



Overview

In the elementary years, a child will grow in wisdom, faith, and friendship.

252 Kids and Preteen ministry curriculum weaves together music, communicator scripts, small group discussions, video presentations, and creative activities based on a clear and simple bottom line each week so kids can remember **everyday** what matters most.

252 BASIC TRUTHS—

1. I need to make the wise choice.
2. I can trust God no matter what.
3. I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS

One Priority

“**Love God** with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: **‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’**”

MATTHEW 22:37-39, NIV

Three Relational Motives



Move kids to **love God** by inciting wonder.



Move kids to **love life** by inciting discovery.*



Move kids to **love others** by fueling passion.

In the Elementary Phase, the **DISCOVERY** dial is turned all the way up.

Nine Core Insights

Design of God's Creation

What I see around me reveals a Creator who cares about me.

Identity based on God's Image

I am created in the image of God and have unique potential and worth.

Connection because of God's Love

I live in pursuit of an infinite God who desires an eternal relationship with me.

Faith in God's Son

I believe in Jesus and will continue to trust Him even when life doesn't make sense.

Transformation by the power of God's Spirit

God's Spirit is transforming my unique and imperfect life into the character of Jesus.

Truth according to God's Message

What Jesus said and did impacts how I should respond to God's Word in my everyday life.

Restoration through participating in God's Story

I am designed to participate in God's story to restore a broken and hurting world.

Compassion that reflects God's Character

My faith in Christ is revealed by my compassion and care for others.

Community in the context of God's Family

I choose to live in the complexities of family and community because God values them.

2023-2024 THEMES

SEASON 1



AUGUST: CREATIVITY



SEPTEMBER: FRIENDSHIP



OCTOBER: INTEGRITY

SEASON 2



NOVEMBER: GRATITUDE



DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS

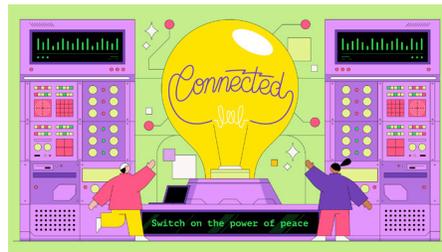


JANUARY: RESPONSIBILITY

SEASON 3



FEBRUARY: KINDNESS



MARCH: PEACE



APRIL: PATIENCE

SEASON 4



MAY: COMMITMENT



JUNE & JULY: JUNE & JULY: COMING SOON!

2023-2024 THEMES

AUGUST: CREATIVITY



MEMORY VERSE: "We are God's creation. He created us to belong to Christ Jesus. Now we can do good works. Long ago God prepared these works for us to do." Ephesians 2:10, NIV

WEEK ONE: Creation (Genesis 1-2:3)

Bottom Line: God created you so you can be creative.

WEEK TWO: We Are God's Creation (Ephesians 2:10)

Bottom Line: God created you for a purpose.

WEEK THREE: Joseph and the Plan to Save Egypt (Genesis 40-41)

Bottom Line: You can use what God gave you to solve problems.

WEEK FOUR: The Tabernacle

(Exodus 25-39, selected passages)

Bottom Line: Use your imagination to honor God.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Right from the start, we see God's immense 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.

CORE INSIGHTS: Design, Identity

SEPTEMBER: FRIENDSHIP



MEMORY VERSE: "A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes." Proverbs 17:17, NIV

WEEK ONE: Two People Are Better Than One (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)

Bottom Line: Choose your friends carefully.

WEEK TWO: David and Mephibosheth (1 Samuel 19-20; 2 Samuel 9)

Bottom Line: Friends keep their promises.

WEEK THREE: Barnabas and Saul (Acts 9:26-30)

Bottom Line: Friends stand up for one another.

WEEK FOUR: Forgive One Another (Colossians 3:13)

Bottom Line: Friends forgive one another.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

God created us for community. Jesus showed us the greatest example of this. With His words, actions, and love, Jesus made people feel like they belonged. We reflect Jesus' love best when we treat one another with friendship.

CORE INSIGHTS: Community, Compassion

OCTOBER: INTEGRITY



MEMORY VERSE: "Anyone who lives without blame walks safely. But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught." Proverbs 10:9, NIV

WEEK ONE: A Tree and Its Fruit (Luke 6:43-45)

Bottom Line: Be truthful with your whole life.

WEEK TWO: Naaman and Elisha's Servant (2 Kings 5)

Bottom Line: When you're not truthful, you lose trust.

WEEK THREE: Daniel's Integrity with Food (Daniel 1)

Bottom Line: Do what's right wherever you are.

WEEK FOUR: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Daniel 3)

Bottom Line: When you do what's right, others can see God.

WEEK FIVE: Think About These Things (Philippians 4:8)

Bottom Line: Focus on what's true.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Because we know that God is good, we can live life with integrity. Who we are in private should match who we are in public. When we trust in God, we can be truthful in whatever we say and do.

CORE INSIGHTS: Transformation, Community

2023-2024 THEMES

NOVEMBER: GRATITUDE



MEMORY VERSE: "Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good. His faithful love continues forever."
Psalm 136:1, NIV

WEEK ONE: Give Thanks No Matter What Happens (1 Thessalonians 5:18)
Bottom Line: You always have something to be grateful for.

WEEK TWO: David Dances (2 Samuel 6:12b-22a)
Bottom Line: Celebrate what God has done.

WEEK THREE: Jesus Heals 10 Men (Luke 17:11-19)
Bottom Line: Take time to say thank you.

WEEK FOUR: The Lord's Supper/Passover (1 Corinthians 11:23-26, Exodus 12)
Bottom Line: Make a habit of being grateful.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

God made a way to rescue you through Jesus' death and resurrection. When you remember what God has done for you, you can always find a way to be thankful—no matter what is happening around you.

CORE INSIGHTS: Connection, Truth

DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS



MEMORY VERSE: "A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule over us. And he will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace." Isaiah 9:6, NIV

WEEK ONE: Jesus Is Promised (Micah 5:2, Isaiah 9:6-7, Isaiah 7:14-15)
Bottom Line: You can have hope because God is faithful.

WEEK TWO: Gabriel Appears to Mary (Luke 1:26-56)
Bottom Line: You can have peace because God has a plan.

WEEK THREE: Jesus Is Born (Luke 2:1-7)
Bottom Line: You can have joy because God sent Jesus.

WEEK FOUR: Shepherds and Angels (Luke 2:8-20)
Bottom Line: God's love is for everyone.

WEEK FIVE: Wise Men (Matthew 2:1-12)
Bottom Line: Celebrate Jesus all year long.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

The best gift God ever gave was Jesus. Because of Jesus, it's possible for us to have a relationship with God that will last forever. As we remember the Christmas story, we take time to celebrate the greatest gift the world has ever known.

CORE INSIGHTS: Restoration, Connection

JANUARY: RESPONSIBILITY



MEMORY VERSE: "Suppose you can be trusted with something very little. Then you can also be trusted with something very large."
Luke 16:10a, NIV

WEEK ONE: Greatest Commandment (Matthew 22:36-40)
Bottom Line: Love God and love others.

WEEK TWO: Bigger Barns (Luke 12:13-21)
Bottom Line: Share what you have.

WEEK THREE: Ant and Sluggard (Proverbs 6:6-8)
Bottom Line: Work hard.

WEEK FOUR: Use Words Wisely (Ephesians 4:29)
Bottom Line: Use your words wisely.

SERIES DESCRIPTION:

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. That's why we should show responsibility. We should use our stuff the way God wants us to, follow through with what we need to do, and show others that we can be trusted with anything.

CORE INSIGHTS: Transformation, Truth

2023-2024 THEMES

FEBRUARY: KINDNESS



MEMORY VERSE: “You are God’s chosen people. You are holy and dearly loved. So put on tender mercy and kindness as if they were your clothes. Don’t be proud. Be gentle and patient.” Colossians 3:12, NIV

WEEK ONE: The Kindness of Jesus (Matthew 8:1-4, Matthew 19:13-15, Matthew 9:10-13)
Bottom Line: Jesus showed us how to be kind.

WEEK TWO: Ruth and Naomi (Ruth 1-2)
Bottom Line: Be kind to the people closest to you.

WEEK THREE: Go the Extra Mile (Matthew 5:41)
Bottom Line: Be kinder than you have to be.

WEEK FOUR: Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)
Bottom Line: Be kind to people who are different from you.

SERIES DESCRIPTION
 God was kind to us even when we didn’t deserve it. Because of God’s love for us, we can be kind to everyone. Jesus modeled kindness, but He also commanded it. He taught us to treat others the way we want to be treated.

CORE INSIGHTS: Compassion, Community

MARCH: PEACE



MEMORY VERSE: “If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can.” Romans 12:18, NIV

WEEK ONE: Live in Peace with Everyone (Romans 12:18)
Bottom Line: Make peace whenever you can.

WEEK TWO: Abram and Lot (Genesis 13:5-18)
Bottom Line: You can show you care by letting go of what’s fair.

WEEK THREE: Abigail Intervenes (1 Samuel 25:1-35)
Bottom Line: You can help others make peace.

EASTER: CELEBRATING THAT JESUS IS ALIVE

WEEK FOUR: Palm Sunday (Matthew 21:1-11)
Bottom Line: Jesus came to be our Savior.

WEEK FIVE: Easter (Luke 24:1-12, 36-49)
Bottom Line: Jesus is alive.

SERIES DESCRIPTION
 When Jesus died on the cross, He made peace between God and us. We can have peace—and we can share the peace of God with others. We can reflect the character of Jesus by caring enough to make peace.

CORE INSIGHTS: Transformation, Community

APRIL: PATIENCE



MEMORY VERSE: “Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don’t lose hope. Wait for the Lord.” Psalm 27:14, NIV

WEEK ONE: A Patience Proverb (Proverbs 14:29)
Bottom Line: Waiting can make you wise.

WEEK TWO: Esau’s Impatience (Genesis 25:24-34)
Bottom Line: When you think you can’t wait, think twice.

WEEK THREE: Golden Calf (Exodus 32:1-35)
Bottom Line: When you have to wait, remember what’s true.

WEEK FOUR: Simeon Waits for the Messiah (Luke 2:25-35)
Bottom Line: God is with you while you wait.

SERIES DESCRIPTION
 God is in control and knows the entire story of our lives. Because of Jesus, we also know how the story ends. We can be patient when we remember what God has done. God is also patient with us. When we wait well, we reflect God’s patience to others.

CORE INSIGHTS: Faith, Transformation

2023-2024 THEMES

MAY: COMMITMENT



MEMORY VERSE: "Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come."
1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

WEEK ONE: God's Word Is a Light
(Psalm 119:105)

Bottom Line: Practice hearing from God.

WEEK TWO: The Lord's Prayer
(Luke 11:1-4)

Bottom Line: Practice praying to God.

WEEK THREE: Peter Says That Jesus Is the Messiah (Matthew 16:13-20)

Bottom Line: Practice talking about God.

WEEK FOUR: The Widow's Offering
(Mark 12:41-44)

Bottom Line: Practice living for God.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

God makes plans and follows through with them—including the plan to send Jesus to rescue us! We can show commitment too. We can work on growing our relationship with Jesus by practicing our faith.

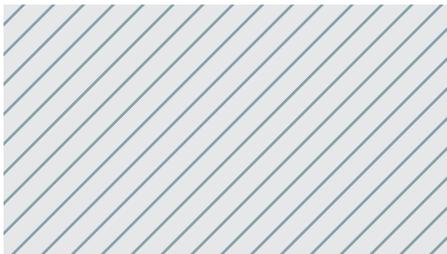
CORE INSIGHTS: Faith, Connection

JUNE



COMING SOON!

JULY



COMING SOON!

VIRTUES

What is a virtue?

What God is doing in you to change the world around you.

Monthly Virtues

AUGUST

Creativity:

Imagining what you could do because you were made in God's image

Psalm 145:3

SEPTEMBER

Friendship:

Using your words and actions to show others you care

Proverbs 17:17

OCTOBER

Integrity:

Choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do

Proverbs 10:9

NOVEMBER

Gratitude:

Letting others know you see how they've helped you

Psalm 136:1

DECEMBER

Christmas:

Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

Isaiah 9:6

JANUARY

Responsibility:

Showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you

Luke 16:10

FEBRUARY

Kindness:

Showing others they are valuable by how you treat them

Colossians 3:12

MARCH

Patience:

Waiting until later for what you want now

Psalm 27:14

APRIL

Peace:

Proving you care more about each other than winning an argument

Romans 14:19

MAY

Commitment:

Making a plan and putting it into practice

1 Timothy 4:8

JUNE

TBD

JULY

TBD

VIRTUES

Note: While the Virtues recycle every three years, the content for each Virtue does not. New content is created each month, as well as new resources and products. Virtues and definitions are subject to change.

Three-Year Overview

2022-23

AUGUST

Love—Showing others how much they matter to you (1 John 4:10)

SEPTEMBER

Trust—Putting your confidence in someone you can depend on (Proverbs 3:5-6)

OCTOBER

Grit—Refusing to give up when life gets hard (Galatians 6:9)

NOVEMBER

Courage—Being brave enough to do what you should do, even when you're afraid (Joshua 1:9)

DECEMBER

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift (Luke 2:11)

JANUARY

Knowledge—Learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do (Proverbs 2:6)

FEBRUARY

Respect—Showing others they are important by what you say and do (Luke 6:31)

MARCH

Forgiveness—Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay (Colossians 3:13)

APRIL

Humility—Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve (Philippians 2:3)

MAY

Confidence—Living like you believe God is with you (Hebrews 13:6)

SUMMER (JUNE/JULY)

Faith—Trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see (Hebrews 11:1)

2023-24

AUGUST

Creativity—Imagining what you could do because you were made in God's image (Psalm 145:3)

SEPTEMBER

Friendship—Using your words and actions to show others you care (Proverbs 17:17)

OCTOBER

Integrity—Choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do (Proverbs 10:9)

NOVEMBER

Gratitude—Letting others know you see how they've helped you (Psalm 136:1)

DECEMBER

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift (Isaiah 9:6)

JANUARY

Responsibility—Showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you (Luke 16:10)

FEBRUARY

Kindness—Showing others they are valuable by how you treat them (Colossians 3:12)

MARCH

Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now (Psalm 27:14)

APRIL

Peace—Proving you care more about each other than winning an argument (Romans 14:19)

MAY

Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice (1 Timothy 4:8)

SUMMER (JUNE/JULY)

TBD

2024-25

AUGUST

Wisdom—Finding out what you should do and doing it (James 1:5)

SEPTEMBER

Initiative—Seeing what needs to be done and doing it (Colossians 3:23)

OCTOBER

Individuality—Discovering who you're meant to be so you can make a difference (Psalm 139:14)

NOVEMBER

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have (Luke 12:15)

DECEMBER

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift (John 3:16)

JANUARY

Self-control—Choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to (2 Peter 1:3)

FEBRUARY

Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's need (Micah 6:8)

MARCH

Cooperation—Working together to do more than you can do alone (Ecclesiastes 4:9)

APRIL

Hope—Believing that something good can come out of something bad (John 16:33)

MAY

Resilience—Getting back up when something gets you down (Isaiah 40:31)

SUMMER (JUNE/JULY)

TBD

BIBLE STORIES

THREE-YEAR OVERVIEW

Old Testament

Creation Story (Genesis 1:1-2:1)

Adam and Eve's First Job (Genesis 1:26-31; 2:15, 19-20)

Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:1-13, 23-24)

The Fall (Genesis 3:1-24)

Noah (Genesis 6-8)

Abram's Calling (Genesis 12:1-5)

Abram Makes Peace (Genesis 13:5-18)

Isaac Is Born (Genesis 18, 21-22)

Esau's Impatience (Genesis 25:24-34)

Isaac's Wells (Genesis 26:1-6, 16-22, 26-31)

Jacob Deceives Isaac (Genesis 27:1-45)

Jacob's Dream (Genesis 28:10-22)

Jacob and Esau Meet Again (Genesis 31:3; 32:1-21; 33:1-11)

Joseph Sold into Slavery (Genesis 37)

Joseph in Jail (Genesis 39-40)

Joseph in Charge (Genesis 41)

Joseph Forgives His Brothers (Genesis 42-46)

Moses Is Born and Miriam's Courage (Exodus 1:22-2:10)

Moses—Burning Bush & Plagues (Exodus 3:1-4:17; 7-12)

Moses—Red Sea (Exodus 13:17-22; 14)

Israelites Long for Egypt (Exodus 16:2-21, 17:1-4)

Joshua Wins the Battle Over the Amalekites (Exodus 17:8-13)

Building the Tabernacle (Exodus 28:1, 3; 31:1-11; 35:21, 25, 34; 39:42-43)

Golden Calf (Exodus 32:1-35)

Joshua, Caleb, and the 10 Spies (Numbers 13-14)

Israel Takes Jericho (Joshua 5:13-15, 6)

Gideon (Judges 6-8)

Samson (Judges 13-16)

Ruth and Boaz (Ruth)

Samuel Anoints David / David and Goliath (1 Samuel 16:1-13; 17:1-58)

David and Jonathan (1 Samuel 18:1-9; 19:1-7; 20:1-42)

David and Ahimelek (1 Samuel 21-22)

David Spares Saul's Life (1 Samuel 24)

Abigail Intervenes (1 Samuel 25:1-35)

David and Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:1-13)

Solomon Chooses Wisdom (1 Kings 3:4-15, James 1:5)

Rehoboam Listens to Fools (1 Kings 12:1-15a, Proverbs 13:20)

Elijah and the Prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18)

Elijah and Elisha (1 Kings 19:14-21, 2 Kings 2:1-15)

King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard (1 Kings 21:1-19, 27)

Naaman and Elisha's Servant, Gehazi (2 Kings 5)

Josiah Follows God (2 Kings 22-23)

Nehemiah Hears About the Wall (Nehemiah 1)

Nehemiah Wants to Rebuild the Wall (Nehemiah 2:1-9, 11-18)

Nehemiah and Sanballat (Nehemiah 2:19-20; 4; 6)

Nehemiah Helps the Poor (Nehemiah 5:1-12)

The Wall Is Rebuilt (Nehemiah 2:19-20; 3-4; 6:15-16; 8:1-3a, 17b)

Esther's Courage (Esther)

Haman's Plot Against the Jews (Esther 3; 4:8b; 5:6-10; 7:1-6, 9b-10)

The Earth Belongs to God (Psalm 24:1)

Number Your Days (Psalm 90:12)

Psalm of Thanksgiving (Psalm 100)

Importance of God's Word (Psalm 119:105)

Trust in the Lord (Proverbs 3:5-6)

The Ant and The Sluggard (Proverbs 6:6-8)

Choose Your Words Carefully (Proverbs 12:18)

Hang Out With Wise People (Proverbs 13:20)

Patience Principle (Proverbs 14:29)

Patience Principle (Proverbs 15:18)

Slow to Anger (Proverbs 16:32)

Wise People See Danger (Proverbs 22:3)

Too Much of a Good Thing (Proverbs 25:16)

Broken-Down Walls (Proverbs 25:28)

God Promises a Savior (Isaiah 9:6-7)

Daniel's Integrity (Daniel 1)

The Fiery Furnace (Daniel 3)

Daniel and the Lions (Daniel 6)

Bethlehem Prophecy (Micah 5:2)

Palm Sunday Prophecy (Zechariah 9:9)

BIBLE STORIES

THREE-YEAR OVERVIEW

New Testament

Wise Men Visit Jesus (Matthew 2:1-12)

Salt and Light (Matthew 5:14-16)

Jesus Teaches on Forgiveness
(Matthew 5:23-24)

Love Your Enemies (Matthew 5:43-47)

Give in Secret (Matthew 6:1-4)

The Lord's Prayer
(Matthew 6:5-13, Luke 11:1-14)

Treasures in Heaven (Matthew 6:19-24)

Wise and Foolish Builders
(Matthew 7:24-29)

Faith of the Centurion (Matthew 8:5-13)

John the Baptist in Jail
(Matthew 11:1-6; Luke 7:18-22)

Peter Walks on Water (Matthew 14:22-33)

Who Do You Say That I Am?
(Matthew 16:13-20)

70 x 7 / Unmerciful Servant
(Matthew 18:21-35)

Parable of the Vineyard Workers
(Matthew 20:1-15)

The Greatest Commandment
(Matthew 22:34-37)

Parable of the Talents
(Matthew 25:14-29a)

Least of These (Matthew 25:35-40)

Jesus in the Garden (Matthew 26:36-46)

The Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20)

Calming the Storm (Mark 4:35-40)

Feeding 5,000 (Mark 5:30-44; John 6:1-13)

No Greater Love (Mark 8:27-30, 10:33-40;
John 13:1-9, 34-35; 15:12-13)

Jesus Heals Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52)

Palm Sunday / Arrest and Trial / Crucifixion
(Mark 11:1-11; 14:43-15:47)

Widow's Mite (Mark 12:1-44)

Woman Pours Oil on Jesus (Mark 14:1-9)

Zechariah and Elizabeth
(Luke 1:5-25; 57-79)

Jesus Is Born (Luke 2:1-18, John 3:16)

Shepherds Visit Jesus (Luke 2:8-20)

Simeon Waits for the Messiah
(Luke 2:25-35)

Jesus at the Temple (Luke 2:41-52)

Wisdom of Jesus (Luke 2:52)

Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness
(Luke 4:1-13)

Jesus' Mission Statement
(Luke 4:14-24, 28-30)

Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man (Luke 5:17-26)

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37)

Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-42)

Parable of the Rich Man (Luke 12:13-21)

The Story of the Lost Sheep (Luke 15:1-7)

The Story of the Lost Son—The Son
(Luke 15:11-20)

The Story of the Lost Son—Father and
Brother (Luke 15:11-32)

Jesus Heals 10 Lepers (Luke 17:11-19)

Rich Young Ruler (Luke 18:18-27)

Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)

Jesus' Baptism / John Calls Jesus the
Lamb of God (John 1:19-42)

Philip and Nathanael (John 1:43-51)

Jesus Teaches Nicodemus (John 3:1-21)

God Loved the World (John 3:16)

Jesus Talks with the Woman from Samaria
(John 4:1-30, 39-42)

Jesus is the Good Shepherd (John 10:14)

Jesus Raises Lazarus (John 11)

Palm Sunday (John 12:9-16)

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet
(John 13:1-17)

Love One Another (John 13:34)

Jesus is the Way (John 14:6)

Jesus Heals the Servant's Ear (John 18:1-11)

Peter Denies Jesus (John 18:15-27)

Easter (John 18:12–20:23)

Jesus Appears to Thomas (John 20:19-23)

Jesus Restores Peter (John 21:1-19)

Ascension (Acts 1:1-11)

Pentecost (Acts 2:1-41)

Early Church Works Together
(Acts 2:42-47)

Peter and John Before the Sanhedrin
(Acts 3:1-9, 4:1-21)

Apostles Treated Badly (Acts 5:17-42)

Stephen (Acts 6:1-7:60)

Philip and the Ethiopian Official
(Acts 8:26-40)

Paul's Conversion (Acts 9:1-29)

Paul and Ananias (Acts 9:10-29)

Barnabas Welcomes Saul
(Acts 9:26-30; Acts 26:12-18)

Peter and Cornelius (Acts 10:1-35)

Paul in Antioch (Acts 11:25-30, 13:1-3)

Jerusalem Council (Acts 15:1-35)

Lydia (Acts 16:11-15)