



Kids Christian Magazine

grow.



Special Anniversary Edition:

A Good Example

Issue 33 | September–October 2024

Editorial

"Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example..." -1 Timothy 4:12



Sophia Coleman, Editor

Of Examples, Sad News, and Hidden Treasure

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the 4th anniversary edition of Grow Magazine! I can hardly believe how long I've been making these and how much God has blessed it!

You'll probably notice this issue is missing something y'all have been looking forward to a lot. I have a confession to make--due to life stuff and struggling with writer's block, I wasn't able to have first chapter of Mountain of Secrets ready for this issue. I've been looking forward to sharing it with you all so much, but I will definitely have it ready for the next issue.

But that leads into a big announcement I'm about to make. I've been thinking and praying about this for a long time, and now I think it's what God's calling me to do.

So, I'm here to let you all know that at the end of 2024 I'll be discontinuing Grow Magazine for the foreseeable future. I've enjoyed producing these magazines and seeing how God has used them to bless you all so much, and it's been an amazing learning experience for me.

But with moving back to the US and spending more time writing, I'm feeling that it's time to move on. That means that after this issue there will be only one more coming out in November.

I want to thank all of you, especially my very first subscribers and supporters at the Cornerstone, Caversham, and Riverside churches in New Zealand. Your support and encouragement mean so much to me, and I'm going to miss you all very much. ❤️

The theme of this issue is learning to follow the example of godly people and becoming good examples ourselves. I think this is an important thing for us to think about as Christians, because God is growing us to be more like *Jesus*. It can hurt our growth when we're trying to become like figures in our life who don't provide a Christlike example.

No matter who we are, we all have others in our life who are affected by our actions—brothers, sisters, friends, unbelievers etc. Usually these people are younger than us, but not always! In 1 Timothy 4:12, Paul encourages Timothy to set an example for believers who are older than him as well as younger. It's a very special thing to have someone look up to you, so be careful not to abuse that gift by teaching them to act in a way that's not like Jesus.

However, remember that even the most exemplary people slip up sometimes. Most of us, including me, slip up a *lot*. Without God's help, we can't even get close.

No one except Jesus is a perfect example. But that doesn't mean that we can't still light the way for someone else.

The mission of *Grow Kids Christian Magazine* is to inspire children ages 7-12 to develop the character of Jesus through a biblical and engaging bimonthly magazine.

Evaluation Questions

- Do you **admire** godly people or ungodly people?
- Do you read books, listen to music, or watch movies that provide **poor examples**?
- Do you **look to Jesus** as the ultimate example in your life?
- Do you act in a way you would want others to **imitate**?
- Do you know of anyone who could be **following your example**?
How does your behavior affect them?



Memory Verses

Matthew 5:16

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Verses on Being an Example

Look up each passage in the ESV bible, then fill in the blanks.

Psalm 101:2

"I will _____ with integrity of _____ within my
_____."

Philippians 3:17

"Brothers, join in _____ me, and keep
your _____ on those who walk according to the
_____ you have in us."

1 Timothy 4:12

"Let _____ despise you for your _____,
but set an example for the _____ in
speech, in _____, in love, in _____, in
purity."

1 Peter 2:21

For to this you have been called, because _____
also _____ for you, leaving you an
example, so that you might _____ in his steps."

Application Activities

1. **Study** the following verses that show the example Jesus gave us to follow. How can you follow his example?
 - a. Mark 10:43-45
 - b. John 13:13-17 and 34
 - c. Ephesians 5:1
 - d. Philippians 2:5-8
 - e. Colossians 3:13
2. **Talk** with your parents about who you both admire in your life. Who do you imitate? Why do you look up to those people? Are they good examples?
3. **Make** bread with your mom. How much yeast did you put in compared to the flour? Watch to see what the yeast does to the bread. How can friends who do sinful things be like the leaven in your bread?
4. **Read** Matthew 5:14-16. Go with your parents to somewhere at night where you can see the light of a house or a city on a hill. How can you be like a light on a hill in a dark world?
5. **Think** about what kind of example do you provide for those who look up to you—siblings, other children, unbelievers... Talk to God about it and ask him to help you be honest with yourself. Do you lead them in doing what is right or what is wrong? How can you be a better example?

Puzzle Page

Sudoku



| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | 3 | 1 |
| 4 | | 1 | | | | 8 | 2 | |
| | | | | 2 | 8 | 7 | | |
| | | | | 1 | 6 | 9 | | 8 |
| 6 | | 4 | 3 | | | | | |
| | | 2 | 9 | 7 | 4 | | | 6 |
| | | | | 9 | | | 1 | 5 |
| | 4 | | | 6 | | | | 3 |
| 9 | | 6 | 5 | 3 | 2 | | 8 | 7 |

Obedience Wordsearch

Find the words you filled in the blanks on pg. 5 in the wordsearch!

h v m s c o l d e s f p m s h
 b i e y e s o c j o a u s k e
 o e x a m p l e c c i i f s a
 q w l e m e k v h o t m o j r
 w g y i x k t d r z h i l v t
 a v o j e x k y i d d t l l k
 s r u m j v n m s u e a o i i
 u g t k n c e t t y i t w d c
 f h h q o o b r e h q i i u e
 f p m y o n p a s n f n p h i
 e v j q n d h u j i s g b j u
 r c y n e u o r f u e w j r s
 e f i h u c u y s t r x a a k
 d w q i y t s e c b i b m l a
 g v a x j d e d w c g g i a k



Growing as a christian to become more like Jesus is an amazing and rewarding journey. Keep on cooperating with God as he transforms you!