



ebenezer youth.

Ebenezer Youth Family Discipleship Guide 2026-27

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Introduction to the Ebenezer Youth Family Discipleship Guide

The Ebenezer Youth Family Discipleship Guide aims to help parents/ caregivers disciple the youth of our church.

As a church, we believe discipleship to Jesus is at the center of all we do. At Ebenezer Youth, we strive for every youth who joins our community to follow Jesus for life, so they become disciples who take on His character, ways, and mission.

We don't want Ebenezer Youth to be just a space to live out faith from grades 6-12, but to set up our youth to follow Him for the rest of their lives.

The reality, however, is that Ebenezer Youth's discipleship strategy is limited when it is not partnered with parents/caregivers[1]. We believe this because it is proven that the primary influence on our youth is the parents/ caregivers[2]. Therefore, we see ourselves at Ebenezer Youth as coming alongside you and partnering with what you are doing in your parenting of our youth.

This guide aims to provide intentional discussion starters and content to engage our youth through all eleven-sermon series we will cover this coming year. Statistics show that content without loving accountability and follow-up does not stick.[3] Therefore, this guide will help you engage with your youth as you will and please, and ultimately point your youth closer to Jesus.

As always, if you have any questions regarding this please never hesitate to reach out to William Dmytrow (Jr/Sr Youth Pastor) at will@ebenezerbaptist.ca

Series One – Jr. & Sr.

What If...? – September 8–23 (3-part series)

Introduction to this series

What If...? is a three-part series that kicks off our year by asking three simple but life-changing questions: What if we actually said yes to Jesus? What if we actually loved one another in community? What if we actually prayed?

What to Know about this series

The flow of this series runs in three parts: (1. What if we said yes to Jesus (and no to the world)...?, 2. What if we loved one another...?, 3. What if we prayed...?).

The first two parts are built on what Jesus calls the greatest commandments: love for God and love for others (c.f. Matthew 22v37–39). The third part moves us into prayer and mission, where we will share our specific vision statement for the year for prayer and mission into the school, sport, and hobby groups our youth are already a part of.

The vision and aim of this series

This series aims to function as a starting line for the year. Many of our youth know the right answers about Jesus, but we want to invite them to imagine what would actually happen if they lived like those answers were true and lived out. We want our youth to walk away thinking more deeply about this thought:

“What if following Jesus for life actually changed everything about how I love God, love others, and pray for the places He has already put me?”

Family Discussion Starters

Here is a list of open-ended questions to consider asking to start discussions while this series is happening:

1. What do you think it looks like to say “yes” to Jesus in your everyday life?
2. What are some things the world tells you to say “yes” to that Jesus might ask you to say “no” to?
3. Why do you think Jesus put loving God and loving others together (Matthew 22v37–39)?

4. Who is someone at school, on your team, or in your hobby group that is hard to love? What would loving them look like?
5. What do you think would change if our family actually prayed together more often?
6. Who are three people in your school, sport, or hobby group you could start praying for this year?
7. As a family, what is one “what if” we could try together this month?

Key Scripture passages to note and read together

- **Saying yes to Jesus (love for God)** – Deuteronomy 6v4–9; Matthew 16v24–26; Romans 12v1–2; 1 John 2v15–17; Matthew 4v17–20
- **Loving one another (love for others)** – John 13v34–35; Romans 12v9–18; 1 John 4v7–12
- **What if we prayed** – Matthew 6v5–13; Luke 11v1–13; Philippians 4v6–7; Colossians 4v2–6; 1 Thessalonians 5v16–18

Areas where you can dive deeper

- **Saying yes to Jesus:** What does it cost to say yes to Jesus? What are the “yes’s” in our lives right now that might actually be a “no” to Him (screens, schedules, friendships, habits)?
- **Loving one another:** What is the difference between being nice and actually loving someone? How does Jesus’ love for us shape the way we love people who are different from us or hard to be around?
- **What if we prayed:** Why does prayer so often become the last thing we do instead of the first? What would it look like to pray for our school, team, or hobby group by name? How could prayer lead us into mission in the places we already are?
 - ***In all these areas of where to dive deeper, make sure to integrate discipleship to Jesus and our need to follow His ways, character, and mission and contextualize this to the particular topic***

How to do Family Discipleship in this series

Through these things, as a family, as you discuss, dive into Scripture, and go deeper, helping your youth have accountability and follow-up to thinking in these areas is necessary for growth and more profound faith engagement, which will then allow you to help our youth move to engage with God in more practical ways. As always applicable to any series topic, here are our six foundational questions to ask your youth to move us from the content discussed and learned to spiritual transformation and practice:

1. What is the Holy Spirit prompting in you through this topic?
2. What is your plan to obey the Holy Spirit's prompting?
3. Describe how your connection with God has been recently, and how it has grown through learning about this topic?
4. What have you learned about God through this topic?
5. Has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin to confess & repent of?
6. How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to be a 'fisher of men'?

Final words of this series

We are beyond excited for this series and ready to kick off our year imagining what could happen if we said yes to Jesus, loved one another, and prayed for the places God has put us.

Series Two – Jr. & Sr.

Radical (Up, In, Out) – September 18-20 – (3 part series)

Introduction to this series

Radical (Up, In, Out) is a three-part series during our Jr/Sr Youth Retreat this year on what it looks like to follow Jesus for life every day.

What to Know about this series

This series looks at the three relationships every disciple of Jesus is called into, following the pattern of Jesus' own life.

This series will move in three paces: 1. Up – with a relationship in God, 2. In – the community of Christ, 3. Out – into the world to share His good news and hope.

The vision and aim of this series

This series aims to function as a simple and memorable picture of the whole Christian life. Following Jesus is not just one part of our week, but a way of living that moves up towards God, in towards His people, and out towards the world He loves. We want our youth to leave the retreat with a simple framework they can carry into their everyday lives. The vision of this series is as follows:

“To follow Jesus for life every day means living up towards God, in with His church, and out into the world with His good news and hope, This is the radical life God has called us too.”

Family Discussion Starters

Here is a list of open-ended questions to consider asking to start discussions while this series is happening:

1. What was your favourite part of the retreat? What is one thing God showed you there?
2. What does the radical life of following Jesus really look like?
3. What does your relationship with God (Up) look like on a normal school day?
4. Why do you think God wants us to follow Him together in community (In) and not just on our own?
5. Who in your life needs to hear the good news and hope of Jesus (Out)?
6. As a family, which of the three do we need to grow in most right now?

Key Scripture passages to note and read together

- **Overall** – Mark 2v1-12
- **Up** – Mark 1v35; Luke 5v16; John 15v4-5; Psalm 63v1-8
- **In** – Acts 2v42-47; Hebrews 10v24-25; 1 Corinthians 12v12-27
- **Out** – Matthew 5v13-16; Matthew 28v18-20; Acts 1v8; 1 Peter 3v15

Areas where you can dive deeper

- **Up (a relationship in God):** What is the difference between knowing about God and actually knowing Him? What rhythms could help us stay connected to Him after the retreat high wears off?

- **In (the community of Christ):** Why is it risky to try to follow Jesus alone? Who are the people in our church who are helping you follow Jesus? Who could you be that person for?
- **Out (into the world):** What is the good news we actually have to share? What makes sharing our faith scary, and how does Jesus meet us in that fear?
 - ***In all these areas of where to dive deeper, make sure to integrate discipleship to Jesus and our need to follow His ways, character, and mission and contextualize this to the particular topic***

How to do Family Discipleship in this series

Through these things, as a family, as you discuss, dive into Scripture, and go deeper, helping your youth have accountability and follow-up to thinking in these areas is necessary for growth and more profound faith engagement, which will then allow you to help our youth move to engage with God in more practical ways. As always applicable to any series topic, here are our six foundational questions to ask your youth to move us from the content discussed and learned to spiritual transformation and practice:

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2. What is your plan to obey the Holy Spirit's prompting?
3. Describe how your connection with God has been recently, and how it has grown through learning about this topic?
4. What have you learned about God through this topic?
5. Has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin to confess & repent of?
6. How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to be a 'fisher of men'?

Final words of this series

We are beyond excited about this series and ready to see God work in the lives of our youth as we spend our retreat learning what it looks like to follow Jesus for life every day, up, in, and out.

Series Three– Jr. & Sr.

Real or Reel? – October (3 part series)

Introduction to this series

Real or Reel? is a three-part series on discerning modern thoughts in a thoughtful way. Together, we will watch real reels and short-form videos our youth are seeing on their feeds and ask the question: Is this real (true and in line with the way of Jesus), or is it just a reel?

What to Know about this series

Our youth are taking in more ideas through short-form video than through any other source, and most of those ideas come without any filter. Some reels are helpful, some are harmless, and some are shaping the way our youth think about God, themselves, and the world in ways contrary to the way of Jesus.

The flow of this series runs in three parts: (1. An introduction to Real or Reel and why we need discernment in the modern age, followed by three reels; 2. A deeper dive into five more reels, 3. A live Q&R on any other reels our youth bring, or general questions).

The goal is not to tell our youth to delete their apps, but to help them build the muscle of discernment so they can test what they see against Scripture and the way of Jesus.

The vision and aim of this series

We aim to move our youth from passive scrolling to active discernment. We want to create space for hard, honest questions, as this helps build long-term faith in Jesus in our youth.[8] The vision of this series is as follows:

“To learn how to test everything we see and hear against the truth of Jesus, holding on to what is good and letting go of what is not, so we can follow Him for life in a modern age.”

Family Discussion Starters

Here is a list of open-ended questions to consider asking to start discussions while this series is happening:

1. What kind of reels or videos show up most on your feed?
2. Have you ever seen a video online that you believed and later found out wasn't true? What happened?
3. How do you decide if something you see online is true?

4. Are there any reels or creators that talk about God, faith, or the Bible? What do you think of what they say?
5. Do you think what we watch shapes how we think? Why or why not?
6. What is one reel you have seen that you would want to ask a question about?

Key Scripture passages to note and read together

- **Testing what we hear** – Acts 17v11; 1 Thessalonians 5v21; 1 John 4v1
- **Renewing our minds** – Romans 12v2; Philippians 4v8; Colossians 2v8
- **Growing in discernment** – Proverbs 14v15; Hebrews 5v14; James 1v5

Areas where you can dive deeper

- **What is discernment?** What is the difference between being judgmental and being discerning? Why does the Bible call us to test things instead of just accepting or rejecting them?
- **The algorithm:** Why do you think apps show us the videos they do? What does it mean that our feed is designed to keep us watching, and how should that shape how we scroll?
- **Half-truths:** Many reels are not completely false, but only partly true. How can something be mostly true and still lead us away from Jesus?
- **Watching reels together:** Consider asking your youth to show you a few reels from their feed and walk through the Real or Reel questions together: What is this saying? Is it true? Does it line up with the way of Jesus?
- **Litmus test question that grounds the series:** *What does this assume about what a human being is for?*

- ***In all these areas of where to dive deeper, make sure to integrate discipleship to Jesus and our need to follow His ways, character, and mission and contextualize this to the particular topic***

How to do Family Discipleship in this series

Through these things, as a family, as you discuss, dive into Scripture, and go deeper, helping your youth have accountability and follow-up to thinking in these areas is

necessary for growth and more profound faith engagement, which will then allow you to help our youth move to engage with God in more practical ways. As always applicable to any series topic, here are our six foundational questions to ask your youth to move us from the content discussed and learned to spiritual transformation and practice:

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5. Has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin to confess & repent of?
6. How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to be a 'fisher of men'?

Final words of this series

We are beyond excited for this series and ready to help our youth think deeply and discern wisely about what they are taking in every day.

Series Four – Jr.

The Book of Exodus – November – December (4 part series)

Introduction to this series

The Book of Exodus is the story of God rescuing His people out of slavery in Egypt. It tells of God calling Moses, confronting Pharaoh, delivering Israel through the Red Sea, giving His law at Mount Sinai, and coming to dwell with His people. Exodus is one of the biggest rescue stories in all of Scripture, and it points forward to the greater rescue that comes through Jesus.

What to Know about this series

This series will work through Exodus in four parts: (1. Introduction to Exodus (Called for a Time Such as This), 2. Let My People Go, 3. The World's New Old Problem, 4. A New Way Forward (How Jesus fits in and His coming to the world)).

This series will highlight the themes of God's calling, God's rescue, the problem of sin and idolatry that still follows us today, and how Jesus is the true and better Passover Lamb.

The vision and aim of this series

We aim to address this critical book in Scripture and study it carefully. We seek to stay faithful to the message of the book of Exodus and look at how it points to Jesus in ways we may not realize.

The vision of this series is as follows:

"To dive deep into the Book of Exodus and allow this book in Scripture to help change us to point to Jesus so we can follow Him for life."

Family Discussion Starters

Here is a list of open-ended questions to consider asking to start discussions while this series is happening:

1. What is your favourite book in the Bible?
2. Do you think it is important to be working through books in the Bible at a young age? If so, why?
3. What could you do to get the most out of the series you are doing at youth on Exodus?
4. Moses gave God a lot of excuses when He called him. What excuses do we make when God asks us to do something?
5. What do you think it means that God hears the cries of His people?
6. The Israelites were rescued but still wanted to go back to Egypt. Why do you think we sometimes go back to the things God has rescued us from?
7. How is Jesus like the Passover lamb?

Key Scripture passages to note and read together

Ideally, all of Exodus! It is a longer book, so reading a chapter a night together would be a great way to go through it.

However, here are some extremely key passages we get from this book: Exodus 1v8-14; Exodus 3v1-15; Exodus 12v1-13; Exodus 14v13-31; Exodus 20v1-17; Exodus 32v1-14; Exodus 34v6-7; Exodus 40v34-38

Where Jesus fits in – John 1v14; John 1v29; 1 Corinthians 5v7; Hebrews 3v1-6

Areas where you can dive deeper

In this series, the best way to dive deeper is to work methodically through the story section by section and let this study bring these areas to life.

In Exodus, you will see the theme of God rescuing His people so that they can worship Him and be His people. It is essential to pose and ask what that looks like in practice. It is also important to talk about how the Israelites kept turning back to idols even after being rescued, and what our modern idols might be.

It will be key to walk through the major stories of Exodus together at home, using the themes of calling, rescue, and worship as conversation points. Encourage your youth to journal or pray through areas where God may be calling them out of slavery to sin and into following Him.

How to do Family Discipleship in this series

Through these things, as a family, as you discuss, dive into Scripture, and go deeper, helping your youth have accountability and follow-up to thinking in these areas is necessary for growth and more profound faith engagement, which will then allow you to help our youth move to engage with God in more practical ways. As always applicable to any series topic, here are our six foundational questions to ask your youth to move us from the content discussed and learned to spiritual transformation and practice:

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4. What have you learned about God through this topic?
5. Has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin to confess & repent of?
6. How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to be a 'fisher of men'?

Final words of this series

We are beyond excited about this series and ready to dive deep into the Book of Exodus and work through this book in Scripture faithfully.

Series Four – Sr.

The Book of Job – November–December (4-part series)

Introduction to this series

The Book of Job is a wisdom book about a righteous man who loses nearly everything. It wrestles honestly with one of the biggest questions people ask: why do good people suffer? Through Job's losses, his friends' bad advice, and God's surprising answer, Job teaches us how to hold on to God when life falls apart.

What to Know about this series

This series will work through Job in four parts: (1. Introduction to Job (When Suffering Comes Home), 2. Worst Friends Ever, 3. An Unexpected Conclusion, 4. Where is Jesus in the Suffering? (How Jesus fits in and His coming to the world)).

This series will highlight the themes of suffering, lament, bad theology from good-intentioned friends, the greatness of God, and how Jesus enters our suffering.

We understand that some of our youth may be walking through grief, loss, or hard seasons at home. This series may bring these things to the surface, so please never hesitate to reach out to us if your youth needs extra care during this time.

The vision and aim of this series

We aim to address this critical book in Scripture and study it carefully. We seek to stay faithful to the message of the book of Job and look at how it points to Jesus in ways we may not realize.

The vision of this series is as follows:

“To dive deep into the Book of Job and allow this book in Scripture to help change us to point to Jesus so we can follow Him for life.”

Family Discussion Starters

Here is a list of open-ended questions to consider asking to start discussions while this series is happening:

1. What is your favourite book in the Bible?
2. Do you think it is important to be working through books in the Bible at a young age? If so, why?
3. What could you do to get the most out of the series you are doing at youth on Job?
4. Why do you think bad things happen to good people?
5. When someone you know is going through something hard, what helps and what doesn't?
6. Is it okay to be honest with God when we are angry or confused? Why or why not?
7. How does knowing that Jesus suffered change the way we see our own suffering?

Key Scripture passages to note and read together

Ideally, all of Job! However, here are some extremely key passages we get from this book: Job 1v6-22; Job 2v11-13; Job 38v1-11; Job 42v1-10

Where Jesus fits in – Isaiah 53v3-5; John 11v33-35; Romans 8v18-28; Hebrews 4v15-16; Revelation 21v4

Areas where you can dive deeper

In this series, the best way to dive deeper is to work methodically through the book section by section and let this study bring these areas to life.

In Job, you will see the theme of holding on to God in the middle of suffering. It is essential to pose and ask what that looks like in practice. Also notice that Job's friends were at their best when they sat with him in silence (Job 2v13), and at their worst when they started explaining his pain.

It will be key to walk through the major sections of Job together at home, using the themes of suffering, lament, and trust as conversation points. Encourage your youth to

journal or pray honestly through the hard things they are facing, and to bring those things to God.

How to do Family Discipleship in this series

Through these things, as a family, as you discuss, dive into Scripture, and go deeper, helping your youth have accountability and follow-up to thinking in these areas is necessary for growth and more profound faith engagement, which will then allow you to help our youth move to engage with God in more practical ways. As always applicable to any series topic, here are our six foundational questions to ask your youth to move us from the content discussed and learned to spiritual transformation and practice:

1. What is the Holy Spirit prompting in you through this topic?
2. What is your plan to obey the Holy Spirit's prompting?
3. Describe how your connection with God has been recently, and how it has grown through learning about this topic?
4. What have you learned about God through this topic?
5. Has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin to confess & repent of?
6. How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to be a 'fisher of men'?

Final words of this series

We are beyond excited about this series and ready to dive deep into the Book of Job and work through it faithfully.

Series Five – Jr. & Sr.

The Spiritual Practices– January (3 part series)

Introduction to this series

The Spiritual Practices is a three-part series introducing the practices and habits Jesus Himself lived by, and how we can practice the ways of Jesus in our own lives.

What to Know about this series

The flow of this series runs in three parts: (1. Intro to Spiritual Practices (where is my spiritual health at?), 2. Practicing the Ways of Jesus, 3. Spiritual practice breakouts).

In part one, our youth will take a spiritual health assessment to reflect on where they are with God. In part two, they will be given a spiritual growth tool to help them take next steps. In part three, they will choose breakouts on specific practices: making a Rule of Life, generosity, fasting, Sabbath, prayer, Bible reading, sharing my faith, and solitude.

The vision and aim of this series

This series aims to help our youth move from knowing about Jesus to actually practicing His ways. Following Jesus is not just believing the right things but becoming like Him by doing the things He did. The vision of this series is:

“To follow Jesus for life, we need to live the way He lived, and the spiritual practices are how we make space for Him to form us into His image.”

Family Discussion Starters

Here is a list of open-ended questions to consider asking to start discussions while this series is happening:

1. If you had to rate your spiritual health right now from 1-10, what would you give it? Why?
2. What do you think Jesus did every day to stay close to His Father?
3. Which spiritual practice sounds the most interesting to you? Which one sounds the hardest?
4. What is one habit in your life right now that helps you follow Jesus? What is one that gets in the way?
5. What would a weekly Sabbath look like for our family?
6. As a family, what is one spiritual practice we could try together this month?

Key Scripture passages to note and read together

- **Practicing the ways of Jesus** – Matthew 11v28–30; John 15v1–8; 1 Timothy 4v7–8
- **Rule of Life** – Daniel 6v10; Acts 2v42
- **Generosity** – Acts 20v35; 2 Corinthians 9v6–8

- **Fasting** – Isaiah 58v6-7; Matthew 6v16-18
- **Sabbath** – Exodus 20v8-11; Mark 2v27
- **Prayer** – Matthew 6v5-13; 1 Thessalonians 5v16-18
- **Bible reading** – Psalm 1v1-3; 2 Timothy 3v16-17
- **Sharing my faith** – Matthew 28v18-20; 1 Peter 3v15
- **Solitude** – Mark 1v35; Luke 5v16

Areas where you can dive deeper

- **Spiritual health:** Ask your youth what they learned from their spiritual health assessment. What surprised them? Where do they feel strong, and where do they feel dry?
- **Rule of Life:** A Rule of Life is a simple plan for the rhythms that help us follow Jesus. Consider making a family Rule of Life together, or helping your youth make their own.
- **Practices vs. rules:** What is the difference between doing spiritual practices to earn God's love and doing them because we are already loved? How do we avoid turning these practices into a checklist?
- **Pick one and practice it:** Ask your youth which breakout they chose and why. Then try that practice together as a family for a few weeks and talk about how it went.
 - ***In all these areas of where to dive deeper, make sure to integrate discipleship to Jesus and our need to follow His ways, character, and mission and contextualize this to the particular topic***

How to do Family Discipleship in this series

Through these things, as a family, as you discuss, dive into Scripture, and go deeper, helping your youth have accountability and follow-up to thinking in these areas is necessary for growth and more profound faith engagement, which will then allow you to help our youth move to engage with God in more practical ways. As always applicable to any series topic, here are our six foundational questions to ask your youth to move us from the content discussed and learned to spiritual transformation and practice:

1. What is the Holy Spirit prompting in you through this topic?
2. What is your plan to obey the Holy Spirit's prompting?

3. Describe how your connection with God has been recently, and how it has grown through learning about this topic?
4. What have you learned about God through this topic?
5. Has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin to confess & repent of?
6. How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to be a 'fisher of men'?

Final words of this series

We are beyond excited for this series and ready to help our youth practice the ways of Jesus and grow in their spiritual health in this new year.

Series Six – Jr. & Sr.

One Thing... God at Work in People at Ebenezer Youth – February (3 part series)

Introduction to this series

One Thing... God at Work in People at Ebenezer Youth is a three-part testimony series where we will hear real stories of how God has worked in the lives of people in our Ebenezer Youth community.

What to Know about this series

The flow of this series runs in three parts: (1. Intro to the Importance of Testimony, 2. What is Your Story?, 3. Share Your Story Too). Each night will begin with a short devotional, followed by testimonies from people in our community.

The title comes from the man born blind in John 9, who said that the one thing he knew for sure was that he was blind, but now he could see (John 9v25). He didn't have all the answers, but he had a story of what Jesus did in his life.

The vision and aim of this series

This series aims to function by showing our youth that God is still at work today, not just in Bible times or in faraway places, but in the lives of real people in our own community. We also want our youth to know that they have a story worth telling. The vision of this series is:

“God is at work in people at Ebenezer Youth, and every one of us has a story of what He has done that is worth sharing.”

Family Discussion Starters

Here is a list of open-ended questions to consider asking to start discussions while this series is happening:

1. Which testimony from youth stood out to you the most? Why?
2. Why do you think hearing someone’s story can be so powerful?
3. If you had to share your story of following Jesus, where would you start?
4. Where have you seen God at work in your life, even in small ways?
5. Do you know how your parents/ caregivers came to follow Jesus? (Parents/ caregivers, this is a great time to share yours!)
6. Who is one person you could share your story with?

Key Scripture passages to note and read together

- **The importance of testimony** – Psalm 66v16; Psalm 107v1-2; Revelation 12v11
- **What is your story** – John 9v1-38; Acts 26v1-23
- **Share your story too** – Mark 5v18-20; John 4v39-42; 1 Peter 3v15

Areas where you can dive deeper

- **Share your own testimony:** One of the most powerful things you can do during this series is share your own story of following Jesus with your youth, including the hard parts.
- **“Boring” testimonies:** Many youth who grew up in the church feel like their story isn’t dramatic enough to share. Why is a story of God keeping someone faithful from a young age just as powerful?

- **Writing it down:** Help your youth write out their story in three parts: what life was like before (or without) Jesus, how they came to know Him, and what is different now.
 - ***In all these areas of where to dive deeper, make sure to integrate discipleship to Jesus and our need to follow His ways, character, and mission and contextualize this to the particular topic***

How to do Family Discipleship in this series

Through these things, as a family, as you discuss, dive into Scripture, and go deeper, helping your youth have accountability and follow-up to thinking in these areas is necessary for growth and more profound faith engagement, which will then allow you to help our youth move to engage with God in more practical ways. As always applicable to any series topic, here are our six foundational questions to ask your youth to move us from the content discussed and learned to spiritual transformation and practice:

1. What is the Holy Spirit prompting in you through this topic?
2. What is your plan to obey the Holy Spirit's prompting?
3. Describe how your connection with God has been recently, and how it has grown through learning about this topic?
4. What have you learned about God through this topic?
5. Has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin to confess & repent of?
6. How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to be a 'fisher of men'?

Final words of this series

We are beyond excited for this series and ready to celebrate what God is doing in people at Ebenezer Youth and help our youth share their stories too.

Series Seven – Jr.

Why Do I Believe What I Believe? BGC Statement of Faith/Intro to Theology – March–April (4 part series)

Introduction to this series

Why Do I Believe What I Believe? is a four-part series walking through our BGC Statement of Faith as an introduction to theology in an accessible way. This is what our church believes, and we want our youth to know not just what we believe, but why.

What to Know about this series

This series will move in four parts: 1. Why do I believe what I believe? (God: Revelation and the Triune God), 2. Cosmos and Humanity: Creation, the Unseen Realm, and the Fall, 3. Salvation and the Church: Made New, Belonging, and why Baptism/ Communion?, 4. The Church in the World, and the End of the Story.

Each part will cover a few articles of the Statement of Faith. Part one covers the Word of God and the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). Part two covers angels, creation, and humanity. Part three covers regeneration, the church, the priesthood of all believers, and Christian conduct. Part four covers religious freedom, church cooperation, and last things.

Along the way, we will talk about why our church holds some of the specific beliefs it does, like believer's baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper as a remembrance of Jesus' death, and what other Christians believe on these things.

The vision and aim of this series

This series aims to function as a pathway into theology at a big-picture level. Theology can often feel lofty or abstract, so we aim to make it applicable and on the ground for our youth. Every belief we hold should shape the way we follow Jesus. The vision of this series is as follows:

"To know what we believe and why we believe it, so that our faith is rooted deeply enough to help us follow Jesus for life."

Family Discussion Starters

1. How do we know anything about God at all?
2. How would you explain the Trinity to a friend?
3. What do you think it means that every person has worth because they are made in God's image?
4. Why do you think our church baptizes people who have chosen to follow Jesus, rather than babies?
5. What do you think happens when we take communion?

6. What do you think the end of the story will look like when Jesus returns?
7. Is there a belief of our church that you have questions about?

Key Scripture passages to note and read together

- **Revelation and the Triune God** – Deuteronomy 6v4; Matthew 28v19; John 1v1-18; 2 Timothy 3v16-17
- **Creation, the unseen realm, and the Fall** – Genesis 1-3; Psalm 139v13-16; Colossians 1v16
- **Salvation and the church** – John 3v3-8; Romans 6v3-4; Ephesians 2v8-10; 1 Corinthians 11v23-26; 1 Peter 2v9
- **The church in the world and the end of the story** – Acts 5v29; 1 Thessalonians 4v13-18; Revelation 21v1-5

Areas where you can dive deeper

- **Reading the Statement of Faith together:** Consider reading through the BGC Statement of Faith together as a family, one section each week alongside the series: <https://ebenezerbaptist.ca/beliefs>
- **The Bible:** What does it mean to say the Bible is without error in the original manuscripts? What does that claim, and what doesn't it claim?
- **The Trinity:** How can God be one God and three persons? Why does it matter that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are equal but have distinct roles?
- **Human worth:** Our Statement of Faith says humans have worth from conception to natural death. How should that shape the way we treat people?
- **Baptism and communion:** Why does our church practice baptism and communion the way it does? What do other Christian traditions believe, and why do we land where we do?
 - ***In all these areas of where to dive deeper, make sure to integrate discipleship to Jesus and our need to follow His ways, character, and mission and contextualize this to the particular topic***

How to do Family Discipleship in this series

Through these things, as a family, as you discuss, dive into Scripture, and go deeper, helping your youth have accountability and follow-up to thinking in these areas is

necessary for growth and more profound faith engagement, which will then allow you to help our youth move to engage with God in more practical ways. As always applicable to any series topic, here are our six foundational questions to ask your youth to move us from the content discussed and learned to spiritual transformation and practice:

1. What is the Holy Spirit prompting in you through this topic?
2. What is your plan to obey the Holy Spirit's prompting?
3. Describe how your connection with God has been recently, and how it has grown through learning about this topic?
4. What have you learned about God through this topic?
5. Has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin to confess & repent of?
6. How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to be a 'fisher of men'?

Final words of this series

We are beyond excited for this series and ready to help our Jr youth know what they believe and why they believe it.

Series Seven – Sr.

The Unseen World: Everything You Need to Know About the Other Realm of Our World – March-April (4 part series)

Introduction to this series

The Unseen World is a four-part series on the spiritual realm the Bible describes, a world that is very real but that we often don't realize is there.

What to Know about this series

This series will move in four parts: 1. Intro to Spiritual Beings and the World We Don't Realize, 2. The Hidden Forces that Guide our World, 3. Who are the Evil Spiritual Beings of the Bible?, 4. Who has Power over These Beings? / The New Humanity.

The Bible has a lot more to say about the unseen world than most of us realize: angels, the heavenly council of God, spiritual powers over the nations, and the forces of evil. Our youth are hearing about the spiritual world from movies, games, and social media, often in ways that are either fearful or silly. We want to show them what Scripture actually says.

The vision and aim of this series

This series aims to function by avoiding two extremes: pretending the spiritual world isn't real, or becoming unhealthily obsessed with it. Most of all, we want our youth to see that Jesus has authority over every power in the seen and unseen world, and that in Him we are made part of a new humanity. The vision of this series is as follows:

"The unseen world is real, but Jesus is Lord over all of it, and when we follow Him for life we have nothing to fear."

Family Discussion Starters

1. When you hear about angels and demons, what comes to mind first? Where do those ideas come from?
2. Do you think most people today believe in a spiritual world? Why or why not?
3. What do you think the Bible actually says about angels?
4. Why do you think some people are afraid of the spiritual world?
5. What does it mean that Jesus has power over every spiritual being?
6. How should knowing about the unseen world change the way we pray?

Key Scripture passages to note and read together

- **The world we don't realize** – 2 Kings 6v15-17; Psalm 82; Hebrews 1v14
- **The hidden forces** – Deuteronomy 32v8-9; Daniel 10v12-13; Ephesians 6v12
- **The evil spiritual beings** – Genesis 3v1-15; Job 1v6-12; 1 Peter 5v8
- **Who has power / the new humanity** – Ephesians 1v20-23; Colossians 2v15; James 4v7; 1 John 4v4

Areas where you can dive deeper

- **Two extremes:** Why is it dangerous both to ignore the spiritual world and to be obsessed with it? Where do you see each of these in our culture?

- **Spiritual warfare:** What does it actually look like to “put on the armour of God” (Ephesians 6v10–18) in everyday life?
- **Fear:** If your youth feels afraid during this series, remind them of 1 John 4v4. The one who is in us is greater than the one who is in the world.
- **The new humanity:** What does it mean that in Jesus we become part of God’s new family and are restored to what we were made to be?
- **Further reading:** For parents/ caregivers wanting to go deeper, Dr. Michael Heiser’s ***Supernatural*** is an accessible introduction to much of what this series draws from.
 - ***In all these areas of where to dive deeper, make sure to integrate discipleship to Jesus and our need to follow His ways, character, and mission and contextualize this to the particular topic***

How to do Family Discipleship in this series

Through these things, as a family, as you discuss, dive into Scripture, and go deeper, helping your youth have accountability and follow-up to thinking in these areas is necessary for growth and more profound faith engagement, which will then allow you to help our youth move to engage with God in more practical ways. As always applicable to any series topic, here are our six foundational questions to ask your youth to move us from the content discussed and learned to spiritual transformation and practice:

1. What is the Holy Spirit prompting in you through this topic?
2. What is your plan to obey the Holy Spirit’s prompting?
3. Describe how your connection with God has been recently, and how it has grown through learning about this topic?
4. What have you learned about God through this topic?
5. Has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin to confess & repent of?
6. How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to be a ‘fisher of men’?

Final words of this series

We are beyond excited for this series and ready to open our eyes to the unseen world and see that Jesus is Lord over it all.

Series Eight – Jr.

Luke: The Life of Jesus in the Eyes of Luke – April–June(4 part series)

Introduction to this series

The Gospel of Luke is an orderly account of the life of Jesus, written by Luke, a doctor and careful historian, so that people would know the certainty of what they had been taught (Luke 1v1-4). Luke shows us a Jesus who seeks out the outsider, the poor, and the lost.

What to Know about this series

This series will work through Luke in four parts: (1. Who is Jesus?, 2. What Did Jesus Do?, 3. Jesus the Lord? The Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus, 4. What Does this Mean for Me?).

This series will highlight Luke's themes of Jesus seeking and saving the lost, His care for people on the margins, prayer, and the work of the Holy Spirit.

Our Sr youth will be going through Acts at the same time, which Luke also wrote as part two of the same story. If you have both Jr and Sr youth at home, this is a great opportunity to read Luke and Acts together as a family.

The vision and aim of this series

We aim to address this critical book in Scripture and study it carefully. We seek to stay faithful to the message of the Gospel of Luke and look at how it points to Jesus in ways we may not realize.

The vision of this series is as follows:

“To dive deep into the Gospel of Luke and allow this book in Scripture to help change us to point to Jesus so we can follow Him for life.”

Family Discussion Starters

1. What is your favourite book in the Bible?

2. Do you think it is important to be working through books in the Bible at a young age? If so, why?
3. What could you do to get the most out of the series you are doing at youth on Luke?
4. What is your favourite story about Jesus? Why?
5. Why do you think Jesus spent so much time with people others ignored?
6. Why does it matter that Jesus actually rose from the dead?
7. What does it mean for you that Jesus came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19v10)?

Key Scripture passages to note and read together

Ideally, all of Luke! With 24 chapters, reading a chapter a day would get you through it in less than a month.

However, here are some extremely key passages we get from this book: Luke 1v1-4; Luke 2v1-20; Luke 4v16-21; Luke 5v27-32; Luke 15; Luke 19v1-10; Luke 22-24

Areas where you can dive deeper

In this series, the best way to dive deeper is to methodically work through the verses chapter by chapter and allow this study to bring these areas to life.

In Luke, you will see the theme of Jesus seeking and saving the lost. It is essential to pose and ask what that looks like in practice. It is also important for our youth to figure out who Jesus really is for themselves, not just who they have been told He is.

It will be key to walk through the chapters of Luke together at home, using the themes of who Jesus is and what He did as conversation points. Encourage your youth to journal or pray through what following this Jesus would mean for them.

How to do Family Discipleship in this series

Through these things, as a family, as you discuss, dive into Scripture, and go deeper, helping your youth have accountability and follow-up to thinking in these areas is necessary for growth and more profound faith engagement, which will then allow you to help our youth move to engage with God in more practical ways. As always applicable to

any series topic, here are our six foundational questions to ask your youth to move us from the content discussed and learned to spiritual transformation and practice:

1. What is the Holy Spirit prompting in you through this topic?
2. What is your plan to obey the Holy Spirit's prompting?
3. Describe how your connection with God has been recently, and how it has grown through learning about this topic?
4. What have you learned about God through this topic?
5. Has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin to confess & repent of?
6. How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to be a 'fisher of men'?

Final words of this series

We are beyond excited about this series and ready to dive deep into the Gospel of Luke and work through this book in Scripture faithfully.

Series Eight – Sr.

Acts: What Happened After Jesus Resurrected? –April-June (4 part series)

Introduction to this series

The Book of Acts tells the story of what happened after Jesus rose from the dead and ascended to heaven. It shows the Holy Spirit being poured out at Pentecost, the birth of the early church, and the good news of Jesus spreading from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth.

What to Know about this series

This series will work through Acts in four parts: (1. Introduction to Acts (Acts 1-2; Acts 1v8; Acts 2v42), 2. What Happened at Pentecost and Why it Matters Today, 3. To the Ends of Earth: Saul to Paul and the Changing of the World, 4. Acts 29 and Beyond (where we find ourselves today to tomorrow)).

Acts has 28 chapters, but the story doesn't end there. The church today is living in "Acts 29," the continuing story of the Holy Spirit working through God's people.

Our Jr youth will be going through Luke at the same time, which is part one of the same story by the same author. If you have both Jr and Sr youth at home, this is a great opportunity to read Luke and Acts together as a family.

The vision and aim of this series

We aim to address this critical book in Scripture and study it carefully. We seek to stay faithful to the message of the book of Acts and look at how it points to Jesus in ways we may not realize.

The vision of this series is as follows:

“To dive deep into the Book of Acts and allow this book in Scripture to help change us to point to Jesus so we can follow Him for life.”

Family Discussion Starters

1. What is your favourite book in the Bible?
2. Do you think it is important to be working through books in the Bible at a young age? If so, why?
3. What could you do to get the most out of the series you are doing at youth on Acts?
4. What do you think was so important about the Holy Spirit coming at Pentecost?
5. The early church in Acts 2v42-47 devoted themselves to a few key things. Which of those do you think our church does well? Which could we grow in?
6. Saul went from persecuting Christians to becoming one of the greatest missionaries ever. Is there anyone you think is too far from God to change?
7. If Acts 29 is being written today, what part could you play in it?

Key Scripture passages to note and read together

Ideally, all of Acts! However, here are some extremely key passages we get from this book: Acts 1v8; Acts 2v1-4; Acts 2v36-47; Acts 4v12; Acts 9v1-19; Acts 13v1-3; Acts 17v22-31; Acts 28v30-31

Areas where you can dive deeper

In this series, the best way to dive deeper is to methodically work through the verses chapter by chapter and allow this study to bring these areas to life.

In Acts, you will see the theme of the Holy Spirit empowering ordinary people to be witnesses of Jesus. It is essential to pose and ask what that looks like in practice. It is crucial for our youth to see that the same Spirit who worked in the early church is at work in them today.

It will be key to walk through the chapters of Acts together at home, using the themes of the Spirit, the church, and mission as conversation points. Encourage your youth to journal or pray through where God may be sending them as witnesses in their own “ends of the earth.”

How to do Family Discipleship in this series

Through these things, as a family, as you discuss, dive into Scripture, and go deeper, helping your youth have accountability and follow-up to thinking in these areas is necessary for growth and more profound faith engagement, which will then allow you to help our youth move to engage with God in more practical ways. As always applicable to any series topic, here are our six foundational questions to ask your youth to move us from the content discussed and learned to spiritual transformation and practice:

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5. Has the Holy Spirit convicted you of sin to confess & repent of?
6. How is the Holy Spirit prompting you to be a ‘fisher of men’?

Final words of this series

We are beyond excited about this series and ready to dive deep into the Book of Acts and work through this book in Scripture faithfully.

Concluding words

We pray that as you and your youth seek to grow in discipleship to Jesus through this family discipleship guide, you will be pointed towards Him and seek to follow Him for life.

“Jesus called out to them, come and follow me.” (Matthew 4v19a)

If you have any questions/ thoughts/ concerns to bring forward, you can contact William Dmytrow (Jr/Sr Youth Pastor) at will@ebenezerbaptist.ca

Grace and Peace,
Ebenezer Youth Team

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