


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

 Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN UNITED KINGDOM



ACNUK.ORG

Week 17 (Chapters 81-85)

 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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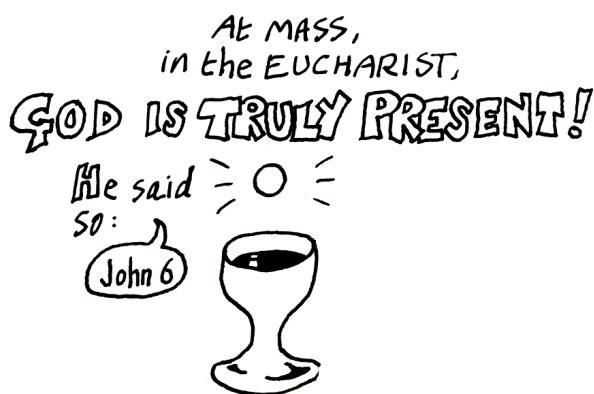
Chapter 81:

In today's chapter we hear the story of the Last Supper—Jesus' final meal with his disciples. You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CsmQaPAwoAE>

Jesus gave us a gift beyond our imagining at the Last Supper. During what was a Jewish Passover meal, Jesus made God's plan to stay with us always complete. He said:

"Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is my body which will be given up for you."

From that day until today, every time a priest says those same words at Mass, Jesus is made present! He literally (in a way we can't know through our senses) makes us able to be with him just like the disciples at the Last Supper. God doesn't love us from a far off place; he allows us to be in his actual presence! The creator of the universe! When we go to Mass we partake of Jesus's suffering, death, resurrection and glory in heaven.



When you look at the crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the Sacred Host, you understand how much Jesus loves you now.
(St Teresa of Calcutta)

This is the wonderful truth, my dear friends: the Word, which became flesh two thousand years ago, is present today in the Eucharist.
(Saint Pope John Paul II)

For today's activity we invite you to learn about the incredible ways in which religious sisters around the world support the Church and their communities. The works of Sisters include baking the altar breads that become the Body of Jesus Christ during the Mass.

ACTIVITY:

Prepare a presentation to show to your parents, class, teacher or friends (even on Zoom/Skype) using the following resources:

1. Watch this film: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p5aWlGIHt4k&feature=emb_title
2. Read through the God's Bakery PowerPoint, which you can find here > <https://acnuk.org/resource/gods-bakery/>

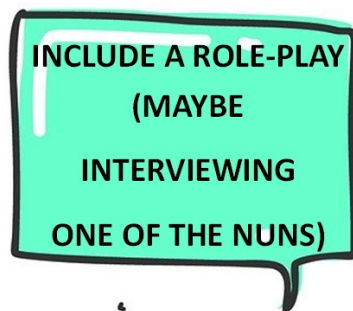
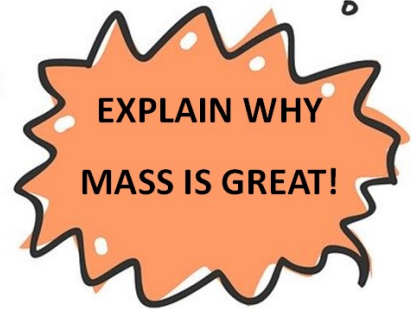


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Your presentation should...



**When you are able to go to Mass again,
think about Jesus at the Last Supper.
Think about how much he loves you and
that he is actually present with you.**



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Prayer for today: Thank you Jesus for giving us the Mass, where we can meet you, talk to you and receive you.

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Chapter 82: In today's chapter we hear about how Jesus washes the feet of his disciples, to show how much love he has for each of them. You can watch today's video here >

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jWljprxWQA0>



Think of a famous person you really admire and respect. A sports person, a blogger, YouTuber, a singer, actor or celebrity. Once you can picture the person, imagine they are coming to your house. What would it be like to have this person you look up to in your house?

Now imagine if, when they arrive, they ask if they can help you with your homework, tidy your room or help your parents clean the bathroom! Would you be shocked? What would you think? Why might you say, "No, you can't do that – we need to serve you"? If you can imagine that or the Queen or even Pope Francis coming to your house and cooking dinner and then doing all the washing up, then you have some idea of what Jesus did in this passage.



Except Jesus wasn't a famous person or a popular celebrity, Jesus is God!

God made man, the King of kings and the Lord of the universe.



In ancient Palestine, washing feet was a job that slaves did because it was really unpleasant. "People wore sandals or went barefoot, and the roads and paths that they walked were the same ones used by herdsmen to drive their animals to market, as well as travellers and traders who moved their goods by ox and camel."* These roads would be dusty and would have animal dung on them, so feet and sandals would be pretty smelly.

What Jesus did was so unexpected and strange (for the Master to do the most lowly job) that we have to take notice and understand why he did it.

Jesus was teaching us to love. He showed us that love is about putting other people's needs before your own. For doing unselfish things and never thinking of yourself as too good to serve another person. For Jesus, it doesn't matter if you are famous, popular, rich, from a royal family – he teaches us that in God's eyes we are all the same and that if we want to be like him we need to roll our sleeves up and actually help the people around us.



This he said is following his example: Love one another!

You should love one another as I have loved you!



*The Better Part: Bartunek, John.p.928

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"We, the women and men of the Church, we are in the middle of a love story: each of us is a link in this chain of love. And if we do not understand this, we have understood nothing of what the Church is."

Pope Francis

To find out ways in which the Church puts Jesus's teaching into practice you can:

1. Look on your parish Church's website to see what activities they do and which charities they support
2. Watch this video about Sr Samia in Syria and the work of Aid to the Church in Need > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6BZE6fLrjgE&feature=youtu.be>
3. Read about Saint Teresa of Calcutta > <https://mycatholickids.com/mother-teresa-saint-of-the-poor/>
4. Watch this video about Fr Werenfried, who founded Aid to the Church in Need > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nEGhJ81gm3Q&feature=youtu.be>
5. Think of people you know and some of the ways in which they show their love of others
6. Think of charities your school supports and things you have done to help others

When you have a list of ideas you can write them on your strips of paper:

ACN collects money so that Sr Samia can help the children in Syria

My parish has an SVP group and they donate food to families who are poor.

Sr Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) helped 1,000s of people. She helped those who had leprosy and showed them love.

Once you have written them all you can make your paper chain. Hang your chain of love somewhere visible and each evening pray for all the people on the chain and all of those giving their lives to help others.

LOVE



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Prayer for today: Jesus, we pray for the courage to help others in need. Please help us to show love to everyone we meet.

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Chapter 83: In today's chapter we hear about how Jesus prayed at the Mount of Olives, the night before Good Friday. You can watch today's video here > https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eP03XDrpc_s&t=8s

In today's video Clare asked us to think about companionship. Jesus needed his companions on the Mount of Olives but they fell asleep. As we say our prayers today, let us thank God for all the companions he has given us. We can also forgive those who haven't been good friends to us or have let us down and pray for forgiveness for when we have let others down. In the box is a suggestion for a prayer you could offer with your family as well as discussion questions.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FAMILY PRAYER TIME

If you have a garden and it is a warm evening, go outside with your parents or carers after dark. Your parents (or older sibling) could bring a candle and you can sit around the candle and think about what Jesus went through that night (if you do not have a garden you could do this in a dimly lit room).

When you are outside think about Jesus.

That he was afraid of what was going to happen to him.

That he was sad that his disciples weren't there for him.

His upset that Judas, his follower and friend, was about to betray him.

Each person in the group may want to pray quietly for a few minutes or you could pray together/one at a time.

Some prayers you might want to share:

Jesus thank you for being my friend and companion.

Jesus thank you for giving me _____ (name the people in your life who have been good companions).

Father thank you for loving me.

Forgive me for the times I have not been a good friend.

After you have prayed the above, you can spend a few minutes with Jesus. God is outside time, so when we pray, we are united with God in eternity. This means the time we spend can be as if we were there with Jesus on that night before his death. Thank him for his love and ask him to help you to know he is there when you are afraid or let down.



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When you come in or have finished your time of prayer, you may want to listen to these songs written about the night before Jesus's death:

Sal Solo: Take the Cup (The pictures of Jesus' passion on the video may not be suitable for young children) > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fHECfdLnujQ&feature=youtu.be>

Taize: Stay Here and Keep Watch with Me > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cCk9h1zcbSs>



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why do we think about what Jesus went through?
- What do you think he meant when he prayed, "Father, if you will, you can spare me this suffering and death. Nevertheless, not my will but yours be done."
- Why do you think his sweat fell like drops of blood to the earth?
- Why do you think Jesus healed the servant's ear?

If you want to see Chris Stefanik at the Garden of Gethsemane, see this video > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Mrih2gLp7I&feature=youtu.be> (for younger children, stop after 40 seconds and play again at 1.22 as Chris describes the crucifixion during that time).



Prayer for today: Jesus, we are sorry for the times we don't stay with you. The times we don't pray, the times we don't go to church, the times we ignore our friends and family who are in need. Help us to be better followers of you each day.

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Chapter 84:

In today's chapter we hear about how Peter denies Jesus, after Jesus has been arrested and taken away. You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NvY7auL9ZwQ>

Look at this painting of St Peter in the National Gallery > <https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/after-el-greco-saint-peter>

In the white menu bar, you can look at Key facts, a description and download the image. You can zoom in using the dial in the right-hand side of the screen.

ACTIVITY PART 1:

Before reading the description of the artwork, ask yourself the following questions:



1. What is the artist trying to tell us about Peter?
2. Which part of the artwork are you drawn to?
3. Look closely and describe the lines El Greco has used.
4. What can you learn about Peter from this image?
5. Do any elements of the painting seem real?
6. What colours have been used? Are the colours important?
7. What was your first reaction to this artwork? Why do you think you had the reaction?
8. Do you like the painting?
9. Which area of the artwork is most important? Why?
10. How does your eye move through the artwork? What choices did the artist make to make that happen?
11. Describe the artwork in three words.

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ACTIVITY PART 2:

Create your own version of this picture of Peter denying Jesus. Add speech bubbles in one colour and thought bubbles in another. You can read the passage in Luke 22: 54-62 or listen to the reading again. Some examples are shown to help you.



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Prayer for today: We are sorry Jesus, for the times we say we don't know you. Maybe we are embarrassed to have faith, or scared of what people might say. Help us today to have courage.

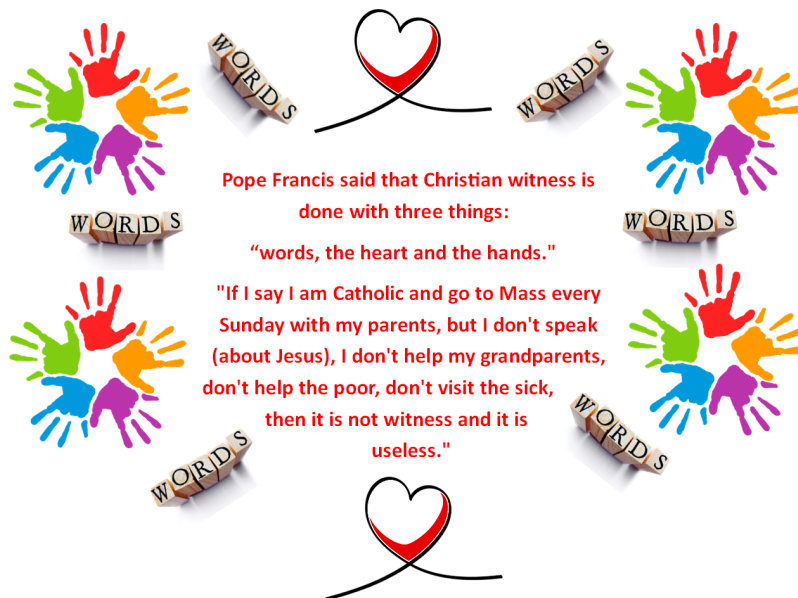
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Chapter 85: In today's chapter we hear about how Jesus had to defend himself in front of many people, who wanted to hurt him. You can watch today's video here > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=klQCvT7gCHY>

In this passage the chief priests say that they need no more witnesses against Jesus (the law required two witnesses). It is interesting for us to pause and think about the word witness because we usually see it as a good thing; that we witness to God's love. A witness is a person who can give evidence based on knowledge of a fact, event, or experience. For Christians we witness to God's existence in everything we do, say and are.



ACTIVITY:

This game is a bit like musical statues and a bit like scrabble!

You will need:

- At least 26 pieces of scrap paper (one for each letter of the alphabet)
- Marker pens
- Music
- A large space: e.g. the floor of a room or outside if it is not windy!
- Someone to pause the music and be the umpire
- At least one other person to play with

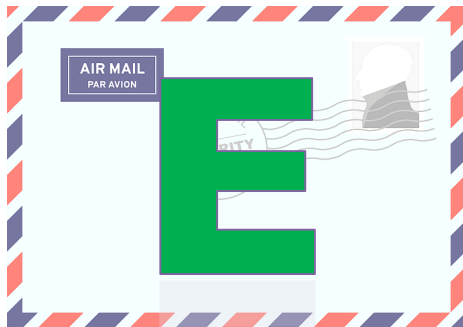
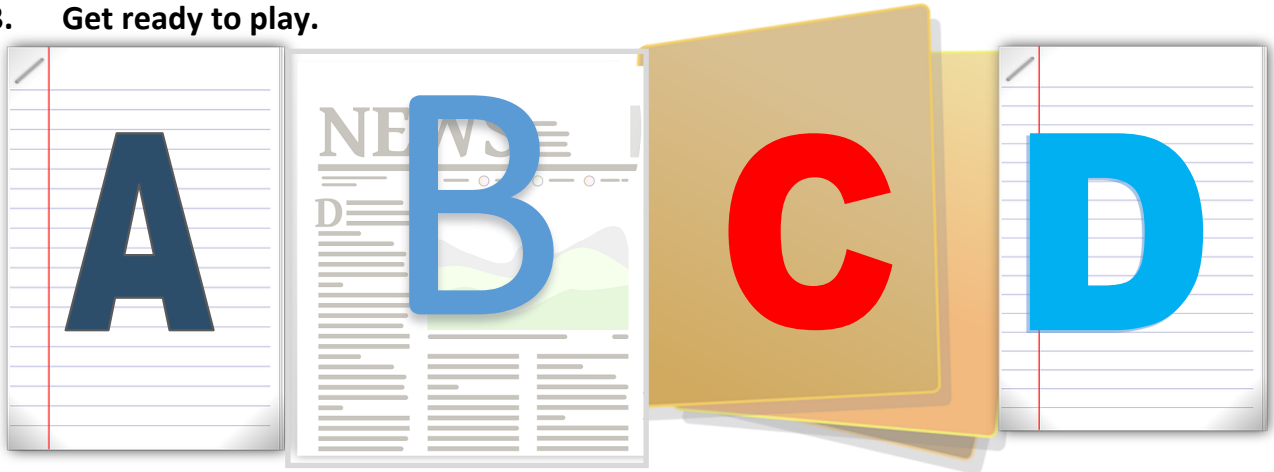
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Preparation:

1. Write one letter of the alphabet on each piece of paper. (You can duplicate letters if you have more than 26 pieces of paper.)
2. Lay them out on the floor face up.
3. Get ready to play.



The aim of the game is to get as many letters (pieces of paper with letters from the alphabet on), by saying sentences about witnessing to being a Catholic and following Jesus.

1. Start the music. When the music is playing you need to dance around the room being careful not to land on one of the letters.
2. When the music stops, jump on the nearest letter to you.
3. Use that letter to find a word to say a sentence about being a witness to Jesus. For example, if you landed on the letter 'P' you would say: "I can witness to Jesus by helping the poor." If the umpire thinks your sentence is correct/makes sense/explains being a witness, you keep that letter to the side.
4. If you can't think of something beginning with that letter then you leave the letter where it is.
5. Carry on playing until all the letters have been lifted.
6. Count how many letters you have. The person with the most letters wins.



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Tips:

1. If you are playing with lots of people, then do more than one set of letters.
2. You might want to include blank pieces of paper for free 'any letter' answers (like playing the joker).



Advanced version

One you have said your statement, e.g. "I can witness to Jesus by helping the poor", if you can say then whether that would be with your hands, heart or words, and give an example, the umpire may decide to give you an extra point. This is shown by writing (or drawing) a hand, heart or word on the letter. At the end, the pieces of paper with these visible extra markings are worth two points.

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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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