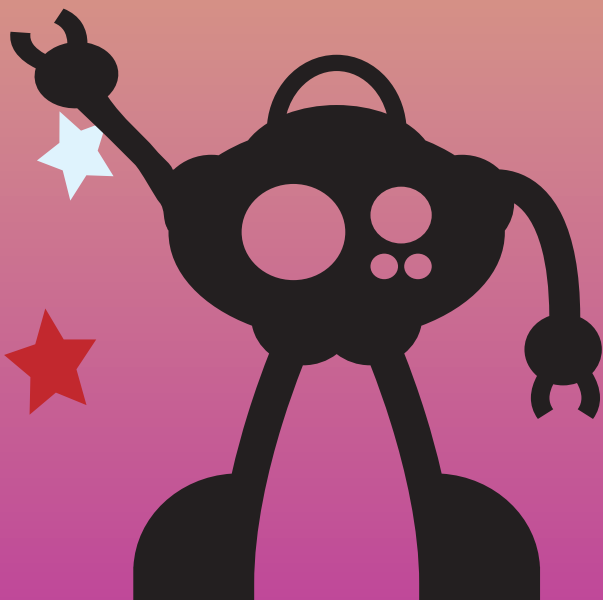




**FEBRUARY**  
**2019**  
**Elementary**  
**Journal**



# 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



# MEMORY VERSE

[I PRAY] THAT CHRIST  
MAY DWELL IN YOUR



THROUGH  
FAITH,

BEING rooted and

grounded IN LOVE

EPHESIANS 3:17

# 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**

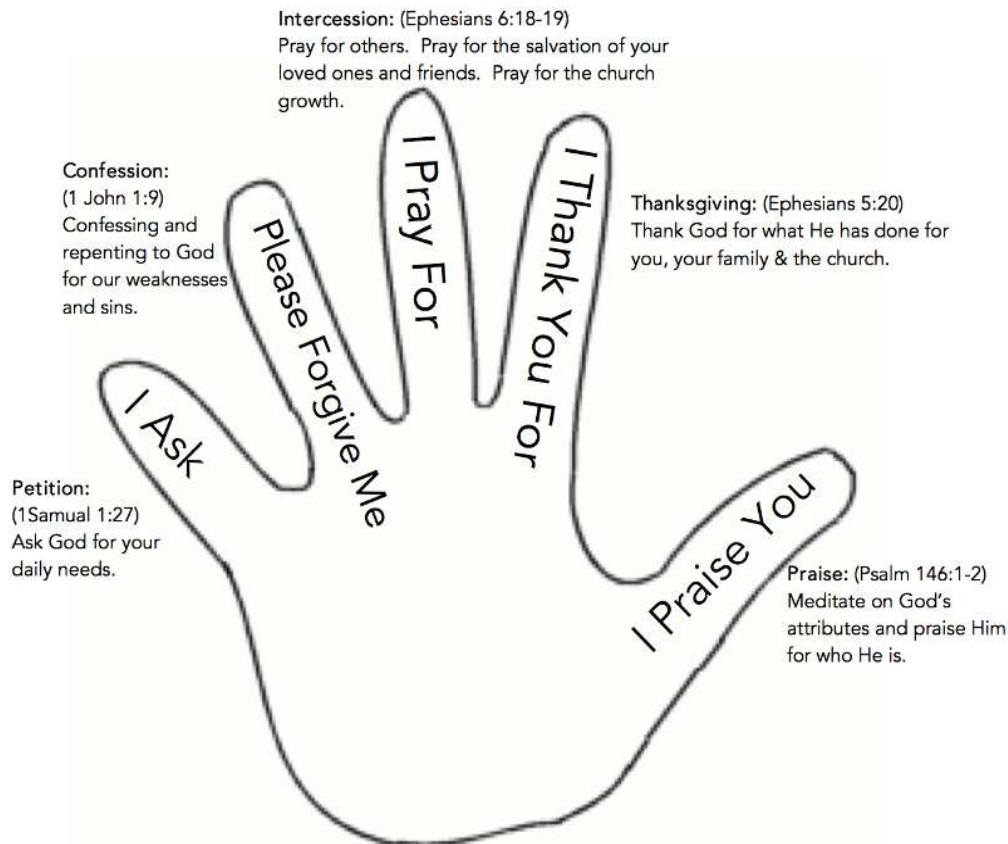
## **HONOR GOD WITH YOUR LIFE**

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 4**

**THE  
UNMERICIFUL  
SERVANT**

**MATTHEW 18:21-35**

**BOTTOM LINE:**

**GOD'S LOVE TRANSFORMS**

**OUR HEART TO FORGIVE**

# DAY 1

## READ MATTHEW 18:21-35

This story is such a vivid picture of forgiveness. In the box below, draw your favorite scene from the story Jesus told.



What does this story teach YOU about forgiveness?

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**THANK GOD FOR THE HUGE WAY  
HE HAS FORGIVEN YOU!**

# DAY 2

## READ MATTHEW 18:21-22

We learned yesterday that we have been forgiven, so we ought to forgive others. Not just once or twice, but how many times?

\_\_\_\_\_ That's a lot.

### How could you respond in forgiveness to the following:

- Your little sister goes in your room and messes it up.

\_\_\_\_\_

- Your neighbor broke your favorite toy and said he didn't.

\_\_\_\_\_

- You get pushed during a game of tag.

\_\_\_\_\_

- Your mom forgot to pack your lunch.

\_\_\_\_\_

**ASK GOD TO HELP YOU BE QUICK  
TO FORGIVE OTHERS.**



# DAY 3

## READ EPHESIANS 2:8-9

Grace is getting something you don't deserve—for people who follow Jesus that means God's forgiveness from our sins and the hope of a future with Him.

God's forgiveness and grace in our lives is what allows us to spend forever with Him in heaven.

What is so amazing is that we did not have to do one single thing to earn this gift of grace. Have you ever gotten a gift or award for no reason at all—like one you did not earn or deserve, and it wasn't a holiday?

Draw it below and share how it made you feel.

**WHEN I GOT** \_\_\_\_\_

**IT MADE ME FEEL** \_\_\_\_\_

**LOOK FOR WAYS YOU CAN SURPRISE PEOPLE  
WITH ACTS OF KINDNESS—WHETHER  
THEY DESERVE IT OR NOT.**

# DAY 4

## READ 1 JOHN 1:9

One of the hardest parts of forgiveness is the asking for it part. When you have hurt someone, broken something, or made a wrong choice and have to apologize for it, it's not easy, is it? God has asked us to take ownership when we do something wrong, to confess—or tell Him what we did—then ask Him to forgive us.

Think about a time you had to confess something to someone you cared about.

What did you feel like before they forgave you?

What did you feel like after they told you they forgave you and love you?

The peace that comes from knowing you are forgiven and loved is a relief that is worth the courage it takes to admit you did something wrong.

The verse in 1 John 1:9 tells us that we are to confess our sins to God and that He will forgive us for them. That means, we need to tell God the things we've done wrong, and ask Him to forgive us. Here's a simple sample of how to do that:

**Dear God,  
I'm sorry that I**

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**Please forgive me and help me to not do it again. Amen.**

**KNOW THAT GOD WILL FORGIVE YOU WHEN YOU CONFESS WHAT YOU'VE DONE WRONG.**