


God Speaks to His Children

The ACN Child's Bible Project

GOD SPEAKS TO HIS CHILDREN

THE ACN CHILD'S BIBLE PROJECT

 Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN UNITED KINGDOM

**GOD SPEAKS TO
HIS CHILDREN**
Texts from the Bible



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Week 11 (Chapters 51-55)

 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).



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 51:

In today's chapter, Jesus disappears. Mary and Joseph search everywhere for nearly three whole days before they find him. He's in the Temple talking with the priests and teachers.

You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rc0pr2OrzAQ>

It's a scary feeling...

when we get lost or separated from the people we're with. One minute we're all there together in a group – talking or laughing or looking around – and the next minute everyone has disappeared. It suddenly doesn't seem very fun any more.



Have you ever been lost or separated from your family or friends when you were out somewhere? How did you feel?

Who helped you find your way back? What happened when you returned? How did your parents or the adults with you react?

It was probably pretty frightening for you at the time. You may have been upset or nervous. When you found your way back, you likely felt very happy and relieved.

The other people—your family or friends—might have seemed cross and maybe they even told you off for getting lost. They weren't really angry, though; they were probably just scared and worried when they couldn't find you.

This is how Mary and Joseph must have felt when Jesus disappeared. They were visiting a big, unfamiliar place with lots of people they didn't know. Jesus was only twelve and it took Mary and Joseph almost three whole days to find him. When Mary tells him how worried she and Joseph were, Jesus explains that he was in his Father's house (the temple), but he also realises that, just like you, he was young and still needed people—his parents, for instance—to look after him. After that, he went back home and tried his best not to worry his mother or Joseph.

Who are the people who look after you? Jesus didn't want to worry or frighten the people who loved him. Can you be like Jesus?



Prayer for today: Today we say thank you for all those who care for us. Thank you, God, for placing people in our lives to love and support us.

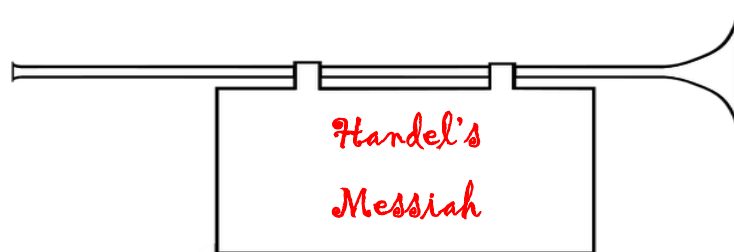
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Chapter 52:

In today's chapter we hear about John the Baptist, cousin of Jesus, as he prepares the way for the coming of the Messiah. You can watch today's video here > https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jML_7-mz_0U



The Messiah is a very famous piece of music. It was written nearly 300 years ago by a man called George Friedrich Handel. The Messiah tells the story of Jesus in three parts. The first part covers the events leading up to the first Christmas and the early life of Jesus. The other parts cover the Passion, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus and his promise to us of eternal life in heaven. Watch the video clip below and listen carefully to the words. Do you recognise them? They are very close to part of today's chapter. What do you think about this kind of singing? Can you recognise any of the instruments being played? The singer must be able to sing very loudly to be heard above all of the other instruments! Can you could sing that loudly? > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCLUhVkJCoPE>

The most famous part of the Messiah is the Hallelujah Chorus from the end of the second section. A special recording was made by the Royal Choral Society on Good Friday 2020. All of the singers were stuck at home because of the coronavirus lockdown, so they couldn't sing together on a stage—instead they all sang their parts at home to create a virtual choir for their online version. The Hallelujah Chorus makes us feel like dancing and jumping around! What about you? > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PQYVbd1Gwg>



Prayer for today: Just like John the Baptist, we need to prepare a place for Jesus. Lord, today we ask that we can open our hearts to know you and love you.

GOD SPEAKS TO HIS CHILDREN

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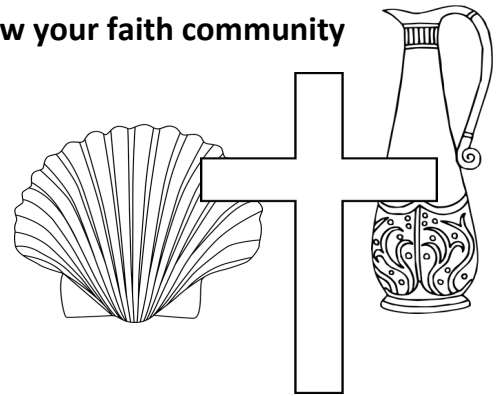
Chapter 53:

Today's chapter is a very short one about the baptism of Jesus, but there is a really powerful message in these few lines! You can watch today's video here > https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=709f8DzXHsk&list=PLNkX7y32cCjYZwlKdcx2_Nc1Mn3TqprfF&index=59&t=0s

In the video for this chapter, Bishop Terry has asked you to find out about your baptism. If you haven't been baptised, you could find out more about the day you were born or, if you belong to another faith, you could ask about how your faith community welcomed you into the world.

Here's a starter list of question you might want to ask, but feel free to add more!

1. **Who** was the priest who baptised you? **Who** were your godparents or sponsors? **Who** else was there to watch?
2. **What** happened at your baptism? **What** special clothes did you wear? **What** did your family do to mark the day?
3. **Where** were you baptised? **Where** in church was the baptismal font?
4. **When** were you baptised? In the morning or afternoon? What was the weather like? How old were you?
5. **Why** did your parents or guardian want you to be baptised? **Why** did you wear special clothes? **Why** did the priest pour water over you and anoint you?



Here are some suggestions for finding your answers:

- ♦ Ask people who were there about what they remember— your parents, older brothers and sisters, grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins or family friends.
- ♦ Look for photos to find out who was there and what you were wearing.
- ♦ If you still live nearby, you could ask an adult to take you to visit the church where you were baptised.

- ♦ This short video will help explain more about the sacrament of Baptism > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQw5wVgp5YY>



Prayer for today: Lord, today we say thank you for all those who support us in our faith journeys. We remember all those who don't have the same freedom as we do to practise their faith.

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Chapter 54:

Today's chapter is an exciting one, as it marks the start of Jesus' ministry, and we begin to hear about all the amazing things he said and did.

You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQF6fSywvYM&feature=youtu.be>

In today's chapter we hear about Jesus starting to share his message. At Aid to the Church in Need, we work hard to share about what is happening to Christian people all over the world. Many of you may know our friend Maisy Milk, who helps us with this!

You can learn more about her here > <https://acnuk.org/resource/maisy-milk/>

She has set you a task for today, which you can read below!



Hello Friends,

I hope you are enjoying our #ACN Child's Bible resources!
Why not send me a message, telling me what your favourite chapter of the Bible is and what activity you have enjoyed completing?

Ask your teacher, parent or guardian to email it to me at: schools@acnuk.org
or share your post with us on Twitter:



@ACNUK_NW
@ACN_Scotland
@ACN_Schools



Prayer for today: Lord, today we pray for the courage to speak out when something is wrong. Please be with all the people who are treated differently just because of their religion, race, gender or anything else beyond their control.

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Chapter 55:

In this chapter, Jesus asks some fishermen to become 'fishers of men'. What they see in Jesus makes them leave their boats and their former lives behind to follow him. You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iljCgVWO67I>

Today's story is short, but action-packed. Just the sort of thing for today's activity....

Let's make a Story Board!



This is going to be easy and fun. You can do it in just three steps.

1. Listen to the story again and make a list of the people who appear and any 'props' you'll need to tell the story in your own words.
2. Take a piece of A4 paper and turn it so that a long side is at the top. Then draw or paint your background: a light brown or yellow strip at the bottom for the shore, a blue strip in the middle for the water and a light blue strip at the top for the sky. Next add in some details: the sun, some clouds, a few palm trees or whatever you like.
3. (This bit is really fun!) Figure out which characters and props you need for each scene and how big you want them to be. Draw them on another piece of paper and cut them out. Colour them in or decorate them and add their names.

That's it! To use your story board, you can set up each scene and take a picture of it (maybe you can ask to borrow a phone to do this) OR you can 'perform' the story to someone else by placing the figures for each scene on the background. Don't forget to use different voices for each character!



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Prayer for today: Lord, today we pray for the gift of listening. Please give us the understanding and willingness to listen to those around us, and, above all, to listen 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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