



VISION

Jesus focused kids.
Jesus focused families.
Jesus focused servants.

Calvary Kids Volunteer Contact Sheet

Please use this contact sheet when you need to find a substitute for a Sunday you are scheduled or would like to find coverage for. Please email our Children's Ministry Assistant with your substitutes name, service and class. Remember it is always helpful to block out the days you know you will not be able to serve at least a month in advance. Thank you!

Name	Email Address	Preferred Service	Preferred Classroom

The Calvary Kids Leadership Team

We put our team's staff picture or a headshot picture of each person, their title/job and email or phone number.

I.e. Picture and underneath Name, Title/Job, Email and Phone Number.

Sunday Prayer Huddle

Please join us every Sunday Morning at 8:40am in the Worship Room for Sunday Prayer Huddle and coffee.

Vision: Huddling together earlier than normal is fun right?!? Well, it may or may not feel fun, but as a team we firmly believe that it's going to be crucial for the long term success of the ministry. As we serve families each week, we have to connect with one another and be punctual. As we connect please take the time to share praises, give feedback on how your class or experience in Calvary Kids is going, praying for the specific day and meeting other fellow team members before families arrive.

Volunteer Requirements & Expectations

- Required to attend one of the three services offered on Sunday at Calvary Monterey.
 - Commit to at least one service time to serve at 9am, 11am, 6:30pm or during the Life Church quarter.
- Keep your personal relationship with the Lord a top priority! Continue to have a daily quiet time, devotional, prayer life, be a part of a Life Group and community apart from just attending and serving in Calvary Kids.
- Be in your classrooms 15 minutes before service starts. It is vital to be on time and ready well before families arrive to drop off their kids.
- Have cell phones on vibrate or silent and put away.
- Come to class prepared by reading the lesson before Sunday.
- If your kids are attending Calvary Kids for both services, please remember to pick up your kids at the end of the 9am service. After you have picked them up, go back to Kid Check to check out your child from the 9am service and sign them into the 11am service. If you need further help, please ask for help at the supervisor station.
- Planning Center
 - The Sunday request the Tuesday before the Sunday for which you are scheduled to serve. You are required to accept or decline by no later than Thursday.
 - Please place your blockout dates a month in advance in planning center. You will be sent a monthly reminder via email for you to input your block out dates in Planning Center.
 - If you have a family emergency or a personal conflict after Thursday, Our Children's Ministry Assistant will not be checking her email until late Saturday night or early Sunday morning. **Please text her about your decline and also make sure to decline on planning center.**

The Resource Room

We encourage volunteers to spend limited time in the resource room. To help you have a smooth Sunday Morning, the curriculum and activities are separated and prepared for you prior to class. If you need more supplies or copies, please grab one of our Children's Ministry staff members and they will be able to help you with the supplies you need. We do highly encourage your creativity, if you have another activity in mind please email our Children's Ministry Assistant by Friday Morning and we can have those supplies available in your classroom

Playground Policy

- Children must be supervised at all times by a teacher.
- Only teachers may retrieve balls or any equipment that are outside of the play area.
- Classes are only allowed to be outside during the allotted time specified in the classroom schedule posted in your classroom.
- 2 and 3 year olds are only allowed inside the "Toddler" yard. (*the small gated playground*)
- Do not remove or allow children to remove toys from inside the gated "Toddler yard."
- No swinging on gates.
- No throwing rocks, sand, dirt, or wood chips.
- No climbing on trees, fences or walls.
- Toys must be put away when done. Please do not leave it for others to pick up. Guide your students to put away what they played with when finished.
- Make sure all students are visible, playing on the play structure, on the grass or inside the "Toddler" yard.
- No jumping from the structure.

Sick Child Policy

All children who are signed in must be healthy for the sake of others. A child should not be permitted in class if they have:

- An excessive cough
- A dripping greenish colored mucus from their nose
- An eye discharge or rash
- A fever
- Have vomited in the past 24 hours

If your child was taken to the doctor on Sunday or day after with a viral infection please contact our Calvary Kids Director . Calvary Kids will inform other parents if their child is at potential risk of a contagious illness.

Please let the supervisor on Sunday morning know if a child is signed into your class with any of the above symptoms. Please note that some children may have allergies with similar symptoms, or be on antibiotics and no longer be contagious.

Diaper Policy

- Children who are younger than 2 years old, may ONLY be changed by female volunteers that have been background checked.
- Do not use any creams on the child unless pre-approved by the parent.
- Follow steps to changing a diaper the sanitary way (posted above changing tables). Be as efficient as possible and never leave a child alone on the changing table.
- Children who are 2 years old and older and still in diapers must be changed by their parent only. Please ask a supervisor, and they will page the parent to come change their child inside their classroom.

Restroom and Potty Training Policy

- **Every student is to be escorted to and from the bathroom by a teacher's aide or MS/HS aide.** In the case of one adult in your classroom, ask for the supervisor at the supervisor station. Then the supervisor will escort your student to and from the bathroom.
- **THE RESTROOM IS FOR MINORS ONLY!** Please help us by not using the restroom. If you need to use the restroom, please use the restroom next to the main sanctuary.
- Parents should inform you if their child is potty training.
- If a child is potty training, please have a supervisor call the child's parent/guardian right away to assist their child if there is an accident.

Injury Policy

- If a child is injured during class, please notify a supervisor immediately. The supervisor will help you with care and notifying the parent of the injury.

Visitor Policy

- All children must check in using Kid Check, even if they are a one time visitor.
- Some visitors may have relatives that attend Calvary Monterey and will want to place their kids together. In this case, you may have a child in your class that will be checked into the wrong grade. Please be flexible with this situation. If you have any questions, please grab the Supervisor.

Snack & Allergy Procedure

Before passing out snack, always check each child's id Check labels. Children with an allergy or other dietary concern have their name highlighted in a black box on their label. If you have a student with a gluten or dairy allergy please have your classroom teacher's aide go to the Supervisor Station. The supervisor at the station will provide you with a snack for the child.

- **Walkers:** Cheerios and Graham crackers are stocked in each classroom. If you run out, please let a supervisor know and the supervisor can grab them for you. Please do not give graham crackers to any child under the age of 9 months.
- **2 Year Olds - 3rd Grade:** Goldfish, water and cups are restocked before the 9am service in each classroom. Before the 11am service starts, you may need more cups or goldfish, please send the teacher's aide to get supplies from the supervisor station.
- **4th-5th Grade:** A special snack, water, and cups are restocked before the 9am service on a table in the classroom. If you run out of snacks, please send a teacher's aide to get more from the Supervisor station.
- **Snack is always during the last 10 minutes of the service in your classroom.** Having snack at the end allows for a smoother pick up and transition for both the teacher and the parent.
- Please **limit each child's snack to ½- one cup depending on the age group of your class**, or one of whatever they may be having for snack that day. Even if we have plenty of snack resources available, we are really trying to stretch beyond just that service or day (being good stewards of God's resources).

Cleaning Procedure

Babies- 3 Year Olds

- Please use the Babyganics Toy & High Chair Spray cleaner in the cabinet above the sink to clean all surfaces and toys used at the end of service. Babies/Toddlers place everything in their mouths and by wiping down each toy is helping keep our classrooms as sanitary as possible.
- When cleaning toys, please spray down the toys or any large surfaces (i.e. playmat, blocks or jumpers) and then wipe them down with a paper towel.
- Please let Ashley know when you are running low on cleaner and we will purchase more.

4 Year Olds-5th Grade Classrooms

- Please sweep all floors at the end of class or snack time. If you do not have a broom inside your classroom please let a supervisor know.
- Please wipe down all table tops and counters.
- Pick up any toys.
- 11 AM please remove the trash from your room and bring it to the supervisor station.

Child Abuse Reporting

If you are told of abuse or have reason to suspect abuse, then you are required to report it immediately to a Pastor on staff, as described below. Although this is extremely rare and we have yet to have a reported case of abuse, it is important to take necessary precautions as a Church.

Who to Report It to:

- As volunteers you are not mandated reporters but, the following pastors will need to be reached immediately to investigate the situation. Do not share or repeat any information regarding your report.
- DO NOT Minimize or place blame.
- DO NOT attempt your own investigation.
- Ensure that the complaint is being taken seriously

The following can be used as indicators that should cause you to suspect abuse:

Physical Indicators of Physical/Sexual Abuse:

- Difficulty in walking or sitting
- Pain or itching in the genital area
- Bruises or bleeding in external genitalia, vaginal or anal areas. (only applies to those in the Crawlers or Walkers due to changing diapers.)
- Torn, stained or bloody underclothing
- Pregnancy
- Frequent injuries or unexplained bruises, welts, or cuts.
- Is always watchful and “on alert” as if waiting for something bad to happen.
- Injuries appear to have a pattern such as marks from a hand or belt.
- Shies away from touch, flinches at sudden movements, or seems afraid to go home.
- Wears inappropriate clothing to cover up injuries, such as long-sleeved shirts on hot days.

Behavioral Indicators of Physical/Sexual Abuse:

- Withdrawal, fantasy or infantile behavior
- Bizarre, sophisticated or unusual sexual behavior or knowledge.
- Poor peer relationships
- Delinquency or running away.
- Reports sexual assault by caretaker
- Hygiene is consistently bad (unbathed, matted and unwashed hair, noticeable body odor).
- Untreated illnesses and physical injuries.

Calvary Kids Special Needs Ministry

Our Special Needs Coordinator specializes in helping families feel welcome and how to best support their children with special needs. Please read the note below from our Special Needs Coordinator on how to best coordinate with her and parents.

Teachers/Teacher's Aides

Parents of kids with special needs are usually pretty good about informing you of their kid's individual needs. However, please don't hesitate to ask the parent if there is anything you should specifically be aware when you have their child in your classroom. Remind parents to check in with the supervisor on duty to make sure their information is taken so that our Special Needs Coordinator can connect with them during the week. Our staff will make sure to communicate with you any additional information about the child that may be helpful as you lead your classroom. It's a honor to serve these families.

Supervisors

- It's our goal to connect with these families the first Sunday they bring their children to Calvary Kids. We're not guaranteeing them a separate special needs classroom with one-on-one attention for their kids, but if we don't let them know from the get-go that they're seen and wanted here, they may not return because they fear being a burden.
- There are cards at the Supervisor's Station with contact information and resources explaining our goal for the Special Needs ministry in Calvary Kids. This is a great resource to hand to families right when you meet them.
- Please ask for the parent's email and our Special Needs Coordinator will reach out to them during the week and email them our Family Profile Form. This allows us to begin establishing a way to see Jesus famous in the lives of their children and allow the adults to attend service. Most importantly, make sure they know how glad we are that they're here!

3 Months- Crawler's Overview

Goal: We desire is to have babies nurtured in a safe, calm and soothing environment while the child's parent is in service. We want Jesus' love shown to them through care, worship music (cd's/singing songs), play and reading a bible story. Our goal and desire is for families to know they can teach their babies about Jesus even at this young age. Babies are great listeners.

Age: 3 months - Crawling

We do not allow babies under 3 months old in the classroom, they are just developing attachment with their parents and are still considered a newborn. Please let moms know we have a Nursing Mom's room available for them to use if their baby is fussy, hungry or need a private room to be with their baby. Once the baby is close to walking or walking, please let parents know their child needs to be moved downstairs to the Walkers room.

Characteristics

Each of these characteristics are general characteristics most 3-11 month olds are at. Please keep in mind every students grows in their own pace and personality designed by God. These general characteristics were taken from Wholly Kids by LifeWay Kids.

Physical

- Use many complex reflexes
- Begin to reach toward objects
- Hold up their heads
- Sit without support
- Roll over, crawl
- Look for dropped toys

Mental

- Use senses to learn
- Cry to signal pain or distress
- Recognize principle caregivers
- Use vocal and nonvocal communication
- React differently to familiar and unfamiliar
- Know and respond to name

Social/Emotional

- Smile broadly at others
- Show alertness when spoken to
- Begin to initiate social interchange
- Become quiet in unfamiliar settings
- Make eye contact
- Show interest in other children

Spiritual

- Develop a sense of trust as needs are met consistently
- Sense attitudes and expressions of love
- Learn to associate God's name with love and trust
- Sense importance associated with Jesus and the Bible
- Point to the Bible and pictures of Jesus.

Curriculum

We use First Look Curriculum by Orange which focuses on simple stories and songs for babies. Every month there is a hand out posted on the cabinets in the classroom with the Bible Story to read to babies or a song to sing.

Levels of Biblical Learning

These are general concepts that we feel all our 3 months olds-Crawlers will begin to understand as you interact with them in class. (Levels of Biblical Learning by LifeWay)

God is good, made you, loves me and people, helps and hears me.

Jesus

- Jesus was born and is alive.
- God chose a family for Jesus
- Jesus grew like me.
- Jesus learned about God.
- Jesus told people about God.
- Jesus helped people because He loved them.
- Jesus loves me.
- Jesus did everything God told Him to do.

Holy Spirit

Concept statements from the God concept area lay a foundation for later learning about the work of the Holy Spirit. Examples of those statements are:

- God helps and loves me.
- Jesus did everything God told Him to do.
- Jesus is alive.

Bible

- The Bible is a special book.
- The Bible tells about God.
- People in the Bible told about God.
- The Bible tells about Jesus.
- The Bible helps me know what to do.

Salvation: God loves and cares about us.

Creation

- God made day, night, plants, sky, sun, moon, stars, animals, water, birds, fish and people.
- God food for people and animals.
- God planned for people to care for the things He made.
- God wants me to enjoy the things He made.

- God wants me to thank Him for the things He made.

Church

- People learn about God and Jesus at church.
- People at church love and help me.
- People at church sing, talk to God and listen to Bible stories.

People

- God made me and made me special
- God created me to make choices.
- God helps me learn and grow like Jesus grew.
- God loves for me to talk to Him.
- God wants me to be a friend.
- God loves me and helps me.
- God has plans for me.
- God helps me learn about Jesus.

Family:

- God made families.
- Families love one another.
- God gave me a family to help me.
- My family tells me about God.
- God made and loves families.

Community & World:

- God made people.
- People tell others about God and Jesus.
- People can talk to God.
- God cares about other people and me.

Goals of Biblical Skills:

As babies leave the classroom we hope they leave to their Walkers class starting to know these skills. These skills help interactions with each child and are a great way to assist parents in what they may already be doing at home. We took these concepts from The Levels of Bible Skills from Wholly Kids by LifeWay.

- Knows the Bible is a book.
- Can touch, hold and turn the pages of the Bible.
- Can listen to brief Bible stories.
- Associates God and Jesus with the Bible.
- Hears the name of God and Jesus.
- Can hear Bible verses at home.
- Can hear Bible verses that relate to his everyday activities.
- Hears that God told people to write the Bible.

Steps to Soothe a Baby:

Here are some steps to take before calling a Supervisor in to help:

- Check for a wet or dirty diaper.

- Try A Pacifier- if allowed to have one/has one
- Hungry? Did the child's parents bring a bottle? If mom is nursing, allow the baby to be picked up, nursed and brought back into the classroom. I know this is distracting, but we also should be able to adapt to a parent and their child's needs.
- Wait up to at least 10-15 mins of the baby crying. This could be shorter due to severity or longer due to very low level “sniffle” crying. After, the supervisor will be the one to make the call on calling the child's parents. **If the child's parent has requested to call them right away please accept the parent's wishes and have a supervisor call the parent.**
- How do I distract a crying baby?: Find a toy, different holding position (ie. facing out instead of facing in), place the baby in a swing, jumper or on the ground. Babies get bored very easily and need different surroundings to keep them calm.

Walker's Overview

Goal: Toddlers/Babies (who are walking or close to walking) to be calmed, soothed and cared for in a safe environment while their parents are in service. Jesus' love will be shown to them through reading a bible story, having activities centered around the bible story and at their age level (same activities for a whole month), worship music (cd's/singing songs) and free play. Our goal is for parents to be able to attend service and toddlers to be cared for in teaching them about Jesus and not just babysitting.

Age: Around 8 months - 1 ½ years old.

Any baby or toddler starting to walk or is walking. Once the child begins to show a developmental need of more stimulation the child may be moved to the 2 year old's classroom before they turn 2. This decision will be made by the Calvary Kids Staff, volunteer's observations and in consultation with his/her parents.

Characteristics

Each of these characteristics are general characteristics most 1 year olds are at. Please keep in mind every students grows in their own pace and personality designed by God. These general characteristics were taken from Wholly Kids by LifeWay Kids.

Physical

- Sit well in chairs
- Love to explore and climb
- Draw on paper with markers or crayons
- Carry objects from place to place
- Move constantly

Mental

- Remember simple events
- Begin to group familiar objects
- Use trial and error in learning
- Can label body parts
- Understand and use few words for items
- Try to make themselves understood

Social/Emotional

- Experience stranger anxiety
- Play simple games
- Can practice taking turns
- Like to exert control
- Recognize emotions of others
- Imitate household actions

Spiritual

- Begin to make simple choices

- Continue to grow in trust of adults
- Begin to distinguish between acceptable and unacceptable behavior
- Begin to recognize pictures of Jesus (we realize they're not actual pictures)

Curriculum:

Each month's curriculum/theme is the same for 3mos. to 3 Year Olds.

- Read the bible story or stories on the curriculum handout for the month.
- Repeat the months bottom line and memory verse as a class. (i.e. when playing, or eating snack).
- Have worship music playing in the background or sing a song together as a class.
- Class activities are a part of all student participation for as long as the child is interested. The class activities are listed on the month's curriculum handout and are always available in the classroom all month long.
- Feel free to play a "Praise Baby" or "Baby Einstein" video in the background while kids are playing in addition to activities.

Before Calling A Supervisor, Steps to Soothing a Toddler:

- Check Diaper and have a female volunteer only change it. Please do not leave children in their soiled/wet diapers.
- Try a pacifier- if the parent has allowed the child to have one or has one.
- Hungry? Did the child's parent leave them a bottle, a sippy cup or a snack? Please monitor the child as they have their own cups. Toddlers love to take items such as cups, bottles or pacifiers that do not belong to them.
- Wait up to at least 15-20 minutes before calling a supervisor if the child is crying and you have already ruled out the above steps. The supervisor will be the one to make the final call on calling the child's parents. If the child's parent requested to call them right away we will call the parents.
- If we take students out of the classroom to find a new environment, please be advised our goal is to help the child feel safe in the classroom and be brought back to stay inside the classroom.

Teacher Development:

- Understand toddler growth .
- Friendly/Open with parents during drop off and pick up
 - Questions to Ask Parents:
 - When will your child be hungry?
 - Does your child nap around this time or get fussy at a certain time before service lets out?
 - Is this the first time your child has been left in a children's ministry or new to Calvary Kids?
- Working with an attached parent or fussy child
 - How long would you like us to wait until calling you if your child is crying?

- Letting parents stay with their child can help the child feel comfortable in the classroom.
 - Toddlers can begin to have separation anxiety from their parents/guardians. As a volunteer it is our job to get the child engaged in a bible story, activity or individual play if needed.
 - Ask parents questions about how to help their child feel safe and at ease when playing.
- Comforting a tired toddler:
 - How long do we wait to call the child's parent?
 - Does the child always get upset when their guardian or parent leaves?
 - What types of toys or activities does the child enjoy when in the classroom?

Goal Biblical Concepts:

These are general concepts that we feel all our 8 month olds - Walkers should know before they turn 2 through interactions and play in the classroom. (The Levels of Biblical learning by LifeWay).

God is good, made you, loves me and people, helps and hears me.

Jesus

- Jesus was born and is alive.
- God chose a family for Jesus
- Jesus grew like me.
- Jesus learned about God.
- Jesus told people about God.
- Jesus helped people because He loved them.
- Jesus loves me.
- Jesus did everything God told Him to do.

Bible

- The Bible is a special book.
- The Bible tells about God.
- People in the Bible told about God.
- The Bible tells about Jesus.
- The Bible helps me know what to do.

Salvation: God loves and cares about us.

Holy Spirit

Concept statements from the God concept area lay a foundation for later learning about the work of the Holy Spirit. Examples of those statements are:

- God helps and loves me.
- Jesus did everything God told Him to do.
- Jesus is alive.

Creation

- God made day, night, plants, sky, sun, moon, stars, animals, water, birds, fish and people.
- God food for people and animals.
- God planned for people to care for the things He made.
- God wants me to enjoy the things He made.

- God wants me to thank Him for the things He made.

Church

- People learn about God and Jesus at church.
- People at church love and help me.
- People at church sing, talk to God and listen to Bible stories.

People

- God made me and made me special
- God created me to make choices.
- God helps me learn and grow like Jesus grew.
- God loves for me to talk to Him.
- God wants me to be a friend.
- God loves me and helps me.
- God has plans for me.
- God helps me learn about Jesus.

Family

- God made families.
- Families love one another.
- God gave me a family to help me.
- My family tells me about God.
- God made and loves families.

Community & World:

- God made people.
- People tell others about God and Jesus.
- People can talk to God.
- God cares about other people and me.

Levels of Biblical Learning:

As Walkers leave the classroom, we hope by the time they turn 2 that they have mastered most of these Bible Skills. These skills help interactions with each child and are a great way to assist parents in what they may already be doing at home. We took these concepts from The Levels of Bible Skills from Wholly Kids by Life Way Kids.

- Knows the Bible is a book.
- Can touch, hold and turn the pages of the Bible.
- Can help open the Bible to a marked verse or story.
- Can say some Bible words and repeat short phrases (3-5 words)
- Can listen to brief Bible stories.
- Associates God and Jesus with the Bible.
- Hears the name of God and Jesus.
- Can hear Bible verses at home.
- Can hear Bible verses that relate to his everyday activities.
- Hears that God told people to write the Bible.

Parent Connection:

- Handing out curriculum parent handouts. Helps parents to understand what their child is learning and gives them resources in how to implement Sunday lessons at home. The handouts are placed at the counter next to the door. Please do not just push these to the side and make it a habit to ask/give parents the handouts as they are leaving Calvary Kids.
- Fostering a relationship with the parents and volunteers. This is key to building a community within Calvary Kids based on trust and safety of children continuing to learn about Jesus through their childhood.
- Each classroom has an impact on how to reach every aspect of the family to feel apart of Calvary Monterey and help aid parents as their children learn about Jesus.

2 Year Old Overview

Goal: Our Goal is to start to build a foundation in the 2 Year Old's hearts and minds that Jesus loves them, and is their forever friend.

Age: 1 ½ to 2 years old

1 ½ year olds will move up early if they are developmentally ready and received parents permission to move them up.

Characteristics

Each of these characteristics are general characteristics most 2 year olds are at. Please keep in mind every students grows in their own pace and personality designed by God. These general characteristics were taken from Wholly Kids by LifeWay Kids.

Mental

- Use 5 to 300 words
- Begin using sentences
- Identify themselves by gender
- Follow simple directions in order
- Match, compare, group and sort items
- Enjoy repetition
- Begin using numbers
- Repeat songs
- Know colors

Social/Emotional

- Take interest in family
- Try to help
- Initiate play with peers
- Show love and affection
- Respond to the moods of others
- Use imagination
- Strongly assert independence

Spiritual

- Sing simple songs about God and Jesus
- Say thank you to God
- Listen to Bible Stories

Physical

- Develop preference for right or left hand

- Stand on one foot and balance
- Jump on tiptoes
- Walk between parallel lines
- Have better gross motor coordination
- Have difficulty relaxing
- Help undress themselves (at home)

Levels of Biblical Learning :

These are general concepts that we feel all our 2 year olds should start to know and learn before they turn 3 years old. (Levels of Biblical Learning by Lifeway)

God:

- God is good and made everything.
- God loves people and is with them.
- God hears people pray.
- God helps people.
- God shows His love to people.
- God loves people even when they make wrong choices.
- God tells people to sing and pray to Him.
- God tells people to do what He says.
- God can do all things.
- God does what He says He will do.
- God knows everything and is real.

Jesus:

- God sent Jesus to earth.
Angels told Mary and Joseph that Jesus would be born.
- Jesus grew like me and had a family.
- Jesus learned about God by reading Scriptures.
- Jesus taught people what God is like.
- Jesus healed sick people.
- Jesus loves people.
- Jesus is God's Son and is with God.
- Jesus always obeyed god.

Holy Spirit:

Concept statements from the God concept area lay a foundation for later learning about the work of the Holy Spirit. Examples of those statements are:

- God helps and loves me.
- Jesus did everything God told Him to do.
- Jesus is alive.

Bible:

- The stories in the Bible really happened.
- The Bible teaches us what God is like.
- People in the Bible wrote about God.
- The Bible teaches what Jesus did.

- The Bible teaches right and wrong.

Salvation:

- God sent Jesus because He loves and cares about us.
- People sometimes make wrong choices.

Creation:

- God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh.
- God made people different from the other things He made.
- God provides for His creation
- God planned for people to care for the things He made.
- God wants me to enjoy the things He created.
- God wants me to thank Him for the things He made.

Church:

- People learn about God and Jesus at church.
- People at church love each other and teach about God and Jesus.
- People at church help others.
- People at church worship by singing, talking to God and listening to Bible stories.
- People give money at church.
- Jesus had a special meal with His friends.
- The Bible has stories about baptism.

People:

- God helps me grow.
- God made me, so I am special.
- God allows me to make right and wrong choices.
- God made me able to think, work and play.
- God loves for me to pray.
- God helps me to be kind to my friends.
- God will always love me.
- God has a plan for people.
- God helps me do what He says.
- God wants people to take care of their bodies.
- Jesus taught that I can tell others I'm sorry when I hurt them.
- God wants people to learn from Jesus.

Family:

- God's plan for families is in the Bible.
- God wants family members to love and help one another.
- God's plan is for children to do what their parents/guardians tell them to do.
- Families talk to God and read the Bible.
- God loves families even when bad things happen.

Community & World:

- God made people alike and different.
- God helps people.
- People tell others about God and Jesus.
- People can pray for others.

- People are important to God.
- Missionaries are people who tell other people about God and Jesus.

Levels of Biblical Skills:

As 2 year olds leave the classroom we hope by the time they turn 3 have started to master some of these Bible Skills. These skills help interactions with each child and are a great way to assist parents in what they may already be doing at home. We took these concepts from The Levels of Bible Skills from Wholly Kids by LifeWay.

- Knows the Bible is a book that people use at church and home.
- Hears the names of many of the books of the Bible.
- Can touch, hold and turn the pages of the Bible.
- Can help open the Bible to a marked verse or story.
- Can repeat and remember simple Bible verses.
- Can recall some Bible story people and Bible facts.
- Knows that the Bible is a book that tells about God and Jesus.
- Knows the names of God, Jesus and some people in the Bible.
- Can participate in family devotional times.
- Can begin to apply Bible verses to their life.
- Hears that people wrote God's words in the Bible.

Curriculum Breakdown:

Monthly Theme/Truths: Each month the classroom has a specific theme and Bible stories/activities that tie into each theme (the middle portion of the header in your curriculum).

During each month the curriculum has the same bible verse, basic truth and bottom line which are repeated throughout the activities each week and are great memorization tools for the kids to understand about God.

Make It Fun/Make It Stick: The activities are to be used right when the kids come into the classroom. These activities are to help the kids stay engaged during Welcome Time/Make It Fun/Make It Stick. The key to remember is that you may not go through them all but, there are plenty activities to give you less "free play" and have more structured play time as a class.

Make It True: Each month there is a monthly Bible Story DVD inside the DVD player to help teach the Bible Story. However, there is an example script to teach the lesson inside your weekly curriculum. You can use the verbiage to help you teach the lesson, but it is your decision whether to stick to the script exactly or to use your own words as you teach.

Parent Handouts: Parent Handouts are located on the welcome shelf/coat rack in your classroom. Please encourage parents to take the handout that gives information on the monthly bible lessons, memory verse and gives parents ideas on how to incorporate what their child is learning on Sundays in their everyday activities at home. Please make sure to give parents any crafts or activity pages their children have completed to take home.

Stations/Classroom Setup:

- Have an activity ready to start before students arrive in order to help parents have as smooth of a drop off as possible. The key is to distract students with an activity from Make It True or Make It Fun so parents can leave without having to come into the classroom.
- The toys are hidden in the cabinets and baskets above the bench in your classroom. You may bring the toy's out at the end of class in case you have no more activities left or feel it can help soothe a child. Playdough is another time filler or starter class activity. Please do not make it a habit to just give the kids toys to play with. We strive to have curriculum that teaches even the youngest child about Jesus. It is never too early to start teaching kids about Jesus.
- Please look at your classroom schedules which are located inside the classroom on the cabinet doors. Understanding your schedule helps you facilitate classroom time on activities and prepping to understand the curriculum material before class. The two items that do not ever change on the schedule is snack and outside play. Otherwise you are free to choose which activities to do when and your bible story or use the schedule to help you manage classroom time.

Soothing a Toddler and Connecting With Parents / Guardians

- Many kids have a hard time separating from Mom/Dad/Guardians when dropped off. At every age, as volunteers in Calvary Kids we should be helping make this time as easy as possible and be available for every child who is worked up when their parents leave.
 - Greet each child that walks into the classroom by learning their name, shaking the parents hand and helping the child engage in an activity from the Make It Fun section of the curriculum.
 - For kids having a hard time, remind the child that their Mom or Dad are upstairs learning about Jesus. Explain to the child why it is important for mom and dad to learn about Jesus. Reinforce to the child their parents will come back to pick them up in an hour or 15 minutes (however much time is left in a service).
 - Help the child engage in an activity where the child is able to sit down in a chair or on the carpet and not in your lap or being held the whole time. Explain to the child, mom or dad will be back and we are going to i.e. Color a picture about our bible story today. What do you see on the coloring page? What is your favorite color? Would you like to color one of the pictures in your favorite color?
 - Tips before having the supervisor call the parent :
 - Have one of the supervisors come into the classroom to help work with just the one child to get them back into the classroom. The supervisor will designate a helper to be the child's "buddy" to ensure everything will be okay and someone will be there. However, please remember no adults should be left one on one with a child.
 - It is up to the supervisor (in collaboration with the teacher) to decide if the parent is to be called if the above does not work.
- What do I do with a parent that does not want to leave or has a hard time leaving their child?
 - There is no one answer for every parent to child scenario. We have to build a relationship and work with each situation as they come. Please talk with any

Children's Ministry Staff Members to help work with any parent or child who are continuing to have a hard time adjusting for several weeks.

- Tips:
 - Ask parent at what point would they like to be called?
 - Having the parent stay for 5 minutes and then leaving? Have parents come back to check in with the supervisor or peak through the window. The supervisor will then explain to the parent how the child is doing and if they cry for 5 minutes we will call them immediately.
 - Be prepared for the kids who you know have a difficult time by bringing out a favorite toy, play dough and including them in group activities.

3 Year Old Overview

Goal: To continue to help build a fun and biblical environment for 3 year olds to learn about Jesus in hopes they will accept Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior.

3 Year Old Characteristics

Each of these characteristics are general characteristics most 3 year olds are at. Please keep in mind every student grows in their own pace and personality designed by God. These general characteristics were taken from Wholly Kids by LifeWay Kids.

Mental

- Use 300 to 1,000 words
- Learn short songs
- Display creativity and imagination
- Experience fears and bad dreams
- Begin speaking in complete sentences
- Do one thing at a time
- Want to know what things are and how they work.

Social/Emotional

- Try to please adults; conform more often
- Begin to show some self-control, but resort to temper tantrums when extremely angry.
- Take turns more readily
- Like to hear themselves talk
- Respond to verbal guidance and enjoy encouragement
- Play cooperatively with others
- Have imaginary companions

Spiritual

- Identify some Bible characters and stories
- Recognize the Bible as a special book; enjoy handling and using the Bible
- Enjoy singing songs about the Bible, family, nature, and friends at church
- Understand that God, Jesus and church are special.
- Begin to develop a conscience and are sensitive to feelings of shame and guilt.

Physical

- Use large muscles
- Dress themselves fairly easily
- Display some fine motor skills
- Notice the difference in boys and girls

- Dislike nap time and have difficulty sleeping during this time

Curriculum Breakdown:

Monthly Theme/Truths: The classroom has a specific theme for each month and the bible stories/activities tie into the theme (the middle portion of the header in your curriculum). During the entire month the curriculum has the same bible verse, "basic truth" and "bottom line." The repetition throughout the month is found in the activities and helps them to grasp the concepts by memory and repetition.

Make It Fun/Make It Stick: The activities are to be used right when the kids come into the classroom. You may not go through them all but, there are plenty to give you less "free play" and have more structured play time as a class.

Make It True: The Bible Story DVD is inside the DVD player in your classroom. However, there is an example script to teach the lesson inside your weekly curriculum. You can use the verbiage to help you teach but, if you aren't comfortable with verbal teaching the DVD will take care of it for you. The DVD is very interactive and we suggest that you follow along and participate in the interaction. Set the tone for you class and they will follow your lead.

Classroom Management

Please look at your classroom schedules which are located inside the classroom on the cabinet doors. Understanding your schedule helps you facilitate classroom time on activities and prepping to understand the curriculum material before class. The two items that do not ever change on the schedule is snack and outside play. Otherwise you are free to choose which activities to do when and your bible story or use the schedule to help you manage classroom time.

Levels of Biblical Learning:

These are general concepts that we feel all our 3 year olds should know before they turn 4 years old. They have been starting to learn these concepts as a 2 year old. Levels of Biblical Learning by Life Way)

God:

- God is good and made everything.
- God loves people and is with them.
- God hears people pray.
- God helps people.
- God shows His love to people.
- God loves people even when they make wrong choices.
- God tells people to sing and pray to Him.
- God tells people to do what He says.
- God can do all things.
- God does what He says He will do.
- God knows everything and is real.

Jesus:

- God sent Jesus to earth.
Angels told Mary and Joseph that Jesus would be born.
- Jesus grew like me and had a family.
- Jesus learned about God by reading Scriptures.
- Jesus taught people what God is like.
- Jesus healed sick people.
- Jesus loves people.
- Jesus is God's Son and is with God.
- Jesus always obeyed God.

Holy Spirit:

Concept statements from the God concept area lay a foundation for later learning about the work of the Holy Spirit. Examples of those statements are:

- God helps and loves me.
- Jesus did everything God told Him to do.
- Jesus is alive.

Bible:

- The stories in the Bible really happened.
- The Bible teaches us what God is like.
- People in the Bible wrote about God.
- The Bible teaches what Jesus did.
- The Bible teaches right and wrong.

Salvation:

- God sent Jesus because He loves and cares about us.
- People sometimes make wrong choices.

Creation:

- God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh.
- God made people different from the other things He made.
- God provides for His creation
- God planned for people to care for the things He made.
- God wants me to enjoy the things He created.
- God wants me to thank Him for the things He made.

Church:

- People learn about God and Jesus at church.
- People at church love each other and teach about God and Jesus.
- People at church help others.
- People at church worship by singing, talking to God and listening to Bible stories.
- People give money at church.
- Jesus had a special meal with His friends.
- The Bible has stories about baptism.

People:

- God helps me grow.
- God made me, so I am special.
- God allows me to make right and wrong choices.

- God made me able to think, work and play.
- God loves for me to pray.
- God helps me to be kind to my friends.
- God will always love me.
- God has a plan for people.
God helps me do what He says.
- God wants people to take care of their bodies.
- Jesus taught that I can tell others I'm sorry when I hurt them.
- God wants people to learn from Jesus.

Family:

- God's plan for families is in the Bible.
- God wants family members to love and help one another.
- God's plan is for children to do what their parents/guardians tell them to do.
- Families talk to God and read the Bible.
- God loves families even when bad things happen.

Community & World:

- God made people alike and different.
- God helps people.
- People tell others about God and Jesus.
- People can pray for others.
- People are important to God.
- Missionaries are people who tell other people about God and Jesus.

Levels of Biblical Skills:

As 3 year olds leave the classroom we hope by the time they turn 4 they have mastered these Bible Skills. These skills help interactions with each child and are a great way to assist parents in what they may already be doing at home. We took these concepts from The Levels of Bible Skills from Wholly Kids by LifeWay.

- Knows the Bible is a book that people use at church and home.
- Hears the names of many of the books of the Bible.
- Can touch, hold and turn the pages of the Bible.
- Can help open the Bible to a marked verse or story.
- Can repeat and remember simple Bible verses.
- Can recall some Bible story people and Bible facts.
- Knows that the Bible is a books that tells about God and Jesus.
- Knows the names of God, Jesus and some people in the Bible.
- Can participate in family devotional times.
- Can begin to apply Bible verses to their life.
- Hears that people wrote God's words in the Bible.

Parent Connection:

- When the students first come in greet the family and be friendly/intentional in how you establish the relationship with each family.
 - i.e. Good morning (parent's name) and (child's name).

- When you notice there is a new family, the first connection is vital to how they will view the classroom and their comfort level of dropping off their children. At this age most kids will have an easy time going into the classroom but, some students will still stick to their parents/guardians. Continue to be soft spoken, approachable and giving each child the needed attention to assure they are safe in the classroom. You can even have a helper be this particular child's "buddy" to help the child participate in different activities and the teacher is free to instruct the whole class.
- Please remember to give parents their child's artwork/take home sheets when you are checking each child out. As you check guardian to child tags this is a great way to connect with each parent on how the child participated in class and give any hand outs. Please remember again to utilize helpers/aides during these large transition times.

4 Year Old Overview

Goal: Our goal is to assist parents in building a stronger foundation of who Jesus is in hopes for a 4 year old to make a personal decision to want to receive Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior for the first time. (Side note: We will encourage this and resist the temptation to make value judgements as to whether or not a 4 year old has truly given their life to Jesus. Time will tell, but we want this goal to be focused on regardless.)

Characteristics

Each of these characteristics are general characteristics most 4 year olds are at. Please keep in mind every students grows in their own pace and personality designed by God. These general characteristics were taken from Wholly Kids by LifeWay Kids.

Mental

- Use 500 to 2,000 words
- Can remember name and address
- Have increased attention span
- Can do two things at once
- Are highly imaginative; cannot separate fact and fantasy
- Show a curiosity about life cycle
- Understand time concepts better
- Enjoy being silly
- Use many words without knowing their meanings

Physical

- Show good large muscle coordination
- Develop a longer, leaner body
- Develop fine motor control for painting, drawing and cutting with scissors
- Walk backward
- Need a high level of physical activity
- Exhibit right and left handedness
- Enjoy building materials with parts to assemble

Spiritual

- Like to retell Bible stories
- Enjoy Bible verse games
- Recognize that god and Jesus love people and help people in special ways
- Accept responsibility for helping people
- Exhibit a conscience
- Express love for God and Jesus

- May show concern for others
- Can sing songs about Jesus

Social/Emotional

- Have total confidence in their own abilities
- Bossy; show great independence
- Tattle frequently
- Focus on cooperative play and take turns
- Like to be helpers if they initiate the idea
- Respond to reason, humor and firmness
- Play cooperatively with other children.

Curriculum

- The Gospel Project (Preschool)
 - The preschool curriculum primarily focuses on crafts, games and group activities to reinforce and introduce the bible story for the day.
 - There is a bible story video you can show to your class or teach the story in your own words.
 - This is the first time 4 year olds will be using The Gospel Project.

Classroom Management

Please look at your classroom schedules which are located inside the classroom on the cabinet doors. Understanding your schedule helps you facilitate classroom time on activities and prepping to understand the curriculum material before class. The two items that do not ever change on the schedule is snack and outside play. Otherwise you are free to choose which activities to do when and your bible story or use the schedule to help you manage classroom time.

Levels of Biblical Learning:

These are general concepts that we feel all our 4 year olds should know and understand and be things we are continually bringing up in class each week as we teach through the Bible. (Levels of Biblical Learning by LifeWay)

God

- God is good and real.
- God made everything.
- God loves people and is with them.
- God hears people pray.
- God helps people.
- God shows His love to people.
- God loves people even when they make wrong choices.
- God tells people to sing and pray to Him.
- God tells people to do what He says.
- God can do all things.
- God does what He says He will do.

- God knows everything

Bible

- The stories in the bible really happened.
- The bible teaches us what God is like.
- People in the Bible wrote about God.
- The Bible teaches what Jesus did.
- The Bible teaches right and wrong.

Jesus

- God sent Jesus to earth.
- Angels told Mary and Joseph that Jesus would be born.
- Jesus grew like me and had a family.
- Jesus learned about God by reading the Scriptures.
- Jesus taught people what God is like.
- Jesus healed sick people.
- Jesus loves people.
- Jesus is God's Son and is with God.
- Jesus always obeyed God.

Creation

- God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh.
- God made people different from the other things He made.
- God provides for His creation.
- God planned for people to care for the things He made.
- God wants me to enjoy the things He created.
- God wants me to thank Him for the things He made.

Family

- God's plan for families in the Bible.
- God wants family members to love and help one another.
- God's plan is for children to do what their parents tell them to do.
- Families talk to God and read the Bible.
- God loves families even when bad things happen.

Church:

- People learn about God and Jesus at church.
- People at church love each other and teach about God and Jesus.
- People at church help others.
- People at church worship by singing, talking to God and listening to Bible stories.
- People give money at church.
- Jesus had a special meal with His friends.
- The Bible has stories about baptism.

Community & Word

- God made people alike and different.
- God helps people.
- People tell others about God and Jesus.

- People can pray for others.
- People are important to God.
- Missionaries are people who tell other people about God and Jesus.

Holy Spirit

Concept statements from the God concept area lay a foundation for later learning about the work of the Holy Spirit. Examples of these statements are:

- God helps and shows his love to people.
- God loves people and is with them.
- God is always with people. Jesus is in heaven with God.

Salvation

- God send Jesus because He loves and cares for us.
- People sometimes make wrong choices.

People

- God helps me grow.
- God made me, so I am special.
- God allows me to make right and wrong choices.
- God made me able to think, work and play.
- God loves for me to pray.
- God helps me grow like Jesus grew.
- God helps me to be kind to my friends.
- God will always love me.
- God has a plan for people.
- God helps me do what He says.
- God wants people to take care of their bodies.
- Jesus taught that I can tell others I'm sorry when I hurt them.
- God wants people to learn from Jesus.

Levels of Biblical Skills:

As 4 year olds leave the classroom we hope by the time they turn 5 they have started to master these Bible Skills. These skills help interactions with each child and are a great way to assist parents in what they may already be doing at home. We took these concepts from The Levels of Bible Skills from Wholly Kids by Life Way Kids.

- Knows that the two main parts of the Bible are the Old and New Testament
- Begins to pronounce the names of the books of the Bible.
- Can touch, hold and turn the pages of the Bible.
- Can begin to understand that a Bible reference includes a book, chapter and verse.
- Can repeat and remember simple verses. Can remember simple verses with Bible references.
- Remembers and can retell a familiar Bible story.
- Knows the Bible tells about God and Jesus.
- Remembers the names of familiar Bible people.
- Can use Bible at home.
- Can apply Bible verses to their life.
- Knows that people wrote God's words in the Bible.

- Knows each main part of the Bible is divided into smaller parts called books.

Connecting With Parents

- When the students first come in, greet the family and be friendly/intentional in how you establish the relationship with each family.
 - i.e. Good morning (parent's name) and (child's name).
 - When you notice there is a new family, the first connection is vital to how they will view the classroom and their comfort level of dropping off their children. At this age most kids will have an easy time going into the classroom but, some students will still stick to their parents/guardians. Continue to be soft spoken, approachable and giving each child the needed attention to assure they are safe in the classroom. You can even have a helper be this particular child's "buddy" to help the child participate in different activities and the teacher is free to instruct the whole classroom.
- Please remember to give parents their child's artwork/take home sheets when you are checking each child out. As you check guardian to child tags this is a great way to connect with each parent on how the child participated in class and give any hand outs. Please remember again to utilize helpers/aides during these large transition times.

5's & Kindergarten Overview

Goal: Our goal is to assist parents in building a stronger foundation of who Jesus is in hopes for a 5 year old or Kindergartner to make a personal decision to want to receive Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior for the first time. (Side note: We will encourage this and resist the temptation to make value judgements as to whether or not a 4 year old has truly given their life to Jesus. Time will tell, but we want this to goal to be focused on regardless.)

Age : 5- 6 Year Olds

5 Year Old Characteristics:

Each of these characteristics are general characteristics most 5 year olds and Kindergarteners are at. Please keep in mind every students grows in their own pace and personality designed by God. These general characteristics were taken from Wholly Kids by LifeWay Kids.

Mental

- Print their name but not too clearly
- Name most uppercase letters
- Utilize 2,000 word vocabulary
- Says numbers 1-20
- Know morning from afternoon
- Are challenged by new tasks
- Seek explanations concerning why and how
- Begin to recognize basic reading words
- Enjoy classification, sequencing and sorting

Social/Emotional

- Get along well in small groups
- Comfort friends who are upset
- Have best friends, but change friends often
- May be prone to self-criticism and guilt
- May continue to express fears
- Enjoy imitating adults
- Begin to distinguish truth from lies
- Enjoy competition
- Can accept responsibility

Physical

- Skip well; hop in a straight line
- Cut well with scissors
- Exhibit well-established right-or left-handedness
- Begin cutting permanent teeth
- Have good hand-eye coordination
- Dress themselves
- Can control their large muscles

- Develop appetites for favorite foods

Spiritual

- Remember and like to tell Bible stories
- Use the Bible and like to find Bible verses/ phrases
- Like to take care of God's world
- Begin to ask questions about God
- Can make life application of Bible verses
- Continue to develop a conscience.

6 Year Old Characteristics:

Mental

- May like to work
- May like to explain things; show-and-tell is useful
- May love jokes and guessing games
- Love to ask questions
- Like new games, ideas
- Love to color, paint
- Learn best through discovery
- Enjoy process more than product
- Try more than they can accomplish (eyes bigger than stomach)
- Recognize representative symbols as more important
- Begin to understand past when tied closely to present
- Interested in skill and technique for its own sake

Social/Emotional

- Want to be first
- Are competitive; enthusiastic
- Are sometimes a poor sport or dishonest; invent rules
- Are anxious to do well
- View any failure as hard; thrive on encouragement
- Can be bossy, teasing, critical of others
- Are easily upset when hurt
- View friends as important (may have a best friend)
- Complain frequently

Physical

- Are sloppy, in a hurry; speed is a benchmark
- Are noisy in classroom
- Are learning to distinguish left from right
- May struggle with fine motor skills
- Tire easily
- Suffer frequent illness
- Enjoy outdoors, gym

Spiritual

- See Jesus as a friend and helper

- May enjoy praying
- Like learning from the Bible
- May know many basic Bible stories
- May make conclusions about God
- May begin to understand the truth and honesty, right from wrong; may not make personal application.
- May begin to recognize fantasy as fantasy
- May begin to have simple understanding of sin
- May begin to have simple understanding of the gospel
- May be easily manipulated by a desire to please adults
- Know the right answers, but may not understand application.

Levels of Biblical Skills:

By the time a child has left Kindergarten and goes into 1st Grade we hope each child has mastered the bottom skills. These skills help interactions with each child and are a great way to assist parents in what they may already be doing at home. We took these concepts from The Levels of Bible Skills from Wholly Kids by Life Way Kids.

- Knows that the two main parts of the Bible are the Old and New Testament
- Begins to pronounce the names of the books of the Bible.
- Can touch, hold and turn the pages of the Bible.
- Can begin to understand that a Bible reference includes a book, chapter and verse.
- Can repeat and remember simple verses. Can remember simple verses with Bible references.
- Remembers and can retell a familiar Bible story.
- Knows the Bible tells about God and Jesus.
- Remembers the names of familiar Bible people.
- Can use Bible at home.
- Can apply Bible verses to their life.
- Knows that people wrote God's words in the Bible.
- Knows each main part of the Bible is divided into smaller parts called books.

Curriculum

- The Gospel Project (Preschool curriculum section)
 - The preschool curriculum primarily focuses still on crafts, games and group activities to reinforce and introduce the bible story for the day.
 - When doing activities please keep in mind most kids will still be struggling with learning to write or do not know how to write. During the beginning of the school year can be extremely difficult because, your students are just learning to sit still.
 - There is a bible story video you can show to your class or teach the story in your own words.
 - The students will have a year of familiarity with the curriculum, since it is the same format as the 4 year old curriculum but is adjusted for 5's-Kindergarten.

Classroom Management

- Please look at your classroom schedules which are located inside the classroom on the cabinet doors. Understanding your schedule helps you facilitate classroom time on activities and prepping to understand the curriculum material before class. The two items that do not ever change on the schedule is snack and outside play. Otherwise you are free to choose which activities to do when and your bible story or use the schedule to help you manage classroom time.

Kindergarten Development:

- This is a big year for kindergartens learning how to do new things.
- Kindergartners are very active- they typically hop, skip, jump, and dance.
- May begin playing with language to tell silly jokes.
- Start understanding right and wrong and can be critical of those who don't follow rules.
- By the end of kindergarten, children can typically use language to tell stories and express feelings.
- It is not unusual for kindergartners to have tantrums or get upset when things don't go their way.

Cognitive

- Stick with an activity for 15 minutes and finish a short project
- Make plans about how to play, what to build or what to draw.
- Typically want to know the beginning, middle, and end of a story

Language

- Use words to argue and try to reason with people; *because* is used often.
- Use language to talk about opposites and compare things ("that black cat is smaller than the white one.")
- Follow simple multi-step directions.

Social/Emotional

- Have an interest in behaving like their friends and wanting approval.
- Begin to prefer same-gender friendships; jealous of other people spending time with "their" friends.
- Want your approval and to be taken seriously; may throw a tantrum or get angry if they think they're not being listened to.

Goal Biblical Concepts:

These are general concepts that we feel all our 5 year olds - Kindergarten should know and understand and be things we are continually bringing up in class each week as we teach through the Bible. (Levels of Biblical Learning)

God

- God is good.
- God created everything.

- God is always with people.
- God hears people pray.
- God helps and provides for people.
- God shows His love to people.
- God loves people even when they make wrong choices.
- God tells people to worship Him.
- God tells people to obey Him.
- God always keeps His promises
- God can do all things.
- God is real, the only true God.
- God knows everything

Bible

- Everything in the Bible is true.
- The Bible teaches us what God and Jesus are like.
- People wrote God's words in the Bible.
- The Bible teaches that Jesus died on a cross.
- The Bible teaches right and wrong.

Jesus

- God sent Jesus to earth as a real person.
- People in the Old Testament told that Jesus would be born.
- Jesus grew, learned and had friends.
- Jesus prayed to God.
- Jesus taught people what God is like.
- Jesus performed miracles.
- People who loves Jesus want to obey Him.
- Jesus died on the cross and is alive.
- Jesus is God's one and only Son.
- Jesus was tempted to sin but did not.
- Jesus is in heaven with God.

Creation

- God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh.
- God made people able to make choices.
- God provides for His creation.
- God planned for people to care for the things He made.
- God wants me to feel a sense of wonder as I enjoy the things He created.
- God wants me to praise Him for His creation.

Family

- God's plan for families is for mothers and fathers to raise children. Children are born or adopted into families.
- God wants families to show love, respect and kindness to one another.
- God's plan is for children to obey their parents.
- Families worship God together.
- Families are made when people marry. The marriage of Adam and Eve shows us God's plan.

- God loves families even when they hurt each other, and He wants families to forgive each other.

Church:

- The church is people who gather to learn about God and Jesus.
- Church helps teach about God and Jesus.
- The church provides ways for people to help others.
- People at church worship by praying, giving, singing, reading the Bible, and learning more about God and Jesus.
- People give money at church to help others learn about God and Jesus.
- The Lord's Supper is a special meal to remember Jesus.
- A person is baptized after he or she becomes a Christian.

Community & Word

- God made people alike and different, and all are special to Him.
- God works through people.
- People who love God tell others about Him all over the world.
- People can pray for others in their communities and world.
- The Bible tells me to love others in my community and world.
- Missionaries tell people about God and Jesus in my country and in other countries.

Holy Spirit

Concept statements from the God concept area lay a foundation for later learning about the work of the Holy Spirit. Examples of those statements are:

- God helps and provides for people.
- God shows His love to people.
- God is always with people.

Salvation

- God sent Jesus to help people because He loves them.
- God sent His only Son, Jesus, because He cares about us.
- People sometimes choose to disobey God.

People

- People grow as God planned for them to grow.
- People are special because God made them.
- God allows people to make right and wrong choices.
- God made people able to do many things well.
- God wants people to pray.
- People can try to be like Jesus.
- Jesus taught how God wants us to treat other people.
- No matter what happens, God loves people.
- God has a plan for every person.
- People can show love for God by obeying Him.
- God wants people to take care of their bodies.
- God helps me obey Him.
- Because Jesus forgives, I can tell others I'm sorry for hurting them.
- God wants people to follow Jesus' example.

Connecting With Parents:

- Knowing the families by name.
- Letting parents know positive things you saw in their child.
- Sending parents home with weekly activities to help them connect with their 5 year olds-Kindergartners focusing on the Biblical Concepts and the lesson from each Sunday.
- During check out, all students take home any art work or activity sheets they completed that Sunday.
- Helping parents during transition when their child moves from 4 years old to 5 years old and making sure each child is in the proper class based on their age. This age tends to be the most difficult for parents to make a switch since, children are learning they can choose between two choices. If a parent is persistent to have their child who is 4 in your class or in 1st Grade please communicate this with our Children's Ministry Staff Members.

1st Grade Overview

Goal: Our goal is for first graders to start building strong foundations for understanding God's salvation plan, the Holy Spirit as their helper, and the world outside themselves by coming alongside parents and equipping them with helpful verbiage and activities to introduce the fundamental concepts.

Age : 6-7 years old

Curriculum:

- The Gospel Project (Younger Kids Section)
 - **Welcome Time:** Use this time to get to know the kids in your class, sit down together with them at the table and do either the activity page or coloring sheet. Try to keep the beginning part as structured as possible, this will allow for a smoother drop off time and help you control the class.
 - **Worship:** We worship together in the Large Room, during this time set the example by singing along and doing the motions. Please keep an eye out for children who become a distraction
 - **Bible Story Video:** We encourage everyone to watch the Bible Story Video with their class, and then follow up with questions and highlight the main points.
 - **Key Passage:** This is the curriculum's memory verse and changes with every unit. Encourage kids to memorize this, and work together to know it as a class.
 - **Activities:** We strongly encourage you to do one or more of the activities provided. These will help reinforce the Bible Story and keep your class engaged.

About 1st Graders:

- Most first graders begin to look for logical answers to their questions.
- First graders have trouble figuring out how to make and keep friends.
- They tend to have a mix of wanting to be independent and an increased need for your attention and approval.
- Even though they seem independent, they still need emotional support and approval.

Socially-Emotionally:

- Are more independent, but less secure; want a lot of attention and approval from adults.
- Form and break friendships easily; can be critical of other kids.
- Their feelings can easily be hurt and begin to be very aware of other people's feelings.
- Are eager to please others and want to "be first" and win.
- Understand right from wrong, but look for loopholes in rules to get what they want.

Physically:

- Typically enjoy adding their own spin on outdoor games or physical activities.
- Improved Handwriting.

- Experience many hurts, real and imagined.

Cognitive:

- Start developing the skills to reason and think logically; try to think about things before making decisions.
- Find it hard to make choices because they want to do everything at once.
- Begin to have a better sense of time; understand increments of time, days, weeks, months, and seasons.

Spiritual:

- May begin to put Bible stories into sequence.
- May begin to understand the relationship between the Old and New Testaments.
- May be interested in finding out more about God and Jesus.
- May understand that Jesus is God's Son and begin to understand what that means.
- May ask why God would let Jesus die for the wrong things that everyone else does.
- May begin to realize that God forgives when asked.
- May understand that people become Christians by accepting Jesus as Savior and Lord.

Biblical Concepts:

These are general concepts that we feel all our third graders should know and understand and be things we are continually bringing up in class each week as we teach through the Bible. (Levels of Biblical Learning)

- **God:** God is special- no one can be compared to God. God is creator. God is everywhere. God hears and answers prayers. He can be trusted and is fair. God wants me to obey, respect, and honor him.
- **Bible:** The Bible is truth and never changes. The Bible helps me know more about God and Jesus. The Bible helps me know what God wants me to do through stories about people and events.
- **Jesus:** Jesus shows me through His life and teachings what God is like. Jesus performed miracles, healed the sick, and restored life. Jesus wants people to follow Him. Jesus died on the cross and God raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus is the only Son of God and He was sent to be the Savior of all people.
- **Creation:** God created the world in six days and then rested on the seventh. God tells people to take care of His world. God wants me to feel a sense of wonder as I enjoy His creation. God wants me to praise Him for His creation.
- **Family:** Mother and Fathers are to love each other. Each person in my family deserves love and respect. God helps me know how to honor and obey my parents. God loves and cares for families in all kinds of situations. My family can show God's love.
- **Church:** The church is more than a building. A Christian does God's work and Believer is another word for a Christian. People worship at church. Baptism is special and shows that people have accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord.

- **Self:** My birth and growth are part of God's plan. People are God's most important creation. I follow Jesus' example when I obey God. God wants me to live every day in ways that pleases Him. God wants my actions, attitude and words to be good.
- **Community & World:** God's world is made up of people from different nationalities and cultures. Missionaries share the Good news with people in this country and around the world. God wants me to cooperate and work with others willingly.
- **Holy Spirit:** The Holy Spirit is a special helper. God showed His approval of Jesus by sending the dove at Jesus' baptism. God's Spirit worked in Old and New Testament times. The Holy Spirit helps people know what to do.
- **Salvation:** God provided a way for people to become Christians because He loves them. God will forgive me if I ask Him. When people choose to displease God, there are consequences.

Goals of Biblical Skills:

By the time a child has left 1st Grade and goes into 2nd Grade we hope each child has mastered the bottom skills. These skills help interactions with each child and are a great way to assist parents in what they may already be doing at home. We took these concepts from The Levels of Bible Skills from Wholly Kids by Lifeway.

- Can locate the two main parts of the Bible-Old Testament and the New Testament
- Can pronounce the names of all the books of the Bible.
- Can locate several books in the Bible without assistance. Can locate all the books in the Bible.
- Can read Bible references and locate the specific verse or passage.
- Can memorize Bible verses. Can quote up to twelve individual verses when given the reference.
- Becomes familiar with the contents of specific books, such as:
 - The Book of Genesis tells about God and His creation.
 - The book of Psalms contains songs about God.
 - The Gospels tell about Jesus
- Knows the Bible tells that God sent Jesus to earth because He loves all people.
- Identifies some of the names of the people in the Bible.
- Can use the Bible for daily Bible reading.
- Can discover and apply truths in a Bible verse.
- Can begin to know all the books of the bible in order. Knows all the books of the bible in order.
- Can begin to master naming the 10 divisions of the Old and New testament.
- Can locate the books of the Bible by using the contents page or with teacher guidance.

Classroom Management

- When you have a larger class combined with rowdy kids it's best to make sure you are in control of your class. Have a plan of action for when things get rowdy, like a specific game (quiet ball, or heads up seven up). Always be prepared to move onto another activity or revisit a game students really enjoy.
- Please look at your classroom schedules which are located inside the classroom on the cabinet doors. Understanding your schedule helps you facilitate classroom time on activities and

prepping to understand the curriculum material before class. The two items that do not ever change on the schedule is snack and outside play. Otherwise you are free to choose which activities to do when and your bible story or use the schedule to help you manage classroom time.

- Arts and crafts, though messy, are actually sometimes the best activities to help fill the time and keep 1st graders engaged with the activity.
- Get your students to help around the class. Have different kids each week help pass out papers or snack to one another. Giving kids jobs helps them move around the classroom without running around and causing distractions for others kids.
- Please do not always resort to just letting kids play with the toys in the classroom, drawing on the whiteboard or having an extended amount of free play. Our team is always ready or willing to help you come up with ways to keep your class engaged and moving to keep them entertained.
- If your students seem to be falling behind in paying attention, play a quick small game together in class to get them moving. It can help them focus after getting some energy out but, only limit it to 5-10 minutes if you absolutely need to. Here are some examples below:
 - Duck Duck Goose
 - 4 Corners

Connecting With Parents:

- Learning parents names will help you build a relationship with your students parents.
- Telling them a positive thing you noticed in their child that Sunday.
- Sending them home with the weekly activities to help them connect with their first graders focusing on the Biblical Concepts and the lesson from each Sunday.

2nd Grade Overview

Goal: Our goal for second graders is to start building strong foundations for understanding God's salvation plan, the Holy Spirit as their helper, and the world outside themselves by coming alongside parents and equipping them with helpful verbiage and activities to introduce the fundamental concepts.

Age : 7-8 years old

Curriculum:

- The Gospel Project (Younger Kids Section)
 - **Welcome Time:** Use this time to get to know the kids in your class, sit down together with them at the table and do either the activity page or coloring sheet. Try to keep the beginning part as structured as possible, this will allow for a smoother drop off time and help you control the class.
 - **Worship:** We worship together in the Large Room, during this time set the example by singing along and doing the motions. Please keep an eye out for children who become a distraction
 - **Bible Story Video:** We encourage everyone to watch the Bible Story Video with their class, and then follow up with questions and highlight the main points.
 - **Key Passage:** This is the curriculum's memory verse and changes with every unit. Encourage kids to memorize this, and work together to know it as a class.
 - **Activities:** We strongly encourage you to do one or more of the activities provided. These will help reinforce the Bible Story and keep your class engaged.

About 2nd Graders:

- 2nd graders are working hard to gain greater independence, while improving motor skills. The amount of change isn't drastic, but important.

Socially-Emotionally:

- Second Graders have moments of extreme insecurity and need a lot of encouragement from parents.
- Typically enjoy being a part of a team or group.
- Easily influenced by their peers.
- They can go from one extreme emotion to the next- bouncing back quickly.

Physically:

- Full of energy. Can play and be active for longer periods without getting tired.
- Better with their "small muscles" handwriting, scissor skills, zippers etc.

Mental:

- Like to experiment and find out how things are made.

- Vary with peers in reading ability.
- Value money.
- Are eager to learn.

Spiritual:

- Ask serious questions about religion
- Are developing values
- Can be truthful and honest
- OFten have difficulty making decisions.

Goal Biblical Concepts:

These are general concepts that we feel all our third graders should know and understand and be things we are continually bringing up in class each week as we teach through the Bible. (Levels of Biblical Learning)

- **God:** God is special- no one can be compared to God. God is creator. God is everywhere. God hears and answers prayers. He can be trusted and is fair. God wants me to obey, respect, and honor.
- **Bible:** The Bible is truth and never changes. The Bible helps me know more about God and Jesus. The Bible helps me know what God wants me to do through stories about people and events.
- **Jesus:** Jesus shows me through His life and teachings what God is like. Jesus performed miracles, healed the sick, and restored life. Jesus wants people to follow Him. Jesus died on the cross and God raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus is the only Son of God and He was sent to be the Savior of all people.
- **Creation:** God created the world in six days and then rested on the seventh. God tells people to take care of His world. God wants me to feel a sense of wonder as I enjoy His creation. God wants me to praise Him for His creation.
- **Family:** Mother and Fathers are to love each other. Each person in my family deserves love and respect. God helps me know how to honor and obey my parents. God loves and cares for families in all kinds of situations. My family can show God's love.
- **Church:** The church is more than a building; it is a Christian who do God's work. Believer is another word for a Christian. People worship at church. Baptism is special and shows that people have accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord.
- **Self:** My birth and growth are part of God's plan. People are God's most important creation. I follow Jesus' example when I obey God. God wants me to live every day in ways that pleases Him. God wants my actions, attitude and words to be good.
- **Community & World:** God's world is made up of people from different nationalities and cultures. Missionaries share the Good news with people in this country and around the world. God wants me to cooperate and work with others willingly.
- **Holy Spirit:** The Holy Spirit is a special helper. God showed His approval of Jesus by sending the dove at Jesus' baptism. God's Spirit worked in Old Testament times too. The Holy Spirit helps people know what to do.

- **Salvation:** God provided a way for people to become Christians because He loves them. God will forgive me if I ask Him. When people choose to displease God, there are consequences.

Goals of Biblical Skills:

By the time a child has left 2nd Grade and goes into 3rd Grade we hope each child has mastered the bottom skills. These skills help interactions with each child and are a great way to assist parents in what they may already be doing at home. We took these concepts from The Levels of Bible Skills from Wholly Kids by LifeWay.

- Can locate the two main parts of the Bible-Old Testament and the New Testament
- Can pronounce the names of all the books of the Bible.
- Can locate several books in the Bible without assistance. Can locate all the books in the Bible.
- Can read Bible references and locate the specific verse or passage.
- Can memorize Bible verses. Can quote up to twelve individual verses when given the reference.
- Becomes familiar with the contents of specific books, such as:
 - The Book of Genesis tells about God and His creation.
 - The book of Psalms contains songs about God.
 - The Gospels tell about Jesus
- Knows the Bible tells that God sent Jesus to earth because He loves all people.
- Identifies some of the names of the people in the Bible.
- Can use the Bible for daily Bible reading.
- Can discover and apply truths in a Bible verse.
- Can begin to know all the books of the bible in order. Knows all the books of the bible in order.
- Can begin to master naming the 10 divisions of the Old and New testament.
- Can locate the books of the Bible by using the contents page or with teacher guidance.

Connecting With Parents:

- Learning parents names will help you build a relationship with your students parents.
- Telling them a positive thing you noticed in their child that Sunday
- In the future, sending home weekly activities to help them connect with their second graders focusing on the Biblical Concepts and the lesson from each Sunday.
- In the future, reaching out to parents to partner in sharing Biblical truths with their kids by giving them resources.

3rd Grade Overview

Goal: Our goal is to encourage our third graders enthusiasm and love for Jesus. Preparing them for their individual walks with the Lord by teaching them God's deep desire for a relationship with them.

Age : 8-9 years old

Curriculum:

- The Gospel Project (Older Kids Section)
 - **Welcome Time:** Use this time to get to know the kids in your class, sit down together with them at the table and do either the activity pages. Try to keep the beginning part as structured as possible, this will allow for a smoother drop off time and help you control the class.
 - **Worship:** We worship together in the Large Room, during this time set the example by singing along and doing the motions. Please keep an eye out for children who become a distraction
 - **Bible Story Video:** We encourage everyone to watch the Bible Story Video with their class, and then follow up with questions and highlight the main points.
 - **Key Passage:** This is the curriculum's memory verse and changes with every unit. Encourage kids to memorize this, and work together to know it as a class.
 - **Activities:** We strongly encourage you to do one or more of the activities provided. These will help reinforce the Bible Story and keep your class engaged.

About 3rd Graders:

- Most third graders are enthusiastic and willing to try anything!

Socially-Emotionally:

- Third Graders enjoy socializing and working in groups. As you teach on Sundays remember to try and continue with group activities or turn individual activities into group activities for greater success. Beware that they tend to get off topic together quickly!
- Most third graders are emotionally easy-going and adjust to change well. So you don't have to get stuck in a routine, have fun changing it up when you need to!
- They tend to be highly aware of fairness and justice; and often will argue or complain about things that aren't fair. This behavior tends to come out when they are participating in classroom games and competitions.
- They tend to exaggerate but have many ideas! When appropriate, try to encourage the students in their thinking.

Physically:

- Full of energy.
- Need short breaks when participating in physical activities.
- Physical activity in games helps them concentrate and build productivity.

- They are often in a hurry so expect to finish activities quickly.

Mental

- Have lengthening attention span and are able to be involved in experiences that deal with feelings and thinking
- Accept carefully worded criticism.
- Are beginning to think abstractly.
- Are developing a conscience and a value system

Spiritual

- Are often beginning to feel the need for a Savior.
- Are growing conscious of themselves and of sin.
- Want to do things the right way and may feel ashamed when wrong.
- Think in terms of right and wrong more than good and evil.

Goal Biblical Concepts:

These are general concepts that we feel all our third graders should know and understand and be things we are continually bringing up in class each week as we teach through the Bible. (Levels of Biblical Learning)

- **God:** God is unique- no one and nothing can be compared to Him. He deserves respect, obedience, and honor. He is faithful and just.
- **Bible:** The teachings in the Bible are forever, they are God's message and it tells me how to live the Christian life. The Bible tells me how people's lives are affected by their responses to God.
- **Jesus:** Old Testament prophets revealed God's plan for Jesus to be the Savior. Jesus understands what it mean to be human. Jesus wants people to trust Him. Jesus promised His followers that He would come back to earth.
- **Creation:** God created the world from nothing, God created people in His own image, God's world is orderly.
- **Family:** God's role for me in my family is to obey my parents. Each family member should make a contribution in a positive way.
- **Church:** A church is a group of God's people who meet together to pray, to tell other people about Jesus, to worship God, to learn from the Bible, to meet the needs of others and to encourage one another.
- **Self:** I am created in the image of God, each person is unique and of value to God. I am responsible for my choice.
- **Community & World:** All Christians are called to tell the people of the world about Jesus and God wants people to be involved in His work in their community and the world through missions.
- **Holy Spirit:** The Holy Spirit can support people in times of trouble, the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, and helps believers grow as Christians.
- **Salvation:** Sin is choosing my way instead of God's way. Sin separates people from God. People can choose to accept or to reject Jesus as Savior or Lord.

Goals of Biblical Skills:

By the time a child has left 3rd Grade and goes into 4th Grade we hope each child has mastered the bottom skills. These skills help interactions with each child and are a great way to assist parents in what they may already be doing at home. We took these concepts from The Levels of Bible Skills from Wholly Kids by Lifeway.

- Can identify if a book is in the Old or New Testament.
- Can pronounce some of the names of Bible people, places and things mentioned in the Bible.
- Can locate some of the books in the Bible and many of them in a limited time frame. Can locate all the books of the Bible in a limited time frame.
- Can find information asked for by reading a verse or passage.
- Can memorize short Bible passages. Can quote up to 25 individual verses when given the references. Can complete a verse and give the reference when started by a parent or leader.
- Is able to locate from memory often used Bible passages and memory verses such as:
 - The Model Prayer (Matt.6; Luke 11)
 - The Ten Commandments (Ex. 20; Deut. 5)
 - The Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5; Luke 6)
- Is able to locate Bible passages in a limited time frame.
- Knows that the Bible tells about God's plan of salvation. Can memorize God's plan of salvation.
- Can find the names of prominent Bible people in the books where their stories are recorded:
 - Daniel (Daniel)
 - Moses (Exodus)
 - Jesus (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)
- Can increase their skills of using the Bible, both devotionally and as a resource to guide their daily living.
- Can discover and apply truths in a Bible passage.
- Can identify Bible writers who wrote multiple books.
- Knows all the books of the Bible in order. Knows and can say all the books of the Bible in order in a limited time frame.
- Can name the 10 divisions of the Old and New Testaments.
- Can begin to use other resources to enrich her Bible skills and knowledge (Bible dictionary, commentary, concordance, atlas and computer sources).

Classroom Management

- Please look at your classroom schedules which are located inside the classroom on the cabinet doors. Understanding your schedule helps you facilitate classroom time on activities and prepping to understand the curriculum material before class. The two items that do not ever change on the schedule is snack and outside play. Otherwise you are free to choose which activities to do when and your bible story or use the schedule to help you manage classroom time.
- Third Graders love to chat and talk with others. Give students a time to chat while doing activities or when learning about The Bible Story. Make sure to ask them questions but, not

actually calling on specific students. Some students are more outgoing and some are reserved and need to talk when they feel comfortable.

- Get students to participate in the activities and actually engage in what the lesson has to offer. There are plenty of activities and games for students to participate inside.
- Please do not leave just free time to be writing on whiteboards or letting students roam around free doing their own thing.

Connecting With Parents:

- Learning parents names will help you build a relationship with your students parents.
- Telling them a positive thing you noticed in their child that Sunday
- In the future sending them home weekly activities provided to help them connect with their fourth and fifth graders focusing on the Biblical Concepts and the lesson from each Sunday.

4th & 5th Grade Overview

Goal: Our goal is to encourage our fourth and fifth graders enthusiasm and love for Jesus. Preparing them for their individual walks with the Lord by teaching them God's deep desire for a relationship with them.

Age : 10-11 years old

Curriculum:

- The Gospel Project (older kids) reworked by Tate.
 - **Teacher's Bible Story:** a summarized version of the Bible Story with a little bit of background.
 - **Welcome time:** this part of the curriculum prompts you with three things, 1. To review with the students about what they learned last week, 2. A topic to talk to them about that relates to the lesson that Sunday and 3. an activity for them as time allows. Lastly it includes the "Big Picture Questions," which is the main question we want the kids to be able to answer at the end of the lesson.
 - **Outside time:** this is the allotted time for 4th & 5th graders, as their classroom is used for worship. We encourage all the kids to participate in a team game or activity to help build a relationship with each other, example: soccer, kick ball, sharks and meadows, etc.
 - **The Bible Story:** the curriculum gives you the story condensed down to the 4th & 5th Grade level, but we recommend you just use this as a guide to pull out the big points while reading from the Bible, verse by verse with the students.
 - **The Bible Story Review:** is a time to review what you just read in the Bible with an activity or game and review the memory verse or "Key Passage" for the unit.
 - **Deep Questions:** Are questions designed to open up conversation about the Bible Story, faith, and God, beyond the factual questions you use to recall the story.
 - **Closing Activity:** A time to have fun together and reinforce the lesson.

About 4th & 5th Graders:

- "The need for independence and a desire to be accepted by peers."
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- At this age, a child may be trying hard to find her own talents while also trying to be and look like everyone else.
- ***Start to think more about abstract ideas and not just things he/she can observe***
- ***Friendships become more complex and more important at this age.***
- Kids begin to understand how things are connected - they can start to see the big picture.

Socially-Emotionally:

- Are insecure or have mood swings and struggle with self-esteem (more pronounced in girls).
- Test limits; try to figure out which rules are negotiable and which are not.

- Are increasingly independent from family and have a growing interest in their friends
- Form stronger and more complex friendships
- May face strong peer pressure and find it hard to resist if they have weak self- esteem
- Have a first crush OR pretend to have crushes to fit in with peers.

Physically:

- Increase of appetite and need more sleep.
- Have increased development in hand-eye coordination, improved handwriting.
- May start showing signs of puberty.

Cognitive:

- Start predicting the consequences of an action
- Realize that thoughts are private and that people see others differently than they see themselves.
- Can argue more than just one side of an issue.
- Develop a better sense of responsibility.
- Start to understand how things are connected; for example how the behavior or mood of one person can impact others.

Spiritual:

- Have formed concepts of personal worth
- Are ready for spiritual answers and direction.
- Can make choices, but may not follow through on long-term commitments.
- Feel deeply about own experiences; can be sensitive to others.
- Beginning to adopt a religious belief system of their own.

Goal Biblical Concepts:

These are general concepts that we feel all our fourth and fifth graders should know and understand and be things we are continually bringing up in class each week as we teach through the Bible. (Levels of Biblical Learning by LifeWay)

- **God:** God is eternal, holy, and perfect. God is omnipresent, omnipotent, and omniscient. He is righteous. People believe in different gods but there is only one true God. God is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- **Bible:** The teachings in the Bible are forever, they are God's message and it tells me how to live the Christian life. The Bible tells me how people's lives are affected by their responses to God.
- **Jesus:** Old Testament prophets revealed God's plan for Jesus to be the Savior. Jesus understands what it means to be human. Jesus wants people to trust Him. Jesus promised His followers that He would come back to earth.
- **Creation:** God created the world from nothing, God created people in His own image, God's world is orderly.

- **Family:** God's role for me in my family is to obey my parents. Each family member should make a contribution in a positive way.
- **Church:** The functions of the church are evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, ministry, and worship. Each believer is given one or more spiritual gifts to do God's work.
- **Self:** Life is a gift from God. I can appreciate my value as a person God loves. I can take deliberate actions to grow in Christlikeness. I am accountable to God for the way I treat other people. I can live with joy regardless of my circumstances. My body is God's temple.
- **Community & World:** Because God values people of all nationalities and cultures, I will respect and value each person. God wants people to look for opportunities to help people of all ethnicities and cultures. God wants people to pray consistently for missionaries and for their personal involvement in missions.
- **Holy Spirit:** The Holy Spirit is the comforter. The Holy Spirit was present in Jesus' life and ministry. God's Spirit was active in creation. The Holy Spirit inspired bible writers and breathed God's Word. The Holy Spirit helps believers grow in their relationships with God and others. The Holy Spirit empowers believers to tell others about Jesus and His plan of salvation.
- **Salvation:** God has a plan for salvation before the beginning of time because He loves me unconditionally. Salvation is a gift from God. Without a Savior, the punishment for sin is eternal death and hell.

Goals of Biblical Skills:

By the time a child has finished 5th Grade and move into Middle School Ministry we hope each child has mastered the skills listed below. These skills help interactions with each child and are a great way to assist parents in what they may already be doing at home. We took these concepts from The Levels of Bible Skills from Wholly Kids by LifeWay.

- Can identify all the books of the Old and New Testament.
- Can pronounce most of the names of Bible people, places and things mentioned in the Bible.
- Can locate all the books of the Bible and some Bible passages in a limited time frame.
- Can begin to tell others the meaning of the biblical content of a verse or passage.
- Can memorize Bible passages. Can quote up to 75 individual Bible verses.
- Can memorize God's plan of salvation. Knows how to use the Bible to tell someone about God and Jesus.
- Can identify prominent Bible people by the books in which their stories are recorded.
- Can establish the discipline of daily Bible reading.
- Can apply biblical principles to personal and social issues.
- Can use Bible study resources to gather information about Bible writers.
- Knows and can say all the books of the Bible in order in a limited time frame.
- Can name the 10 divisions of the Old and New Testaments in a limited time frame.
- Can use other resources to enrich her Bible skills and knowledge (Bible dictionary, commentary, concordance, atlas, and computer sources).

Connecting With Parents:

- Learning parents names will help you build a relationship with your students parents.
- Telling them a positive thing you noticed in their child that Sunday

- In the future sending them home weekly activities provided to help them connect with their fourth and fifth graders focusing on the Biblical Concepts and the lesson from each Sunday.
- Reaching out to them to help us understand where their 4th/5th grader is at maturity level.
- In the future, encouraging parents to allow their kids to participate in retreats and/or camps for the kids to build solid friendships.