. Spend time thanking Him for His faithfulness and looking for opportunities to honor Him in your daily life.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why was building an altar an appropriate response to God's promises?*
> - *What are some practical ways we can worship God beyond attending church each week?*

Apologetics

God's promise that "all the families of the earth" would be blessed through Abraham may have seemed impossible. Yet the New Testament explains that this promise ultimately pointed to Jesus Christ, Abraham's descendant (**Galatians 3:8,** 16). Through Christ, people from every nation can receive forgiveness of sins and become part of God's family. What appeared impossible in Abraham's day became reality through Jesus Christ.

Go Deeper

Although Genesis 12 refers to Abram, God later changed his name to Abraham (Genesis 17:5). *Abram* means "exalted father," while *Abraham* means "father of a multitude" or "father of many nations." The new name reflected God's covenant promise that Abraham would become the father of many descendants and that people from every nation would ultimately be blessed through him.

D6

Principle

Help the children in your life understand that following God is more than simply trying to be a good person. Like Abraham, we are called to trust God's promises, and that trust produces a life of obedience, worship, and faithfulness.

Years later, God reaffirmed His covenant with Abram (Genesis 15). Although Abram still had no son and could not yet see how God's promises would be fulfilled, he continued to trust the Lord. **Genesis 15:6** says that Abram believed God, and God counted his faith as righteousness. Abram was not declared righteous because he earned God's favor through good works. He was accepted by God because he trusted God's promise.

The New Testament points back to this moment to show that God's plan of salvation has always been by faith. Paul quoted Genesis 15:6 to explain that people are made right with God not by their own efforts but by trusting in Jesus Christ (Romans 4:3; Galatians 3:6). James also referred to Abraham's faith to show that genuine faith produces a life of obedience (James 2:22–23). From the beginning, salvation has always been God's gracious gift, received through faith. *Help your group understand that genuine faith is more than believing certain facts about God. Like Abram, believers demonstrate their faith through trusting God, obeying His Word, and worshiping Him even while waiting for His promises to unfold.*

> **Live It Out:** Thank God that salvation is His gracious gift, received through faith rather than earned by good works. Ask Him to strengthen your trust as you continue following Him.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *What does Genesis 15:6 teach us about how people have always been made right with God?*
> - *Why is it important to remember that obedience is the result of faith rather than the means of earning God's acceptance?*

Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

PRAY TOGETHER: Abraham obeyed God without knowing exactly how His promises would unfold. Give group members a few quiet moments to reflect on an area of life where they are waiting on God. Invite those who are comfortable to share a prayer request with the group. Then spend time praying for one another, asking God to strengthen your faith as you wait on His timing and trust His promises.

TRUTH IN ACTION: God blessed Abraham so that he would become a blessing to others. Challenge group members to identify one intentional way they can bless someone this week. It could be encouraging someone who is discouraged, meeting a practical need, inviting someone to church, sharing the

gospel, or simply showing Christ's love through an act of kindness. Encourage everyone to come prepared next week to share how God used that opportunity.

REFLECTION: Abraham responded to God's call by trusting His promises, worshiping Him, and taking steps of faithful obedience—even when he could not see how everything would unfold. Distribute **AH 5-4 (*Following Abraham's Example*)** and give your group members a few quiet minutes to complete it. Encourage them to prayerfully consider where God is calling them to trust Him, which of His promises they need to cling to, how they can intentionally worship Him this week, and what step of obedience He may be asking them to take. Close by inviting volunteers to share one area where they want to grow in faith, then pray together that God will strengthen each person to trust Him more fully.

Notes:


Following Abraham's Example

AH 5-4

D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.


The Beginning of God's Promise

AYG-5

As You Go (AYG-5) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. *As You Go* is also available for FREE download at D6curriculum.com/bonus. (No password required.)

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LESSON 6
DECEMBER 6, 2026

FAMILY THEME

The Beginning of God's Nation

Scan to access handouts and digital materials or visit d6.family/6958

LESSON AIM
Understand how God delivered Israel from slavery and how that rescue points to Christ.

STUDY TEXT
Exodus 1:1–14; 6:6–7



BIG IDEAS

1. **God Multiplied His People According to His Promise (Exodus 1:1–7)**
2. **Oppression Cannot Overpower God's Purposes (Exodus 1:8–14)**
3. **God Delivers His People From Bondage (Exodus 6:6–7; Romans 6:16–18)**

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Luke 2:11**) along with family members.

Preview videos in advance. Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.


The Beginning of God's Nation

AH 6-1


The Beginning of God's Nation

AH 6-2

Leader Lens

This lesson covers familiar territory for many believers, but do not let familiarity lead to shallow teaching. Israel's slavery in Egypt is more than ancient history—it points to humanity's bondage to sin and God's power to rescue. Some in your group might feel trapped by circumstances or patterns they have not been able to break. Let this lesson remind them that God sees, God remembers, and God acts.

Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

CONVERSATION STARTER: Ask your group members: *What is the greatest rescue story you can think of?* Their answers might include a dramatic news event, a historical rescue, a movie, or even a personal experience. After a few responses, ask: *Why do rescue stories capture our attention so much?* Allow a brief discussion, then say: *People love rescue stories because they remind us that hope is not lost. Today we'll study one of the greatest rescue stories in history and discover how it points to the even greater rescue God provides through Jesus Christ.*

ICEBREAKER: Ask your group members: *What's the most "stuck" you've ever been?* They might mention being stuck in traffic, an elevator, mud, snow, or even locked out of their home or car. Invite a few people to share their stories. Then ask: *Were you able to get yourself out, or did someone have to help you?* After discussion, say: *Being stuck can be frustrating, but being trapped is something entirely different. Today we'll see how God rescued His people when they had no way to rescue themselves.*

VIDEO: Consider showing this short video about a teenager who was rescued after spending 49 days adrift at sea: tinyurl.com/D6Rescue. After the video, ask: *What do you think gave him hope while he waited to be rescued? Why do rescue stories resonate so deeply with us?* Allow a few responses. Then say: *Israel's situation seemed just as hopeless. Enslaved in Egypt, they had no power to rescue themselves. Today we'll discover how God stepped in to deliver His people, and how that rescue points us to the greater deliverance found in Jesus Christ.*

Teaching the Truth

Distribute the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 6-2).

Gospel Connection

God rescued Israel from slavery in Egypt, but that deliverance pointed to an even greater rescue through Jesus Christ. Through His death and resurrection, Christ frees all who trust in Him from the bondage of sin and brings them into a relationship with God.

The book of Exodus opens where Genesis left off. A family that came to Egypt as honored guests eventually became an enslaved workforce. Yet through every stage of the story, God was at work. He multiplied His people, sustained them under oppression, and prepared to deliver them. This pattern of bondage and deliverance points forward to the greater rescue God would accomplish

through Jesus Christ. Today we'll trace the beginning of Israel as a nation and discover what their story reveals about the God who sets people free.

✳ BIG IDEA 1 ✳

God Multiplied His People According to His Promise

Exodus 1:1–7

Exodus begins with a list of names. The opening verses record the sons of Jacob and their families who entered Egypt, totaling about 70 people **(verses 1–5)**. It would be easy to skim past a list of names, but in Scripture, names matter. Each name on this list represents a family that carried the covenant promises God made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. These were not anonymous migrants. They were the people through whom God intended to bless the world.

Seventy people were not a nation but an extended family. Yet God had promised Abraham descendants as numerous as the stars and the sand on the seashore (Genesis 22:17). Humanly speaking, that promise seemed impossible for a family living as foreigners in Egypt. *Help your group appreciate that God's promises often begin in ways that seem small or even impossible from a human perspective.*

After Joseph and his generation died **(verse 6)**, the future may have seemed uncertain. Yet **verse 7** reveals that God continued keeping His promise. The Israelites were fruitful, increased rapidly, multiplied, and grew so numerous that the land was filled with them. The language here echoes God's original command to humanity to be fruitful and multiply (Genesis 1:28) and His covenant promise to Abraham (Genesis 17:2–6). This was not merely natural population growth. This was God keeping His word across generations.

> **Live It Out:** Thank God for His faithfulness to keep every promise He has made. Choose one promise from Scripture to meditate on throughout the week.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why do you think Moses began with a list of names rather than jumping straight into the action? What does this tell us about how God views people?*
> - *How does God's faithfulness to Abraham encourage you when His promises seem slow to unfold?*

Remind your group that God's promises do not depend on human ability or favorable circumstances. The people who received the promise were dead. The political environment was about to turn hostile. None of that changed what God had

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 6-1) and PowerPoint 6 (editable).



PowerPoint 6

Go Deeper

The language of **Exodus 1:7** echoes the Creation account. The words *fruitful* and *multiply* appear together in Genesis 1:28 and again in God's covenant with Abraham (Genesis 17:6). Moses used this language to show that Israel's growth in Egypt was the fulfillment of both God's creation mandate and His covenant promise. Even in a foreign land, God's purposes continued to advance.

said He would do. He multiplied His people because He is faithful, not because conditions were ideal.

This truth matters for believers today. We often evaluate God's faithfulness by our circumstances, but **Exodus 1:7** reminds us that God works according to His word, not our situation.

> **Live It Out:** Identify one promise from Scripture that seems difficult to trust in your current circumstances. Write it down and pray over it each day this week.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *When has God's faithfulness surprised you during a difficult season?*
> - *How can remembering God's faithfulness in the past strengthen your trust in Him today?*

✳ BIG IDEA 2 ✳

Oppression Cannot Overpower God's Purposes

Exodus 1:8–14

The tone of the story shifts dramatically in **verse 8**. A new king rose to power in Egypt who did not know Joseph. This single statement changes everything. The Pharaoh who had honored Joseph, elevated him to second in command, and welcomed his family was gone. The new ruler had no memory of what Joseph had done for Egypt and no sense of obligation to his descendants.

Seeing Israel's growing population, Pharaoh viewed them as a threat. He feared they would become too numerous, ally with Egypt's enemies, or leave the land **(verses 9–10)**. Notice the irony. God's blessing on Israel, the very multiplication He had promised, was the thing that frightened Pharaoh. What God intended for good, Pharaoh perceived as dangerous.

Pharaoh's response was calculated and cruel. The Egyptians set taskmasters over the Israelites and subjected them to forced labor. They built the storage cities of Pithom and Rameses under brutal conditions **(verse 11)**. The Hebrew word for forced labor conveys the idea of crushing, exhausting work designed to wear people down. This was systematic oppression intended to break the spirit of an entire people.

> **Live It Out:** Remember that opposition to God's work has always existed. Ask God to help you trust His purposes even when circumstances seem discouraging.

Discuss Together:

- *Why did Pharaoh see God's blessing on Israel as a threat rather than something to celebrate?*
- *How can fear or pride keep us from recognizing or joining what God is doing?*

Yet Pharaoh's strategy backfired. The more the Egyptians oppressed the Israelites, the more they multiplied and spread **(verse 12)**. Oppression could not stop God's promise. The Egyptians responded by intensifying the cruelty, making Israel's lives bitter through relentless labor **(verses 13–14)**. *Help your group see that Pharaoh was not merely opposing the Israelites—he was opposing God's purposes. Human power might resist God's work, but it can never overturn God's plans.*

This is an important moment for honest teaching. Scripture does not minimize Israel's suffering. Their lives were genuinely bitter. Yet hardship did not have the final word because God's purposes continued to advance.

For believers today, this is a source of real encouragement. Believers still experience seasons of illness, loss, injustice, and opposition. Exodus 1 does not promise immediate relief, but it does remind us that no power on earth can cancel God's purposes.

Live It Out: Think of a situation where you or someone you know is facing hardship or opposition. Pray this week that God would strengthen your faith and accomplish His purposes through that circumstance.

Discuss Together:

- *How does Israel's growth under oppression challenge the way we think about hardship and God's faithfulness?*
- *When have you seen God accomplish His purposes through a difficult season in your life or in the life of your church?*

✳ BIG IDEA 3 ✳

God Delivers His People From Bondage

Exodus 6:6–7; Romans 6:16–18

The story of Israel's oppression does not end in chapter 1. The suffering continued and even intensified through the early chapters of Exodus. But God had not forgotten His people. In **Exodus 6:6–7**, God spoke directly to Moses and gave him four promises to share with the Israelites.

Apologetics

Some skeptics question whether the Israelites were ever in Egypt because Egyptian records do not describe the Exodus. However, ancient Egyptian rulers commonly celebrated victories while omitting embarrassing defeats. The forced labor, storage cities, and cultural details in Exodus fit what is known about ancient Egypt, and Israel's consistent remembrance of the Exodus throughout the Old Testament points to a real historical event rather than a later legend.

First, God said He would bring them out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. Second, He would deliver them from their bondage. Third, He would redeem them with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment. Fourth, He would take them as His own people, and He would be their God **(verses 6–7)**.

Each promise builds on the one before it. God was not simply promising to improve their conditions. He was promising total liberation, redemption, and a restored relationship. The word translated *redeem* carries the idea of a close relative who pays the price to free a family member from slavery or debt. God revealed Himself as Israel's Redeemer, the One who would pay whatever it cost to set them free.

The fourth statement is especially significant. God said He would take them to be His people, and He would be their God, and they would know that He is the Lord who brought them out **(verse 7)**. This is covenant language. God was not merely rescuing a labor force. He was claiming a family. Deliverance was not the end goal. Relationship was. God freed Israel so they could belong to Him. *Help your group see that God's greatest gift was not simply freedom from slavery but a covenant relationship with Himself. The same is true of salvation today.*

This is the heart of the gospel as well. God does not rescue people and then leave them on their own. He rescues people and draws them into relationship with Himself. Every act of deliverance in Scripture points toward this deeper reality.

> **Live It Out:** Thank God this week not only for rescuing you from sin but also for inviting you into a relationship with Him.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Which of God's four promises in Exodus 6:6–7 stands out to you most? Why?*
> - *How does understanding God as our Redeemer help you appreciate that salvation is about more than escaping judgment?*

Paul drew on this same pattern of slavery and deliverance in **Romans 6:16–18**. He reminded believers that everyone serves a master. Before trusting Christ, we were slaves to sin, unable to free ourselves. Just as God delivered Israel from Egypt, He delivers believers from the power of sin through Jesus Christ. The Exodus points to an even greater deliverance accomplished through Christ's death and resurrection.

Paul described sin as slavery because it controls and condemns those apart from Christ. Freedom comes only through God's work, not through human effort. Believers obey Christ not to earn salvation but because they have already

been set free. *Help your group see that the God who redeemed Israel also redeems everyone who places their faith in Jesus.*

The same God who heard the cries of His people in Egypt hears us today. The same God who acted with power to deliver Israel has acted with even greater power through the cross and the empty tomb. The same God who called Israel into a covenant relationship with Himself now invites everyone who trusts in Christ to become part of His family.

> **Live It Out:** Identify one area where you still struggle against sin. Each day this week, thank God that Christ has already broken sin's power and ask Him to help you walk in the freedom He provides.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *What does it look like to live as someone who has been set free by Christ?*
> - *How does understanding sin as slavery rather than simply "making mistakes" change the way we think about our need for a Savior?*

Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

REFLECTION: Invite group members to spend a few quiet moments considering this question: *What has God delivered me from, and am I living in the freedom He has given me?* Encourage them to write a brief prayer of thanksgiving for God's deliverance and a specific request for any area where they still feel bound. Suggest they revisit that prayer each day this week.

FAITH AT HOME: One of God's instructions to Israel was to tell future generations how He had delivered them. Distribute **AH 6-3 (*Tell Your Story*)** and encourage group members to complete it before the end of the week. Then challenge them to share that story with a child, grandchild, family member, or younger believer. Remind your group that faith is often strengthened when the next generation hears firsthand accounts of God's faithfulness.

TRUTH IN ACTION: Challenge group members to identify one person in their life who seems to be carrying a heavy burden, whether physical, emotional, or spiritual. Encourage them to reach out to that person this week with a specific act of encouragement: a phone call, a meal, a note, or simply the words, "I see what you are going through, and I am praying for you." Remind the group that God often uses His people to bring hope, encouragement, and reminders of His faithfulness to others.

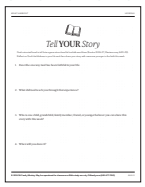
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Principle

The Exodus story was never meant to stay in the past. God commanded Israel to tell future generations how He had delivered them (Exodus 12:26–27; Deuteronomy 6:20–25). In the same way, we should regularly share how Christ has rescued us. This week, tell someone younger in faith how God has been faithful in your life.

D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.



AH 6-3

Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.


The Beginning of God's Nation

AYG-6

As You Go (AYG-6) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. *As You Go* is also available for FREE download at D6curriculum.com/bonus. (No password required.)

Notes:

Scan to access handouts and digital materials or visit d6.family/6958

LESSON 7
DECEMBER 13, 2026

FAMILY THEME

The Beginning of the Promise of a King

LESSON AIM

Understand that God's promises find their fulfillment in Jesus Christ, the promised eternal King.

STUDY TEXT

2 Samuel 7:8–16; Luke 1:32–33



Scan to access handouts and digital materials or visit d6.family/6958

BIG IDEAS

1. **God Promised David an Eternal King (2 Samuel 7:8–16)**
2. **God Renewed His Promise Through the Prophets (Isaiah 9:6–7; Jeremiah 23:5–6)**
3. **God Fulfilled His Promise Through Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:1–17; Luke 1:32–33)**

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Luke 2:11**) along with family members.

Preview videos in advance. Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.



AH 7-1



AH 7-2

Leader Lens

This lesson traces one promise across nearly one thousand years of biblical history. David received the promise, the prophets renewed it, and Jesus fulfilled it. Help your group see how each passage points to Christ, and allow adequate time for Big Idea 3, where God's promise reaches its ultimate fulfillment.

Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

VIDEO: Show this short video in which a child is told not to eat a treat until a parent returns: tinyurl.com/D6Toddler. After watching, ask:

- *Why do you think waiting can be so challenging for all of us?*
- *Have you ever had to wait a long time for something important?*

After discussion, say: *Waiting is rarely easy, but some things are worth waiting for. Today we'll discover how God's people waited centuries for the promised King, and how God faithfully kept His promise.*

CONVERSATION STARTER: Begin by asking: *Have you ever waited a long time for something you were promised?* Allow several group members to share. Then ask: *What made the waiting difficult? What gave you confidence the promise would eventually be fulfilled?* After discussion, say: *Waiting is never easy, especially when we cannot see what God is doing. Today we'll discover that God's people waited centuries for a promise, yet God faithfully fulfilled every word He had spoken.*

OBJECT LESSON: Wrap a small Christmas gift and take it to class. Ask group members: *Without opening it, what can you know—and what can't you know—about this gift?* Allow several responses. Then ask: *Why is it easier to trust some promises more than others?* After discussion, say: *Long before the first Christmas, God promised to send an eternal King. Today we'll see how God faithfully kept that promise through Jesus Christ.*

Teaching the Truth

Distribute the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 7-2).

Gospel Connection

The Bible is one unified story of God's plan to redeem humanity through Jesus Christ. The promises God made to David and repeated through the prophets found their fulfillment in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection provide salvation for all who trust in Him. Because God faithfully kept His promise to send the Messiah, we can trust every promise He has made.

Some of God's greatest promises are not fulfilled overnight. When God promised David an everlasting kingdom, there was both an immediate and a future fulfillment. Solomon would one day sit on David's throne and build the Temple, but God's covenant pointed far beyond Solomon to a King whose reign would never end. Centuries would pass before that promise was fully realized. During those generations, God's people had to trust that He had

not forgotten His word. This lesson traces the unfolding of that promise from David, through the prophets, to Jesus Christ, revealing that God is always faithful to accomplish His purposes in His perfect timing.

✳ BIG IDEA 1 ✳

God Promised David an Eternal King

2 Samuel 7:8–16

David desired to build a permanent house for the Lord because the ark of the covenant still dwelled in a temporary tent. His desire was honorable, and even the prophet Nathan initially encouraged him to move forward. Yet that very night God gave Nathan a different message. David would not build God's house. Instead, God promised to build David a "house"—not a building, but a royal dynasty—through which His purposes would unfold for generations (2 Samuel 7:1–8).

God reminded David of His faithfulness before making this extraordinary promise. He had chosen David from tending sheep, had been with him wherever he went, and had established him as king over Israel **(verses 8–9)**. David's position was never the result of his own strength or accomplishments. It was entirely the work of God's grace. Throughout Scripture, God often reminded His people of what He had already done before revealing what He would do next.

God then promised to establish David's "house" forever (**verses 10–16**). In the near future, the promise referred to David's descendants. Solomon would eventually succeed his father as king and build the temple David longed to construct. Yet God's covenant reached far beyond Solomon. The repeated emphasis on an everlasting kingdom and an eternal throne pointed to a greater King who would one day come from David's family line. *Help your group notice that God often accomplishes something far greater than His people can initially see. David might have been thinking about a temple, but God was preparing an eternal kingdom.*

This covenant became one of the most significant promises in the Old Testament. God was not merely preserving David's family; He was unfolding His plan of redemption. For nearly one thousand years God's people would look back to this covenant while looking ahead in hope, trusting that God would one day send the promised King whose kingdom would never end. *Help your group feel the weight of this promise. David would not see its complete fulfillment during his lifetime, yet he trusted that God would accomplish what He had promised.*

Go Deeper

When David offered to build a "house" for the Lord, he meant a permanent temple. God responded by promising to build David a "house," but He was referring to something entirely different—a royal dynasty. David's descendants would continue to reign, ultimately leading to Jesus Christ, the eternal King. This wordplay highlights God's greater plan. David was thinking about a building; God was establishing a kingdom that would endure forever.

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 7-1) and PowerPoint 7 (editable).



PowerPoint 7

Live It Out: Thank God that His promises are trustworthy, even when you cannot yet see how He will fulfill them.

Discuss Together:

- *Why did God decline David's desire to build the Temple? What greater promise did He make instead?*
- *What does God's promise to establish David's "house" teach us about His purposes and faithfulness?*
- *When have you seen God answer a prayer or accomplish His purposes in a way that was different and better than you expected?*
- *How does knowing that God keeps His promises strengthen your faith when His plans unfold more slowly than you would like?*

✳ BIG IDEA 2 ✳

God Renewed His Promise Through the Prophets

Isaiah 9:6–7; Jeremiah 23:5–6

Although Solomon succeeded David as king and built the Temple, he was not the ultimate fulfillment of God's covenant. Solomon's reign eventually ended, and many of the kings who followed turned away from the Lord. Yet God's promise did not fail. Instead, He continued to remind His people through the prophets that a greater King was still coming.

Centuries after David, the prophet Isaiah declared that a child would be born who would reign on David's throne forever **(Isaiah 9:6–7)**. Unlike any earthly king, this promised ruler would be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. His kingdom would be marked by justice, righteousness, and peace, and it would never end. *Help your group see that fulfilled prophecy is not a collection of disconnected predictions. Together, these promises reveal God's unfolding plan to send the Messiah.*

Later, the prophet Jeremiah renewed that same hope. He proclaimed that God would raise up a righteous Branch from David's line who would reign wisely and bring justice and righteousness to the land **(Jeremiah 23:5–6)**. Though God's people experienced exile, hardship, and long seasons of waiting, the Lord never abandoned His covenant. Every promise pointed them forward to the Messiah whom God would send in His perfect time. Although centuries separated Isaiah and Jeremiah, both prophets reminded God's people that the Lord had not forgotten His covenant with David. *Help your group notice that every generation had to decide whether they would trust God's promise, even though they might never see its fulfillment during their lifetime.*

For nearly one thousand years, God's people lived with this promise. Kingdoms rose and fell. Generations came and went. Yet God preserved David's royal line and continued to reaffirm His promise through the prophets. What may have seemed like silence was actually preparation. God was accomplishing His plan exactly as He had promised. *Help your group appreciate how difficult waiting would have been. Although centuries passed between David and Jesus, God was working every moment to accomplish His promise.*

> **Live It Out:** Trust God's timing, knowing He always keeps His promises even when the waiting is long.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why did God continue to repeat His promise through prophets like Isaiah and Jeremiah?*
> - *What do Isaiah and Jeremiah teach us about the character of the promised King?*
> - *Why is it often difficult to trust God's timing when His promises seem delayed?*
> - *How does God's faithfulness over many generations encourage you to trust Him with your future?*

✳ BIG IDEA 3 ✳

God Fulfilled His Promise Through Jesus Christ

Matthew 1:1–17; Luke 1:32–33

The Christmas story stretches far beyond Bethlehem. Centuries before Jesus' birth, God promised David that one of his descendants would reign forever. Matthew opened his Gospel with Jesus' genealogy to demonstrate that He was the rightful heir to David's throne **(Matthew 1:1–17)**. While many readers are tempted to skip over the long list of names, the genealogy reminds us that God faithfully preserved David's family line for generations exactly as He had promised.

In the ancient world, family records were far more than lists of names. They established a person's identity, inheritance, and legal standing. By beginning with Jesus' family tree, Matthew demonstrated that Jesus was not merely another teacher or prophet. He was the promised descendant of Abraham and David, fulfilling God's covenant and establishing His rightful claim as Israel's Messiah. Even the generations listed in the genealogy remind us of God's faithfulness. Though David's family included both faithful and sinful people, God remained faithful to His covenant through every generation exactly as He had promised. *Help your group see that Matthew's genealogy is far more than a list of names. It provides evidence that Jesus is the promised descendant of David and the rightful King.*

Go Deeper

God promised David an everlasting King around 1000 BC, but Jesus would not be born for nearly one thousand years. During those centuries, God's people endured wars, exile, and foreign oppression. Still, the Lord never abandoned His promise. Instead, He continued to remind His people through the prophets that the Messiah was coming. When the time was right, God fulfilled every word He had spoken. His timing might not always match ours, but His faithfulness never fails.

Apologetics

Some people assume the Bible is a collection of unrelated stories written by different authors with different ideas. Yet one of the strongest evidences for Scripture's reliability is the consistent promise of the coming Messiah. Around 1000 BC, God promised David an eternal King. About 300 years later, Isaiah described that King's character and everlasting reign. Roughly a century after Isaiah, Jeremiah reaffirmed that the Messiah would come from David's family line. When the New Testament begins, Matthew traces Jesus' genealogy to David, and Gabriel announces that Jesus will inherit David's throne. Though written over nearly one thousand years by different authors, these passages tell one unified story that reaches its fulfillment in Jesus Christ.

When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary, he announced that God's promise was finally being fulfilled **(Luke 1:32–33)**. The birth of Jesus was not simply the arrival of a child; it was the arrival of the long-awaited King. Jesus would inherit the throne of His father David, reign over God's people forever, and establish a kingdom that would never end.

Gabriel's announcement intentionally echoed God's covenant with David. Nearly one thousand years after God promised an everlasting kingdom, the angel declared that Jesus would receive David's throne and reign forever. This was not a coincidence. Luke wanted his readers to recognize that God's ancient promise had finally come to pass. What generations had long anticipated was now becoming reality. The promises God had repeated through David, Isaiah, and Jeremiah all converged in the person of Jesus Christ.

Jesus is the King that David anticipated, Isaiah described, Jeremiah foretold, and Gabriel announced. Yet His kingdom is unlike the kingdoms of this world. Earthly kingdoms rise and fall, but Christ reigns forever. His kingdom is marked by righteousness, justice, peace, and the salvation He offers to all who trust in Him. *Help your group notice that every promise God made throughout the Old Testament ultimately points to Jesus.*

As Christmas approaches, it is easy to focus on familiar parts of the story—the manger, the shepherds, and the angels. Yet Christmas is even greater when we remember that Jesus' birth fulfilled God's long-awaited promise of an eternal King. The baby born in Bethlehem was the fulfillment of God's ancient covenant—the eternal King whose kingdom will never end. Because God kept His promise then, we can trust Him to keep every promise He has made to us today.

> **Live It Out:** Worship Jesus this Christmas as your promised King, thanking God for His faithfulness to keep every promise He has made.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why was it important for Matthew to begin his Gospel with Jesus' genealogy?*
> - *What does Gabriel's announcement teach us about Jesus' identity and mission as the promised King?*
> - *Why does it matter that Jesus is both Savior and King?*
> - *How does God's faithfulness in keeping His promises strengthen your confidence in the promises He has yet to fulfill?*

Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice.

REFLECTION: Give each learner a copy of **AH 7-3 (*Follow the Promise*)**. Use the handout to trace God's promise from David to Jesus, discussing how each passage reveals more about the coming Messiah. Encourage learners to keep the handout in their Bible as a reminder that Scripture tells one unified story centered on Jesus Christ, the promised forever King.

FAITH AT HOME: As Christmas approaches, encourage your group to read Matthew 1:1–17 or Luke 1:26–38 with their family or roommates this week. Discuss how these passages connect to God's promise to David and show that Jesus is the promised King. Challenge group members to help someone else see that Christmas is part of God's story of redemption, not just the story of a baby in a manger.

SHARING ONE'S FAITH: Christmas naturally opens doors for spiritual conversations. Challenge your group to share with one person this week how Jesus fulfilled God's promises throughout the Old Testament. Whether through a conversation, Christmas card, or social media post, encourage them to point others beyond the traditions of Christmas to the promised King who came to save.

Notes:


Follow the Promise

AH 7-3

D6

Principle

God's promises are meant to be passed from one generation to the next. As you celebrate Christmas, remind your family that Jesus' birth fulfilled God's promise of the forever King. God's faithfulness in the past gives us confidence to trust Him with the future.

D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.


The Beginning of the Promise of a King

AYG-7

As You Go (AYG-7) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. *As You Go* is also available for FREE download at D6curriculum.com/bonus. (No password required.)

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LESSON 8
DECEMBER 20, 2026

FAMILY THEME

The Beginning of God With Us

Scan to access handouts and digital materials or visit d6.family/6958

LESSON AIM

Understand that God faithfully fulfilled His promises through the birth of Jesus and respond to Him as Immanuel—God with us.

STUDY TEXT

Luke 2:1–20



BIG IDEAS

1. **God Faithfully Fulfilled His Promise (Luke 2:1–7)**
2. **Jesus Is Immanuel—God With Us (Luke 2:8–14; Matthew 1:22–23)**
3. **God With Us Changes Everything (Luke 2:15–20)**

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Luke 2:11**) along with family members.



AH 8-1



AH 8-2

Preview videos in advance. Ads may appear and are not controlled by D6.

Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

CONVERSATION STARTER: Ask your learners to think of one Christmas gift they have received that they still remember years later. Invite several people to share what made their gift so meaningful. Then ask: *Have you ever received a gift that truly changed your life?* After a few responses, say: *The greatest gift ever given was not wrapped in paper or placed under a tree. God gave us His Son, Jesus Christ. Today we'll discover how God faithfully fulfilled His promises through Christ's birth and why His coming changed everything.*

GAME: Tell group members you're going to read several statements about the Christmas story, and ask them to decide whether each statement is **Fact**, **Fiction**, or **The Bible Doesn't Say**. After each response, briefly discuss the correct answer.

- **There were three wise men.** *(The Bible Doesn't Say. Scripture mentions three gifts but never states how many wise men there were; see **Matthew 2:11**.)*
- **Jesus was born in Bethlehem.** *(Fact. This fulfilled the prophecy of **Micah 5:2**; see **Luke 2:4–7**.)*
- **Jesus was born in a barn.** *(The Bible Doesn't Say. Jesus was laid in a manger, but Scripture never identifies the building as a barn; see **Luke 2:7**.)*
- **The angels sang to the shepherds.** *(The Bible Doesn't Say. Luke says the heavenly host was "praising God and saying" (**Luke 2:13–14**), but it does not specifically say they sang.)*
- **An innkeeper turned Mary and Joseph away.** *(The Bible Doesn't Say. Scripture never mentions an innkeeper; it simply says there was no room in the guest room; see **Luke 2:7**.)*

After discussion, say: *Many of the details we associate with Christmas come from traditions rather than Scripture. Today we'll return to the biblical account and see how God faithfully fulfilled His promises through the birth of Jesus Christ.*

VIDEO: Show Dr. Sean McDowell's short video, "Was Jesus Born on December 25?" (tinyurl.com/5MythsSM). After the video, ask: *What Christmas traditions have you always assumed came directly from the Bible? Why is it important to distinguish between biblical truth and later traditions?* Then say: *While many Christmas traditions are meaningful, our confidence rests in the biblical account. Today we'll look beyond the traditions to see how God faithfully fulfilled His promises through the birth of Jesus Christ.*

Teaching the Truth

Distribute the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 8-2).

Gospel Connection

The birth of Jesus was the earthly beginning of God's greatest rescue plan. Immanuel—God with us—came to live the perfect life we could never live, die on the cross for our sins, and rise again so that everyone who trusts in Him can be forgiven and reconciled to God. Because God came near through Christ, believers can enjoy His presence forever.

Luke 2 contains one of the most familiar accounts in all of Scripture. Yet behind the familiar manger, shepherds, and angels stands a far greater story. From the very beginning, God had promised to send a Savior. Throughout the Old Testament, He faithfully preserved that promise until the fullness of time arrived. Luke, the physician, first recorded the miraculous birth of John the Baptist and then turned his attention to the birth of Jesus Christ. In this lesson, we will see how God fulfilled His promises through the birth of Immanuel—God with us—and why His coming changed everything.

✳ BIG IDEA 1 ✳

God Faithfully Fulfilled His Promise

Luke 2:1–7

Luke began the account of Jesus' birth by mentioning a decree from Caesar Augustus requiring people to register in their hometowns (**verses 1–3**). Although Caesar had political motives, God was accomplishing something far greater. Centuries earlier, God promised the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). Through an imperial decree, God brought Mary and Joseph to the exact place He had foretold. What appeared to be a routine government action became part of God's sovereign plan to fulfill His promises.

Joseph traveled to Bethlehem because he was a descendant of David **(verses 4–5)**. The journey would have been difficult, especially with Mary near the time of delivery. Yet God used these ordinary circumstances to fulfill His extraordinary promise. Long before Caesar issued his decree, God had already announced where His Son would be born.

> **Live It Out:** Trust God's faithfulness even when you cannot see how He is working. He is able to accomplish His purposes through ordinary circumstances and unexpected events.

Leader Lens

Luke 2 is one of the most familiar passages in Scripture. Help your group move beyond the familiar details of the Christmas story and focus on its central truth: God faithfully fulfilled His promises by sending His Son into the world. Christmas is ultimately the story of Immanuel—God with us.

Apologetics

Some critics question Luke's reference to Quirinius because the best-known census under Quirinius occurred later than Jesus' birth. Several reasonable explanations have been proposed, including that Quirinius served in Syria on an earlier occasion or that Luke's wording refers to a census before Quirinius' better-known governorship. While historians continue to debate the details, archaeology has repeatedly confirmed Luke's careful attention to historical facts. Believers can trust that Scripture remains reliable even when every historical detail has not yet been fully explained or not yet discovered.

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 8-1) and PowerPoint 8 (editable).

PowerPoint 8


Christmas Myths & Biblical Facts

AH 8-3

Many details commonly associated with the Christmas story come from later traditions rather than Scripture. Distribute **AH 8-3 (*Christmas Myths and Biblical Facts*)** to help your group distinguish between popular Christmas traditions and what the Bible actually says.

Discuss Together:

- *How does fulfilled prophecy strengthen your confidence in God's Word?*
- *Why is it encouraging to know that God's promises are not dependent on human rulers or circumstances?*

While Mary and Joseph were in Bethlehem to be counted in the census, Mary gave birth to her firstborn son and placed him in a manger because there was no guest room available for them **(verses 6–7).** God took on flesh and entered our world. He came humbly as a newborn baby. Yet this baby was the promised Messiah who would take away the sins of the world. He was the fulfillment of many Old Testament promises, one of which indicated He would come out of Bethlehem. God used a Roman ruler to make sure Jesus was born in Bethlehem. *Help your group notice that no human ruler—not even the emperor of Rome—could prevent God from accomplishing His plan.*

The manger in which the baby was laid was a trough, generally used for feeding animals. These troughs were often located inside the homes of peasant families. The King of Kings entered the world with remarkable humility. Rather than being born in a palace, He came as a helpless infant in ordinary surroundings. From the beginning, Jesus identified with the humble rather than the powerful.

Live It Out: Ask Jesus to help you reflect His humility in the way you serve others this week.

Discuss Together:

- *Why do you think God chose for the Messiah to enter the world with such humble beginnings?*
- *How should Jesus' humility shape the way we live and serve others?* (See also Philippians 2:5–11.)

✳ BIG IDEA 2 ✳

Jesus Is Immanuel—God With Us

Luke 2:8–14; Matthew 1:22–23

Angels appeared to shepherds who were watching their flocks by night (**Luke 2:8–9**). Rather than announcing the Messiah's birth to kings, priests, or other influential people, God chose ordinary shepherds to receive the good news first. Though often overlooked by society, they were not overlooked by God. Their fear quickly gave way to wonder as they witnessed the glory of the Lord. *Help your group notice that from the very beginning, Jesus came for all people, not merely the powerful or the privileged.*

The angel reassured the shepherds, "Do not be afraid," a familiar message

whenever God revealed Himself to His people (Daniel 10:12 and Luke 1:30). The reason for their confidence was the good news: the Savior had been born. Jesus was announced as Savior, Christ, and Lord—titles that identified Him as the long-awaited Messiah. This good news was not limited to Israel. It was good news for all people because God had come near to rescue humanity from sin.

Matthew explained that Jesus' birth fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy: *They shall call His name Immanuel* (**Matthew 1:22–23**; Isaiah 7:14). Immanuel means "God with us." In Jesus, God did not remain distant from His creation. He entered our world, took on human flesh, and lived among us. The birth of Christ was more than the arrival of a special child; it was God drawing near so that we could know Him personally. *Help your group see that Christmas is ultimately about God's presence. Jesus did not simply come to teach us about God—He came as God in the flesh so we could know Him personally.*

> **Live It Out:** Thank Jesus for becoming Immanuel—God with us. Ask Him to help you see and value people the way He does.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why do you think God chose shepherds to hear the good news first? What does that reveal about His character?*
> - *What does the name Immanuel ("God with us") teach us about God's desire to have a relationship with people?*

Suddenly a multitude of angels joined in praising God (**Luke 2:13–14**). Heaven celebrated because God's plan of salvation was unfolding. Peace had come—not through the end of every earthly conflict, but through the Savior who would reconcile sinners to God. The joy announced that night continues today because everyone who trusts in Christ can experience peace with God.

> **Live It Out:** Worship Jesus this week by thanking Him for leaving Heaven to become your Savior and bringing you peace with God.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why is Jesus' birth truly "good news" for every person?*
> - *How should the reality that God came near in Jesus shape the way we celebrate Christmas?*

✳ BIG IDEA 3 ✳

God With Us Changes Everything

Luke 2:15–20

When the angels departed, the shepherds immediately responded in faith

Go Deeper

The virgin birth is essential to the Christian faith because it reveals both who Jesus is and why He alone could save us. Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah 7:14 (**Matthew 1:22–23**). As the eternal Son, Jesus did not begin to exist, nor did He need a physical father in order to be conceived. He only needed a way to be born as a human. Because Jesus is fully God and fully man, He alone could represent humanity while remaining free from sin. Scripture consistently affirms His sinless life (1 Peter 2:22; 1 John 3:5), making Him the perfect sacrifice for our sins. The accounts in Matthew 1:18–25 and Luke 1:26–38 independently testify to His miraculous conception. The virgin birth is not an isolated detail of the Christmas story but a foundational truth that points to Jesus as the promised Savior and Immanuel—God with us.

by going to Bethlehem to see what God had revealed (**verses 15–16**). After searching, they found Mary, Joseph, and the baby exactly as the angel had described. Their willingness to respond demonstrated genuine faith. They did not simply admire the message—they acted on it. *Help your group notice that an encounter with Jesus always calls for a response. Genuine faith does not simply hear God's Word—it acts on it.*

After seeing Jesus, the shepherds told others everything they had heard and seen (**verses 17–18**). The first recipients of the good news became its first human messengers. God graciously entrusted ordinary shepherds with proclaiming the birth of the Savior. Their example reminds believers that Christmas is not merely a season to celebrate privately but an opportunity to share the good news that God has come to rescue sinners.

> **Live It Out:** Ask God to give you one opportunity this week to share the hope of Jesus with someone who needs to hear the good news.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *What do the shepherds teach us about responding to God's message with faith and obedience?*
> - *Who is one person you could intentionally point to Jesus this Christmas season?*

Mary responded differently than the shepherds did. While they immediately spread the news, Mary treasured these events and pondered them in her heart (**verse 19**). She carefully reflected on everything God had done. Faith sometimes responds through joyful proclamation, and sometimes through quiet worship and thoughtful meditation. Both responses honor the Lord. *Help your group compare the two faithful responses in this passage. The shepherds proclaimed what they had seen, while Mary quietly treasured God's work in her heart. Both responses flowed from faith.*

The shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for everything they had seen and heard (**verse 20**). Their encounter with Jesus changed them. They left Bethlehem worshiping the God who had kept His promises. Everyone who truly encounters Christ is called to respond with faith, worship, and a willingness to tell others about Him.

> **Live It Out:** Take time this Christmas to worship Jesus for coming into the world as Immanuel—God with us—and consider how your life reflects the joy of knowing Him.

D6 Discipleship Journals

Remind group members to bring their *D6 Discipleship Journals* each week for lesson notes, sermon notes, journaling, and class discussion. These journals are designed to support discipleship both at church and at home.

Discuss Together:

- *What can we learn from Mary's response and the shepherds' response to Jesus' birth?*
- *How has knowing Jesus changed the way you live, worship, or speak about Him?*

Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice this week.

SHARING ONE'S FAITH: Encourage group members to intentionally look for one opportunity during the Christmas week to point a conversation toward Jesus. Whether talking with family, neighbors, coworkers, or friends, Christmas naturally opens doors to discuss the Savior's birth. Challenge each person to pray for one conversation and to share why Jesus' coming as Immanuel—God with us—has made a difference in their life.

FAITH AT HOME: Gather your family before opening gifts on Christmas morning—or at another meaningful time during the week—and read Luke 2:1–20 together. Ask each family member to share one truth from the Christmas story that stands out to them and close by thanking God for sending Jesus.

REFLECTION: Invite group members to spend a few quiet moments reflecting on Mary's response in Luke 2:19. Encourage them to set aside some time during the busy Christmas week to slow down, thank God for sending Jesus, and consider what it means that God chose to come near through Christ. Challenge them to celebrate Christmas with worship, not just activity.

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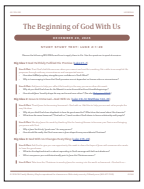
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Principle

Jesus is Immanuel—God with us. As we intentionally spend time with our children, grandchildren, and others we influence, we reflect God's heart by pointing them to Christ through our presence, our words, and our love.

Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.


The Beginning of God With Us

AYG-8

As You Go (AYG-8) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. *As You Go* is also available for FREE download at D6curriculum.com/bonus. (No password required.)

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LESSON 9
DECEMBER 27, 2026

FAMILY THEME

The Beginning of Godly Habits

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LESSON AIM

Understand how God uses godly habits to shape believers into the likeness of Christ as they build their lives on His Word.

STUDY TEXT

1 Timothy 4:7–8; Luke 6:46–49



BIG IDEAS

1. **Godly Habits Require Intentional Training (1 Timothy 4:7)**
2. **Godly Habits Produce Lasting Spiritual Growth (1 Timothy 4:8)**
3. **Godly Habits Build a Strong Foundation (Luke 6:46–49)**

Encourage learners to memorize the Family Scripture of the Month (**Luke 2:11**) along with family members.

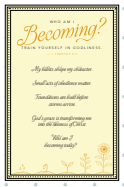
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AH 9-1



AH 9-2



AH 9-3

Connect

Choose the option that best fits your group.

STORY: Begin by asking: *When you were growing up, what is one habit your parents or another adult tried to teach you that you now appreciate?* Allow several responses. Then ask: *Did that habit become part of your life overnight or through repeated practice?* After discussion, say: *Many of the habits that benefit us most are developed over time. The same is true spiritually. Today we'll discover that godly habits help shape us into the people God wants us to become.*

OBJECT LESSON: Bring a dumbbell, resistance band, or other piece of exercise equipment. Hold it up and ask: *How many times would I need to lift this before becoming stronger?* Allow several responses. Then ask: *Could I work out once and expect to stay strong for the rest of my life?* After discussion, say: *Physical strength develops through consistent training, not one impressive workout. Paul used that same picture to teach that spiritual maturity is developed through faithful habits practiced over time. Today we'll see how God uses those habits to shape us into the likeness of Christ.*

VIDEO: Show this video explaining why beginning with a small habit can make lasting change more likely: tinyurl.com/2MinClear. After the video, ask:

- *Why do you think starting small is often more effective than trying to change everything at once?*
- *How might that principle apply to our spiritual lives?*
- *What are some "small" acts of obedience that God can use to produce long-term spiritual growth?*

After discussion, say: *Spiritual maturity is rarely built through single moments. God often shapes His people through small, faithful acts of obedience repeated over time. Our goal is not simply to develop better habits but to become more like Christ.*

Teaching the Truth

Distribute the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 9-2) and display the AH 9-3 poster.

Gospel Connection

We are accepted by God because of what Christ has done, not because of our discipline or effort. Yet God's grace does more than forgive us—it transforms us. Titus 2:11–12 teaches the grace that brings salvation also trains us to live godly lives. We pursue spiritual habits not to earn God's favor but because His grace is already at work within us.

As another year comes to a close, many people begin evaluating their lives. They think about goals they want to accomplish, habits they want to change, and resolutions they hope to keep. Whether we realize it or not, our daily habits are shaping our character. Scripture invites us to ask a deeper question: *Who am I becoming?*

✳ BIG IDEA 1 ✳

Godly Habits Require Intentional Training

1 Timothy 4:7

When Paul wrote to Timothy, he was encouraging a younger pastor who was leading believers in a difficult cultural environment. False teachers were spreading unhealthy ideas, and Paul wanted Timothy to remain focused on what truly produces spiritual maturity.

Paul contrasted two very different pursuits. Rather than wasting time on *pointless and silly myths*, Timothy was to devote himself to training for godliness (**1 Timothy 4:7**). The myths likely included speculative teachings and endless debates that distracted believers without producing genuine spiritual growth. Paul's concern was not merely false doctrine but anything that pulled God's people away from a growing relationship with Him. *Help your group notice that it is possible to spend time discussing spiritual things without actually growing spiritually.*

The word translated *train* comes from the Greek word *gymnazo*, from which we get the English word *gymnasium*. It referred to the disciplined training of an athlete. Athletes follow routines, endure discomfort, and practice consistently because they are pursuing a goal. Paul intentionally borrowed that image to describe spiritual growth. Godliness is not developed through occasional bursts of effort but through faithful, repeated acts of obedience. Just as physical strength develops over time, spiritual maturity grows through consistent habits that draw us closer to Christ.

Notice that Paul did not tell Timothy to *try* to be godly. He told him to *train* for godliness. Training requires intentional effort and consistent practice. No one can pursue godliness on our behalf. Although the Holy Spirit is the One who transforms us, believers are called to actively participate in that process.

> **Live It Out:** Take an honest look at your spiritual life and examine where you have seen God help you grow. Identify where you would like to grow in the coming year.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *What is the difference between trying to be godly and training for godliness?*

Leader Lens

This lesson takes a topical approach, drawing together several passages that show how God shapes His people over time. Keep the focus on transformation, not merely information. Help your group see that spiritual habits are not religious checklists but one of the primary ways God forms believers into the likeness of Christ. Encourage learners to pursue faithful obedience, not perfection.

Discussion questions are also included on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 9-1) and PowerPoint 9 (editable).

PowerPoint 9

Go Deeper

Building Godly Habits That Last

Lasting spiritual growth usually comes through small, consistent acts of obedience rather than dramatic resolutions. For practical principles that can help your group build healthy spiritual habits, distribute **AH 9-4**



AH 9-4

- *What distractions compete for believers' attention today and keep us from pursuing godliness?*

Anyone who has tried to improve their health knows that lasting change rarely comes from one big decision. Lasting change usually comes through small choices repeated consistently. The same is true spiritually. We often want quick transformation, but God typically shapes His people through ordinary, faithful habits such as prayer, studying Scripture, worship, fellowship, and serving others. These habits do not earn God's favor. Rather, they are one of the primary ways God shapes us into the likeness of Christ.

None of us become physically fit by accident. Likewise, none of us drift toward spiritual maturity. Left to ourselves, we naturally drift toward comfort, distraction, and self-centeredness. Throughout Scripture, God's people intentionally cultivated habits that kept them close to Him. Joshua meditated on God's Word (Joshua 1:8). The psalmist delighted in God's instruction (Psalm 1:2). Jesus regularly withdrew to pray (Luke 5:16). The early church devoted themselves to Scripture, fellowship, prayer, and worship (Acts 2:42). *Help your group notice that spiritual growth does not happen by accident. Just as athletes intentionally train for competition, believers intentionally cultivate habits that help them grow in Christ.*

As a new year approaches, many people begin making resolutions. Scripture invites believers to pursue something deeper than temporary motivation. By God's grace, godly habits shape who we are becoming. Over time, repeated acts of obedience cultivate a life that increasingly reflects the character of Christ.

Live It Out: Begin one simple spiritual habit this week, trusting God to use your daily faithfulness to shape you over time.

Discuss Together:

- *Which spiritual habit has had the greatest impact on your walk with Christ? Why?*
- *Why do small, consistent acts of obedience often produce greater spiritual growth than occasional bursts of effort?*

✳ BIG IDEA 2 ✳

Godly Habits Produce Lasting Spiritual Growth

1 Timothy 4:8

Paul continued by explaining why spiritual training is worth the effort: *Physical training has limited benefit, but godliness is beneficial in every way, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come* **(1 Timothy 4:8).**

Paul was not criticizing physical training. In fact, he acknowledged that it has real value. Timothy would have been familiar with athletes who devoted themselves to rigorous training in pursuit of a temporary prize. Paul used that familiar picture to make a greater point. If people willingly discipline themselves for physical goals that eventually fade, how much more should believers pursue godliness, whose benefits extend into eternity?

Healthy bodies matter. Good stewardship of our physical lives matters. Yet even the strongest body grows older, and every earthly achievement eventually fades. Healthy habits rarely produce dramatic results overnight, but over time they determine the direction of our lives. Spiritual habits work the same way. God uses ordinary, faithful habits to shape His people over time. Paul reminded Timothy that while physical training benefits this life, godliness benefits both this life and the life to come. *Help your group see that Paul was not comparing physical health and spiritual growth as enemies. He was simply reminding believers that while physical training has temporary value, godliness has eternal value.*

Apologetics

Modern Research Continues to Confirm Biblical Wisdom

Christians should not be surprised when modern research aligns with biblical wisdom. After all, the God who designed human beings also inspired the Scriptures. For example:

- Numerous studies have found that gratitude can reduce anxiety and improve emotional well-being. Long before modern psychology, Paul encouraged believers to replace anxiety with thankful prayer (Philippians 4:6–7).
- Researchers have found that small, consistent habits often produce lasting change more effectively than dramatic resolutions. Scripture likewise emphasizes faithful obedience over time rather than occasional bursts of enthusiasm **(1 Timothy 4:7–8)**.
- Researchers consistently find that community and accountability improve long-term success in forming healthy habits. Scripture has long emphasized the importance of encouraging one another, bearing one another's burdens, and meeting together regularly (Hebrews 10:24–25; Galatians 6:2).
- Behavioral research suggests that avoiding temptation is often easier than repeatedly resisting it. The Bible has long instructed believers to flee temptation rather than see how close they can get to it (1 Corinthians 6:18; 2 Timothy 2:22).

Scientific research may help explain how habits influence behavior, but Scripture reveals the greater purpose of those habits: becoming more like Christ.

Live It Out: Invest time this week in a practice that will strengthen your relationship with Christ, remembering that what shapes your soul has lasting value.

Discuss Together:

- *Why do you think Paul compared physical training with spiritual training?*
- *What temporary priorities or pursuits most often compete for your attention and spiritual growth?*

A godly person increasingly learns to love what God loves and to reflect the character of Christ. That transformation affects our marriages, families, work, finances, friendships, and responses to suffering. God is far more concerned with shaping our character than simply improving our circumstances. Many people enter a new year hoping life will change. Scripture invites us to ask a deeper question: *Who am I becoming? Help your group notice that God's goal is not simply to change our situation but to change us. Spiritual habits are one of the ways He shapes our character over time.*

Live It Out: As the new year begins, ask yourself, *Who am I becoming?* Pray that God would continue shaping your character to reflect Christ.

Discuss Together:

- *How would you define biblical godliness?*
- *In what ways does godliness affect everyday areas such as your family, work, relationships, or finances?*

✳ BIG IDEA 3 ✳

Godly Habits Build a Strong Foundation

Luke 6:46–49

Jesus' illustration in **Luke 6** provides the practical outcome of what Paul described in 1 Timothy. The passage begins with a penetrating question: *Why do you call Me "Lord, Lord," and don't do the things I say* **(Luke 6:46)***?*

This question reaches the heart of discipleship. Jesus was not speaking primarily to hostile unbelievers but to people who sincerely called Him Lord. The issue was not what they professed but whether they obeyed. *Help your group notice that Jesus was not looking for empty words or good intentions. He was calling His followers to a life of faithful obedience.*

In Jesus' illustration, both builders heard His words. Both wanted to build a house. Both eventually faced storms. The difference was found beneath the

Go Deeper

Does It Really Take 21 Days to Build a Habit?

A well-known 2010 study published in the *European Journal of Social Psychology* found that participants took an average of about 66 days for a new behavior to become automatic, though the time ranged from 18 to 254 days.[1] The important lesson is not the number of days but the importance of consistency. Spiritual growth works much the same way. God shapes His people through consistent obedience, not instant transformation.

[1] Phillippa Lally et al., "How Are Habits Formed: Modelling Habit Formation in the Real World," *European Journal of Social Psychology* 40, no. 6 (2010): 998–1009. doi.org/10.1002/ejsp.674

surface. One builder dug deep until he reached solid rock **(Luke 6:47–48)**. Building on a firm foundation required patience, preparation, and work that no one else could see. The other builder chose the easier path, and the weakness remained hidden until the storm came. *Help your group notice that foundations are built long before storms arrive. In the same way, godly habits prepare believers for challenges before those challenges ever come.*

The flood did not create the weakness; it revealed it **(Luke 6:49)**. Daily habits often seem insignificant until life becomes difficult, but trials reveal what has truly been shaping our lives. They expose whether our confidence rests on Christ or on circumstances, emotions, or worldly success. Jesus taught that a strong spiritual foundation is built through hearing and obeying His words repeatedly over time. This is where godly habits matter. Prayer, Scripture, worship, fellowship, and obedience do not earn salvation, but God uses them to anchor believers firmly in Christ. Every act of obedience strengthens the foundation. Every time we choose Christ's way over our own, we build more firmly on the Rock. Storms will come, but lives built on Christ will stand. *Help your group see that habits do not prepare us for every storm; they prepare us to remain faithful no matter what storm comes.*

> **Live It Out:** Don't stop at hearing God's Word. This week, take one practical step of obedience in response to what God has been teaching you.
>
> **Discuss Together:**
> - *Why did Jesus emphasize obedience rather than simply hearing His words?*
> - *What does it mean to "dig deep" when building a spiritual foundation?*
> - *How do consistent spiritual habits prepare believers for seasons of difficulty?*
> - *Think of a time when a trial revealed strengths or weaknesses in your spiritual foundation. What did God teach you through that experience?*

Respond

Use one of these options to help your group put this lesson into practice.

REFLECTION: Distribute **AH 9-5 (*Who Am I Becoming?*).** Give group members several quiet minutes to prayerfully complete the handout. Encourage them to focus less on making a long list of resolutions and more on the person God is shaping them to become. Afterward, invite volunteers to share one habit they hope to cultivate or one area where they desire to grow in Christ during the coming year.

Go Deeper

Don't Let One Bad Day Become Two

One of the biggest obstacles to lasting growth is believing that one failure means we've ruined everything. Missing one day of Bible reading does not erase months of growth. Skipping a time of prayer does not undo your relationship with God. The Christian life is not about maintaining a perfect streak but faithfully following Christ over time. When we stumble, God's grace invites us to get back up and continue walking with Him (Proverbs 24:16). A missed day is a reminder to begin again—not a reason to give up.

Bible Engagement

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the *D6 Discipleship Journals* this week and use the journaling pages to reflect on what God is teaching them through personal study, class discussion, and Sunday sermons.



AH 9-5

Principle

Godly habits are not about earning God's approval but responding to His grace. Parents, grandparents, and spiritual mentors shape the next generation by modeling lives built on God's Word. Invite others to join you in pursuing Christ through prayer, Scripture, worship, and obedience. Spiritual growth is often caught as much as it is taught.



AYG-9

As You Go (AYG-9) is a resource to help parents discuss the truths of this lesson with their children at home. Give copies of this page to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. *As You Go* is also available for FREE download at D6curriculum.com/bonus. (No password required.)

FAITH AT HOME: As a family, discuss one godly habit that would help everyone grow spiritually during the coming year. Choose one simple practice—such as praying together, reading Scripture, or serving others—and make a realistic plan to practice it together.

TRUTH IN ACTION: Thank someone in your church who has faithfully followed Christ over many years. Let them know how their example has encouraged your faith. Ask what spiritual habits have helped them remain faithful through the years.

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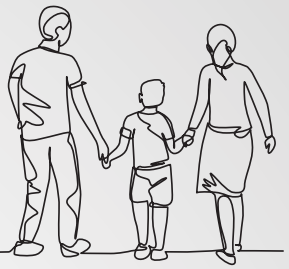
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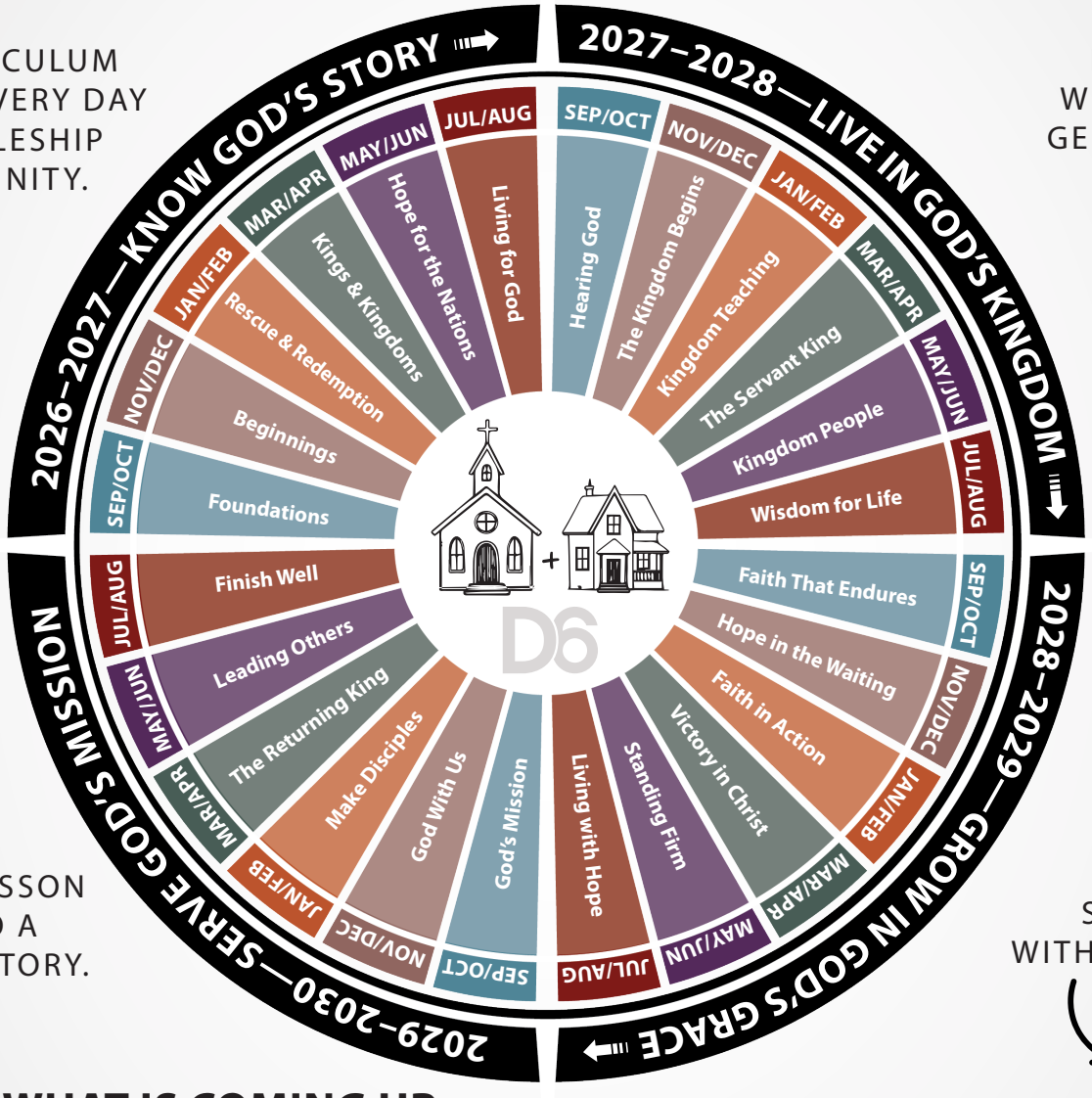
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HERE'S WHAT IS COMING UP

JAN–FEB 2027

WEEK	THEME	DISCIPLESHIP OBJECTIVE	KEY SCRIPTURE	APOLOGETIC OBJECTIVE
1-3-27	God Calls Moses	God uses ordinary, weak people for His plan; recognize humanity's need for rescue.	Exodus 3:1–4:17	Why would God choose Moses? Why did God allow His people to suffer?
1-10-27	God Shows His Power	God is greater than every false power	Exodus 7–11	Was it fair for God to judge Egypt?
1-17-27	God Provides a Way of Rescue	God saves through substitution	Exodus 12:1–30	Why did someone have to die for rescue?
1-24-27	The Sanctity of Life	Every life has value	Exodus 21: 22–25	We are made in the image of God
1-31-27	God Leads His People	Trust God when the way seems impossible	Exodus 14:1–31	Did God really part the sea?
2-7-27	God Provides in the Wilderness	Depend on God for daily provision	Exodus 16:1–18; 17:1–7	Why didn't God give them everything they wanted?
2-14-27	God Gives His Law	God's law reveals His holiness and our need	Exodus 20:1–17	If we can't keep the law, what is its point?
2-21-27	God Dwells with His People	God desires to be with His people	Exodus 25:8–9; 40:34–38	How can a holy God live with sinful people?
2-28-27	God Calls for Trust	Trust God's promises over fear	Numbers 13–14	What is the difference between doubt and unbelief?

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