

TRAILBLAZERS



Large Group

Trailblazers

Series at a Glance for Elevate

About this Series:

Where would you love to explore? The densest jungle? The deepest sea? This summer, we're taking an expedition to learn more about ourselves, and the amazing way God designed every one of us. Get ready to blaze a trail into the unknown, and discover some incredible things about God, our world, and ourselves.

Key Verses:

Philippians 4:7-8- "Then God's peace will watch over your hearts and your minds. He will do this because you belong to Christ Jesus. God's peace can never be completely understood. Finally, my brothers and sisters, always think about what is true. Think about what is noble, right, and pure. Think about what is lovely and worthy of respect. If anything is excellent or worthy of praise, think about those kinds of things."

Weekly Overview:

Lesson:	Title:	Big Idea:
	<u>Part 1: Who Am I?</u>	
Lesson 1: June 12/13	Trailhead Creation-Gen. 1, Eph. 2:10	I am uniquely created by God.
Lesson 2: June 19/20	In the Crew Zacchaeus-Luke 19, Rom. 15:7	I am accepted by God just the way I am.
Lesson 3: June 26/27	A new Horizon Moses-Exodus 3, Phil. 4:13	I am capable because God is with me.
Lesson 4: July 3/4	Back on Track Lost Sheep, Ps. 139:17-18	I am valuable to God.
Lesson 5: July 10/11	Outlook Point Paul- Acts 16, 1 Thess. 5:16-18	I can choose to have a good attitude.
	<u>Part 2: How Am I Influencing?</u>	
Lesson 6: July 17/18	Long Way Home Lost Son-Luke 15, John 3:16	I am loved by God no matter what.
Lesson 7: July 24/25	A Fork in the Trail Ruth	My choices impact others.

Lesson 8: July 31/August 1	Way-Words Eph. 4:29	I can choose words that make a difference.
Lesson 9: August 7/8	The Next Step Daniel 5-6	I can take a stand for what I believe.
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Lesson 10: August 14/15	<u>Part 3: Who am I Becoming?</u> Backtracked Joseph- Genesis 37, 45, 50:20.	I can see mistakes as chances to learn.
Lesson 11: August 21/22	Which Way? Samuel- 1 Samuel 2-3	I can do what's right when no one is watching.
Lesson 12: August 28/29	Into the Unknown Joshua- 1:9, 2 Timothy 1:7	God gives me the courage to do hard things.
Lesson 13: September 4/5	Onward! David- 1 Samuel 16-19	God has a purpose for me, wherever I go.

Trailblazers

Series at a Glance for Elevate (continued)

Lesson 1: Trailhead

Have you ever created something really special? A piece of art, a comic book, a Lego project, or an invention? When you create something, it matters to you. You take time to make it just the way you want it to be. This week, we'll explore what it means to be created by God and how that impacts our lives.

Lesson 2: In the Crew

We all want to be a part of a group. Sometimes we even try to change things about ourselves so that we can fit in with the people around us. This week we will hear about how Jesus accepted someone that most people rejected.

Lesson 3: A New Horizon

Life can be challenging. It can feel like we are on an adventure with mountains to climb, rivers to cross, and obstacles that get in our way. Sometimes we wonder if we really have what it takes to do the things God wants us to do. This week, we will discover how God showed a man named Moses that he was capable.

Lesson 4: Back on Track

Have you ever lost something that was valuable? When that happens, we do anything we can to find it! It is incredible to know that God thinks we are valuable – so valuable that he would do whatever it takes to be close to us.

Lesson 5: Outlook Point

A good attitude is amazing. It can turn something challenging into something fun. A bad attitude, though, can turn even the most fun things into frustrating, difficult, and boring ones. This week, we'll see how our attitudes can change the world around us.

Lesson 6: Long Way Home

Sometimes our mistakes and the wrong things we do make us feel like no one could ever love us. We might feel like we have to do all the right things so that we can earn God's love. This week, we'll hear the story of The Lost Son and learn more about the incredible love God has for each one of us!

Lesson 7: A Fork in the Trail

Sometimes, it's easy to believe our choices don't matter, that they don't affect anyone. This week, we'll hear how Ruth learned that her choices really do make a difference; and we'll see how our decisions can impact others today.

Lesson 8: Way-Words

Our words can be used to help or to hurt. In Ephesians, Paul challenges us to use words that build others up. We'll find out what that looks like this week!

Lesson 9: The Next Step

Daniel was in a new land with few friends. When others expected him to do things God says are wrong, Daniel had to choose whether to follow God or follow the people around him. This week, we'll discover the impact we can have when we stand up for what we believe.

Lesson 10: Backtracked

Imagine you've made a mistake. Something goes wrong, you mess up, but what happens next? Do you get angry? Give up? Blame someone else? Or could we see our mistakes in a different way? This week, we'll find out how our mistakes might even be a good thing.

Lesson 11: Which Way?

"Integrity" means doing what's right, even when no one is watching. This week, we'll hear how a man named Samuel chose integrity, even when others around him didn't.

Lesson 12: Into the Unknown

In the Bible, we see God tell people to be courageous, but it's not always for the reasons we'd expect. In Joshua's story, Joshua had to fight battles and lead a nation, but God said there was one thing he would do that would take even more courage than those things. We'll find out what it is this week!

Lesson 13: Onward!

King David's story doesn't start in a palace, it starts in a field. David was a shepherd, a musician, and a poet, and all of those were part of God's plan. As this new school year starts, we'll discover how everything we do is part of the way God designed us.

Trailblazers

Lesson Outline for Elevate

Lesson 11: Which Way?

Lesson Segment	Total Running Time
Opening Song and Welcome (1:00)	
Team Time (11:00)	
Worship (4:00)	
Media Part 1 (4:00)	0:00 – 20:00
Group Time (10:00)	
Media Part 2 (6:00)	
Worship (4:00)	20:00 – 40:00
Team Time 2 (8:00)	
Media Part 3 (8:00)	
Application and Wrap-Up (4:00)	40:00 - 60:00



Video Cue



Slide Cue



Audio Cue



Tech Notes

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.



(Auto advance) Elevate Slide and Underscore

My name is _____, and I'm so excited to be here with all of you! We've got some awesome games, stories, and music coming up, I'm excited to get started!

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

11:00



Series Title Slide: Trailblazers and clear audio

The series we're in is called "Trailblazers." We're on an expedition to learn more about ourselves and the amazing way God designed every one of us.

Let's get started with a game called What Happened Here?



Game Title Slide: "What Happened Here?"

In this game, I'm going to show you a real news headline, but part of it will be missing. You'll have to guess what happened! To guess, you'll move to the sign on the wall with the same letter as your answer: A, B, C, or D. Let's give it a try.



Man who _____ at art show says "I'm not sorry."

(And fun game music!)

- A. Stole statue's head
- B. Ate 120,000\$ banana
- C. Painted a doodle on a Van Gogh
- D. Spilled coffee on 60,000\$ painting

Do This: Read the question and the answers from the screen. Give kids 20 seconds or so to choose their answer.

Choose your answer and move by that sign!

Ready? Let's find out what actually happened.



Man who _____ at art show says "I'm not sorry."

- A. Stole statue's head
- B. Ate 120,000\$ banana**
- C. Painted a doodle on a Van Gogh
- D. Spilled coffee on 60,000\$ painting

Man who ate 120,000\$ banana at art show says "I'm not sorry." Wow, that's an interesting story. We've got more to see, though! Let's look at another one.



Weather service issues alert for _____ in Florida.

- A. Falling iguanas
- B. Chocolate rain
- C. Tiny tornados
- D. Giant mosquitoes

Do This: Read the question and the answers from the screen. Give kids 20 seconds or so to choose their answer.

Choose your answer and move by that sign!

Ready? Let's find out what actually happened.



Weather service issues alert for _____ in Florida.

- A. **Falling iguanas**
- B. Chocolate rain
- C. Tiny tornados
- D. Giant mosquitoes

Weather service issues alert for falling iguanas in Florida. Wow, that must have been an interesting day. Let's see another headline!



Man _____ into Wendy's drive-thru window.

- A. Climbed
- B. Threw an alligator
- C. Tossed 100 McDonald's burgers
- D. Released an eagle

Do This: Read the question and the answers from the screen. Give kids 20 seconds or so to choose their answer.

Choose your answer and move by that sign!

Ready? Let's find out what actually happened.



Man _____ into Wendy's drive-thru window.

- A. Climbed
- B. **Threw an alligator**
- C. Tossed 100 McDonald's burgers
- D. Released an eagle

Someone threw an alligator into a Wendy's drive-thru window. Wow. We've got a few more headlines to look at!



Farmer using _____ to protect watermelons.

- A. Parrots
- B. Decoys
- C. Cannon
- D. Alligator

Do This: Read the question and the answers from the screen. Give kids 20 seconds or so to choose their answer.

Choose your answer and move by that sign!

Ready? Let's find out what actually happened.



Farmer using _____ to protect watermelons.

- A. Parrots
- B. Decoys
- C. Cannon**
- D. Alligator

The answer is C. Cannon! Don't mess with that guy's watermelons. What's our next headline?



Missing woman unwittingly _____.

- A. Wanders into Wal-Mart.
- B. Discovers a gold mine.
- C. Joins search party looking for herself.
- D. Wasn't missing, just taking a nap.

Do This: Read the question and the answers from the screen. Give kids 20 seconds or so to choose their answer.

Choose your answer and move by that sign!

Ready? Let's find out what actually happened.



Missing woman unwittingly _____.

- A. Wanders into Wal-Mart.
- B. Discovers a gold mine.
- C. Joins search party looking for herself.**
- D. Wasn't missing, just taking a nap.

She joined the group looking for her and tried to help search for herself. That's confusing. We've got a few more headlines to look at!



Sun is _____, say scientists.

- A. Too hot
- B. Too far
- C. Too yellow
- D. Too round

Do This: Read the question and the answers from the screen. Give kids 20 seconds or so to choose their answer.

Choose your answer and move by that sign!

Ready? Let's find out what actually happened.



Sun is _____, say scientists.

- A. Too hot
- B. Too far
- C. Too yellow
- D. Too round**

Too round? What does that mean? Our next headline is something that happened here in Minnesota!



Minnesota deputies reel in people stranded on a waterborne _____.

- A. Pirate ship.
- B. Waffle
- C. Christmas Tree
- D. Unicorn**

Do This: Read the question and the answers from the screen. Give kids 20 seconds or so to choose their answer.

Choose your answer and move by that sign!

Ready? Let's find out what actually happened.



Minnesota deputies reel in people stranded on a waterborne _____.

- A. Pirate ship.
- B. Waffle
- C. Christmas Tree
- D. Unicorn**

The answer is D. Unicorn! Like one of those giant unicorn pool floaties. We've got one more headline to look at.



Officials _____ to stop people from sleeping in park.

- A. Release bees at night
- B. Play "Baby Shark" continuously
- C. Hire clowns
- D. Train wild cats**

Do This: Read the question and the answers from the screen. Give kids 20 seconds or so to choose their answer.

Choose your answer and move by that sign!

Ready? Let's find out what actually happened.



Officials _____ to stop people from sleeping in park.

- A. Release bees at night
- B. Play "Baby Shark" continuously**
- C. Hire clowns
- D. Train wild cats

The answer is B. They played "Baby Shark" continuously. What crazy stories!



Game Title Slide: "What Happened Here?" and clear audio

Some of the people in those stories did not make great choices. Hopefully we'll never make those same decisions, but all of us have to make choices sometimes, and our choices make a big difference.

Next, we're going to spend some time worshipping God.



Worship Slide

Worship

4:00

Worship is what we call singing about God and showing that we love him. This song is about the mission God has given every one of us. Let's get ready to sing!



Worship Song 1: Rock This Planet



(Auto Advance) Worship Slide

I love singing with all of you.

Media: Part 1

4:00

Next, we get to check in with the trailblazing team, and find out what challenge they're facing today on their show.



Media Part 1 (4:00)



(Auto advance) Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

What a great thought. Does it matter what we do when no one is watching? Is it ok if we do something wrong, as long as no one finds out? That's what we'll get to talk about next, in group time.

Know This: You will have to decide ahead of time whether to do group time in small groups or as a large group. If there are enough group leaders, it is recommended to spend this time in small groups, divided up by grade. If that's the case, tell the group leaders one minute before their time is up, and skip the "Group Time" portion of the script. If you have to run this as a large group, move on through the group time portion of the script.

Group Time

10:00

Check out this verse from the book of Proverbs in the Bible.



Proverbs 28:13- Anyone who hides their sins doesn't succeed. But anyone who admits their sins and gives them up finds mercy.

Do This: Read the verse from the screen.

Integrity is about choosing to do what's right, but it's also about being honest when we do something wrong. Sometimes, we think we can cover up something wrong we do by lying, hiding it, or pretending it didn't happen. This verse says, though, that the best thing to do is be honest, and admit it. It's kind of like this cookie.

Do This: Show kids the cookie

This sand is like something wrong we've done.

Do This: Pour a good amount of sand onto the cookie.

Would that taste good to eat? Probably not. What if I cover it up, though? This chocolate syrup might cover up the sand taste.

Do This: Drizzle chocolate syrup onto the cookie.

Do you think we've covered up the dirt? How do you think this will taste? Of course, you still wouldn't want to eat this!

No matter what I do, or how I try to cover it up, there will still be a ton of dirt on this cookie. The same thing is true for us. We can't cover up the wrong things we do, even if no one is watching. We know we've done wrong. God knows we've done wrong, and we can't get away from the consequences. If we do wrong, the best thing to do would be to admit what we've done and be honest, instead of covering it up. So, what is integrity? Well, first, integrity means admitting it when we've done something wrong, and doing our best to make it right. That's a great start, but it's not all integrity is about.



What is Integrity?

1. Admitting what is wrong.
2. Choosing to do what's right.

Integrity also means doing what's right, even if we don't get anything for it. A great example of this happened in the news a while ago. A couple named Josh and Tara bought a new house in Utah. As they were going through the house, they found a kind of hidden attic in the garage. When they went up, they found boxes and bags filled with money. When they counted it all, there was forty-five thousand dollars! The person who owned the home had saved up all that money to give to their family, but had died before giving it to them.

So what did Josh and Tara do? Well, imagine what they might have done if they didn't choose to have integrity. They would have kept the money, used it, and it probably wouldn't have been "wrong." But integrity isn't just about not doing wrong things, it's about making the best possible choice for others. Josh and Tara knew they were going to return the money, and they did, giving every dollar to the family of the man who had owned their house before.



Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

So what does integrity look like for us? That's kind of up to you. You know what good things you could do right now. You know if you're covering up a wrong choice you've made. Integrity might mean admitting something you've been covering up. It might

also look like planning to do something good for someone else. It might look like being honest when you play a game with friends, even if you could cheat. It might look like choosing to listen to your parents, even when you don't like what they're telling you. Integrity can be difficult, but it's an important part of living the way God made us to.

You've been sitting for a while, so now it's time to get up and get ready for our challenge wheel!



Challenge Wheel Video



(Auto-Advance) Challenge Wheel Slide: Touch three different walls in this room!

Touch three different walls in this room, then come back to the middle! You have twenty seconds. Ready, go!



20 Second Countdown and fun music!



(Auto-Advance) Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

Nice job! You can return to the middle and find a spot to sit.

Media: Part 2

6:00

Let's check in again with the trailblazing team to hear a story about someone who chose to have integrity, even when the people around him didn't.



Media Part 2 (6:00)



(Auto advance) Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

It probably wasn't an easy choice for Samuel to choose integrity, but it was definitely the right choice.

Worship

4:00

Having integrity helps turn us into the people God made us to be. Let's stand and sing this song together about who God made us to be.



Worship Song 2- Remind Me



(Auto advance) Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

Singing with you is awesome. Next, we've got an activity to get us all moving!

Team Time 2

8:00

This activity is called "If You've Ever..."



Game Title Slide: "If You've Ever..."

In this game, something is going to come up on the screen that you might have done, but you may not have. We're all going to sit in a circle, and if you have done the thing on the screen, you'll have to stand up, and sit in a different place in the circle. The goal is not to be left in the middle. The last person standing must stand in the middle until the next slide comes up, then they have to try to find another place to sit.

Ready? Let's form a circle!

Do This: Help the kids sit in a circle in an open area of the room. If necessary, you could have them move bleachers around quickly to form a circle. Start in the middle yourself.

I'll read the slide, then give you a countdown and tell you to go. Ready? Let's see the first slide!



If you've ever been stung by a bee. (and fun game music)

If you've ever been stung by a bee, find a new spot in the circle! Ready, set, go!

Do This: Give kids about 10 seconds to find a new place in the circle. Once all but one have sat down, go to the next slide.



If you've ever been to Iowa.

This time, if you've ever been to Iowa, find a new spot in the circle! Ready, go!

Do This: Give kids about 10 seconds to find a new place in the circle. Once all but one have sat down, go to the next slide.



If you've ever tried coffee.

If you've ever tried coffee, find a new spot in the circle! Ready, go!

Do This: Give kids about 10 seconds to find a new place in the circle. Once all but one have sat down, go to the next slide.



If you've ever eaten a bug.

Ok, if you've ever eaten a bug, find a new spot to sit in the circle! Ready, go!

Do This: Give kids about 10 seconds to find a new place in the circle. Once all but one have sat down, go to the next slide.



If you've ever been camping in a tent.

If you've ever been camping in a tent, find a new spot to sit in the circle! Ready, go!

Do This: Give kids about 10 seconds to find a new place in the circle. Once all but one have sat down, go to the next slide.



If you've ever had a pet.

If you've ever had a pet, find a new spot to sit in the circle! Ready, go!

Do This: Give kids about 10 seconds to find a new place in the circle. Once all but one have sat down, go to the next slide.



If you've ever touched a snake.

If you've ever touched a snake, find a new spot to sit in the circle! Ready, go!

Do This: Give kids about 10 seconds to find a new place in the circle. Once all but one have sat down, go to the next slide.



If you've ever played an instrument.

If you've ever played an instrument, find a new spot to sit in the circle! Ready, go!

Do This: Give kids about 10 seconds to find a new place in the circle. Once all but one have sat down, go to the next slide.



If you've ever had a brother or sister.

If you've ever had a brother or sister, find a new spot to sit in the circle! Ready, go!

Do This: Give kids about 10 seconds to find a new place in the circle. Once all but one have sat down, go to the next slide.



If you've ever been to Elevate.

If you've ever been to Elevate? You're in Elevate right now! Everyone find a new spot to sit in the circle!

Do This: After the chaos of this one, end the game.



Series Title Slide: Trailblazers (and clear audio)

It was fun to learn about all of you! You can all sit back down in the middle. That game was all about things we've done, and things we've never done. That's kind of what integrity is all about, too: it means choosing to do what's right, and choosing to never do things that are wrong. We've learned a lot today.

Media Part 3

8:00

Next up, let's see what wild game the trailblazing team has planned.



Media Part 3 (8:00)



(Auto-Advance) Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

What a fun game!

Application and Wrap-Up

4:00

We've learned a lot today. Let's look back at the super important thing we should all remember.



Big Idea Slide: "We can do what's right when no one is watching."

We can do what's right when no one is watching. Integrity means choosing not to do what's wrong, and choosing to do what's right, even if no one is watching.

In the video, they showed us Samuel's story, how he chose to do what was right, and had integrity, even when people all around him were disobeying God. I hope we'll all take Samuel's advice, to respect God, to serve him and obey him, no matter what.



Trailblazer Guide Image: Week 11

Do This: Hold up the guidebook for this week.

This week's guidebook can help with that. In this guide, there are some fun activities, and something that can get you thinking about how to grow integrity in your life.

Let's think about one way to have integrity. If you're on a sports team, how could you live with integrity, and do the right thing? Well, integrity could mean being honest, even if you could cheat. It could mean being respectful to the referee, even if you disagree with a call they made. It could mean refusing to say unkind things about the other team, even if your teammates are being unkind.

That kind of integrity will help us grow into the people God made us to be.



Series Title Slide: Trailblazers

Let's finish up today by talking to God! Let's close our eyes and put our hands in our laps, so we can focus on what we're saying to God.

Do This: Pray the following prayer with the kids.

God, you are wonderful. Thank you for loving us, no matter what. Help us to have integrity, and choose to do what's right. Amen.

I'm glad you were all here today! Have an amazing week, everyone.



Elevate Slide



Start free time music videos