



FAITH | WEEK 1 | AUGUST 3, 2025 | ELEMENTARY

CREATION AND THE FALL

Key Application: Faith - Trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see.

Bible Story: Creation and the Fall • *Genesis 1-2:3, 3; Romans 5:8*

Key Question: How do you know you can trust God?

Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what so I can belong in God's family forever.

Memory Verse: Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see.

Hebrews 11:1 (NirV)

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

All month, we're doing a deep dive into the origins of our faith! Kids are concrete thinkers, and while faith comes easily to some, others struggle to believe in a God they can't see with their own eyes. That's why it's so important to help kids understand that faith in God isn't a "blind leap." We may not be able to see God with our physical eyes, but we can see the countless things that God has done and the promises that God has fulfilled. This is true for the stories from Genesis we'll cover this month, but it's also true in the lives of Jesus followers over the last two thousand years—and in your own life.

This is a great month for you and other ministry leaders or volunteers to share a personal, age-appropriate story of something God has done in your life, and how your own faith grew as a result. You can also remind kids that faith is not something we have to work up to on our own. Paul wrote in Romans 10:17 that "faith comes from hearing the message.

And the message that is heard is the message about Christ" (NirV). The more that we hear about God's deep love for us in His Word, the Bible, and about the things that Jesus said and did, the stronger our faith becomes. Our faith also grows when we live out the things we have learned. In fact, Hebrews records that Jesus is the Author and Perfector of our faith. Encourage kids that they can ask God to grow their faith—and trust that He will do it.

Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → • You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → • A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

Morning Flow

Doors
Open

9:15/11:00

Large Group
Starts

9:35/11:20

Small Group
Starts

10:05/11:50

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME (3 Minutes)

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

LGL: “Welcome everyone! I’m so glad you are able to come hang out with us in KidCity today. My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today, but before we do let’s go over these announcements/KidCity Expectations.

(SLIDE: 5th SUNDAY FUNDAY) (Once in a while there are 5 weeks in a month instead of 4 – and that’s awesome! It’s worth celebrating. The next 5th Sunday is at the end of this month, and we want you to come and bring your friends!

(SLIDE: BAPTISM) *(Said on the fourth weekend of the month only)* “Today are baptisms at Hope. Baptism is a way of telling the world that you love God and have made the decision to follow Him with your life. It’s a big deal! Is there anyone here who is getting baptized today? *(Pause and if someone is, go ahead and give them a high five and get the kids to clap).* Awesome!”

(SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS) “Now, let’s quickly go over our KidCity Expectations (rules) so we can make sure that we make the most of our time today: *(Don’t dwell on these too long, but make sure you review them briefly so we can set everyone up for success.)*

1. Be Kind
2. Be Safe
3. Have Fun

LARGE GROUP GAME (5 Min)

BRANDLESS SUPERHEROES

(Whiteboards, Dry Erase Markers)

BIG NEWS! Over the next year we are going to through the whole Bible! To kick it off, let’s talk about something really important, faith!

(SLIDE: KEY APPLICATION) Faith - Trusting in what you can’t see because of what you can see.

Faith in God isn’t a “blind leap.” We may not be able to see God with our physical eyes, but we can see the countless things that God has done and the promises that God has fulfilled. To have a really deep faith, we have to go WAY back to the very beginning. More on that in a bit!

First, let’s check out our memory verse for the month.

(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE) Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see. **Hebrews 11:1 (NIRV)**

Take a minute to explain that ‘Hebrews’ is a book in the New Testament, and that the first number means ‘chapter’ and the second one means ‘verse’. ‘NIRV’ is what

translation the Bible is in. The Bible wasn't originally written in English! There are different translations.

You'll have more time to practice this month's verse, but for now let's play a game! Because we are talking about needing to go back to the beginning, that reminds me of the origin stories of superheroes. Like, the story of how Batman BECAME Batman. Our lesson today is all about OUR origin story, so let's play a game about superheroes!

(SLIDES: BRANDLESS SUPERHEROES #1-34)

HOW TO PLAY

- Split kids up into groups with their/a small group leader. Give each group a whiteboard and a dry erase marker.
- Explain that superheroes usually have a logo (or brand) on their outfit telling people who they are. For example, Batman has a bat on his chest.
- You will show a 'brandless logo' on the screen and the kids will have to guess what superhero it belongs to. Teams will write their guess down on their whiteboard and hold it up when they are ready.
- Once everyone has their guess logged, go to the next slide and reveal the answer. There are 11 rounds.
 - *Play a practice round so everyone understands the game.*

"That was so fun! Now everyone stand up and let's worship God!"

WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)

(VIDEO: AT THE TOP OF MY LUNGS, I THANK GOD)

BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)

(No Supplies)

This month we're in the series 'Origin Story,' where we're talking about God and how His Story started. But before that, I want to ask about YOUR origin story. Are you from this state or somewhere else? Is there something that's unique about how you grew up? Take a second and ask your neighbor that question. *(Pause)*

Thanks for sharing your story. Some of you might be sitting next to someone you knew for a while, and now you know something new about them. See, when we get to know about someone's past, we get to really understand them so much more than we did before. We just learned something new about each other! But let me ask you a question. It's kind of a big one: What do you know about God? Some of you might have the answer you think you're supposed to say in church, right? Some of you may not really know a lot about God. When you stop and think about it, who *is* God? I mean, is God this being who is outside of what we think and see every day who is just unemotionally controlling everything? Is He just some cosmic being who just 'poofed' the world here one day and left everyone to think for themselves? And can we *really* trust someone we can't see?



“Thankfully, God wants us to know who He is and what He is like! That’s why He gave us His Word, the Bible! And we’re going to do something really cool this year. We are going to learn the big story God is telling in the entire Bible. And as we go through the Bible, our hope is that you learn about God! That’s why He gave the Bible to us in the first place! Let’s start with THE first story...

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 7 MIN)

God loves you. He cares so much about you that He sent Jesus with the mission to die for you and pay for your sins.

“Because of God’s rescue plan, through Jesus, our relationship with Him is no longer broken. And that’s just the first part of God’s great plan! There’s more! Jesus is coming back! When He does, we will live with Him forever and there will no longer be any pain, or sickness, or death. He is going to fix everything that has been broken!

“So, back to that question that we asked in the beginning: How do you get to know God? Like the big God who rules over all?

“One of the ways you can do that is through His Word, the Bible. That’s one of the reasons God gave it to us—He wants us to know Him! So, we are going to spend this year going through His Great Story to learn more about who He is. Check out this timeline:

(SLIDE: GOD’S BIG STORY)

“This week, we looked at how God has been working on His great rescue plan for a long, long time. Adam and Eve broke everything. And God is going to fix everything.

“So, we can trust God no matter what because even when we’re not worthy of His love, He loves us anyway. Adam and Eve broke everything. We all needed rescue. And God loves us so much He did everything to fix what we broke. We saw this week how He has been working on His great rescue plan for a long, long time.

Another way to say it is how our Basic Truth for this week says it...

(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH) I am loved by God no matter what so I can belong in God’s family forever.

When we see creation, we can see that God loved you for a long, long time. God cares for you and wants to have a personal relationship with you. The first step is to trust Him. As we head to Small Groups, we want you to consider this question:

(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION) ‘How do you know you can trust God?’

Have kids turn and talk to their shoulder partner for 60 seconds. Your KQ slide on Playlister will keep track of time for you. While kids are talking, walk around and listen in to what they are saying and give prompts if needed. Don’t try to resolve anything, kids will have a further discussion within their small group time.

“Ok friends, come back together in 3, 2, 1....

“I heard some great thoughts floating around. You are going to have more of a chance to talk about this in small group time, but for now let’s pray.

God, I pray that these kids come to know you better through studying your Word and talking to other people who also know you. Thank you for loving us and giving us a way to have a right relationship with you again through Jesus. Amen.

DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS



SMALL GROUP

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TALK ABOUT IT (K-5th)

There are no right or wrong answers but try to challenge the kids to think deeper.

Key Question: How do you know you can trust God?

(Answers will vary, you can trust God because He always keeps His promises and loves you more than anyone ever could. The Bible shows us how He helped people before, and He'll help you too!)

LOOK IT UP (K-5th)

Grab Bibles, look up, and read the following passage.

Look Up: Romans 5:8

Say: The book of Romans, written by Paul, teaches us that everyone needs God's help, and Jesus came to save us because we can't be good enough on our own. It shows us how much God loves us and how to live the right way by trusting Him.

PRACTICE IT (K-5th)

("Creation Playing Cards" Activity Pages – one set per small group, Brown Paper Bag)

What You Do:

- *This activity will not be impactful without the "SAY" portion of the activity.*
- Have kids seat in a circle
- Pass the bag, with creation cards inside, around the circle.
- Have each kid take a card out of the bag and pass it on.
- Keep passing the bag until there are no more cards in it. (It's okay for some kids to have more than one.)
- Have kids lay out their cards in front of them and put them in order.
- Discuss each image and how it relates to today's Bible Story.
- Share with the kids that even when people turned away from God, God never left us alone! God sent Jesus. And anyone who chooses to follow Him will live with God forever!

What You Say:

“Of all the incredible things God made, people (that’s you and me!) are God’s favorite! We are the only creations God made in His image! That means that we were created to show each other what God is like. God is good, so we should be good like He is! God is kind, so we should be kind like He is! God is fair, so we should be fair like He is! And He made us to be His friends.”

“But sadly, the people God made sinned and ushered in a curse. The curse infected Adam and Eve’s heart with sin, and every person who would live after them would have an infected heart too. Their curse of sin would pull them away from God and they couldn’t have a relationship with Him.”

“Only God could fix it. But it would take a big plan. Sin is all the things God is NOT. God is good, sin is not. God is kind, sin is not. God is fair, sin is not. Sin is when we choose our way instead of God’s way. Sin pulls us away from God. It keeps us from being close to Him like He wanted. But God didn’t give up—not for a second. God loves us so much and His love IS bigger and stronger than sin!”

“So, God had a plan to make things right. Jesus came, gave His life, and paid for sin for all time. Now, when we choose to follow Jesus, we can have a relationship with God again!”

“When you make a bad choice, you can trust that God loves you too! You can trust God no matter what!”

Discussion Questions (3rd-5th)

Ask:

- How do you know you can trust God?
- What do you think it means to trust God with something you can’t see or control?
- When you’re having a hard time trusting God, what can you do? Who can you talk to?
- What would you tell someone who doesn’t believe God exists?

GET STRONGER (K-5th)

(Memory Verse Poster and Bibles Marked at Hebrews 11:1, “Memory Masks” Activity Page – 1 Mask per kid (Pre-cut for K-1), Popsicle Sticks – 1 per kid, Coloring Supplies, Tape)

What You Do:

- Ask for someone to read Hebrews 11:1 from the marked Bible.
- Talk through any possibly unfamiliar words or phrases, focusing on the meaning of the verse.
- Repeat the verse together several times.
- Share with kids:
 - “Faith is all about trusting in what you can’t see because of what you can see.”
 - “While we can’t see God with our eyes, we can see all the wonderful things God made and remember all the wonderful things God has done.”
- Give each kid a mask from the “Memory Mask” Activity Pages.
- Point out the Memory Verse on the mask and lead the kids to repeat it again.
- Invite the kids to use the coloring supplies to decorate their masks.

- Use tape to attach popsicle sticks to the mask.
 - NOTE: Do not cut out the eye holes.
- Once everyone is finished, invite the kids to hold their masks in front of their faces.
- Repeat the verse together again.

What You Say

- “I love your masks! They’re unique and special—just like you!
- “The Bible is God’s Word and when we memorize it, it helps us remember what’s true. This verse from the Bible is all about faith. What are some things you can’t ‘see’ but you know are there? Think about air or the wind. We can’t see them, but we know they’re there when we see the trees blowing, or when we take a breath.
- “God is with us, friends. We may not ‘see’ God, but we can look at all the things God made and trust that God is near! We can also remember the wonderful things He has done, and that can help us trust Him too! God has always, always been good. Keep practicing this verse at home with a grown-up.

PRAYER

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank you for loving all of us! You made a way for us to live with you forever through your Son, Jesus. When we’ve made bad choices, help us remember we can trust you no matter what! Help us be reminded of your goodness when we see the things you’ve made—including us! Help us remember that you love us so very much. We want to live in your love for us. We love you, God. We pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”