

DEVELOPMENTAL DOMAIN 1

# Spiritual Development

STANDARDS	BENCHMARKS / Example
<p><b>God</b></p> <p>1.1 <i>Begins to develop beliefs about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and angels</i></p>	<p>1.1.1 Begins to understand God—The Father, Jesus— the Son, and Holy Spirit  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child recalls that God’s immediate family is made up of The Father, Son and Holy Spirit</p>
	<p>1.1.2 Begins to experience God’s unconditional love  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child says, “Jesus loves me like my parents love me.”                      » Child accepts comfort from someone who disciplines him/her</p>
	<p>1.1.3 Begins to exercise faith and communicate with God through prayer  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child asks if he/she may have prayer at mealtime                      » Child closes eyes and folds hands during prayer                      » Child has prayer request                      » Child says, “We should pray,” when a difficult situation arises</p>
	<p>1.1.4 Begins to express belief that God sends His angels to protect His children  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child says, “I know my angel watches over me.”                      » Child tells someone, “We don’t need to worry, our angels are with us.”</p>
	<p>1.1.5 Begins to demonstrate a desire to learn more about Jesus  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child asks, “What was Jesus like when He was little?”                      » Child role plays the story of Jesus in the dramatic play center</p>
<p><b>The Bible</b></p> <p>1.2 <i>Begins to understand that God speaks to people through the Bible</i></p>	<p>1.2.1 Begins to develop an interest in Bible stories and memory verses  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child learns and recites memory verses                      » Child participates in Bible charades</p>
	<p>1.2.2 Begins to recognize that the Bible is God speaking to us and is the source of truth  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child responds, “The Bible says...”                      » Child says, “Jesus says...”</p>
	<p>1.2.3 Begins to understand that the Bible contains God’s law that teaches us how to live  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child expresses that something is right or wrong                      » Child says, “We need to follow God’s law.”</p>

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<p><b>Creation</b></p> <p>1.3 <i>Begins to understand the events of creation, the nature of man and his relationship to God</i></p>	<p>1.3.1 Begins to develop an appreciation of creation and an interest in studying nature  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child looks at a flower and says, "God made this."                      » Child shows enthusiasm while playing in the outdoor environment that God created</p>
	<p>1.3.2 Begins to understand that man was made in God's image with the freedom to make choices  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child says, "God made me like Him."                      » Child understands that he/she can make choices</p>
	<p>1.3.3 Begins to build a relationship with God through prayer and praise  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child initiates prayer to God who is his/her friend                      » Child participates in singing Bible songs to praise God</p>
	<p>1.3.4 Begins to accept God's gift of the Sabbath  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child says, "The seventh day of creation is God's special day."                      » Child talks about going to church to worship on the Sabbath                      » Child asks to go to church on Sabbath to praise God</p>
	<p>1.3.5 Begins to respond to nature by showing sympathy, compassion, and a caring spirit  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child expresses emotion for the death of a pet or a plant                      » Child shows concern or compassion for a sick classmate</p>
<p><b>Salvation</b></p> <p>1.4 <i>Begins to understand the plan of salvation</i></p>	<p>1.4.1 Begins to comprehend that good and bad things happen, there is good versus evil, there is a yes and a no  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child points to a wilted flower and says, "The flower died."                      » Child identifies Example of people doing good and/or bad things</p>
	<p>1.4.2 Begins to understand Jesus' love through His death and resurrection  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child sees a picture of Jesus on the cross, points and says: "Jesus died for me."                      » Child points to a picture of the second coming and says, "Jesus is alive and He's coming back for me."</p>
	<p>1.4.3 Begins to realize that Jesus wants to save everyone from evil or harmful things  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child says, "Jesus wants everyone to go to heaven."                      » Child says, "Jesus is stronger than Satan."</p>
	<p>1.4.4 Begins to express love for Jesus and exhibits Christ-like behavior  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child says, "I love Jesus."                      » Child says, "I want to be like Jesus."                      » Child shows compassion for others like Jesus did</p>
	<p>1.4.5 Begins to understand and practice forgiveness  <i>Example:</i>                      » Child asks for forgiveness                      » Child accepts apologies</p>

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<p><b>Worship &amp; Church Life</b></p> <p>1.5 <i>Begins to develop an understanding of the church family and service to others</i></p>	<p>1.5.1 Begins to participate in worship to God through praying, singing, Bible story lessons, testimonials/sharing through conversations, witnessing, etc.  <b>Example:</b>                      » Child participates in singing worship songs                      » Child is able to repeat/say a simple prayer</p>
	<p>1.5.2 Begins to understand that there are churches and places where people go to worship God  <b>Example:</b>                      » Child shares about his/her worship experience at church                      » Child is able to identify pictures of places of worship</p>
	<p>1.5.3 Begins to show reverence during worship times  <b>Example:</b>                      » Child sits quietly while listening to Bible stories                      » Child is reverent during prayer (still, quiet, etc.)</p>
	<p>1.5.4 Begins to recognize that the church family is made up of a diverse group of people  <b>Example:</b>                      » Child understands that a church family is made up of people different from himself/herself</p>
	<p>1.5.5 Begins to understand baptism and the Lord's Supper  <b>Example:</b>                      » Child listens to Bible stories about baptism and the Lord's Supper                      » Child role plays the Lord's Supper</p>
	<p>1.5.6 Begins to be familiar with Bible stories and teachings from Ellen G. White and Bible prophets  <b>Example:</b>                      » Child can retell or role play a Bible story he/she has heard                      » Child can identify the main character of a Bible story                      » Child can retell or role play stories of Ellen G. White</p>
	<p>1.5.7 Begins to develop an understanding of his/her gifts to be used for serving God and others  <b>Example:</b>                      » Child makes cards for the elderly                      » Child participates in gathering food donations</p>
	<p>1.5.8 Begins to recognize that worship to God can take place anywhere, anytime  <b>Example:</b>                      » Child participates in worship in various places                      » Child participates in chapel</p>

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<p><b>Christian Living</b></p> <p>1.6 <i>Begins to recognize the joy in Christian living</i></p>	<p>1.6.1 Begins to understand and demonstrate that obeying the Ten Commandments brings true happiness  <i>Example:</i>                      » <i>Child begins to understand that lying can hurt others and self</i>                      » <i>Child begins to understand that stealing is wrong</i></p>
	<p>1.6.2 Begins to demonstrate thankfulness to God through stewardship  <i>Example:</i>                      » <i>Child begins to show respect and care for things that God has given him/her</i>                      » <i>Child begins to understand the importance of caring for the environment</i></p>
	<p>1.6.3 Begins to show love and appreciation for family and others  <i>Example:</i>                      » <i>Child makes a thank you card for parents or friends</i>                      » <i>Child offers to help others with a task without being asked</i></p>
	<p>1.6.4 Begins to understand the Biblical concepts of good health habits and respects his/her body as the temple of God  <i>Example:</i>                      » <i>Child can identify foods that are healthy for his/her body</i>                      » <i>Child talks about the importance of getting plenty of rest, water, exercise, and fresh air</i></p>
	<p>1.6.5 Begins to appreciate God’s Sabbath as a day of rest and healthy restoration  <i>Example:</i>                      » <i>Child shares about a Sabbath day experience with his/her family</i>                      » <i>Child shares how he/she rests and eats healthy when not at preschool</i></p>
	<p>1.6.6 Begins to show understanding of the Golden Rule and its application  <i>Example:</i>                      » <i>Child shares his/her toy without being asked</i>                      » <i>Child invites a new child to play with him/her</i></p>
	<p>1.6.7 Begins to develop a personal relationship with Jesus  <i>Example:</i>                      » <i>Child goes to a corner and prays quietly to Jesus</i></p>
<p><b>Jesus’ Return</b></p> <p>1.7 <i>Begins to anticipate the soon coming of Jesus</i></p>	<p>1.7.1 Begins to demonstrate eagerness for Jesus’ return  <i>Example:</i>                      » <i>Child exhibits an enthusiastic attitude toward stories about Jesus’ second coming</i>                      » <i>Child asks, “When is Jesus coming?”</i></p>
	<p>1.7.2 Begins to look forward to living with Jesus forever  <i>Example:</i>                      » <i>Child asks, “What will Heaven be like?”</i>                      » <i>Child says, “When I get to Heaven...”</i>                      » <i>Child role plays the trip going to Heaven</i></p>