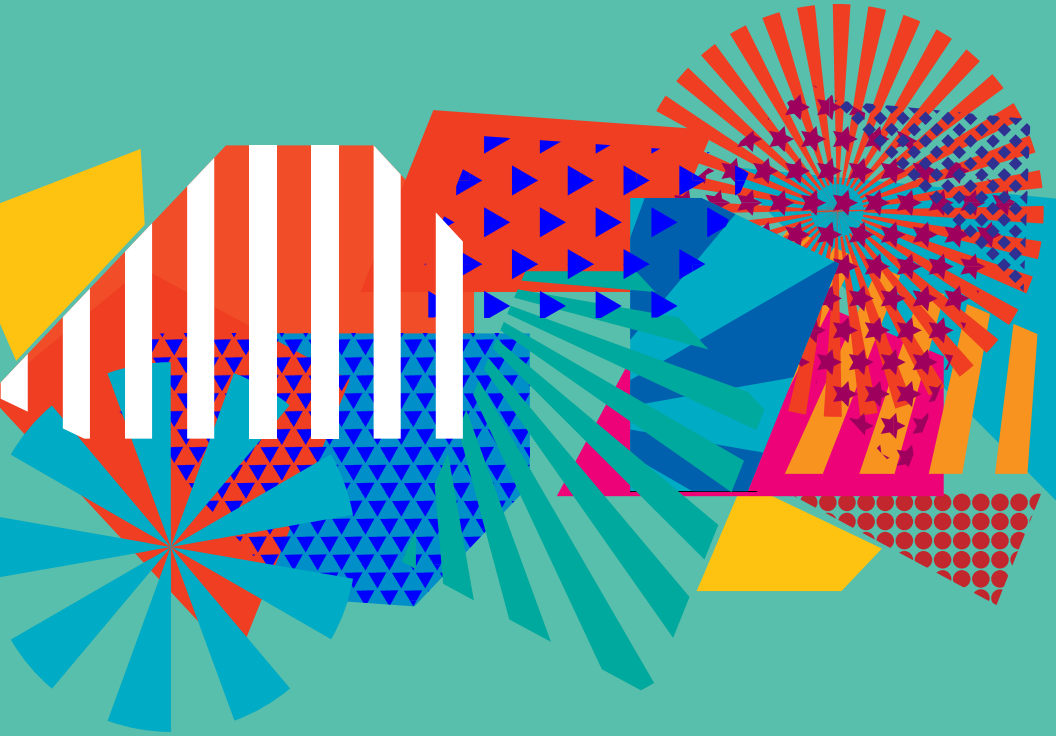


A STUDENT MINISTRY PARENTS' GUIDE

Discipleship Plan



SPRING—
SUMMER
2023

Jr. & Sr. High

OVERVIEW

The Student Ministry Discipleship Plan (SMDP) provides students, parents, families, and volunteers the content and objectives of all Bible studies, small groups, retreats, and other discipleship opportunities through summer 2023. Our goal as a student and family ministry team is not only to present the content covered and the curriculum used but to also provide the “why” behind each of the discipleship opportunities offered for students.

The SMDP consists first of important marks of faith development and significant milestones for students. The faith development milestones serve as the purpose for which MBBC’s student discipleship efforts are coordinated. The milestones also aid parents as a family ministry tool to aid them in their efforts to disciple their sons and daughters at home. The Jr. High and Sr. High faith development milestones are not achievements to reach but are the byproducts of Christ’s saving work and the Holy Spirit’s sanctifying power in the lives of students. Our hope is that students will have identifiable marks of faith as they continue to grow in faith in Jesus Christ.

The subsequent sections of the SMDP outline specific student discipleship efforts at Mountain Brook Baptist Church in the winter, spring, and summer of 2023. The discipleship efforts are not completely comprehensive; new opportunities to engage and disciple students may arise as students, parents, and ministers see fit. Likewise, existing opportunities are subject to change and adjust as students, parents, and ministers see fit.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT AND MILESTONES

JR. HIGH

The Mountain Brook Baptist Church student and family ministry team strives to walk alongside each and every student as he or she engages in the life of the church and grows in knowledge and love of God and neighbor. While three years of Jr. High is a relatively short time, it is deeply formative in the lives of students physically, emotionally, and spiritually. As Jr. High students face new challenges and pressures, we hope students will solidify and grow in their faith in particular ways. Important Jr. High faith milestones include:

BAPTISM

As Baptists, we believe baptism is a sign and ordinance of the Holy Spirit's saving work in the lives of individual believers when Christ is accepted as Lord and Savior through faith. While children, students, and adults all come to a saving faith in Christ at different times, we hope to help and encourage students move toward baptism if they have not done so previously.

GOSPEL ARTICULATION

Youth ministry research and statistics show that students (ages 12-18) who have grown up in the church will practice their faith and remain in the church post-adolescence when they can clearly and confidently express their faith in terms of God's salvation and redemption of sinners through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our aim is to help students understand the gospel of Jesus in everything they do whether in thought, word, or deed.

BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING

Because the Bible is God's true, authoritative, and sufficient word, we believe all students should possess a solid biblical framework. This includes locating the books in both the Old and New Testaments, understanding the Bible's basic narrative and major themes, memorizing key verses and passages, and reading the Bible on one's own for edification and sanctification. Through teaching, discussion, and study, we hope to come alongside Jr. High students so that they can confidently read and interpret Scripture themselves while continuing to build upon the foundation laid during their time in children's ministry.

INTEGRATION OF FAITH AND LIFE

Christianity is not a set of rules and principles to help people live a better life. Rather, the Christian faith is expressed as a life lived in communion with God and Christ through the work of the Holy Spirit. Our goal is to help students understand that faith is not limited to Sunday mornings or select times during the week. Rather, we seek to show students that Jesus is Lord in all parts of their lives whether it be in the classroom, on the field, at church, or in the community.

DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Each and every student has a unique story of the ways their family, church, friends, and community have shaped their faith and help them grow in grace and knowledge of Jesus. We hope to help Jr. High students begin to think about the ways God has worked in their lives to bring them to faith and how he promises to guide them no matter where they go or what they do.

MISSIONS

Jesus told his followers to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). All Christians are called to share and demonstrate the love and saving grace of Jesus. Through planned and structured opportunities, such as serve days and mission trips, and through teaching and equipping, our goal is to help students see the need for local and global missions and to give them a desire to serve others for the sake of the gospel.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT AND MILESTONES

SR. HIGH

The Mountain Brook Baptist Church student and family ministry team strives to walk alongside each and every student as he or she engages in the life of the church and grows in knowledge and love of God and neighbor. During Sr. High, our goal is to build upon the foundation of MBBC's children's and junior high ministries while also helping students grow spiritually, physically, and emotionally as they prepare for college and young adulthood. Our hope is that Sr. High students will feel equipped as they continue to pursue a deep and abiding faith in Jesus and discern the ways God is calling them beyond high school. Important faith milestones include:

BAPTISM

As Baptists, we believe baptism is a sign and ordinance of the Holy Spirit's saving work in the lives of individual believers when Christ is accepted as Lord and Savior through faith. While children, students, and adults all come to a saving faith in Christ at different times, we hope to help and encourage students move toward baptism if they have not done so previously.

GOSPEL ARTICULATION

Youth ministry research and statistics show that students (ages 12-18) who have grown up in the church will practice their faith and remain in the church post-adolescence when they can clearly and confidently express their faith in terms of God's salvation and redemption of sinners through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our aim is to help high school students to continue to understand the gospel of Jesus in everything they do whether in thought, word, or deed.

BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING

Because the Bible is God's true, authoritative, and sufficient word, we believe all students should possess a solid biblical framework. This includes locating the books in both the Old and New Testaments, understanding the Bible's basic narrative and major themes, and reading the Bible on one's own for edification and sanctification. Through teaching, discussion, and study, we hope to come alongside students so that they can continue to confidently read and interpret Scripture for themselves.

INTEGRATION OF FAITH AND LIFE

Christianity is not a set of rules and principles to help people live a better life. Rather, the Christian faith is expressed as a life lived in communion with God and Christ through the work of the Holy Spirit. Our goal is to help students understand that faith is not limited to Sunday mornings or select times during the week. During Sr. High, we particularly emphasize preparation for college and living as a faithful follower of Jesus as a young adult.

ENGAGEMENT OF DEEP AND CRITICAL ISSUES OF FAITH

Students grow and mature when they can ask and wrestle with deep, and oftentimes difficult, issues of faith. We strive to provide space and opportunities for high school students to engage such issues to further point them to the hope and assurance they have in Christ. By engaging such issues and topics, the MBBC student and family ministry team hopes students will not shy away from any difficulties and challenges to their faith but will instead learn how to wisely and faithfully live in step with the Spirit.

SHARING OF PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Each student has a unique story of the ways his or her family, church, friends, and community have shaped their faith to help them grow in grace and knowledge of Jesus. In high school, we hope students will be able to share their testimony gracefully and confidently as they reflect on the ways God has brought them to salvation in Jesus and as they witness to and encourage others around them.

MISSIONS

Jesus told his followers to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). All Christians are called to share and demonstrate the love and saving grace of Jesus. Through planned and structured opportunities, such as serve days and mission trips, and through teaching and equipping, our goal is to help students see the need for local and global missions and to give them a desire to serve others for the sake of the gospel.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY (SMBS)

On Sunday mornings, students in Jr. High and Sr. High discuss the current week's sermon text. By hearing the text preached during the worship service and discussing it in a small group during Sunday Morning Bible Study, the Mountain Brook Baptist student and family ministry staff hopes students will be able to better listen to and comprehend biblical passages while also having the ability to apply and reflect on God's word in their own lives. Students and their families are encouraged to discuss the sermon passage together so that they will grow in their faith and have a shared mode of discipleship.

JANUARY 22ND– MAY 28TH, 2023

“On Earth As In Heaven” (Sermon on the Mount)

Weekly Plan: January 2023

22ND “BLESSED” (Matthew 5:1-12)

29TH “A DISCERNIBLE DIFFERENCE” (Matthew 5:13-16)

Weekly Plan: February 2023

5TH “THE LAW FULFILLED” (Matthew 5:17-20)

12TH “FIRST THINGS FIRST” (Matthew 5:21-26)

19TH “DRASTIC MEASURES” (Matthew 5:27-32)

26TH “EXTRAORDINARY LOVE” (Matthew 5:38-48)

Weekly Plan: March 2023

5TH “WHO KNOWS?” (Matthew 6:1-4)

12TH “PRAY LIKE THIS” (Matthew 6:5-15)

19TH “MORE THAN A SHOW” (Matthew 6:16-18)

26TH “YOUR HEART WILL FOLLOW YOUR TREASURE” (Matthew 6:19-24)
Spring Break

Continued...

Weekly Plan: April 2023

- 2ND "HERE COMES OUR HUMBLE KING" (Matthew 21:1-11)
Palm Sunday
- 9TH "RAISED TO WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE" (Romans 6:3-11)
Easter
- 16TH "GOD'S DESIGN FOR SEXUAL INTEGRITY" PT. 1
- 23RD "GOD'S DESIGN FOR SEXUAL INTEGRITY" PT. 2
- 30TH "GOD'S DESIGN FOR SEXUAL INTEGRITY" PT. 3

Weekly Plan: May 2023

- 7TH "THE SURPRISING PATH TO LIFE" (Matthew 7:12-14)
- 14TH "BY THEIR FRUITS" (Matthew 7:15-19)
- 21ST "JUST DO IT" (Matthew 7:21-29)
- 28TH "GOD ALONE" (Psalm 62)

SUMMER 2023

“Better” (Proverbs)

Weekly Plan: June 2023

- 4TH “WISDOM IS BETTER” (Proverbs 3:13-15)
- 11TH “A LITTLE IS BETTER” (Proverbs 15:16-17)
- 18TH “A HUMBLE HEART IS BETTER” (Proverbs 16:18-19)
- 25TH “A CALM SPIRIT IS BETTER” (Proverbs 16:32)

Weekly Plan: July 2023

- 2ND “INTEGRITY IS BETTER” (Proverbs 19:1)
- 9TH “A GOOD NAME IS BETTER” (Proverbs 22:1)
- 16TH “A PROMOTION IS BETTER” (Proverbs 25:6-7)
- 23RD “THE WOUNDS OF A FRIEND ARE BETTER” (Proverbs 27:5-6)
- 30TH “A GOOD NEIGHBOR IS BETTER” (Proverbs 27:10)

Weekly Plan: August 2023

- 6TH “RICH IN MERCY” (Nehemiah 9:16-21)

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

During the week, Jr. High students meet on Tuesdays before school, and Sr. High students meet on Wednesday nights in homes. Through reading, learning, and understanding the different parts of Scripture, the MBBC student and family ministry staff hopes junior high students will continue to build a biblical foundation for their faith while also beginning to understand the narrative of the Bible and how it fits together. Sr. High students engage the major themes of the Bible to deepen their knowledge and love for God's Word while also learning how to think critically and faithfully about what they believe and why it matters moving forward into college and adulthood.

SPRING 2023

Jr. High

Weekly Plan: January 2023

- 10TH GOD CARES DEEPLY (Jonah 1:1-3)
- 17TH EVEN WHEN WE FAIL GOD, GOD DOESN'T FAIL US (Jonah 1:4-16)
- 24TH THROUGH DEATH TO LIFE (Jonah 1:17-2:10)
- 31ST GOD'S MERCY (Jonah 3:1-10)

Weekly Plan: February 2023

- 7TH RADICAL FORGIVENESS (Jonah 4:1-3)
- 14TH LIVING INTO THE LIFE GOD WANTS FOR US (Jonah 4:4-11)
- 21ST OUR NEW IDENTITY (Ephesians 1:1-14)
- 28TH GOD'S POWER (Ephesians 1:15-23)

Weekly Plan: March 2023

- 7TH A NEW SELF, A NEW PURPOSE (Ephesians 2:1-10)
- 14TH THE GOSPEL WITH BOLDNESS (Ephesians 2:11-22)
- 21ST THE LOVE OF CHRIST (Ephesians 3:3-13)
- 28TH NO MEETING (Spring Break)

Weekly Plan: April 2023

- 4TH THE LOVE OF CHRIST- CONTINUED (Ephesians 3:14-21)
- 11TH SEEKING MATURITY (Ephesians 4:1-16)
- 18TH LIVING A NEW LIFE (Ephesians 4:17-32)
- 25TH IMITATING GOD (Ephesians 5:1-14)

Weekly Plan: May 2023

- 2ND THE GOSPEL CHANGES EVERYTHING (Ephesians 5:15-6:9)
- 9TH SPIRITUAL BATTLE AND GOD'S LOVE (Ephesians 6:10-24)
- 16TH END OF SEMESTER PARTY

SPRING 2023

Sr. High

Weekly Plan: January 2023

- 11TH BACK TO SCHOOL DINNER
- 18TH CAN I TRUST THE BIBLE? (2 Timothy 3:10-17)
- 25TH CAN THE BIBLE CONTRADICT ITSELF? (2 Corinthians 3:1-11)

Weekly Plan: February 2023

- 1ST CAN I BE A CHRISTIAN AND BELIEVE IN EVOLUTION? (Mark 9:42-50)
- 8TH DOES GOD DISCRIMINATE AGAINST WOMEN? (Luke 7:37-50)
- 15TH IS JESUS REALLY THE ONLY WAY TO GOD? (John 14:1-7)
- 22ND WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT BEING GAY? (Romans 1:18-32)

Weekly Plan: March 2023

- 1ST DOES GOD ENDORSE VIOLENCE? (Matthew 26:47-56)
- 8TH HOW CAN I FOLLOW A GOD WHO WOULD LET CHRISTIANS DO BAD THINGS? (Matthew 7:15-20, James 1:22-25)
- 15TH JESUS CAME TO FULFILL GOD'S PROMISE (Isaiah 9:1-7)
- 22ND EARTHLY BEGINNINGS, ETERNAL ORIGINS (Micah 5:1-6)
- 29TH NO MEETING (Spring Break)

Weekly Plan: April 2023

- 5TH GOD HAS MADE THE PATH CLEAR (Isaiah 40:1-4)
- 12TH THE SERVANT AND HIS MESSAGE (Isaiah 61:1-11)
- 19TH GOD HAS ALL THE POWER (Daniel 7:1-14)
- 26TH THE MESSIAH DEFEATS THROUGH HUMILITY & WEAKNESS (Zechariah 9:1-13)

Weekly Plan: May 2023

- 3RD THE SERVANT BEARS THE PUNISHMENT OF SIN (Isaiah 52:13-53:12)
- 10TH THE EMPOWERING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (Joel 2:28-32)
- 17TH A NEW COVENANT (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Scripture memory is an important spiritual practice that helps all people, including students, grow in faith, knowledge, and wisdom of God and Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. The MBBC student Scripture memory plan specifically falls under the biblical understanding faith development milestone. Our hope is to give students and their families a practical resource for memorizing Scripture. Each month has a short verse or verses to memorize in conjunction with the books of the Bible studied during Midweek Bible Study or through the sermon passages.

JR. HIGH



January

“In my distress, I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help, and you listened to my cry.” Jonah 2:2

February

“But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. I will say, ‘Salvation comes from the LORD.’” Jonah 2:9

March

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10

April

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.” Ephesians 3:20-21

May

“Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.” Ephesians 5:15-16

June

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your path straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6

July

“Humility is the fear of the LORD; its wages are riches and honor and life.” Proverbs 22:4

August

“But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and abounding in love. Therefore you did not desert them.” Nehemiah 9:17b

SR. HIGH



January

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” 2 Timothy 3:16-17

February

“My Father’s house has many rooms, if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?” John 14:2

March

“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” James 1:22

April

“I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness.” Isaiah 61:10

May

“And everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved; for on Mt. Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance, as the Lord has said, even among the survivors whom the LORD calls.” Joel 2:32

June

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your path straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6

July

“Humility is the fear of the LORD; its wages are riches and honor and life.” Proverbs 22:4

August

“But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and abounding in love. Therefore you did not desert them.” Nehemiah 9:17b

CALENDAR ITEMS

MONTHLY VIEW

**Chapel Choir meets every Sunday evening from 5 – 6 PM.*

January

13-16TH

WINTER RETREAT SKI TRIP
(See "Details" page for more info.)

22ND

SR. HIGH DINNER
6:30 – 8 PM @ the Moffatts' House

29TH

THE BROOK
6 – 7:30 PM

February

5TH

SR. HIGH DINNER
6:30 – 8 PM @ the Dennises' House

12TH

CHILI BOWL
3 PM – End of Super Bowl (5:30 PM Kickoff)

26TH

THE BROOK
6 – 7:30 PM

March

5TH

STUDENT MINISTRY SUNDAY
8:15 AM – 12 PM

5TH

SR. HIGH DINNER
6:30 – 8 PM @ the Mandi and Chris Cooper's House

12TH

MARCH MISSION MADNESS

19TH

THE BROOK
6 – 7:30 PM

26TH

***(FIRST SUNDAY OF SPRING BREAK)**

April

2ND

EGG DROP
6 – 7:30 PM

9TH

EASTER

16TH

SR. HIGH DINNER
6:30 – 8 PM @ the Ingrams' House

30TH

THE BROOK
6 – 7:30 PM

May

7TH

GRADUATE RECOGNITION IN BOTH SERVICES
Recognition @ 9 AM, Breakfast @ 10 AM, Recognition @ 11 AM

21ST

END OF YEAR PARTY (PIZZA IN THE VILLAGE)
6 – 8 PM

27TH

STUDENT MINISTRY/CHAPEL CHOIR MISSION TEAM DEPARTS
TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
(See "Details" page for more info.)

June

4TH

STUDENT MINISTRY/CHAPEL CHOIR MISSION TEAM RETURNS
FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
(See "Details" page for more info.)

July

9-12TH

LIFE WEEK
(See "Details" page for more info.)

28TH-31ST

BEACH RETREAT
(See "Details" page for more info.)

BIG EVENT DETAILS

WINTER RETREAT

JANUARY 13–16, 2023

Theme: “Freely + Lightly”

Description: Our students will be traveling to the mountains of North Carolina over Martin Luther King Jr. weekend to ski and study God’s word. This year we will focus on rest and how Jesus points us to the true rest we have in him. Jesus tells his disciples that if they come alongside and learn from him, he will show them the way to live freely and lightly (Matthew 11:28–30). Students attending this retreat will come away with concrete ideas of how they might live a life that reflects Christ’s work in their heart and the true rest they have in him.

SUMMER MISSION TRIP/CHAPEL CHOIR TOUR

MAY 28–JUNE 4, 2023

Description: Our students as well as the Chapel Choir will travel to the Dominican Republic to serve Kids Alive Ministries in Monte Plata with former MBBC student and missionary Anne Payton Baker. We will spend time serving and completing various projects for Kids Alive as well as singing for the children and the residents living there. This is a formative time for students as they get to see and experience a different country and culture while being on mission and enjoying fellowship with one another as a team.

LIFE WEEK

JULY 9–12, 2023

Theme: “The Life of Peter”

Description: Life Week is a four-day event for students who are in grades 7 to 12. Each day from 6–9:30PM, we meet at the church for dinner, a worship service, and an activity to cap off the night. Life Week serves as a great opportunity for students to bring their friends into the life of the church to connect with new people. Life Week also provides a way for our lay leaders to have many meaningful connections with all of the students and to foster intergenerational integration in the life of the entire church.

BEACH RETREAT

JULY 28–JULY 31, 2023

Theme: “God’s Story. Our Story. My Story”

Description: Our students will be traveling to Laguna Retreat Center in Panama City Beach, Florida to rest, relax, and enjoy time together at the beach. This year we will trace the overarching story of the Bible and remember that the story of redemption is our shared story as Christians. Each of us has a story to tell regarding the ways God has redeemed us and called us to join him in proclaiming the gospel in word and deed. Our hope is that students and leaders will write and share their testimonies together as a group.

