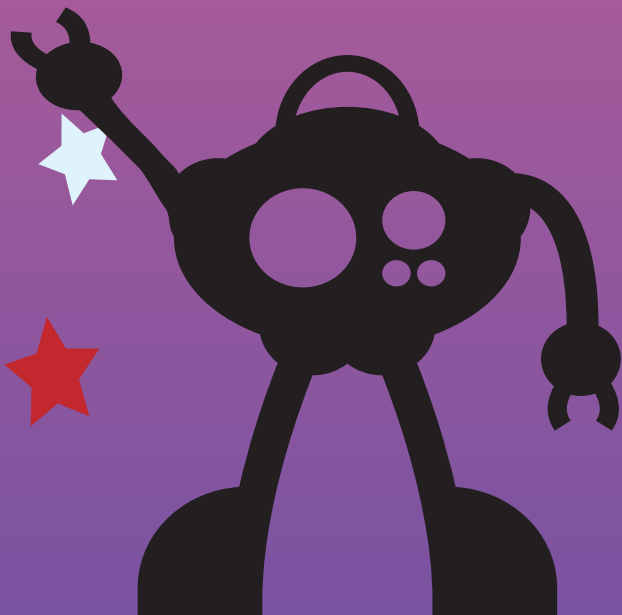




**APRIL
2019**

**Elementary
Journal**



MEMORY VERSE

WHAT IS LOVE?
IT IS NOT THAT
WE LOVED GOD
IT IS THAT HE LOVED US
AND HE SENT HIS SON TO
GIVE HIS LIFE TO PAY
FOR OUR SINS
1 JOHN 4:10 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).

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

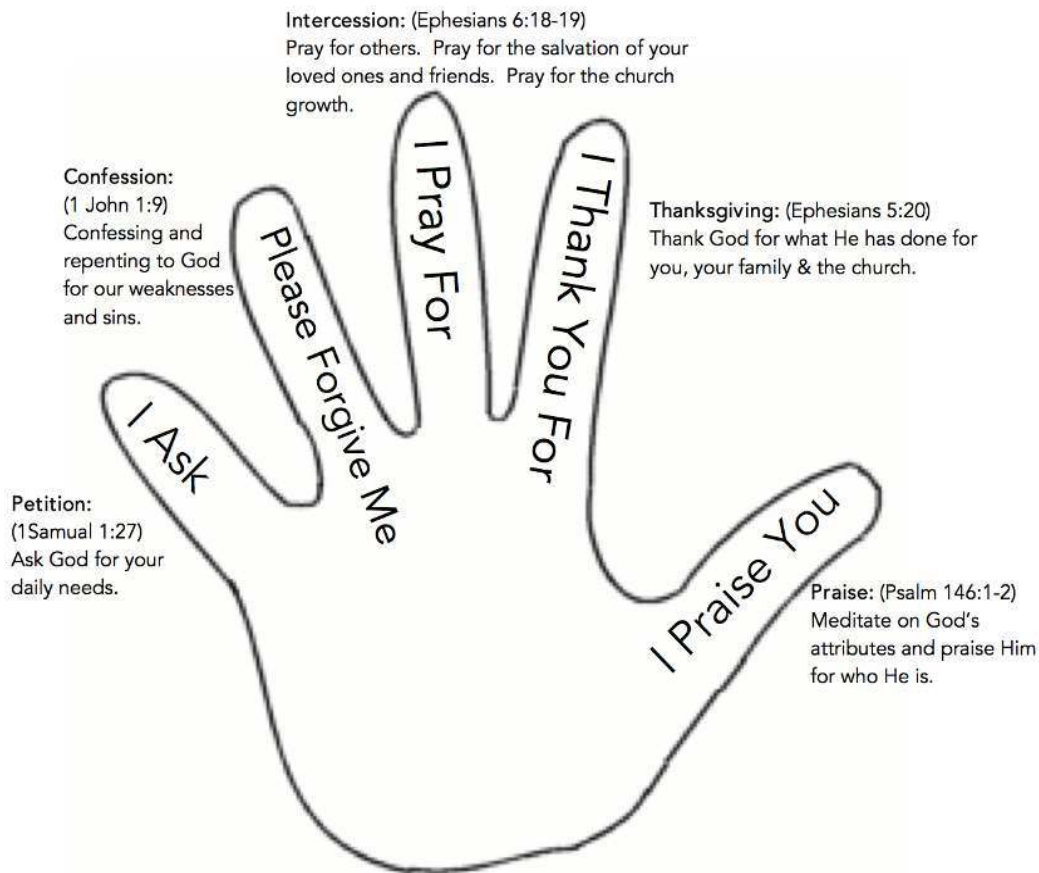
HONOR GOD WITH YOUR LIFE

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 3

EASTER

LUKE 23-24

BOTTOM LINE:

JESUS US ALIVE!

DAY 1

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:8

Grab a couple of your toys—maybe stuffed animals, dolls or action figures—and stage a battle. Pretend the toys are fighting each other, and the battle is getting intense. It looks like something bad is going to happen ...

What would protect them from getting hurt? Right—armor! That's what this Bible verse is talking about—picturing ourselves putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and the hope of salvation as a helmet to guard us.

Did you know Jesus fought our battle against sin for us by dying on the cross?

**ASK GOD TO HELP YOU “DRESS
YOURSELF” IN HOPE THIS WEEK!**

DAY 2

READ JOHN 3:16

Jesus had to die so we could live with God forever. But ultimately, Jesus came back to life, didn't He?

With a parent's permission, go to the kitchen and get bowl and an egg. Crack the egg on the side of the bowl, and drop the yolk into the bowl. Now, try to scoop the yolk back into the egg and put the egg pieces back together again. You can't really do it, can you?

Only Jesus could die a painful death, but still rise up from the dead 3 days later— walking around, talking, and eating with the disciples! And if we believe in Him and who He says He is, we too can live forever.

**THANK GOD FOR SENDING JESUS TO
DIE AND RISE AGAIN!**

DAY 3

READ TITUS 3:5-8

Do you know what a tulip looks like? With a parent's help, try to find one outside, or look up a picture online.

We usually think of planting flowers in the spring, when the ground finally starts to warm up. But tulips actually have to be planted late in the summer and fall, then they stay buried in the cold soil all winter long before emerging to bloom in the spring. You may not think of tulips as being tough, but anything that can survive the harsh cold of winter—the time when most plants die—must be pretty strong!

If our God is strong enough to conquer death and bring Jesus back to life, we can believe that He can bring new life to us too, even when things seem dark and hopeless.

**ASK GOD TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND JUST
HOW STRONG HE REALLY IS!**

DAY 4

READ ACTS 2:24

Have you ever tried to open a jar of something but it was really stuck? No matter how hard you twisted, you just couldn't make it budge. Did you call for help?

When Jesus died on the cross and was buried, it looked like the jar was sealed shut. End of story. An impossible situation. No one comes back from that, right? Thankfully, though, God is stronger than death, and He pried open the grip that death had on Jesus and freed Him! Death might have been strong, but God is stronger!

Look at seemingly impossible situations in your life and remember that God is stronger than everything.