

KIDS CHURCH CURRICULUM

LIFE



BEYOND THE
SEVEN
DEADLY SINS



HOW TO USE CREEK ROAD KIDS KIDS CHURCH CURRICULUM

Welcome to another term of Kids Church material. First and foremost we've designed our curriculum as a basic toolbox of ideas to use each week. There is, by no means, any expectation that every element of the curriculum will be used each week. Take it and adapt to your church and your kids. You know your kids best and what will work to create a fun and engaging time of exploring the good news of Jesus and applying it to kids' lives.

KIDS SPOTS

Though not outlined in this document, Kids Spots play a key role in our Sunday Services for kids and adults alike. The Kids Spot is a short 3-5min segment that introduces the big idea for the day in simple, tangible ways. Kids Spots may be stories, dramas, bible character recounts, interactive object lessons or videos. Whatever form it takes, the Kids Spot is a clear set up piece for what's about to be explored both in church and Kids Church. Kids Spot resources can be found in the Kids Resources section of our partner churches web page.

KEY CONCEPTS EACH WEEK

You'll find the key concepts for each week in the left hand sidebar of the lesson plans. These key concepts are intended by design to give the program direction and align as closely as possible with the corresponding adult series. Our hope is that families will be learning, growing and discussing their faith journeys together, regardless of age.

- **Big idea.**
This is a kid's version of the big idea from the corresponding adult series. This is the central concept we want our kids to know and understand for the week. A Kids Church leader should use this to guide where they head each week.
- **Application.**
We want our kids to move beyond just head knowledge to applying it to their heart & hands. The application is intended to help Kids Church leaders know where to land with their kids each week.
- **Memory verse.**
We deliberately pick only one memory verse for the whole series. The repetition and reinforcement helps kids really remember it by the end of term. You might choose to teach this in your big group time or in growth groups. At Creek Road we alternate from week to week. *(Note: we use the NIV for all our kids ministry.)*

BIG GROUP TIME

At Creek Road all our kids start in church with their families. Then at a break in the service following the Kids Spot they come out to Kids Church. We start with Big Group Time where all the kids are together as one community to sing and start to explore the big idea for the week.

- **Songs.**
These are just a couple of suggested songs from our repertoire that fit in with the big idea of the week. Feel free to substitute in songs your kids know and love.
- **Discovery Time.**
This is designed to do with the big group. It is an interactive and engaging way of exploring the story or concept for the week. It is designed so one of your Kids Church team can own this for a specific week and put a good effort into making it engaging and fun for the kids as they start to explore the big idea.
- **Bible Passage Overview.**
This is not designed necessarily to be taught. More than anything it's really just included to help Kids Church leaders breakdown the Bible passage/s for the day. Some bible passages can be taught in a variety

of ways, the Bible Passage Overview should help leaders see how the big idea and application specifically can be taught from the passage. Kids Church leaders can use this for their own benefit as they lead their kids and answer any questions that might come up.

- **Linking Question.**

This is a quick question to leave hanging with the kids as they head off to growth groups. You can just leave it hanging or get a few quick answers. Don't spend too much time on this question as it is something that will be explored in growth groups.

GROWTH GROUP TIME

Our curriculum is built around growth group time. These are the small groups where the real discipleship takes place. They are set groups (e.g. grade 3/4 boys) with a set leader who journeys with them each and every week. As relationships form and grow in these groups, kids church can move beyond something that is just teaching head knowledge to real engagement in the hearts of our kids and challenging them to live out the gospel in their daily lives.

As each group will have different kids at different ages and stages of their development both cognitively and in their faith, each Kids Church leader needs to take this material and adapt it to suit their kids. As the discipleship relationship grows they will know more and more what will work best with their kids. We give our kids church leaders lots of freedom to work out how to use this time effectively in an engaging way.

- **Activity.**

An engaging activity that helps the growth groups continue to explore the big idea.

- **Discussion time.**

This is where we open the Bible with kids and continue to explore the big idea. Ideally the questions will move from head to heart and hands. Feel free to cull/simplify/add your own questions.

- **Digging deeper.**

Some extra questions a Kids Church leader may use to go deeper into the topic. It is often used by older grades.

- **Activity sheets.**

These are produced as an extra option for your growth group. They may be something you do in your growth group time, or you may choose to send them home with the kids to do at home. See the attached fact sheet on getting the most out of these activity sheets.

- **Craft & Games.**

These are in the appendix and are optional engaging activities based around the big idea that Kids Church growth group leaders may choose to use.

- **Prayer.**

Some simple prayers that you might use at the end of your growth group time. We would also encourage Kids Church leaders to just use these as a starting point and get creative with how they engage their kids with prayer.

Hopefully this is a helpful little primer on how to use the curriculum. Our prayer is that this is a resource that equips you as leaders and helps you get on with their main task of discipling the kids you have been entrusted with. In time we also pray that it helps all our Kids Church leaders grow in their own ability to creatively engage kids with the life-changing message of Jesus.

God Bless,
The Creek Road Kids Team.

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF ACTIVITY SHEETS

READ the INSTRUCTIONS!

Usually there are multiple things to do for the one activity. Just a quick glance often means you miss the main point of the activity.

Remember:

The majority of the material relates to the BIG Idea or the application.
Think, how can I use this activity to help the children understand and remember this point?

Pictures relate to key characters in the story. They are there to help stimulate discussion. EG. Who is the character? How did he/she relate in the story? What can we learn from them?

Use coded text or other activities as open ended activities. These activities allow children to express their understanding.

READ the INSTRUCTIONS

A keyword for the lesson is embedded in the puzzle. Often it is NOT the obvious word or letter/s you see. Colour as instructed. EG. Colour shapes with dots, shapes with even numbers. Use the activity to help children understand the point!

Questions are taken from the leader's guide. Often you can have more productive conversation if you discuss these questions in the context of doing the activity sheets.

Word searches are always a statement, not random words. Read the word search statement before you start. Try challenging kids to work systematically from beginning to end. Periodically ask them to read the words they have found so far. (This helps to embed the big idea/ memory verse in their mind. (For you- set a goal at seeing how many times you can get the kids to say the memory verse/ big ideas with out them realising they are doing it.)

Mazes have children collecting words or letters along the correct path and writing the information in another part of the sheet. These messages tie in with the big idea, other important points or the application for the lesson. Use them as discussion starters.

creek road kids

BIG IDEA (KNOW THIS)
God's People were led away from God by their kings and were kicked out of God's Special Place, just like Adam & Eve.

APPLICATION (LOVE LIKE THIS)
Which people in your life make it difficult to live your life with God as your loving King? How can you listen to them less, but also help them see God as their king?

W6. EXILE: GOD SCATTERS HIS PEOPLE **UPPER**

MEMORY VERSE
This is the written story of the family line of Jesus the Messiah. He is the son of David. He is also the son of Abraham.
- Matthew 1:1

BIBLE BITS
2 Kings 24:8-20
Matthew 3:1-12

QUESTIONS
1. What does this story tell us about what God is like?
2. How would you feel if you were one of the people in this story? Why?
3. Did God punish the bad kings as soon as they did something wrong, or did he wait? What can we learn about God from this?

God's People led by their kings, in God's Place chose not to live under God's Rule. Finish drawing the pictures of what happened.

To finish the words that tell what happened, write the next letter of the alphabet on the lines above the letters. Some letters are done for you.

Colour the shapes that have dots to find what the words "kicked out" meant for God's People.

THINK: Which people in your life make it difficult to live your life with God as your loving King? How can you listen to them less but also help them to see God as their loving King? Draw or write your answer in the bubble.

Find the important message. Begin at 'START' and go through the maze. Write ONLY the words along the CORRECT path on the lines below. Some letters are done for you.

Find the bold words from today's Big Idea in the word search. God's People were led away from God by their kings and were kicked out of God's Special Place just like Adam and Eve.

THE BIBLE IN TEN © 2017 creekroad.org.au

LIFE BEYOND 7 DEADLY SINS	Big Idea <i>Know This:</i>	Application <i>Live This:</i>	Activities
1. LIVE and Let Die Galatians 2:20 & 5:13-26	Because of sin we are like dead trees growing rotten fruit. Jesus makes us living trees which begin to grow good fruit.	Believe that life without Jesus is death. Trust in Jesus for a new life.	DISCOVERY TIME ACTIVITY: - Good fruit bad fruit → being connected to the tree helps fruit stay fresh. Bad effects of rotten fruit (smell, soft etc.) Good fruit sweet, firm, looks nice. SONGS: - THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD – <i>Dan Warlow</i> ; - MADE ALIVE – <i>Citizens and saints</i> LINKING QUESTION: - What is some of the rotten fruit that you’ve been producing in your life? GROWTH GROUP ACTIVITY: - two trees brainstorm good fruit from living trees, bad fruit from sin/death. Create on wall in room and perhaps add more each week as the term goes on. → perhaps also have take home version of the ‘living tree & good fruit’ to encourage kids to take home and apply
2. LIFE Beyond Death Galatians 5:16-6:10	When you walk with Jesus you grow good fruit. When you walk away from Jesus you grow bad fruit.	Walk with Jesus to grow to be like him.	DISCOVERY TIME ACTIVITY: - Have a group of people carry a large heavy item together... then instruct one of the group to let go and walk the other way... see chapter 6 about bearing one another’s burdens. SONGS: - THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD – <i>Dan Warlow</i> ; - OUR HELP – <i>Sovereign Grace</i> LINKING QUESTION: - In your life are you walking with God or away from God? GROWTH GROUP ACTIVITY: - Have your growth group walk around the church grounds while discussing the bible passage. Think also about how walking together helps grow muscles. Walking with Jesus helps us grow to be like him.
3. LIFE Beyond Pride Genesis 2:15-17 & 3:1-19	Pride is when I think life is all about me. Jesus shows us real life is about God and what he wants, not me and what I want.	Be like Jesus and show his goodness by putting God and others first? <i>Goodness/Kindness/Love</i>	DISCOVERY TIME ACTIVITY: -Use the 30sec summary at the end of this video to review the story of the fall. http://crossroadskidsclub.net/gods-story-the-fall/ - discuss how A&E wanted to be like god, they didn’t trust him, they thought life was all about them... Jesus rescue plan shows that real life is about God and what he wants. SONGS: - GOD IS GREAT – <i>Quizworx</i> ; - GREATEST TREASURE – <i>Colin Buchanan</i> LINKING QUESTION: - What do you like about being the centre of attention? GROWTH GROUP ACTIVITY: - Have 1 or 2 kids act out scenarios then have the group decided whether the people in the scenario are being Proud or Good/Kind/Loving. http://www.kidssundayschool.com/81/gradeschool/boastful-or-humble.php



1.LIVE and Let Die

EVERY GROUP WILL BE DIFFERENT BUT IT IS IMPORTANT WE ALL COMMUNICATE THE SAME BIG IDEA.

BIG IDEA:

By the end of kids church kids should KNOW THIS:

Because of sin we are like dead trees growing rotten fruit. Jesus makes us living trees which begin to grow good fruit.

APPLICATION:

By the end of kids church kids should be able to go and DO THIS:

Believe that life without Jesus is death. Trust in Jesus for a new life.

MEMORY VERSE:

"But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace.

It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself.

There is no law against things of that kind."

- Galatians 5:22-23

BIG GROUP TIME

SONGS

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD – Dan Warlow

MADE ALIVE– Citizens and Saints

DISCOVERY TIME

Compare and contrast pieces of fresh fruit with pieces of rotten fruit. Discuss their obvious attributes:

Good Fruit: Firm, nice to look at, smell sweet, good to eat, helps you be healthy.

Rotten/Bad Fruit: Soft, ugly, smells yucky, no good for eating, will make you sick.

Discuss how lives controlled by sin are like dead trees producing rotten fruit. Summarize Galatians 5:19-21: The result of sin's control in our lives is clear. It includes impure acts and wild living, worshiping statues of gods and worshiping evil powers. It also includes hatred, fighting, jealousy and fits of anger. Sinful desire is interested only in getting ahead and stirring up trouble.

Now discuss how lives controlled by god and like living trees that produce good fruit. Introduce this term's memory verse Galatians 5:22-23 *But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself. There is no law against things of that kind.*

Compare and contrast the life controlled by sin with the life controlled by God.

BIBLE PASSAGE OVERVIEW

Galatians 2:20

- The punishment for our sins has been taken and paid by Jesus.
- Our lives should fully be lived for Jesus, through the power of His Spirit living in us.

Galatians 5:13-26

- Galatians 5:13-15 Jesus death on the cross sets us free from the punishment of sin, but that doesn't mean we should keep sinning. We should give God control of our lives, not let sin control us. We do that best by loving others as much as we love ourselves.
- Galatians 5:16-18 God gives us the Holy Spirit so we have the strength to resist the temptation to sin.
- Galatians 5:19-21 When sin controls you it's obvious in how you think and act. People who live controlled by sin can't be part of God's kingdom.
- Galatians 5:22-26 The Holy spirit helps change our character, how we think and act, and helps us live lives that show God is in control. Our sins have been nailed to the cross with Jesus. We should live lives in step with the Holy Spirit.

LINKING QUESTION

This question is intended to be a rhetorical question, to get kids thinking practically about the big idea as they move in to their growth group time.

What is some of the rotten fruit that you've been producing in your life?

GROWTH GROUP TIME

ACTIVITY

Revise the Discovery activity from big group time. Work together as a small group to create two large tree murals/posters to be left up and added to throughout the term. One tree should look healthy, the other dead/dying. Remind kids that because of sin we are like dead trees growing rotten fruit; but Jesus makes us living trees which begin to grow good fruit. If we believe this we need to trust in Jesus for a new life.

DISCUSSION TIME

READ or Review Galatians 5:13-26:

1. Jesus death on the cross sets us free from the punishment of sin. How does Paul say that should affect how we live (v.13)?
It means we shouldn't keep sinning. We should give God control of our lives, not let sin control us.
2. How can other people tell if we really love Jesus (v.14)?
Because we should love others as much as we love ourselves.
3. What does God give his followers to help them resist the temptation to sin (v.16-18)?
God gives us the Holy Spirit so we have the strength to resist the temptation to sin.
4. When sin controls you it's obvious in how you think and act. What sort of 'Bad Fruit' shows sin is controlling people's lives?
Make a list from verses 19-20
5. Can people who live controlled by sin be part of God's kingdom?
No

Paul reminds the Galatians that our sins have been nailed to the cross with Jesus, and Holy Spirit helps change our character and helps us live lives that show God is in control.

6. What sort of 'Good Fruit' show shows God is controlling people's lives?
Make a list from verses 21-22
7. How do you feel about giving control of your life to God?
8. What things can you do this week to live your life in step with the spirit?
9. What does this story tell us about what God is like?
God loves his people so much he gives them the Holy Spirit so they can live lives that show God is in control.

DIGGING DEEPER

READ: Galatians 2:20

10. What do you think Paul means when he says:
"I have been crucified with Christ. I don't live any longer, but Christ lives in me"?
The punishment for our sins has been taken and paid by Jesus and now we have live a new, changed, life empowered by the Holy Spirit.
11. How should believers in Jesus live their lives?
Our lives should fully be lived for Jesus, through the power of His Spirit living in us.
12. What things do you need to change, to show Jesus is living in you?

ACTIVITY SHEETS

Remember, activity sheets are a tool for further discussing the big idea, not just a time filler. Think about how you can use the activities this week to prompt discussion.

MIX-IT-UP

Do something creative or active to help reinforce the big idea and/or the application. Here are some ideas:

- ➔ **CRAFT** – Keep Adding weekly to the Two Trees Mural/Posters in your room... consider making take home versions of the living tree and sending home different fruit of the spirit each week.
- ➔ **GAME** – Stuck in the Mud –Appendix 2.1

PRAYER TIME

Teach kids the T.S.P. prayer outline (Thankyou; Sorry; Please)

- ➔ **T** – Thank God for giving the gift of the Holy Spirit
- ➔ **S** – Apologize for the times we let sin control our lives
- ➔ **P** – Ask God to help us live new lives, growing and showing the fruit of the spirit.

Rob the Nest variation (www.primaryresources.co.uk/pe/docs/Game_Ideas.doc)

Equipment:

5 hoops/buckets, 6 plastic balls

How to play:

Divide class into 4 even teams (e.g. 5 in each team). Each team has a hoop/bucket in front of them and there is a hoop/bucket in the centre. The hoop/bucket in the centre will have 6 balls in it. Each team member must number themselves 1 to 5 (or however many are in each team). When the teacher yells 3 all the 3s run to the centre to get a ball and return it to the hoop/bucket in their team. The teacher will blow the whistle at intervals. When the whistle is blown that numbered player must leave the ball wherever it is and return to their team and the teacher will yell out another number to take over the ball robbing. There will be no more balls in the centre hoop at this point so people must rob the other teams hoops/buckets of their balls. The first team with 3 balls in their hoop/bucket wins. Only one ball can be moved at a time. You cannot stop someone robbing the ball.

Game LINK –

Story link – Zacchaeus – taking from others things that don't belong to you.