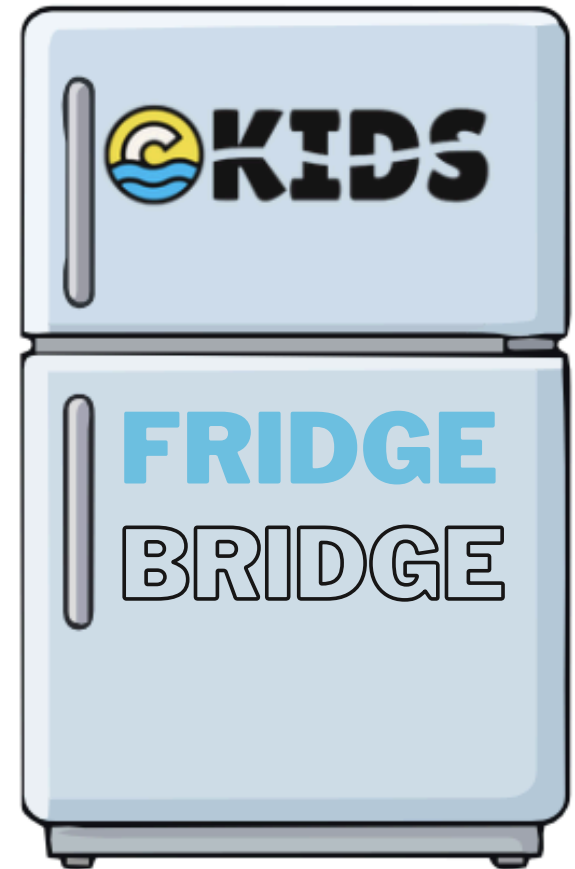


As we head into a new school year, September is a great time to encourage our kids to start the year focused on being a blessing to others!

We will be starting a series called Backpack Blessings!

Throughout the month, we'll talk about showing kindness and encouragement, being a good and trustworthy friend, sharing what we have, and using prayer to bless those around us.

We encourage you to continue the conversation at home. You can do this by looking for everyday opportunities to practice these habits!



**September 2026
BackPack
Blessings**

September 6

I can highlight others with words of encouragement,
Mark 14:1-9

Jesus encouraged the woman who poured perfume on Him because she did it out of love for Him.

Ask Your Child:

Why do you think it was hard for people to see the good in what the woman was doing pouring the perfume on Jesus?

How can we highlight the good things that other people do? (With words of encouragement which uplifts them and encourages them to do more!)

Who in your life could use some encouragement this week?

Family Challenge:

Take some time to highlight good qualities in your child and let them know what they are!

Remind Your Child:

We all have the potential for good when we follow Jesus!

Memory Verse - Hebrews 13:16

Elementary:

And do not forget to do good and to share with others. For with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Toddlers & Preschool:

And do not forget to do good and to share with others.

Make it Fun!!!

- **Scavenger Hunt:** Hide words or phrases from the verse around the room. Kids find them and put the verse in order.
- **Verse Charades:** Act out the meaning of key words or phrases, then recite the verse
- **Pray it:** Turn the verse into an active prayer
- **Comic Strip:** Draw the verse as a series of comic panels.
- **Make up a tune:** Sing the verse to the melody of a familiar song.

September 20

God can use our small gift to make a big difference!

John 6:5-13

What can God do with small gifts that we are willing to give? (He can multiply them and provide a way for them to make a big difference)

Jesus multiplied the bread and fish the boy shared and it was enough to feed 5,000.

Ask you child:

Do you think the boy thought his bread and fish would be enough for everyone in the crowd?

Why is it hard to share sometimes?

Why is important to remember all blessings come from God?

Family Challenge:

Use slips of paper to create coupons. Each coupon can be written to hand out to a friend or family member containing an item or service they are willing to share.

Remind Your Child:

Jesus can take what little we have and use it to bless many!

September 13

We can be good friends others can count on.

John 21:15-19

What makes a true friend? (someone loyal, reliable, and trustworthy)

Jesus is the perfect example of a good friend. Peter denied Jesus and was not a loyal friend, but Jesus offered Peter forgiveness and showed him what it meant to follow Him and to be a good friend to others.

Ask your child -

who is a friend you can count on?

What ways can you work on being a better friend to others?

When we follow Jesus, it means we treat people how?

Family Challenge:

Choose one person this week and do something kind for them without being asked.

Remind Your Child:

When we follow Jesus, we can show others the same love and forgiveness He shows us!

September 27

I can bless others by praying for them

Mark 1:35-39 & Mark 11:20-24

When we stay connected to God through prayer, we can ask Him to bless, heal, help, and give wisdom and strength to those around us.

Jesus made prayer a priority in his life.

Ask Your Child:

Who have you been praying for this week?

Is there something I can pray for, for you this week?

Family Challenge:

Gather together as a family and pray for people in your neighborhood, church, family etc. together. Ask your child to share prayer requests for someone they notice needs help. Encourage them to join in praying or pray in their head for their friend.

Remind Your Child:

Prayer is a great way to bless those around us.