

BFC PRETEEN

FAMILY MINISTRIES

Discipleship Plan

BE LONG
BE LIEVE
BE COME
BE SENT



Overview

BFC Family Ministries is an intentional partnership between the church and the home to make disciple-making disciples of Jesus. We believe that parents are the primary disciple-makers of their homes and that faith development is the joint responsibility of the family and church. Deuteronomy 6:7 states, "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise". It is our goal to provide resources, encouragement, and equipping for families as we partner with them to lead kids and youth into lifelong relationships with Jesus.

This Family Ministries Discipleship Plan (FMDP) provides students, parents, families, and volunteers the important content and curriculum information for all worship services, Bible studies, small groups, retreats, and other discipleship opportunities.

The curriculum for each area of family ministries is built around our four cornerstones of discipleship: **Belong**; **Believe**; **Become**; **Be Sent**. We hope to provide holistic discipleship opportunities focusing on nurturing relationships, fostering a strong foundation of faith, promoting a vibrant personal relationship with Jesus, and equipping this generation to impact their world for Christ. Each element is meant to enhance the discipleship already happening within your family.

Belong: BFC Family Ministries is a highly relational ministry structured to create an inclusive and welcoming community where children, preteens, and youth can experience a sense of belonging. Each area of ministry is led by caring adults committed to investing in and discipling this generation of young people. Our discipleship opportunities, including large group worship and teaching, small group Bible study, camps, retreats, and mission trips are all designed to create an understanding that we belong to God, we belong to each other in community, and we belong to God's mission in this world.

Believe: BFC Family Ministries is a ministry rooted in the truth of God's Word and the transformational power of the gospel. Each discipleship opportunity is structured to promote spiritual formation, encouraging kids and youth to come to know Jesus for the first time and encouraging

believers to grow in Christlikeness. In Sunday School, small groups, retreats, and other discipleship settings, we create a safe space for asking questions, exploring doubts, and seeking answers to strengthen personal faith. The components of "Believe" are developmentally appropriate to each age group within Family Ministries ranging from the core beliefs of "God loves me. Jesus is my friend. The Bible is true." in early childhood, to teaching our beliefs about the Articles of Faith and more complex truths as kids progress through elementary, preteen and youth.

Become: BFC Family Ministries encourages personal study of the Bible, prayer, and participation in worship services and other discipleship opportunities to foster spiritual growth and a personal relationship with Jesus. All of these practices shape who we become as disciples of Christ. As our kids progress through BFC Family Ministries, they will encounter opportunities that are designed to move them toward real-world application of faith-based, missional living. Charge Team in elementary school, Team ION in preteen, Leadership Team in youth, local service opportunities and mission trips are all experiential elements of discipleship that allow our students to practice living out their faith.

Be Sent: BFC Family Ministries believes that being a disciple means that we are sent into the world. At every stage, we will challenge our students to live out their faith in the world and actively engage in fulfilling the Great Commission. We will encourage and provide opportunities for students to serve in their local communities, participate in missions, and engage in acts of compassion. We are committed to, at each stage of development, preparing our children to Be Sent into the places and spaces God has called them to. We know God has a unique plan to use each of His disciples to further His Kingdom and we are called to equip them for discerning that call and serving faithfully as disciples of Christ.

The discipleship of our children is worthy of intentionality. The Bible calls parents to diligently teach and purposefully talk to their children about God's big truths (Deut. 6:4-9) and calls the church to equip parents for this ministry (Eph. 4:11-15). It is our privilege to provide a safe, Christ-centered, loving environment that addresses the physical, emotional, social, intellectual, and spiritual needs of our students and families. We hope to celebrate big milestones with your student and family and also to walk alongside you offering support and encouragement when you journey through hard seasons.

BFC Special Needs Ministries

BFC Buddies:

BFC Buddies, a ministry for special needs families at BFC, is designed to pair children who need extra support during discipleship opportunities with a buddy who provides one-on-one leadership and attention.

The BFC Buddies program helps every child and family feel cared for, regardless of how much additional support they need. If you have a child in any of our BFC Family Ministries areas that might benefit from a buddy, please contact Kandi Gustafson, our special needs coordinator.

Breakaway:

Breakaway is a ministry for individuals with special needs who are seventh grade through adult. Breakaway provides an outlet for individuals with special needs to have the freedom to be exactly who they are while interacting in a safe, fun and loving environment. It also provides a much needed respite for parents and families.

Breakaway meets on the second Saturday of each month from 5:30-8:30 pm in the Floyd Center. There is no cost to participate, but advance registration is required.

Little Breakaway:

Little Breakaway is a ministry for families of children with special needs from kindergarten through sixth grade. Little Breakaway provides a safe, fun, and loving environment where individuals with special needs experience the love of Jesus.

Little Breakaway meets on the second Saturday of each month from 5:30-7:30 pm in the Floyd Center. There is no cost to participate, but advance registration is required.

Family Worship Sundays

We are so grateful for our incredible Family Ministries Pastors who plan and lead our worship services each week. These worship services provide a nurturing and age-appropriate environment where kids and preteens can engage in meaningful discipleship experiences. By tailoring the content, language, and activities to their developmental stage, these services foster a sense of belonging within the faith community, develop their understanding and belief in God's word, shape who they are becoming as Christ followers and prepare them to be sent out as disciples of Jesus.

While we believe in and are committed to these age-appropriate worship experiences, we are also convinced of the value of Family Worship Sundays for our elementary and preteen students. Worshipping together as a family on Sunday mornings is an important practice that strengthens the bonds within the family unit and fosters faith development. It provides a unique opportunity for families to connect with one another and with God, creating a solid foundation for each family member's faith. Below are some scriptural references reinforcing the value of regular family worship opportunities.

1. Biblical Instruction and Teaching: In Ephesians 6:4, parents are exhorted to bring up their children in the training and instruction of the Lord. Worshipping together as a family allows parents to fulfill this responsibility by teaching their children about God's Word, His commandments, and His promises. By witnessing their parents' example and engaging in discussions about the sermon or scripture readings, children gain a deeper understanding of biblical truths and principles. This shared experience promotes a solid spiritual foundation and equips children to face the challenges of life with a biblical worldview.

2. Role Modeling: The sanctuary is an environment where children can observe and learn from the actions and behaviors of their parents and other adult members of the faith community. When children see their parents actively engaged in worship, it sets a positive example for them to follow. They learn about reverence, respect, and the value of

participating in communal worship from those they look up to, which significantly impacts their own faith development.

3. Unity and Fellowship: The Bible emphasizes the importance of unity and fellowship among believers. Hebrews 10:24-25 encourages us to “consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another.” When families worship together on Sunday mornings, they not only experience unity within their own family but also participate in the larger family of believers. Sharing in worship, singing praises, and praying together creates an atmosphere of fellowship that fosters love, support, and encouragement among family members and with the larger church community.

4. Passing on a Legacy of Faith: One of the essential responsibilities of parents is to pass on their faith to the next generation. Psalm 78:4 states, “We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.” Worshipping together as a family allows parents to model a life of faith, demonstrating the importance of prioritizing God in their lives. By involving children in worship, parents create an environment where the next generation can witness and participate in the rich heritage of their faith, fostering a deep sense of identity and commitment to God.

5. Family Bonding and Support: Worshipping together on Sunday mornings provides a dedicated time for families to bond, support, and strengthen their relationships. It offers an opportunity for family members to connect on a spiritual level, share their joys and struggles, and support one another through prayer and encouragement. Acts 2:42 describes the early believers as devoting themselves to fellowship, breaking bread, and prayers. Worshipping together as a family allows us to practice this model of fellowship and support within our own households.

We understand that attending worship services can sometimes be a challenge when you have young children who may be prone to disruption. However, we want to assure you that your presence, along with your children, is genuinely valued and cherished within our community. We recognize that children are naturally curious and full of energy, and we believe that their participation is an integral part of our faith community. We embrace the joyful sounds and occasional interruptions that come with the presence of children. We encourage you to feel at ease knowing that our community is committed to creating a welcoming environment where your family can worship together and grow in faith.

Family Ministries Communication Information

Misty Jagers, Exec Director of Family Ministries

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Kenna Thornton, Family Ministries Admin Assistant,

kthornton@bethany naz.org,

BFC Kids (Nursery/Early Childhood/Elementary):

- BFC Kids Instagram @bfckids
- BFC Early Childhood Facebook: BFC Early Childhood
- Remind (Send a text to 81010 and text this message @bfckids)
- Family Ministries Newsletter (email kthornton@bethany naz.org to subscribe)
- Elementary Info Station across from Elem Worship Room
- Kim Rogers, Nursery Director, krogers@bethany naz.org
- Allison White, Early Childhood Pastor, awhite@bethany naz.org
- Gabby Behrens, Elementary Pastor, gbehrens@bethany naz.org

BFC Preteen:

- BFC Preteen Instagram @bfckids
- Remind (Send a text to 81010 and text this message @preteen202)
- Family Ministries Newsletter (email kthornton@bethany naz.org to subscribe)
- Kori Hooper, Preteen Pastor, khooper@bethany naz.org; 405-206-4759

BFC Youth:

- BFC Youth Instagram @bfc.youth
- Remind (Send a text to 81010 and text this message @bfcyouthp1)
- Family Ministries Newsletter (email kthornton@bethany naz.org to subscribe)
- Ben Bumpus, Middle School Pastor, bbumpus@bethany naz.org
- Bryton Schmitt, Lead/High School Pastor, bschmitt@mail.snu.edu

BFC Preteens

Special Discipleship Opportunities for Fall 2023

Preteens Ministry Faith Development Core Focus—IDENTITY

Belong

You Belong to God Psalm 119.73, Psalm 100.4

Discovery—God created you in His image for relationship. You are made to worship and glorify God.

Practice—Spend time with God. In Preteens we will learn why we should spend time one on one with God and obtain tools in which to practice this. God is speaking to preteens and they want to discern His voice.

Next Steps—Salvation, Baptism

Weekly devotional Sunday and Wednesday Worship

You Belong to one another John 13.34-35, Hebrews 10.25

Discovery—We belong in relationship with other Christians.

Practice—Learn the importance of becoming a part of God's church family. Preteens are invited to connect to a small group, are learning to encourage one another inside and outside of the church and serve one another.

Next Steps—Serving Others

Sunday Worship/Small Groups, Wednesday Night, LEAD Team, Retreats, Camps

You Belong to God's Mission Matthew 5.16, 1 Peter 4.10

Discovery—We belong to God's Mission both in His the big God story and to share the Good News of Jesus to those around us and beyond.

Practice—Living generously, serving with abandon, and sharing of our time and resources. Serving the people in our community, school and on mission trips. Seeing missional opportunities in their context. Tell others about what God is doing in our lives and inviting.

Next Steps—Reproduce- lead others to come to know Jesus.

Service Projects, Mission Trips

Believe

Follow God with all your Heart Soul Mind and Strength Romans 10.9-10

Discovery—What do you believe? Do you choose to follow what you believe? How do we live out what we believe?

It is good to explore what you believe and preteens are encouraged to ask questions.

Practice—Make your faith your own. Understand what we believe and why. Not your parents relationship with God, yours.

Next Steps—Salvation, Baptism, Sharing our Faith
Worship Services, Small Groups, Retreats, Mission Trip

Become

God has called you to relationship and to live for His glory. Colossians 3.17

Discovery—Accept that God has a plan for you.

Explore what it means to become what God is calling to become today and in the future. Think about how to live out your faith in your family school church and community.

Practice—Engage in activities that grow your faith.

Next Steps—Prayer and Reading the Bible, Engage in small groups, Bible Studies, Worship Services

Worship Services, Small Groups, Retreats, Mission Trip

Be Sent

We are not to be undercover Christians. We are to share our faith with others and be salt and light. Mark 16.15-16, Matthew 28.18-20

Discovery—Think about how to live out your faith in your family, school, church and community.

Practice—Find a place to serve and make a difference. Be a light in this dark world.

Next Steps—Share your faith in your context. Explore your call.

Lead Team, Mission Trips, Serving in Your Community

Core Learning Objectives

- Building a concept of Identity in Christ.
- Have a basic understanding of articles of faith.
- Accept Jesus as Savior or growing in the knowledge of what this means.
- Beginning to accept responsibility of their one on one time with God.
- Beginning to see the connections of the "Big God Story".
- Understand how to read and find scripture in the Bible.
- Learn to serve one another and others.
- Learning to share their story or testimony with others.
- Growing in their relationships with one another. We are a family, the family of God.
- It is safe to ask questions.
- You are loved and belong at BFC.

Preteen Important Dates 2023/2024

August

- 9 Volunteer Advance for Adult/Teen Preteen Mentors
- 13 Promotion Sunday/ Family Back To School Night
- 23 Wednesday Night Returns

September

- 9 Lead Training
- 10 Team Ion Begins
- 20 Wednesday @The Bridge Theme Night

October

- 18 No Wednesday Night Service Fall Break
- 22 Baptism Class
- 25 Wednesday @The Bridge Theme Night

November

- 5 Baptism Sunday
- 12 Operation Christmas Child Boxes Due
- 10-12 Fall Retreat (Canyon Camp \$150)
- 22 No Wednesday Night Service

December

- 13 Wednesday @The Bridge Christmas Party
- 13 Last Wednesday Night Service of 2023

January

- 17 First Wednesday Back
- 8-12 Children's Pastors Conference
- 24 Wednesday @The Bridge Theme Night

Preteen Curriculum Plan Fall 2023

Sunday Morning		
	August 13	Amplify Introduction
	August 20	Holy Spirit
	August 27	Holy Spirit
	September 3	Holy Spirit
	September 10	Worship
	September 17	Worship
	September 24	Worship
	October 1	God's Word
	October 8	God's Word
	October 15	God's Word
	October 22	Obedience
	October 29	Obedience
	November 5	Obedience
	November 12	God's Mercy
	November 19	God's Mercy
	November 26	Advent/Hope

December 3	Advent/Peace
December 10	Advent/Joy
December 17	Advent/Love
December 24/31	No Small Groups

Wednesday Night	August 23	Priorities/ Laying the Foundation
	August 30	Priorities/ Trusting God
	September 6	Priorities/ Wearing Kindness
	September 13	Priorities/ You, Friends, God
	September 20	Rooted/ Firmly Planted
	September 27	Rooted/ Grow Deep
	October 4	Rooted/ Grow Up
	October 11	Rooted/ Live Strong
	October 18	No Services (Fall Break)
	October 25	Conquerors/ Victory
	November 1	Conquerors/ Grace Restores
	November 8	Conquerors/ Shield of Faith
	November 15	Conquerors/ More than
	November 22	No Services (Thanksgiving)
	November 29	A World in Need of Hope
	December 6	Hope Comes
	December 13	Hope for the Future
	December 20	No Services (Christmas)
	December 27	No Services (Christmas)

Preteen Curriculum Plan Fall 2023 - LEAD TEAM/TEAM ION

Sunday Night	September 9	All LEAD Team Training
	September 10	Introduction
	September 17	Hospitality
	September 24	Hospitality
	October 1	Hospitality
	October 8	Faithfulness
	October 15	Faithfulness
	October 22	No Training
	October 29	Faithfulness
	November 5	Holiness
	November 12	Holiness
	November 19	Holiness
	November 26	No Training
	December 3	Humility
	December 10	Humility
	December 17	Humility
	December 24	No Training
	December 31	No Training
	January 7	No Training