

# A LETTER FROM PRISON

THE BIG IDEA - GOD DOESN'T PROMISE AN EASY LIFE BUT HE'S ALWAYS WITH US SO WE CAN REJOICE AND NOT BE ANXIOUS

Philippians 2: 3-11



JESUS IS OUR EXAMPLE. HE WAS A HUMBLE SERVANT

## 1. WELCOME (3 mins): Introductions & Rules

- Welcome all the kids
- Introduce the leaders
- Take the register. As each name is called out ask them to sit down
  - or if they come in and sit automatically ask them to stand.
  - Alternatively to help burn off some energy ask them to jump 10 times.
- Set the rules and expectations.

### At Centrepont Kids:

**we are kind**

**we listen**

**we have fun**

## 2. MEMORY VERSE SONG (3 Mins)



Do not be anxious about anything but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

– Philippians 4:6-7

## 3. RECAP opportunity for testimonies of answered prayers (3 mins)

Share any testimonies or recap last week's lesson or key themes that will help new kids.

## 4. GAME (6 mins)

# "Put Others First" Circle Game

**Theme:** Humility, Selflessness, and the Attitude of Christ

**Based on:** *Philippians 2:3-11*

**"...In humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."**

## What You Need:

- A small soft object (like a plush toy or beanbag)
- Optional: A printed crown or "Humble Hero" badge

## Goal of the Game:

To help children practice thinking of others first and learn the humility of Jesus through a fun, thoughtful circle game.

## How to Play:


1. Sit everyone in a circle. Choose one child to be the "Humble Hero" — they stand in the middle holding the plush toy.
2. The Humble Hero walks up to someone in the circle and offers them the plush toy saying, "I put you first!"
3. The person who receives the toy must say something kind or humble in return (you can guide them with ideas like:
  - "Thank you, would you like my space?"
  - "You're a great friend."
  - "You can go first."
  - "Jesus loves you!"
4. The two then swap places: the one in the middle becomes the new Humble Hero, holding the plush toy and repeating the process.
5. Variation: If a child can't think of something humble or kind to say, they can choose a prompt from a "Kindness Card" pile (you can make cards in advance with phrases or actions).
6. Continue until everyone has had a turn or for a set amount of time (5-10 minutes).



## Debrief / Teaching Moment:

After the game, gather the kids and ask:

- **"How did it feel to put someone else first?"**
- **"Was it easy or hard to think of something kind to say?"**
- **"What does this teach us about how Jesus thinks of others?"**

 *Remind them:* "Philippians 2 says Jesus made Himself nothing and became a servant. When we put others first, we're being just like Him!"

## ★ Bonus Idea:

Make a paper **"Jesus Crown"** or **"Humble Hero Badge"** that passes to each child who has their turn — a simple, symbolic reminder that *true greatness comes from humility*.

## 5. The Letter(s) (7 minutes)



### PROPS

- Cloak
- Envelope with letter
- Slides



## Week 1

*A messenger wearing a cloak bursts into the room with enthusiasm, holding a large envelope. They pull out this week's letter, revealing a chapter from Philippians.*

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### Title: “A Letter from Paul!”

**Setting:** A small gathering place in Philippi.

**Characters:**

- **Messenger – Energetic and a little out of breath**
- **Lydia – Kind and thoughtful (a believer from Philippi)**
- **Group of Believers – Kids in the audience or acting as background**



### Script:

**(Messenger runs in holding a rolled-up scroll, panting)**

**Messenger:** *(breathing hard)*

People of Philippi! I’ve come a long way — over mountains, across rivers — but I bring great news!

**Lydia:** *(standing up excitedly)*

You made it! Do you bring word from Paul?

**Messenger:**

Yes! A letter — straight from prison in Rome. Paul wrote this to you, his dear friends in Philippi.

**(Holds up scroll carefully, everyone leans in)**

**Messenger (reading):**

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit...”

**Lydia (softly, to the others):**

That sounds like Paul.

**Messenger (smiles, keeps reading):**

“...Rather, in humility, value others above yourselves...”

He also says: “Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus...”

**(Pauses dramatically)**

“...Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage — but made Himself nothing...”

**Lydia:**

Paul wants us to remember how Jesus gave everything for us.

**Messenger (finishing):**

“And because of this, God exalted Him to the highest place — and gave Him the name above every



name!”

**All (together):**

**JESUS!**

**Messenger:**

That at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow — in heaven, on earth, and under the earth!

**Lydia (smiling):**

What a Saviour! What a letter!

Let’s read it from the start.

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The Leader should instruct the kids to find a spot to lie down. Explain that the letter will be read to them so close their eyes and imagine Paul in prison writing these letters to them. Play the video with the candle and the chapter for this week and try and keep the room as peaceful as possible. As they’re listening be praying silently that God’s word would impact them deeply.

Once the passage is finished, encourage the kids for listening so well and ask them to sit in a circle to discuss what they heard.

## 6. Discussion and Q&A (6 minutes)

With this curriculum especially for Kids Church you should allow adequate time to facilitate questions and discussion. During this session as Leaders you should hear more kids voices than leaders.

I would suggest sitting on the floor in a large circle or, with a large group, splitting into smaller sizes each with a leader to allow kids to all ask questions. This will create a better dynamic for honest questions and discussion rather than the classroom style with teacher standing at the front.

Ask the kids what stood out to them most about the passage. It is very likely that different portions of the passage will have stood out to different kids. This may be confusing to some kids as they may think they have answered incorrectly. Reassure them and explain that because the Bible is God’s living and active we can all read the same passage and God will speak to us all differently. If this comes up you can ask them to think why that is.

If you are ever in doubt about how to answer a question the best answer to give is:

**Wow, that’s a great question.**

**I’m not sure but I’ll try and find out for you.**

Bring the conversation around to the focus for this week and apply it to day to day life. Lead the discussion around to the fact we can pray when things are difficult. God will always be with us.

## 7. Craft (10 minutes)

### Supplies



- ☐ Paper plates (1 per child)
- ☐ Mirrored card (small square per child)
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Markers or crayons
- ☐ Coloured paper paper (optional)
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Stickers (optional)

## Craft: “Mirror of Christ – A Humble Heart”

**Theme:** Reflecting the Attitude of Jesus

**Based on:** *Philippians 2:3–5*

**“In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.”**

### How to Make It:

1. Make a Mirror Center:
  - Cut or tear a square of aluminium foil and glue it to the centre of the paper plate.
  - This represents a mirror — a symbol of how we reflect Jesus to others.
2. Decorate the Rim:

Around the edge of the plate, have kids write or draw:

  - Words from Philippians 2:
    - “Humble”
    - “Kind”
    - “Serve”
    - “Put others first”
    - “Be like Jesus”
  - OR draw people helping others, praying, sharing, etc.
3. Add the Verse (inside or on back):

Paste or write this somewhere on the plate:
4. *“Have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.” – Philippians 2:5*
5. Reflection Question (for the back or classroom wall):

Write:  
“When people look at me, do they see Jesus?”  
Encourage discussion around this while crafting.



### Talking Points While Crafting:

- “The foil is like a mirror — Jesus wants us to reflect His love and attitude.”
- “What kind of things did Jesus do that showed humility?”
- “Can you think of a time when *you* put someone else first like Jesus did?”

## 8. Worship/Songs (4 minutes)

Here are some suggestions for songs you can use this term. All songs are in the folder.

🌐 I Thank God - KidzRock Worship.mp4

🌐 Lifted LifePoint Kids Worship with Motions.mp4

🌐 That's Who I Praise Motions Video (chooselife YOUTH).m...

🌐 Praise - Elevation Worship.mp4