

## How to Use FamilyConnect®



**S**earch Institute published research showing that people are more likely to grow in their faith when their families put faith into practice at home. According to Search Institute, “Four family practices are particularly important for helping young people grow in faith (both in childhood and adolescence): talking about faith with your mother; talking about faith with your father; having family devotions or prayer; and doing family projects to help other people.”

FaithWeaver NOW FamilyConnect® is designed around these family practices and was created to help you equip families to grow in their faith. FamilyConnect gives busy families an easy-to-use idea to start conversations about faith at least once during the week. These weekly pages reinforce what’s being learned in FaithWeaver NOW® Sunday school, and they’re a great way to keep families connected—just email the pages or print them out!

### Quick Tips ■■■■

- Create an email sign-up sheet for parents to fill out and return, if you don’t already have one.
- In your email software, create a distribution list of parents’ email addresses.
- Put the distribution list (or separate names) in the BCC field to avoid exposing email addresses to all recipients.
- Set up a weekly reminder to send out the FaithWeaver NOW FamilyConnect PDFs to parents.
- Consider creating a standard email cover letter to send out weekly, or copy and paste the following sample:

**Dear Parent,**

**Thank you for your child’s participation in our Sunday school program. Attached you’ll find a simple tip to help you start a faith conversation with your child sometime during the week. You are your family’s FaithWeaver, and your actions and words are having a tremendous impact on your child’s faith! Thanks for all you do.**

# The Israelites Cross the Red Sea

Week 1



### ► Bible Point

God helps us when we're afraid.

### Key Verse

"He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me" (Psalm 23:3-4).

We learned this week that when we're in the midst of a scary situation, God helps us when we're afraid (Exodus 13:17-14:31). Strengthen your family's faith learning and growth at home with this easy idea:

### Parents ■■■■

**Talk about a time your family faced a scary situation.** Maybe you were trapped in a car during a violent storm, or perhaps your house was broken into. Have each family member share what they remember about the situation and talk about how they felt before, during, and after. Then ask each person to share a time they've been afraid in the past week. Encourage everyone to think of ways God can help when we're afraid.

### Pray ■■■■

God, thank you for always being with us and helping us when we're afraid. We love you and are so thankful that you love us enough to be a part of every detail of our lives. In Jesus' name, amen.

Our family thanks God for:

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Our family talks to God about:

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For more great questions and age-appropriate activities, check out your child's Week 1 Student Book page.



### Sneak Peek

Don't miss next week when we discover that God gives us what we need.

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## God Sends Quail and Manna

Week 2



### ► Bible Point

God gives us what we need.

### Key Verse

“You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever” (Psalm 23:5-6).

We learned this week that God provides for our needs in amazing ways (Exodus 16:1-26). Strengthen your family's faith learning and growth at home with this easy idea:

### Parents ■■■■

**Talk about a time your family faced a serious need that God provided for.**

Maybe it was a miraculous answer to prayer for healing, or maybe God used other people around you to provide for a financial need. Then come up with ways you as a family can reach out to others in need as God leads you to.

### Pray ■■■■

God, thank you for giving us everything we need. Help us to look for your provisions and to trust that you will meet all our needs and more. In Jesus' name, amen.

Our family thanks God for:

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Our family talks to God about:

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For more great questions and age-appropriate activities, check out your child's Week 2 Student Book page.



### Sneak Peek

Don't miss next week when we discover that God is patient with us.

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# God Provides Water

Week 3



► **Bible Point**  
God is patient with us.

## Key Verse

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters”  
(Psalm 23:1-2).

We learned this week that God was patient with the Israelites when they complained, and God will be patient with us, too (Exodus 17:1-7). Strengthen your family’s faith learning and growth at home with this easy idea:

## Parents ■■■■

**Talk about a time you complained about a situation.** Maybe you complained to one of your neighbors about another neighbor, or perhaps you complained to a friend about your spouse. Share what happened when you complained and whether others involved were patient with you. Then encourage each person to think of things he or she complains about most and when. Discuss ways your family can work together to encourage each other to “make do” with a situation or need—without complaining—and ways you can be patient with one another.

## Pray ■■■■

God, thank you for listening to us and being patient with us, even when we complain. Teach us to stop complaining and to trust that you have everything in control. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Our family thanks God for:

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Our family talks to God about:

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For more great questions and age-appropriate activities, check out your child’s Week 3 Student Book page.



## Sneak Peek

Don’t miss next week when we discover how we can honor God by obeying him.

Powered by...

# God Gives the Ten Commandments (Part 1)

Week 4



**►Bible Point**  
Honor God by obeying him.

**Key Verse**

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts” (Deuteronomy 6:5-6).

**W**e learned this week that we can show how much we love and honor God by obeying him (Exodus 19:16–20:21). Strengthen your family’s faith learning and growth at home with this easy idea:

**Parents** ■■■■■

**Talk with your kids about what the word *honor* means to you.** Then have each person think of one way he or she can honor God this week. Having a hard time coming up with a way to honor God? Talk about how keeping God’s commandments honors him. You can even check out the Ten Commandments and the commandments Jesus said were the most important by reading Exodus 20:1-17 and Matthew 22:34-40 as a family.

**Pray** ■■■■■

God, teach us to show you and others around us how much we love you. We want to honor you by following you every day. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Our family thanks God for:

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Our family talks to God about:

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For more great questions and age-appropriate activities, check out your child’s Week 4 Student Book page.



**Sneak Peek**

Don’t miss next week when we discover that God tells us how to respect others.

Powered by..

# God Gives the Ten Commandments (Part 2)

Week 5



**►Bible Point**

God tells us how to respect others.

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**Key Verse**

“ ‘Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother,’ and love your neighbor as yourself’ ”  
(Matthew 19:18-19).

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**W**e learned this week that God wants us to show his love and respect to others (Exodus 19:16–20:21). Strengthen your family’s faith learning and growth at home with this easy idea:

**Parents** ■■■■■

**Talk about a time you felt you were disrespected by a close friend.** How did it feel? What did you do about it? Then talk about why being shown respect is important to each person—no matter what age he or she is. As a family, discuss ways you can show respect to other members of your family and the people around you. Give specific examples such as “I can show respect by turning off the TV and listening when you talk to me” or “I can show respect by not talking about friends behind their backs.”

**Pray** ■■■■■

Thank you, God, for our family. Increase the love every one of us has for each other while our faith grows more and more. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Our family thanks God for:

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Our family talks to God about:

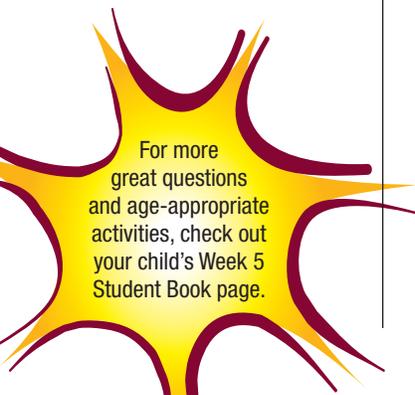
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For more great questions and age-appropriate activities, check out your child’s Week 5 Student Book page.



**Sneak Peek**

Don’t miss next week when we discover that only God deserves our worship.

Powered by...

# The Israelites Worship a Golden Calf

Week 6



**► Bible Point**

Only God deserves our worship.

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**Key Verse**

“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me”  
(Exodus 20:2-3).

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**W**e learned this week that nothing else besides God deserves our praise and worship (Exodus 32:1-25). Strengthen your family’s faith learning and growth at home with this easy idea:

**Parents** ■■■■■

**Talk about a time you loved or focused on something more than God.**

Maybe you got so caught up in your new car that you spent all your time washing it and taking care of it, or maybe your personal appearance became so important to you that you became focused only on yourself. Share what effects worshipping that other thing had on your life, and talk about how you returned to worshipping only God. Then, as a family, think of other things you might be tempted to worship. Come up with ways you can encourage each other to only worship God.

**Pray** ■■■■■

God, nothing else deserves our praise and worship as you do. This week we commit to worshipping only you by [insert phrase]. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Our family thanks God for:

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Our family talks to God about:

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For more great questions and age-appropriate activities, check out your child’s Week 6 Student Book page.



**Sneak Peek**

Don’t miss next week when we discover that we all can serve God.

Powered by...

# The Israelites Build the Tabernacle

Week 7



**►Bible Point**

We all can serve God.

**Key Verse**

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him” (Colossians 3:17).

We learned this week that no matter who we are and what talents we have, we can all serve God (Exodus 35:4–36:38). Strengthen your family’s faith learning and growth at home with this easy idea:

**Parents** ■■■■■

**Discuss what it means to you to serve God.** Does serving God mean telling your friends about Jesus, or is it helping out those in need so they can see God through your actions? Maybe it’s both. Then talk about ways each of you can serve God this week, and commit to keeping each other accountable as you seek to serve God.

**Pray** ■■■■

God, thank you for the unique set of talents and skills you’ve given each of us in this family. Help us use our abilities to serve you. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Our family thanks God for:

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Our family talks to God about:

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For more great questions and age-appropriate activities, check out your child’s Week 7 Student Book page.



**Sneak Peek**

Don’t miss next week when we explore ways we can be brave for God.

Powered by...

# Moses Sends Spies Into the Promised Land

Week 8



**►Bible Point**

Be brave for God.

**Key Verse**

“Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain” (1 Corinthians 15:58).

**W**e learned this week that it’s important that we’re brave for God (Numbers 13:1–14:23). Strengthen your family’s faith learning and growth at home with this easy idea:

**Parents** ■■■■■

**Spend time with your kids looking through the Bible for someone who was a hero and was brave for God.** What qualities did that hero live out that you’d like to adopt in your life? Maybe that person stood up for God through his or her actions despite life-threatening consequences, or perhaps that person listened to the Holy Spirit instead of saying the wrong thing at the wrong time. Then talk with your kids about areas in which each of you can be brave for God.

**Pray** ■■■■■

God, we want to follow and serve you no matter what. Please give us the courage to be brave for you in every situation. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Our family thanks God for:

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Our family talks to God about:

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For more great questions and age-appropriate activities, check out your child’s Week 8 Student Book page.



**Sneak Peek**

Don’t miss next week when we discover why it’s important for us to pay attention to God.

Powered by...

# Balaam's Donkey Talks

Week 9



**►Bible Point**  
Pay attention to God.

**Key Verse**

“Come and see what God has done, how awesome his works in man’s behalf!”  
(Psalm 66:5).

**W**e learned this week that God wants us to pay attention to him (Numbers 22:1-38). Strengthen your family’s faith learning and growth at home with this easy idea:

**Parents** ■■■■■

**Talk about a time you were paying attention to God and he did something amazing.** What was your first response? Then think of other amazing things that have happened to you, and in the lives of your family, that maybe you didn’t give God the credit for. Spend time thinking of how God does amazing things in your life to show his power. Then, as a family, come up with one way to help you remember to pay attention to God so you know what he’s showing you in the future.

**Pray** ■■■■■

God, you’re so powerful! Thank you for the amazing things you do in our lives. Please help us to remember to always pay attention to what you’re showing us. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Our family thanks God for:

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Our family talks to God about:

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For more great questions and age-appropriate activities, check out your child’s Week 9 Student Book page.



**Sneak Peek**

Don’t miss next week when we discover that God is with us.

Powered by...

# Joshua Becomes Leader of Israel

Week 10



**►Bible Point**  
God is with us.

**Key Verse**  
“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9).

**W**e learned this week that God has a plan, and he’s always with us (Joshua 1:1-11). Strengthen your family’s faith learning and growth at home with this easy idea:

**Parents** ■■■■■

**Share with your children a plan you feel God has for your life.** Maybe it’s a ministry opportunity in your church, or perhaps it’s a major career shift. Talk with your kids about what has kept you from following through—if anything—and think of ways you can get started working toward that plan this very week. Then ask your kids to share something they feel God might want to accomplish in their own lives. Encourage each other throughout the week to remember that God is with you, helping you carry out his plan.

**Pray** ■■■■■

God, thank you for never leaving us, for guiding us, and for helping us accomplish your plans. This week, give us courage to follow wherever you lead. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Our family thanks God for:

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Our family talks to God about:

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For more great questions and age-appropriate activities, check out your child’s Week 10 Student Book page.



**Sneak Peek**

Don’t miss next week when we discover we can have faith that God will do big things in our lives.

Powered by...

# Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho

Week 11



### ► Bible Point

We can have faith that God will do big things in our lives.

### Key Verse

“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him” (Hebrews 11:6).

We learned this week that if we have faith, God will do big things in our lives (Joshua 2:1-24). Strengthen your family’s faith learning and growth at home with this easy idea:

### Parents ■■■■

**Talk with your kids about areas in your life where your faith is strong and areas where you need God’s help to grow in your faith.** Then ask your kids to think of areas in their own lives where they need God’s help with growing in their faith. For example, maybe they could use God’s help with trusting him in their school work, or maybe they could ask God to help them in their relationships. Then talk about one way each of you can commit to showing God that you trust him to do big things in that area of your life.

### Pray ■■■■

God, thank you for doing big things in our lives. Please help us grow in our faith and trust in you. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Our family thanks God for:

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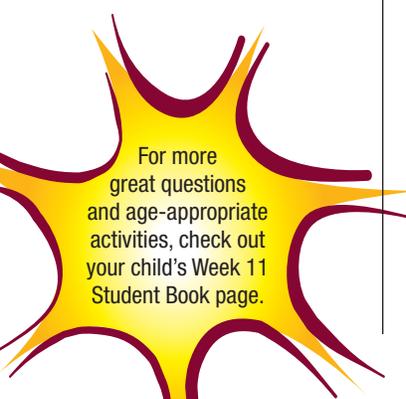
Our family talks to God about:

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For more great questions and age-appropriate activities, check out your child’s Week 11 Student Book page.



### Sneak Peek

Don’t miss next week when we discover why it’s good for us to remember what God has done.

Powered by...

# The Israelites Cross the Jordan River

Week 12



**►Bible Point**  
Remember what God has done.

**Key Verse**  
“Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done”  
(1 Chronicles 16:8).

**W**e heard this week how the Israelites remembered what God did for them, and we learned that we remember what God does for us each day (Joshua 3:1–4:24). Strengthen your family’s faith learning and growth at home with this easy idea:

**Parents** ■■■■■

**Discuss what God has done for your family lately.** Maybe God provided financially in an unexpected way while you were out of a job, or maybe God protected your family when you got lost hiking. Practice talking about what God has done for you so you’ll be prepared to tell others. Then, as a family, talk about how you showed God your thanks and gave him the credit. Talk about how you’ll remember to thank God the next time he helps you in some way, too.

**Pray** ■■■■■

God, thank you for all you do for us each day. This week, help us to remember what you’ve done for us in the past, and teach us how to tell others about what you’ve done. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Our family thanks God for:

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Our family talks to God about:

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For more great questions and age-appropriate activities, check out your child’s Week 12 Student Book page.



**Sneak Peek**

Don’t miss next week when we discover that God’s power works for good in our lives.

Powered by...

# God Gives Victory Over Jericho

Week 13



**►Bible Point**

God's power works for good.

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**Key Verse**

"Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5:6-7).

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**W**e learned this week that just as God's power helped the Israelites conquer Jericho, God's power can work for good in our lives, too (Joshua 6:1-27). Strengthen your family's faith learning and growth at home with this easy idea:

**Parents** ■■■■■

**With your kids, create a list of powerful events in the lives of your family.** Then look for how God worked for good through those events. Maybe a family member could have been badly hurt in a car accident, but instead, God used that situation to help heal a rift in your family. Or maybe God used an illness in your family to help you share your faith with someone who needed to hear about Jesus. With your children, praise God for his mighty work in your lives.

**Pray** ■■■■■

God, thank you for using your power for good in our lives. We trust you and commit our lives to you. Use our lives in whatever way you want. In Jesus' name, amen.

Our family thanks God for:

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Our family talks to God about:

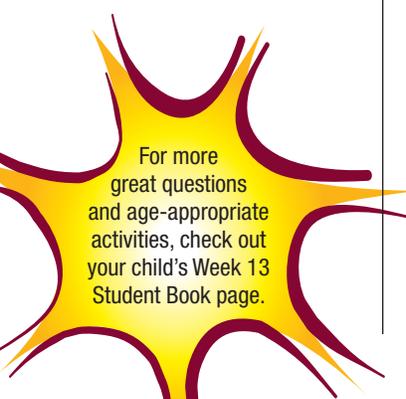
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For more great questions and age-appropriate activities, check out your child's Week 13 Student Book page.



**Sneak Peek**

Don't miss next week when we discover that Jesus fulfilled God's promise.

Powered by...