



elementary small group guide

this book belongs to

HEY KIDS!

We are so excited you are joining us for Kids Week! You are going to have a blast and we hope you learn so much about Jesus this week! We hope you will invite a friend to join in the fun with you.

This book is important as it will help you as we learn from God's Word and help you think through our FOCUS point each night. Write in it. Color in it. Make it yours. You can do it during the lesson each night as I teach or save it for later and have time alone with God. If you need help, you can always ask a parent or friend.

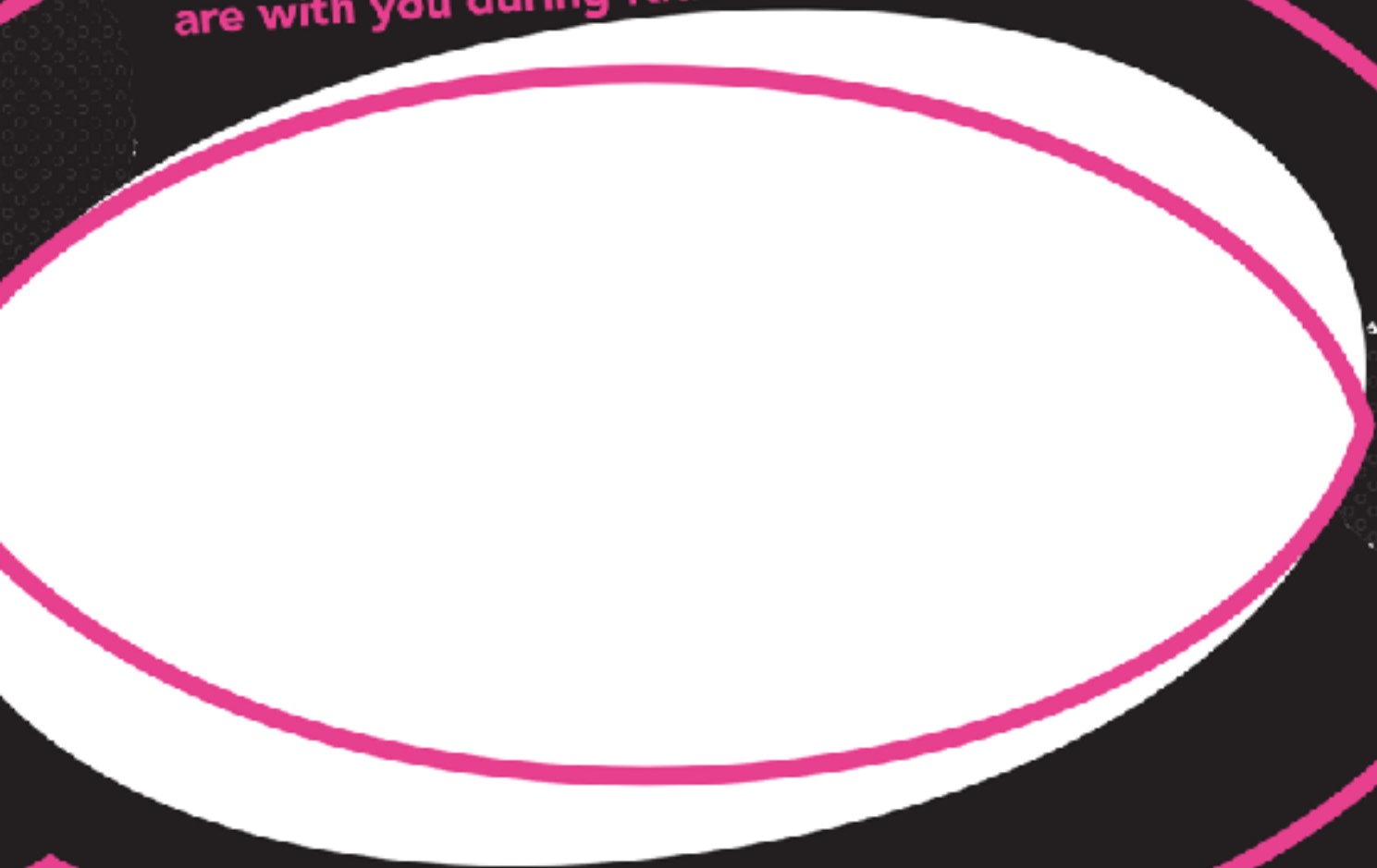
There are three sections in this book: Day 1, Day 2, and Day 3. Be sure to stop at the end of each section and wait for the following day's teaching.

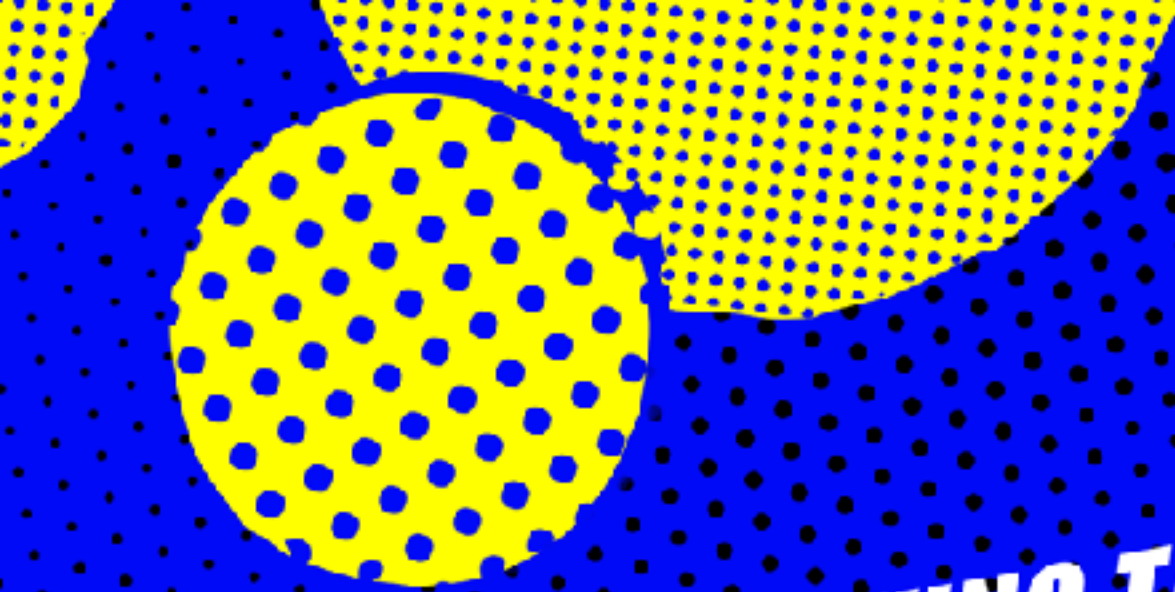
It is my prayer that you will grow closer to Jesus through this and you will finish Kids Week knowing you are incredibly loved by God and by ALIVE Wesleyan Church!

Have lots of FUN!

Love,
Mrs. Stephanie
Children's Pastor

draw yourself and your friends who
are with you during Kids Week Live





**LET US KEEP LOOKING TO JESUS.
HE IS THE ONE WHO STARTED
THIS JOURNEY OF FAITH. AND HE
IS THE ONE WHO COMPLETES
THE JOURNEY OF FAITH.**

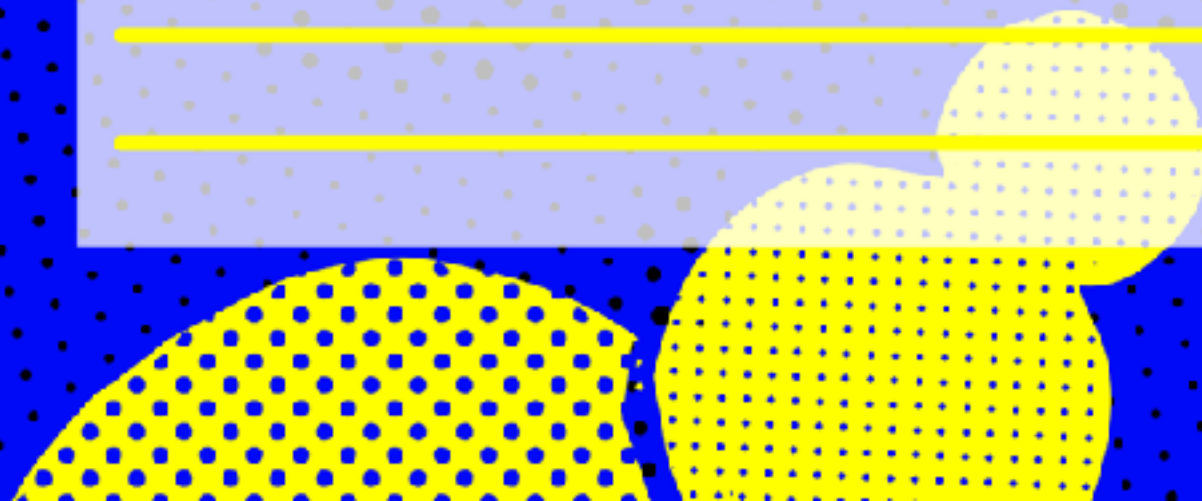


HEBREWS 12:2A NIRV



**WRITE IT
LEARN IT**

A blue and white polka-dot notepad with a yellow pencil is positioned in the top left corner. The background is a blue surface with yellow horizontal lines and small white polka dots. The notepad has a blue cover and a white page with blue horizontal lines. The pencil is yellow with a blue eraser and a blue band.





DAY ONE

BIBLE STORY: Seeing God in Creation - Romans 1:20

BOTTOM LINE: FOCUS on what you can see.

HEY KIDS!

We are so pumped to be together - virtually - for Kids Week 2020! We are going to have so much fun!

This week we will be discovering new things through FOCUS! I don't know about you but I LOVE to discover new things - the world is full of adventure and creation and exciting new discoveries! I love it when I come across something new and take time to FOCUS on it so I can learn more about it. I love to FOCUS on new people or new environments so I can get to know them better. I hope that this week, by FOCUSing on God, we'll learn more about HIM!

There are lots of things we CAN see that can help us figure out what we CAN'T see. For example, if someone gives you a high-five, then we know that person is our friend. If I look outside and see a giant thundercloud starting to cover up the sun, then I know it's probably about to storm and I should stay inside.

Well, we can think about God in kind of the same way. We might not be able to SEE god with our eyes. But, we can discover more about Him when we take a closer look - when we put our FOCUS on Him! That's what we'll be FOCUSing on all week long!

We can't really SEE God, so how can we FOCUS on Him? How can we get to know him better? How can we be sure His way is the very best way to live? We can start by taking a closer look at what he has MADE.

The apostle Paul wrote about that in his letter to the Romans. Look at these words Paul wrote in **Romans 1:20**.

"Ever since the world was created it has been possible to see the qualities of God that are not seen. I'm talking about his eternal power and about the fact that he is God. Those things can be seen in what he has made. So people have no excuse for what they do."

Paul was basically saying: do you want to know how big and powerful God is? Look around! You can see how amazing God is when you see the things He has made.

When we really focus on something, we can find out things that we never even noticed before!

draw a sunrise

God creates each day new

draw any animal

God created every animal and cares for them

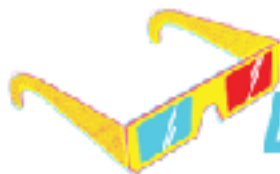
write out every name in your family, or draw a family photo

God created every member of your family and loves them all!

**God created
everything,
big and small.**

draw what outer space might look like

God created the WHOLE UNIVERSE!



DAY ONE

draw your fingerprint

Every fingerprint is unique and God detailed every single one!

We can look at the vastness of the universe and remember that our big, powerful God is in control of all of it! We can look at the smallest details of God's creation and remember He cares about **EVERYTHING** going on in our lives.





ACTIVITY

blowing like the wind

what you need: one straw per player, a ping-pong ball, a space to create a "race course."

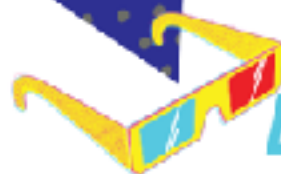
what you do:

- setup a "race course" with a starting line, finishing line, and obstacles (like chairs or books).
- every person get their own straw, blow air through the straw to move the ball.
- if you touch the ball with your body or your straw, you must go back to the starting line and begin again.
- the first kid to reach the finish line wins.
- you can take turns racing different opponents, turn this into a relay race, or all compete at once!

think about it: what made the ping-pong balls move? (air/breath) Even though we couldn't see the air, we could see the effect of the air.

Can you think of anything you can't see, but you know it is there? What about the wind? We can't see wind, but when we **FOCUS on what we can see**, like trees swaying or kites flying or flags flapping, we know the wind is there.

In our Bible story today, Paul is telling us to **FOCUS on what we can see**, like mountains, the sky, stars, animals, and people. Focusing on what we CAN see in creation points us to a God we CAN'T see.



DAY ONE

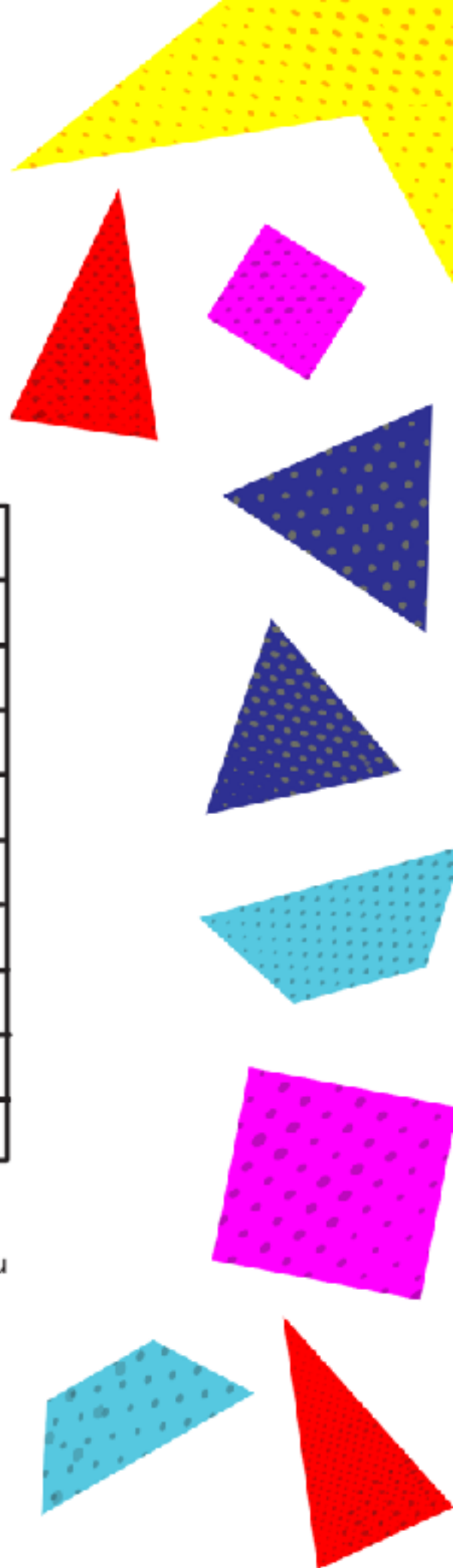
PAGE

creation's creativity

what you do: head out on a scavenger hunt and FOCUS on what you see! Fill in this chart below with what you find.

something colorful
something flat
something rough
something orange
something shiny
something small
something big
something alive
something squishy
something hard

think about it: when you FOCUS on what you can see, you notice the variety of God's creation. When you look at all God created, you see how much He loves us. God created food to feed us. Imagine if the only food he created was lima beans!? Thank GOD He made carrots, apples, watermelon & even broccoli! God created colors. Imagine if God only created the color orange and all we saw was orange. But God is so generous, he created so many different colors for us to enjoy! What are other things God created to show us He loves us?



WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE THING THAT GOD CREATED?



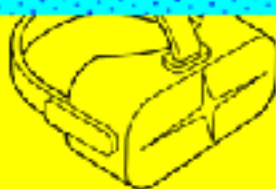
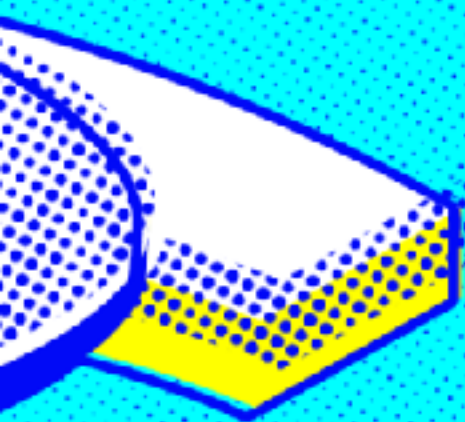
DAY ONE

draw it. write it. create it!

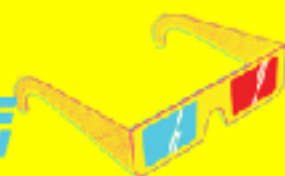


FOCUS

ON WHAT YOU CAN SEE.



STOP DAY ONE





DAY TWO

BIBLE STORY: The Wise and Foolish Builders

- Matthew 7:24-27

BOTTOM LINE: You can HEAR from God.

HEY KIDS!

One time, Jesus talked about a really important way that we can FOCUS on God, and it has a lot to do with building. If you're building a house, what do you need to look at first? You need to look at the plans. You have to study the blueprints so you can build the house strong and secure. And you need to build it on good, flat ground to make sure it won't fall over.

Jesus was talking about this one day with his friends. He wasn't just talking about building a house - He was talking about what it means for us to build our LIVES on a rock-solid base.

We can read what Jesus said in the book of Matthew, chapter 7, verses 24-27. *"Everyone who hears my words and puts them into practice is like a wise man. He builds his house on the rock. The rain comes down. The water rises. The winds blow and beat against that house. But it does not fall. It is built on the rock. But everyone who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man. He builds his house on sand. The rain comes down. The water rises. The winds blow and beat against that house. And it falls with a loud crash."*

Okay, Jesus said that whoever hears His words and put them into practice is wise. But how do we hear Him? Jesus isn't standing in front of us. We can't hear Him talking like His friends could back then.

We can hear from God by reading His words in the Bible - just like we're doing together now! Jesus says we shouldn't stop with just reading, we should also put his words into PRACTICE.

For example, you may have the instructions to build a strong house - but you have to actually do the steps to build it. Jesus was saying that we need to FOCUS on his words and then actually live our lives based on what we've learned. That's how we become wise. That's how we build our lives on a strong and secure foundation.

draw a fortress (like a castle), or write a sentence describing one

no storm can shake the peace that comes from God

draw a sandcastle, or write a sentence describing a sandcastle

a life without a foundation in Christ has no peace

"Everyone who hears my words and puts them into practice is like a wise man. He builds his house on the rock. The rain comes down. The water rises. The winds blow and beat against that house. But it does not fall. It is built on the rock. But everyone who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man. He builds his house on sand. The rain comes down. The water rises. The winds blow and beat against that house. And it falls with a loud crash."

- Matthew 7:24-27

ACTIVITY PAGE

build this!

what you need: one pack of dice per team, one craft stick per player.

what you do:

- each team build a "tower" on a table with your dice. was that hard?
- now, have one player on each team (or however you're divided) put a craft stick in his/her mouth. other players on that team try and build a "tower" with dice on top of the craft stick.
- is this more challenging?
- take turns being the "foundation" and the "builder" but don't swap sticks.

think about it: The tower built on the table is like the wise man in the story who built his house on the rocks. The tower (like the house) is strong and stable. When we try to build a tower on something unstable, it is like building a house in the sand; it falls easily. Jesus tells us this story of the builders to remind us that God is using the Bible to communicate with us. Reading the Bible is a way **you can HEAR from God**; when you listen to the stories in the Bible and use God's Word to help you make choices, you are a wise person, just like the builder who built his house on rock.

verse stacking

what you need: verse cup set, one set per team

what you do:

- grab a Bible and look up Hebrews 12:2a. read it out loud.
- each team take a set of the verse cups and build a tower, putting the verse in order as you go.
- to build the tower: (1) place one cup upside down on the table or floor. (2) then place the next cup on top of that one, right side up. (3) the third cup goes on top, upside down. (4) continue until all the cups are stacked.

think about it: God sent Jesus to earth to point us to Him, and one great way **you can HEAR from God** is to read how Jesus lived. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are four books of the Bible called the Gospels. The Gospels are filled with stories about how Jesus lived and what He taught. When you look to Jesus and His life, you can HEAR God saying things like, "I love you," "You can trust Me," "Treat others the way you want to be treated," and, "My Word will help you make the wise choice."



DAY TWO

spoon gong

1. make a "spoon gong."
2. wrap each end of the string around each index finger (just a couple times). let the spoon hang from the string, and plug your ears with the fingers holding the string ends.
3. have someone gently strike the "spoon gong."
4. what do you hear?
5. what happens when you change the spoon size?
6. what if you shorten the string by holding it closer to the spoon?

bonus activity

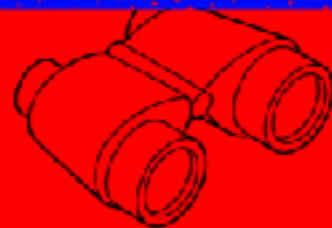
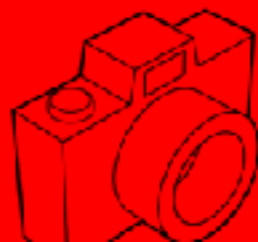
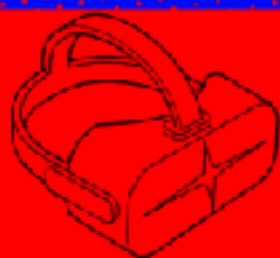
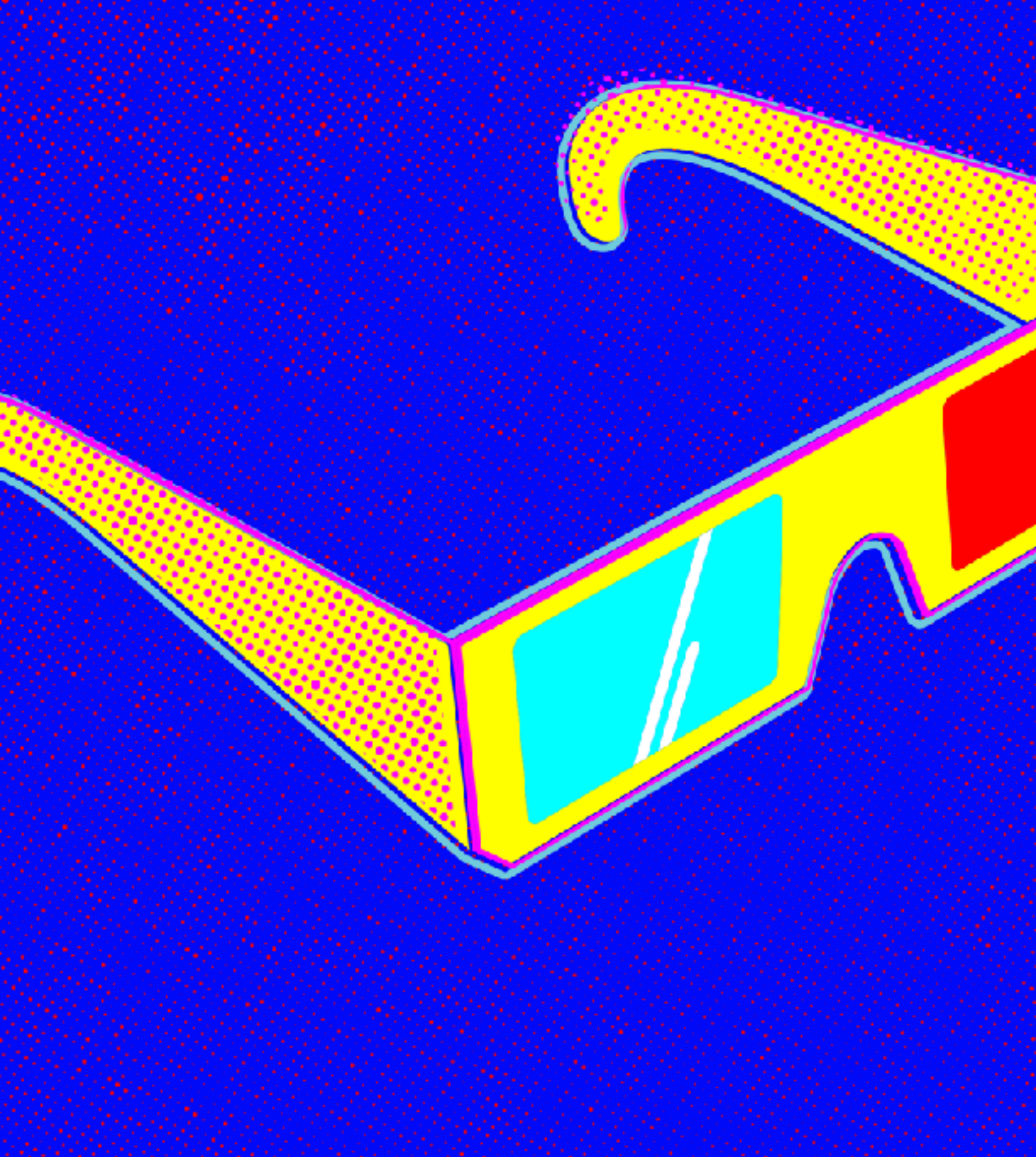


DAY TWO

**HOW DO YOU
KNOW WHAT GOD
WANTS YOU TO DO?**

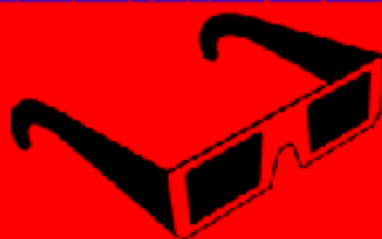
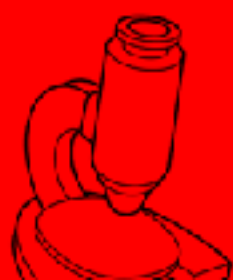
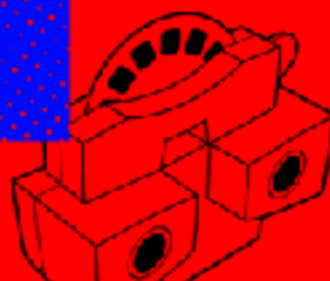
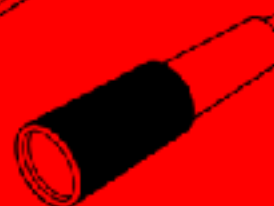
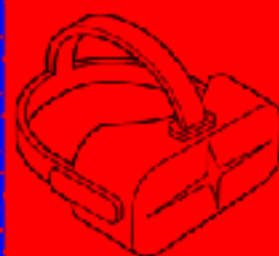
Respond to today's big question.

draw it. write it. create it.

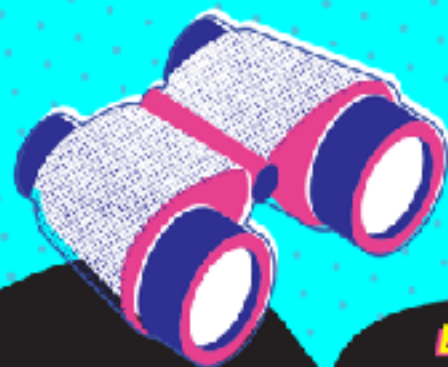




**YOU CAN
HEAR
FROM GOD.**



STOP DAY TWO



DAY THREE

BIBLE STORY: Peter says that Jesus is the Messiah!
Matthew 16:13-20

BOTTOM LINE: You can TALK with others about what you believe.

It's amazing what you can find out when you really FOCUS on something. When you take a closer look, you see things you never noticed before. You might even learn something about what you CAN'T see because of the things you CAN see.

Our relationship with God is kind of like that. He's God, and we're human - so we'll never be able to completely understand everything there is to know about God.

But to be honest, I kind of like how God is so mind blowing! It's a GOOD thing for us to try to understand God more and more and to get to know Him better and better. If we FOCUS on Him every day, then over time, we'll actually start to think and act like Him. We'll be kinder. We'll be more patient. We'll be willing to put others first.

We can take a look at things we CAN see - like everything God created. We can HEAR from God by reading the Bible. Another way we can FOCUS on Jesus, is by talking about Him. We can ask questions. We can celebrate when we understand something new about Him. And we can be honest about things we don't understand.

fill in the blanks

___ N T _ E ___ T _ ST E ___
_ E R E _ _ _ _ R _ _ E T S

Matthew 16:14

fill in the blanks

_ E S S _ _ _
S _ N _ _ T _ E L _ _ N _ _ _

Matthew 16:15

**When you TALK
with others about
what you believe,
you can learn from
them, and they can
learn from you.**

LET US PRAY

Dear God,

I need you. Thank you for loving me.

I admit I have sinned and I know my sin separates me from you.

I ask for your forgiveness.

I believe you died and rose again.

I invite you to be my Savior and my forever friend.

I trust you and love you.

Amen



DAY THREE

IF YOU PRAYED THIS PRAYER TODAY FOR THE FIRST TIME,
LET US KNOW! EMAIL MRS. STEPHANIE AT

SRHYNECALTIVEWESLEYAN.COM

ACTIVITY

Focus cards

what you need: one set of "FOCUS CARDS"

what you do:

- shuffle your focus cards
- lay them all out face down
- play a game of "match." you can play alone or take turns with your friends. to keep things moving quickly, keep switching turns, even if you find a match.
- once all the matches are found, lay the FOCUS CARDS out and discuss how each image represents who people say Jesus is

think about it: people thought Jesus was John the Baptist, Elijah, or a prophet. Often, when people talk about Jesus today, they say He is a healer, He feeds the poor, He is our Shepherd, or He's a teacher. But we're missing a card for Jesus' response to Jesus. When Jesus asked Peter, "Who do you say I am?" Peter said, "You are the Messiah. You are the Son of the living God." (Matthew 16:15-16). Peter recognized Jesus as God's Son - the one sent by God to rescue all of us. And when Jesus asked Peter what he believed, Peter answered Him. You can be like Peter, too, and **you can TALK with others about what you believe.** The more you TALK about what you believe, the more you can learn from others and the more others can learn from you.



DAY THREE

PAGE

say what?

what you need: large sheet of white paper,
speech bubbles, tape & markers (or other colorful writing/
designing materials)

what you do:

- draw yourself on your white paper (a small stick figure will
do, leave yourself plenty of room)

- think about these questions:

1. Who can you talk to about what you believe or
what they believe? (ex: a family member, a friend, a
small group leader)
2. Is there someone in your life you know is a Jesus
follower who could help you with questions you
might have?

- tape your speech bubbles around your stick figure. In the
bubbles, write some things you can say to others about
what you believe.

Example:

- If a friend asks you who Jesus is, how would you
reply? What would you say?
- What is a question you have about Jesus that you
could ask someone you trust, who believes in Jesus?
- What is something cool you learned at church that
you could share with a parent or siblings or friends?

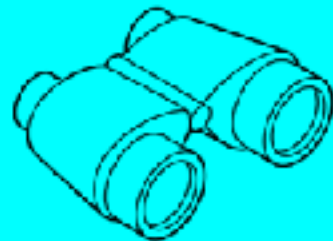
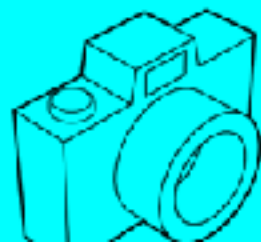
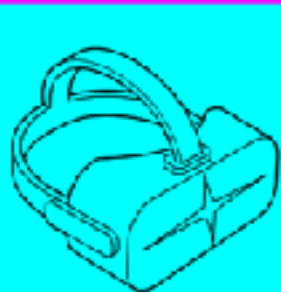
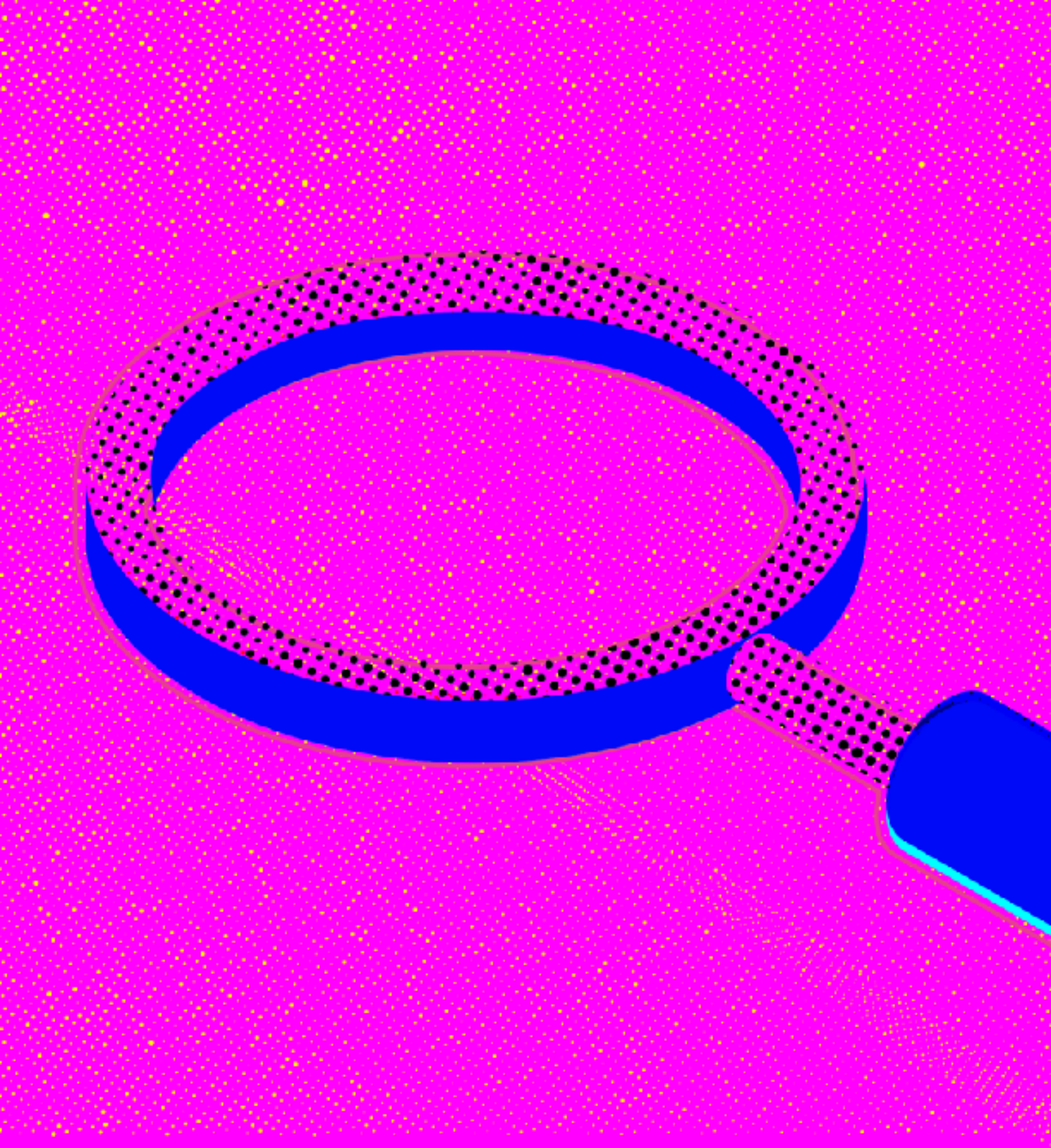
**you can TALK with others about what
you believe, but what you know about Jesus.**

WHAT IS GOD DOING IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW?



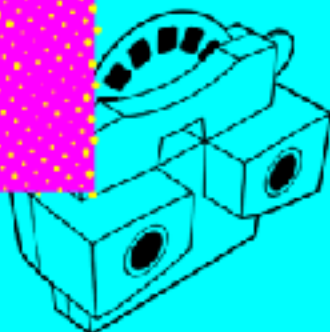
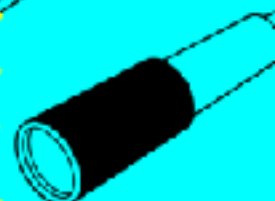
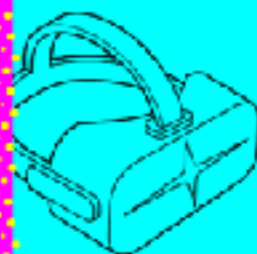
DAY THREE

write it. draw it.



YOU CAN
TALK

**WITH OTHERS
ABOUT WHAT
YOU BELIEVE.**



STOP DAY THREE





kids week 2020

ALIVE kids