

Leaders  
Teachers  
Parents

# Reach Your Potential

## WHAT EVERY CHILD DESERVES

*Just as human parents swell with pride in their child's achievements, our heavenly Father receives great glory, renown, and satisfaction when His children reach their peak potential in Christ.*

### The Situation

If we asked our heavenly Father, "What is most important to You," He might answer, "I have no greater joy than to hear that My children are walking in the truth" (3 John 4). The sanctification process is very dear to God's heart. Why? When believers walk uprightly, we fulfill God's highest purpose.

Ask any Christian parent, "Do you want your child to reach his or her peak potential?" The answer is always, "Yes, of course!" Follow up that first question with, "In addition to his or her salvation, is anything more important to you?" Parents usually respond, "No. Nothing else compares with the priority of my child becoming all that God wants him or her to be."

Then why are many Christians "mediocre?" Why do so few children possess wholehearted zeal for God? There are two main reasons. First, in an effort to be "cool" and to fit in, many kids become satisfied with lackluster spiritual growth. The world belittles righteousness, selflessness, and humility—the very virtues that God prizes!

Second, kids rarely rise above the level of adult expectations. They reach only as high as we hold the bar. We often place the "spiritual growth" bar far too low, causing them to believe that their faith is not all that important. Thus, we're cheating our children! By establishing higher standards, we can motivate children to keep growing as Jesus' lifelong disciples.

Every child deserves an opportunity to reach his or her peak potential; yet most kids attain only a fraction of their true capacity. Instead of seeking the summit of their abilities, they linger in the valley of complacency. Children need

our help to reach the spiritual heights that God intends! It is time to "raise the bar." Kids have untapped potential to learn practical skills for using God's Word, relating to people, and living out their faith.

### A Solution

For more than ten years, DiscipleLand has been working to actively address this concern. We want to maximize kids' god-given gifts, talents, and abilities. DiscipleLand is a comprehensive Children's Discipleship System™ designed to help parents and teachers partner to transform kids into dynamic disciples of Jesus Christ. In DiscipleLand, you will lead your children to know God intimately, love Him passionately, and serve Him selflessly.

DiscipleLand Core Bible challenges elementary-age children to become victorious disciples. 24 precept-upon-precept studies prepare kids for a lifetime of walking with God. Every quarter builds on the foundation of knowledge and skills learned previously.

Turn the page to overview all six levels of Core Bible curriculum. Every lesson is packed with rock-solid Bible content and engaging graphics. By the end of each year, your young disciples will accomplish every learning target listed!

In addition, throughout each year your disciples will develop in these ways:

**HeartBeat:** Complete life-application activities for each lesson.

**KeyVerse:** Learn 40 Bible verses.

**WorldWatch:** Embrace God's strategy to reach the whole world.

**HymnNotes:** Learn eight hymns that have inspired Christians for centuries.

DiscipleLand  
Children's Ministry  
Tools

by Mark Steiner,  
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# Core Bible

**Levels 1–2** establish a foundation for lifelong spiritual growth. Children experience Bible-times culture as they learn to appreciate God’s splendor and the Bible’s power.



## Discovering God’s Greatness

*The Lord’s Character and Qualities  
(ages 6-8)*

This year, your children will acknowledge God—as Lord of heaven and earth. They will learn who God is, what He is like, and what He does. God directed the culture, worship practices, and lifestyles of ancient families. Kids will experience God’s view of family, work, worship, and community. Join a Bible-times family and discover what God’s world was like 2,000 years ago!

### **Develop Biblical Knowledge—Know...**

- God designs families to bond together through daily activities (1A).
- Family members honor God by working hard to support each other (1B).
- God’s people worship Him through local churches around the world (1C).
- People in church communities work, play, and worship God together (1D).

### **Display Christlike Character—Feel...**

- Eager to cooperate with every member of their family (1A).
- Glad to help their families by doing daily chores (1B).
- Pleased to honor God as they worship Him (1C).
- Thankful to worship and grow together with their local church (1D).

### **Demonstrate Faithful Conduct—Do...**

- Participate in activities that strengthen their family life at home (1A).
- Develop work-related skills they can use throughout their lives (1B).
- Participate in personal and group worship times (1C).
- Construct a scale-model village that shows how Bible-times people lived (1D).

**Bible Reading:** In Level One, kids will read (with assistance) the entire Gospel of Mark.

**DiscipleSkill:** Students will develop these skills:

- *How to Show Respect (1A)*
- *How to Be Faithful Workers (1B)*
- *How to Worship God (1C)*
- *How to Memorize God’s Word (1D)*



## TREASURING THE BIBLE

*The Power and Purpose  
of God’s Word (ages 7-9)*

Your children will embrace the Bible—as God’s inspired and authoritative message for everyone. They will see how God has preserved His Word to transform people on every continent. Kids will cultivate a deep appreciation for the richness and power of Scripture; and the Bible will become their lifelong companion. Depend on the rock-solid Bible for God’s guidance!

### **Develop Biblical Knowledge—Know...**

- The Bible is different from every other book, because it came from God (2A).
- God gave the Bible to transform and equip people to serve Him (2B).
- The Bible explains how people can honor God and encourage others (2C).
- The Bible is like a wondrous map that guides people through life (2D).

### **Display Christlike Character—Feel...**

- Fascinated how God inspired the Bible and preserved it for centuries (2A).
- Compassion for people who do not have Bibles to tell them about God (2B).
- Thrilled to have a Bible that will show them how to live wisely and well (2C).
- Assured that God communicates to them when they read their Bibles (2D).

### **Demonstrate Faithful Conduct—Do...**

- Learn the dramatic recitation, “The Bible Came from God” (2A).
- Choose ways they can be God’s special messengers to reach others (2B).
- Believe God’s way is best, and decide to follow Him (2C).
- Determine to walk daily with Jesus in obedience and victory (2D).

**Bible Reading:** In Level Two, kids will read Psalms 1-41.

**DiscipleSkill:** Students will develop these skills:

- *How to Use My Bible (2A)*
- *How to Navigate the New Testament (2B)*
- *How to Love God (2C)*
- *How to Pray (2D)*

## Levels 3–4 focus on the New Testament.

Children examine the life and ministry of Jesus Christ and the birth and expansion of the early Church.

Level Three



**the SERVING KING**

*Jesus Christ's Life and Ministry (ages 8-10)*

This year, your children will affirm Jesus Christ—as personal Savior and Lord over all. Kids will explore every event in the Gospels: Jesus' messages, miracles, passion, and triumphant resurrection. This chronological study reveals who Jesus is, where He lived, what He did, and why. Travel in the Holy Land alongside the Man who changed the course of human history!

### **Develop Biblical Knowledge—Know...**

- Jesus is the most important Person ever! (3A).
- Jesus spoke with great authority—challenging all who heard Him (3B).
- Jesus displayed God's glory by performing many amazing miracles (3C).
- Jesus endured a torturous death so people could receive forgiveness (3D).

### **Display Christlike Character—Feel...**

- Intrigued to understand more about who Jesus is and how He lived (3A).
- Eager to listen to every word Jesus spoke (3B).
- Fascinated that Jesus overcame great obstacles and healed many people (3C).
- Overwhelmed that Jesus loves them so deeply He gave His life for them (3D).

### **Demonstrate Faithful Conduct—Do...**

- Decide to become Jesus' disciples—following wherever He leads (3A).
- Treat other people the way they themselves want to be treated (3B).
- Identify specific ways they can invest their lives as Jesus' disciples (3C).
- Proclaim the good news about Jesus that brings forgiveness and new life (3D).

**Bible Reading:** In Level Three, kids will read the **Gospels of Matthew, Luke, and John.**

**DiscipleSkill:** Students will develop these skills:

- *How to Be Jesus' Disciple (3A)*
- *How to Build Character (3B)*
- *How to Grow Spiritual Fruit (3C)*
- *How to Know the Truth (3D)*

Level Four



**TRANSFORMING the WORLD**

*The Church's Mission and Message (ages 9-11)*

Your children will encounter the Church—as God's instrument to influence the future. Kids will experience the Book of Acts and relive episodes of Christians who revolutionized the first century. The faith and dramatic deeds of these early believers turned the known world upside-down. Prepare to transform the twenty-first century with the Good News about Jesus!

### **Develop Biblical Knowledge—Know...**

- The early Church grew rapidly as eyewitnesses told about Jesus' resurrection (4A).
- The Holy Spirit empowered early Christians to boldly proclaim the Gospel (4B).
- Valiant voyagers traveled to new regions with Jesus' life-changing message (4C).
- Daniel's resolute faith made him God's ambassador to world leaders (4D).

### **Display Christlike Character—Feel...**

- Deep respect for early disciples who endured persecution (4A).
- Eager to experience the Holy Spirit's power as they witness about Jesus (4B).
- Encouraged by Paul's faithfulness in serving God to the end of his life (4C).
- Excited about opportunities to change the world (4D).

### **Demonstrate Faithful Conduct—Do...**

- Pray for believers who are being persecuted for their faith today (4A).
- Tell others about Jesus' death, resurrection, and the new life He offers (4B).
- Build friendships with people from other cultures and regions (4C).
- Ask God to use them to build His Church and to expand His kingdom (4D).

**Bible Reading:** In Level Four, kids will read the books of **Acts and Daniel.**

**DiscipleSkill:** Students will develop these skills:

- *How to Walk in the Spirit (4A)*
- *How to Explain My Faith (4B)*
- *How to Make Good Friends (4C)*
- *How to Be Global Christians (4D)*

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**DiscipleLand.com**  
**800.284.0158**

**Levels 5–6** highlight God's eternal purpose and the Christian's awesome responsibility. Pre-teens overview key Bible events and develop skills to flourish as devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.



## FOLLOWING the FAITHFUL

*Panorama of God's Kingdom (ages 10-13)*

This year, your children will salute God's Kingdom—as His magnificent plan for all eternity. Kids will view God's plan for the ages and be challenged to walk in the footsteps of Bible champions. Students will realize that they, too, can significantly impact God's eternal empire. Enter the "Hall of Faith" to meet godly men and women who illumined dark corners of history!

### **Develop Biblical Knowledge—Know...**

- God reigns over a universal kingdom that extends throughout eternity (5A).
- During each era of history, God raises up people to accomplish His purposes (5B).
- Dedicated Christians have eagerly followed Christ through twenty centuries (5C).
- God advances His kingdom today through people who resolve to honor Him (5D).

### **Display Christlike Character—Feel...**

- Determined to seek God's kingdom above everything (5A).
- Excited about following in the footsteps of faithful people who love God (5B).
- Amazed at the variety of people God has used throughout Christian history (5C).
- Eager to respond to God's call and to serve Him in any way (5D).

### **Demonstrate Faithful Conduct—Do...**

- Ask God to use them to accomplish His purposes for His kingdom (5A).
- Seek to love God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength (5B).
- Decide to follow the Lord, wherever His plan may lead (5C).
- Represent Jesus Christ each day, reflecting His attitudes and behavior (5D).

**Bible Reading:** In Level Five, kids will read **Psalms 42-78, the Gospel of John, and 1-2 Timothy.**

**DiscipleSkill:** Students will develop these skills:

- *How to Navigate the Old Testament (5A)*
- *How to Discover Gifts and Talents (5B)*
- *How to Follow God's Plan (5C)*
- *How to Earn Eternal Rewards (5D)*



## WALKING with GOD

*The Christian's Highest Privilege (ages 12-14)*

Your children will celebrate discipleship—as God's blueprint for victorious living. For centuries, godly men and women have practiced the disciplines of personal devotions, inductive Bible study, and Christ-centered living. Your kids will develop these important skills. Take up Jesus' challenge to count the costs and experience the joys of being His disciples!

### **Develop Biblical Knowledge—Know...**

- Inductive Bible study illumines the meaning of any Bible passage (6A).
- Daily "quiet times" energize their personal relationship with God (6B).
- Nehemiah and Esther overcame huge obstacles to revolutionize their worlds (6C).
- David's steadfast character made him "a man after God's own heart" (6D).

### **Display Christlike Character—Feel...**

- Confident about their ability to interpret the Bible (6A).
- Eager to establish a life-long pattern of spending time alone with God (6B).
- Inspired to face their fears and to rise above their challenges (6C).
- Amazed that David trusted God through nearly impossible circumstances (6D).

### **Demonstrate Faithful Conduct—Do...**

- Apply "timeless principles" from the book of Jonah to their lives today (6A).
- Record "quiet time" insights in their personal journals (6B).
- Takes steps to stand firm for the Lord—regardless of the opposition (6C).
- Make wise choices based on principles from David's life (6D).

**Bible Reading:** In Level Six, kids will read **Jonah, Ephesians, Philipians, Nehemiah, Esther, and 1 Samuel 16—2 Samuel 24**

**DiscipleSkill:** Students will develop these skills:

- *How to Study the Bible (6A)*
- *How to Meet with God (6B)*
- *How to Make Good Choices (6C)*
- *How to Walk Victoriously (6D)*

**DiscipleLand**  
Disciples for Life™

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**DiscipleLand**—Children's ministry curriculum, ideas, and discipleship resources for life.

This free Children's Ministry tool is provided for parents, teachers, and others who want to help make disciples for life!

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