


God Speaks to His Children

The ACN Child's Bible Project

GOD SPEAKS TO HIS CHILDREN

THE ACN CHILD'S BIBLE PROJECT

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Texts from the Bible

 Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN UNITED KINGDOM



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Week 9 (Chapters 41-45)

 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 41:

In today's chapter we learn about Job. He had it all—a big family, successful businesses, a nice house and lots of friends. He was a good man with strong faith in God. Then God took it all away. We find out how Job dealt with his losses and how his faith in God grew even greater as a result. You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XvrTOFjiACM>



It's not fair!

When things don't go our way, we often think or say or even shout, "It's not fair!" Especially if we feel that we haven't done anything wrong, we can find it very hard to understand why we are missing out on good things. Let's use Job's story to help us find a way to deal with the anger or hurt feelings that we all experience at one time or another.

The opening lines tell us that Job was a very lucky guy.

- ⇒ Can you remember some of the wonderful things in Job's life? What are the extra-special things in your life?

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When God decides to test Job's faith, he takes away everything that Job loves—one thing at a time.

- ⇒ What does Job lose when God puts him to the test? How do you think Job felt when he realised that everything that he'd loved was gone?

Job's friends came and sat with him for a whole week. They knew they couldn't say anything to make him feel better, but they stayed with him all the same.

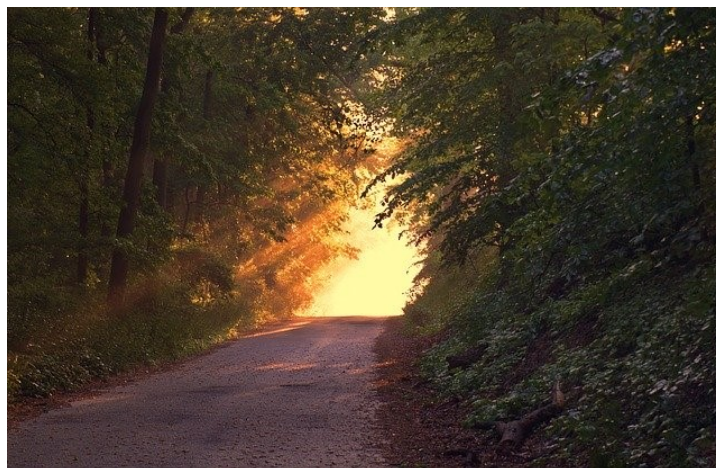
- ⇒ Have you ever tried to help a friend or family member who was feeling sad? Have you ever needed a friend just to sit with you? How were you feeling? What did your friend do to help?

Eventually Job gets cross and he wants to know why God has made him suffer so much.

- ⇒ What does God say to Job? How does he explain what's happened?

Job realises that God's plan for him is so wonderful and so great and so important that he can't understand it. When bad things happen to Job—and to us—God is still there. He can be trusted to have a special plan for each of us.

- ⇒ Will Job's story help you remember that God has a special plan for you the next time you feel sad or angry about something that has happened to you?



Prayer for today: Lord, help us to be thankful for what we have—we know that you are with us through everything—when things are good and also when things are difficult.

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Chapter 42:

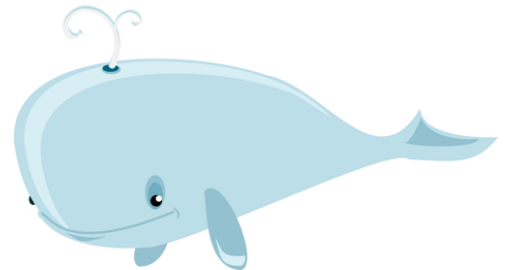
In today's chapter God asks Jonah to do something that he really doesn't want to do. He runs away to sea, gets swallowed by a whale, convinces the people of Nineveh to behave better and learns an important life lesson. You can watch today's video here >

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lia-Qshc-TQ>

Did you notice that today's chapter talks about some things that are REALLY BIG (like the ocean and the whale and the entire city of Nineveh and all the people who live there) and other things that are really small (like the tiny worm that chewed through the plant and poor little Jonah who thought he could hide from God)?

Watch this video to learn a bit more about the blue whale—the largest animal ever to live on our planet! > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bqiPTUy2RqI>

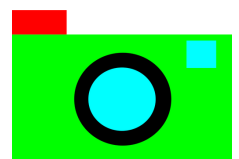
Jonah was much smaller than the whale, but would he have fit into its stomach like today's chapter tells us? We've done some research and it turns out that whales have THREE stomachs! It sounds like Jonah spent some time in the very first stomach of his whale. This could have measured about 1 metre wide by 2.5 metres long. You can measure out this space in your house or your garden to see just what would fit inside...



Here's another short video of a Castor Oil Plant in case you are wondering what they look like. They have quite big leaves and grow tall very quickly > https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iaVy2J8BadA&feature=emb_title



Did you spot the lizard? HUGE blue whales, tiny green lizards...what an amazing world we live in! Take some time today to explore your garden or a nearby park. Take some photos or bring a long a pad and some crayons so you can draw what you see.



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Prayer for today: Thank you, God, for giving us a beautiful world to live in! We pray today that we may always treat our world with love and respect.

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Chapter 43:

In today's chapter we hear about Daniel's vision; there's snow and smoke and fire and thrones...and that's all before the Son of Man arrives! You can watch today's video here

> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w24VyB9rYi4>

Through Daniel's vision, God tells us about something very important that will happen before too long. The coming of the Son of Man (can you guess who that is?) wasn't something that Daniel could easily explain to people, so he sets out his vision as a picture—he describes all of the details for us.

Can you remember what he says about the 'One of great age'? What are the colours that come to mind? How do these colours—the colours of ice and snow and flames and fire make you feel?



Colours can cheer us up or calm us down. They can help us to celebrate and they can warn us of danger. Let's see how changing colours can change our feelings about a picture.

You'll need three pieces of paper (white if possible).

Using a pencil, make a simple outline drawing of anything you like—it could be some flowers, your school or even just a few shapes. You'll need to make two more copies of your drawing so you have one on each piece of paper. They won't be identical, but try to make all three as similar as you can.

Now here's the fun part!

Using crayons, coloured pencils or paints, colour in each of the drawings using different groups of colours.

For the first one, use only 'warm' colours—red, orange and yellow.

For the second, use only 'cool' colours: blue, green and purple.

For the third, use only white, black and grey.



Look at each drawing and think about how it makes you feel. Show the drawings to the others in your family. Which do they like best? Why?

Colours inspire us. What's your favourite colour?



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Prayer for today: we thank you, Lord, for our imagination—for giving us a way to see what amazing things you have in store for us. Thank you for our creativity and giving us opportunities to express it.

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Chapter 44:

Today's chapter celebrates all of the wonderful things about God's chosen one. You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YB1nRL6Fivk>



Today you'll be watching a music video made by Hal and Cherrie. Hal provided today's chapter video and together they form the band Ooberfuse. In the video of their song 'Mercy', their friend Father Frankie acts out a story about mercy—about quietly teaching us how to be fair and honest and just. Maybe the story will remind you of the message in today's chapter from the Child's Bible.

Watch the video and pay attention to the story it tells > https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y7mhEdZN_74

Think about what Fr Frankie is trying to do for the man sitting on the pavement and try to put yourself into the man's shoes as well. He is alone and homeless, but Fr Frankie lends him a hand and shows him God's love.

Pay close attention to Father Frankie's famous dance moves...can you dance as well as he can? Show us what you can do on the dance floor!



Prayer for today: Lord, we pray that you open our eyes to things that are wrong in our world and give us the courage to do what we can to help.



Chapter 45:

In today's chapter we get a glimpse of the new world that God has planned for us! You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TnYkM9uTyUI>

Test your Listening Skills!



Today's chapter wasn't very long, but it mentions a lot of things about God's new world. How well did you pay attention? Let's see what you can remember...

Fill in the blanks below to test your listening skills!

1. The Lord says: I make all things _____.
2. There will be no more tears and no more _____.
3. Men and women will live as long as _____.
4. No one will take from people what their _____ have made.
5. The _____ and the _____ will feed side by side.
6. The _____ will eat _____ like the ox.



How did you do? If you didn't manage to get them all, watch the video again—it's a short one but it has a very powerful message that should make you feel really happy!



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Prayer for today: Lord, we heard you say that you make all things new. Thank you for your love and forgiveness. We pray today that we may offer that same love and forgiveness to those around us.

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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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