

GRADES

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**PARENTING**  
GUIDE



# GRADES 6-8

## WHAT IS MY STUDENT LIKE?

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- **Physical** - Requiring more sleep; Experiencing growth spurts and hormonal changes due to puberty
- **Relational** - Valuing cultural conformity with peers; Wanting to negotiate rules
- **Mental** - Growing ability to grasp different ideas and perspectives; Struggling with time management and forgetfulness
- **Spiritual** - Increasing in curiosity and doubt; Needing a safe space to ask questions and help connect faith to everyday life
- **Emotional** - Emphasizing emotions over logic and performance over process

## WHAT CAN MY STUDENT LEARN?

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As we partner with you to help students set their hope in God and engage in the mission of God, it is our desire for your middle schooler to grasp that:

- God made people to belong in Biblical community. (Acts 2:42-46)
- All people are fearfully and wonderfully made. (Psalm 139:14)
- Followers of Jesus have a God-given purpose. (Matthew 28:18-20)

# GRADES 6-8

## WHAT CAN I PRAY?

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“God, I thank you that if \_\_\_\_\_ is in Christ, he/she is a new creation. The old has passed away, and the new has come. Help him/her to live in the truth of this new identity, remembering that you define this, not the past. Shape his/her thoughts, actions, and desires to reflect this new life in you. May \_\_\_\_\_ walk confidently as someone made new through Jesus, bringing glory to you in all things. (2 Corinthians 5:17).”

## WHAT CAN WE CELEBRATE?

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Student  
Equip



Baptism



First Mission  
Trip

# WHAT CAN WE DO?



## SPIRITUAL GROWTH

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Help your student grow in a deeper knowledge and love of God by:

- Redeeming the transitions and margins of busy schedules (i.e. listening to scripture on the way to school or activities).
- Demonstrating the importance of consistent, personal Scripture intake.
- Intentionally using meal times to ask questions and process your day together in a way that points back to Scripture and the character of God.



## **BECAUSE YOUR STUDENT...**

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Because students this age are questioning who they are and who they like, help your student be settled in his/her identity by:

- Encouraging regular involvement in small groups with peers and healthy adults.
- Being present as often as possible in daily rhythms—even morning and evening routines.
- Showing interest in what your student watches, listens to, and does.

Because life is hard and your student is beginning to form and vocalize stronger opinions while developing a personal world view:

- Allow your student to express doubts and be open about struggles while still pointing him/her to truth in Scripture.
- Intentionally ask about areas, such as sexuality, technology, self-image, friendships, relational boundaries, and feelings.
- Model Christ through authenticity and consistency that matches your student's other spiritual mentors.

At Calvary, we believe God cultivates faith in two gardens—the church and the home. This resource is one way we partner with parents to help the next generation set their hope in God and engage in His mission.

