



4 A 1-YEAR STRATEGY FOR YOUR DISCIPLESHIP

OVERVIEW

When planning your year, we always recommend you start with a **discipleship strategy**. That's because we believe **spiritual growth should be the lens through which we see everything else we do in our ministries**. We believe there are four spiritual habits that help kids (and adults, too) grow closer to God. These four habits aren't anything new. They've been talked about countless ways, by countless numbers of people. Your church is probably already talking about them in your own unique way, so feel free to change the language to fit your context if you need to. The words aren't important, but here's what is: if these four spiritual habits are the behaviors that help kids grow closer to God, **we need a strategy to help kids engage in these four spiritual habits on a regular basis, year after year**. Here they are . . .

SPEND TIME WITH GOD

In the spring, we go deep into the spiritual habit of spending time with God through personal spiritual disciplines, when Easter is on the way and the unpredictability of school and the holidays will have leveled off into some stability for your families and your ministry.

SHARE YOUR STORY

In the summer, we focus on helping kids develop the spiritual habit of sharing their stories while your church prepares for summer mission experiences and families prepare for a new school year.

SPEND TIME WITH OTHERS

In the fall, we focus on developing the spiritual habit of Christlike community when kids are beginning a new school year, making new friends, and getting plugged into new small groups.

USE YOUR GIFTS

In the winter, we focus on helping kids develop the spiritual habit of knowing and using their gifts to serve God and others, because during the holidays, there are lots of service opportunities available.

THIS YEAR IN GROW KIDS

Although we always focus on each spiritual habit at the same time every year, **how we focus on these spiritual habits changes every year.** This year, here's what you can expect with Grow Kids . . .

SPRING

In the spring, when we always focus on the spiritual habit of **spending time with God** during the spring quarter, this year we've provided a **Family Easter Devotional** to walk your families through lent and talk about the importance of regular time with God.



FALL

Because we always focus on the spiritual habit of **spending time with others** during the fall quarter, this year we're providing a really fun activity called **Friend Fest** to help kids build deeper and more strategic relationships with others.



SUMMER

Because we always focus on the spiritual habit of **sharing your story** during the summer quarter, this year we're providing an activity we're calling **The Glow Challenge** to help kids learn to share Jesus with others!



WINTER

Because we always focus on the spiritual habit of **using your gifts** during the winter quarter, this year we're providing a Christmas fundraising campaign called **Give to Grow** to inspire kids to be generous during the holidays.



WHAT'S INCLUDED

While every activity in our Discipleship Strategy is unique, **we always provide you with the same core tools and resources to make each one happen.** With each activity, we'll include . . .

GRAPHICS

- **Editable graphics** in PSD format for each discipleship activity.
- **Title images** in horizontal, vertical, and square formats, so you can use them easily on all print, online, and social media platforms.
- **Background images** in horizontal, vertical, and square formats, so you can use them easily on all print, online, and social media platforms.

PLANNING

- **Activity guides** for you, the ministry leader.
- **Editable handouts and instructions** for your volunteers in PSD, PDF, and DOC formats.
- **Editable handouts and instructions** for your families in PSD, PDF, and DOC formats.