

FAITH STEPS

growing in the faith

Foundational building blocks of faith development
from birth through 5th Grade.



DUNWOODY BAPTIST CHURCH

Dunwoody Baptist Church Children's Ministry 2021/2022

PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

FAITH STEP PLAN

We begin welcoming children into our faith community at birth and continue to value their presence and participation as they grow. We understand the importance of teaching children about God from an early age, and we strive to provide a learning environment that is safe, loving and developmentally appropriate. At DBC we focus attention on teaching our families to Love God, Love People, Make Disciples, and Make a Difference. Through worship, study, fellowship, and service, we are dedicated to providing preschoolers and children with a solid foundation for their spiritual journey.

This booklet outlines the basics of faith which we as a community of faith want to teach our preschoolers through 5th graders. These faith steps will lead our children and their families to a better understanding of what is available for them to learn while they attend DBC. We desire to attain a partnership with families as we lay the foundation of faith.

This year we will be using GO! curriculum in the Sunday school hour. The GO! curriculum covers a Scope and Sequence for a total of three years. Each year begins in August and takes kids on a chronological journey through the entire Bible with different stories and with a different emphasis. During the 2021-2022 ministry year, kids will see and experience both God's power and promises through the Big Bible Story, but there will be a special emphasis on God's people. God's story of grace and redemption through His Son, Jesus, is told both to people and through people. Kids will discover that God has invited them to be His people and to share His story with the world. There will be glimpses of God's salvation plan throughout the year, but there will be four lessons where that plan is communicated clearly and kids will have an opportunity to respond.

During the 11 am worship hour, DBC Kids Worship will be using LifeChurch kids curriculum and following along a chronological journey of God's Story. On Wednesday evenings, our children have the opportunity to dig deeper into God's Word through missions, music, and special topics with Mrs. Bridgette (Grades K-5) and Mrs. Tawnya (4's and Young 5's).

OUR CHILDREN WILL KNOW THE BOOKS & DIVISIONS OF THE BIBLE.

OLD TESTAMENT

Books of Law:

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy

Books of History:

Joshua
Judges
Ruth
1 & 2 Samuel
1 & 2 Kings
1 & 2 Chronicles
Ezra
Nehemiah
Esther

Books of Poetry:

Job
Psalm
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Solomon

Major Prophets:

Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel

Minor Prophets:

Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habukkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

NEW TESTAMENT

Gospels:

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

History:

Acts

Letters of Paul:

Romans
1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians
1 Timothy
2 Timothy
Titus
Philemon

General Letters:

Hebrews
James
1 Peter
2 Peter
1 John
2 John
3 John
Jude

Prophecy:

Revelation

OUR CHILDREN CAN LOCATE IMPORTANT VERSES.

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Joshua 1:9

This is my command- be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Psalms 119:105

Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path.

Psalms 139:1

O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Isaiah 9:6

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 12:16

Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!

John 1:12

But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2 Corinthians 5:17

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun.

Philippians 3:20

But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 4:9

God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him.

OUR CHILDREN WILL KNOW IMPORTANT PASSAGES.

The Creation

- Genesis 1-2:3

The Ten Commandments

- Exodus 20:3-17

A Shepherd's Psalm

- Psalm 23

A Prayer of Forgiveness

- Psalm 51

A Psalm of Praise

- Psalm 100

The Baptism of Jesus

- Matthew 3:13-17

The Temptation of Jesus

- Matthew 4:1-11

The Sermon of the Mount

- Matthew 5-7

The Model Prayer

- Matthew 6:5-15

The Resurrection of Jesus

- Matthew 28

The Great Commission

- Matthew 28:19-20

The Great Commandments

- Mark 12:28-34

The Birth of Jesus

- Luke 2:1-7

The Lord's Prayer

- Luke 11:2-4

The Comfort Chapter

- John 14

The Crucifixion

- John 19

Pentecost

- Acts 2:1-13

The Love Chapter

- 1 Corinthians 13

The Christian's Armor

- Ephesians 6:10-20

The Faith Chapter

- Hebrews 11

OUR CHILDREN HAVE A BASIC UNDERSTANDING OF...

Key Biblical Persons

Adam and Eve

Job

Noah

David

Abram

Jeremiah

Sarah/Isaac

Shadrach, Meshach,

Abednego

Jacob

Daniel

Joseph

Jonah

Miriam

Joseph (Mary's husband)

Israelites

John the Baptist

Moses

Nicodemus

Aaron

Disciples

Caleb

Rich man

Balaam

Pharisees

Shepherds

Woman who anoints

Jesus

Thomas

Rahab

Christians

Joshua

Peter

Deborah

Stephen

Gideon

Philip

Ruth and Naomi

Paul

Hannah

Silas

Samuel

Abigail

Solomon

Elijah

Elisha

Josiah

Ezra

Nehemiah

Esther

Timothy

David

Aquila and

Priscilla

MEANINGFUL INVOLVEMENT

Faith development occurs through learning God's Story as well as meaningful involvement within the life of the church. The next section of this resource describes experiences we want every child to encounter.

1. **Our children will lead in worship:**

We believe our children should have the opportunity to participate in worship through singing, prayers, reading of scripture and sharing their musical and dramatic gifts. God has gifted each person differently and we will seek to find a way for each child to serve. A child who attends worship regularly will be more comfortable with taking a leadership role. We help children become familiar with worship words and their meaning.

2. **Our children understand the meaning and importance of our church ordinances:**

We observe two ordinances at DBC, Baptism and Communion. One of the most important steps a new believer can take is the step of baptism. Baptism signifies the beginning of new life and testifies to the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Communion is a way of remembering Jesus' sacrifice of his life for each of us. Jesus' body was broken and his blood shed for the forgiveness of sin. The bread represents Jesus' body and the cup represents the blood shed for us. Communion is reserved for those who have made their profession of faith. Children will attend a New Beginnings class to facilitate a better understanding of making their decision to follow Christ.

3. **Our children are familiar with songs in worship:**

Our children have the opportunity to join Kids Choir in order to learn, practice and lead the congregation in worship songs. These songs will be foundational in their understanding of how lyrics tie closely to scripture. Our children in grades K-5 have the opportunity to learn music during Kids Choir every Wednesday in the Children's Rally Room from 6:45-7:30 pm.

4. **Our children understand what it means to make a difference in our community and beyond:**

People of all ages can serve others. It is our belief the younger we start serving the more empathy towards others we will attain. Our children participate in a variety of mission opportunities throughout the year. Our children have the opportunity to serve others regularly on Wednesdays from 6-7 pm in the Children's Rally Room.

5. Our children participate in a church-related camp or retreat:

We believe children need opportunities to grow in their faith by attending church-related camps or retreats. Such camps build relationships with other children of our church as well as make new friends with other Christ followers. Our children have the opportunity to attend DBC Kids Camp, Camp Unite and Camp All-American each summer.

6. Our children will know the four priorities of our church:

- Love God
- Love People
- Make Disciples
- Make a Difference

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Our children know what it means to make a difference in our community and beyond.

MONTH	MISSION FOCUS
August	Hygiene bag donations for Heartbound Ministries
September	Family Promise speaker
October	Baby shower for Pregnancy Resources of Doraville
November	Thanksgiving baskets for JMA Ministries
December	Children's books for Jars of Clay
January	Vision casting on unreached people groups with Global Frontier Missions
February	Encouragement notes to DBC missionaries and partners
March	Easter baskets for Spring of Peace
April	Cross-Cultural Ministries speaker

**Be on the lookout for family days to serve and make a difference.

A STRONG BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

Sunday school lessons for the year.

ELEMENTARY LESSONS

Unit 1: Wonder World

- Aug 1 In the Beginning: Creation Key Verse: Psalm 139:14
Big Idea: God created us in a special way and wants us to have a special relationship with Him.
Bible Basis: Genesis 1-2
- Aug 8 The Fall: Adam and Eve Key Verse: Psalm 107:1
Big Idea: Although our relationship with God was broken, He still loves us.
Bible Basis: Genesis 3-4
- Aug 15 From Bad to Worse: Cain and Abel Key Verse: Genesis 4:7
Big Idea: God is holy and wants us to turn toward Him and away from sin.
Bible Basis: Genesis 4:1-16
- Aug 22 God Starts Over: Noah's Ark Key Verse: John 14:15
Big Idea: God is good, so I can obey Him even when it's hard.
Bible Basis: Genesis 6:5-9:17

Unit 2: Slime Time

- Aug 29 God Chooses Abraham Key Verse: Psalm 145:13
Big Idea: God keeps His promises, so I can wait patiently for Him.
Bible Basis: Genesis 15-21
- Sept 5 God Provides a Sacrifice: Isaac Key Verse: Proverbs 3:5-6
Big Idea: God is trustworthy, so I can follow Him anywhere.
Bible Basis: Genesis 22
- Sept 12 Jacob and Esau Key Verse: Jeremiah 29:11
Big Idea: God has a plan for my life, so I can trust Him even when something unfair happens.
Bible Basis: Genesis 25:19-34; 27:1-35
- Sept 19 Joseph and His Brothers Key Verse: Ephesians 4:32
Big Idea: God is forgiving, so we can forgive others.
Bible Basis: Genesis 41:1- 47:12

Unit 3: Mad Props

- Sept 26 Moses: The Early Years Key Verse: Isaiah 41:13
Big Idea: God is our protector, so I don't need to be afraid.
Bible Basis: Exodus 1-2
- Oct 3 Moses: The Burning Bush Key Verse: Joshua 1:9
Big Idea: God is always with me, so I can have the courage to do what He asks.
Bible Basis: Exodus 3:1-7:13
- Oct 10 Moses: The Plagues Key Verse: Jeremiah 32:17
Big Idea: God is all-powerful, so I can go to Him for help.
Bible Basis: Exodus 7:14- 10:20

- Oct 17 Moses: Passover Key Verse: Romans 6:23
Big Idea: God is our rescuer, so I can choose to follow Him.
Bible Basis: Exodus 11-13
- Oct 24 Moses: Crossing the Red Sea into the Wilderness Key Verse: Philippians 2:14
Big Idea: God is giving, so we can be thankful without complaining.
Bible Basis: Exodus 13:17- 17:7

Unit 4: Space Ninjas vs Pirate Squirrels

- Oct 31 The Tabernacle Key Verse: 1 Cor. 3:16
Big Idea: God lives within us, so we can talk to Him anytime we want.
Bible Basis: Exodus 25-31, 35- 40
- Nov 7 Joshua and the Walls of Jericho Key Verse: Joshua 1:7
Big Idea: God's instructions for us are good, so I can follow them right away.
Bible Basis: Joshua 1, 6
- Nov 14 The Judges Key Verse: Psalm 18:30
Big Idea: God's way is perfect, so I can find peace in Him.
Bible Basis: Judges 3-21
- Nov 21 God Calls Samuel Key Verse: John 10:27
Big Idea: God knows us by name and calls to us, so we can listen for His voice.
Bible Basis: 1 Samuel 2-3
- Nov 28 Israel Demands a King Key Verse: James 1:5
Big Idea: God is all-knowing, so I can go to Him for wisdom.
Bible Basis: 1 Samuel 8-10

Unit 5: Shake it Up

- Dec 5 The Prophets Foretell of the Coming King Key Verse: Psalm 39:7
Big Idea: God gives us hope through the promise of Jesus.
Bible Basis: 1 Kings 12:1-24; Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; 53
- Dec 12 An Angel Visits Mary and Joseph Key Verse: Luke 1:37
Big Idea: Nothing is impossible with God, so I can believe whatever He tells me.
Bible Basis: Luke 1:26-56; Matthew 1:18-25
- Dec 19 The Light of the World: Jesus is Born Key Verse: John 12:46
Big Idea: Jesus is the Light of the World and I can share the light with others like the shepherds did.
Bible Basis: Luke 2:1-20
- Dec 26 Mary and Joseph Flee to Egypt Key Verse: Phil. 2:10-11
Big Idea: Jesus fulfills the prophecies of the Old Testament, so we can trust that He is LORD.
Bible Basis: Matthew 2

Unit 6: Live Out Loud

- Jan 2 Jesus in the Temple Key Verse: Luke 2:52
Big Idea: Jesus grew in wisdom and favor by spending time in His Father's House.
Bible Basis: Luke 2:41-52
- Jan 9 Jesus is Baptized Key Verse: Romans 6:4
Big Idea: Baptism gives us a picture of Jesus' amazing sacrifice.
Bible Basis: Luke 3; Matthew 3; Mark 1:29-34

- Jan 16 Jesus is Tempted in the Desert Key Verse: 1 Cor. 10:13
Big Idea: Jesus said "no" to sin, and so can we.
Bible Basis: Luke 4:1-13;
- Jan 23 Jesus is Rejected in Nazareth Key Verse: Galatians 1:10
Big Idea: Jesus was rejected for saying unpopular things.
Bible Basis: Luke 4:16-30

Unit 7: Hide-N-Seek

- Jan 30 Jesus Calls His Disciples Key Verse: Mark 1:17
Big Idea: Jesus calls ordinary people like us to follow Him.
Bible Basis: Luke 5:1-11, 27- 31, 6:12-16; Matt 4:18-22
- Feb 6 The Woman at the Well Key Verse: Romans 5:8
Big Idea: God's love is greater than our sin, so we can go to Him for forgiveness.
Bible Basis: John 4:1-26
- Feb 13 Do Not Judge Others Key Verse: Matthew 7:5
Big Idea: Jesus wants us to think about our own mistakes before pointing out others.
Bible Basis: Matthew 7:1-5
- Feb 20 Jesus and the Pharisees Key Verse: Psalm 51:10
Big Idea: Jesus wants us to be pure in heart, not just pretenders.
Bible Basis: Matthew 23

Unit 8: Picture This

- Feb 27 Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders Key Verse: Matthew 7:24
Big Idea: God's Word provides a solid foundation for us to build our lives on.
Bible Basis: Matthew 7:24-29
- Mar 6 Parable of the Good Samaritan Key Verse: Luke 10:27
Big Idea: God is compassionate and wants us to show compassion to others even if they're different from us.
Bible Basis: Luke 10:25-37
- Mar 13 Parable of the Rich Fool Key Verse: Matthew 6:21
Big Idea: God wants us to treasure our relationship with Him more than any of our possessions.
Bible Basis: Luke 12:13-21
- Mar 20 Parable of the Lost Sheep and Coin Key Verse: Luke 15:10
Big Idea: Jesus pursues the lost and rejoices when they turn to Him.
Bible Basis: Luke 15:3-10
- Mar 27 Parable of the Prodigal Son Key Verse: 1 John 1:9
Big Idea: God's love is never ending and He celebrates when we go to Him for forgiveness.
Bible Basis: Luke 15:11-32

Unit 9: Professor Sid's Science Spectacular

- Apr 3 Jesus' Triumphal Entry Key Verse: Luke 19:38
Big Idea: Jesus is our King and deserves our praise.
Bible Basis: Matthew 21:1-11; Luke 19:28-46
- Apr 10 Jesus' Arrest, Trial, and Crucifixion Key Verse: 1 Peter 2:21
Big Idea: Jesus suffered for us and we too may have to suffer in order to follow Jesus.
Bible Basis: Matthew 26:47- 27:66; 1 Peter 2:21-25

- Apr 17 Jesus' Resurrection Key Verse: John 11:25
Big Idea: Jesus defeated death and He gives those who follow Him victory over death too.
Bible Basis: Matthew 27:57- 28:10
- Apr 24 God Invites Us to be His People Key Verse: Acts 4:12
Big Idea: Eternal life is found in Jesus alone.
Bible Basis: John 3:16-21

Unit 10: The Big Build

- May 1 Jesus Appears to Thomas Key Verse: John 20:29
Big Idea: Jesus wants us to have faith in Him, even though we can't see Him.
Bible Basis: Luke 24:13-53; John 20:11-29; Acts 1:6-11
- May 8 The Great Commission Key Verse: Matthew 28:19
Big Idea: God wants everyone to know the good news of Jesus, so I can share my faith with others.
Bible Basis: Matthew 28:16- 20; Acts 1:1-11
- May 15 The Believers Form a Community Key Verse: Acts 2:44
Big Idea: God wants us to share our life with other believers.
Bible Basis: Acts 2:42-47
- May 22 Peter and John Before the Council Key Verse: Acts 1:8a, c
Big Idea: The Holy Spirit gives us the courage to boldly tell others about Jesus.
Bible Basis: Acts 3:1-4:22
- May 29 God's Story in Our Life Key Verse: 1 John 3:1a
Big Idea: God's story of love and redemption continues today in the lives of His children.
Bible Basis: 1 John 3:1-10

Unit 11: Battle Squids

- June 5 Book of Proverbs: Seeking Wisdom Key Verse: Proverbs 16:16
Big Idea: God is the source of all understanding, so we can go to Him for wisdom.
Bible Basis: Proverbs 4:1-7; 1 Kings 3
- June 12 Book of Proverbs: Wise Friendships Key Verse: Proverbs 18:24
Big Idea: God desires that we have friends who stick with us and help us follow Him.
Bible Basis: Prov. 17:17; 1 Sam. 18:1-4; 20; 23:16-18
- June 19 Book of Proverbs: Using Words Wisely Key Verse: Proverbs 15:1
Big Idea: God wants us to use our words for peace.
Bible Basis: Prov. 21:23; Judges 8:1-3; 12:1-4
- June 26 Book of Proverbs: Compassionate Wisdom Key Verse: Proverbs 19:17
Big Idea: When we show compassion to the poor and suffering, we show compassion to Jesus.
Bible Basis: Prov. 19:17; Matthew 25:31-46
- July 3 Book of Proverbs: Big Wisdom in Little Packages Key Verse: 2 Timothy 3:15
Big Idea: God gives wisdom to even the little creatures, so I'm not too small to make wise choices.
Bible Basis: Proverbs 30:24- 28

Unit 12: Riddle Rangers

- July 10 The Truth About the Bible Key Verse: Psalm 119:105
Big Idea: The Bible is God's Word, so I can know it's true.
Bible Basis: 2 Timothy 3:14- 17; Psalm 119:160

- July 17 The Truth About God the Father Key Verse: Psalm 25:1
Big Idea: God the Father is all-present, all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-loving; so I can trust Him with my life.
Bible Basis: Jeremiah 23:24; Psalm 147:5; 139:1-18
- July 24 The Truth About God the Son Key Verse: Philippians 2:10-11
Big Idea: Jesus is both God and man, and through His death we can have eternal life.
Bible Basis: Philippians 2:5-11
- July 31 The Truth About God the Holy Spirit Key Verse: Galatians 5:25
Big Idea: The Holy Spirit guides and helps us, so we can listen to His voice and do what He says.
Bible Basis: Jn. 14:15-30, 16:1-15; Gal. 5:13-25; Rom. 8:9-17

PRESCHOOL LESSONS

AUGUST: Angry Words - Speak Kind Words

Our words can hurt people or bring joy to people. We can do things God's way-listening to others, not speaking in anger, and telling others about Jesus.

September: I Can Help - Following Jesus, Helping Others

During the preschool years little ones are learning how to be helpers: to their parents, their teacher and their friends. Kids will learn that helping others is one of the ways that we can follow Jesus.

October: Pumpkin Patch

Preschoolers will learn about the plan God has for all of us using pumpkins.

November: I Can Say Thank You - Always Say Thank You

In life, we can choose to grumble and be selfish, or we can choose to be grateful. Every day, we should praise God and give Him thanks.

December: Journey to Bethlehem - Follow the Star

Come see who is in the manger. God brought very different people together in Bethlehem to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Little ones will learn that Jesus is the reason we celebrate Christmas.

January: How to Train your Attitude - The Right Attitude Pleases God

When we have a good attitude, everything seems better. God help us with our attitude. We want to live in a way that pleases God.

February & March: Jesus Fixed It! - Jesus' Amazing Miracles

Every single person has done or said bad things. These bad things - like lying, disobeying our parents, or saying mean things - are called "sin". Sin keeps us from being close to God. In this series, little ones will examine the 7 miracles of Jesus recorded in the book of John—as well as the resurrection—to understand that: Jesus came to "fix it". Jesus came to fix our damaged relationship with God, so that we can be with God forever in heaven.

April: Easter Eggs - Finding Jesus' Love

Kids get excited about seeking out the hidden eggs on Easter morning. By looking at Easter eggs, preschoolers will learn about what Jesus did at Easter to seek us out and show us His love.

May: Book of the Bible - Introducing Little Ones to God's Story

While preschool may be too soon to expect kids to memorize all 66 books of the Bible, we can still introduce kids to those books and help them see how they work together to tell us God's story.

DBC'S FOUR PRIORITIES

We are passionately becoming more like Jesus, and are committed to transforming our homes, church, community and the world. How will we lead our children to be more like Jesus?



Love God

We love God because He first loved us. We show our love for God as we experience His presence through worship and prayer.



Love People

We love others because this is the core of Jesus' message. We show our love for people by developing authentic relationships through hospitality inside and outside of the church.



Make Disciples

We help people meet, know and become more like Jesus. We make disciples through Bible study groups and sharing our faith journey.



Make a Difference

We use our God-given abilities and resources to impact the lives of others. We make a difference in our church, community and world by discovering our purpose and joining a serve team or mission opportunity.



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Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 & 11 am · Senior Pastor: Allen Jackson