



**MARCH**  
**2019**  
**Elementary**  
**Journal**



# MEMORY VERSE

SIMON PETER ANSWERED,

*"You are the Christ,  
the Son of  
the Living God."*

MATTHEW 16:16 NIRV

# 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

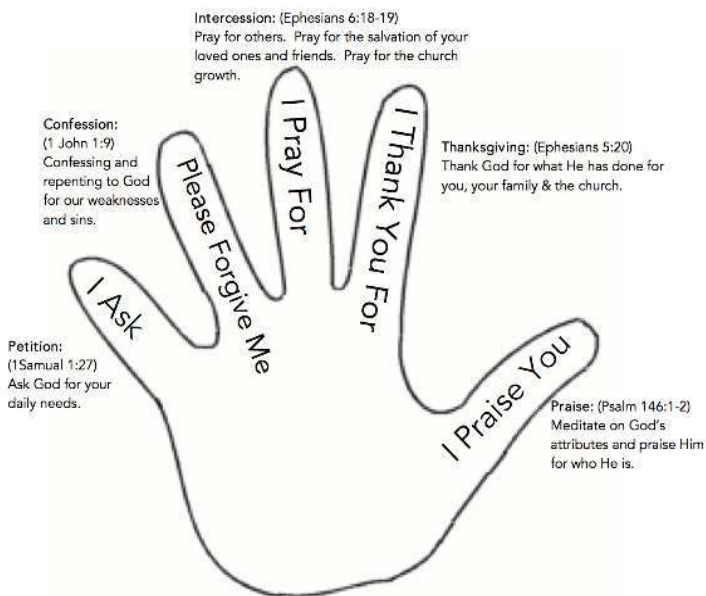
### **HONOR GOD WITH YOUR LIFE**

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.



# DAY 1

Did you know you can be kind to God? Do you know how?

**Read Matthew 25:40** for the answer.

When you say, go, or give kindly to ANYONE, you're showing kindness to God. Why is that important to Him? Because all people are valuable to God. He made them. And because He made them, He loves them like sons and daughters. If we really believed God loves people like that, how would we treat them?

Imagine Jesus is a new kid at school. Or church.

- o How would you treat Him?

- o How have you treated someone who dressed differently?

- o How have you treated someone who doesn't have cool games or toys?

**ASK GOD TO HELP YOU TREAT  
EVERYONE LIKE THEY'RE JESUS**

# DAY 2

## READ JAMES 2:15-17

Jesus showed people they're valuable to God by meeting their needs. Have you seen people holding signs that say "Hungry" or homeless people who are cold? Imagine Jesus holding that sign or shivering in the cold. Would you show Him kindness? Of course!

Look around your community for people in need. How can you and your family help? Here are some ideas to get you started:

- o Take blankets or coats to a shelter
- o Take food to a food pantry
- o Choose 3 things you have like games, toys, or unneeded clothes. Ask your parents or church to help you find a family that might need them.

**THANK GOD FOR ALL HE GIVES YOU. ASK HIM TO  
HELP YOU SHOW HIS LOVE TO PEOPLE IN NEED**

# DAY 3

## READ ROMANS 15:2

Who are your neighbors?

Your neighbor can be anyone you come in contact with.

Did you ever think that those “neighbors” might need to hear a kind word from you?

That neighbor across the bus from you or on the monkey bars behind you or sitting on the bench next to you after school is someone who might need you to build them up.

When it comes to how you should treat your neighbors, a little bit of kindness goes a really long way. A “hello” or “how are you” or even just a smile are all examples of “building someone up.” And you never know ... your kind word or pat on the back might be just the thing your neighbor needs to turn their whole day around.

Grab some Legos or blocks or anything that you can use to build a tower. Cut apart the list of people you made earlier in the week. Tape the names to each block or card and build a tower. Remember to show kindness to everyone around you this week to “build them up!”

**LOOK FOR WAYS TO “BUILD UP” YOUR  
NEIGHBORS THIS WEEK**



# DAY 4

God showed us kindness by sending His Son, Jesus, to die for our sins. God wants everyone to hear this good news. By telling others the good news, we're letting them know that God loves them, and so do we!

**READ PROVERBS 15:30 AND MARK 16:15.**

Make a "good news" newspaper using the template on the next paper. Write GOOD NEWS across the top.

Draw or put out pictures from magazines that help tell the good news. Give it to someone who needs to hear the good news about Jesus.

**THANK GOD FOR SENDING JESUS**