

4th-5th Grade Summer God Time Guide

SUMMER 2020



FAMILY
MINISTRIES
FIRST PRES

THIS GUIDE BELONGS TO:

MAKE TIME FOR GOD TIME!

Did you know the best way to be friends with God is to spend time with Him? Just like our real friends, we become better friends the more we get to know Him. This summer is a great time for your kids to grow in their faith and friendship with God. Here's how!



Every week, participate in worship with your kids, then have them watch the Bible Story video on firstprescos.org/family.



For the rest of the week, read to your kids and do the daily activities with them.



Connect with your Online Small Group on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. or 4 p.m.

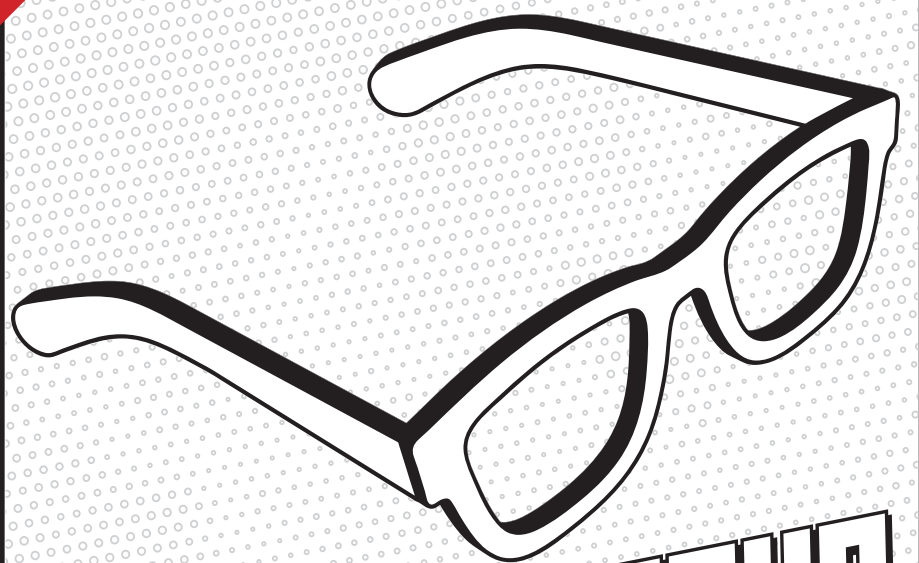
Using this as a guide will give you a whole summer with Jesus. He promises to work good things in your family's lives when you follow after Him!

Be sure to keep in touch to tell us how you're doing. Enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,

Allen Hunter, Bethany Hanson





Knowing **JESUS**
changes the way
you see your
problems.



DAY 1

Week of June 7

Go to firstprescos.org/family to watch this week's episode of the So & So Show. Even if you watched it already, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that . . .

1) YOU LIKED: _____

2) YOU LEARNED: _____

3) YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW: _____

DAY 2

READ HEBREWS 11:1–12:3

In our reading, Paul gives us a definition for faith in the very first verse. Paul has two names, actually, Saul and Paul. We'll use both all month long, so don't be confused! Back to what Paul says about faith—to put it simply, faith is trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see.

Paul also gives a very long list of people whose faith changed their lives and the lives of those around them.

Who is someone you know who has a big, growing faith?

DAY 4

Paul gave us so many examples of people who had a big, growing faith. Look back to Day 2 at the person's name you wrote down. This person has a big, growing faith, too.

DAY 3

You can talk to God just like you talk to your mom or dad. You can tell Him anything—even talk about your day! Talking to God is one of the best ways to grow your faith. Fill in the blanks below, then read the prayer to God.

Hey God!

You already know this, but it's me, (Your Name). I want to get better at talking to You, because I want to grow my faith.

One reason I want to grow my faith is (one reason you want to grow your faith).

Help me to learn to look for all the things I can see to show me what I can't see. For example, I can't see the wind, but I can see the leaves swaying. Another example of relying on faith is (an example of something you can't see but know exists because of what you can see).

Thank You for helping me grow my faith. Please help me remember I can talk to You about anything, any time. Amen.

Take a couple of minutes to talk to them. You can text, email, or even video chat them. Ask them how they came to have their faith, what do they believe in that they cannot see, and how they continue to help it grow?



DAY 5

Learning how to talk about your faith with others can be tough—especially if you’re new to faith, or you still aren’t sure *exactly* what you believe. But anything is possible with a little practice.

Make a practice script on a sheet of paper. Talk about how you first heard about God. Share a couple of things God has done for you and for your family. Then, choose one person you want to share your faith with. Write down a date you want to have this conversation by and make it happen! Who knows, this conversation could be the start of someone else’s faith!



DAY 1

Week of June 14

Go to firstprescos.org/family to watch this week’s episode of the So & So Show. Even if you watched it already, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that . . .

1) YOU LIKED: _____

2) YOU LEARNED: _____

3) YOU’D LIKE TO KNOW: _____

DAY 2

READ ACTS 9:1-9

At the beginning of the story, you met Saul of Tarsus; who you might know as Paul. What are **THREE** things you learned about Saul *before* he began his journey to Damascus?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Saul and his men were headed for their destination when a bright light shined down from the sky. What **TWO** things happened next?

- 1.
- 2.

Now unable to see, Saul's men led him to the home of Judas on Straight street where he stayed for three nights, unable to see, eat, or drink. Predict **ONE** thing that could happen next.

- 1.

DAY 3

The more we get to know God, the more we see Him in a different way. Did you know we can talk to Him just like we talk to our friends? In fact, God *wants* us to think of Him as a friend. Talking to God is one of the best ways to grow your faith. Fill in the blanks below and then read the prayer to God.

God,

You are a very generous friend. Thank You for giving me (three things you are thankful for). I value these things and am so grateful for them.

God, sometimes I mess up. Would You forgive me for (a time you messed up)? Thank You for always forgiving me, no matter what.

I need Your help every day. In the Bible, we are reminded time and time again that You are always with us. Would you be with me (a time in the future you want God's help)?

God, one thing I love about You is (one thing you love about God).

Thank You for always hearing me when I talk to You, amen.

DAY 4

What happened to Saul during his journey to Damascus is kind of intense, right? I mean, a bright light shines from the sky, a loud voice speaks to him, and then he's blind! Write down two or three questions

you have from the story. Then, think about someone you know who loves God. Take a couple of minutes to talk to them—you can text, email, or even FaceTime them. Ask them your questions. They may not have the answers, but together, you can grow your faith by talking about the story of Saul.



DAY 5

God wanted to get Saul's attention and He chose a big way to do that. Did you know God wants your attention, too? He loves each and every one of us and wants each and every one of us to have a growing faith.

Have you ever thought that maybe God wants to use you to get someone's attention? God wants us to live our lives in a way that shows others we love Him. And one of the best ways to do that is to tell others about our faith.

Think of one friend or family member you can talk about your faith to—someone who may not have a faith of their own. Write down their first name or initials below.

Now, ask God to show you how you can get their attention and point it toward Him.



DAY 1

Week of June 21

Go to firstprescos.org/family to watch this week's episode of the So & So Show. Even if you watched it already, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that . . .

1) YOU LIKED: _____

2) YOU LEARNED: _____

3) YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW: _____

DAY 2

READ ACTS 9:10-31

Saul's entire life was changed when he met Jesus. But there was another person involved with Saul's story, a man named Ananias.

We just read that God talked to Ananias through a vision. What's a vision? Well, it's sort of like a dream. And in this vision, God told Ananias to help Saul. Only, Saul was known for hating Jesus-followers and Ananias was afraid of him.

Ananias had fears. But they were fears he was able to face. How? You'll have to read on. For now, think about some of your own fears.

TOP 3 SCARIEST THINGS EVER:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Think about this . . . what if God asked you to face one of those fears. Could you do it?

DAY 3

When you talk to God, you can tell Him. You can even tell Him about the things that scare you. With God's help, you can face some of your fears. Fill in the blanks below, then read the prayer to God.

God,

Thank You that You care about me. You care about what hurts me, bothers me, or scares me.

When I think about my fears, I think about (your list from Day 2). The one of those that scares me the most is (biggest fear).

God, I know that even if I have to face (biggest fear), You are with me. Help me to remember that. Amen.

DAY 4

If the opposite of *fear* is *faith*, we have to work hard on growing our faith to overcome our fears. Who is someone you know who seems fearless? Someone who has overcome a lot and still loves God?

Take a couple of minutes to talk to them. You can text, email, or even video chat them. Ask them how they fought their fear with faith.



DAY 5

Everyone has fears (even adults). But just like Ananias, we can face our fears with the help of God. Think about a time you were afraid, but you knew that God was with you. On a piece of paper, write about that time. Hang onto it, and the next time a friend or family member is facing something hard, share your story with them to help build their faith.



DAY 1

Week of June 28

Go to firstprescos.org/family to watch this week's episode of the So & So Show. Even if you watched it already, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that . . .

1) YOU LIKED: _____

2) YOU LEARNED: _____

3) YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW: _____

DAY 2

READ ACTS 10

A *lot* happened when Peter visited Cornelius. Take out a separate sheet of paper. In your own words, write down the three most important things that happened.

God gave Peter a vision, which is kind of like a dream. God showed Peter that anything and anyone He created could never be “unclean.” God loved the Jewish people and the non-Jewish people the same. God wants *everyone* to have faith; not just the popular people.

Is there someone at school or church who is viewed as “unclean?” Maybe they’re not literally *dirty*, but they are not popular. They eat lunch alone and they are the last to be picked to be on a team or in a group. Based on what you read today, do you think God sees them the way you and others see them? How do you think God sees them?

DAY 3

Sometimes, it’s hard to be honest with God about things that embarrass us. There’s another word for that feeling—*shame*. And God doesn’t want us to feel that way. One way to fight the feelings of shame is to be open with God. This is one important way we can grow our faith.

Fill in the blanks below, then read the prayer to God.

God,

It’s hard for me to admit, but there are times I don’t treat everyone the same. For example, (talk to God about a time you didn’t treat someone the way you want to be treated). Help me to remember that you want everyone to have faith in You. Everyone, including me! Remind me to talk to You even when I’m feeling shame. Amen.

DAY 4

Not everyone hears from God like Peter did in a vision. But there are other ways to know what He thinks and wants.

Who is someone in your life who talks about God like He’s their friend? Take a couple of minutes to talk to them. You can text, email, or even video chat them. Ask them how they hear from God. You may connect with God in a different way, but hearing others share about their experiences with God grows *both* of your faiths.

**WHAT
ARE SOMEWAYS
PEOPLE ARE
DIFFERENT FROM EACH
OTHER?**

DAY 5

Peter learned that God wants us to treat everyone the same. That doesn't mean we have to be best friends with every single person at our school. But it does mean He wants us to show everyone the same amount of respect and kindness.

Think about one person you haven't been so kind to in the past. Maybe you haven't done anything to them, but you've thought unkind thoughts or gone out of your way to avoid them. This could be someone at school, someone in your neighborhood, or even your brother or sister. (That's right! God wants us to treat our siblings with respect and kindness, too!)

Challenge yourself to treat them differently. On a sheet of paper, write down three things you can do to show this person respect and kindness.

FAITH
TRUSTING IN WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE
BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU CAN SEE

DAY 1

Week of July 5

Go to firstprescos.org/family to watch this week's episode of the So & So Show. Even if you watched it already, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that . . .

1) YOU LIKED: _____

2) YOU LEARNED: _____

3) YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW: _____

DAY 2**READ EPHESIANS 2:8-9**

We learn a *lot* about grace in those verses.

1. Graces saves us
2. Grace doesn't come from anything we do
3. No one can earn grace

WE LEARN THAT GRACE IS A GIFT.

It's the gift of forgiveness every time we mess up.
It's the gift of being loved by God before we even know who He is.
It's the gift of being in God's family forever, no matter what.

Grace is the best kind of gift, because it's given to everyone. It's just like we said last week—Jesus is a gift for everyone.

Sometimes, it can be hard to understand grace because it's almost too good to be true. We can get forgiveness no matter what? But it is true! Jesus was born, lived, and died so that we could have grace.

When's the last time something happened to you that seemed too good to be true? How did it feel?

DAY 4

Do you know someone who seems to be filled with grace? Someone who is able to control their temper, forgive, and let go of anger? Maybe it's your soccer coach or teacher. It could be your stepmom or grandpa. Take some time today or tomorrow to reach out to that person.

If you can't do it in person, you can text, email, or even video call them. Ask them to tell you how they find the strength and courage to forgive and ask for forgiveness. Ask them how they came to be filled with the gift of grace.

DAY 3

Talking to God is one of the best ways to grow your faith. You can talk to God just like you talk to your parents or friends. Fill in the blanks below, then read the prayer to God.

Hey God!

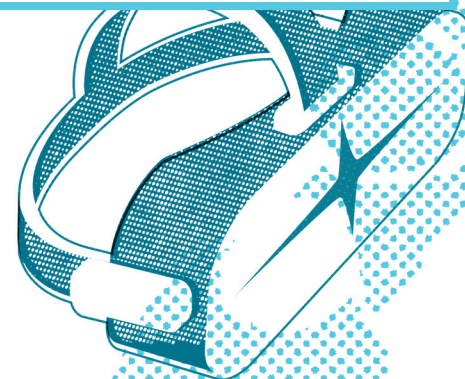
I'm so glad I can talk to you about anything, any time. It's pretty cool that you listen to me. It's even more cool that you want to hear what I am thinking and feeling.

Right now, I am learning about grace and it's pretty awesome. It's amazing that You love us so much that You sent your Son Jesus so that I can have forgiveness when I mess up. You know, like that one time I (a time you messed up) _____.

Because of grace, anytime I ask for forgiveness, You give me forgiveness. Because of that, You want me to forgive others when they mess up. Even when it's really, really hard.

That's why I want to forgive (someone who did something to hurt you) _____ . Help me to show them the same kind of grace You have shown me.

Thank You so much for the gift of grace! Amen.



WHY DO PEOPLE GIVE GIFTS?

DAY 5

Is there someone in your family that you need to ask for forgiveness? Maybe you snapped at your mom this morning. Or you disobeyed your stepdad. Or, is there someone in your family that you need to forgive? Are you still mad at your brother for taking your slime to school?

Take a couple of minutes to talk to them.

Ask or offer them grace.

You'll both walk away feeling better after experiencing grace.

FAITH

TRUSTING IN WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE
BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU CAN SEE

DAY 1

Week of July 12

Go to firstprescos.org/family to watch this week's episode of the So & So Show. Even if you watched it already, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that . . .

1) YOU LIKED: _____

2) YOU LEARNED: _____

3) YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW: _____

DAY 2**READ ACTS 17:16-34**

Acts was probably written by one of Jesus' followers named Luke. In the book of Acts, Luke talks a lot about a guy named Saul. After meeting Jesus and becoming a Jesus-follower, Saul's entire life changed. He was even given another name—Paul. After meeting Jesus and realizing that Jesus is God's Son, Paul traveled everywhere he could to share his faith, moving people closer and closer to a faith of their own.

One of the towns Paul visited was named Athens. And something bad was going on there. Here's what the Bible says:

"Paul was waiting for Silas and Timothy in Athens. He was very upset to see that the city was full of statues of gods." Acts 17:16, NIV

The people of Athens were worshipping statues and not the one true God. The people of Athens were very, very far from having faith. So, Paul decided to do something about it. He decided to draw the people closer to a real faith of their own.

What is the hardest part about telling others about Jesus?

DAY 4

Who told you about Jesus? Was it your mom? Your dad? A friend? Small group leader? Maybe it was more than one person. But try and think of the one who very first told you that Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever.

Take some time to talk to that person. If you can't do it in person, you can text, email, or even video call them. Ask them how they gained the courage to tell people about Jesus. Ask them to give you some tips on learning to share His story with others.

DAY 3

Talking to God is one of the best ways to grow your faith. You can talk to God just like you talk to your parents or friends. Fill in the blanks below, then read the prayer to God.

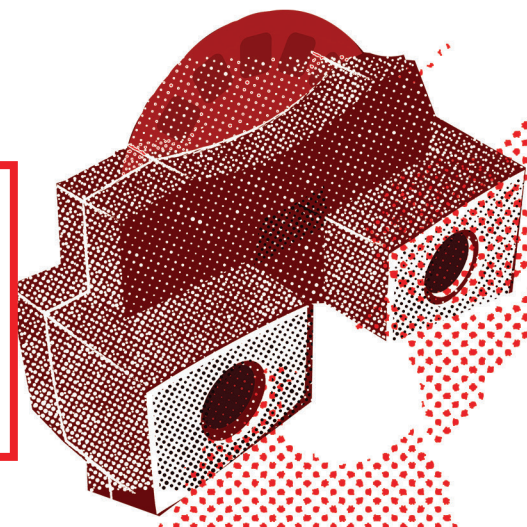
Hey God!

It's so cool that You are always listening when we pray. We can talk to You about anything—about what happened at recess, the last bad grade we got, or the friends we'd like to get to know better. Anything!

This week we're learning that we can tell others about Jesus. I'd like to get better at telling others about Jesus by _____.

One person I could tell about Jesus is _____. I pray the next time I see _____, You would give me the courage to tell them about You.

Thank You for being such an amazing God! Amen.



HOW CAN YOU HELP OTHERS KNOW JESUS?

DAY 5

If you want to help people find their way to Jesus, you have to take the first step. Here are a few examples of first steps you could take.

Finish out the list with some ideas of your own:

- o Invite a friend to church
- o Tell a friend who is going through a hard time that you're praying for them (then, really pray for them)
- o
- o

It doesn't matter how old you are, how far along you are in your faith, or how much of the Bible you know—all you need to tell others about Jesus is the willingness to take the first step.

Choose one of the options from the list above and make it happen. Take that first step! Remember, not only do you have what it takes to tell others about Jesus, but He will be with you every step of the way.

FAITH

TRUSTING IN WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE
BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU CAN SEE

DAY 1

Week of July 19

Go to firstprescos.org/family to watch this week's episode of the So & So Show. Even if you watched it already, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that . . .

1) YOU LIKED: _____

2) YOU LEARNED: _____

3) YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW: _____

DAY 2**READ ACTS 27:1-28:10**

So far, Paul has had some pretty incredible things happen to him. But what happened to Paul next is going to blow your mind.

Paul had a few problems. The first problem was Paul was put in jail. Why was he put in jail? The short answer is that Paul was in jail because he was a Jesus-follower. One day, while Paul was still a prisoner, it was decided that he would travel by boat across the Mediterranean Sea to stand trial.

From the beginning of the trip, Paul knew the journey wouldn't be an easy one. The wind began to blow and the waves were getting bigger and bigger. Before long, the boat struggled to stay on course. On top of that, the trip was taking way longer than planned and the food supply was running low. With winter and more bad weather coming, Paul was worried they'd never make it.

Paul tried to tell the ship's commander:

"Men,' he said, 'I can see that our trip is going to be dangerous. The ship and everything in it will be lost. Our own lives will be in danger also.' But the commander didn't listen to what Paul said." Acts 27:10-11, NIRV

Paul had quite a few problems:

1. Paul was being held prisoner because of his faith.
2. Paul was on a ship without enough food in the middle of a storm.
3. Paul knew they were in big trouble, but no one would listen.

Out of all of Paul's problems, which one do you think was the worst and why?

DAY 3

Each and every day you are faced with problems of all sizes. You can't find your book bag, or your teacher caught you in a lie, or you forgot to tell your mom that your lunch account ran out of money. Did you know that you can talk to God about your problems? In fact, God wants us to tell Him about anything that bothers us or hurts us.

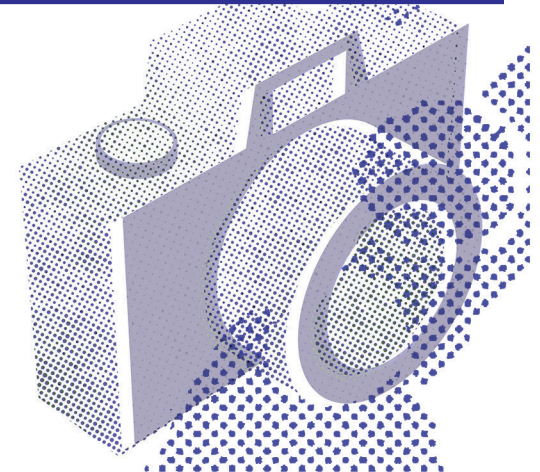
Take a few minutes and tell God about anything that's on your mind right now. What's worrying you? Frustrating you? Hurting you? Tell God about your problems like you're talking to a friend or your parents.

God hears your words. And just like He was with Paul, He will be with you in the middle of all your problems.

DAY 4

Do you know someone who has been through a lot of tough situations, but still has a big, growing faith in God? Someone who has faced big problems but still loves and follows God?

Take some time to talk to that person. If you can't do it in person, you can text, email, or even video call them. Ask them how they kept their faith strong when things were tough.



**WHEN HAVE YOU
SEEN SOMETHING
GOOD COME OUT OF
SOMETHING BAD?**

DAY 5

Did you know that when you show faith during your hard times, it helps others get through their hard times?

Here are three things Paul did during his hard time to help others during their hard time:

1. You can tell others that God keeps His promises. It can be hard to know what to say to someone who is hurting, especially if you're hurting, too. But you can always remind them that God is a good, loving God, and that He is always with us, even when it feels like He's not.
2. You can have hope. You can be positive when everything feels negative. Saying things like, "God's got this," and "I'm here for you," seems small, but it can go a long way to change someone's attitude when they're down.
3. You can pray. Paul prayed out loud where everyone could hear him. You don't have to pray out loud if that makes you nervous or uncomfortable, but you can tell someone that you're praying for them. Don't forget to actually pray!

From the list above, which will be the easiest thing for you to do to help a friend when you're both faced with a problem?

Which will be the most challenging?

The next time you're faced with a hard situation, ask yourself how you can continue to show faith so that you can help others grow their faith, too.

FAITH

**TRUSTING IN WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE
BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU CAN SEE**

DAY 1

Week of July 26

Go to firstprescos.org/family to watch this week's episode of the So & So Show. Even if you watched it already, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that . . .

1) YOU LIKED: _____

2) YOU LEARNED: _____

3) YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW: _____

DAY 2**READ REVELATION 21:3-5A**

The book we're reading from this week is called Revelation. Revelation basically means *made known*. And in the book of Revelation, we uncover many truths about what heaven is like. Check out what Revelation says about heaven:

"... God now makes his home with the people. He will live with them. They will be his people. And God himself will be with them and be their God."
Revelation 21:3, NIV

We learn one important fact about heaven: **GOD WILL BE THERE**. He will actually live with us in Heaven. He will be our God—meaning, He will be in charge. That sounds amazing, right?

We're going to talk a lot about heaven this week. Before we get there, think about this . . .

If you could ask one question about heaven, what would it be?

DAY 3

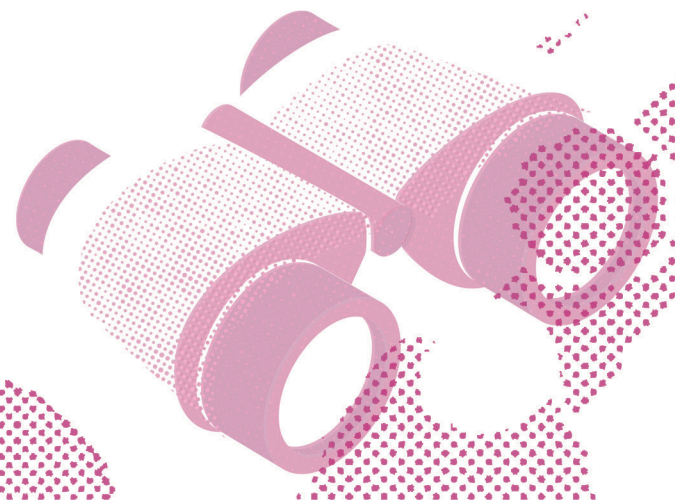
One of the most important ways to following Jesus is to talk to Him. He wants you to tell Him everything—even ask Him questions.

Look at your question from yesterday. **Spend a few minutes praying to God, telling Him you're curious about heaven.** Tell Him you want to know more about it—more about Him.

DAY 4

Following Jesus will turn out greater than you can imagine. It's true! Do you know someone who is following Jesus right now? Take some time to talk to that person. If you can't do it in person, you can text, email, or even video call them. Ask them all the ways that following Jesus has been good—even great—for them.

If you have time, ask them what they think about heaven. What will it be like? Compare what they think to what you think!



**WHAT DO YOU
THINK HEAVEN
WILL BE LIKE?**

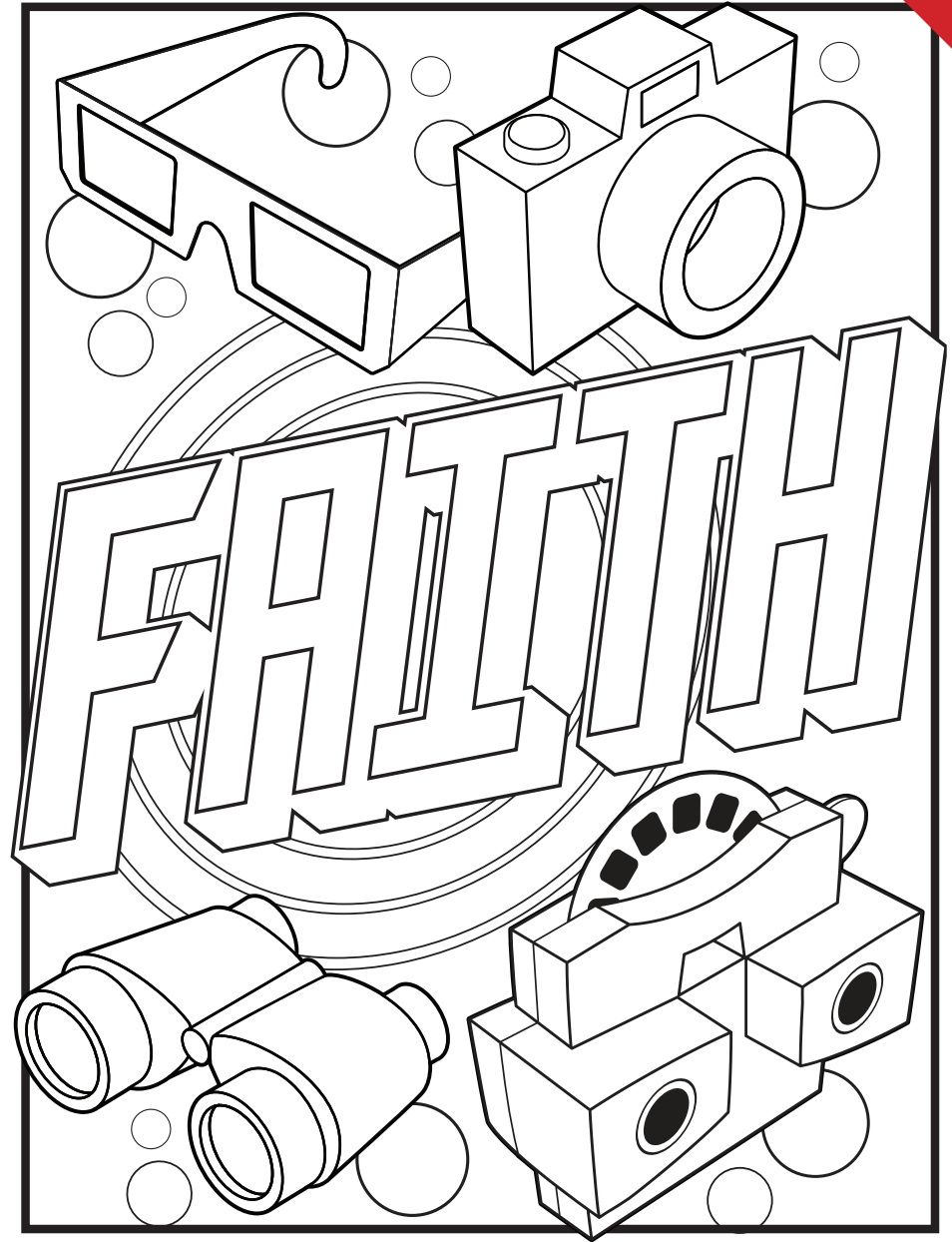
DAY 5

After the author of Revelation tells us what He saw in his vision of Heaven, the One sitting on the throne says,

**"Write this down. You can trust these words. They are true."
Revelation 21:5b, NIV**

This verse tells us the most important part of having faith—you can trust what God says. You can trust that Jesus is His One and only Son, sent to earth so that we could be in God's family forever. When we are faced with something hard or something confusing, we can have faith and trust in God. We can follow Jesus. We can know that no matter what, God loves us and Jesus wants to have a relationship with us.

There are already ways following God has helped your life. Think of one person you can talk to about the ways following God has turned out greater than you imagined. Tell them about Him, about His love, and about how following God is the best choice you've ever made.



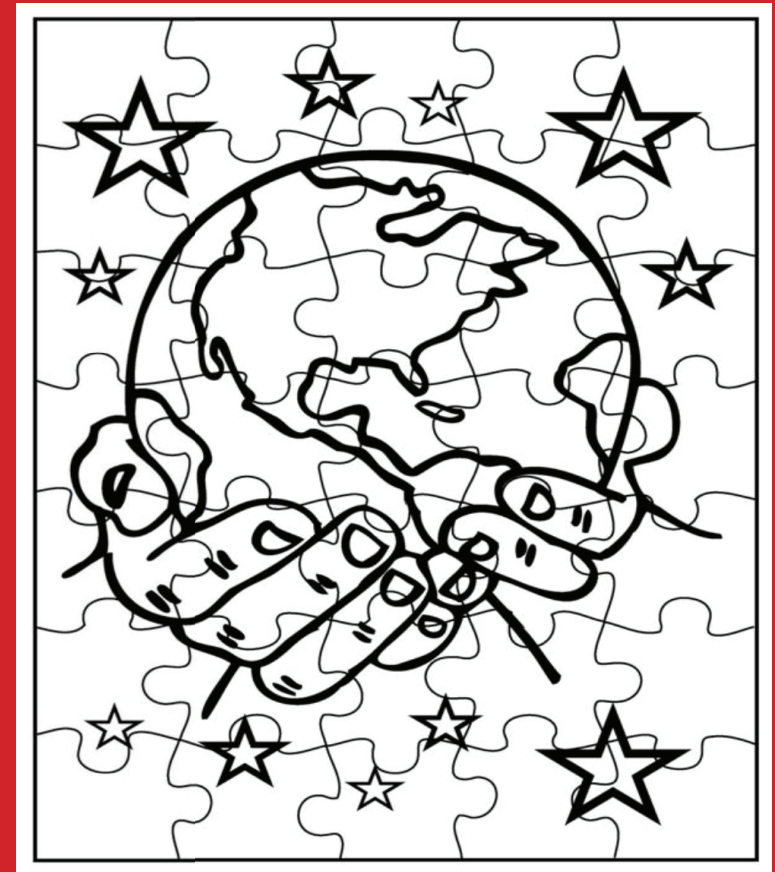
AUGUST SERIES: INDESCRIBABLE

Right from the start, we see God's indescribable creativity. Everything around us gives us a glimpse of our creative God. Jesus was creative with the way He taught and the miracles He performed. We reflect God's creativity to the world around us.

"Lord, you are great. You are really worthy of praise. No one can completely understand how great you are."

Psalm 145:3, NIrV

1. Color this
2. Cut it out
3. Put it back together





NEIGHBORHOOD VBS JULY 13-17

Get ready for a five-day adventure in your own neighborhood as we focus on finding God in the unexpected! Each morning kicks off with a live video opening where you'll sing loud, dance silly and hear Bible stories. Then choose your own adventure for the rest of the morning as you journey through crafts, games and snacks.

We provide everything you need from craft supplies, game ideas and video teaching. Sign up to receive your VBS kit at firstprescos.org/vbs



FIRST
PRES

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