

PromiseLand!

J12

**4th & 5th Grade
Ministry at
SouthLake Church**

Dear Parents:

Welcome to J12! We are so excited to introduce you to the 4th & 5th grade ministry at SouthLake! Because we understand that kids between the ages of 9 and 12 aka "tweens" have social pressures and challenges unique to any generation preceding them, we were inspired to create a ministry with just them in mind. Kids at this age are continually being forced to grow up more quickly. Stuck between childhood and adolescence, tweens are straddling the line of innocence, too old for puppets, but too young for the frank discussions of teen ministry.

Did you know God was twelve? In fact, the only story in the Bible that references Jesus' childhood is found in Luke 2:41-52. After fulfilling their Passover obligations in Jerusalem, Mary, Joseph and their traveling companions begin their long journey home. After a day of travel, they realize Jesus isn't with them, frantic, they hurry back to the city to find him. A bit of searching yields results-Jesus is in the temple listening to the teachers and asking them questions. Mary asks Him why He stayed behind, He replies, "...I must be about My Father's business."

WHAT IS "J12"?

-A MAN: J12 is based on Jesus at the age of 12. We believe His testimony at that young age is the template for a generation of young people today. Jesus is the example.

-A NAME: While still part of PromiseLand, J12 is the name for our 4th/5th grade ministry at SouthLake.

-PERSPECTIVE: To realize that our "tweens" are unique and we must work to understand their world in order to best minister to them.

-RELATIONSHIPS: We know that no matter how great our program might be, if kids don't have the opportunity to connect and build relationships with other adults and peers, they will lose interest. We foster these relationships by...

- Quarterly Social Events
- Outreach Opportunities
- Mid-Week Small Group Devotional
- "Every Week" Small Group Shepherds

-MATERIALS: We have created materials for our 4th/5th graders to help make the vision become reality. We provide tools to help students make the message of Jesus at twelve come to life in their own walk with the Lord.

- "GIVE GOD 12" JOURNALS
- WEEKLY LESSON OUTLINES
- WEEKLY LESSON DEVOTIONAL

WHAT IS OUR VISION?

- To help our 4th & 5th grade students know Christ better and grow stronger in their relationship with Him, Serve Christ by serving others and share Christ with those around them.
- To be intentional about understanding and reaching this generation of kids.
- Provide a dynamic weekly ministry that kids won't want to miss! One that inspires them to live out the seven words of Jesus, "I Must be about My Father's business".
- To challenge and encourage kids, as tweens, to reach for their potential and reach them before they need to be rescued.
- The realize that the seven words Jesus spoke at age have within them the DNA to change a generation of tweens.
- To equip our 4th & 5th grade students with practical tools on how to live out the "I Must be About" spirit in their own lives.
- Through student leadership and development, draw out their God-given gifts and talents to be used for the Kingdom.
- To inform and equip our 4th & 5th grade team with fresh insight on how to connect and engage this unique and distinctive generation.

ACTION TAGS!

So what are the Action Tags all about?

The action tags are nothing more than points of focus to help you move through your devotional time with Jesus. Each one represents a different aspect of journaling your walk with God when using your "Give God 12" Journals.
Check them out!

RnR

READ n' RE-WRITE

-READ THE BIBLE

-RE-WRITE ANYTHING SPECIAL THAT MEANS THE MOST TO YOU IN YOUR OWN HANDWRITING

It's simple! When you read the Bible, and something pops out at you, RE-WRITE it in our own words, and in your own way.

TnT

TESTS n' TESTIMONIES

-RECORD WHAT THE LORD IS DOING
IN YOUR LIFE

-SHARE YOUR STORY

Followers of Jesus will have a story to tell; a testimony of the Lord's hand in their lives. Sometimes those stories may come with tests/trials. The TnT action tag is where kids record and sometimes share what the Lord is doing in their life.

MnM

MEMORIZE n' MEDITATE

-MEMORIZE THE VERSE

-MEDITATE UPON IT

-WRITE WHAT THE LORD IS SAYING TO YOU

We all know what it means to memorize, but what does it really mean to meditate? Faith comes by hearing. Meditation requires the attention of your whole person: spirit, mind, eyes, ears and mouth. If you really want to grow strong in your walk with the Lord, you'll have to do more than just READ your Bible, you'll need to MEDITATE on it!

PnC

PRAY n' CONFESS

-PRAY

-CONFESS

Recording your prayers and confessing your heart to Jesus on paper is what the PnC tag is all about. Often times our written prayers can be prayers of worship for who God is, or praises for what He is doing in your life. God is delighted when you give Him time in prayer. Confession is simply declaring who God is and what God has done.

Questions?

If you have any questions or would like to get involved with PromiseLand or our J12 ministry, please contact:

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How do I get a JI2 Journal?

**1. Go over this packet with
your parents.**

**2. Bring this form back to
your shepherd after you and
your parents have signed it.**

**I have read and reviewed this packet
with my parent.**

X _____
My Signature

X _____
Parent Signature

X _____ **Date** _____
JI2 Shepherd Signature