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how to use it as a launch pad for your engagement with children and families, please use this link: <https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/FACT-how-to-sheet.pdf>

2 Peter 1:12-19

Theme: The story of remembering the stories in the Bible.

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Introduction: What would be helpful to know in my planning?

1 Peter

This is a 5th session and aims to bring together the various passages we have looked at over the last month on the theme of 'Stories'. It is also a standalone session – so it doesn't matter if you haven't looked at all, or any, of the previous weeks.

We have chosen The Living Bible translation but you might find it interesting to look at other translations (you can visit www.biblegateway.com to help with this).

The Living Bible mentions that the writer is not telling Fairy Tales about Jesus, indeed it goes on to say that the writer was an eye-witness to what they write about.

The stories told about Jesus in the gospels were factual accounts – the stories told by Jesus (parables) were made up to get a point across to the people who were listening. This is an important difference fo. po (f)1.4 (a)po td(er)7 stJesusexvist ,t thaG

Telling stories has always been an important way of sharing knowledge in communities and cultures. They have not always been written down – many have only been documented relatively recently. Each storyteller would tell a story in the way that suited them, and their audience, best – so we can't be totally sure about what has been added to a story for effect.





is missing. As an alternative to make the game more challenging you could get them into groups to see how many of the items they can remember and list.

When you have played the game look at the items and ask what stories they think the items relate to. Some items will bring to mind lots of stories. For example if you use a stone they may



the top of the box twice after the word 'box'. Pull out the things one by one and then let the children play with them, talking about the theme or the story in simple terms.

This week's box could include:

- Story book – talk to the children about their favourite stories.
- Bible – talk about the stories in the bible and what are their favourite stories.
- Dove – remember the story of Jesus baptism, “this is my son who I am well pleased” (verse 17-18) you may want to remember the Noah story.
- A rainbow – reminds us of the story of Noah and God's promises.
- A battery-operated candle – talk to the children about Jesus the light of the world who shines light into the dark places, when we are scared a light comforts us.
- Shining star – Jesus is our shining star and is with us in all the stories we hear.
- Heart – talk to the children about keeping all these God stories in our heart.
- A tactile cross of wood or fabric (A cross shape reminds us of Jesus. Jesus/God loves us and it's always in the box because Jesus/God always loves us!)
- A set of play people to act out the story or random shapes/bits you can move around to make pictures from the story as you tell it (eg stones, felt, twigs etc)

Express

Praying together: how can you involve the children actively in prayer?

Prayer stations

You will need:

wipe clean board and pens
a teddy or something soft
playdough
tray
sand
gems or small stones or pretend coins
sieves



Create five different prayer stations under the following titles: Tell/ Tend/ Teach/ Transform/ Treasure.

These are to represent the five marks of mission. Place the item and the words in their respective area and encourage the children to move around the areas (in any order) and to stop and use the item as suggested.

It would be beneficial if the leader were to demonstrate what to do with the item rather than what to say when there before you start.

Tell – Help me to tell my friends about you God.

Whisper these words or words of your choice into your cupped hands.

Teach – Thank you God that we learn about you through the stories of the Bible.
Use a wipe clean board and pen to draw something they remember from the Bible.

Tend – Open my eyes and ears to those who need my help.
Hold onto the soft teddy/ blanket/ etc and think of how we can care for others.

Transform – Please transform the world God into a fun, healthy and peaceful place.
Make a world out of the playdough, perhaps some people too.



Ask the children to pick their favourite bible story to create into a story book, you do not need to add words just use images.

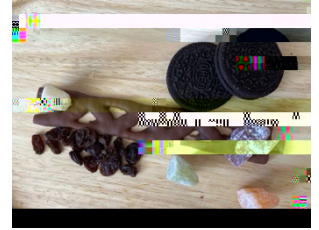
Decorate the front cover of your book, making sure the child adds their name as the author.

Then add in pages of your book, using a page per scene of the story. They can simply draw the images for each page or stick images found in magazines to create their story.

Ready, steady, cook – Bible stories

You will need:
Some food items which will help to recreate a story

What you do:



Ask the children to think of a bible story, and then give them five minutes to recreate the story using the food. I wonder if the others can guess what the story is?

Everyday with Jesus – Walking the Way

What could we do this week to carry on what we've learned? Maybe members of the group could come up with a suggestion. If not, get them to choose from these two challenges:

- Join in the Bible quiz:
<https://youtu.be/jxWcvK-Cu-I?si=osL7m3WHGfnOFVTE>
- Talk to someone older or younger than you and ask them to tell you about what their favourite Bible story is and why?

We hope you enjoyed exploring the story of 1 Peter 2 with us.

Please let us know what you liked or what you would find useful by emailing lorrainewebb@urc.org.uk

Why not have a look at next week's resource on Esther the influencer



