Your name is going to be blessed and famous forever! The whole earth is going to praise You and You will fill the earth with Your glory. (Psalm 72:19)

### See It:

'So, the Lord made a covenant with Abram that day and said, "I have given this land to your descendants, all the way from the border of Egypt to the great Euphrates River.' (Genesis 15:18)

# On It:

It would be great to read the whole chapter – an amazing story. A covenant is an agreement that you stick to forever. It's like a promise. The Hebrew word is sometimes translated alliance, solemn oath, or treaty. Normally it is cut. You cut a covenant. Usually, blood is shed. The term 'covenant' emerges from Latin 'con venire', or, 'come together'. Some might say that one can't cut a covenant without bloodshed. In fact, that is what the cutting is all about. Whether it is Abraham and God, with God mysteriously passing through chopped up animals, a Junior Soldier enrollment on a Sunday morning, or Jesus on the Cross, covenant always involves death. But don't worry! You don't have to bleed in order to be a Junior Soldier! But you are putting your old life to death. You are making a promise to live for God instead of yourself. And when you do that, your old plans all die! Think about how the Junior Soldier covenant could be good for you or has been good for you.

## Live It:

Every Junior Soldier memorizes, signs, and lives out the Junior Soldier Promise.

## Do It:

As well as your list of prayer names, you might like to keep a journal of your prayers. That way you can write not just the name of someone, but also what they would like prayer for. Ask your teacher if there is anything, he or she would like prayer for, and then add it to your prayer journal.



# in it:

Please bless me! Expand my heart, expand my boundaries; help me, strengthen me; keep me from evil and from causing pain to others and to You!

### Eat It:

'For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit'. (1 Peter 3:18)

### **Read It:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read 2 Samuel 13-14, & Matthew 24

Those who feel sad, who are poor and lack justice continue to praise Your name. (Psalm 74:21)

## See It:

'Now if you will obey me and keep My covenant, you will be My own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it aloud to the people. Again, they all answered and agreed, "We will do everything the Lord has commanded. We will obey." Then Moses took the blood from the basins and splattered it over the people, declaring, "Look, this blood confirms the covenant the Lord has made with you in giving you these instructions." (Exodus 19:5; 24:7-8)

# On it:

Here's some more blood-spilling! You'll see that the people have a responsibility in this agreement and God has a responsibility. If we fulfill our end of the agreement, then we can count on Him to keep His end. But it might help to explain things a bit. You see, our Father 'delights' to give us the Kingdom (Luke 12:32). As well as peace, righteousness, and joy in the Holy Spirit (Romans 14:17), the Kingdom involves all sorts of supernatural interventions for us – His 'possession'. Our Father would love to delight in us by giving us the fullness of His Kingdom, if He could trust us with it. Our covenant gives us a holy trustworthiness that allows God to release Kingdom fullness and, because of that, take delight in us. One of the important parts is the trust that can only come because of your covenant holiness.

# Live It:

Over the five days we will give you a section of the promise that you can memorize, and then live out.

## Do It:

Ask your mom or dad if there are any extras chores you can do.

# in it:

'I believe we shall win, if we fight in the strength of the King.' (From the Songbook)

Soldier

#### Eat It: 1 Peter 3:18

Christ suffered and died for our sins. Praise the Lord. This is a hard idea to understand but the bottom line for us is that He died for us. If He did not die for us, then there is NO way we could escape hell and get to Heaven. So, this is essential.

#### **Read It:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read 2 Samuel 15-16, Psalm 32, & Matthew 25

I will not stop praising Your name and loving You, Yahweh! I will always praise You forever and ever and ever! (Psalm 75:9)

### See It:

Noah and a rainbow. You can look up the story in your Bibles! (Genesis 9:9-17)

# On it:

What is the biggest rainbow you have ever seen? The very first rainbow of all time happened in this story. God has kept His promise. Every time it rains you see evidence of God's covenant. Rainbows are the most visible sign of God's covenant relationships. You see God is a covenantkeeping God. If we don't understand covenant, we don't completely understand God. Throughout history God has used covenant to 'bind' Himself to His people in a promise. General William Booth argues that covenant is essential, 'not only for those who do wrong, but to prevent people from going wrong.' This basically means that once we promise God, we will do something, it will actually help us to stick to it because we won't want to let Him down.



#### Live It:

Memorize this first part of the promise. 'I know that Jesus is my Saviour from sin.'

# Do It:

Make a list of all the things you would like God to do to help the world be a better place.

### in it:

Thank God for three great things about your mom or dad. Write them into our journal as a praise point.



#### Eat It: 1 Peter 3:18

'Once for all.' The Hebrew religion needed a sacrifice of a lamb for the sins of the people – every year. So, every year they would literally kill a lamb, and that would be what God needed so that He could forgive them. But Jesus, whose nickname is 'The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world', died once for all time. You don't have to keep killing Him for forgiveness.

# **Read It:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read 2 Samuel 17, Psalm 71, & Matthew 26

You are beautiful! More amazing than any beautiful mountain, or ocean, or sunset, or anything in nature. (Psalm 76:4)

#### See It:

'I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you badly. All the families on earth will be blessed through you.' (Genesis 12:3)

# On It:

Abraham is the father of Israel. That little country has turned out to be very important to the world. Historically, Israel and its people (the Jews) have felt the fulfillment of the covenant promise (which means God lived up to His end of the bargain in the Old Testament). But Abraham is also the father of faith. Paul tells us that all of us who show our faith in Jesus Christ and find righteousness in that faith are also Abraham's spiritual children. So, we the followers of Jesus (because we are now children of Abraham) are to bless all the families of the earth! Wow, that's a lot of families. How do we bless all the families of the earth? Well, people in countries around the world have been blessed because we have been obedient and done the things God wanted us to do for them. Most importantly, people all around the world get to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. That means, whenever people repent of their sins and believe in Jesus, they are saved AND God's covenant promise in these verses is being fulfilled even more! Phew, today was a hard one, well done for getting through!

## Live it:

Memorize this next part of the promise. 'I have asked Him to forgive my sins, and I will trust Him to keep me good.'

#### Do It:

Look at one of the things on yesterday's list and find a way to do it.

### in it:

Thank You that You make promises with me and that You keep them!

### Eat It: 1 Peter 3:18

'The righteous for the unrighteous.' He's the one who never sinned, and He dies for all of us who have sinned. We can't make up for our sin. He never sinned. So, His sacrifice for us works. Memorize this verse.

## **Read It:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read 2 Samuel 18, Psalm 56, & Matthew 27



*I am not going to hide the things You have done. I am not going to keep Your miraculous work a secret.* (Psalm 78:4)

#### See It:

'Speak to the Israelites and say to them: "If people want to make a special vow, a vow of dedication to the LORD as a Nazirite, they must abstain from wine and other fermented drink and must not drink vinegar made from wine or other fermented drink. They must not drink grape juice or eat grapes or raisins. As long as they remain under their Nazirite vow, they must not eat anything that comes from the grapevine, not even the seeds or skins. During the entire period of their Nazirite vow, no razor may be used on their head. They must be holy until the period of their dedication to the LORD is over; they must let their hair grow long. Throughout the period of their dedication to the LORD, the Nazirite must not go near a dead body." (Numbers 6:2-6)

# On it:

Do you remember reading about Samuel? He dragged a bunch of tribes into nationhood (A united country, Israel). None of his words fell to the ground (which means his prophetic words were always correct and happened the way he had seen them happen earlier!). He was a Nazirite. Samson was a mighty warrior who overthrew his enemies and used the justice of God to fight for his people. He was a Nazirite. John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord. Up to that time there was no one greater than John, at least according to our Jesus! (Luke 7:28). John was a Nazirite. These guys were all hardcore warriors of Jesus and their covenant was pretty simple. But their covenant is actually similar to Salvationists. Let's live up to our covenants.

# Live It:

Memorize this next part of the promise. 'By His help, I will be His loving and obedient child, and will help others to follow Him.'

# Do It:

Choose one thing on your list and ask someone to help you with that challenge.

### in it:

Help us to see what You're doing and do what we're seeing.

## Eat It: 1 Peter 3:18

'To bring us to God.' This was not just a cool death to get some attention and respect. Jesus died for a cause. He died so that we can be forgiven and go to heaven.

### **Read It:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read 2 Samuel 19-20, Psalm 55, & Matthew 28

Thank You so much God! I thank You with all of my heart. I will sing praises to You forever! (Psalm 86:12)

### See It:

'Then Jeremiah said to all of the family of the Recabites, "This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: 'You have done all the things commanded by your forefather Jonadab and have followed all his instructions and have done everything he ordered.' Therefore, this is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: 'Jonadab son of Recab will never fail to have a descendant to serve Me."" (Jeremiah 35:18-19 read the whole chapter)

# On it:

Have you ever had friends over and offered them the wrong kind of food? Maybe they were allergic to certain things (say, nuts) or were vegetarians and you offered them a hot dog. It is a bit awkward, isn't it? God told Jeremiah to invite the Recabites over and offer them wine to drink. Then he found out that they didn't drink wine (good decision!) because God told their ancestor Jonadab not to. God also told him a few other things to follow. These instructions were a bit annoying for these people, who had to keep moving around (they were instructed not to build houses), make new friends, and had to buy their food on the market (they were instructed not to plant vineyard or fields or seed). But they were faithful to this simple covenant. God used their faithful example to tell off Judah, who only had this one instruction but did not listen to God even though He spoke to them again and again (v14). What a great encouragement to us to be faithful to God's instruction to us. Who knows who will be blessed through our example?

#### Live It:

Memorize this next part of the promise. 'I promise to pray, to read my Bible, and to lead a life that is clean in thought, word and deed.'

# Do It:

Ask mom or dad if you can bake some cookies and then give them as a present to your neighbour.



# in it:

Ask for forgiveness of your sins and say thank you that they're now gone forever.

### Eat It: 1 Peter 3:18

'Put to death in the body.' Some people of different religions can accept that Jesus was a great leader or a prophet or something but that He did not really die. But this is really important for us.

### **Read It:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read 2 Samuel 21-23, & 1 Thessalonians 1

The dead cannot speak of your wonderful deeds. They cannot praise You. But I can praise You forever. (Psalm 88:10)

#### See It:

'This is My blood of the new covenant. It is poured out to forgive the sins of everyone.' (Matthew 26:28)

# On It:

Earlier we told you that covenant needs blood. The most important covenant of all is this one, that Jesus gave us for the forgiveness of sins so that we can be reconciled with God. And it cost blood – the blood of Jesus. Now Jesus explains this during the Passover meal with His disciples. Passover is a yearly celebration of the original Passover (see Exodus 12), when God instructed the Israelites to kill a lamb and spread its blood over their door frame (and a few other things) so that they would be spared the terrible last plague that would hit the Egyptians. This blood and covenant thing is important because, 'without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness' (Hebrews 9:22). But Jesus did shed His blood for us so that we can be forgiven if we enter that covenant. Our end of the agreement? Repent and believe and follow Jesus! And that means no blood shedding from us! All thanks to Jesus who shed it in our place.

# Live It:

Memorize this last part of the promise. 'I will not use anything that may injure my body or my mind, including harmful drugs, alcohol and tobacco'.

#### Do It:

Tell your Sunday school leaders that you prayed for them today.

#### in it:

Imagine Jesus was sitting right in front of you. What would you like to say to Him?



#### Eat It: 1 Peter 3:18

Write the verse. Recite it. Memorize it. Tell it to five friends and try to get them saved.

# **Read It:**

One-year Bible Plan: Read 2 Samuel 24, 1 Chronicles 21, Psalm 30, & 1 Thessalonians 2