



# Large Group

# **Got Questions?**

## Series at a Glance for Elevate

#### **About this Series:**

Have you ever had questions about God, Jesus, the Bible, or life? Your questions are so important. This whole series is focused on finding answers to some of the biggest questions kids are asking!

#### **Key Verse**:

1 Corinthians 13:12- What I know now is not complete. But someday I will know completely, just as God knows me completely.

### **Weekly Overview:**

Lesson:	Topic:	Big Idea:
Lesson 1: February 22/23	Why doesn't God give me what I pray for right now? Hezekiah- 2 Kings 18-19	God knows what's best for me.
Lesson 2: February 29/March 1	Why does God let bad things happen? Job	I can trust God when I am hurting.
Lesson 3: March 7/8	What is heaven like? John 14:2-4, Rev. 21:4-7, Colossians 3:1-2	I can live and think in a new way.
Lesson 4: March 14/15	Why should I read the Bible? 2 Timothy 3:15-17	God can use the Bible to lead me.
Lesson 5: March 21/22	Can I be friends with someone when we disagree? Euodia and Syntyche, Philippians 4	We can disagree and still be friends.
Lesson 6: March 28/29	Why does what I watch matter? Mark 7:1-23, Luke 6:45	I can choose what fills my heart.
Lesson 7: April 4/5	How do I know God's purpose for me? Peter's Story- John 21	I can always trust God to guide me.

# **Got Questions?**

## Series at a Glance for Elevate (continued)

#### Lesson 1: Why doesn't God give me what I pray for right now?

Prayer is amazing- we get to talk to the God who made the universe! If God is so powerful, though, why doesn't he always give us what we ask for? This week, we'll see why when God says "wait," or even says "no," it might be a good thing.

#### Lesson 2: Why does God let bad things happen?

Life can feel unfair sometimes. Why did someone else get what I wanted? Why did I get sick the day before the big game? In Job, one of the oldest books of the Bible, we hear the story of someone who lost everything, and see God actually tell Job about why bad things can happen.

#### Lesson 3: What is heaven like?

In heaven, we won't play music on harps, won't sit on clouds, and won't even have wings or halos. So, what is heaven really like? This week, we'll learn about heaven from someone who has been there-Jesus himself!

#### Lesson 4: Why should I read the Bible?

Why do we follow what a book that is thousands of years old says? How do we know that the Bible is true? This week, we'll discover why we can trust the Bible to guide us and help us learn about God today.

#### Lesson 5: Can I be friends with someone when we disagree?

Sometimes, we all disagree, even with our best friends! This week, we'll learn how we can still be friends with someone, even when we don't see things the way they do.

#### **Lesson 6: Why does what I watch matter?**

We watch so many things, from slow-motion videos to YouTube celebrities to our favorite shows on Netflix. This week, we're asking the question: does what we watch matter? Join us as we discover how what we watch can change who we become.

#### Lesson 7: How do I know God's purpose for me?

God made you for an amazing purpose! The question is: what is it? Why don't we get a step-by-step instruction guide for living out God's purpose for our lives? This week, we'll see how Peter, one of Jesus' closest friends, discovered God's purpose for him in an incredible way.

# Got Questions? Lesson Outline for Elevate

## Lesson 3: What is heaven like?

0:00 - 15:00
15:00 – 45:00
45:00 - 60:00



# Opening Song and Welcome

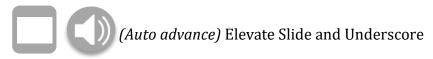
1:00



(Roll when directed) Elevate Opener

**Do This**: During the song, encourage kids to find a place to sit, and let them know it's time to get started.

Welcome everyone! I'm so glad you're all here! Come on up and find a place to sit.



My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I'm so glad to be here! We've got some great things coming up. We'll get to hear stories, sing, and play some fun games, too.

**Know This**: It's important to say the following paragraph roughly word-for-word. We are using this "respect" language intentionally to give kids clear expectations for how to behave while they are in Elevate. We ask that you don't add to or take away from this language.

Elevate is an awesome place where we get to have fun and learn about God. It's also a place where we show respect. We respect the leaders in here by listening and following their instructions. We respect others by being kind and keeping our hands to ourselves. And we respect the room by being safe, and not damaging anything. Showing respect like that helps us all have an awesome time.

# Team Time 14:00 Series Title Slide: Got Questions? and clear audio

Have you ever wished we could ask God questions, and get some answers? If so, this series is just right for you! We've taken some of the biggest questions people ask about God, Jesus, church, and life, and we're ready to answer them! Today we're starting with a big question, we'll find out what it is in a couple minutes.

Before we find out our big question, we've got a game to play called "Handball."
Game Title Slide: "Handball"
Each grade in here has a cone to defend. Your goal is to hit the other teams' cones with soccer balls while protecting your own cone, too! There are two things you should know, though. You have to stay on your knees, the whole time, and you can only hit the soccer balls with your hands. You can't pick them up, you have to hit them. If you hit another team's cone with a ball, that counts as a goal. Ready? Go and meet your groups!
Fun game music!
<b>Do This</b> : Allow them to play for 8 minutes or so.
Great job everyone!
Game Title Slide: "Handball" (and clear audio)
You can take a seat. While you're finding your spots, we've got a big Question of the Day to listen to. Let's find out what it is!
Question of the Day Video
(Auto Advance) QOTD Slide: What do you think heaven is like?
What do you think heaven is like? What have you heard about it? What do you think we'll do there? Turn to someone near you, learn their name, and talk about that for a minute.  Do This: Allow kids to talk for about 60 seconds.

Media: Part 1 6:00

What an important question!

This week, we get to meet someone new, though you might have seen her before if you've been here for a while. Her name is Beka, and she's going to be our host! She and

the Source team are asking that same question about heaven. Let's see if they can find an answer.

The Source: Part 1 (5:00)

(Auto advance) Series Title Slide: Got Questions?

What do you think is going to happen? You'll get to talk about that in group time. Look for your group's flag and meet your group leader there. I'll see you again in a few minutes!

## **Group Time**

15:00



15:00 Group Time Countdown

(Auto advance) Series Title Slide: Got Questions?

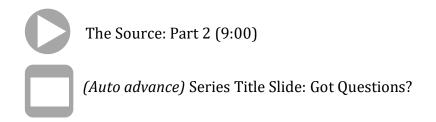
**Do This**: Make sure each kid finds their group. Help group leaders if there is a need. Encourage kids as they work to answer the question.

**Know This**: This is a time for kids to search for answers in the Bible and see how they can use the Bible to investigate and better understand life. This time is designed for kids to interact and deepen their understanding. They won't get all the answers but allow them to question and discover as much as possible. Be ready to support group leaders in any way needed.

**Do This**: Give the groups a warning about one minute before this time is up.

Media: Part 2 9:00

You can come back to the middle and find a spot to sit. You've had the chance to think about what the Source team should do. We'll find out what happens to them in a minute, but first Beka has a story for us about someone who really knew what heaven was like, because He had been there!

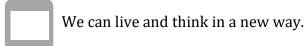


Heaven is an amazing place, but following Jesus is about way more than just going to heaven.

## Application

5:00

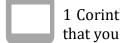
Here's what I want you to remember today.



We can live and think in a new way. God promised that everyone who decides to follow him and makes him the leader of their life will be in heaven one day, but he also wants us to know that we're part of heaven now. When we share love, choose to be kind, and serve others, we're living out what heaven is like.

It's tough to say exactly what heaven is like, because it's bigger and better than anything that we have now. Did you know, people asked about heaven a whole bunch of times in the Bible? People were very interested in what heaven would be like. One of the writers of the Bible gave us a great example of why heaven is so hard for us to understand. When people were asking about what they would be like in heaven, he wrote this.

**Do This**: Show kids an acorn.



1 Corinthians 15:36-37 "When you plant something, it isn't a completely grown plant that you put in the ground. You only plant a seed."

**Do This**: Read the verses from the screen.

Look at this seed. It doesn't look like a plant or tree, it just looks like a seed. If I planted it, though, what would happen? It would grow! It would change, and it would look different.

Tree Image
This seed might turn into a huge tree! Jesus says that's what going to heaven will be like. If our world, our lives right now are like this seed, going to heaven will be like growing into an amazing tree. Heaven will be like what we have now, but so much bigger, better, and more amazing. There will be no pain, no sadness, no hurt, and nothing to be afraid of.
That's a lot to think about, and it means something amazing for us right now, too. God is working to grow you right now. He's leading you and helping you, like a gardener helps a plant grow. One day, we'll be in heaven, and we'll be completely changed, but the change is already starting now. What does this mean? Let's look at one more verse to find out.
Colossians 3:1, 10 "You have been raised up with Christ (Jesus). So think about things that are in heaven You are living a new life."
<b>Do This</b> : Read the verse from the screen.
Right now, we have a new life, if we've made Jesus our leader. We'll get to live forever in heaven with Jesus. We can forgive, be kind, share God's love, live the way God made us to, and look forward to the amazing promise of heaven one day. All we have to do to have that amazing promise, that new life, is decide to follow Jesus.
Series Title Slide: Got Questions?
If you want to know more, or you want to make that amazing decision to follow Jesus for the first time, come up and talk to me after we finish. I'll be right up here by the stage, and I'd love to talk with you, pray with you, and help you make the choice to follow Jesus.  Worship Slide
Worship 8:00

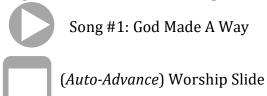
Next we're going to sing a couple songs. This first song is about the amazing way Jesus loves us, that he would do anything to make a way for us to follow God, and live with him in heaven forever. I know talking about all this today, some of you might have more questions, or you might want to make the choice to follow Jesus.

**Do This**: If possible, point out a volunteer the kids can go to to talk with during worship. Make sure this volunteer knows ahead of time they are going to be pointed out. They should stand toward the back of the room and be ready to talk with kids who have questions, or want to decide to follow Jesus.

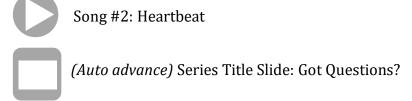
\_\_\_\_\_ would love to talk with any of you who would like to make that choice to follow Jesus. It really is the most important decision you'll ever make. If you want to do that, you can talk with them during worship, you'll pray together, and if you want to choose to follow Jesus, they'll give you one of these books to help you get started.

**Do This**: Show kids the Following Jesus book.

You can talk with them anytime during these songs, or even afterward if you want to. Right now, let's all stand up and sing about our amazing God!



God's love is so amazing, it makes me want to move and dance! Let's keep on singing and moving with another fun song!



Singing with all of you is awesome. You can sit, but let's take a moment to talk to God.

God, you are wonderful. Thank you for giving us the amazing promise of heaven. Help us to live the way you made us to right now. Amen.

Challenge 1:00

Let's check in with Beka one more time, she has a challenge for us Challenge Video (1:00)	this week.
(Auto advance) Series Title Slide: Got Questions?	
What a great challenge.	
Wrap-Up	1:00
We have one other thing for all of you to grab when you leave.  Do This: Show kids the verse cards.	
This card has verses on it, all about heaven. Take it home and che this week, like Beka challenged us to do. You could even start a grea someone by reading these verses together.	
I'm so glad you were here today, and I hope to see you all next wee	k!
Elevate Slide	
Start free time music videos	