



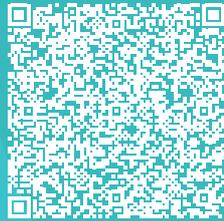
Lifeway® kids

2026 Ministry Planning Calendar



Thank you for your commitment to discipling kids and investing in the next generation! We understand that ministry can be filled with much joy and at times can feel a bit overwhelming. May this calendar serve as a helpful guide for your ministry year planning. You'll find space to jot down reminders, see upcoming things to prepare for, and fun ideas to include throughout the year. Lifeway Kids is here to help with resources that inspire as you impact families with the gospel.

**Reach and disciple the next generation with
trustworthy resources from Lifeway Kids.**



**SCAN TO VIEW
OUR CATALOG**



**SCAN TO FIND YOUR
BEST CURRICULUM FIT**



JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



THEREFORE, IF
ANYONE IS IN
CHRIST, HE IS A NEW
CREATION; THE OLD
HAS PASSED AWAY,
AND SEE, THE NEW
HAS COME!

● 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17 ●
(CSB)

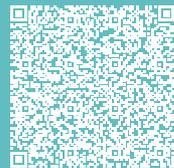
THINK AHEAD

- Plan Easter programming
- Evaluate curriculum for fall
- Explore Vacation Bible School options and training



CHECK IT OUT

Check out the *Grace Bible for Kids*, designed for kids with dyslexia.



Scan to learn more.

JUST FOR FUN

Kick off the New Year by personalizing Bible reading journals with your kids to use throughout the year at home or in small groups. Fill journals with prayers, Bible verses, drawings, and notes.



Scan for instructions.

**WE LOVE
BECAUSE
HE FIRST
LOVED US.**

1 JOHN 4:19
(CSB)

THINK AHEAD

- Plan Vacation Bible School training
- Camp and spring break planning
- Easter preparation and volunteer recruitment

CHECK IT OUT

See how Lifeway's special needs resources can impact your ministry.



Scan for more details.

JUST FOR FUN

Help kids reflect on the greatest love of all—loving the Lord your God. What better time to teach about the ultimate relationship of love that comes from Him?



Scan for instructions.

**AND BE KIND AND
COMPASSIONATE
TO ONE ANOTHER,
FORGIVING ONE
ANOTHER, JUST AS
GOD ALSO FORGAVE
YOU IN CHRIST.**

EPHESIANS 4:32
(CSB)

THINK AHEAD

- Easter preparation and volunteer recruitment



CHECK IT OUT

Check out the *Kids Ministry Calling* podcast with Jana Magruder!



Scan to
listen now.

JUST FOR FUN

Enjoy a Springtime Scavenger Hunt with the kids in your ministry. This is a fun and interactive way to get kids outside to explore God's creation while connecting it to Bible truths.



Scan for
instructions.



MARCH



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Palm Sunday	30	31				

TO DO:

Begin VBS training

Conduct spring break and day camp activities

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HE IS NOT
HERE. FOR HE
HAS RISEN,
JUST AS HE
SAID.

MATTHEW 28:6
(CSB)

THINK AHEAD

- Determine summer ministry strategy
- Plan Mother's Day



CHECK IT OUT

Get free resources to help guide kids through practical ways to build Bible skills in their lives.



Scan for more details.

JUST FOR FUN

A Resurrection Garden is a hands-on, visual representation of the Easter story that also teaches kids about faith and growth.



Scan for instructions.

**REJOICE IN
THE LORD
ALWAYS. I WILL
SAY IT AGAIN:
REJOICE!**

**PHILIPPIANS 4:4
(CSB)**

THINK AHEAD

- Prepare for summer camps
- Plan Father's Day



CHECK IT OUT

Sign your team up for the free digital or print *KM101 Magazine* for inspiration and encouragement.



Scan to sign up.

JUST FOR FUN

Print this Summer Road Trip Activity Book and distribute it to families as they prepare for summer trips! Help kids document their road trip while filling the hours in the car with meaningful activities.



Scan for instructions.



MAY



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 National Day of Prayer	8	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Children's Ministry Day	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28	29	30

TO DO:

Purchase VBS materials, promote event, and equip volunteers

Purchase summer curriculum

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EVERY GOOD
AND PERFECT
GIFT IS FROM
ABOVE

**JAMES 1:17
(CSB)**

THINK AHEAD

- Prepare to purchase fall curriculum
- Plan back-to-school and fall events (e.g., fall festival)



CHECK IT OUT

Tune in to Lifeway's
VBS 2027 theme reveal.



Scan to
learn more.

JUST FOR FUN

Encourage kids and parents to include Scripture memory into their summer routines with these free printable memory cards! Glue onto journals, punch holes in cards to create a hanging banner, or put in decorated envelopes to send home as an activity.



Scan for
instructions.

JUNE

TO DO:

Conduct summer programming

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth	20
21 Father's Day	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH

PSALM 46:1
(CSB)

THINK AHEAD

- Register for ETCH NextGen Ministry Conference 2026 and book your travel!



CHECK IT OUT

Be encouraged and inspired with *ETCH NextGen Ministry Podcast* with Chuck Peters!



Scan to
listen.

JUST FOR FUN

Who says Christmas joy is just for December? The gospel is relevant and alive every day! Bring the wonder of Jesus' birth into the sunshine with a festive Christmas in July!



Scan for
instructions.

I AM ABLE TO
DO ALL THINGS
THROUGH
HIM WHO
STRENGTHENS ME.

PHILIPPIANS 4:13
(CSB)

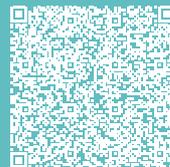
THINK AHEAD

Plan fall retreat



CHECK IT OUT

As kids grow, their understanding of foundational truths grows with them. Learn how Lifeway's *Levels of Biblical Learning* provides a roadmap for spiritual growth.



Scan to
learn more.

JUST FOR FUN

School is starting back up! Encourage parents to make the most of carpool conversations. Share this helpful blog post with your families.



Scan for
conversation
starters.



AUGUST



TO DO:

- Begin back-to-school programming
- Follow up with VBS attendees
- Train volunteers
- Purchase fall curriculum
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-
-
-

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART

PROVERBS 3:5
(CSB)

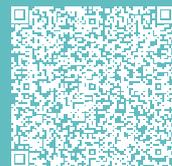
THINK AHEAD

- Plan fall events
- Plan for Thanksgiving



CHECK IT OUT

Disciple kids with TeamKID!
Perfect for any midweek
program. Lead preschoolers
and kids on a journey
through the Bible from Genesis
to Revelation.



Scan to
learn more.

JUST FOR FUN

Still need fall outreach ideas or looking
to mix things up this year? Check out
these ideas!



Scan for
instructions.

**AND BE KIND AND
COMPASSIONATE
TO ONE ANOTHER,
FORGIVING ONE
ANOTHER, JUST AS
GOD ALSO FORGAVE
YOU IN CHRIST.**

**EPHESIANS 4:32
(CSB)**

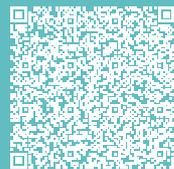
THINK AHEAD

- Plan Christmas programming
- Plan volunteer appreciation gifts or events



CHECK IT OUT

The *CSB Explorer Bible for Kids* helps kids place God's Word in the middle of God's world.



Scan to
learn more.

JUST FOR FUN

As we approach Thanksgiving, we're all thinking of ways to express gratitude to those in our lives. Thank your volunteers with these cards!



Scan for
instructions.

**GIVE THANKS TO
THE LORD, FOR HE
IS GOOD;
HIS FAITHFUL
LOVE ENDURES
FOREVER.**

**1 CHRONICLES 16:34
(CSB)**

THINK AHEAD

- Plan Christmas programming
- Plan 2027 calendar
- Visit [Lifeway.com](https://www.lifeway.com) for cyber week deals on gifts

CHECK IT OUT

Download the free Family Advent Guide and distribute to the families in your church!



Scan to
download.

JUST FOR FUN

Celebrate Thanksgiving month in your kids ministry with this Psalm 107:1-themed coloring page! Print on cardstock and use watercolor, markers, or crayons to decorate. Create a gift to send home by gluing a decorative ribbon border around the edge to hang up.



Scan for
instructions.



NOVEMBER

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30					

TO DO:

Recognize volunteers

Register for a VBS
Preview event

Purchase winter curriculum

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**FOR A CHILD
WILL BE BORN
FOR US**

ISAIAH 9:6
(CSB)

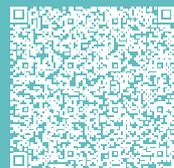
THINK AHEAD

- Plan for Vacation Bible School



CHECK IT OUT

Don't miss the free Christmas color pages available on the Lifeway Kids blog! Use in class or hand out during holiday services.



Scan to
download.

JUST FOR FUN

Prepare for the new year with a few simple, practical, and fun ideas to strengthen your ministry families in the year ahead.



Scan for
instructions.



DECEMBER



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas	26
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve		

TO DO:

Conduct Christmas programming

Purchase spring curriculum

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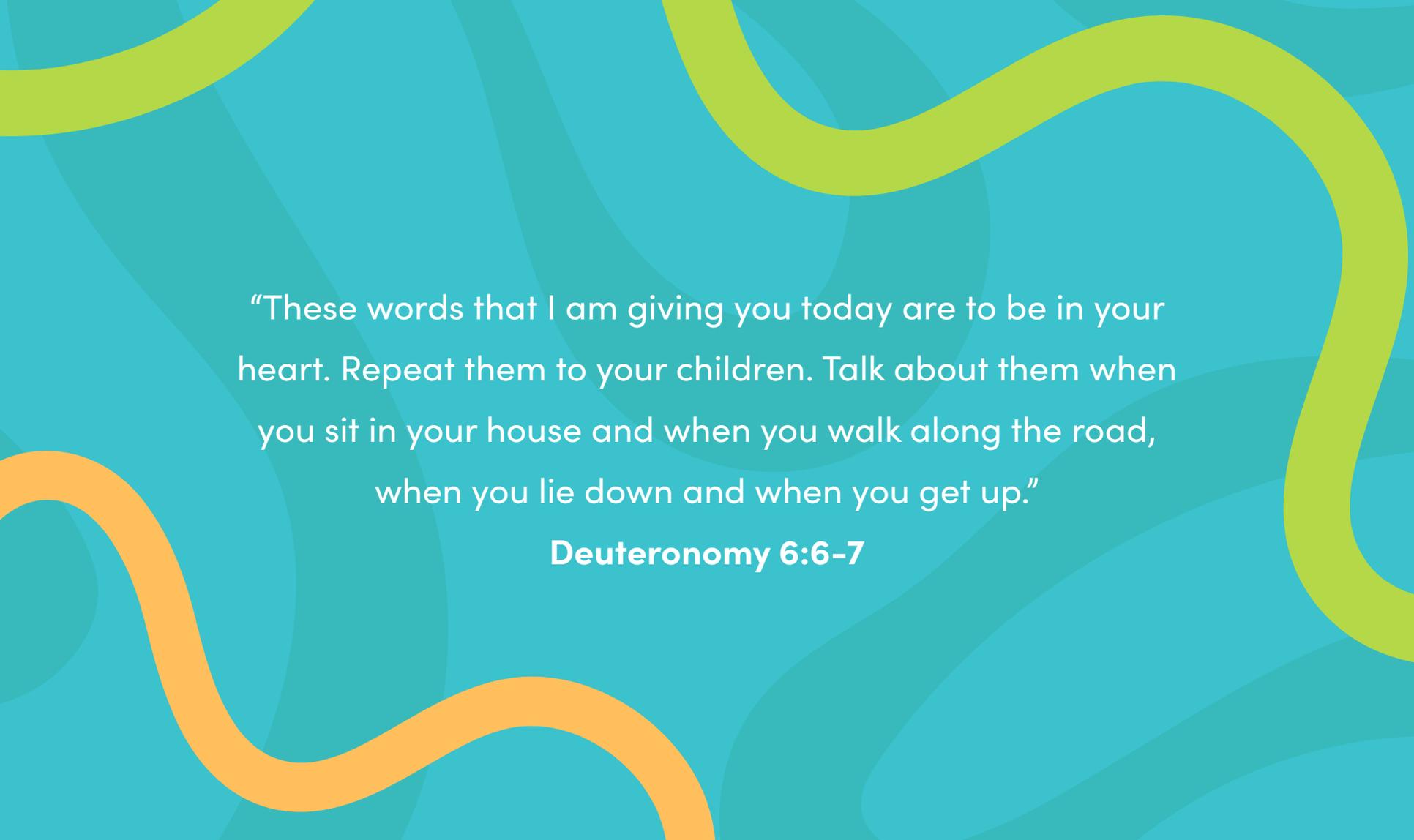
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The background features a teal color with several thick, wavy lines in lime green and orange. The lines are abstract and flow across the page, creating a dynamic and modern aesthetic.

“These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.”

Deuteronomy 6:6-7