



NEHEMIAH KIDS

Nehemiah 1:11



second grade leader guide

Fall Session • The Ten Commandments

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NEHEMIAH KIDS: Second Grade Leader Guide
Fall Session: The Ten Commandments

Revised 2013

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“He will
richly bless
you,

if only you

fully obey

the Lord your God

and are careful to

follow
all these commands
I am giving you today.”

[Deuteronomy 15:4b-5]

Table of Contents

Welcome to Nehemiah Kids!	3
Introduction: The Ten Commandments, 3	
Developing a Christian Worldview, 3	
The Cross, 4	
Disciple Group Information, 6	
Orientation, 8	
P.R.A.Y. Acrostic Cards, 10	
Weekly Memory Verses, 11	
Week One: No Other Gods	12
Week Two: No Idols	16
Week Three: Do Not Misuse God’s Name.....	20
Week Four: Remember the Sabbath	24
Week Five: Honor Your Parents (Part 1).....	28
Week Six: Honor Your Parents (Part 2)	32
Week Seven: Do Not Kill	36
Week Eight: Be Faithful	40
Week Nine: Do Not Steal	44
Week Ten: Do Not Lie (Part 1)	48
Week Eleven: Do Not Lie (Part 2)	52
Week Twelve: Do Not Covet.....	56
Week Thirteen: Make God Number One (Part 1)	60
Week Fourteen: Make God Number One (Part 2)	64
Week Fifteen: Love Your Neighbor (Part 1).....	68
Week Sixteen: Love Your Neighbor (Part 2)	72
Week Seventeen: Doing What God Wants (Part 1)	76
Week Eighteen: Doing What God Wants (Part 2).....	80

Welcome to Nehemiah Kids!

Disciple Group Bible Study for Nehemiah Kids (N.K.) is a great opportunity to get to know the children in your group and build accountability. The materials in this book are designed to help you succeed as you plan for Bible study with your small group each week. These materials are very simple and should give you plenty to discuss and do during your Disciple Group time. The number one rule of teaching and being a discipler is to *surrender*. Surrender to God for His filling. He will empower you to model and exemplify Christ. He will also guide you as you lead your group in prayer and worship.

Introduction: The Ten Commandments

Get ready for the next eighteen weeks as you study The Ten Commandments. The Ten Commandments are the basis from which much of Scripture has been built. As a believer in Christ, it is important to understand the basic commands of God in order to come to a deeper understanding of the grace of God given us through Jesus Christ. Part of the continuation of your study of The Cross is to develop a basic understanding of the precepts of God—to become a light in a dark world (Matthew 5:16). As you study God’s Word and live out the steps of The Cross, you will experience the abundant life that Jesus promised (John 10:10).

Developing a Christian Worldview

There are many beliefs in our world. These beliefs can be considered a person’s worldview. A worldview is how a person determines what they believe about who they are as a person, their purpose for being here on Earth, what they believe to be truth, what they believe about family, and how they view the needs of the world around them. For the Christian, our view of all these things is guided by what the Bible says.

As Christians we look at things differently because we have a tool that guides us—God’s Word. On sunny days, some people wear sunglasses to filter out the sun’s rays. They find it easier to see with sunglasses on bright days. As we live in the world, we need to have a filter to help us determine what is right and wrong. It is like putting on sunglasses to block out the sun. So the believer takes up the Bible to block out those views that do not line up with God’s Word. Parents need to have a Christian worldview and instill in their child a biblical perspective of the world.

“Parent Talk: Christian Worldview” is the Day 6 devotional for each week in the student devotional book. It is based on the admonition in Deuteronomy 6:6-7, “These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.” This section is designed to assist parents in helping their children apply what they are learning.

The Cross

The Cross will be your tool to help your Disciple Group stay on track in their walk with God. It is a formula for spiritual growth as you and your students learn to put it into practice. God has a plan for every person's life. He desires a relationship with us. He has made this relationship possible through Jesus Christ. Some of your students will have already made the discovery while others may not have. Your responsibility as their Disciple Group leader is to continue pointing students to Christ—first for salvation, and second for them to experience the abundant life that Jesus promises (John 10:10).

Salvation is key, and from that point the journey begins. Then we have to constantly remember we must live a life that is totally and completely dependent upon and surrendered to Him. From there, we find direction for our lives through His Word. God's Word always points to God and His purpose for our lives. His Word is the road map for our lives. His Word is the instruction manual by which we put our lives together. It is our light through a dark world bent on destroying our lives, and it is our handbook for discipling children. We teach them to look at life through biblical eyes. They must learn to face life with the instruction manual in front of them. As we submit our lives to Him, we can find His will for our lives through His Word.

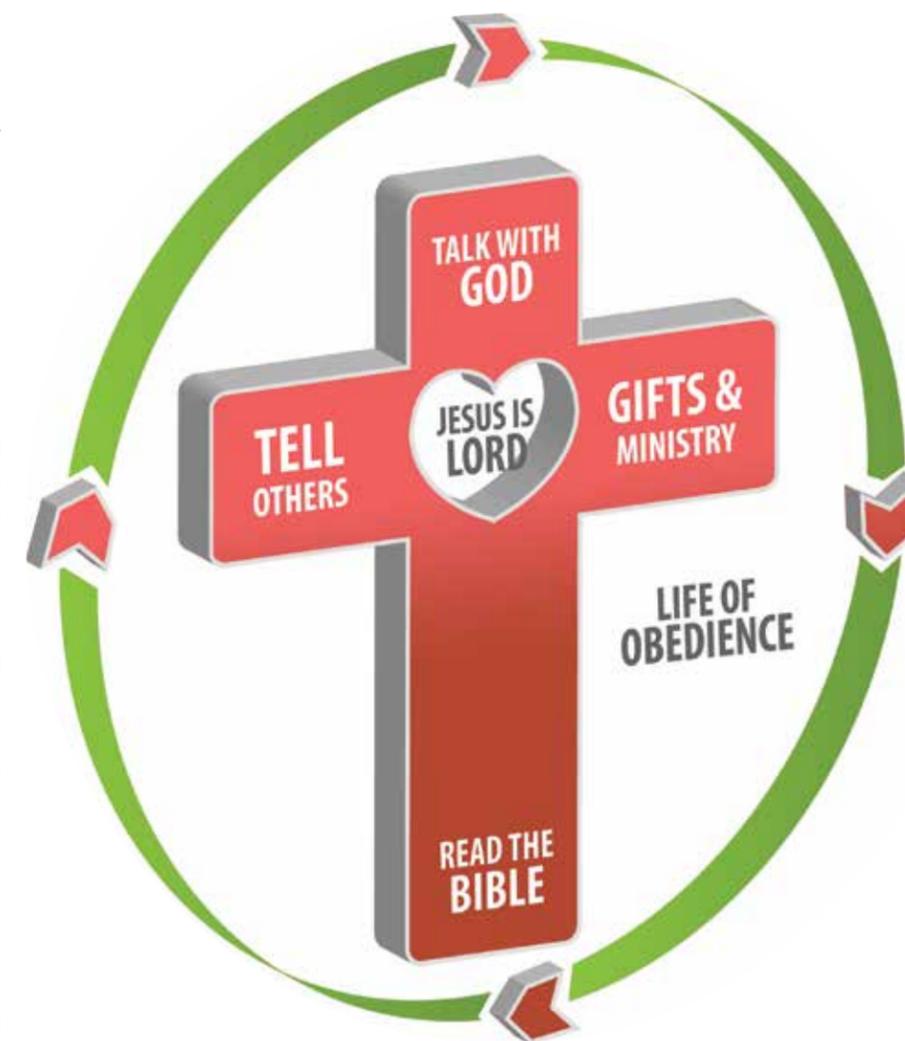
We have the wonderful invitation in Jeremiah 33:3, "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know." First John 5:14–15 says, "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him." Therefore, we can come boldly before the Lord in submission to Him, and He will answer our requests. This is how we have a personal relationship with Him.

The vertical part of The Cross represents our relationship with God. Jesus said: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment" (Matthew 22:37–38). The second part of our relationship with God becomes horizontal. "And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments" (Matthew 22:39–40). Looking at The Cross, we are called to "Tell Others" the wonderful Gospel message, and God has given us gifts for ministry. When we are doing all the parts of The Cross, we are living out a life of obedience to Christ.

The Life of Obedience

Parts of The Cross

- **The Center of The Cross—Jesus Is Lord:** Jesus Christ must be Lord of every area of the N.K.s' lives. They will learn to allow Him to live His life through them. (Galatians 2:20)
- **The Base of The Cross—Read the Bible:** In order to find God's will, they must read His Word daily. (Psalm 119:105)
- **The Top of The Cross—Talk With God:** Prayer is the open invitation to spend time talking with God each day. The children can talk with Him anytime and anywhere. (Jeremiah 33:3)
- **The Left Side of The Cross—Tell Others:** Jesus commands His followers to tell the world about His great love for them. The N.K.s will be challenged to share their faith daily. (Matthew 28:19-20)
- **The Right Side of The Cross—Gifts and Ministry:** The Holy Spirit has given gifts to every child of God, and the children are to use these gifts to serve God in the church and in the world. (Ephesians 2:10)
- **The Circle around The Cross—Life of Obedience:** The Lord Jesus calls believers to obey His leadership. In following the parts of The Cross, the N.K.s can accomplish His desires for their lives.



Disciple Group Information

Each Disciple Group will be made up of three to five children. Before going to your small group, go through the materials and become familiar with your studies. The Disciple Group Bible study will complement what your N.K.s studied at home in their daily quiet times during the previous week. This Leader Guide is designed to provide you with Bible study aids and activities to help the students learn the biblical concepts you are teaching. You will most likely not have enough time to do everything presented here, so plan on using the materials that you believe will be most effective with your students. The following is a basic outline of each week's lesson:

Lesson Topic: In Second Grade: Fall Session, the children will learn about The Ten Commandments. A definition of each week's lesson topic will appear at the beginning of the lesson.

Learning Objective: The learning objective is the desired outcome of each week's small group Bible study time. This identifies the goal your group should try to achieve each week.

Memory Verse: The N.K.s are given a memory verse to learn each week with their devotionals. One of the most important parts of Disciple Group time is reciting the memory verse. Take time each week during the Bible Study Review to make sure they have memorized their verse. You should also review the past weeks' verses so the children can always keep them in their hearts and minds.

Spiritual Preparation: These prayer suggestions are provided for you to pray about as you prepare for your Disciple Group time. They will guide you in the direction of personal preparation and how to pray specifically for the children in your group.

 **Opening Prayer:** Begin your Disciple Group time with prayer. Pray on the armor of God first because you have an enemy that wants to frustrate and hinder your Bible study time together. God has provided the armor for your protection.

The Armor of God can be found in Ephesians 6:10-17. In order to teach your group the importance of the armor, each week have them all stand up before prayer time and visually put it on. For example: Belt of truth—Using their hands, have them pretend to put a belt around their waists. Breastplate of righteousness—They can act like they are sliding it over their heads and strapping it on. Sandals of peace—Have them sit down and “put on” their sandals. Complete the armor with the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit.

Starting with prayer will help you and your students get focused and prepared for Disciple Group time.

 **Biblical Explanation:** The biblical explanation gives you a brief interpretation of Scripture, a summary of the N.K.s' daily devotionals, and further insights for the Disciple Group time.

 **Bible Story:** The Bible story gives the children a biblical illustration of the concepts they are learning in each week's Bible study.

 **Bible Study Review:** This section provides the students with the opportunity to quote their memory verse for the week, recite previous weeks' verses, and review the past week's devotionals that they did at home. The review questions are designed to evaluate learner comprehension. After asking these questions, you may find that your group lacks understanding in a particular area. If so, discuss the materials they did not understand.

 **The Cross:** The Cross reminds the children each week of how we relate to God and to others in living a life of obedience to the Lord. This section will explain how each week's lesson applies to The Cross.

 **Object Lesson:** Some children are visual learners. The object lessons are provided to further enhance learning and help give children a better grasp of biblical principles.

 **Learning Activity:** These activities give the children a hands-on activity that will reinforce the message of each week's lesson. It will give them a practical way to apply the lesson to their lives and encourage them to “live it out” when they leave Disciple Group time. If the children do not understand how to apply the lesson to their daily lives, they will not have learned effectively.

P.R.A.Y.: The P.R.A.Y. acrostic is a reminder of how to pray daily and in small group time. You want to help children develop a daily prayer time beginning with praise and thanksgiving (P), followed by confession and repentance of sin (R). Teach your N.K.s to ask, or make their requests known to God (A). The most important part of the Christian life is SURRENDER, or yield (Y). This is key to their personal growth and gives them a daily reminder of who is in control. The prayer guides relate to each week's lesson and are provided as prayer starters. You, the leader, might say the prayer guide, then each N.K. can say a related prayer. You might want to sit in a circle and pray around the circle. Lead the group in praise and thanksgiving, then move into confession of sin. Next, have them tell God their needs. End prayer time with them yielding and surrendering their lives to God. It is important for you to allow the Holy Spirit to guide each child as they pray.

Make a copy of the P.R.A.Y. acrostic cards on page 10, cut them apart, and give each card to a child. When it is time to do each type of prayer, have the child with that card hold it so that everyone can see. This will help remind each child how you are praying at the time.

 **Leader Notes & N.K. Prayer Requests:** This section is provided as a place for you to write down any thoughts or ideas you may have as you study and prepare for Disciple Group time each week. You can also write down any prayer requests your N.K.s share with you when you make your weekly phone calls.

P.R.A.Y.

Acrostic Cards

Copy these cards onto cardstock and cut out to use during your Disciple Group prayer time.

Praise and Thanksgiving	Repent and Confess
Ask	Yield and Surrender

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Weekly Memory Verses

The following are the weekly memory verses that the N.K.s will be learning. It is important that you also learn the memory verses. As leaders, we want to be examples for our students, and we should be faithful in Scripture memory ourselves.

Week One—“You shall have no other gods before me.” (Exodus 20:3)

Week Two—“You shall not make for yourself an idol.” (Exodus 20:4a)

Week Three—“You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.” (Exodus 20:7a)

Week Four—“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.” (Exodus 20:8)

Week Five—“Honor your father and your mother.” (Exodus 20:12a)

Week Six—“Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.” (Colossians 3:20)

Week Seven—“You shall not murder.” (Exodus 20:13)

Week Eight—“You shall not commit adultery.” (Exodus 20:14)

Week Nine—“You shall not steal.” (Exodus 20:15)

Week Ten—“You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.” (Exodus 20:16)

Week Eleven—“The Lord...delights in men who are truthful.” (Proverbs 12:22b)

Week Twelve—“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.” (Exodus 20:17a)

Week Thirteen—“‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment.” (Matthew 22:37-38)

Week Fourteen—“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness.” (Matthew 6:33a)

Week Fifteen—“And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” (Matthew 22:39)

Week Sixteen—“A new command I give you: Love one another.” (John 13:34a)

Week Seventeen—“If you love me, you will obey what I command.” (John 14:15)

Week Eighteen—“Keep his commands and obey him; serve him and hold fast to him.” (Deuteronomy 13:4)



WEEK 1

No Other Gods

Lesson Topic—God

The one and only true God—God the Father

Learning Objective

The N.K.s will understand that God is to be first in their lives.

Memory Verse

“You shall have no other gods before me.” (Exodus 20:3)

Spiritual Preparation

Call the N.K.s in your group, and ask them if they have any specific prayer needs. Pray for each of them by name.

Pray for God to open the hearts of your students to know Him as their one and only true God.

Pray for the children to understand that they should live daily for Christ and make Him Number One in their lives.

Totally surrender yourself to Jesus Christ, and ask the Holy Spirit to fill and empower you for your Disciple Group time.

Opening Prayer

1. Begin your Disciple Group meeting with a time of prayer.
2. Have your N.K.s stand up and pray on the armor of God piece-by-piece. (They can turn to **page 8** in their devotional books to see the pieces of armor. Remind them of the importance of praying on the armor every day as they begin their daily quiet time.)
3. Ask the students in your group to share their prayer requests and praises, then have each child pray for the person on their right.
4. End the prayer time by asking the Lord to help the N.K.s listen and learn during Disciple Group today.

Biblical Explanation

The following explanations give deeper insight to the daily devotionals the N.K.s have completed this past week:

Day 1: God is Number One. “How long, O men, will you turn my glory into shame? How long will you love delusions and seek false gods?” (Psalm 4:2). In this Psalm, David wrote about his frustration with others around him who were looking to false gods as their hope. He knew there is really only one God, and we should put our trust solely in Him.

Day 2: Put God first. “Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods” (Psalm 40:4). We are blessed when we put our trust solely in the Lord. We are not to trust in other things to give us joy or blessed lives; the Lord is the One who gives us every good gift (James 1:7). We should acknowledge this and praise God continually for it. There are many things in our lives that distract us from making God Number One. We should recognize what those distractions are and determine how not to let them keep us from trusting in God and praising Him continually.

Day 3: Jesus is the only way. “Do not follow other gods, the gods of the peoples around you” (Deuteronomy 6:14). Also, “Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me’” (John 14:6). Often in the Old Testament, God’s people were warned not to follow other gods. Many of the people groups that lived near God’s people followed and trusted in other gods. People around us have different ideologies and other religions they follow that represent “other gods” to us. In fact, many people today say there are many ways to God and that a person can trust in just about anything as long as they “have faith” and do what is good. This belief is false. The Bible teaches clearly that there is only one way to God, and it is through trusting in Jesus Christ as one’s Savior and Lord. Trusting in any other way will lead to eternal separation from God.

Day 4: Do not have other gods. “Be careful, or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them” (Deuteronomy 11:16).

As humans we are susceptible to peer pressure. If a lot of people around us believe something and promote it, it can be difficult for us to consider it false. This is why it is important to stay in God’s Word regularly, to be able to know what is true and what is false. If we are not careful to remain in God’s Word and follow it as our foundation, we may be easily swayed into believing or following things that are false. God wants to be our one and only God.

Day 5: Love the Lord with all your heart. “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength” (Deuteronomy 6:5). God wants us to love Him with all of our being. He wants to be our greatest affection, and He wants us to love Him as wholeheartedly as possible during our entire lives. We should consider ways we can grow to love Him more and more with all that we are. This would include spending time with Him and obeying His Word every day to demonstrate our love for Him.

Day 6: Give your life fully to God and follow His ways. “But be very careful to keep the commandment and the law that Moses the servant of the Lord gave you: to love the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to obey his commands, to hold fast to him and to serve him with all your heart and all your soul” (Joshua 22:5). Romans 12:1 says, “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.” We must “be careful” not to give into our natural bent toward sin and end up not following our Lord. The world encourages us in many different ways to neglect loving and following God and to follow “whatever feels right” or “follow our heart.” Our hearts are sinful, so we must be intentional about keeping our hearts fixed on God, giving our entire self for His service. It is not natural to love God with all of our being and to offer ourselves as living sacrifices to Him, but this is what we are called to do. We must actively choose to go against what the world calls us to believe and do, and choose to follow God as our one and only Lord.

Bible Story

Tell the story of Josiah, focusing on how he took the law of God very seriously and followed God as Lord (2 Kings 22:1–23:30). Here are some key points to highlight in the telling of the story:

- Josiah was 8 years old when he became king.
- He did what was right, choosing to love and obey God.
- Josiah’s workers found the book of Deuteronomy from the Bible, which had been lost and not read for many years.
- When King Josiah heard the words of Deuteronomy, including The Ten Commandments and other things God wanted His people to do, He realized God’s people had not been following what God wanted them to do.
- Josiah was saddened and sorry for his sins and the sins of the people in his kingdom.
- He asked some of his most important leaders to pray to God for help, then he got information from the prophetess Huldah on what was to take place.
- So, Josiah called all the leaders and every person in his kingdom to come to the temple and listen to all the words of the book of Deuteronomy which they had found.



The Cross

Explain the importance of The Cross:

- The center of The Cross is “Jesus Is Lord.” He is to be your one and only God whom you love most and follow as your Number One.
- The base of The Cross is “Read the Bible.” You need to read God’s Word every day in order to know what He wants you to do and what is true. The world often says that wrong things are right, so you need the Bible to teach you what is right and wrong.
- The top of The Cross is “Talk With God.” God loves you and wants you to grow more and more in love with Him. One way you do this is by talking with Him a lot.
- The left side of The Cross is “Tell Others.” Part of following God as your Number One is telling others about Him and about how they can be part of His family by choosing to accept Jesus into their lives as their Savior and Lord.
- The right side of The Cross is “Gifts and Ministry.” God gives all of those in His family special gifts to serve Him. One way you can love and follow Him completely is to use the gifts and skills He has given you to serve Him.
- The circle around The Cross represents a “Life of Obedience.” When you do all the parts of The Cross, you are living a life of obedience to your Lord, God.

**Leader Notes
& N.K. Prayer
Requests**

- In front of all the people, King Josiah renewed the agreement between his people and God, pledging to follow the Lord “with all his heart and all his soul” (2 Kings 23:3).
- Immediately, he gave orders for people to remove from their land everything that had anything to do with a false god and to follow God as their one and only Lord.
- The Bible says this about King Josiah: “Neither before nor after Josiah was there a king like him who turned to the Lord as he did—with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength, in accordance with all the Law of Moses” (2 Kings 23:25).

Bible Study Review

1. Review and discuss the Lesson Topic definition of *God* (above).
2. Have the N.K.s in your group recite this past week’s memory verse. Ask them to explain what this verse means to them.
3. Ask the following review questions:
 - What does it mean to put God first in our lives?
 - In the Bible story, what made Josiah such a good king?
 - What made Josiah sad?
 - What did King Josiah do after he heard the words of the book of Deuteronomy?
 - If you skip church on Sunday morning to play soccer, are you putting God first?
 - If you allow TV or video games to become the most important thing you do each day, are you making God your highest priority?
 - What are some things you can do each day to put God first?

Object Lesson

When you go to Disciple Group, take large cut-outs of the number “1” and the letter “A.” Ask the following questions:

- When we count, what is the first number we begin with?
- What is the first letter of the alphabet?
- Who are we to always put first in our lives?
- What are some things you spend most of your time doing each week?
- How can you make God your Number One?

Learning Activity

In this activity, each child will make a wordless book. Before going to your Disciple Group meeting, collect and prepare the following items:

- Yellow construction paper (cut into 6 ½” x 3 ½” pieces; one piece per child)
- Black, red, white, and green construction paper (cut into 6” x 3” pieces; one piece of each color per child)
- Glue sticks
- A small print-out of what the colors mean (one for each child)

- Make a wordless book ahead of time to show the children

Give each child a piece of each color of paper. Have them fold each piece in half, forming a 3” x 3” piece (yellow will be 3 ¼” x 3 ¼”). Lay the folded pieces of paper left-to-right on the table in this order: yellow, black, red, white, green. Next, pick up the yellow piece and open it with the center crease running up and down. This will be your book cover. Take the black piece and glue the back side of the left half to the inside left half of the yellow piece of paper (line up the center creases). Then, glue the back side of the right half of the black piece to the back side of one-half of the red piece. Keep doing this until all the pieces are glued together. Finish by gluing the back of the right half of the green piece to the right half of the yellow piece (inside of back cover). You should have a book that has the yellow as the front and back cover. When you open to the first page, you should have the black page fully open, then the red page, the white page, and the green page.

Explanation of the colors:

- **The yellow front cover** represents Heaven, where God is on His throne. The glory of God shines brightly in Heaven. We want to be with God in Heaven one day, but our sin separates us from God.
- **The black page** represents our sin. The darkness of sin is very serious. God is holy, or perfect, and He cannot accept us in our sin. The punishment for sin is death. Thankfully, we do not have to pay the price for our sin.
- **The red page** represents what Jesus did for us. He died on the cross for our sins. He shed His blood in our place so that we can have forgiveness for our sins. In order to receive God’s forgiveness, we must accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.
- **The white page** represents forgiveness of sin. When we accept Jesus as Lord, our sins are forgiven. God washes, or cleanses, us from the filth of our sin. Once our sins are forgiven, we can grow in a personal relationship with God.
- **The green page** represents growth in Christ. When we pray, read the Bible, and go to church, we learn how He wants us to live. We grow to know Him better, to do what is pleasing to the Lord, and to tell others about Jesus.
- **The yellow back cover** reminds us that if we are saved, we will enjoy eternal life in Heaven with God.

Encourage the children to show their books to their family and friends and to tell them what the colors mean.

P.R.A.Y.

Close your Disciple Group meeting with a time of prayer.

Hand out the P.R.A.Y. acrostic cards to different children in your group. Ask each student to hold up their card when it is time to pray that type of prayer. Leader, start the prayer time with these prayer guides. Encourage each child to pray.

P—Praise and thanksgiving
Thank God for making you and for giving you the Bible, which helps you know how He wants you to live.

R—Repent and confess
Repent for not always putting God first in your life. Ask Him to forgive you.

A—Ask
Ask the Lord to help you not to let other things in life distract you from following Him fully.

Y—Yield and surrender
Yield your life to God today, and declare that He is your one and only God. Give Him your love, and serve Him with your whole life.

You, as the leader, should close the prayer time to bring focus and a good ending to your time of prayer.