# **Highlands Kids**

**Elementary Learning Guide** 

First-through-Fifth Grade 2022-2024



We're so glad you've chosen to visit us today! Highlands Kids exists for children to hear the life-giving message of Jesus, develop a genuine relationship with God, build a biblical foundation for their lives, grow with friends and leaders, and love being at church.

We're committed to creating a place where children from six-weeks-old through fifth grade can discover and develop a passion for God through worship, Bible teachings, Small Groups, and a variety of fun activities.

We believe the best way we can help your kids develop a strong spiritual foundation is by partnering with you, their family. Together, we can help encourage, train, and pray for them as they grow in their faith.

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth. 3 John 1:4 NIV



# **Highlands Kids**

## **Preschool**

Designed specifically for children six-weeks-old through kindergarten, our Nursery/Preschool services are a place for our youngest generation to learn about the love of Christ.

During service, your child will engage in a thoughtfully-planned learning experience reinforced with songs, Bible stories, and activities.

## Elementary

First-through-fifth grade children will have the opportunity to engage in dynamic worship and biblical teaching through our grade-specific learning model.

During service, children will spend most of their time in a Small Group to give them the benefit of a consistent Small Group Leader and interaction with kids their age.

Together, they'll learn about the Bible and how to have a relationship with God, memorize Scripture, and have fun developing friendships with one another.

## **Special Needs**

Haven—our Highlands Kids special needs ministry—exists to share the love of Christ by assisting individuals and families needing special accommodations to become full participants and contributors in the body of Christ. With support available for both children and adults, we are committed to providing a safe and comfortable environment that allows all members access to worship, ministry, and fellowship with one another.

#### HIGHLANDS HAVEN SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY (Ages 2-11)

Our goal is to integrate children into an age-appropriate Highlands Kids experience with the right level of assistance.

Support in the Highlands Kids experiences takes place during specific service times, offered at designated campuses.

#### TEEN AND ADULT FRIENDSHIP GROUPS (Ages 12+)

This Small Group is available during a specific Sunday service time for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Friendship Group offers a time of fellowship, worship, Bible-based video content, social skills development, and hands-on crafting.

All activities are specifically designed for teens and adults with significant special needs. For more information on available service times and locations, visit churchofthehighlands.com.



## What to Expect

## **Check-In**

To make your first visit as easy as possible, we have created both an online and in-person registration process for you and your family. During registration, we'll get to know things like how many children are in your family, what allergies your child(ren) may have, and the best way to contact you. Once you are registered and checked in, both you and your child(ren) will receive a set of stickers with a matching code, also known as a "security tag". On the tag, you will also find your child's corresponding room. This sticker is what you'll use to pick up your child after the service. If, for any reason, we need to reach you, you'll see your child's code on the screen in the Main Auditorium during the service.

## **Drop-Off/Pick-Up**

Once your child(ren) are checked in and arrive at the room printed on their sticker, our leaders will be ready to greet your family and engage your child in an age-appropriate activity. At the end of the service, a team member will verify that your security tag code matches the code on your child's tag before he/she is released into your care. In the event of a lost sticker, we will use your driver's license as an alternative to the security tag to verify information and check out your child.

## Safety

In Highlands Kids, we are committed to safety, and it is the heart of our children's ministry to make every effort to ensure the safety and well-being of every child.

With this in mind, we do not allow anyone into our classrooms without a corresponding security tag, and all team members serving in a Highlands Kids area go through a screening process before serving. All team members serving in Highlands Kids are background-checked and trained in safety and security protocols.

Once in our care, a child is not allowed to be picked up by anyone who does not have a sticker with the code that coincides with the one on his/her sticker. If a security tag has been lost, photo identification must be presented and matched with the guardian information on the registered account. If a need arises or you have any questions, please contact a staff member and they will be happy to assist you.



## **Small Groups and Learning Plan**

In Highlands Kids Elementary services, your children will be taught grade-specific, biblical truths and practical lessons through a learning plan and collection of series topics throughout the year.

The learning plan for your child's specific grade level will be taught by their Small Group Leader. Each week in their Small Group, they will work together on learning objectives like memorizing Scripture and understanding biblical principles.

Series topics will be presented through a video Bible lesson, followed by an age-specific, guided discussion with their Small Group.

In the following pages, you will find more detailed information on the yearly learning focus for each grade level, as well as the series topics and Bible lessons for the year.





## **Partnering with Parents**

We believe the best way we can help your kids develop a strong spiritual foundation is by partnering with you. Together, we can help encourage, train, and pray for them as they grow in their faith.

Here are some practical ways you can help us make the most of your child's time at church:

- Pick a consistent service time and location to help your kids build relationships with their Small Group Leader and other kids their age.
- Practice the current Highlands Kids Scripture memorization with your kids.
- Opt-in to receive text updates about what your child is learning each week. Simply text **KIDS** to the number **74000** to opt-in.
- Stay connected to Highlands Kids on Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube.
- Build relationships with other Highlands parents on the Highlands Parents Facebook Community Group.
- Pray for your children each week as they come to church, and pray for our teams as they serve and care for your kids.

We are a church of Small Groups, and this starts with our kids.

Each week, your kids will be guided with the Highlands Kids values:



because God is Love and He first loved us.



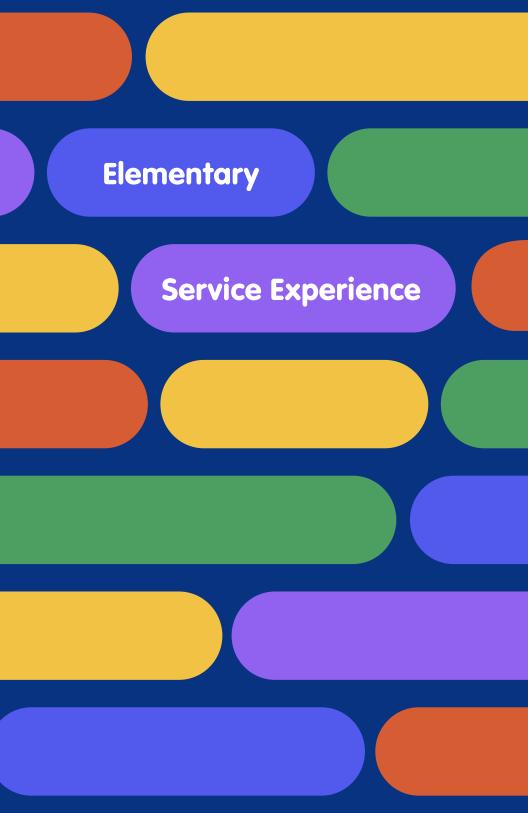
because God loves all people.

## **DO YOUR BEST**

and God does the rest.

## HAVE FUN

because God gives us joy.





## Learning Plan

Age-specific learning happens in Small Groups every week with a yearly focus for each grade. Your kids will learn about these topics through Small Group lessons, Scripture memorization, and biblical life-application.

In the following pages, you will find more detailed information on the yearly Small Group focus for each grade level, as well as the series topics and Bible lessons for the year.

## First-Grade Small Group Focus: Identity

First-graders will grow in their personal identity by learning that they are created by God, loved by Him, and that Jesus wants to be their best friend.

Throughout the year, they will:

- Memorize 12 Bible verses
- · Learn about God as their Creator
- Learn the Gospel message using the Wordless Book
- Practice the Highlands Kids Values

## Second-Grade Small Group Focus: Prayer & Worship

Second-graders will learn how to grow in their relationship with God through praying and worshipping Him.

Throughout the year, they will:

- Memorize 12 Bible verses
- Memorize The Lord's Prayer and apply it to their personal prayers
- · Learn about the Armor of God
- Learn about the 10 Commandments

## **Third-Grade Small Group Focus: Relationships**

Third-graders will learn how to build positive relationships by focusing on the two greatest commandments: Loving God and loving people.

Throughout the year, they will:

- Memorize 12 Bible verses
- Study the Fruit of the Spirit
- · Study the Gifts of the Spirit
- Learn about Jesus' 12 disciples

#### Fourth-Grade Small Group Focus: God's Word

Fourth-graders will learn more about the Bible, how to appreciate the amazing gift of God's Word, and start to understand the authority that Scripture has in our lives.

Throughout the year, they will:

- Memorize 20 Bible verses
- · Memorize the books of the New Testament
- · Learn about the structure of the Bible
- Learn how to study and apply Scriptures

#### Fifth-Grade Small Group Focus: Leadership

Fifth-graders will explore their God-given purpose by learning about spiritual gifts and how to share the hope of Jesus with others.

Throughout the year, they will:

- Memorize 20 Bible verses
- · Memorize the books of the Old Testament
- Memorize the Apostles' Creed
- · Learn how to study and apply Scriptures





Throughout the year, your child(ren) will learn through a short, weekly video lesson. The video will teach on the current series topic by using relevant Bible stories. Your kid(s) will watch the video in their Small Group and then discuss what they're learning with their friends and Small Group Leader in an age-specific, guided discussion.

The topics repeat every three years to provide a well-rounded learning experience. By repeating topics, these lessons are reinforced through different Bible stories, and your kid(s) get the benefit of revisiting valuable principles as they grow.



1	Maturity	<ul> <li>King Josiah (2 Kings 22)</li> <li>The Lord Calls Samuel (1 Samuel 3)</li> <li>Jonah's Anger at the Lord's Compassion (Jonah 4)</li> </ul>	• Good Foundations (Matthew 7:24-27; 1 Corinthians 3)
2	Relationships	<ul> <li>Jonathan and David (1 Samuel 18-20)</li> <li>Ruth and Naomi (Ruth 1:1-22; 2:1-16)</li> <li>Jesus and Peter (Matthew 26:31-35)</li> </ul>	• Barnabas and Paul (Acts 9:26-30)
3	Having Courage	<ul> <li>Joshua Takes Over After Moses (Joshua 1:1-9)</li> <li>Mighty Man of Valor - Gideon (Judges 6)</li> </ul>	Peter and John Healing and Preaching (Acts 3, 4)     Paul's Trip to Rome (Acts 27)
4	Easter	• Jesus is Risen (Matthew 28:5-7)	
5	Putting Others First	The Tax Collector - Hate the Sin, Not the Sinner (Luke 19:1-10)     Don't Be Selfish - Peter Heals Tabitha (Acts 9:36-41)	<ul> <li>The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant (Matthew 18:21-35)</li> <li>Who Wants to be First Must be Last (Mark 9:30-36)</li> </ul>
6	Character Study (Esther)	<ul> <li>God Has Chosen You (Esther 2:1-7)</li> <li>Esther Learns of Haman's Plan (Esther 4:1-17)</li> </ul>	Esther Reveals Haman's Plot (Esther 5:1-8; 7:1-10; 10) The People Celebrate Their Freedom (Esther 8:1-17)

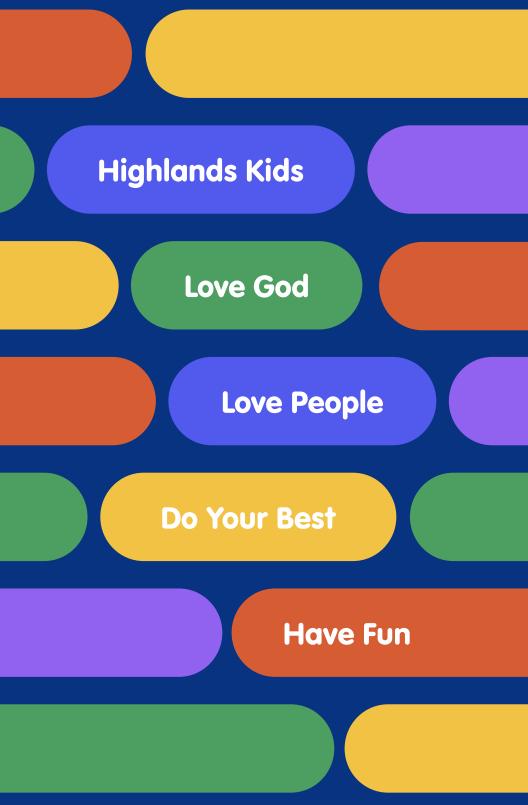
7	Purpose	<ul> <li>God Calls Abraham (Genesis 11-12; 15:1-18:21)</li> <li>Solomon Builds the Temple (1 Kings 6)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The Story of Lazarus (John 11)</li> <li>The Parable of the Three Servants (Matthew 25:14-30)</li> </ul>
8	<b>Book Study</b> (Romans)	<ul> <li>Made Righteous (Romans 3:21-5:9)</li> <li>Holy Spirit (Romans 6-8)</li> <li>God's Chosen People (Romans 9-11)</li> </ul>	The Body of Christ (Romans 12)
9	Being the Church	<ul> <li>People-Fishing (Luke 5:1-11)</li> <li>The Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-10)</li> <li>The Body of Christ - Fellowship of Believers (Acts 2:41-47)</li> </ul>	Love One Another - Unity and Maturity (Ephesians 4:1-16)
10	Identity	<ul> <li>Jesus Loved John (John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2; 21:7, 20)</li> <li>Jesus Calls Philip and Nathaniel (John 1:43-50)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The Calling of Matthew (Matthew 9:9-13)</li> <li>Jesus Supplies Our Needs - Temple Tax (Matthew 17:24-27)</li> </ul>
11	Fear	<ul> <li>Trust God, Don't Worry (Matthew 6:25-34)</li> <li>Daniel in the Lion's Den (Daniel 6)</li> </ul>	Fear Doesn't Define Me (Psalm 91:2-7) Moses and the Burning Bush (Exodus 3)
12	Christmas	• Jesus is Born (Matthew 1:21-23, 2:10-11)	

1	Wise Choices	<ul> <li>Wise and Foolish Builders (Matthew 7:24-29)</li> <li>Solomon's Dream at Gibeon (1 Kings 3:4-15)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Rehoboam (1 Kings 12:1-24)</li> <li>The Gibeonite Deception (Joshua 9)</li> </ul>
2	Purity	<ul> <li>Paul's Change of Heart (Acts 9:1-22)</li> <li>Pure Love (Ephesians 1)</li> </ul>	Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11) The Weak and the Strong (Romans 14)
3	My Thoughts	<ul> <li>Joseph (Genesis 37-46)</li> <li>Integrity (1 Samuel 12:1-5)</li> <li>Control the Things You Say (James 1:26; 3:2-13)</li> </ul>	Don't Doubt God's Love (Genesis 3)
4	Easter	• Jesus is Risen (Matthew 28:5-7)	
5	Grace	<ul> <li>The Loving Father (Luke 15:11-24; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 3:16)</li> <li>Adam and Eve (Genesis 2-3)</li> </ul>	• Our Heart vs. God - Salvation to All (Romans 10:5-21) • Changed by Grace - Jesus Sends the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:1-11; 2:2-13)
6	Character Study (Elijah)	God Provides for Elijah (1 Kings 17:1-16) God Guides Us (1 Kings 17:7-10)	Elijah and the Prophets of Baal (1 Kings 17:1; 18) Elijah Experiences God (1 Kings 19:1-21)

7	Worship	<ul> <li>The Woman at the Well (John 4:1-26)</li> <li>David was a Worshipper (2 Samuel 6)</li> <li>Paul and Silas in Prison (Acts 16:16-40)</li> </ul>	• Worship God Only (Luke 4:8; Exodus 32:21-24)
8	Book Study (Ruth)	God Loves All People (Ruth 1)     You are Important to Jesus (Ruth 2)	• God Uses "Little" Things for His Great Plan (Ruth 3) God is our Redeemer (Ruth 4)
9	Faith	<ul> <li>Jesus Stops a Storm (Mark 4:35-41)</li> <li>The Story of the Blind Man (John 9:1-12)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The Faith of Friends (Marks 2:1-12)</li> <li>Sharing Faith and the Holy Spirit (Acts 2)</li> </ul>
10	Discipleship	<ul> <li>Jesus Calls the First Disciples (Mark 1:14-20)</li> <li>Jesus and the Roman Tax (Mark 12:13-17)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Be a Disciple by Staying Connected to Jesus (John 15:1-17)</li> <li>The Disciples and the Great Commission (Matthew 28)</li> </ul>
11	Generosity	Mary Pours Perfume on Jesus (John 12:1-11)     Save, Give, Spend - Lessons in Proverbs (Proverbs 21:20; 22:7; 13:11)	<ul> <li>Paul Teaches Generosity (2 Corinthians 9)</li> <li>Gifts for Jesus - The Sheep and The Goats (Matthew 25:31-46)</li> </ul>
12	Christmas	- Jesus is Born (Matthew 1:21-23; 2:10-11)	

1	Obedience	<ul> <li>Adam and Eve (Genesis 2:15-17; 3)</li> <li>Daniel's Training in Babylon (Daniel 1)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Jonah (Jonah 1-2; 3:1-6)</li> <li>Joshua (Joshua 1; 3:7-10; 5:13-15; 6)</li> </ul>
2	Honor	<ul> <li>God Crowning with Honor (Genesis 1, 2; Psalm 8)</li> <li>David and Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Jesus Healing the Bleeding Woman (Mark 5:25-34)</li> <li>Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet (John 13:1-17)</li> </ul>
3	Spiritual Disciplines	The Vine and Branches (John 15:1-17)     The Need for Self-Discipline (1 Corinthians 9:24-27)	<ul> <li>Boy Jesus at the Temple (Luke 2:41-52)</li> <li>The Lord Calls Samuel (1 Samuel 3)</li> </ul>
4	Easter	• Jesus is Risen (Matthew 28:5-7)	
5	Forgiveness	<ul> <li>Manasseh (2 Chronicles 33)</li> <li>Jacob and Esau Forgive Each Other (Genesis 25:24-34; 27; 33:1-17)</li> </ul>	Reconcile with Who I Have Hurt (Matthew 5:23-24) Heart of Forgiveness (Matthew 18:21-22)
6	Character Study (Peter)	<ul> <li>Peter Followed Jesus (Matthew 4:18-19)</li> <li>Jesus and Peter Walked on Water, Peter Testifying that Jesus is God (Matthew 14:22-33; 16:13-17)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>New Beginning for Peter (John 21:15-19)</li> <li>Peter and John - Healing and Prison (Acts 3:1-9; 4:6-20; 5:12-42)</li> </ul>

7	Power of God	Adam and Eve (Genesis 2-3) Noah (Genesis 5:32-10:1)	<ul> <li>The Sun Stands Still (Joshua 10)</li> <li>The New Heaven and Earth (Revelation 21)</li> </ul>
8	<b>Book Study</b> (Philippians)	I Can Choose Joy (Philippians 1) It's Not About Me (Philippians 2)	<ul> <li>Focus on Jesus (Philippians 3)</li> <li>I Can Always Have Joy (Philippians 4)</li> </ul>
9	Evangelism	<ul> <li>The Story of the 12 Apos (Matthew 10:1-10; Mark 3:13-10; 10:35-40; Luke 6:12-16; John 15:15; 20:24; 25)</li> </ul>	
10	Influence	<ul> <li>Joseph (Genesis 37-50)</li> <li>Rebuilding the Wall in Jerusalem (Nehemiah 4:15-23)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>David the Musician and King Saul, David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17:1-51, 16:14-23)</li> <li>Respecting Authority (Romans 13:1-7)</li> </ul>
11	Nature of God	Series and Lessons on the Names of God	
12	Christmas	• Jesus is Born (Matthew 1:21-23; 2:10-11)	



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