

GRACE KIDS



GRACE NETWORK KIDS NEWSLETTER TERM 2, 2015

Welcome to term 2 of Grace Kids! It's such a joy and privilege to partner with you – the parents - across the network as together we seek to see our kids shaped by the gospel and to see them grow to love Jesus themselves! In this newsletter you'll find a bunch of key dates for your diary and some help for you as you seek to teach your kids the big story of the Bible (especially as some sites tackle the OT this term!). Please be praying for this ministry and make sure you ask your kids what they're learning week to week! Keep trusting Jesus!

Your brother in Christ, Jacko

Ten Top Tips for Teaching The Bible's Big Story To Kids

#1: Parents need to know the Bible's big story for themselves in order to teach their children. An easy way to do this is to read through a children's picture Bible (e.g. *The Beginner's Bible*) and see the order and flow of the stories.

#2: Purchase children's resources that specifically aim to teach the links between the Bible's stories and what holds them altogether. Example: *The Big Picture Bible Story* by David Helm; *The King, The Snake and The Promise* CD by EMU Music.

#3: Collect pictures of significant events in the Bible and sequence them with your child. Pictures can be cut from old children's picture Bibles or sourced off the internet (draw pictures, write captions). Example: Where does God live? God lives in the garden with Adam and Eve, God promises to live in the Tabernacle, then in the Temple, Jesus (Immanuel = God with us), in every Christian (God gives us his Spirit), in his church, in the New Heaven and New Earth.

#4: Ask your child to draw pictures, create plasticine models, build duplo models of their favourite Old Testament Bible stories. When a significant number have been created put them in the order they appear in the Bible and discuss the big story that holds them all together. The same can be done for the New Testament.

#5: Take a big idea and on a large sheet of paper record what the Bible says about that big idea

#6: Purchase the board game *Walking With God* and play as a family. The game takes you through the Bible's big story and shows children how everything is pointing to Jesus.

#7: Make/purchase a matching game (Bible stories or characters). Play game as a family (turn cards face down, turn over two, see if they match). Then sequence cards in the order they appear in the Bible.

Term 2 dates

May 3 – June 28

Raising Kids

Night #1, May 4, 7.30-9.30pm

St Matt's Hall

Interactive, discussion

Help raising 0-10 years olds!

Compassion BBQ

June 21 [Bring a gold coin!]

#8: Ask your child to list Bible characters (Adam, Elijah, John, Lydia) or Bible stories (Creation, Flood, Tower of Babel). Write each on a separate slip of paper. Help your child to sequence these in the order they appear in the Bible.

#9. Each year create a Bible Timeline as a family. Add to the Timeline as you read different sections of scripture as a family.

#10. An excellent book for parents is *God's Big Picture*, by Vaughan Roberts. It's an easy read and clearly explains God's plan for us and the world he made.

RECOMMENDED 'BIG PICTURE' RESOURCES ...

The Big Picture Bible Story by David Helm - teaches children and adults the Bible's big story

The King, The Snake and The Promise CD by EMU Music (children can sing from Genesis to Revelation)

The Jesus Story Book Bible by Sally Lloyd Jones - helps children see that Old or New Testament the Bible is all about Jesus)

Walking With God Board Game - A family devotion board game that helps children see how central Jesus is in God's big story.

Kids Talk Schedule for Term 2 (at St Matt's)

God is Great (May 3-31)

- Week 1: God alone is great!! (Psalm 86:10)
- Week 2: God made everything (Psalm 146:6 Revelation 4:11)
- Week 3: God can do anything (Jeremiah 32:27 Luke 1:37)
- Week 4: God loves everyone (Psalm 145:8-9)
- Week 5: God is very important (Psalm 145:1-3)

God Made Me (June 7-28)

- Week 6: God made me (Genesis 1:26-27; Psalm 139:13-14)
- Week 7: God made family and friends (Genesis 1:26-27; Psalm 139:13-14)
- Week 8: God made everyone (Genesis 1:26-28)
- Week 9: God made all the animals (Genesis 1:20-25)

Why not ask your child what they've been learning or discuss the Kids Talk with your child on the way home from church?

Need more information? Got questions? Please contact Simon Jackson (GAN Kids Coordinator) on M: 0402 109 827 or E: simon.jackson@stmatts.asn.au