

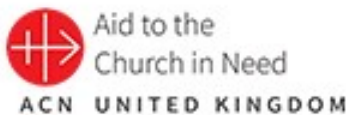
God Speaks to His Children

The ACN Child's Bible Project

GOD SPEAKS TO HIS CHILDREN

THE ACN CHILD'S BIBLE PROJECT

GOD SPEAKS TO HIS CHILDREN
Texts from the Bible



ACNUK.ORG

Week 8 (Chapters 36-40)



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN UNITED KINGDOM

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We hope you and your families, teachers and classmates enjoy using these resources as much as we have enjoyed putting them together. They are especially for you, from all of us at ACN!

Welcome to this week's workbook for the ACN Child's Bible Project!

Before you get started on an activity, you'll need to watch the reading and reflection videos that go with it.

These activities are designed to help you understand a bit more about this week's chapters and to make sure that you have fun at the same time.

Are you ready? Let's see what you can do...or make...or draw...or sing...or play...or feel...or figure out!

Note to parents, teachers and carers:

There are 99 chapters in the ACN Child's Bible; videos of each one being read aloud along with a brief reflection will be made available each weekday from Easter Monday (13 April) 2020. While some older children may enjoy using these resources on their own, for maximum benefit and enjoyment we recommend working through each chapter together one day at a time.

All of the corresponding prayers and activities have been carefully designed to reinforce the content of each chapter and to help children engage with the stories in a fun and creative way. We've made every effort to keep things simple with clear instructions and materials that should be readily available in your home or classroom.

You can find the links to this week's chapters embedded in this workbook and on the ACN Schools social media platforms (listed on the back page of this workbook).



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For more information about *God Speaks to his Children*, the ACN Child's Bible, or to contact the ACN Schools Teams, please see the back page of this booklet.

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Chapter 36:

For 23 years Jeremiah tried to warn God's people to live good lives and not to ignore God's rules. They didn't listen. Enter Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon. This will not end well for the Israelites...

You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOyxvlyTaVo>

"We will be like friends, but we don't know each other."

Nebuchadnezzar forced God's people to leave the land they loved. This was because they had stopped listening to God and following his Commandments.

Today you are going to meet Maryam, a Christian girl from the Nineveh Plains in Iraq. Maryam has never stopped believing in God or following the rules of her Christian faith, but a few years ago she and her family and friends were forced to leave their towns and villages; Maryam knows what it feels like to lose everything and to have to start again in a different place.

Watch the video about Maryam and then take some time to think about the things that you have in common with her > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7W5OhiUxUg>

She may live in another country and speak a different language, but she's still a lot like you! What would you ask her if you met her at school one day?

"I will pray for you, and you will pray for me."



Maryam and her mum, Alice, in 2017.



Prayer for today: God, I know there are children just like me around the world who have difficult lives because they live places where there are violence or poverty. Sometimes I experience difficulties in my own life, too. Please protect all your people from others who want to do harm.

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Chapter 37:

Through his prophet Ezekiel, God sets out his plans to rescue his people and to fill them with his Spirit. You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mNGBQPkPGZA>

Crack the secret code to read God's message!

Today we need some help from all you expert code-breakers out there... are you up for the challenge? Today's chapter of the Child's Bible was sent to us in code and we need you to figure it out so we can all be sure we understand God's message to his people. We hope you've listened carefully to the video!

It looks like all of the letters have been changed into numbers! You'll need to figure out which number (1-26) stands for each letter so that you can read the message. We've provided a blank grid and a couple of clues to help you crack the code. Good luck!

Y 25 U 22 19 LL 16 E 23 Y 9 E 25 9 LE 1 13 12
19 22 19 LL 16 E Y 25 U 6 5 25 12.

This is the message
you need to work
out!

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
		8		4			2			10	18	

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
			15				3				14	7



You can find the answers on the following page!

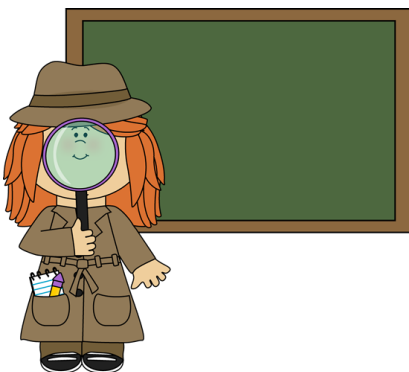


You will be my people and I will be your God.

Got it? Great Work!

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	1	8	1	4	2	5	2	19	2	1	18	23	1	2	9	15	6	2	26	3	11	2	1	14	7
	6		2		4				1	0			3	5			0					2	7		

Why not try making up some codes of your own using the key?



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Chapter 38:

King Cyrus to the rescue! Cyrus, the king of Persia, returns God's people to Jerusalem, rebuilds the temple and restores the treasures looted by King Nebuchadnezzar.

You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lseNX0k2ae8>

Numbers are very important in our lives. We all know how old we are and how many days there are in a week and what our house number is.

4

Numbers are really important in the Bible, too. Did you notice the number that was mentioned in today's chapter? If you did, you already have the answer to one of the questions in today's numbers game!

Test your knowledge of numbers from the Bible by choosing the right answer in the multiple choice questions below:

- Noah made sure that there were this many of each animal on the ark
A. 36 B. 19 C. 2 D. 11 E. 142
- Jacob had this many sons; each son began one of the tribes of Israel
A. 7 B. 89 C. 16 D. 158 E. 12
- This is the number of years that God's people lived in the wilderness AND that they were exiled in Babylon
A. 40 B. 9 C. 33 D. 14 E. 29
- Joseph explained Pharaoh's dream about this many good years and this many bad years (and about cows and corn, too!)
A. 23 B. 7 C. 100 D. 53 E. 2
- Abraham was this many years old when he set out to go to the land that God had promised for him and his people
A. 4 B. 43 C. 75 D. 59 E. 230
- After creating the world, God rested because he had worked for this many days
A. 12 B. 6 C. 11 D. 1 E. 74

9

5

Answers: 1. C; 2. E; 3. A; 4. B; 5. C; 6. B



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Prayer for today: God, we all know what it feels like to come home to a place we love after a long time away. We pray today for people who are far from their homes at the moment, who are refugees finding safety in another country, who work at sea for a long time, or who for any reason can't live in the place they want to. Please look after them and keep them safe.

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Chapter 39:

Just imagine how happy God's people felt when they got to return home after forty years in Babylon! Today's chapter comes from Psalm 126. Psalms take the form of songs or poems; they tell stories in a different way from the other parts of the Bible. In this activity, you'll be looking at this psalm—a song of homecoming—in a different way.

You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QtVEEVtGyWY>



Have you ever heard of a calligram?



A calligram is a word or poem written in a shape that helps to explain its meaning. A poem about your new kitten shaped like a cat's head, for example, or one about speed shaped like a racing car.

Today's chapter is a poem about the joy of coming home—about people who are just so happy that they are shouting and singing and dancing.



Below are the words of the first verse from today's chapter. On the next page we've included some shapes that might help you to come up with a good, joyful shape for your calligram. You can use one of these shapes or come up with your own—and you can write out the whole psalm or just part of it or maybe even write it out more than once.

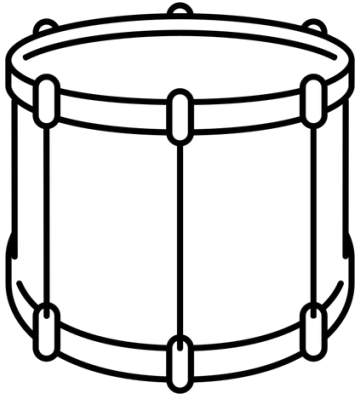
**WHEN THE LORD ENDED OUR CAPTIVITY AND
BROUGHT US HOME TO JERUSALEM, IT SEEMED LIKE
A DREAM FOR US. OUR MOUTH WAS FILLED WITH
LAUGHTER; WE COULD SHOUT FOR JOY.**



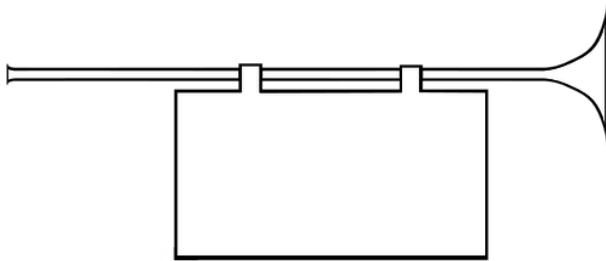
Prayer for today: We pray for all those who have lost their homes because of war, earthquakes or poverty. We pray for those who are rebuilding their homes after they return to them. Please give them everything they need.

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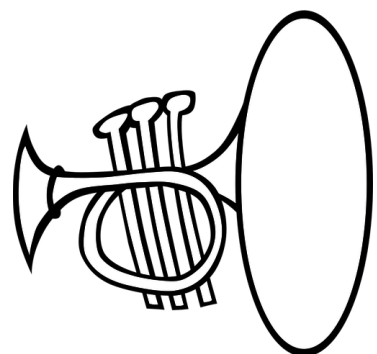
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JOY



WHOOOP!



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Chapter 40:

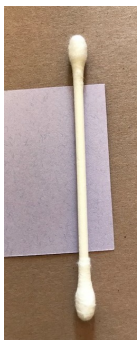
In today's chapter the Jewish people are happy to return to their homeland, but they find that things have changed. They live under foreign rulers, but they work to preserve their heritage and their faith. They never lose hope that God will send help. You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gApsI3yg5rl>



When the Jewish people returned to Jerusalem, they began to study their faith more closely. They learned all they could about God and their ancestors and their faith grew very strong.

In this picture from the Child's Bible, we see a Jewish priest reading a text from a scroll. Scrolls were often used to write things down before books were

invented. A scroll is a long piece of paper with a stick at each end; the text is read by unrolling one side of the scroll while rolling up the other side. Genius, right?



Scrolls are easy to make and they are a really nice way to send a special message to someone.

All you need is:

A piece of paper

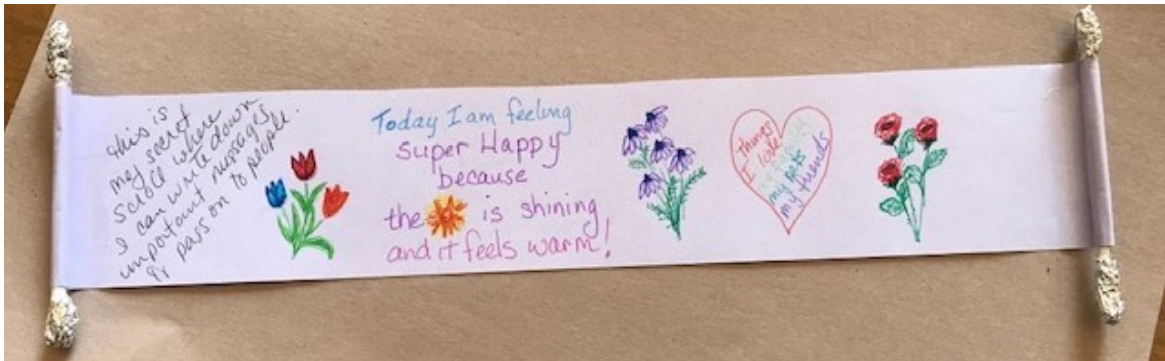
Two cotton buds (or short sticks of any kind)

Some tape



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Cut out a strip of paper that is about the width of the middle section of your cotton buds (the part without any cotton attached); it can be as long as you want.

Place a cotton bud at each end and tape it down to the paper. We wrapped some foil around the ends of our cotton buds to add a bit of bling.

Now it's time to add your message! When you're done, roll up your scroll from both ends at the same time (this is tricky, so be patient!).

You can tie it shut with a piece of yarn or ribbon.



Prayer for today:

Thank you God for the Jewish people, who first knew you, and who can help us to understand our own faith. Thank you for all the ways they teach us how to be faithful to you.

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The ACN Child's Bible project introduces children in the UK to the little red book that has played such an important part in the lives of so many children around the world.



God Speaks to his Children, the ACN Child's Bible, is sometimes the only book a child will ever own. It has been used since its release in 1979 to teach children about their Christian faith and to provide an invaluable literacy tool as well!. To date, over 51 million copies in 190 languages have gone out around the world. The edition in Spanish is the most popular (around 14 million copies printed), with Portuguese not far behind (10.3 million). English (2.5 million), French (1.2 million) and Swahili (950,000) are the next most popular languages.

From the very beginning, ACN has distributed *God Speaks to his Children* to struggling Christian communities free of charge. For every copy sold in the UK, 3 more copies will be sent out to children elsewhere for free.

If you'd like to purchase one or more copies of the ACN Child's Bible for use at home, in church or at school (and help to send out many more copies to children elsewhere who will receive them because of your kindness), you can visit our website (www.acnuk.org/shop/) or ring our Trading order line (0345 241 6068). Discounts may be available on larger orders for parishes or schools; please contact our Schools Team to find out more.

We hope you enjoy using these resources as much as we've enjoyed assembling them for you! We'd like to thank all those who offered their time and skills to read chapters, produce reflections, write prayers and assemble activities. We value your feedback, so please let us know how you've used these resources by posting on social media with the hashtag #ACNAtHome. Thank you!

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