

# ADMINISTRATION GUIDE

## LEADER GUIDE

*The Quest for Kids: An Expedition Toward a Deeper Relationship with God* is a six-week Bible study designed to help a leader teach kids in grades 1-6 how to grow closer to God. The study can be used in church for any size group or in a family setting. This book provides detailed plans for each of the six meetings. Along with teaching plans, teaching supplies for each lesson are listed in the margin notes as well. During the six meetings, kids will learn that God wants to grow closer to them. They can learn how to grow closer to God through prayer, Bible study, journaling, praise, listening to God, and being honest with God. Kids will learn about men and women in the Bible who grew in their relationship with God: Adam and Eve, Abraham and Sarah, the disciples, Joseph, John and Peter, and King David.

## ACTIVITY BOOKS

Because of the nature of the study, groups will want to provide an activity book for each child. *The Quest for Kids Younger Kids Activity Book* (005804823) and *The Quest for Kids Older Kids Activity Book* (005804821) include 48 pages of activities devised to guide kids to learn about and know God more. Games, activities, puzzles, prayer guides, and journaling pages are provided for younger kids to support each of the 6 meetings of *The Quest for Kids*. These books are designed for kids to use during the meeting and at home. They can work through the books and have fun as they learn how to go deeper in their relationship to God. (A copy of all journal pages are found on the CD-ROM and from the product home on [lifeway.com](http://lifeway.com) for those who would like to send home copies of the journal pages each week instead of sending home the activity books on a weekly basis.)

## PRINTABLES

Included in this Leader Guide is a CD-ROM filled with 38 printables to aid in teaching. These printables are also available on the product page for this Bible study on [LifeWay.com](http://LifeWay.com).

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| 1. Administration Guide and Question Words | 20. Climb the Mountain                        |
| 2. Five Questions                          | 21. Difficult Situations                      |
| 3. God Is                                  | 22. Matthew 7:10 Poster                       |
| 4. My Prayer                               | 23. Joseph's Life Cards                       |
| 5. Inquiring Minds Assignments             | 24. Matthew 7:11 Poster                       |
| 6. Meeting 1 Review Questions              | 25. Breakfast with Jesus Story Strips         |
| 7. Matthew 7:7 Poster                      | 26. Serving Others Spinners                   |
| 8. Matthew 7:8 Poster                      | 27. Group Prayer                              |
| 9. Study the Bible Signs                   | 28. Meeting 5 Review Questions                |
| 10. Text Message Abbreviations             | 29. Flashlight and Mirrors Target             |
| 11. Dress the Hiker Questions              | 30. Psalm 119 References                      |
| 12. Dress the Hiker Chart                  | 31. Lamp and Light Reminders                  |
| 13. Dress the Hiker Items                  | 32. Names for Jesus                           |
| 14. Fill in the Blank Story                | 33. Memorizing Bible Verses                   |
| 15. Bible-Study Assignment Cards           | 34. Journal Pages                             |
| 16. Matthew 7:9 Poster                     | 35. Handling the Topic of Suffering with Kids |
| 17. Learning to Trust Bible Verses         | 36. Younger Kids Parent Guide                 |
| 18. Learning to Trust Cards                | 37. Older Kids Parent Guide                   |
| 19. CD Template                            | 38. Certificate of Completion                 |

### ITEM 1. ADMINISTRATION GUIDE AND QUESTION WORDS

Instructions: Cut apart the question words. Post each strip in a different corner or area of the room. Use this item as directed in Meeting 1.

## HOW DO I GET STARTED?

1. Pray. Ask God to guide your planning, preparation, teaching, and follow-up for the study. Thank God for the opportunity to teach boys and girls how to grow closer to Him throughout their lives. Pray that God will grant you great love for the children who will come to the study.
2. Choose, with your church staff, a meeting time and place. Consider meeting during a time when adults are already studying the adult Beth Moore study, *The Quest*. If you choose this plan, find out how long the adults will meet each week. If they meet for more than an hour, think about adding time for snacks as well as planning to use all of the suggested activities each week. However, kids can attend and learn from this study any time. Try to find a meeting area that is large enough for the number of kids you expect so they can play active games and have fun.
3. Gather resources. Order the resources mentioned above.
4. Recruit workers. Find at least one person to help you. Many churches require at least two adults in a room with kids. This is for both the kids' protection and yours. One worker for each 10 kids is a good goal. If you expect more than 15-18 kids, enlist enough workers to form two classes, possibly one for younger kids and one for older kids. Ask God to direct you to people who are experienced children's workers and faithful Christians. Explain to potential teachers what you expect from them, what their responsibilities would be for both planning and teaching, and the dates and times of the classes.
5. Determine your schedule. If possible, try to arrange 6 weeks in a row to maintain consistency in learning. If that is not possible, try to line up meeting weeks as close together as you can.
6. Plan ahead. Meet with other workers to decide who will do each part of the session. (See What Happens at Each Meeting? below.) Print out teaching aids from the CD-ROM. Cut apart items from the copies. Clip the pieces of each item together or place them in resealable bags. Gather supplies. A list of things needed for each activity is printed in the margin for each meeting.
7. Advertise. Consider the following suggestions:
  - Display promotional materials near the children's departments and near the departments of kids' parents. Since children cannot bring themselves to the meetings, be sure to place materials where parents will notice them. Be sure information about the time, date, place, and intent of the study are on the posters or other materials.
  - Vary the approaches. Use bulletin boards, handouts, announcements, newsletter articles, mailouts, phone calls, displays, posters, and anything else you think of!
  - Make it colorful. Color attracts attention to the message.
  - Start in plenty of time to build interest in the study for kids.

## WHAT HAPPENS AT EACH MEETING?

Each meeting is divided into the following parts:

**EMBARK (INTRODUCTION)** — As soon as they arrive, kids will play games or do quick activities to peak their interest in what they will learn during the session.

**EXPLORE (GROUP TIME)** — Kids will hear a Bible story, learn about a specific part of their quest to grow closer to God, discover how to put into practice the specific ways they learn, review the memory passage, pray, and apply Biblical truths to their lives.

**ENGAGE (APPLICATION)** — Kids will participate in activities that help them internalize the learning and express ways they can use what they learn. Two activities are suggested for each meeting. You may use these in different ways: Form small groups to work with different teachers at the same time or conduct both activities consecutively. This is also a perfect time to go through the Activity Books to dive deeper into the discussion.

**EXAMINE (CONCLUSION)** — During this time, kids will review both the Bible story and the application of what they studied during the session. They will have a prayer time and end the session with an active game related to what they have studied.

## SHARING THE GOSPEL

The ABCs of Becoming A Christian (CSB: 005125105) is sold in packs of 25 and provides helpful information about how to become a Christian. Also available in KJV (005125106).

The Gospel: God's Plan for Me (CSB: 005567177) is sold in packs of 10 and provides is a witnessing tool that emphasizes God's plan of salvation from Creation to Jesus and how we respond to the good news. Also available in ESV (005567178).

## SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH KIDS

Some kids who study *THE QUEST FOR KIDS* may not have made a personal decision to accept Jesus as Savior yet. This study could present you with just the right setting for sharing God's plan with kids.

Consider these thoughts as you get ready to share.

- The ultimate goal of teaching the Bible is for a person to accept Jesus as his Savior when the Holy Spirit leads him to realize that he has sinned against God and is spiritually lost. The Holy Spirit is the leader in the experience, but believers have the responsibility of following the Spirit's leading.
- Some kids have already become Christians. Others will come to that decision at different times. Kid's workers lay the foundation for making that decision while at the same time not rushing a child into a decision she is not ready to make.
- Becoming a Christian is an individual matter and discussions about conversion are more effective when conducted individually. The child will feel freer to share true thoughts and feelings.
- Remember that each person comes to this decision as the Holy Spirit leads. People respond at different ages and with different backgrounds. Strive to know the kids you teach as individuals.
- The questions a child asks can signal a teacher that the child is considering the decision to follow Jesus. When she asks her questions, answer simply and without pushing the child to do more than she is ready to do. More than anything, these questions indicate the child's awareness of his need for God.
- If a kid indicates a desire to become a Christian, ask her to tell you what she feels. Use questions that require thoughtful answers rather than just yes or no. Use language the child understands.
- You might want to use these questions: Why do you want to become a Christian? What do you think a person has to do to become a Christian?
- Use your Bible as you share the gospel. After reading a Bible verse, be ready to explain the verse in your own words. Help the child understand unfamiliar terms such as repent. Refer to The Gospel: God's Plan for Me to help you know Bible verses to share and kid-friendly ways to explain how to become a Christian.
- Help the child know how he can respond. Use directions such as: Tell God you know you have sinned and are sorry. Ask God to forgive you for your sin, for wanting your way instead of God's way. Ask Jesus to become your Savior (the One who keeps you from being separated from God) and Lord (the One in charge). Again, refer to The Gospel: God's Plan for Me for good ways to help kids know what they can do.
- One common misconception for kids is that being baptized makes them a Christian. Be sure they know the difference between becoming a Christian, being baptized, and joining the church.
- Include parents or caregivers when possible. Tell them what led you to discuss salvation with their child. Explain where you think the child is in his spiritual journey e.g. becoming aware of a need for God, is thoughtfully considering how to respond, made a decision to accept Christ, or wants to be baptized.)
- Don't forget that children are very literal. Avoid symbolism.
- Prepare yourself ahead of time so you are ready to answer kids' questions as they arise. Be ready with Bible verses ready to use.
- Pray, pray, pray. Ask God's leadership as you help boys and girls grow in their understanding of salvation.

Some of the kids you teach may have Christian parents while others may not. How can you reach out to them?

- Cultivate friendship. During the study, make home visits to families you don't already know. Let them know of your interest in their child.
- Pray for the parents.
- Invite the parents to special events at church.
- Share parents' names with leaders in adult Sunday School classes.
- Minister to parents as you discover needs. This could be anything from a hot meal after a hospital stay or helping locate child care for a working mom.
- Present the gospel as you see opportunity. Use the plan listed above for kids.
- Share your own testimony. A one or two minute presentation is good. Keep it simple.



# WHERE?

# WHO?

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WHAT?



WHY?



WHEN?

HOW?