1NITIATIVE

FAMILY GUIDE

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TAKE A FAMILY SELFIE!

As you use this guide share what you are learning by taking a photo together and posting it to social media using #familywin.

ABOUT THE ONE FAMILY GUIDE

This special five-week guide has been prepared especially for families. Each week, we encourage you to set aside time for three short conversations as a family.Take a few minutes to read through the sessions before going through them as a family. Think about how these questions may affect your child depending on their age, context, and particular circumstances and feel free to adapt them as needed.

We pray that this guide will be a resource as you explore what it means to make God number **ONE** through discussions about prayer, generosity, cooperation and helping people find their way back to God. Kids learn best when behaviors are modeled for them and experiences are shared - use this guide to facilitate those moments.

Our Kids' City and Student Community (StuCo) ministries have prepared some tools to help you participate in **ONE** as a family. Here is what you can expect during the **ONE** series:

ONE GIFT BAG

Starting January 31, each child and student will be given a gift bag. Each bag will include the **ONE** Family Discussion Guide, the **ONE** Passport and a **ONE** Commitment Card. Kids' City kids will be given a **ONE** Money Saver container.

ONE COMMITMENT CELEBRATIONS

During **ONE**, your child will be asked to make a **ONE** commitment. On February 21, Kids' City will be asking each 1st-5th grader to return a completed Commitment Card. As a family, we encourage you to discuss and prayerfully consider what kind of commitment your child will make to demonstrate that God is number **ONE** in their lives.

On February 24, StuCo will be holding a **ONE** Commitment Event where all COMMUNITY Student Ministries will gather together to declare their commitment to make God number **ONE** in their lives.

ONE GENEROSITY

Kids' City will be providing a **ONE** Money Saver container for your child to put their offering in and return to Kids' City each Sunday. During our Kids' City celebration service, your child will have an opportunity to put their offering in a large **ONE** container. Every time your child brings back any amount of offering or makes a commitment , he/she will receive a wristband that says "I'm putting GOD as number **ONE**." Your child will be using the money saver container throughout the **ONE** initiative, so be sure to hang on to it. Kids' City will revisit and celebrate **ONE** each quarter throughout the year for the next two years.

StuCo will be participating in the **ONE** initiative by highlighting projects weekly throughout the next two years.

WEEK ONE

BIG IDEA

As **ONE** church with **ONE** vision, we will accomplish the **ONE** mission together.

READ ACTS 4:32-35 NIRV

32All the believers were agreed in heart and mind. They didn't claim that anything they had was their own. Instead, they shared everything they owned. 33With great power the apostles continued their teaching. They were telling people that the Lord Jesus had risen from the dead. And God's grace was working powerfully in all of them. 34So there were no needy persons among them. From time to time, those who owned land or houses sold them. They brought the money from the sales. 35They put it down at the apostles' feet. It was then given out to anyone who needed it.

Have you ever been on a team where everyone worked together to win a game? What team was this?

The people of the early church that we read about in Acts were a team too. They were working together to tell as many people as they could about Jesus. They also took care of each other. When one person or family was in need, everyone chipped in to get them what they needed. The people in the early church were very generous with those in their community.

Look up the definition of generous. **Write it here** _____

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To be generous means to be ready to give more than is needed or expected of your money and time.

If we are going to be generous, we need to be ready when someone needs us. For instance, if you are given an allowance every week and

you spend every cent of this allowance before the week is over, when someone is in need, you will not be ready or prepared to help them. When we think about how to be generous ahead of time and we are wise with our own money, we will be ready to share with others.

Being generous also means giving more of your time and money than is needed or expected. When your friend needs money for lunch and you go the extra mile to buy them a drink too, that's being generous. Or, if your parents ask you to empty the dishwasher and you take the time to empty the garbage also, that's also being generous.

What can you do to budget your time and money so you have enough to be generous? How does this work for family budgets and schedules? Discuss this with the adults in your life. They are sure to have some ideas and examples from their own experiences.

Write your ideas here: _____

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READ ACTS 4:33-34 NIRV

33 With great power the apostles continued their teaching. They were telling people that the Lord Jesus had risen from the dead. And God's grace was working powerfully in all of them. 34 So there were no needy persons among them. From time to time, those who owned land or houses sold them. They brought the money from the sales.

Fill in the blanks:

The apostles taught with great _____.

God's grace was working _____within them.

Talk together as a family about how being generous can make more room in our lives for God's power to act. **Write what you discussed here:**

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It may seem opposite to what we hear in the world around us, but the truth is that stuff and money do not give us power. Giving away stuff and money and being generous with our resources can free us up to have space in our hearts for God to work in our lives.

The people in the early church had God's power working within them. They trusted God and were completely generous with all that they had. Can you trust God enough to be generous with your stuff? (Remember, to be generous is to be ready to give more than is needed or expected of your money and time.)

What would you have a hard time being generous with?

What would be easy to be generous with?

PRAY

Ask God to give us the power to be truly generous.

WEEK ONE - JAN. 31 - FEB. 6

READ ACTS 4:32 NIRV

All the believers were agreed in heart and mind. They didn't claim that anything they had was their own. Instead, they shared everything they owned.

"All the believers were agreed in heart and mind." This is a tricky sentence. Ask an adult in your life what this means to them. What do you think it means?

Write your ideas here: _____

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The believers in the early church were a lot like the people that go to COMMUNITY today. We are **ONE** church, but we have many campuses. The people that go to all the different campus have unique gifts and talents, but they all agree on the most important thing - helping people find their way back to God (hpftwbtG).

Just like the early church, we know that we have to be generous with each other and the people in our community who are in need.

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Brainstorm as a family how you can be more generous with your money and your time.

Write your ideas here: _____

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SHARE WHAT YOU LEARNED THIS WEEK

Take a photo together and post it to social media using #familywin. Let others know how your family plans to be more generous.

WEEK TWO

BIG IDEA

We can work together to get God's work done.

READ EXODUS 31:1-11 NIRV

Bezalel and Oholiab
1 Then the Lord said to Moses, 2 "See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri,
the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, 3 and I have filled him with the Spirit
of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all
kinds of skills— 4 to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and
bronze, 5 to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all
kinds of crafts. 6 Moreover, I have appointed Oholiab son of Ahisamak,
of the tribe of Dan, to help him. Also I have given ability to all the skilled
workers to make everything I have commanded you: 7 the tent of meeting,
the ark of the covenant law with the atonement cover on it, and all the
other furnishings of the tent— 8 the table and its articles, the pure gold
lampstand and all its accessories, the altar of incense, 9 the altar of burnt
offering and all its utensils, the basin with its stand— 10 and also the
woven garments, both the sacred garments for Aaron the priest and the

FEB. 7 - FEB. 13

garments for his sons when they serve as priests, [11] and the anointing oil and fragrant incense for the Holy Place. They are to make them just as I commanded you."

This month in Kids' City and Student Community, we are learning about cooperation—working together to do more than you can do alone. When God told the Israelites to build the tabernacle, it was no small job! He knew that it would be impossible for one person to tackle alone, so He gave specific instructions on how he wanted them to work together.

God still wants us to do big things for Him. But He does not want us to attempt them on our own, He's given each of us different skills and abilities so we will work together. When you cooperate and join your gifts and abilities with others, you can accomplish something big.

COMMUNITY is a church with many locations. Kids' City and StuCo are part of our one bigger church. We know that God wants us to do big things too by helping more families find their way back to God. Just like the Israelites, we have to work together to get God's work done.

WEEK TWO - FEB. 7 - FEB. 13

Read the verses again. In the box below, circle some of the items God instructed the Israelites to craft for the tabernacle.

The ark of the covenant	An altar for burnt offerings
A table for the holy bread	A castle made of Legos
A bicycle built for two	Special garments for Aaron
A gold lamp stand	A bedazzled new hoodie

When we cooperate as **ONE** church, we will be combining all of our giving back to God money to do God's work. One of the things that we will be doing is starting a new campus for more people to come and find their way back to God. Ask an adult in your life to help you make a list of all the things the new church might need to get started:

READ EXODUS 35:21 NIRV

[21]Everyone who wanted to give offerings to the Lord brought them to him. The offerings were for the work on the tent of meeting. They were also for the sacred clothes and for any other purpose at the tent.

When they finished building the tabernacle, the people gathered to worship God. One way they worshiped was to bring offerings. Everyone brought something and everything they brought helped create a beautiful place to worship God.

We bring our offerings too, but they look a little different. Every week when you celebrate in church, you have a chance to bring an offering to God. Our **ONE** church uses the money you bring to help people find their way back to God in many ways. By bringing your offering, even if it doesn't seem like much, you're saying that you trust God to take your gift along with the gifts of others and use them to make an even bigger difference in our community.

So what can you bring? An offering doesn't have to be money. It can also be a way you choose to serve others.

Ask your family to help you brainstorm some ways that you could work together to get God's work done.

Write your ideas here: _____

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WEEK TWO - FEB. 7 - FEB. 13

FAMILY PRAYER

Ask God to help you choose how to serve Him and make Him number **ONE**. It could be by giving an offering this week or serving others. You can write your prayer here:

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Find out where all of COMMUNITY campuses are located. Make a plan to visit at least one other campus and take your **ONE** passport with you. Which campus did you choose? When will you visit? Write down what interests you about this campus:

READ GENESIS 2:18-22 NIRV

18 The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him." 19 The Lord God had formed all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He had made all of them out of the ground.

He brought them to the man to see what names he would give them. And the name the man gave each living creature became its name. [20] So the man gave names to all the livestock, all the birds in the sky, and all the wild animals. But Adam didn't find a helper that was just right for him. [21]So the Lord God caused him to fall into a deep sleep. While the man was sleeping, the Lord God took out one of the man's ribs. Then the Lord God closed the opening in the man's side. [22]Then the Lord God made a woman. He made her from the rib he had taken out of the man. And the Lord God brought her to the man.

When God created Adam, he declared that he was "very good." But, when Adam looked at all the animals, he reazlied that not one would be a good helper for him. Something was still missing. God saw that Adam was alone and God never wanted it that way so He created Eve. Adam was so happy because Eve was the perfect friend for him. It's important for us to see that from the very beginning God knew that we would need each other and He didn't want us to be alone.

That's just one reason why cooperation is so important. You will always be able to do more for God when you work with others. When you start to wish you were "just by yourself," remember God's words: "It is not good for man to be alone."

On a piece of paper, write out the words to verse 18. Use symbols or crazy letters to create your own special edition of this verse.

SHARE WHAT YOU LEARNED THIS WEEK

Take a photo together and post it to social media using #familywin. Tell others how your family plans to serve others together.

WEEK THREE

BIG IDEA

We can work together to help someone else succeed.

READ EXODUS 17:12 NIRV

When Moses' arms got tired, Aaron and Hur got a stone and put it under him. Then he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held up his hands. Aaron was on one side, and Hur was on the other. Moses' hands remained steady until sunset.

Grab two large books (like a Bible or dictionary) and put one in each hand. Ask someone to time you to see how long you can hold up the books on your own. Write down the time. Now find two friends or siblings to stand on either side and help you just like Aaron and Hur did. Don't forget to time yourself. Compare the two times. How much longer could you stay in that position?

In our Bible story this week, what happened when Moses' arms got tired?

Aaron and Hur noticed what was happening and they helped Moses by cooperating with one another and choosing to work together to help Moses succeed.

You'll probably never have to stand on a mountain and help someone hold up their arms, but you could help clean up a neighbor's yard, help your parents with the laundry or you and a classmate could help organize the books in your classroom.

What are some ways that you can work together as a family or with your friends to help others succeed?

PRAY

Thank God for the people who help you everyday.

Write your prayer here: _____

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WEEK THREE - FEB. 14 - FEB. 20

READ PROVERBS 27:17 NIRV

As iron sharpens iron,so one person sharpens another.

Have you ever painted a picture or a room in your house? Have you ever had paint get all over you in the process? Sometimes it's easier to end up with more paint on you than on the wall or page!

That's sorta what this verse is all about. The way we treat others will influence our friends. We have the potential to help someone else be successful when we choose to love and serve others. Over time, the people around you will see how you care for others and they might choose to serve others as well because of the example you have set.

Answer the following questions with your family:

1. Who do you know that you would like to influence by your actions?

2. How do you think they would be influenced if you invited them to Kids' City or StuCo?

FAMILY PRAYER

Ask God to help you influence your friends and the people around you. As a family, pray for those that you named above.

Write your prayer here: _____

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READ ECCLESIASTES 4:8 NIRV

A man lived all by himself. He didn't have any sons or brothers.His hard work never ended. But he wasn't happy with what he had."Who am I working so hard for?" he asked. "Why don't I get the things I enjoy?" That doesn't have any meaning either. In fact, it's a very bad deal!

What's more fun? Working alone or with a friend? What's more fun? Celebrating hard work alone or with a friend? Sometimes being alone is not fun. Especially when you have a big job to do. In these verses, we see someone who works hard, but has no one to help. At the end of the day, all that hard work doesn't count for much because he doesn't have anyone to enjoy it with!

Sometimes you might think it would be better if you could just do the job yourself without having to rely on someone else. But God knows that we need each other and Him. He knows that we'll get way more done when we choose to cooperate and work as **ONE**, and when the job is done, we'll be able to celebrate together too.

WEEK THREE - FEB. 14 - FEB. 20

Answer the following questions with your family:

1. What is our church working on together? What is our big project?

2. What is your part in this project? What is your family's part? If you do not know, don't be afraid to ask your parents.

3. How would you like to celebrate as a church and family once we get the work done?

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Is there something you can do together to help someone you know? Cook a meal or a batch of cookies as a family for someone who is sick or lonely. Who could you help? How? Set a date to do this.

ADULTS, STUDENTS, AND KIDS

Get Ready to make your Commitment!

On February 28, COMMUNITY will be making a generosity commitment as **ONE** church to show that God is number **ONE** in our lives. Talk as a family about this commitment. What does it mean to you? To your family? Will you need to give up something to make this happen? Why is it worth it?

Parents: Kids will learn to be generous, because adults set the example for them. Spending time talking about your plans will help your kids grow into generous people who trust God with their time and treasures.

As a family, take a look at the Commitment Card your child receieved in Kids' City or StuCo. Discuss ideas for how you want to commit to making God number **ONE** in your life. Encourage your child to fill this card in, and bring it to Kids' City by February 21, or to the StuCo Commitment Event on February 24.

SHARE WHAT YOU LEARNED THIS WEEK

Take a photo together and post it to social media using #familywin. Tell others how your family plans to help someone in need.

WEEK FOUR

BIG IDEA

We can work together to change someone's life.

READ LUKE 5:18-19 NIRV

18 So some men came carrying a man who could not walk. He was lying on a mat. They tried to take him into the house to place him in front of Jesus. 19They could not find a way to do this because of the crowd. So they went up on the roof. Then they lowered the man on his mat through the opening in the roof tiles. They lowered him into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

Have you ever tried to carry someone on a mat? Why not give it a try? Grab a big towel and attempt to carry your friend or parent from one room to another. Impossible right? Can you imagine carrying a grown man all by yourself? Not possible. Now ask for some help. Was that easier?

In these verses, to get their friend in front of Jesus, these four friends had to cooperate and work together. Can you imagine how hard it must have been to carry their friend to the house where Jesus was teaching? When they arrived, they realized that it was way too crowded to get him in

through the door. No problem! They worked together again to carry him up to the roof, make a hole and lower him down, right in front of Jesus. Because they worked together, their friend met Jesus face to face. By cooperating, they changed their friend's life forever.

PRAY

Thank God for friends who are willing to cooperate and work as **ONE**!

READ LUKE 5:20 NIRV

When Jesus saw that they had faith, he spoke to the man. He said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

Did you notice the part of the verse where it says, "when Jesus saw their faith?" Jesus recognized that these friends believed in Him. They knew that Jesus could heal and forgive! Because they cooperated and worked as **ONE**, the man was able to receive something even better than the ability to walk! Jesus forgave him. His life was completely changed because of his friends. They were willing to do whatever it took to get their friend to Jesus, believing that He could help their friend.

WEEK FOUR - FEB. 21 - FEB. 27

Answer the following questions with your family:

1. Do you think it's hard sometimes to point others to Jesus? Why?

2. Would it be easier if you had some help? Think about your friends at church or in your small group. How could you work together to change someone else's life? Write down some ideas and take them to church this week.

READ ROMANS 15:5-6 NIRV

[5] Our God is a God who strengthens and encourages you. May he give you the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had. [6] Then you can give glory to God with one mind and voice. He is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It's hard to cooperate with others sometimes, isn't it? When that happens, the best place to start is prayer.

Our verse for today reminds us that we can pray to help us get along with one another. When you start to feel yourself getting frustrated or angry when you're trying to cooperate, stop and pray. Remember, cooperation and working together is better than working alone. Working together to change someone's life by helping them find their way back to God is important, so we all need to help each other.

PRAY

Pick a friend that you're having a hard time getting along with and ask God to give you "one mind and one voice."

Write your prayer here: _____

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FAMILY ACTIVITY

Pick a family that you want to help find their way back to God. Begin to pray for them as a family. God will help you and let you know when it's the right time to start the conversation about Jesus with them.

Write your family prayer here or on a paper that you can post in your house where everyone can see it:

SHARE WHAT YOU LEARNED THIS WEEK

Take a photo together and post it to social media using #familywin. Tell others how your family plans to begin praying for someone who needs to find their way back to God.

WEEK FIVE

BIG IDEA
Working together can point others to Jesus.

READ ACTS 2:44-47 NIRV
44 All the believers were together. They shared everything they had. 45 They sold property and other things they owned. They gave to anyone who needed something. 46 Every day they met together in the temple courtyard. They ate meals together in their homes. Their hearts were glad and sincere. 47 They praised God. They were respected by all the people. Every day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved.

Have you ever seen a marching band perform? What happens if the tuba player decides he's more important than the rest of the group? What happens if he suddenly plays his own tune, or struts out of formation on the field dancing like a crazy person? The whole performance is ruined. All those hours of practicing wouldn't matter at all if a player or two decided to put himself before the rest of his fellow players.

The people who were part of the early church, the FIRST Jesus followers, knew how to do this well. Instead of thinking of themselves, they put the needs of others first. They shared what they had and cooperated so that

they could accomplish the really BIG task-telling others about Jesus!

We want to do that at our church too! COMMUNITY, our church, is made up of a lot of locations called campuses. Together, we make up **ONE** large church. Each campus is good at different things but together, when we cooperate, we can be great at the most important thing: Helping people find their way back to God. (hpftwbtG)

Cooperation means thinking about others. It means understanding that your role, while very important, isn't MORE important than anyone else's. That is how our church campuses work. God needs all of us and all of our campuses with our unique gifts and abilities to help others know about Jesus, because working together can point others to Jesus.

LOOK for ways to work together with the friends you have at church to point others to Jesus.

Write some ideas here: _____

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WEEK FIVE - FEB. 28 - MAR. 5

READ JOHN 13:35 NIRV

"If you love one another, everyone will know you are my disciples."

How do people know if you are a follower of Jesus? One BIG way is by cooperation with others. Working with others was a big deal to Jesus. Think about this. When Jesus began his ministry on earth one of the first things he did was recruit His twelve disciples.

Jesus chose twelve men to travel with Him and help Him in ministry. Was He powerful enough to do things on his own? Absolutely. But He set a clear example for us. We can accomplish WAY more for God when we work with others than we could ever do on our own.

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Grab a box of Legos, playing cards or something else with small pieces and dump it out. Set a timer and start picking up the mess. How long did it take?

Now recruit your brother or sister or neighbor or dog (okay, maybe not your dog). Dump out the Legos again and pick up the mess with a little help. How long did it take this time?

KNOW that God wants us to cooperate and help others see Jesus.

Did someone help you know about Jesus? Was it one person all along or several people working together?

READ HEBREWS 10:24-25 NIRV

24 Let us consider how we can stir up one another to love. Let us help one another to do good works. 25 And let us not give up meeting together. Some are in the habit of doing this. Instead, let us encourage one another with words of hope. Let us do this even more as you see Christ's return approaching.

When you cooperate, you are choosing to allow someone else to help you do something. That means that when the job is done, you share the credit too. Have you ever wanted to do things on your own so that others will recognize only you and you will get all the attention? Instead of thinking about the praise you might receive in the end, think about what you might learn when you work with others.

When you cooperate with others, you learn valuable lessons about teamwork. Your unique gifts can be used to help others, and you will see that the gifts of your friends are also vauable and needed. When you choose to work with others to do good works, you're a part of the body of Christ—the church. God has given us a BIG task—to tell others about His son Jesus, and He knows that we can accomplish this mission together through cooperation and all of us using our gifts.

PRAY

Think about a friend at school that doesn't know about Jesus. Talk to the friends and leaders in your group at church and begin to pray for this friend. Ask God to show you how you might point this friend to Jesus.

Write your prayer here: _____

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ASK God to help you cooperate with others to point your friends to Jesus.

NEXT STEPS

PRAY that God will lead us to be generous in a way that reflects Him being number **ONE** in our lives.

DECLARE God is number **ONE** by participating in a two-year adult, student and child generosity commitment.

INFLUENCE others, including students and kids, to make God number **ONE.**

SHARE WHAT YOU LEARNED DURING **ONE**

Take a photo together and post it to social media using #familywin. Tell others the next steps your family will take to make God number **ONE** in your lives!

TEN WAYS TO TEACH YOUR CHILD ABOUT GENEROSITY

1. Teach your child to manage their money. Once they are responsible with their own money, they will be capable of choosing to be generous.
2. Model generosity in your home by sharing what you have with each other.
3. Choose generous acts that you can do as a family such as delivering food to a food bank or bringing cookies to a new neighbor.
4. Verbally affirm generous behavior in your child.
5. Learn what God says about generosity through scripture: Proverbs 11:25,19:17, 22:9, Acts 20:35, 1 Corinthians 10:24, 1 John 3:17.
6. Teach kids to donate their toys, technology or time to people in need as a gentle introduction to what we hope will be a way of life.
7. Draw attention to the needs of others all year long.
8. Refuse to splurge on toys or stuff that you can't afford or your kids do not need.
9. Bring kids with you to shop for gifts that they will be giving to special people in their lives.
10. Talk to your kids about the sacrifices you make as a family to be generous. Discuss how much you give and why.

GOD IS **NUMBER ONE** IN US AND WE ARE **ONE ON THIS MISSION**

THE MISSION OF COMMUNITY IS TO HELP PEOPLE FIND THEIR WAY BACK TO GOD.
When we are generous, we are ready to give more than is needed or expected of our money and time. When we cooperate, we work together to do more than we can do alone.

COMMUNITY
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Helping People Find Their Way Back to God

communitychristian.org/one