

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 1:12-14

FOLLOWING JESUS CAN BE DIFFICULT - BUT WITH GOD I CAN REJOICE AND NOT BE ANXIOUS

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)

Where in the World

Objective:

- Teach the kids some geography and understand where we are in the world.
- Understand that not everyone in the world has heard about Jesus.
- In some countries you can get in a lot of trouble for sharing about Jesus. We call these creative access nations because we have to think of creative ways to get the Bible into these countries so that people can hear the good news.
- Recap the Gospel so that all kids have heard it.



Kids Church

Split the group into three groups and allocate a portion of the map to each. Note the complexity of the pieces and give the larger sections to the younger kids. Alternatively only take out some of the pieces and leave some in.

Note: this may be tricky but that's ok. Following Jesus isn't always easy.

Kids Jr.

Get the kids to work together as a team to build the world.

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.

MESSENGER: [waving the letter] Look what we've got! A letter! A letter from Paul!

The messenger opens the letter and starts to read...

Oh no! it looks like he's been arrested, and he's in prison! in Philippi!

LEADER: WHAT! Where's Philippi? Kids, any idea where that is?

MESSENGER: It's a major Greek City where the Romans were in charge. Here's a map...[show the map of Europe with Philippi on it]



But Rome doesn't like Christians. Lots of Jesus' followers are being arrested. It looks like they've now got Paul. Oh I hope he's ok. I'm so worried...

The leader comforts the messenger

LEADER: It's ok. We know that God is in control. Lets all just take a moment, maybe there's something encouraging in the letter. I think we better read it together to find out.

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 come 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



- ☐ World Map printouts
- ☐ Colouring Pens/Pencils
- ☐ Stickers

Creative Access Nations - World Maps

We have the privilege in this country to be able to come to church and Centrepont Kids and we're not going to go to prison.



Our craft today is both a craft and prayer. The kids have prayer sheets with a map of the world. They can colour it in and pray for nations.

Encourage them to add stickers or mark the map in some way to pray for a specific country. Maybe where they are from or where they have family. Maybe it's somewhere they have visited or would like to go in the future.

PRAY FOR CREATIVE ACCESS NATIONS



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