

# MEMORY VERSE

[I PRAY] THAT CHRIST  
MAY DWELL IN YOUR



THROUGH  
FAITH,

BEING rooted and

grounded IN LOVE

EPHESIANS 3:17

# Parent Letter

## **gK! Mission Statement:**

Partnering with parents to help kids take their next steps towards Christ.

Dear Parents,

At Grace we believe that what happens at home is more important than what happens at church. Did you know that the average family spends more time together in a car in one month than they will spend attending programs in the church for entire year? It's true!

In fact, we have about 40 hours in a given year to minister to your child, whereas the average parent has 3,000! You are the primary influence over your kids in all of life, so it's also true that you are their primary spiritual influence too. Because of that, we believe that spiritual growth happens best when the church and the family are working together for your children.

Grace wants to partner with you as a parent to provide tools and solid Biblical truth both inside and outside the church.

One of the ways we would like to partner with you is through ParentCues. Parent Cues provide you with simple CUES throughout the week that remind you to pause and make the most of everyday moments. These are given to you each Sunday when you pick up your child. You can also find a digital copy on the Grace website ([discovergrace.com](http://discovergrace.com)).

Another way we partner with you is through this journal. Each week we will be posting and emailing weekly devotions from the journal for kids to apply what they learned on Sunday and Faith Skill activities to help children learn and grow closer to God.

This year we will go through the New Testament with your kids. Every week, we will learn how Jesus is the Light of the World! He has the power to guide us and transform us! We'll learn about His life and the people that He met along the way. But most importantly, we will learn how He came to be our Great Rescuer!

-The gK! team



# Faith Skills

Faith Skills are spiritual disciplines that help us know and grow closer to Christ. These skills help kids own their faith and make it personal. graceKIDS! incorporates these skills into our weekly lessons and devotions found in this journal.



**HEAR**

## **LISTEN TO GOD THROUGH HIS WORD**

If you want to know someone, what's one of the first things you do? You listen. And when you listen to God, it helps you learn to trust Him more.



**PRAY**

## **TALK TO GOD**

God wants to hear from you. Because when you pray, it helps you connect with God.



**TALK**

## **SHARE YOUR FAITH**

As you get to know God more, you find that you want to talk about Him more. And when you talk about Him and listen to others talk about Him, it will help you see God in new ways.



**LIVE**

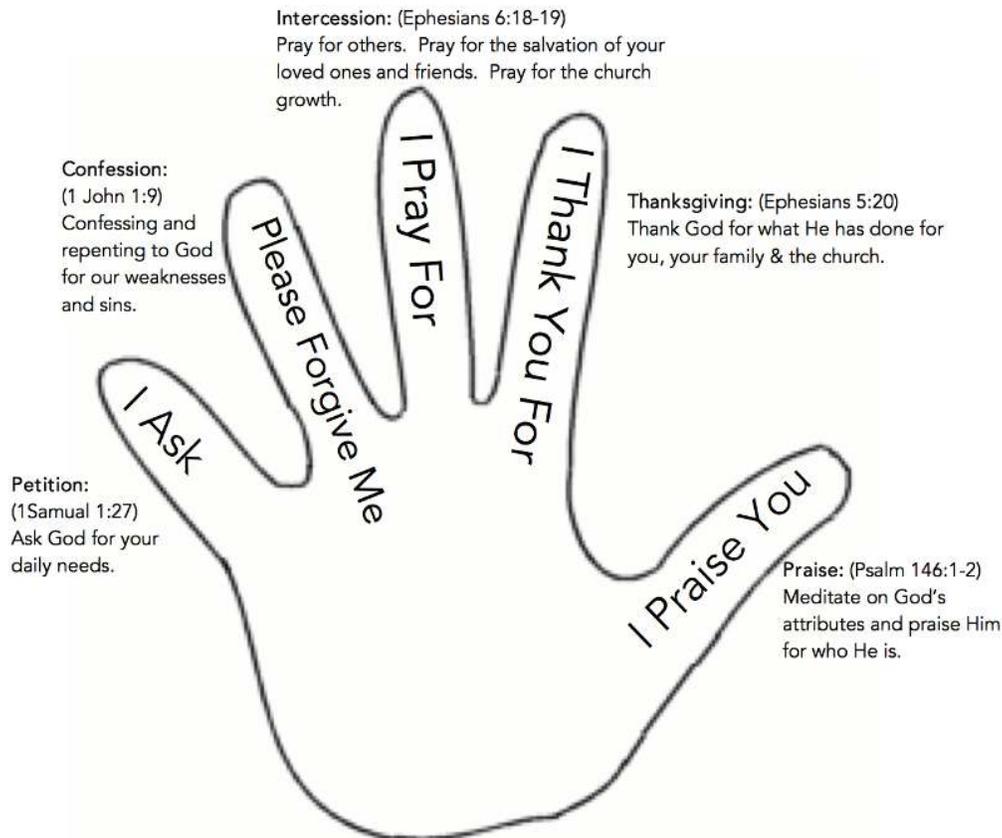
## **HONOR GOD WITH YOUR LIFE**

The more time you spend with God, the more you will want to honor God in big and small ways.

# PRAYER

## Dialogue with God

In gK! we use the “Prayer Hand” as a helpful approach for teaching kids to pray. It’s a format that allows children to recall and pray in their own words the five distinctive elements of prayer.



**WEEK 2**

**THE  
PRODIGAL  
SON**

**LUKE 15:11-24**

**BOTTOM LINE:**

**GOD'S LOVE IS BIGGER  
THAN OUR MESS UPS**

# DAY 1

## Read Luke 15:11-15

Jesus told an amazing story about a Lost Son. Let's see how much of it you remember. Put the story in order:

- |     |       |    |   |
|-----|-------|----|---|
| 1.  | _____ | A. | Father sees son returning                               |
| 2.  | _____ | B. | There is a famine in the land.                          |
| 3.  | _____ | C. | Son is so hungry he eats pig food.                      |
| 4.  | _____ | D. | Father says, "Your brother was lost, but now is found!" |
| 5.  | _____ | E. | Son goes away and wastes all his money on wild living.  |
| 6.  | _____ | F. | Son decides to go apologize to his dad.                 |
| 7.  | _____ | G. | Father forgives son.                                    |
| 8.  | _____ | H. | Older brother is very jealous of younger brother.       |
| 9.  | _____ | I. | Father has a party for son's return.                    |
| 10. | _____ | J. | Son gets a job feeding pigs.                            |
| 11. | _____ | K. | Father gives son inheritance.                           |
| 12. | _____ | L. | Son apologizes.   |
| 13. | _____ | M. | Son asks for inheritance before father dies.            |

This story is such a great reminder. It's awesome to know that no matter what bad decision we might make, He still loves us SO much.

**THANK GOD THAT HE WILL ALWAYS  
WELCOME US BACK WITH OPEN ARMS!**

# DAY 2

## READ 1 JOHN 4:7-8

Did you know that the religious leaders (called Pharisees) criticized Jesus because he ate and hung out with sinners? But if Jesus didn't eat with sinners, he would have always been eating alone, wouldn't he? Because everyone is a sinner!

The Pharisses were like the older in the Parable we learned on Sunday. They thought because they knew all the rules, that made them a good person and better than others.

But we all need to repent, don't we? If we will admit it, we are sinners. That's why Jesus came to rescue us! That's why he died on the cross for our sin!

**GOD'S LOVE IS BIGGER  
THAN OUR MESS UPS.**

And when we give our lives to Jesus,  
then heaven rejoices over us!

**THANK JESUS FOR COMING TO RESCUE US,  
NO MATTER HOW MUCH WE MESS UP**

# DAY 3

“... I myself taught my people how to walk, leading them along by the hand.” Hosea 11:3 (paraphrase based on NLT)

Do you have any younger brothers or sisters?  
Or maybe you have a younger cousin?

Do you remember when they were learning how to walk?  
They needed help right?  
They would need to hold the hands of an adult.

God tells us that He is the Creator of Heaven and Earth!  
They Mighty God!

And says he is the father as well – your Father.  
Just like the father in the parable of the lost son.

He loves you so much! And He will teach you how to walk in faith. Just like an adult has to help a baby learn how to walk.  
God is teaching you!  
Taking you into his loving arms. Gently leading you.

*All through your life  
– from beginning to end –  
God himself teaches you how to walk with him.  
He leads you by the hand.*

**THANK GOD FOR LOVING YOU NO MATTER WHAT  
AND TEACHING YOU HOW TO WALK IN FAITH.**

# DAY 4

## READ JOHN 3:16

You might have this verse memorized. And that's awesome. Probably one of the most important words in this verse is **“whoever.”** You know why? You know who “whoever” includes? It includes **EVERYONE.**

**GOD'S LOVE IS FOR ANYONE, EVERY  
SINGLE PERSON IN THE WHOLE WORLD.  
WOW!**

Jesus was willing to die on the cross and love every single person who has or ever will ever walk the face of this planet. The least we as His followers can do is share God's love with others—even the people who are sometimes hard to love.

Think about it. Is there someone you don't get along with very well? Maybe you're on different teams or always trying out for the same part in the play. Maybe they just tend to do things that get on your nerves. But no matter what, God still loves that person.

And, He wants you to do the same.

Write that person's name down, and pray that God will help you change your heart and figure out how to love them.

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**ASK GOD TO HELP YOU DO WHAT HE  
SAYS TODAY, AND EVERY DAY**