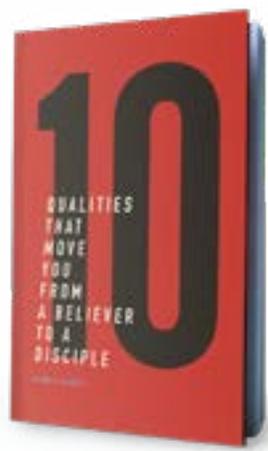




Is Your Family Ready for a Challenge?

As a staff and dedicated group of volunteers, it was our honor and privilege to be used by God in 2017 to minister the gospel of Jesus Christ to your children and family. The large majority of our volunteers and staff are just like you...dedicated parents. I think we can all agree, being a parent is the most rewarding and most challenging thing anyone can do. Doing it well requires help from many sources - friends, family, books, podcasts or conferences. However, there is no one more important than our ultimate source, Jesus.



Preparing to launch into 2018, our church is about to embark on a life changing journey. As Pastor Dennis has communicated many times over the last month, *“moving from a believer to a disciple”* will require us to look at how we live now and determine what we need to change in our lives that will reflect the characteristics that are in line with being a disciple of Jesus.

Here comes the hard part. As a parent, we are supposed to be modeling for our kids what we want them to live out as they continue to grow and develop - body, soul and spirit. If our goal is to pass our faith on to our children, then it is important we do it well. So what does that look like?

Walking in the shoes of a parent, we are to be representatives, yes, ambassadors of Jesus Christ. What that means for us is that we are to be reflections of the one who sent us. To be examples for our kids as to who the person of Jesus is to be in their lives. Someone filled with grace, walking in wisdom, temperate in demeanor, generous in giving, serving others without the expectation of something in return, having ears to hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to you about your children and living a life filled with purpose for God.



When our children experience and see their parents as ambassadors of Jesus, they will begin to identify with, and know a God who loves them unconditionally. It is no longer just words, it is a reality because we have made the move from believer to disciple. Over the course of the next 21 days of fasting, we pray that you will hear God's voice and a clear direction for you and your family as you take this challenge!

On January 28th, we will cap off our fast with an amazing time of worship and prayer at our THIRST Service. There is no record in the bible of parents and children worshiping separately. We do it during normal services due to capacity, but this service is different. Please don't miss this great opportunity for you to gather your age appropriate children and go after God together!



See you at the end of January! - VicKids Staff

10 QUALITIES THAT MOVE YOU FROM A BELIEVER TO A DISCIPLE.

NURSERY / PRESCHOOL

WEEK 1

MAKING JESUS #1 - MATTHEW 22:37-39

READ Matthew 22:37-39 This week in VicKids your child is learning about Jesus and His twelve disciples. Jesus said “You must love the Lord with all your heart. This is the greatest commandment, also love others as you love yourself. If you love each other, everyone will know you are my **close friends**”. Repeat the following Heart-print with your child - “We are moving from a believer to a disciple (a friend of Jesus).”

EXPLORE TOGETHER Take some time and talk to your child about what it means to Make Jesus #1.

1. Do you know what a **disciple** is? A disciple is a **close friend** of Jesus.
2. How many close friends did Jesus have? He had twelve!.
3. Who was Jesus’ special friend? John.

WEEK 2

LOVE OUT LOUD - LUKE 10:25-37

READ Luke 10:25-37 This week in VicKids your child is learning about the parable of “The Good Samaritan”. Jesus asked, “Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?” Repeat the following Heart-print with your child, - “We are moving from a believer to a disciple (a friend of Jesus).”

EXPLORE TOGETHER As a family, discuss what it means to be a good neighbor. Which of the three men do you think was a good neighbor to the hurting man who was left on the side of the road? Yes! The one who felt sad for him and helped. Jesus wants his friends to be kind and love people who are different from us or need our help because they are hurting.

Pray with your child, asking Jesus to help us be more like Him, to have love and compassion for all people.

WEEK 3

A SERVANTS HEART - JOHN 13:1-17

READ John 13:1-17 This week in VicKids your child is learning about having a servant’s heart like Jesus. To be a loving servant like Jesus we must have two important things - we need **GOD’S LOVE IN OUR HEARTS** and we need to have a **HUMBLE HEART TO HELP OTHERS**. Jesus said, “If you love each other, everyone will know you are my disciples.” Repeat the following Heart-print with your child, “We are moving from a believer to a disciple (a friend of Jesus).”

EXPLORE TOGETHER Turning off the TV and putting away your toys, picking up your clothes or cleaning your room are ways to serve and help at home. Moms and Dads love the help! Knowing that Jesus loves us so much, we want to have big love in our hearts for our parents, our teachers, and our friends as we serve them. Having big love in our hearts means we can serve others as we pray for those who may not be feeling well, or have a boo-boo. Sometimes people feel sad and their heart is hurting. We can pray and ask Jesus to comfort them. An extra hug is a great way to show love to others.

Pray with your child to have the love of God in your hearts and to help us show the love of Jesus by serving others.

WEEK 4

SHHH, IT’S THE HOLY SPIRIT! - PART 1 - ACTS 2:1-4

READ Acts 2:1-4 This week in VicKids your child is learning about who the Holy Spirit is. The Holy Spirit is with us all the time and He helps us become mighty disciples (friends) of Jesus. We have God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and God the Holy Spirit. Repeat the following Heart-print with your child, “We are moving from a believer to a disciple (a friend of Jesus).”

EXPLORE TOGETHER As a family, take some time and discuss how The Holy Spirit is a gift from God. He guides us to know what is good and right. The Holy Spirit comforts our hearts when we are sad. He also is the gentle voice of God to keep us from danger. The Holy Spirit is the voice of God, and He reveals the truth about Jesus to our hearts.

Pray to God that The Holy Spirit will fill your hearts with love, peace and joy - so that you and your family can tell everyone about Jesus!

10 QUALITIES THAT MOVE YOU FROM A BELIEVER TO A DISCIPLE.

ELEMENTARY

MAKE JESUS #1 - MATTHEW 28:18–20; MATTHEW 16:25

WEEK 1

READ Matthew 28:18–20; Matthew 16:25 Today your student learns what it means to make Jesus #1 in their life! They get to dig deeper into what it truly means to be faithful to Him. Jesus had 12 Disciples that followed Him, but they weren't all faithful to Him on the same level. Your student learns why it is important to give Jesus their whole heart and what it looks like to be fully faithful to Him!

EXPLORE TOGETHER Take some time and talk to your student about what it means to be faithful in their lives to Jesus. As a family, dig deeper into these questions.

1. Are there any things in their lives that they put before Jesus?
2. What do you think that it means to be fully faithful to Jesus?
3. What areas can you be more faithful to listening and following Jesus?

Pray that your student understands how much Jesus loves them. Pray that they would be faithful in their lives to Him and that they would put Him first in everything that they do!

LOVE OUT LOUD - LUKE 10:25-37

WEEK 2

READ Luke 10:25-37 Today your student learns about the importance of loving other people! It's important to show the love of Christ to people, but we are called to love everyone! Especially those who are different than we are. One of the commandments that we are given is to love our neighbor! Your student gets to dig deeper into the story about the Good Samaritan. They learn that even though there are people in the world that do not show the love of Jesus, we are still called to show love and kindness through our words and actions.

EXPLORE TOGETHER As a family, discuss what it means to show love to one another. Try to list as many ways as you can to show kindness and love to people. Challenge your student to step out each day and find a new way to show kindness to someone that they may or may not know. Encourage them to truly show the love of Jesus through their words and actions.

Pray that your student steps out in their faith and truly shows the world what the love of Jesus looks like!

A SERVANT'S HEART - LUKE 22:24-27

WEEK 3

READ Luke 22:24-27 Today your student learns about what it looks like to have a servant's heart. Jesus came to this world in such a humble way and He lived His life in a humble manner. He didn't come to the world to be served, but He actually came to serve! Your student gets to dig deeper into the idea of what it truly means to have a servant's heart. A humble heart is formed not by taking and always being concerned about what we gain, but by serving other people and giving back - without expecting to get something in return. Your student is challenged to not just serve God, but to also serve other people!

EXPLORE TOGETHER As a family, write down a list of people that you know that may need help in some way. Come up with ways that you can help each individual on your list. Try to find ways that you can help and serve the people and to truly be a blessing in their lives. Make sure that each member of the family gets an opportunity to serve!

Pray that your student submits their life to God and that they would also commit their lives to serving others. Pray that they would have humble hearts that are willing to serve others!

SHHH, IT'S THE HOLY SPIRIT - ACTS 2:1-4

WEEK 4

READ Acts 2:1-4; Ephesians 3:19 Today your student learns about the Holy Spirit! The Holy Spirit is the voice of God! They learn that it is important to listen to the Holy Spirit and to obey His voice. The Holy Spirit speaks to us, corrects us, teaches us and guides us in our lives so that we can have wisdom in making choices that are pleasing to God. Your student learns the importance of not just listening, but acting out of obedience in their own lives.

EXPLORE TOGETHER As a family, take some time to talk about what it means to listen and what it looks like to be obedient. Are there any areas in your student's life that they need to work on to be more open to hearing and obeying the Holy Spirit? Discuss with them about how they are doing in that area and what they are hearing from Him in their own lives. Use this opportunity to dig deeper with them and tell them about a time when God spoke to you and what you did that drew you closer to Him!

Pray that your student digs deeper into their relationship with God and that they open up their hearts and their minds so that they can be obedient to God and to the Holy Spirit's guidance.

CONNECTING AT HOME

victoryathome.com

What's Happening in VicKids?

Has God been speaking to you about becoming a volunteer this season? We have a great need in Children's Ministry for teachers and support teams!

Norcross

1/13 - VicKids Volunteer Orientation 5:45pm
Connector Lower Level

2/10 - VicKids Volunteer Orientation 5:45pm
Connector Lower Level

2/3 - Victory at Home
Parent/Child Dedication Workshop

2/17 - Victory at Home
Parent/Child Celebration Service

For more information or to register go online
<https://victoryatl.com/dedication/>

VHM

1/28 - Victory at Home
Parent Child Dedication Workshop 1pm
Classroom A

2/11 - In Service Parent Child Dedication

1/7, 1/21, 2/4, 2/18 VicKids Volunteer Orientations
9:15am VicKids Suite

21 Days of Prayer and Fasting

January 6th - 26th

Join us for Corporate Prayer

NOR - Saturdays @8am

VHM - Wednesdays @6:15pm

MDT - Sundays @ 8:30pm

THIRST WORSHIP SERVICE

Let's celebrate all that God revealed and accomplished in us as we close out our 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting.

Norcross Campus

6pm - doors open at 5:30pm

THIRST Childcare

Childcare available ages 0-5

*No cost, however, available only
by online registration.*

Please see website for more info!

PARENT PERSPECTIVE

You must be committed as a parent to long-view parenting because change is a process and not an event. - Paul David Tripp

Christmas Gift to the World - Thank You!

This year we raised over \$426,000!!

Follow us on:



VICKIDSATL

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" - **Matthew 22:37-39 NLT**

Additional Resources

victoryatl.com/athomenewsletter/