



FOLLOW
THE
CLOUD

FOR KIDS





Copyright © 2022
 Valley Creek Press

Scriptures taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. www.zondervan.com The "NIV" and "New International Version" are trademarks registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc.™



FOLLOW
THE
CLOUD

FOR KIDS



HEY PARENTS!

We're so excited for your kid(s) to begin their journey of learning to follow the Cloud. On this journey, they'll discover more about who they are, who God is, and what they were created to do.

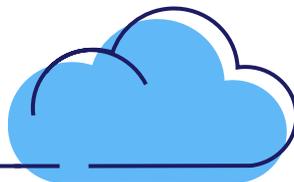
They'll discover foundational truths like: God is good, Jesus has forgiven them, they are loved, and everything is possible.

Following the Cloud is all about hearing God's voice and taking next steps on our journey with Jesus. And, none of us were meant to follow the Cloud alone.

Our encouragement for you is to go on this journey with them! Choose a time that you can read each chapter with your kid(s) and complete the discussion questions and activities together.

The fullness of the kingdom belongs to those with child-like faith, and we believe God is moving in your child's life right now.

We can't wait to see all they discover and experience as you follow the Cloud together.



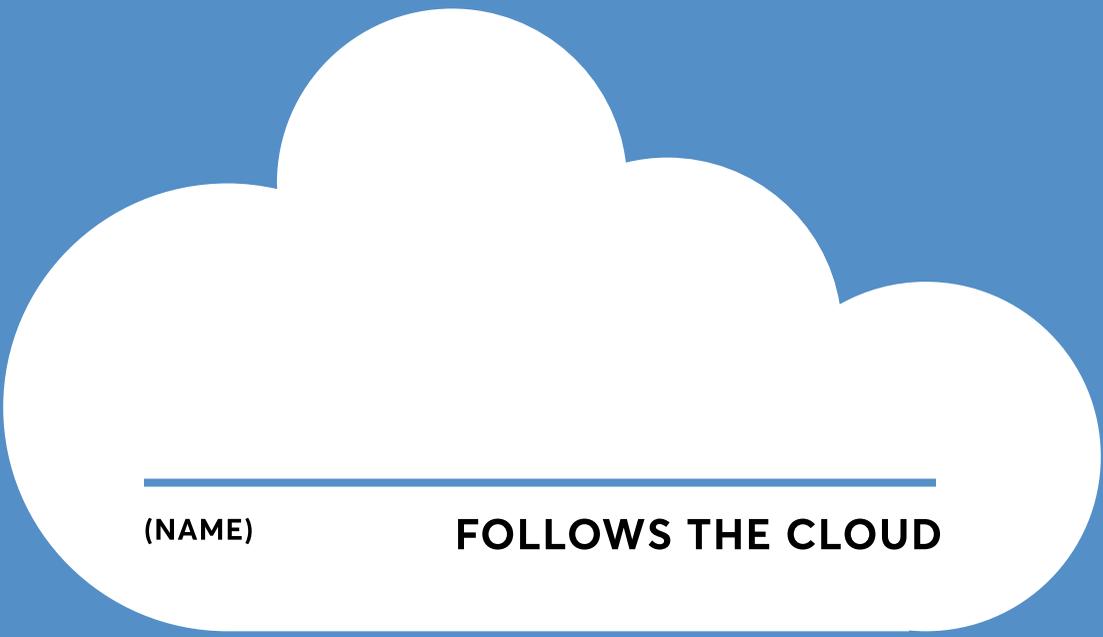
BONUS+

I BELIEVE

What if your kids believed that because God is good, He sent Jesus to fully forgive them? What if they believed that because they are forgiven, they can rest in the fullness of His love? What if they believed that because they are loved, everything is now possible? Imagine how different their lives would be if they grew up believing and trusting in these foundational truths!

Scan this QR code for a unique music experience that you can play in the car on the way to school or right before bedtime to remind your kids of who they are and the life they have in Jesus.





(NAME)

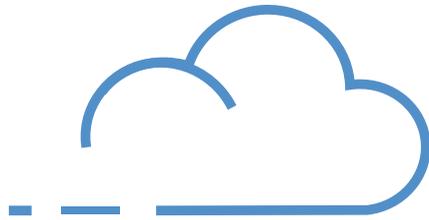
FOLLOWS THE CLOUD



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- **Let's Go!**
- **The Journey**
- **Next Steps**
- **Hearing God's Voice**
- **God is Good**
- **Jesus has Forgiven Me**
- **I am Loved**
- **Everything is Possible**
- **I'm Ready to Follow the Cloud**

LET'S GO!



Did you know that God is inviting you on a journey?

And not just any journey – He’s inviting you on a journey that’s bigger and more incredible than you could ever imagine!

It’s a journey to go places, do things, and discover truths you’ve never experienced before – a journey where God will help you discover who you are, who He is, and what you were created to do.

We believe God is inviting you on a journey to follow the Cloud – to courageously take next steps when you see Him move. We also believe this book is a great tool to not only prepare you for the journey but to help you have fun and experience all God has for you along the way.

Below are some helpful tips for how to use this book:

- Each chapter builds on the previous one to tell the story of following the Cloud, so we recommend you read the chapters in order.
- Make sure you grab something to write with – there are lots of fun activities to do along the way!
- You can go at whatever pace you'd like, but to get the most from the experience, we recommend you read the full chapter and complete all the activities.
- If you get stuck on a word or an idea, that's okay – just ask an adult to help!

Be on the lookout for the following symbols. When you see them, you'll know it's time to dig deeper into what you just learned:



DISCOVER - We're on a journey of discovery! When you see this symbol, use the key to decode a hidden message that will help you discover a truth God wants you to remember.



DISCUSS - We're never on the journey alone! When you see this symbol, it means there's a question you can discuss with your family.

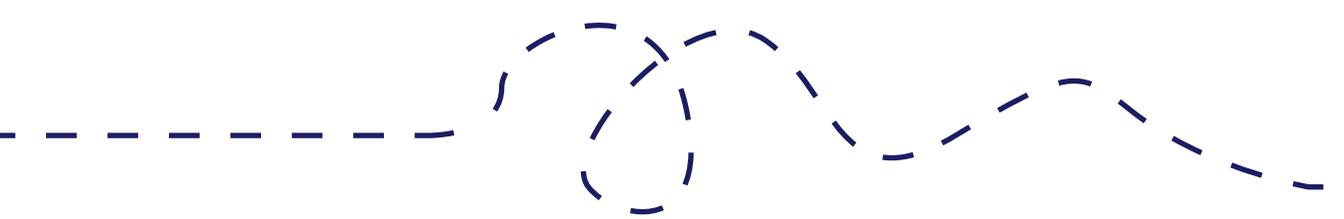


APPLY - We all have a next step to take. When you see this symbol, get ready to put your discoveries into action!



CHAPTER 1

THE JOURNEY



A long time ago there was an ancient group of people known as the Israelites. For 400 years, they had been living as slaves in Egypt. God saw that life was hard for them. The Bible tells us that God heard their cries for help and, out of His love for them, He decided to rescue them! He wanted to give them a new and better life.

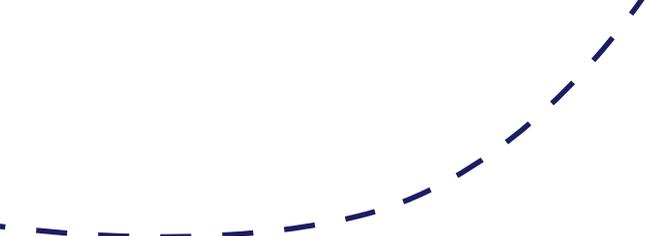
So, how did God rescue them? He raised up a man named Moses to deliver them and set them free through some of the most amazing miracles the world has ever seen!

But what do you do after living as slaves for hundreds of years? Where do you go? How do you live without someone telling you what to do every day?

The people of Israel were faced with a choice. They could either go back to a life of being slaves or they could choose to follow God. A God they were still getting to know. A God who was inviting them to go to a place they had never been before – a place called the **Promised Land**.

PROMISED LAND • *noun*

LEARNING TO LIVE IN THE TRUTH THAT GOD IS GOOD, JESUS HAS FORGIVEN YOU, YOU ARE LOVED, AND EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE



God knew they would need His help, so what did He do? Well, He did something totally unexpected! He gave them a cloud to follow. Can you imagine that? How cool would it be to have a cloud in the sky always telling you which way to go?

It would be like having a giant billboard with flashing lights that reads, "I'M GOING THIS WAY! FOLLOW ME!" This wasn't just any cloud – this Cloud was God's presence with them. God wasn't just in the Cloud; He *was* the Cloud!

The Israelites didn't always understand where the Cloud was going, but even when they didn't understand, they knew all they had to do was follow. When the Cloud moved, they moved. When the Cloud stopped, they stopped. It was God's love on display. It was leading them to do things and discover truths they had never experienced before. We believe this is the same journey God is inviting you to today.

Learning to follow the Cloud is a picture of what our journey with Jesus is all about. Only today, the Cloud isn't in the sky above us, it's within us, and His name is the Holy Spirit. Today, our Promised Land isn't a destination or a place to go, it's a journey of discovering that God is good, Jesus has forgiven you, you are loved, and everything is possible.

Will the journey be easy? Not always, but God promises to be with you. What will the journey be like? Better than you can ever imagine!

BY DAY THE LORD WENT AHEAD OF THEM IN A PILLAR OF CLOUD TO GUIDE THEM ON THEIR WAY AND BY NIGHT IN A PILLAR OF FIRE TO GIVE THEM LIGHT, SO THAT THEY COULD TRAVEL BY DAY OR NIGHT. NEITHER THE PILLAR OF CLOUD BY DAY NOR THE PILLAR OF FIRE BY NIGHT LEFT ITS PLACE IN FRONT OF THE PEOPLE.

EXODUS 13:21-22



DISCOVER

USE THE CODE BELOW TO DISCOVER THE HIDDEN MESSAGE

DECODER KEY

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
□	◇	△	▱	⬡	▷	▽	⊗	◀	◁	▸	▶	▹	◁	▱	▽	▱	○
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z										
◁	◀	⊗	Ⓜ	▱	◁	◁	◁	◁	◁	◁	◁	◁	◁	◁	◁	◁	◁

▽ ◁ ▱ ◁ ◁ ◁ ◁ Ⓜ ◁ ◁ ◁ ◁ ◁ ◁ ◁ ◁

▷ ◁ ▷ ▷ ◁ ▱ ◁ ◁ ◁ ◁ ▷ ◁ ◁ ◁



DISCUSS

How would you have reacted to God appearing as a giant Cloud to lead you like He did the Israelites?



APPLY

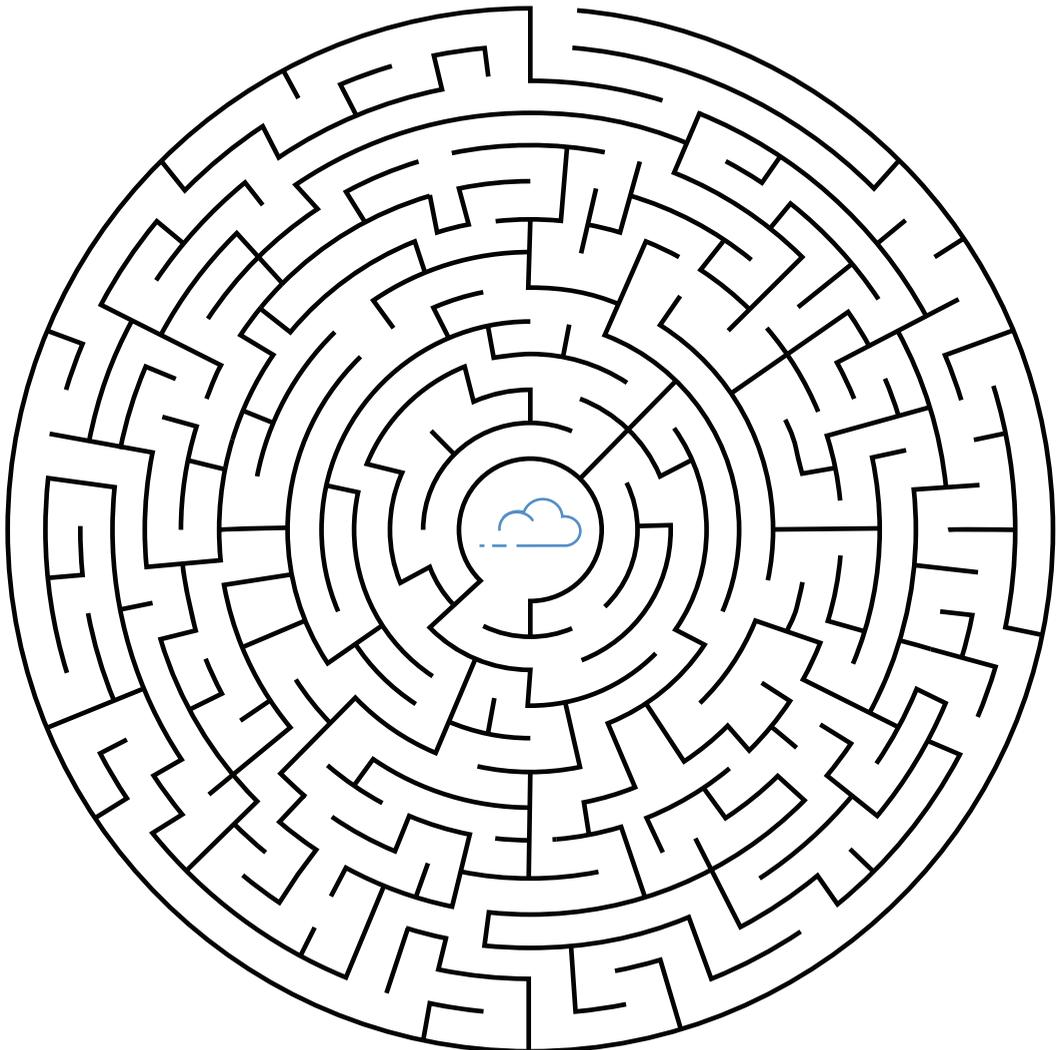
As a family, play follow the leader. As a twist, blindfold the person that's being led! Have the leader find a surprise or something fun to put at the end of the challenge. Their goal is to give the blindfolded person step-by-step instructions to lead them on a journey to their surprise, without bumping into or tripping over obstacles along the way.

You may not always understand the directions they're giving you, but that's okay! In the same way the Israelites learned to follow the Cloud, all you have to do is follow their lead. When they say move, you move. When they say stop, you stop. Will the journey be easy? Not always, but the leader will be with you, guiding you every step of the way. What will the journey be like? More fun than you can imagine!

Help the Israelites follow the Cloud to the center of the maze.



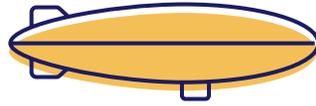
START





CHAPTER 2

NEXT STEPS



Can you imagine what it would've looked like for the people of Israel to follow the Cloud? Think about it – how did God manage to lead a group of people through a desert to the Promised Land they had never seen before? The answer: little by little. From within the Cloud, God spoke to them with the gentleness of a whisper: “Follow me – one next step at a time.”

God's goal wasn't just to get the people of Israel to a new location; it was to help them learn to live free as beloved sons and daughters. The same is true for us today. With every next step we take, God leads us to discover more of who we are, who He is, and what we were created to do. Our “Promised Land” isn't a place to get to, it's learning to live in the truth that God is good, Jesus has forgiven me, I am loved, and everything is possible.

We learn from the story of the Israelites that God leads us in small steps, not giant leaps. Every step we take gives us the confidence to take the next. Just think of the Israelites. They didn't leap from Egypt to the Promised Land. They took thousands of small steps along the way. They followed the Cloud one **next step** at a time.

NEXT STEP • noun

ANYTHING THAT MOVES US FORWARD ON OUR JOURNEY
WITH JESUS

Learning to follow the Cloud is a whole lot like playing connect the dots. Do you know the game? You start with a piece of paper full of dots in random places with numbers attached to each of them, then you just start connecting the dots in order. Beginning with 1, you draw a line to 2, then 3, then 4, and so on. Eventually, an amazing picture that was there all along is revealed!

This is how God invites us to live our lives – unsure of the final picture but with the confidence to connect each dot, or to take each next step, in the order that He gives them to us. The goal isn't to just finish the picture; it's to enjoy the journey He has for us along the way.

God rarely gives us the full picture of what He's doing. His plans for our life are bigger and greater than we could ever imagine! He knows that if He gave us all the details of where we'll go, what we'll see, and the things we'll do, we'd be too overwhelmed to follow.

Usually, all God does is tell us the direction we're headed and the exact next step to take. Even though we may not always understand what He's doing or where He's leading us, we can trust that if we take the steps He gives us, the best possible picture of our life will be revealed.

**YOUR WORD IS A LAMP FOR MY FEET, A
LIGHT ON MY PATH.**

PSALM 119:105



DISCOVER

USE THE CODE BELOW TO DISCOVER THE HIDDEN MESSAGE

DECODER KEY

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
□	◇	△	▱	⬡	▷	▽	⊗	⊠	◊	◁	▴	◁	▱	▽	▱	○	
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z										
◁	▱	⊗	▱	△	◁	◊	⊞										

▽ ◊ △ ▷ ⬡ □ ▱ ▱ ▴ ⬡ ▱ ◁ ⬡

◁ ⬡ ◁ ▱ ▱ ▱ ⬡ ▽ □ ▱ □ ▱ ⊠ ▴ ⬡





DISCUSS

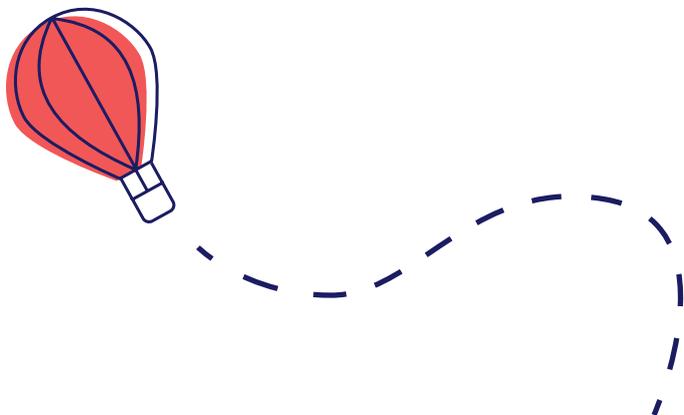
What part of learning to follow the Cloud one next step at a time makes you the most excited? Share that with someone in your family.



APPLY

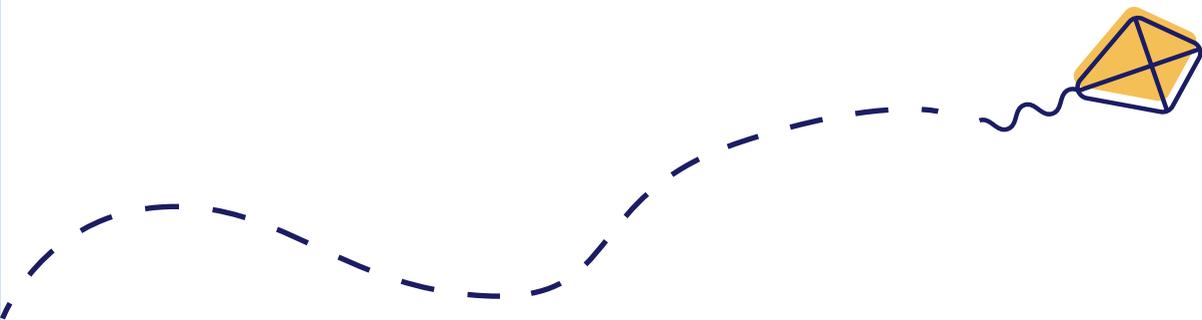
Create a hopscotch court outside using sidewalk chalk. Invite a friend or family member to play with you. Take turns hopping to one box at a time. On the next round, start skipping boxes, taking bigger and bigger leaps each time.

You'll begin to notice that one box at a time is a lot easier! This is a great reminder that God always leads us in small steps, not giant leaps.





CHAPTER 3
HEARING GOD'S
VOICE



To follow the Cloud is to hear God's voice, but how do we learn to hear Him for ourselves? It's a great question because wanting to hear God speak is actually more important than our ability to hear Him.

Sadly, the people of Israel were willing to follow God, but they weren't willing to hear His voice. They were afraid of what might happen if they heard Him speak. They said to Moses, "You go talk to God for us." Because they never listened to His voice for themselves, they never got to know God's heart. They knew what God could do, but only Moses got to know who God really was.

The main way God wants to speak to you isn't through other people. He wants to speak to you directly. If we wait for other people to tell us what God has said, we'll always be full of doubt. When He invites us to go some place new, we'll wonder, "Did God really say that?"

Can you imagine never talking to your best friend? How would you get to know them or even stay friends? The same is true for you and God. He invites us to talk with Him so we can get to know Him.

It doesn't matter how young or old we are. God promises to always speak to us in a way we can understand. Our invitation is to learn to tune into His voice and listen. So, how can we position ourselves to hear what God is saying? Here are some tips:

🕒 **SLOW DOWN**

Our lives get really busy. We have school, sports, and homework. We tend to fill our days with activities and technology, but God doesn't compete for our attention. He wants us to slow down, to make space for Him to speak, and to value His voice above all others.

📖 **READ THE BIBLE**

God writes like He speaks. His voice sounds like His written Word, so the Bible teaches us how to tune into what God's saying to us today.

👥 **SPEND TIME WITH PEOPLE WHO KNOW HOW TO HEAR HIS VOICE**

This might be a parent or grandparent, a sibling or friend, or even a leader at church. Hearing about what God has been saying to them will help you hear what He wants to say to you.

The main thing to remember is God's voice is always loving. It will always give you peace, and it will always bring you comfort. If it doesn't, it wasn't God. If it does, there's a good chance that you're hearing correctly.

Here's one last tip – remember this phrase: Ask, Listen, and Respond.

ASK

Ask God what He wants to say to you. Then, slow down and position yourself to listen.

LISTEN

Listen to His voice. Remember, God promises to speak to you in a way you can understand. And once you've heard His voice . . .

RESPOND

Respond by simply doing whatever He asks you to do.

Hearing God's voice gives us the courage to follow the Cloud one next step at a time.

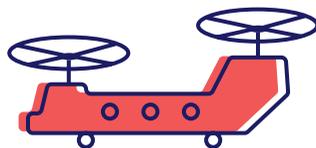
MY SHEEP LISTEN TO MY VOICE; I KNOW THEM, AND THEY FOLLOW ME.

JOHN 10:27

BONUS+

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

We believe every kid can hear God's voice and that He has something He wants to say to you. Scan this QR code for a three-part video series that will help you learn how you can position yourself to hear what God is saying.





DISCOVER

USE THE CODE BELOW TO DISCOVER THE HIDDEN MESSAGE

DECODER KEY

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R

□ ◇ △ ▽ ▯ ▱ ▲ △ ▴ ▵ ▶ ▷ ▸ ▹ ► ▻ ▼ ▽ ▾ ▿ ○

S T U V W X Y Z

▱ ▴ ▸ ▹ ► ▻ ▼ ▽ ▾ ▿

,

▱ △ ▯ ▱ ▸ ▯ ▱ ○ ▴ ▯ ▴ ▯ ▹ ▯ ▱ ▱ ▯

DISCUSS



With your family, talk about which of the three ways below to position yourself to hear God's voice will be the easiest for you and why.

Which do you think will be the hardest? Why?

- Slow down
- Read the Bible
- Spend time with others that hear His voice

APPLY



Practice positioning yourself to hear God's voice by turning off the TV and finding a quiet place in your home. Wherever you are, picture God there with you.

What do you want to talk with Him about? What do you think He wants to say to you?

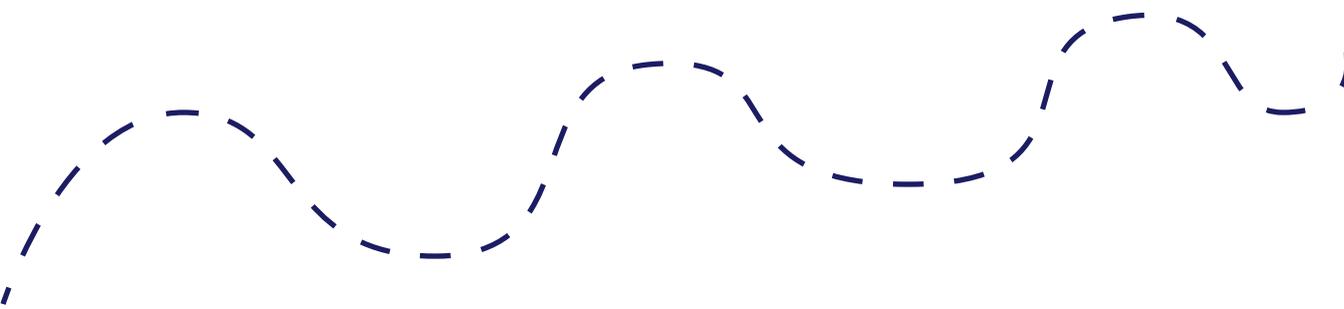
Ask Him to speak to you, listen for His voice, and respond by doing whatever He asks you to do. Remember, God promises to speak to you in a way you can understand, and His voice will always be loving and kind.

Color the image below to remind yourself that you can hear God's voice.





CHAPTER 4
GOD IS GOOD



What if we truly believed and always remembered that God is good? He's not distant, angry, or disappointed, but close, full of love, and well pleased with us. If we truly believed this, it would change the way we lived our lives.

The truth is God is good. More importantly, God is good to you! In fact, God is so good, it's impossible for us to fully grasp just how good He really is.

That doesn't mean our journey of learning to follow the Cloud will always be easy. It doesn't mean there won't be hard times – there will be. Even the Israelites at one point found themselves in what seemed like a dead end. They were stuck between the Red Sea and an angry army that wanted to take them back to Egypt. They even began to doubt God's goodness and His promises for their lives. But even though they couldn't see a way forward, the Cloud never stopped moving.

In what seemed like an impossible situation, God did the impossible! He parted the waters of the Red Sea and led them to safety on dry ground. Even still, it wasn't easy for them to cross to the other side. With every step, they were probably wondering if the waters were going to come crashing down! But God wasn't trying to make their lives harder; He was leading them through their fears so they could see and experience more of Himself.



Sometimes, the very thing God asks us to do is the last thing we want to do. For example, He might ask us to forgive someone when what we really want is for them to say, "sorry." He might ask us to give when what we really want to do is take. He might ask us to stay when what we really want is to go.

The question is: "do we trust God enough to follow?"

When we know God is good, we can trust that wherever He's leading us is always better than where we've been. We can't always see what God sees, but when we know God is good, we can trust Him and follow by faith.

Faith is being sure of what we hope for even when we can't see it.

God doesn't want us to obey Him because we're afraid of getting it wrong or making Him mad. He doesn't want us to obey Him because we feel like we have to.

We **obey** God because we know God is good, and with every next step we take, we can expect to see even more of His goodness in our lives.

OBEY • *verb*

TO LISTEN AND FOLLOW BECAUSE WE TRUST – EVEN WHEN WE DON'T UNDERSTAND



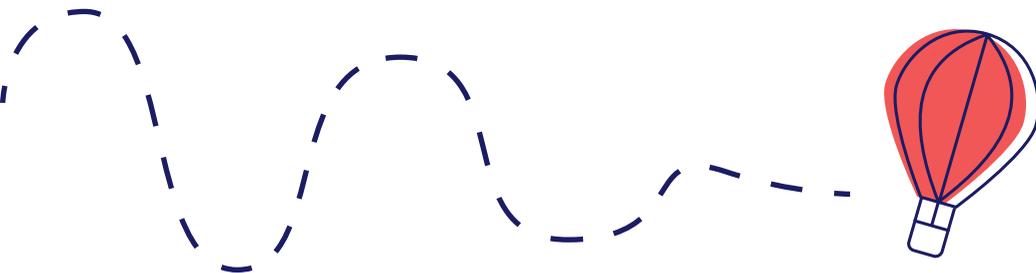
DISCUSS

With your family, discuss where you've seen that God is good to you.

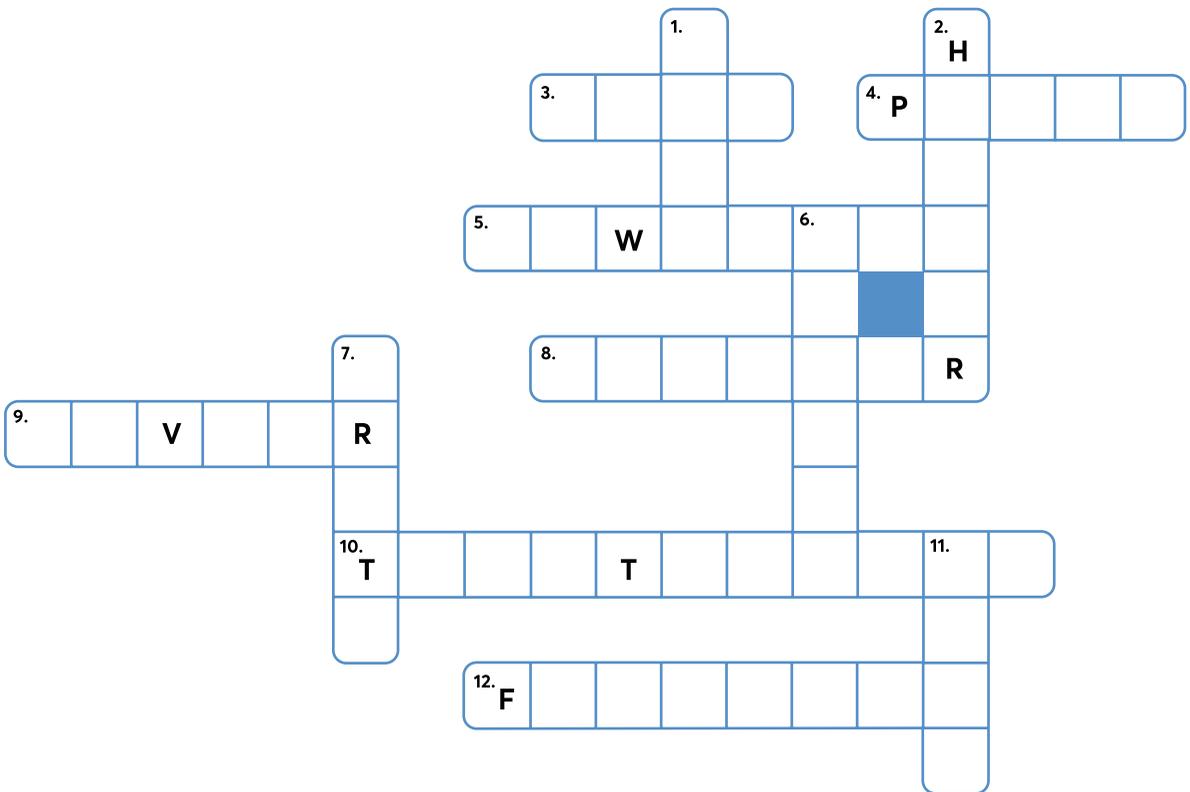


APPLY

God's creation reminds us that He is good. Go outside, lay in the grass, and notice the flowers, trees, birds, and clouds in the sky. Ask God to help you see that He is good in everything He has made.



Each one of these words is a description of God. Use the clues below to solve the crossword and to discover more about who God is!



ACROSS

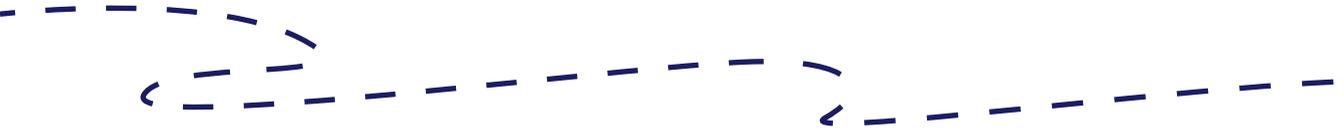
3. OPPOSITE OF BAD
4. CALM – FREE FROM STRESS
5. FULL OF STRENGTH OR POWER
8. ONE WHO MAKES THINGS
9. SOMEONE WHO SAVES
10. ABLE TO BE TRUSTED
12. GOD IS _____ BECAUSE HE DOES
WHAT HE SAYS HE WILL DO
(1 CORINTHIANS 1:9)

DOWN

1. GOD IS _____ BECAUSE HE CARES
FOR US (1 JOHN 4:8)
2. SOMEONE WHO HELPS PEOPLE
GET WELL
6. ANOTHER WORD FOR "DAD"
7. A FACT
11. _____ SPIRIT



CHAPTER 5
JESUS HAS
FORGIVEN ME



We said in the last chapter that wherever God is leading us is always better than where we've been. However, we learn from the story of the Israelites that instead of trusting God, they often found themselves wanting to go back to their old life in Egypt as slaves. But because God is good, He never gave up on them. And, because God is good, we can be confident that He'll never give up on us.

Even when they messed up and made mistakes, the Cloud never stopped leading them. God knows that it's His kindness that causes people to have a change of heart.

We learn from the Israelites that following the Cloud is a picture of what our journey with Jesus is all about. God doesn't expect us to be perfect, and He doesn't turn His back on us when we make a mistake. Instead, He gives us Jesus – His one and only Son – who has forgiven us for all our **sins**.

Sin simply means "to miss the mark." Think of it like a bullseye on a target. If we were to shoot an arrow at the bullseye and miss, it could be said that we "missed the mark." Well, it works the same way with God. God has a plan for each of our lives – a plan where we learn to follow Him and obey all He's asked us to do. Any time we get off track with God's plan for our lives, that's missing the mark – or sin.

SIN • *verb*

TO MISS THE MARK

The truth is, we've all sinned. But the good news is, Jesus never gives up on us. Jesus will never tell us that we're not good enough or that we need to try harder to be perfect. He doesn't get angry with us, and He's never disappointed. Instead of getting the punishment we deserve, Jesus took it on Himself when He died for us on the cross. Before we did anything right and even after we do everything wrong, Jesus has forgiven us.

Jesus' forgiveness is not something we can earn or deserve – it's only something we can choose to receive. That's why it's called **grace**.

Grace is the undeserved favor of God. It's like getting the greatest gift we can ever imagine when we don't even deserve it. When we choose to receive God's grace, believing Jesus has forgiven us, it not only takes away our sin; it changes who we are. We start to discover that everything that is true of Jesus is now true of us. In Jesus, we are God's beloved sons and daughters.

GRACE • *noun*

THE UNDESERVED FAVOR OF GOD

**FOR I WILL FORGIVE THEIR WICKEDNESS
AND WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE.
HEBREWS 8:12**



DISCOVER

USE THE CODE BELOW TO DISCOVER THE HIDDEN MESSAGE

DECODER KEY

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
□	◇	△	▱	⬡	▷	▽	⊗	◀	◁	▵	▹	▸	◁	▱	▽	▱	○
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z										
◁	◀	⊗	◁	▵	◁	◁	◁										

▽ ◬ ◁ ⊗ ◁ ⊗ ◻ ◁ ▷ ▱ ○ ▽ ◀ ◁ ◬ ◁
 ▴ ◬ ◁ ▱ ▴ ◻ ◀ ◀ ◬ ○ ▽ ⊗ ◻ ◀





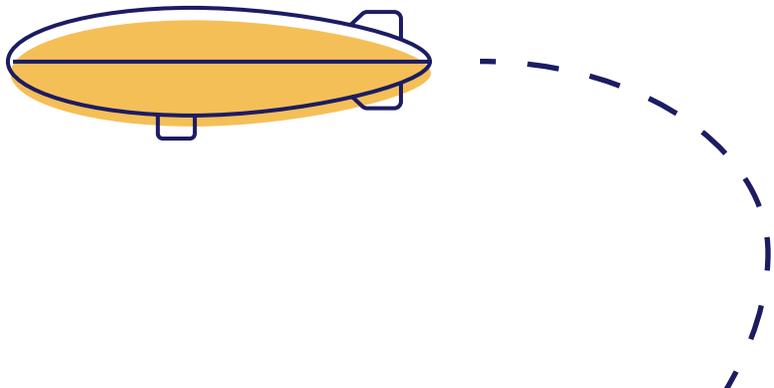
DISCUSS

As a family, take turns discussing how it makes you feel discovering that Jesus' forgiveness isn't something you deserve or can earn. It's actually a gift He wants to give to you!



APPLY

Choose one of the words from the word search and write it on your bathroom mirror. You can use window markers, dry erase markers, or post-it notes. Read it every morning this week to remind yourself that this is who God says you are.



Find each of the words below that describe who you are in Jesus!

WHO I AM IN JESUS

B W T C H A T L B C W F E D W
Q E O X M I B C O M P W E A U
S O L R F H G B Q F V U N O T
L K Y O T B V O A Z L T D O E
L I Q M V H H X Y A E O S E H
T F W Q F E Y G V D O R D P B
X P O I S H D U U K M Q D L D
Y K V L O F O R G I V E N V H
Y M Q N G Z S G Y F R E E D P
A C C E P T E D K U H J L D C
D V S Q T D L R N W P Z W O H
I P V M T H C H O Z I U Z M O
K R N C Q K N I W R Z D R M S
U C F F J A R X N P A X M L E
C C N N E D T U O O Z W J D N

ACCEPTED
VALUED
KNOWN

BELOVED
FORGIVEN
WORTHY

FREE
WANTED
CHOSEN



CHAPTER 6

I AM LOVED

Of all the ways God could've chosen to lead the people of Israel, He chose to do it through a cloud that was always with them. By day, it covered and protected them from the harsh desert heat. By night, it brought warmth, comfort, and light. The Cloud was the love of God on display, and it was His way of saying that He wanted to be with them. With each next step they took, God revealed more of Himself to them. The same is true for us today.

In Jesus, we have direct access to God. The moment we receive Jesus' gift of forgiveness, the Cloud comes into our life as the **Holy Spirit**.

That means God has given us the greatest gift of all – the gift of Himself! Knowing who we are in Jesus, God's beloved sons and daughters, leads us into relationship with God. It's where we find friendship and experience His love.

Beloved sons and daughters see God as a loving Father. They know they're accepted for who they are and not for what they do, and nobody knew this better than Jesus.

HOLY SPIRIT • *noun*

THE PRESENCE OF GOD – GOD WITH US



On the day Jesus was baptized, as He was coming up from the water, a voice spoke from heaven saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." What's amazing about this story is that this was just the start of Jesus' ministry. He hadn't healed any sick people or performed any miracles, but the Father was still pleased with Him. It wasn't because of what He did but because of who He was.

Do you realize that, if we're in Jesus – if we've received His gift of forgiveness – the same is now true of us? Jesus is not a picture of who we can become, He is a reflection of who we now are. We are beloved sons and daughters in whom the Father is well pleased – not because of anything we've done but because of who we are in Jesus.

Believing in the goodness of His Father and knowing He was a beloved son is what made Jesus the ultimate Cloud-follower. Jesus tells us that He only did what he saw the Father doing, went where He saw the Father going, and said what He heard the Father saying. His willingness to receive the love of the Father allowed Him to follow the Cloud to places few of us ever go and to experience a life few of us ever do.

That same love is available to us today, and our willingness to receive it and live in it is the difference between being "set free" like the Israelites and "living free" like Jesus.



DISCUSS

Talk with your family about your favorite way to spend time with them. Then, share what your favorite ways to spend time with God are.

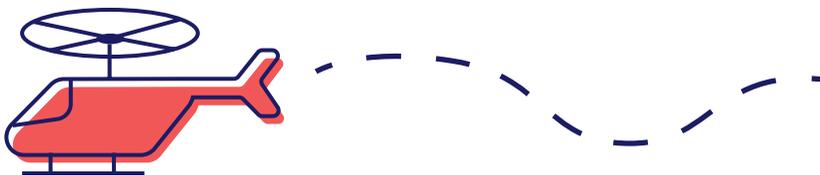


APPLY

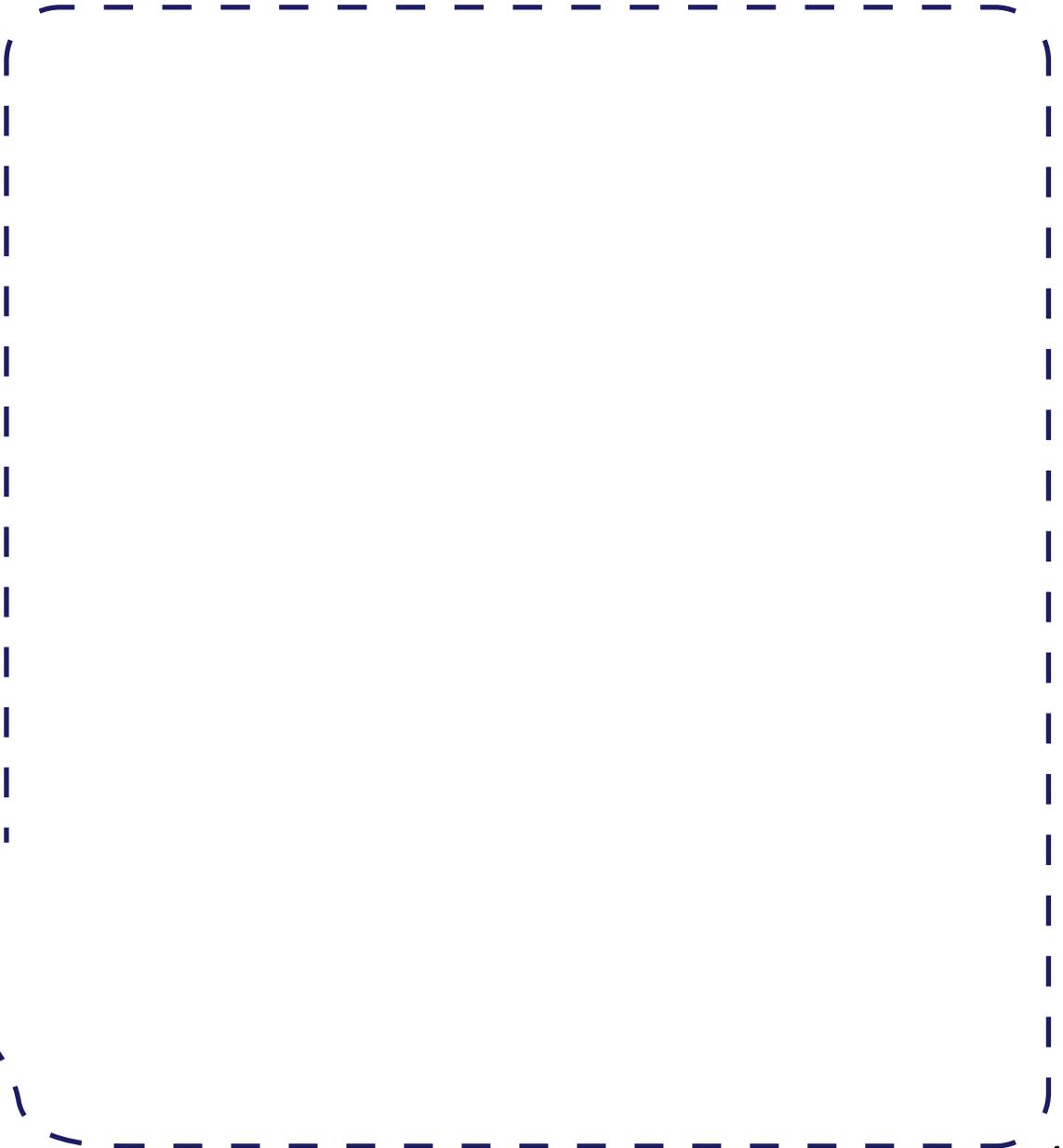
In Jesus, we have the Holy Spirit, which is God's presence with us. We get to walk step by step with Him everywhere we go, and in everything we do. A fun way you can remind yourself that God is always with you is by going on a walk with your family.

As you walk together, ask your family questions about their day. Ask them which way they want to go. Also, take time to tell them about your day and what's been happening in your life. Laugh together and enjoy each other's company.

This is the same kind of relationship the Holy Spirit wants to have with you. He wants to talk to you, laugh with you, and hear what's on your heart. He wants you to know that you are never alone. Most of all, He wants to show you what it means to be friends with God.



In the box below, draw a picture of you and Jesus. Let this remind you that, in Jesus, you are part of God's family. You are loved!





CHAPTER 7
EVERYTHING IS
POSSIBLE



After forty years of following the Cloud, the Israelites were finally ready to step into their Promised Land. Little by little, as the Cloud led them through the desert, God drove out the giants that stood between them and their ability to trust in His promises. The truth is, the giants never stood a chance. No enemy can stand against the promises of God!

Throughout their journey, the Cloud led them to discover that they were beloved children with a good Father, and it was time for them to step into what they were created to do. The same invitation is waiting for us.

It's always been God's plan to have people, made in His image and likeness, rule over creation with Him. As we discover who we are and who He is, we find the faith to do what we were created to do – to release His kingdom here on earth. In other words, the Cloud leads us into the world to release the goodness of God. Just as the Father sent Jesus, He now sends us.

Everywhere Jesus went, He put the love of God on display. If there was hate, He brought love. If there was fear, He brought faith. If there was chaos, He brought peace. If there was sadness, He brought hope. If there was sickness, He brought healing.

When we look at Jesus' example, it can feel impossible to live the kind of life He lived. It's easy to think, "Well, of course He could do all those things; He was the Son of God!" But what we tend to forget is that Jesus performed all His miracles as a human empowered by the Holy Spirit – the same Holy Spirit that, in Jesus, now lives in us. Jesus said, "The Son can do nothing by Himself." His power came from the Holy Spirit. Do you know what that means? It means the same power Jesus had is now available to us!

When we believe that God is good, that Jesus has forgiven us, and that we are loved, we'll begin to experience that everything is possible!

In Jesus, we've been given the keys to **God's kingdom** and are empowered to access the realities of heaven and bring them to earth today. All of creation is waiting for us – the children of God – to use the keys and unlock the treasures of heaven. How do we use them? We simply trust the Cloud and take the next step He gives us. With every step we take, a little bit more of God's goodness and love is released.

GOD'S KINGDOM • *noun*

EVERYWHERE THAT GOD RULES AND REIGNS

**IF GOD IS FOR US, WHO CAN BE
AGAINST US?**

ROMANS 8:31



DISCUSS

What about the verse from this chapter (Romans 8:31 - If God is for us, who can be against us?) speaks to your heart? Does it change the way you've been looking at anything in your life?



APPLY

Think of one area in your life that feels impossible. Once you've thought of that area, pray this prayer:

"Jesus, when things feel hard, help me see that everything is possible with You. I believe that I can do anything when I'm doing it with You."

Anytime you feel like something is hard, you can pray this prayer to help you remember that, with Jesus, everything is possible!



Solve the equations and use the numbers below to put the letters in place. The answer will reveal how God leads us forward with Him.

$4 + 6 = \underline{\quad} = E$

$14 - 8 = \underline{\quad} = L$

$16 - 3 = \underline{\quad} = T$

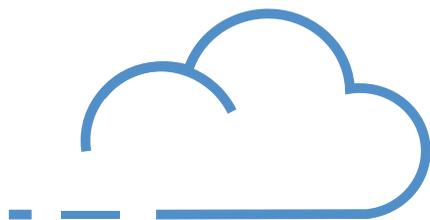
$8 + 8 = \underline{\quad} = B$

$20 + 10 = \underline{\quad} = Y$

$13 - 9 = \underline{\quad} = I$

6 4 13 13 6 10 16 30 6 4 13 13 6 10

I'M READY TO FOLLOW THE CLOUD

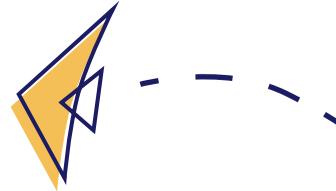


You were created to follow the Cloud – to live a life of adventure following God one next step at a time.

As you've discovered, the journey of following the Cloud – courageously taking next steps when you see God move – isn't about where you go or what you do; it's about who you become.

As you've gone on this journey, the Cloud has led you to discover life-changing truths along the way. Go ahead and say them out loud, right now.

- GOD IS INVITING ME TO FOLLOW THE CLOUD
- GOD LEADS ME ONE NEXT STEP AT A TIME
- I CAN HEAR GOD'S VOICE
- GOD IS GOOD – TO ME
- JESUS HAS FORGIVEN ME – NO MATTER WHAT
- I AM LOVED – FOR WHO I AM, I AM GOD'S KID
- EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE – WITH JESUS



Learning to follow the Cloud is a picture of what your journey with Jesus is all about. With every next step you take, He will lead you to discover more of who you are, who He is, and what you were created to do.

So, here's the question: "what is God saying to you?"

What has He been whispering to you as you've gone on this journey of learning to follow the Cloud? What is the next step He's inviting you to take, and what are you going to do with what you've heard? The Cloud is on the move and it's time to respond. In your own words, tell God:

**I'M READY TO FOLLOW THE CLOUD
ONE NEXT STEP AT A TIME**

1. GOD IS INVITING ME TO FOLLOW THE CLOUD (PG.8)
2. GOD LEADS ME ONE NEXT STEP AT A TIME (PG.14)
3. I CAN HEAR GOD'S VOICE (PG.22)
4. GOD IS GOOD - TO ME (PG.28)
5. JESUS HAS FORGIVEN ME - NO MATTER WHAT (PG.34)
6. I AM LOVED - FOR WHO I AM, I AM GOD'S KID (PG.40)
7. EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE - WITH JESUS (PG.46)

DECODER SOLUTIONS

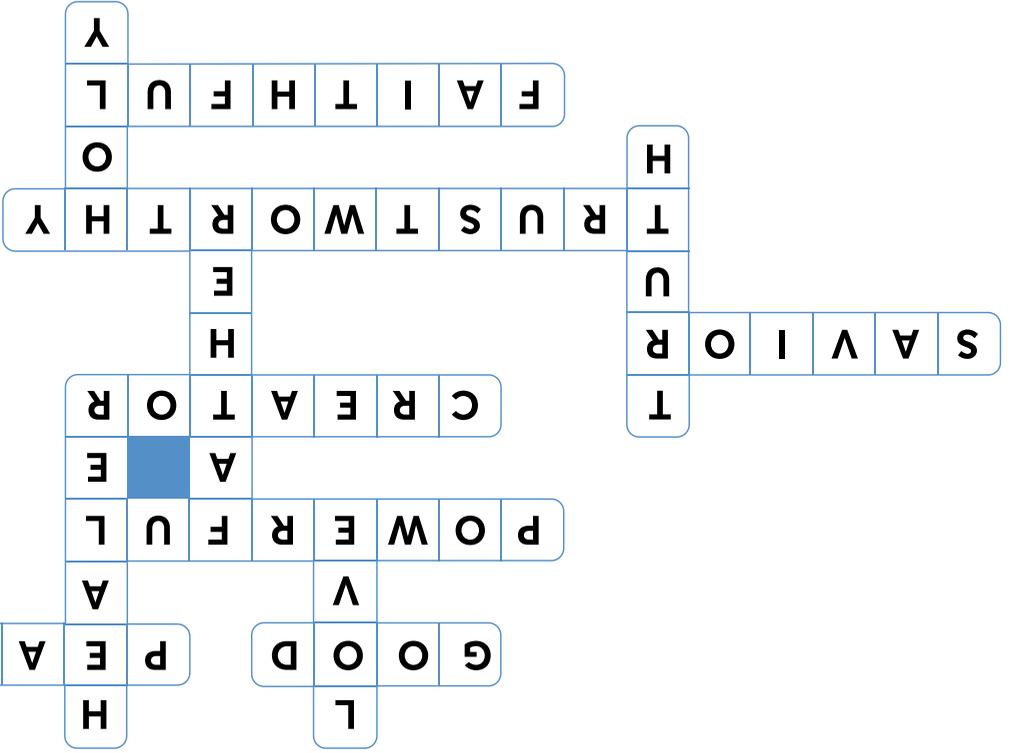
$\frac{6}{4} \frac{13}{13} \frac{13}{13} \frac{13}{13} \frac{6}{10}$	$\frac{6}{4} \frac{13}{13} \frac{13}{13} \frac{6}{10}$	$\frac{16}{30}$	$\frac{6}{10}$
L I T T L E	L I T T L E	B Y	E
$\frac{20}{10} = 2$	$\frac{16}{3} = 5$	$\frac{13}{8} = 6$	$\frac{4}{6} = 10$
= Y	= T	= B	= L
$\frac{13}{9} = 4$	$\frac{8}{8} = 8$	$\frac{14}{8} = 6$	
= T	= B	= L	

PG. 48

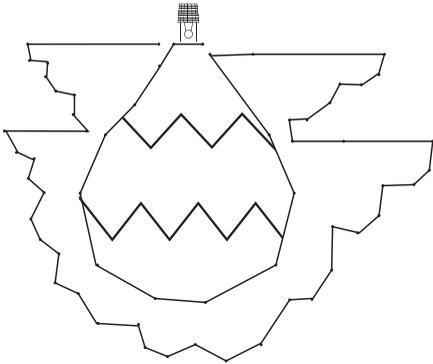
~~L V T C H A T L B C W F E B V
 Q E O X M I B C O M P W L K U
 S O L P F H G B Q F V J N O T
 L K Y O T B V O A Z L T D O E
 L I Q M L H X Y L F O S E H
 T F W Q F E K G V F O R D P B
 X P O I S H Q U K M Q D L D
 Y K V L O F O R C I V E N V H
 Y M O N G Z S G Y T R E E D P
 A S C E R T E D L U H J L D C
 D V S Q T D L R I I W P Z W O I
 I P V M T H C H O Z I U Z M O
 K R N C Q K N I V R Z D R M S
 U C F F J A R X I I P A X M L E
 C C N N E D T U O O Z W J D I~~

PG. 36

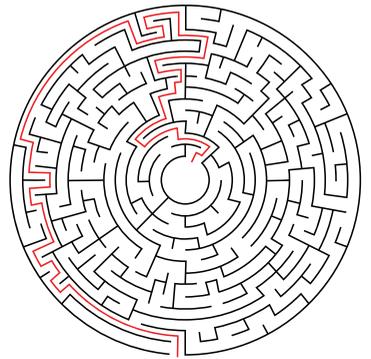
ANSWER KEY



PG. 30



PG. 16



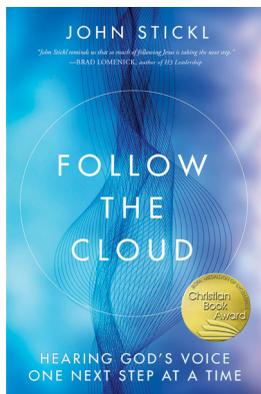
PG. 10

DID YOU ENJOY THIS BOOK?

Check out more kid's resources at



You can also find us online at [VALLEYCREEK.ORG/KIDS](https://valleycreek.org/kids)



The content in this kid's book was based on "Follow the Cloud" by Pastor John Stickl. If you'd like a resource as you continue to discover who you are, who God is, and what you were created to do, you can find a copy on Amazon or at any major bookstore.



