

### **Introduction & Mission**

GEMS Girls' Clubs is a place for girls to belong and be loved. At GEMS, girls in first through sixth grade are welcomed into a vibrant community of mentors and peers who genuinely care about them. GEMS is an exciting, safe environment for girls to learn about God, His Word, and His world. Girls are organized into small groups with one leader for every six to eight girls. Together, they will develop a lasting relationship with Jesus, each other, and their mentors. They'll learn how to apply the Bible to their everyday life and challenges, participate in service projects, sing, and make meaningful crafts that encourage others. GEMS is an acronym for Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior. Our vision is to see girls around the world actively and enthusiastically expressing love for God and others—girls equipped, motivated, and passionately engaged in living out their faith. Our mission is to bring girls everywhere into a living, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ.

# Annual Theme

*Act. Love. Walk.* Micah 6:8 has been the GEMS theme verse for years, but this year we really get to study what it means to "Act Justly, Love Mercy, and Walk Humbly with God"! It's been God's plan for world change from the beginning. When our girls walk humbly with God, their megaphone will be the Gospel and the platform on which they stand will be His grace and truth. Compelled, by His love, they'll make a difference in the world. As they act, love, and walk, it'll change our girls, and they will change our world for eternity!

The annual cost for GEMS participation is a non-refundable \$50. This covers their t-shirt, scarf, journal, craft supplies, and other materials throughout the year!

### Awareness Level

Girls in 1st through 3rd grades have the amazing ability to understand the simplicity and depth of God's love for them. To help show them how deep Jesus' love is for them, GEMS has a variety of resources. Each year, GEMS' Annual Theme brings all aspects of club night together. In addition to Annual Theme, Grades 1-3 materials include:

- Activity Books for 1st and 2nd grades include ten Scripture-based lessons as well as fun activities and crafts to support each story.
- Kingdom Girl—The Stories of Jesus is used in 3rd grade and helps girls to learn a diverse knowledge of the Bible.
- Awareness Place Badges include six lessons to introduce the concept of earning badges. We focus on 2 per year at CrossPoint GEMS so after three years in the Awareness level (1st-3rd grade) girls will have had the chance to earn all 6 badges. They can also earn the theme badge and other various badges each year.
- Act. Love. Walk. Theme GEMS Journals Engaging and interactive age-appropriate girls' lessons including discussion questions, quizzes, Bible memory games, activities, and a poster.

### **Discovery Level**

Girls in 4th through 6th grades are curious, enthusiastic, and excited to learn. It's a prime season to help them develop a solid foundation in understanding God's love for them through Jesus Christ, and discover the unique gifts God has given them. Each year, GEMS' Annual Theme brings all aspects of club night together. In addition to Annual Theme, Grades 4-6 materials include:

• Discovery Place Badge Book with 100 different badges for girls to earn. We give the girls numerous opportunities to earn badges throughout the year at club, but the majority of badges for each year are done individually outside of club.

• Act. Love. Walk. Theme GEMS Journals - Engaging and interactive age-appropriate girls' lessons including discussion questions, quizzes, Bible memory games, activities, and a poster.

### **CrossPoint GEMS Club Communication**

CrossPoint uses the Remind app to communicate with parents about schedule changes, updates, reminders, service projects, etc. through the year. When registering your child, please list a cell phone you'd like to receive notifications from. Then you will receive notifications that look like text messages to your device to aid in partnering with parents to keep you informed on GEMs club happenings. **Group Name:** CrossPoint GEMS **Class Code:** @gems22-23

### **CrossPoint GEMS Code of Conduct**

As stated in the introduction to what GEMS is, we want to make sure that GEMS is an exciting, safe environment for all girls to learn about God, His Word, and His world. There are a few guidelines that we ask all girls and their families to uphold while attending GEMS at CrossPoint so all girls feel safe and loved.

**First**, there is no tolerance for bullying. As women and girls who love Christ, we first and foremost want to treat others as Jesus would treat them - with love and respect. Therefore, if we see bullying happen, there will be measures taken to ensure that it stops.

**Second,** we encourage everyone to be on time. Each club night starts with relationship building exercises in their classroom where they get to know their leader and their group members, which impacts their GEMS experience. Then we go into our large group time where important announcements are given and worship happens. We want every girl to experience all parts of each club night.

**Lastly,** come prepared. We ask that each GEMS girl wear her GEMS tshirt. We understand that sometimes their GEMS shirt is large for them so that they can grow into it, but please don't tie it up so high that we can see their stomach. We suggest, too, that on craft nights, hair is put up in a ponytail so it isn't dripped in paint or in the way for the craft that evening. It's also important to bring your GEMS bag each night with their Bible verse book/Badge book and Bible. Points are earned for these items each night they attend club. We also ask that each girl come prepared with a respectful attitude. All our leaders are volunteers and so we ask they they are treated with respect as they give of their time to be part of CrossPoint's GEMS program. We will talk to parents if there needs to be an improvement with how a GEMS girl is treating the leaders.

# CrossPoint GEMS Point System

CrossPoint GEMS has a point system to help motivate each GEMS girl to take an active role in your experience at GEMS, and reward you for your regular participation. Those of you who meet the minimum point requirements as noted below will qualify to receive a gift at the end of the year. The point goals we have set are tough but realistic goals to meet. To meet these point goals will take some extra work and effort on your part, but will be worth it!

5 points - Attendance each meeting
5 points - Wearing scarf and GEMS shirt
5 points - Brought Bible & Verse Book (1st-3rd) or Badge Book (4th-6th)
10 points - Attended outside GEMS event (caroling, CrossPoint church events, etc)
15 points - Brought a friend (one time)
15 points - Brought supplies for a service project
15 points - every 30 minutes of service hours (must be outside immediate family members)
25 points - Memory Verses recited by 1st-3rd graders (signed off in book by counselor)
25 points - Each Badge Completed by April 28 (signed off by counselor)

If you achieve 1000 points or more for the year, you will win a prize at the End of the Year Celebration! It sounds like a lot, but it is totally doable!

Example:

- 30 meetings a year (15 total points for attendance, wearing scarf & shirt, bringing Bible and book) = 450 points

- Achieve 5 badges = 125 points - 30 minutes of Service Hours every other week for a grandparent, teacher, church, etc = 450 points

Total: 1025 points

Service Hours is what can really help you achieve a high score, so be thinking of ways that you can help people outside of your parents and siblings. Also, the girl with the highest points scored will achieve the Gold Star Award and get a special trophy and their name on a plaque that gets hung on our GEMS wall!

### **Contact Information**

If you ever have any questions about GEMS or the calendar, please feel free to contact us!

Rachel Birch, GEMS Coordinator rbirch@crosspointchino.org or 909-696-9833 ext 212 Kaylyn Unterkofler, CrossPoint Children's & Family Ministry Pastor kaylyn@crosspointchino.org or 909-606-9833 ext 225

We are looking forward to a great year!!