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'The Jesus Kids' Club' Activities

These activities are intended to be used in conjunction with 'The Jesus Kids' Club' DVD. Together with the DVD they should fill six 'Sunday School'-type classes. However, they are not meant to be prescriptive and you should feel free to tailor what's here to the specific needs of your group.

While the DVD forms a significant part of the activities, each session is based around a key focus point from a Biblical passage.



SESSION 1: 'THE BEST REWARD'



'I run towards the goal, so that I can win the prize of being called to heaven. This is the prize that God offers because of what Christ Jesus has done.'

- Philippians 3:14

Session Focus: The ultimate prize is entering into a relationship with Jesus.

Game: Balloon Race

Aim: To show that, sometimes, everyone

can be a winner.

Materials: At least two balloons (have some

spare for accidents), one for each team (long thin ones work best). Some small

prizes (balloons, stickers, etc).

- Line the children up in two teams (or more if it's a large group). Explain that they have to take it in turns to race to the opposite wall and back, holding a balloon between their legs. Whichever team manages to get all their members there and back first wins a prize.
- 2. At the end of the game, declare one team winner and give them the prize. Then announce that, in actual fact, this is a race where everyone who finished the race wins and give prizes to everyone else.
- Ask how the winning team felt about winning. Ask the other team how they felt when they thought they'd lost.
 Then ask how they felt when they realised they'd still won.

4. Explain that, while often in life there are winners and losers, if we follow Jesus we know that in the end we can all be winners because we can each have the prize of having Jesus as our friend.



DVD: Episode 1 - The Best Reward

- Explain that the children are about to watch a cartoon about a boy called Chris. He's not very good at winning prizes but he knows he has the prize of being friends with Jesus.
- 2. Watch episode 1: 'The Best Reward'
- 3. Encourage the children to tell you what they've just seen, giving them prompts if they get stuck (What were the names of Chris' friends? What was Diana good at? How did Alex win his running prize?).
- 4. Ask if anyone knows what it's like to be like Chris; to always see other people win the prizes but not win any yourself. How does it feel?
- 5. Explain that there was a man in the Bible called Paul who knew a lot about losing and having hard times. But he said that he kept on going because he knew that he was going to win the prize of being with Jesus in heaven.

- 6. Ask if anyone knows how they can win God's prize. Make clear that we can all win because Jesus took the punishment for the bad things we've done by dying for us. We just have to say sorry for what we've done and promise to try to live the way Jesus did.
- 7. Ask the children to close their eyes while you say a prayer for everyone. If they want to say it for themselves then they can say 'Amen' at the end.

Prayer

Lord Jesus,

I know that I've done many bad things and I've said and I've thought many bad things too. I'm really sorry.



Thank you for dying for me on the cross, taking the punishment for all the bad things I've done. Thank you that, because of that, I can live forever with you in heaven.

Thank you that you want to be my friend right now. Help me to follow you and do what you say.

Amen.

Craft Activity: Medals

Aim: To remind the children who

the true prize is.



Materials: Coloured card

Crayons, felt tip pens

Scissors String

Sticky tape



- 1. Explain that there are many different sorts of prizes. Ask the children if they know what sort of prize you win at the Olympics. Explain that it's a medal. They're going to make their own medals out of card but they're going to write 'Jesus' across them to remember that, if they've prayed that prayer, they get to win being with Jesus, here and in heaven.
- 2. Help the children to cut out large medal shaped pieces of card and to write the name 'Jesus' in the middle. Allow them to colour in the medal. Cut lengths of string long enough to go around each child's neck and fix it to the medal with some tape.

Finally...



As the children get ready to go, remind them that, whether they win or lose this week, just like Chris they've got the prize of Jesus with them in everything they do.

SESSION 2: 'ZOMBIE CAT'



'When the Son of Man comes in his glory with all of his angels, he will sit on his royal throne. The people of all nations will be brought before him,

and he will separate them, as shepherds separate their sheep from their goats.

He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, "My father has blessed you! Come and receive the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world was created. When I was hungry, you gave me something to eat, and when I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink. When I was a stranger, you welcomed me, and when I was naked, you gave me clothes to wear. When I was sick, you took care of me, and when I was in jail, you visited me."

Then the ones who pleased the Lord will ask, "When did we give you something to eat or drink? When did we welcome you as a stranger or give you clothes to wear or visit you while you were sick or in jail?"

The king will answer, "Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me."

Then the king will say to those on his left, "Get away from me! You are under God's curse. Go into the

everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels! I was hungry, but you did not give me anything to eat, and I was thirsty, but you did not give me anything to drink. I was a stranger, but you did not welcome me, and I was naked, but you did not give me any clothes to wear. I was sick and in jail, but you did not take care of me."

Then the people will ask, "Lord, when did we fail to help you when you were hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in jail?"

The king will say to them, "Whenever you failed to help any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you failed to do it for me."

Then Jesus said, "Those people will be punished forever. But the ones who pleased God will have eternal life."

Matthew 25: 31-46

<u>Session Focus:</u> Whenever we show kindness to someone we're showing kindness to Jesus.

Last week's recap...

Ask the children if anyone won any prizes at school last week. What's the prize that everyone can have? (Jesus!)

Blind leading the blind

Aim: To demonstrate that

you don't need to know who you're helping for that help to be worthwhile.



Materials: Enough blindfolds for each child.

- Explain that today the children are going to be learning about helping each other. Explain that they are each going to be blindfolded and, in pairs, help each other to walk across the room. You will give them instructions but they must stick together.
- 2. Get the children to face each other in two lines. Explain that they will be helping the person opposite them to walk across the room. Blindfold them, then quietly move the children around in one of the lines so that each child is facing a different partner.
- 3. One by one tell the partners to hold hands and direct each pair across the room in turn. Explain that it's important that everyone stays quiet so that they can hear your directions. Once they've finished ask who they're holding and with and tell them they can take their blindfolds off. Ask if they were right about who they were holding hands with (some may but, as long as some were unsure, you can still make the point).
- 4. Explain that it doesn't matter whose hand they thought they were holding; the important thing is that they made it across the room together.

DVD: Episode 2 - The Zombie Cat

- Explain that you're going to watch a cartoon about someone who didn't realise who he was helping.
- 2. Watch episode 2: 'Zombie Cat'.
- 3. Encourage the children to tell you what they've just seen, giving them prompts if they get stuck (Who did Alex give food to? Who Alex was helping without knowing it?)



- 4. Is there anyone like Zombie Cat that the children don't really want to help? Do they still help them? Can they think of any ways in which they may have already helped lots of people without realising it (Maybe putting litter in a bin helps rubbish collectors. Taking their shoes off when they come inside helps their parents who don't have to vacuum up their mud)?
- 5. Explain that Jesus said that whenever we help someone else, what we're really doing is helping Him. In your own words, tell the children the story of Matthew 25:31-46.
- 6. Ask the children how that makes them feel about helping people they don't really want to help. What can they do to help more people? What are they going to do next time they see someone they don't really want to help?
- 7. Explain to the children that you're going to pray that we would be able to help other people better. Ask them to close their eyes.

Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Thank you so much that you trust us to help other people. Lord Jesus, you know that there are some people who we find it hard to help and be nice to.

Help us to remember that when we help other people, we're really helping you.

Help us to treat other people the way you treat us, with love and kindness.

Thank you that you're always helping us.

Amen.

Craft Activity: Masks

Aim: To remind the children to

look behind the masks

that people wear.

Materials: Coloured craft paper

String/rubber bands

Pens Scissors

Paper hole reinforcers



Explain that sometimes we only see one side of people.
 Alex could only see a horrible scary cat in Zombie Cat.
 What he didn't see was that Zombie Cat was also a mummy cat. Maybe the reason Zombie Cat seemed

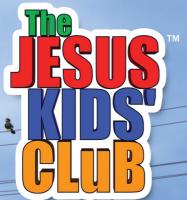
scary was because she didn't want anyone to hurt her kittens and was trying to keep them away. In the same way sometimes when people are nasty to us it might be because someone has been nasty to them. We need to ask Jesus to help us see the person behind the mask.

- 2. Explain to the children that they're going to make Zombie Cat masks to help them remember that behind a nasty Zombie Cat there was a loving mummy cat.
- 3. Help the children to draw cat masks. Let them decorate the masks.
- Help the children to cut out their masks. Make small holes on each side and reinforce them with hole reinforcers. Thread string/rubber bands through.

Finally...

As the children prepare to go, remind them that every time they help someone this week they're really helping Jesus.

TO VIEW THE REMAINING 4 LESSON PLANS PLEASE ORDER A COPY OF THE JESUS KIDS CLUB DUD AND WE'LL SEND YOU THE FULL 36 PAGE BOOKLET!

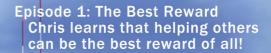






Welcome to The Jesus Kids' Club!

Join Chris, Diana and Alex as they try to make a difference in the lives of the people around them. From bullies and grumpy neighbors to puppies at the animal shelter, the Jesus Kids' Club is there to help, sharing God's love and keeping Jesus at the center of their lives.



Episode 2: Zombie Cat
Alex learns that God's plan for him
isn't always what he expects.

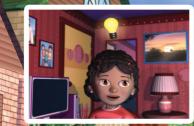
Episode 3: Prayer for One God uses Diana as a blessing for one special person.

Episode 4: Bad Gum
Chris, Diana and Alex show the
neighborhood bully who Jesus is

Episode 5: Remy's Carnival
Alex gives something special to
brighten the day of a little boy.

Episode 6: Checkmate
Chris' persistence pays off while
trying to help Mr. Buckle.









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