

WEEK 1
MARCH 8 + 9

BEYOND

OUR OFFERINGS

Genesis 4:1-12 (Cain and Abel)

Simple Truth:

God wants us to give our best!

Let's Talk

- How do you know when you're giving your best in something? What does it look like when you're not giving your best?
- In our story today, both Cain and Abel gave offerings to God. Open your Bibles and read Genesis 4:3-4. What offerings did they give to God? (Cain gave some of his fruit, Abel gave his very best sheep). What's the difference between the two?
- God gave us the very best example of generosity when he sent Jesus to be our rescue from sin! Jesus was perfect, and he came to die on the cross for our sins because it was the best way to love us. God's generous sacrifice of love for us is our example. Who are people you know that live generous lives?
- Giving your best isn't giving the bare minimum – it's a sacrifice. Someone else benefits from what you have to give. Why do you think God wants us to give our very best in everything?

Family Challenge

- **Notice & Name:** For our first family challenge, we're going beyond by noticing and naming when we see our family giving their very best! During the week, try to catch your family members giving their best attitude, work ethic, sharing, etc., and point it out.
- **Take Action:** Choose one specific way your family can give their very best to something this week, specifically to help someone else. How can you work together, giving of your own time and resources, to love someone else?

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WEEK 1
▶
BEYOND
OUR OFFERINGS

How is your family going beyond?
Share with us!



WEEK 2
MARCH 15 + 16

BEYOND

OUR RIGHTS

Genesis 13 (Abram & Lot)

Simple Truth:

God wants us to think of others!

Let's Talk

- What is something that if you have too much of, isn't good for you? Why do you think we like to have the biggest and best of everything?
- In our story today, Abram and Lot had to choose which land they'd take, and Abram let Lot choose first. Open your Bibles and read Genesis 13:10-11. Which land did Lot choose? (the better land)
- In the short term, Lot's land seemed much better, but it didn't end well! While the land Abram had didn't seem great at first, he experienced God's blessings in much bigger ways than the land. Read Genesis 13:14-17. What was God's big promise to Abram?
- When we give up what we think we deserve, it can feel like a loss. But only going after what's best for ourselves means missing out on so much that God has for us! How has your faith grown when you've been generous with others?

Family Challenge

- **Secret Service:** For our second family challenge, we're going beyond by playing secret service! Your mission this week is to serve your family and friends without them finding out. How can you go out of your way to help others feel loved without taking credit or getting something out of it?
- **Take Action:** Being generous in the way we think of others is a habit that takes practice to develop, and habits often start with small steps. What is one small step each person in your family could take this week to think of others? (Ex: skipping Starbucks and giving to someone's Short Term Trip, doing someone's chore for them, letting someone else go first in line or take the last of a treat, etc.)

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How is your family going beyond?
Share with us!



WEEK 3
MARCH 22 + 23

BEYOND

OUR BLESSINGS

Genesis 22:1-18 (Abraham & Isaac)

Simple Truth:

God wants us to trust him!

Let's Talk

- If you made a Top 5 list of the things that are most important to you, what would be on your list? Why are they important to you?
- In our story today, God asked Abraham to give something really special—his son, Isaac! Abraham trusted God and went to do what God had asked. Let's read from our story to see what happened. (read Genesis 22:12-14). What did God do? (he provided the lamb as a sacrifice instead of Isaac).
- Why do you think Abraham was able to trust God, even when he was asked to give up Isaac? (he loved God, he remembered God's faithfulness). Can you think of another important story from the Bible where a father was willing to give his son? That's right—Jesus! God was generous and sent Jesus to be the rescue for our sins so we could trust and follow him.
- Abraham trusted that God's plan was better than refusing to give and keeping Isaac for himself. How do you think his faith grew? How do you think Isaac's faith was impacted?

Family Challenge

- **Trust Walk:** Parents, before setting up this activity, choose a reward for the family, write it down, and put it in a box). Set up a path through your house and decide who will be the leader and who will follow. Anyone following closes their eyes and is led along the path to get to the box. Before opening the box, talk about how God provided a treasure (the ram in the thicket) in response to Abraham's faith. Open the box and enjoy the treasure!
- **Take Action:** It can be hard to think about letting go of the things that really matter to us! What is the thing you're afraid to hold with open hands? Pray and ask God to help you trust him with whatever it is, believing that he is the giver of good gifts!

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How is your family going beyond?
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WEEK 3



BEYOND
OUR BLESSINGS

WEEK 4
MARCH 29 + 30

BEYOND

OUR BARRIERS

Exodus 14 (The Red Sea)

Simple Truth:

God wants us to have bold faith!

Let's Talk

- What is something impossible that you wish you could do? (ex: fly, never need sleep, know everything, etc.)
- In our story today, God asked Moses to do something impossible—bring all of the Israelites across the raging Red Sea! This wasn't a little pond—it was a large, deep sea. Let's read Exodus 14:21-22. How were they able to get across?
- Let's also read Exodus 14:13-14. What did Moses tell the people? How do you think his bold faith in God helped the others take steps across the sea?
- It can be easy for us to come up with all kinds of reasons why we can't do something big or hard. We can choose to live out of fear instead of faith. God wants us to put bold faith in him, not ourselves, so that we can live lives that demonstrate his greatness. Where is God asking your family to show bold faith this week?

Family Challenge

- **Barrier Breakdown:** Create a “wall” out of paper that will stretch across an open doorway. On the paper, write down things that are keeping your family from giving in big ways (ex: lots of bills, less comfort, fear of the unknown, being “just” a kid, etc.). One at a time, family members take turns breaking through the paper wall, symbolizing overcoming their barriers with faith.
- **Take Action:** Remembering how God has provided in the past is a powerful part of taking bold steps of faith. How does your family reflect on God's faithfulness? Together, create a physical reminder (journal, poster, pictures) for your family to see and add to as God moves in your lives.

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WEEK 4



BEYOND
OUR BARRIERS

WEEK 5
APRIL 5 + 6

BEYOND

OUR EXPECTATIONS

John 6:1-13 (Feeding the 5,000)

Simple Truth:

God wants us to have willing hearts.

Let's Talk

- Sometimes we don't think our gifts—the time, talents, and treasures we have—are very good because they aren't big or fancy. Have you ever chosen not to do something because you didn't think it would make a difference?
- In our story today, God fed a lot of people, but he didn't do it by bringing in food trucks! Let's read from John 6:9-13. How did God feed the people? How much was left over?
- Do you think the boy had any clue when he gave his lunch to Jesus what would happen? He had a willing heart and gave what he had, and Jesus did big things with it. Is that the only way God could have fed that crowd? Probably not. But because the boy was willing, he got to be part of the incredible thing God did that day!
- Are you willing to be surprised by God? What small things could you be generous with and trust that God will use for his good? Consider going on a spare change hunt this week to bring for our coin collector!

Family Challenge

- **Willing Hearts:** Cut out a bunch of blank hearts and grab a cup or jar. As a family, brainstorm small acts of service that anyone in your family could do, and write them on the hearts. Throughout the week, encourage everyone to grab hearts and do what the heart says. Can your family empty the heart jar by the end of the week?
- **Take Action:** Did you know a lot of opportunities to serve at church are kid and family friendly? Take a look at our [Serve Finder page](#) to learn about serving opportunities for your whole family, and take next steps toward giving of your time, talents and resources.

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How is your family going beyond?
Share with us!



WEEK 5
▶
BEYOND
OUR EXPECTATIONS

WEEK 6
APRIL 12 + 13

BEYOND

OURSELVES

Luke 5:11 (Fish and Following Jesus)

Simple Truth:

God wants us to live generous lives.

Let's Talk

- Who are some people your family follows (think about athletes, musicians, politicians, influencers, etc). Why do you follow them?
- Open your Bibles and read Luke 7:5-7. Simon Peter experienced the generosity of Jesus in a big way when he listened to Jesus! What happened?
- What did Simon Peter, James, and John do in response to Jesus giving them the overflowing boat of fish?
- Jesus is the ultimate example of generosity. No one has given more than Jesus, and when we join him on mission, we're called to live a life of radical generosity. Have you made the decision to follow Jesus? What does it mean to follow him?

Family Challenge

- **Commitment Cards:** This week, talk as a family about what you're going to commit to as part of the Beyond Campaign. List out the time, talents and treasures your family has and ask God to help you choose how to share those with others.
- **Take Action:** Make a plan! Commitments work the best when there's a plan. Consider creating a visual reminder of what your family has committed to and put it somewhere everyone will see it. Put reminders in your calendar to have a family meeting and check in on your commitments over the next months/year.

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