

YOUTH MINISTRY

SMALL GROUP CONTENT

———— **September–December 2025** ————





Scripture: Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Memory Verse:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1)

Look in the Book

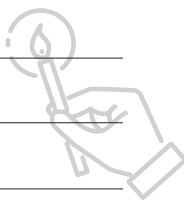
John 1:1-5

Activity:

- Take attendance on LEAD App
- Register for Believe Retreat
- Start parent/guide group chat
- Sign behavioral covenant (parents - students - guides)
- Find Large and Small Group Spaces

Journal Time

What is standing out to you from today's text? What can you take with you?



Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Grand designer of all things, the light and darkness, the dome in the midst of waters, the sky and dry land, the vegetation, the seasons, the swarms of living creatures, birds and great sea monsters, creeping things and wild animals, and us; all these were brought into being with a word on your lips. And it was good. Amen.

Scripture: Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14

Memory Verse:

Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.
(Genesis 22:8)

Look in the Book

John 1:29

Questions:

1. ICEBREAKER: What's something you've had to wait a long time for? Was it worth the wait?
2. How do you see God's faithfulness in the birth of Isaac?
3. Why do you think Abraham and Sarah had to wait so long for God's promise? How do you handle waiting on God?
4. Have you ever felt like God was asking you to do something difficult? How did you respond?
5. Where in your life do you need to trust God more right now? How can you practice patience and faith when you feel like God's promises are taking too long?

Activity: Scavenger Hunt

Service: Bible Week – Bring in new/used Bibles next week for Bible Drive

Journal Time

What is standing out to you from today's text? What can you take with you?



Prayer (Prayer Requests)

God of promise, You stayed the hand of Abraham and fulfilled the promise you made to him, that he would father a great nation. Keep your promises to us, that we become inheritors of eternal life. Amen.

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Scripture: Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17

Memory Verse:

I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you. (Genesis 28:15)

Look in the Book

John 1:50-51

Galatians 3:7-9

Questions:

1. ICEBREAKER: Have you ever tried to take a shortcut to get something you wanted? How did it turn out?
2. Isaac was suspicious that something wasn't right (Gen. 27:22). Why do you think he still went ahead and blessed Jacob?
3. What do you think Jacob was feeling as he tricked his father? Have you ever done something you knew was wrong but did it anyway?
4. God reaffirms His promise to Jacob (Gen. 28:13-15), despite all his mistakes. What does this show us about God's character?
5. What's one area in your life where you need to trust God's timing and plan instead of taking matters into your own hands?

Activity: Faith Family Tree

Service: Bible Drive

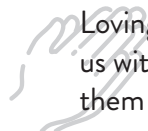
Journal Time

What is standing out to you from today's text? What can you take with you?



Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Loving God, like Jacob, who dreamed of your promises, you have filled us with dreams, too. Show us your promises and help us to live in light of them for your glory. Amen.



Scripture: Exodus 2:23-25; 3:10-15; 4:10-17

Memory Verse:

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'" (Exodus 3:14)

Look in the Book

John 8:58

Questions:

1. ICEBREAKER: Have you ever felt unqualified or nervous to do something important? What happened?
2. Read Exodus 2:23-25. What does this passage tell us about how God sees and responds to His people's suffering?
3. In Exodus 3:11, Moses questions God, saying, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh?" Why do you think Moses doubted himself? Have you ever felt like you weren't good enough for something God was calling you to do
4. What does this passage teach us about how God equips those He calls?
5. In verse 3:14, God tells Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." What do you think that means? What does it tell us about who God is?

Activity: Looking into Jesus' 'I AM' Statements

Journal Time

What is standing out to you from today's text? What can you take with you?



Prayer (Prayer Requests)

God of all people, You remembered your children who were enslaved in Egypt, and by the power of your name you set them free. Remember us and free us from slavery to sin by the power of your name. Amen.





Scripture: Exodus 16:1-18

Memory Verse:

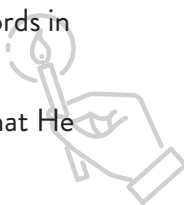
Moses said to them, "It is the bread the LORD has given you to eat."
(Exodus 16:15b)

Look in the Book

John 6:51

Questions:

1. ICEBREAKER: If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life, what would it be? Why
2. How did God respond to the Israelites' complaints in Exodus? What does this tell us about God's character?
3. In Exodus 16:17-18, we see that the amount of manna collected was different for each person. What do you think this teaches us about God's provision in our lives?
4. Manna is often described as "bread from heaven." In John 6:32-35, Jesus calls Himself the "bread of life." What connections can you make between the manna in Exodus and Jesus' words in the New Testament?
5. How can you trust God's provision and be content with what He gives you each day?



Activity: Brainstorm Service Project Ideas for December 10 Activity

Service: Bring Items for Food Drive

Journal Time

What is standing out to you from today's text? What can you take with you?

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Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Holy provider, despite your people's hardened hearts you gave them manna when they were hungry. Soften our hearts, and make us grateful for your marvelous gifts. Amen



Scripture: 1 Samuel 3:1-21

Memory Verse:

Then Eli said, "He is the LORD; let him do what is good in his eyes."
(1 Samuel 3:18b)

Look in the Book

John 20:21-23

Questions:

1. ICEBREAKER: What's the hardest part about listening—to a teacher, a friend, or even God?
2. How does Samuel respond when he first hears his name being called? (V. 4-5)
3. Why do you think it takes Samuel three times before realizing it was God speaking to him? What does this tell us about recognizing God's voice?
4. What can we learn from Eli's response in verse 18? What does it show about trusting God?
5. Samuel says, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." How can we make that our attitude when we pray?

Activity: Prayer Stations

Service: Bring supplies for Service Project

Journal Time

What is standing out to you from today's text? What can you take with you?



Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Beckoning God, in the stillness of the night you called Samuel into your service. Call us into service with a voice we are able to hear, and give us hearts to come when we are called. Amen



Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 51:10-14

Memory Verse:

The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.
(1 Samuel 16:7)

Look in the Book

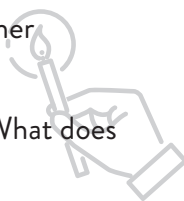
John 7:24

Questions:

1. ICEBREAKER: Have you ever felt like you didn't measure up in comparison to others? How do you think that thought or feeling has shaped you?
2. Read 1 Samuel 16:7. What do you think it means to have a heart after God?
3. Psalm 51:10-12 is David's prayer. How does David's response show why he was still a man after God's heart, even after sinning?
4. What are some ways we focus too much on what people think instead of what God sees in us? P.S. Do we know what other people think of us, or is it what we think they think of us?
5. How can we develop a heart that seeks after God daily? What does that look like practically?

Activity: Write Cards for Service Project

Service: Bring Supplies for Service Project



Journal Time

What is standing out to you from today's text? What can you take with you?

[illegible]

Prayer (Prayer Requests)

God of strength, in David you chose a king with a big heart. Create clean and willing hearts in us, and choose us to do your work. Amen.





Scripture: 1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13

Memory Verse:

I have indeed built a magnificent temple for you, a place for you to dwell forever. (1 Kings 8:13)

Look in the Book

John 2:19-21

Questions:

1. ICEBREAKER: Have you ever been part of a project that took a lot of preparation? What was the most fulfilling part of seeing it come to completion?
2. What does this text teach us about the importance of working together for God's purposes?
3. 1 Kings 8:10-11 describes the moment when God's glory filled the temple. Why do you think God's glory overwhelmed the priests?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20. In 1 Kings 8:12, Solomon acknowledges that God cannot be contained in a building. What does this teach us about God's presence today?
5. What does it mean for God's glory to be present in your life? How can we seek to reflect God's glory in practical ways?



Activity: Prayer Crosses (NC/WC); Create Care Packages (SC)

Service: Bring Supplies for Service Project

Journal Time

What is standing out to you from today's text? What can you take with you?

[illegible]

Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Mighty Lord, The splendor of Solomon's temple cannot compare to the majesty of your heart. Show your heart in this place, that we might worship you with joy and gratitude. Amen.





Scripture: 1 Kings 19:1-18

Memory Verse:

Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him. (1 Kings 19:18)

Look in the Book

John 12:27-28

Questions:

1. ICEBREAKER: Have you ever felt exhausted or overwhelmed by life? How did you cope with those feelings in that moment?
2. 1 Kings 19:3-5 shows Elijah running away in fear, even after his great victory. Why do you think Elijah felt so overwhelmed and discouraged, despite seeing God's power so recently?
3. Why do you think God chose to speak this way to Elijah? How does this shape our understanding of how God communicates with us today?
4. God provides for Elijah physically and spiritually in this passage. Describe a time when God provided for you in a time of weariness or discouragement.
5. How might God be inviting you to seek His voice in the quiet moments instead of waiting for big signs?



Activity: Prayer Crosses (SC); Create Care Packages (NC/WC)

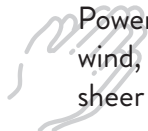
Journal Time

What is standing out to you from today's text? What can you take with you?

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Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Powerful God, although you can make your presence known in a mighty wind, or an earthquake, or a fire, you often speak to us in the sound of sheer silence. Help us to hear. Amen





Scripture: Isaiah 9:1-7

Memory Verse:

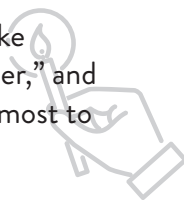
For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

Look in the Book

John 8:12

Questions:

1. ICEBREAKER: What's something that brings you comfort or helps you feel safe when you're afraid or in the dark—literally or emotionally?
2. Verse 2 says, "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light." What do you think the "darkness" represents for the people? How may that relate today
3. Isaiah describes the coming Savior with powerful names like "Wonderful Counselor," "Mighty God," "Everlasting Father," and "Prince of Peace." Which one of these names means the most to you right now, and why?
4. This promise was given hundreds of years before Jesus was born. What does this teach us about God's faithfulness, even when we're waiting?
5. What does it look like to carry hope and be a light for others in a world that can feel dark or uncertain?



Activity: Letters of Joy

Journal Time

What is standing out to you from today's text? What can you take with you?

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Prayer (Prayer Requests)

God of light, there can be overwhelming obscurity in this world. But you shine your light and increase joy, and for your brilliance we are grateful. Amen.





Scripture: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

Memory Verse:

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

Look in the Book

John 14:27

Questions:

1. ICEBREAKER: What's one time that you had to wait for someone or something important to arrive? Who/what were you waiting for, and how did you feel while you were waiting?
2. Do you think that most teenagers today have hope for the future? Why or why not?
3. Verse 11 says that God has "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Do you have hope for the future? Why or why not?
4. What can we do while we wait for God to show us His plans?
5. How can we help others as they wait for God to show them His plans?



Activity: Cardboard Testimonies

Journal Time

What is standing out to you from today's text? What can you take with you?

[illegible]

Prayer (Prayer Requests)

God of hope, how often have we found ourselves in exile, separated from your presence! Restore us, and let us find you when we seek you. Amen.



Scripture: Daniel 3:1, 8-30

Memory Verse:

If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand. But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up. (Daniel 3:17-18)

Look in the Book

Exodus 20:1-6

John 18:36-37

Questions:

1. ICEBREAKER: Has following Jesus ever cost you something? If so, what happened and what did it cost you?
2. Compare verse 17, "...the God we serve is able to deliver us..." with verse 18, "But even if he does not...." Do you think Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego thought they would survive?
3. Do you think it's worth it to follow Jesus even if it's dangerous? Why or why not?
4. If Christianity became illegal here, how do you think that would affect your life?
5. Even though Christianity is legal here, it isn't always popular. What are some ways you can stand up for Jesus that might cost you something?

Activity: Priority List



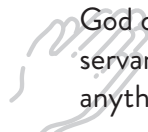
Journal Time

What is standing out to you from today's text? What can you take with you?

[illegible]

Prayer (Prayer Requests)

God of fiery flames, even the most raging fire could not destroy your servants when they called upon you in faith. Give us faith to withstand anything that rages to deter us from following you. Amen.





Scripture: Ezekiel 37:1-14


Memory Verse:

I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD. (Ezekiel 37:14)

Look in the book

John 11:25-26

Questions:

1. ICEBREAKER: How old is the oldest person you know? What do you think life was like when he or she was a teenager?
 2. In the Apostle's Creed, we say we believe in the "resurrection of the body and the life everlasting." What do you think that will be like?
 3. Have you ever lost someone close to you? How did that affect you?
 4. How do verses 12-14 give you hope in the "resurrection of the body and the life everlasting"?
 5. What are some practical ways that you can comfort those who are mourning?
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Activity: Bible Scavenger Hunt

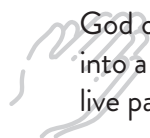
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Prayer (Prayer Requests)

God of breath, You promised new life to your people in exile by breathing into a valley full of dry bones. Breathe new life into us, so that we might live passionately for you. Amen.





Scripture: Isaiah 55:1-11

Memory Verse:

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near.
(Isaiah 55:6)

Look in the Book

John 4:13-14

Questions:

ICEBREAKER: How much water do you drink on a typical day? Do you have a favorite water bottle or way to drink water?

2. Isaiah 55:1 says, “Come, all you who are thirsty...” What are some things we try to satisfy that thirst with instead of God?

3. How do you think God wants to rescue us and satisfy our thirsts?

4. What do you think it means that God's love is "without money and without cost"? Why do people sometimes feel like they have to "earn" God's love?

5. How can we invite others to come to the waters of God's love?

Activity: Small Group Service Project

Journal Time

What is standing out to you from today's text? What can you take with you?

[illegible]

Prayer (Prayer Requests)

God of restoration, save us when we find ourselves spiritually thirsty.
Help us walk your road with your purpose, strengthened by your living
water. Amen.



Scripture: John 1:1-18

Memory Verse:

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. (John 1:14a)

Look in the Book

Psalm 130:5-8

Questions:

1. ICEBREAKER: If someone wrote a biography of your life, what would the first sentence be?
2. Compare Genesis 1:1 and John 1:1. What do you think John is trying to tell us by their similarity?
3. John 1:5 says, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." Where do you see darkness in the world today?
4. *How did God's light shine through the darkness at Christmas?*
5. *What are some ways God's light still shines through the darkness today?*
6. *How can you let your light shine so that others may see your good works and glorify God?*

Activity: Christmas Party

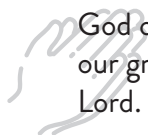
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Prayer (Prayer Requests)

God of all time, Your Word became flesh and walked among us. Receive our gratitude and awe for all that you have done through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



NOTES

