



# KNOW GOD:

A 28-DAY DEVOTIONAL EXPERIENCE FOR KIDS

**THIS WEEK'S FOCUS:**  
**"HEAR" (Pages 18-41)**

**Summary:** Looking at the four spiritual disciplines that will guide us in the next four weeks (Hear, Pray, Talk, Live) and beginning to unpack the practice of "Hear."

## WELCOME ACTIVITY: REVIEW CRAFT

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Books (one for each kid), Prepared strings and ropes, Keyrings, Video instructions/printout

### WHAT YOU DO:

- As kids enter the room, provide them with an instruction sheet, their choice of two colored shoelaces, a clipboard, and a keyring.
- Have them line up the ends of the two laces and slip the keyring onto the two strands.
- Let the keyring dangle down till it settles in the middle of the two laces.
- Tie an overhand knot in the laces to secure them around the keyring.
- Clip the knotted keyring to a clipboard.
- Follow the instruction sheet to alternate tying knots in the left laces and then the right laces.
- Continuing tying knots back and forth as a braided pattern begins to form in the middle.
- When finished, tie the loose ends of the laces together in a final overhand knot and voila—it's finished!
- Explain that the this braided keychain serves as a reminder to love God and love others.

**WHAT YOU SAY:** "Last week we looked at the introduction to this book and had a foundation principle about how to know God: loving God and loving others. These two big ideas are the two most important commandments Jesus identified when challenged by the Pharisees to name what was the most important rule out of over 600 laws. Jesus didn't just point out ONE rule—he pointed out TWO rules. And really, those two things—loving God and loving others—intertwine with each other. Since God loves every single one of us, it would NOT be loving to God if we were to be mean to someone else...since God loves that person. It makes God sad when people treat each other with hatred or contempt, or when they're mean to others. So, in a nutshell, we can love God by loving others. Attach these braided keychains to your coat zipper or backpack zipper, or some other place, where you'll frequently be reminded of the intertwining concept of loving God and loving others at the same time."

## PRAYER: REQUESTS AND SHARING

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Whiteboard, dry erase marker, eraser

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Take time to gather and take up prayer requests and things that thank God for.



- Encourage kids to take it seriously, although what seem like a silly request *could* actually be more important to a child than you might think. Use your best judgment.
- Allow a kid to write requests on the board if someone shows interest.
- Allow a kid to pray for the requests if they show interest.

**WHAT YOU SAY:** “One of the great things about knowing God is that we can interact with Him through prayer. He invites us to talk to Him and share our worries and our excitements with him. Prayer is an important part of building a relationship with God.”

## **INTRO: HEAR, PRAY, TALK, LIVE**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** *Books (one for each kid)*

### **WHAT YOU DO:**

- Invite kids to turn to pages 18-19 (they’re not numbered, but it’s two orange pages with big circles reading *HEAR, PRAY, TALK, LIVE* across the spread)
- Read the overhead introduction in all caps on page 18 and 19, then call on 4 kids to each take a turn reading aloud the paragraphs below each of the four spiritual practices (Hear, Pray, Talk, and Live)

**WHAT YOU SAY:** “These four practices—hear, pray, talk, and live—are going to guide us in how we know God. If we take time over the next few weeks to really dig in to these ideas, we will learn more about God and know Him more personally. Let’s do an activity that will reinforce these four key ideas.”

## **RESPONSE: KNOW GOD SUDOKU**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** *Sudoku activity page, pens/markers, Kids Cash, answer key*

### **WHAT YOU DO:**

- Give kids a 4x4 sudoku page and challenge them to fill the grid with the four words (hear, pray, talk, live) using the basic rules of Sudoku.
- They may do this activity with a partner.
- Kids may be given 500 Kids Cash dollars upon completion of the puzzle and it is correct.

**WHAT YOU SAY:** “Once again, we will explore the ideas of hear, pray, talk, and live over the next few weeks. This week’s focus is *HEAR*. Let’s find out what this means to us and journey to know God.”

## **HEAR: HEAR OVERVIEW + WHO SAID IT?**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** *Books (one for each kid), Verse cards*

### **WHAT YOU DO:**

- Have kids turn to pages 22-23 in their books (they’re not numbered, but it’s two green pages with “HEAR” written in the top left in bold, white caps).
- Read aloud while kids follow along in their book.
- After reading, explain that you will play a game to try and correctly hear someone’s voice.
- Everyone must gather on the rug and spread out a little bit (so they have room to move freely if called upon)
- Explain that everyone will close their hands and put their heads down so there’s no peeking.
- You will discretely choose one person to move to the head of the space and read a verse card.

- Everyone will else should listen intently and try to guess whose voice they heard.
- Continue playing until everyone has had a turn.

**WHAT YOU SAY:** “You did a great job of listening carefully and figuring who was speaking. But what else did you hear? You heard God’s words from the Bible. They were of things Jesus said or did. Those things gotten recorded and written down by people long ago. And we can read about those things today. In a roundabout way, it’s kinda like hearing God. God inspired different people as they wrote about what was happening and what God was revealing. Those written words have stood the test of time and lasted for thousands of year and WILL continue to last. So reading God’s Word—the Bible? That’s how we HEAR from God.”

## **HEAR: WEEK 1, DAY 1 PRACTICE**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** *Books (one for each kid)*

### **WHAT YOU DO:**

- Gather together and have kids turn to pages 24-25 in the book for the Day 1 entry of “HEAR.”
- Invite someone, or a couple kids, to read aloud the paragraphs on these pages.
- Stop intermittently to give kids a few minutes to respond to the prompts in the green text.
- Ask if anyone wants to share what they wrote.

**WHAT YOU SAY:** “This is kind of like practice for how this book works since we haven’t really read any of the days yet. But you all did great! Challenge yourself to take 10-15 minutes each day this week to read through and respond to questions in Days 2-7. Don’t forget to share about what you’ve learned with the special person who received your tear-out page.”

## **RESPONSE: WORSHIP “BEAUTIFUL”**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** *Roku and USB*

### **WHAT YOU DO:**

- Invite kids to stand up and sing, dance, or reflect on the song “Beautiful” by Orange Kids Music.

**WHAT YOU SAY:** “God created an amazing world, didn’t he? Romans 1:19-20 talks about the wonder of God’s creation and how it reflects his glory. The Message translation puts it this way, ‘But the basic reality of God is plain enough. Open your eyes and there it is! By taking a long and thoughtful look at what God has created, people have always been able to see what their eyes as such can’t see: eternal power, for instance, and the mystery of his divine being.’ We can hear creation speak wonder and awe about who God is when we pause and take it in.”

## **LOOKING AHEAD: DAYS 2-7**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** *Books (one for each kid)*

### **WHAT YOU DO:**

- End the group time by allowing kids to flip through Days 2-7 and reflect on what those entries are about.
- Encourage them to take time each day to read through and respond to the daily devotions.
- Kids will get 500 Kids Cash dollars for EACH day they complete in their book with reading and responding.