



SEEING With the Eyes of God

Weekly activity TRIP ITINERARY FOR JUNE/JULY with clickable links

KICK OFF: As you begin your summer journey of faith, kick off by downloading the color sheet and trail mix blessing four at [SUMMER JOURNEY WEBSITE](#). The blessing will send you forth, fortified for the journey both spiritually and physically and the color sheet will give each member of your household a personalized logo for your journey; decorate to represent you! Every week, our TRIP PLANNERS will help you focus on your destinations.

Choose them all or choose just one and try the coordinating activity!

As you make your way through the trip itinerary, please right click on any underlined words to take you directly to an internet link by choosing OPEN HYPERLINK!

Week of June 28: WEEK 1

Theme	Hospitality, God’s extravagant Love, Seeing through God’s Eyes
Scripture	2 Kings 4:8-11; 14-16; Psalm 89; Romans 6:3-4, 8-11; Matthew 10:37-42
Science	Try the Walking Water Experiment that Illustrates “God’s Extravagant Love <u>Walking Water Experiment</u>
Arts/Craft	<p>Create a God’s Eye Craft– The God’s Eye is an old symbol of peace from the native peoples of Mexico, Mandala or Ojo de Dios. Parents would start one when a child was born and wrap yarn on their birthday until they turned 5. We think of it as God’s Eye– the center is a cross and God’s love reaches out to everyone. As you wrap your yarn pray “ Holy Spirit bring peace to…….” Include as many people as you like or use a prayer that is special to your family</p> <p><i>PLEASE SEE God’s Eye HANDOUT on our website or</i></p> <p><i>watch this easy to follow video if you don’t know how to make a God’s Eye</i> God's Eye Craft</p>
Music	<p><u>I'm Keepin' My Eyes On Jesus</u></p> <p><u>God's Love is So Wonderful</u></p> <p><u>Open the Eyes of My Heart</u></p> <p><u>Reckless Love</u></p>
Game	<p>Balloon Tennis</p> <p>Need: 1 fly swatter for each player and balloons— one per player or more to increase challenge</p> <p>Object: Don’t let the balloon’s touch the ground</p> <p>Connection: Hospitality & seeing people through God’s Eyes (worthy of extravagant love) - we must constantly work at it just like we must constantly be vigilant to keep the balloons up</p>

Snack	<p>TRAIL MIX BLESSING (MAKE A TRAIL MIX TO KICK OFF YOUR JOURNEY AND PRAY AS YOU CREATE!)</p> <p><i>Please find the handout for the TRAIL MIX Blessing at our website or make your own trail mix and say a spontaneous prayer for guidance on the journey!</i></p>
Service	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write thank you notes or bake for people who work to serve our community...your mail carrier, trash collectors, neighborhood police, neighborhood fire department, neighborhood animal shelter or animal control center 2. Do for others within your household. Create a hospitality chart and do them. <p>Example of items for list:</p> <p>Welcome family members as though they just arrived at your home with a smile, a hug in the morning every day.</p> <p>Set the table, welcome family members to the table for dinner, do the blessing.</p> <p>Help serve the meal by serving other family members first.</p> <p>Let siblings pick their toys, craft supplies, snack first games to play, etc.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Hospitality toward others - As a family get the house ready for your own grand re-opening for your family or to welcome company.
Prayer	<p>See as God sees, with your heart</p> <p>Draw a heart and decorate it. Write on the heart "Open the eyes of My Heart". Example found at Catholic Icing web site: Catholic Icing Heart Craft</p> <p>Open my heart O Lord. Help me to see as you do. Amen. Dear Lord Jesus, Open the eyes of my heart. Let me show hospitality to my family as you did by being forgiving, merciful, kind and gentle. Help me to do for them and share with them as I would guests and my friends. Thank you for giving me my family to care for. Amen.</p>
Reflecting in the Hammock	<p>How abundant is God's love for you? SUPEREROGATION is a big word that means "above and beyond." God's love is above and beyond what we can imagine. It is incredible. When we say we love our friends or family to the moon and back, we are trying to relate that idea of "beyond measure." Have you ever opened a bag of snacks and mean to pour a small amount and it just overflows and spills out everywhere? Use that as your guiding image. How can we share God's incredible, immeasurable love for US, with others this week?</p>

Week of July 5

Theme	God's Invitation—Come to me. What are the SIGNS along the way that remind us we are invited? God shares our burdens "Take my Yoke upon you." This makes our journey easier. What can we learn from Christ this week? It is the Spirit who animates and makes us alive
Scripture	Zechariah 9:9-10; Psalm 145; Romans 8:9,11-13; Matthew 11:25-30
Science	Try this science experiment to demonstrate sending your burdens up to the heavens! Fiery Tea Bag Experiment
Arts/Craft	Create a Family Prayer Box Decorate a shoe box or other box using construction paper, foam pieces, stickers, etc. Each day have the members of your family write a prayer intention or how they felt Christ in their life that day. Fold up papers and put in the box. Use prayer box each week and include prayer intentions or a reflection based on the weekly scripture verse. OR Make an Origami Message Maker (<i>PLEASE SEE THE HANDOUT ON OUR WEBSITE</i>)
Music	Come Follow Me What a Mighty God we Serve ELEPHANT
Game	Play the HEAVY RELAY: Begin with two identical backpacks for participants to carry on their backs in a relay race. Set two cones or "bases" at an equal distance apart and begin. Add another item to the bag at each turn around the cones and see which participant can make it to the finish line first with a full backpack!
Snack	Barbell SNACK WRAP: Make a bar bell snack with pretzel sticks, cheese and grapes. The pretzel sticks serve as the bar and the cheese cubes and grapes are the weights! OR Pop some light airy popcorn to represent your attitude when you hand your burdens over to God! For even more fun, create a popcorn bar with special mix-ins like cheese powder, nuts, chocolate candies or candy corn
Service	Does your parish collect toiletries, food or clothing for an organization? If not, do you know of a charity close to you

	<p>that is seeking supplies? Consider donating this week; there is much need right now.</p> <p>VISIT YOUR LOCAL CEMETARY TO DECORATE THE GRAVES OF LOCAL HEROS WHO IN WHATEVER TIME OR SEASON,OR FOR WHATEVER REASON TOOK UPON THEMSELVES OUR BURDENS TO PROTECT US.</p>
Prayer	<p>Pray this Prayer to the Holy Spirit written by St. Pope John Paul II:</p> <p>Holy Spirit and Seat of Wisdom</p>
Reflecting in the Hammock	<p>This has been a tough year for most of us so far. Collectively, the human race is currently carrying many burdens...some more than others. Spend some time focusing on your burdens and your blessings. Jesus invites you to follow Him; the journey of a disciple is not always easy, but the lasting benefits are unbeatable. Allow yourself to feel a sense of relief by handing over some of your burdens to God in prayer this week.</p>

Week of July 12

Theme	Do we have ears and eyes to see and hear the KINGDOM? When we are open to God’s Word, the signs of the Kingdom are observed through us. Are we allowing the seeds of faith to be planted on fertile ground?
Scripture	Isaiah 55-10-11; Psalm 65; Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-23
Science	Want to grow something quickly to illustrate fertile ground? Try this INSTASNOW EXPERIMENT Here’s what you’ll need: Instant snow powder, or the “stuffing” inside of a diaper (they are both made from similar materials) , Soil, A glass container, Water What to do: Put some soil into the glass container. Explain the properties of good soil to the kids (it must be deep enough for seeds, moist, weed/thorn/rock free, etc. Add the “seeds” to the soil (the instant snow powder). “Nurture” the seed by pouring water over it to make it grow. The instant snow will expand to thirty or more times its original size, just like a crop would. Explain verse 23: “But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.” If the Word of God has been “sown” in us, how can we produce “fruit”? We can do that by sharing God’s Word with others. Think about: one person shares the gospel with one person. That person shares the gospel with five other people. Those five people each share it with ten others. That’s a lot of fruit from just one seed
Arts/Craft	<p>SEEDS OF FAITH- plant flowers from seeds. Just as we need to nourish our faith to grow closer to God, we also need to nourish the seeds so that they will grow into beautiful flowers. As each member plants a seed in the dirt, say how they will try to grow closer to God.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>CREATE a picture out of seeds. You will need a piece of cardboard. A side of a cereal box works great! Get out the glue and whatever seeds and beans you have around the house (dried beans and peas, snacking seeds, herbal seeds, etc.) Create a garden picture with the seeds to illustrate the fertile ground your faith is allowing God’s love to grow inside you!</p> <p>OR</p>

	<p>Make a Parable of the Sower Wheel- Complete the wheel by coloring then cutting out 2 pieces. Attach round head fastener. Spin the wheel to recreate the story. (See attached) PLEASE SEE the HANDOUT on our website</p>
Music	<p>Stand Together</p> <p>Me Without YOU</p> <p>Deep Within</p>
Game	<p>“JESUS SAYS”. It is the same as Simon says, but instead the leader would say, Jesus says... Include commands such as fold hands in prayer, kneel down, make the sign of the cross, etc.</p> <p>I spy with God’s eye(variation of I spy with my eye) -Every family member makes a list of 25-30 things created by God that we see in Summertime. Switch lists with another family member. Variation: Take a walk. Spot as many items on the list as you can or throughout the week or look for specific things, colors, shapes. When you find them say: Amen.</p> <p>Example of list: Something small, yellow/black, Something in need of healing, mending</p>
Snack	<p><u>DIRT CUP</u>: Put a small amount of chocolate pudding in the bottom and sprinkle it with crushed up cookies to look like the soil. Gummy Worms or sunflower seeds could be added to their snack!</p> <p><u>FRUIT BOWL</u>: Make a salad with all the delicious fruit God has produced with seeds!</p>
Service	<p>Create Soup in a Jar for Neighbors or the food pantry.</p> <p>Just Add Water Soup Mixes</p>
Prayer	<p>Answer Jesus’ invitation to follow him by praying this prayer written by St. John Henry Newman:</p> <p>Prayer for Christlikeness</p>
Reflecting in the Hammock	<p>The events of the world have caused many of us to pause and reflect. What is Jesus inviting you to open your heart to in this moment? How can you see the world, differently, with the eyes of God?</p>

Week of July 19

Theme	Can you put words to the kingdom of God? What is the Kingdom like---mustard seeds, weed/wheat, yeast? We are called to practice HOPE; be Open to the Spirit.
Scripture	Wisdom 12:13-16-19; Psalm 86; Romans 8:26-27; Matthew 13:24-43
Science	Small things like a tiny mustard seed can do BIG THINGS. Try this experiment to illustrate that fact! BLOW UP BALLOON USING YEAST
Arts/Craft	<p>Create ornaments of hope – each family member can make one or two each and name what their hope is. Place a small tree branch in jar or vase with stone in the base to hold the branch. Hang ornaments on the branch.</p> <p><i>Find an explanatory handout on our website!</i></p> <p>OR</p> <p><u>God Sighting Binoculars</u></p> <p>Use your binoculars this week To See With the Eyes of God . Look for God in nature, in good deeds of others or in a good deed you yourself have done. Talk about what you see. Use these on your journey with Jesus</p> <p><i>Please see handout on our website!</i></p>
Music	<p>The Kingdom of God</p> <p>Bread of Life</p> <p>Even If</p>
Game	<p>CONCENTRATION: Are you paying attention to everything...train yourself to be a better observer and you might get better at seeing God’s work in the world! To play, fill a cookie sheet or tray with a variety of items. Bring the tray to the player. The player has one minute to observe everything he or she sees. Then, take the tray away. Can the player list it all?</p>

	<p>OR</p> <p><u>Monster Drawing</u></p>
Snack	<p>Have a snack of both leavened bread (of any type) and unleavened bread such as pita or tortilla. Compare the flavors. Try it with some cheese or meat and special mustard!</p>
Service	<p>Surprise HOPE: Spread HOPE with a surprise of sunshine in someone's mailbox!</p> <p>Make a home-made card with a beautiful bright sunshine on the front; inside write a positive message. Send it as an anonymous surprise to a friend or family member <i>or</i> send some messages of hope along with donations to a shelter or soup kitchen!</p>
Prayer	<p>The Act of Hope is a traditional Catholic Prayer. Pray it this week!</p> <p><u>Act of Hope</u></p>
Reflecting in the Hammock	<p>If you were to write your own parable, what would you compare the Kingdom of God to? Consider what the world would look like if we were to have the Kingdom of God here on Earth.</p>

Week of July 26

Theme	Do you have an understanding heart? The treasure of God's Kingdom might not have been revealed to you yet. LOOK FOR IT! It may be "buried"!
Scripture	Kings 3:5, 7-12; Psalm 119; Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 13:44-52
Science	Think about other "hidden things" try the: Invisible Ink Experiment Miracles can happen if we believe!
Arts/Craft	Build a: Family Faith Chest OR Create a Silhouette – As we live out our daily life, we sometimes forget that we have a hidden treasure in God and in heaven. Thus, we tend to see the things God created without truly seeing their beauty. Make a silhouette to help remind you that despite our forgetfulness, God sees all things clearly. <i>PLEASE SEE Explanatory Handout on our website!</i>
Music	Can You Feel the Joy? Awesome God Build My Life
Game	Create a candy treasure hunt or make a simple scavenger hunt for friends. There are many templates online, but you can design one easily using clues from your own surroundings. This is a fun thing to do as individual families and compare afterward...consider photo scavenger hunts, road rallies, or other treasure hunting games!

Snack	<p>HoHo/Rice Krispy Treasure: cut a hoho in half and fill with “surprise” candy OR mold rice krispies into a top and bottom and fill with “surprise” candy. IF you are feeling ambitious in your snack making, try this fun buried treasure cupcake recipe: <u>Buried Treasure Chocolate Strawberry Cupcakes</u></p>
Service	<p>Go on a shopping scavenger hunt for a soup kitchen or food cupboard by finding their wish list. OR Contact your local donation center for St. Vincent de Paul, Goodwill, etc. and find out how to give clothing. Then, “HUNT” through your dresser and closet and pull out clothes that you no longer wear. All members of the family can participate! Together as a family, ask: Why do we pass along our clothing to those in need? (Jesus asks us to clothe those without clothing). How many outfits does a person really need? How do I feel when I donate extra clothes to others? Say a prayer for the families who receive the clothing you gave</p>
Prayer	<p>Have a conversation with God this week. Spend some time in quiet and see if you can hear where God is trying to lead you</p>
Reflecting in the Hammock	<p>Solomon asked God for an understanding heart. Think about a person, a group of people that you have a difficult time understanding. Open your heart to them as children of God. How might you try and walk in their shoes this week?</p>