

40 DAYS OF *prayer*

KIDS DEVOTIONAL



THEALLIANCE | alliance**KIDS**

40 DAYS OF *prayer*

INTRO

Dear Child Champion,

Thank you so much for being dedicated to bringing children into the 40 Days of Prayer initiative with the Alliance family! This guide will help you introduce children to the weekly theme through a small, weekly kid's devotional, a key verse, and a weekly prayer prompt. Additionally, there will be a brief video recapping each weekly piece as a supplemental resource as well as a suggested prop for group display. This children's guide can be used in a church setting or by a parent or guardian in the home to accompany the adult 40 Days of Prayer content.

This guide contains six devotionals and accompanying videos. If you are utilizing this in addition to a weekly children's church curriculum, you can expect it to take 5 to 7 minutes to complete each time. All key verses are from the NIV.

We hope this resource will help you as you encourage children to pray alongside their collective Alliance family. We believe children play a vital Kingdom role, and we are honored to have them on this journey with us!

Blessings,



Leah Broach
National Director for Alliance Kids



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WEEK 1: THE GLORY OF CHRIST



KEY VERSE

*For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity
lives in bodily form (Col. 2:9).*



PRAYER PROMPTS

Thank the Lord that He is glorious! Ask Him to show you His glory as you live your life for Him this week. Ask Him to help us lead holy lives according to His Word.



SUGGESTED PROP

Loose glitter



VIDEO

vimeo.com/643606572/82366f9085



WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Have you ever played with glitter? Glitter is so shiny and fun, and it sticks to everything! If you've ever spilt glitter, you know it's impossible to get it all back in the container—there will be tiny specks of sparkling glitter leftover for a very long time!

Did you know that God's glory is kind of like glitter, only way better? God cannot be compared to anyone or anything because He is the creator of all things. His glory outshines the sun, and it cannot be stopped. His glory shows us His holiness, His love, and His greatness. Wherever God goes, His glory always goes as well. No matter how much someone or something tries to hide God's glory, it is always stronger. It is impossible to get rid of God's glory, and why would we ever want to anyway? God's holiness is pure, and His love outshines the sun. Everything about God is good, and so is His glory.

As much fun as it is to play with glitter, it is so much more fun to see God's glory. Look at the sunrise or sunset and you will see His glory! Look at nature and animals and you will see God's glory. Look at yourself in the mirror and you will see God's glorious creation right there in your reflection.

The next time you play with glitter or wear something sparkly, remember that God's glory is everywhere, and it sparkles all over the world through His people. If you believe in God, then you can show others His glory! Shine the light of His love and truth brightly through your life, and you will show God's glory.

Always be looking for God's glory, and be someone that spreads it like glitter all around the world!

WEEK 2: THE LIFE, DEATH, AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST



KEY VERSE

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor (Luke 4:18-19).



PRAYER PROMPTS

Thank the Lord that He is the one true God that conquered the grave and rose again so that we could have eternal life with Him.
Ask the Lord to help you show others the truth about Him.



SUGGESTED PROP

An uncooked chicken egg



VIDEO

vimeo.com/643608388/a1253cde56



WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

You probably already know that Jesus Christ is God's Son; but He is not just like any other son—and He, too, is one in God. Let me explain!

Do you know what the Trinity is? The Trinity is the word we use to describe God in three persons. The Bible tells us that God exists as three persons in one. The three persons are God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. That can be very hard to understand, so let's look at something a bit simpler. Let's look at a chicken egg. We know a chicken egg by recognizing all the parts—there is the shell, the egg white, and the egg yolk. All parts of the egg are a bit different, but they all make up the same egg. It wouldn't be a proper egg if it didn't contain all the elements.

The Trinity is somewhat like that but even better! God in three persons is God being the Son (Jesus), while being the Father, and while being the Holy Spirit all at once—God in three persons!

But how can we know that Jesus was really God? Some people think He was just a very nice man. What makes Jesus different than a very nice man?

Jesus never sinned. Not even once. Even though He lived His life on Earth just like you and me, He did it perfectly by not sinning. He had the same kind of body as us, the same sort of feelings as us, and He was tempted to do wrong things just like us! But because He was God, He never gave in to those temptations, and He never sinned.

Jesus actually gave His life and died for our sins so that we could know Him as our Savior. Jesus dying for us was very heroic, but anyone can die for another person. Only Jesus was able to die and rise from the dead. That is how we know He is God's Son. He never sinned, He gave up His life for us, and He rose from the dead.

Let's go back to that egg. If we cracked that egg or busted the shell, it would be impossible for us to make it whole again. A broken egg cannot go back to being unbroken. Jesus allowed His body to be broken for us. He even died. But unlike the egg or anything else in this world, Jesus was able to put Himself back together again wholly and alive! We worship Jesus because of His life, death, and Resurrection, and we praise Him because He is our Savior!

WEEK 3: THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST



KEY VERSE

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever (John 14:16).



PRAYER PROMPTS

Thank the Lord for the Holy Spirit. Ask God to help you know and hear His still, small voice. Ask the Lord to help you obey when the Spirit is speaking to you.



SUGGESTED PROP

Water in liquid, solid, and vapor form



VIDEO

vimeo.com/643610496/7a777e2fed



WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Last week, we learned about the Trinity, God in three persons. We spent time understanding how we could be sure that Jesus was the Son of God.

This week, we will learn about the Holy Spirit. Remember how we used a chicken egg to think about the three persons of God? This week, water will help us understand more about the Holy Spirit.

We know that water can be liquid. We drink water, swim in water, and use water to clean. We also know that water is solid when it is frozen. All of us know what ice cubes are. When water freezes, it is no longer liquid; it becomes hard and cold.

But what happens when water gets hot and becomes a vapor? When we take a hot shower, we see the steam swirling in the air around the liquid water. That steam is water in vapor form. Sometimes, thinking about water as a vapor helps us understand God as a spirit.

The Bible tells us that those who believe in Jesus also have the Holy Spirit living inside them. The very Spirit of God in our lives helps us to hear and follow Jesus. We can't feel the Holy Spirit physically, but we do feel the effects of listening to Him and following Him. We feel the peace and joy He gives us, and we feel conviction leading us to repentance when we disobey.

Remember that steamy shower? If you leave the water on long enough, the vapor will fill the room and cover the mirror. Even though you can't reach out and hold the water vapor, you can see its effects. The next time you see water vapor, think about the incredible effects the Holy Spirit has in the believer's life. Jesus called the Holy Spirit the Great Comforter!

Now, just like the egg from last week, water in three parts doesn't fully explain how God is three in one. For water to do that, it would have to be a solid, liquid, and vapor all at once. Having a steamy, liquid ice cube is impossible, but with God, the Trinity is very possible. In three persons as the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, God makes living life as a believer very special. Having the Holy Spirit inside us helping us to live is an amazing gift from God!

WEEK 4: THE CHURCH OF CHRIST



KEY VERSE

In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit (Eph. 2:21-22).



PRAYER PROMPTS

Thank the Lord for creating the Church for His glory.
Ask Him to show you how to serve others in your church and who to invite to church.



SUGGESTED PROP

Small rocks or pebbles and one LARGE rock or stone



VIDEO

vimeo.com/643613391/44870cfe3a



WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Did you know that the very first time Jesus talked about His Church, He used two words that describe rocks? In Matthew chapter 16, Jesus asked His disciples what people thought of Him and how they talked about Him. They shared that people thought He was John the Baptist or another great prophet. Jesus then asked His disciples what they thought of Him. Simon Peter answered, “You’re the Christ, the Messiah of the living God.”

Jesus was delighted to hear Simon Peter answer this way, and He said to him something they had never heard. First, He called Simon, Peter, which means rock. This kind of rock was steady and strong, but it wasn’t the most giant rock. Then, He said, “Peter (rock), I will use you and build my Church on the solid rock, and it will be powerful and unstoppable.” He was telling Peter that it would take strong people like him, the other disciples, and all the believers to build the Church, but that it would be incredibly powerful because it would be built on the foundation of the solid rock—Jesus Himself! The rock of Christ is bigger, stronger, and more powerful than any other. The rock of Christ would use people like Peter and you and me to be the Church in the world. The promise was that if we stayed true to Christ, our foundation, the Church, could never be destroyed.

Imagine the most giant rock you can picture. Maybe it is a mountain of rock or Mount Rushmore. Perhaps you imagine the very stone that was rolled away from Jesus’s tomb. Whatever giant rock you picture, it is never more powerful than Jesus Christ, the solid rock Himself. But Jesus uses all of us, like smaller rocks, and He puts us together and makes us into His Church. He becomes our strong foundation and holds us up as His Church. He loves His Church so much that He gave His life and rose again for it.

Whatever church you call your own, never forget that you, like Peter, are a rock inside representing Jesus to the world. All of Christ’s followers make up the Church of Jesus to the people around us, and nothing can ever destroy it!

WEEK 5: THE MISSION OF CHRIST



KEY VERSE

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on Earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matt. 28:18-20).



PRAYER PROMPTS

Thank the Lord that He wants everyone to know Him. Ask Him to show you how to be on mission pointing others to Jesus.



SUGGESTED PROP

Magnifying glass



VIDEO

vimeo.com/643618473/05ba8baeb0



WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Do you like spy movies? Isn't it always fun to watch a story unfold where a spy goes on a mission to uncover something important that might help the world? In the movies, spies or special agents are often smart, strong, and capable. They have the skills and tools to do things that ordinary people don't have, and those extraordinary skills always help them save others!

Did you know that Jesus has sent all of us on a mission? He has called all His believers to a special mission of finding people who don't know Him and helping them come to know His love and salvation. We are to spend our whole lives on this mission—looking for people that do not know Jesus so that everyone can have a chance to accept Him as their Savior.

Have you ever used a magnifying glass? This special tool helps make tiny things much bigger so that they are easy to see. Sometimes letters and words can be so little that they don't even look like letters or words; but if you put a magnifying glass over them, suddenly you can see what you couldn't see before!

When Jesus calls us into the mission of looking for the lost, He gives us His power to see the people that need Him most. He makes our hearts soft to find them and help them see Jesus for themselves. Jesus uses us like a magnifying glass to show the truth of His love to a lost world. Because of this, we all get to be special agents on a mission to bring people to Jesus!

WEEK 6: THE RETURN OF CHRIST



KEY VERSE

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body (Phil. 3:20-21).



PRAYER PROMPTS

Thank the Lord for His promise to return for us! Ask Him to help you remember that He is coming back so that you can be helping others know Him and prepare for His return.



SUGGESTED PROP

A real or toy trumpet or trumpet sounds



VIDEO

vimeo.com/643620134/fecbb0a59d



WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Have you ever seen the President of the United States or the Queen of England? Did you know that when they travel to different places, they usually arrive with many people and sometimes even parades? Often, there are large crowds and loud music. They roll out the red carpet and let the honored guests ride in very special cars. It really is quite something. It is always well-planned and organized. World leaders never show up as a surprise. People always know when to expect them.

Did you know that Jesus promised that one day He would come back to this earth and bring all of His people home? The Bible tells us that He has prepared a place for His believers where we will be with Him for eternity. He promises that all sadness will be gone and that there will be no more tears. It is perfect and filled with His love!

But He did not tell us when He would be back. He asks that we stay busy being on mission for and with Him until His return. His Word tells us that one day we will all be amazed to see the sky open, hear the trumpet sound, and see His angel armies bringing Him back here for us! We won't have time to roll out red carpets or organize any parades, but we will know it is Him because He is the King of Kings! And He will gather everyone who believes in Him and take us to that perfect place He has prepared for us.

I can't imagine what it will be like to hear that trumpet sounding the return of Christ, but I know it will be amazing. I am so grateful that Jesus promises us His return and that He will rule forever and ever. No more will we need earthly rulers. No more will there be wars or politics. Everything will be made perfect, and Christ will be our eternal King!