

Hello and Welcome to our Holiday club @ Home Family Service



With Stacey & Lacey,



Mark & Sarah



and Kelly Kangaroo

Holiday Club has been very different this year due to Covid 19, but the good news about Jesus has not been stopped and Holiday Club has happened online... and will stay online for the foreseeable future, so people can keep engaging with the songs, stories and craft activities!

**Happy Birthday
this week to
Samuel P and Katie G
God bless you both!**



Mel's Prayer: Father, thank you for your Word which says that when people hear the words of Jesus in The Bible, It's like the seed being sown, and our prayer this morning is that the seed will bring fruit and be a blessing to many people. We pray for the families that have been watching holiday club at home - you know them all Lord; bless them as you see their needs, particularly those who are facing challenges or difficulties. Thank you for the people who've played a part in putting this week together - so much hard work, so much time - thank you for each one of them.

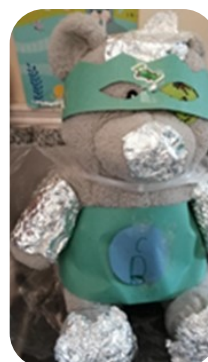
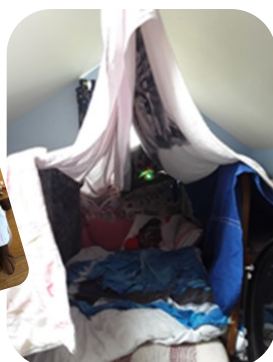
And Father, we pray for our country, for your hand upon our nation and those who lead it. We bring our prayers to you with a real sense of gratitude in the name of our Lord Jesus Amen.

Competitions.

We've run competitions during the week.

- 1, To dress a teddy or doll as a superhero
- 2, Build a den
- 3, Draw a picture of one of the Bible stories

Here are some examples of entries sent in by the children!



Throughout Holiday Club Mark has been highlighting the authority and reliability of the Bible, so when he asked me to do a little talk for the Sunday Holiday Club Service I shared the perspective of the Bible being like a Treasure Chest! But unlike a literal treasure chest, you can never get to the bottom of it and completely unpack it; in fact the more you unpack the Bible, the more you discover there is to unpack!! We unpacked 10 different things from a treasure chest to illustrate some of the wonders of the Bible.



1, Some Traditional Treasure! Jewellery etc. Here we thought about the concept that the Bible is full of treasure that money can't buy, like true peace, hope, joy, forgiveness and love. "I give my peace to you" John 14:27

2, A Warm, Soft Blanket. The Bible is full of promises that bring comfort and warmth and we can wrap ourselves up in those promises and experience God's presence like being enveloped in a soft, warm blanket. "I have loved you with an everlasting love." Jeremiah 31:3



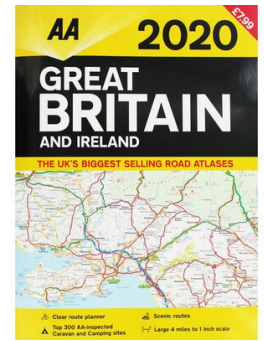
3, A Torch. Being stuck in darkness can feel frightening. The Bible is like a torch that can bring light into our darkness and help us overcome our fears. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" Psalm 119:105

4, An Umbrella. During rain, snow and hail storms an umbrella can offer us shelter and protection from the wet weather. The Bible offers us help as we face the storms of life and tells us that we can find shelter and protection in God. "The Lord is my protector." Psalm 18:2



5, Binoculars. Binoculars help us to see far into the distance and the Bible helps us to see way back into history, and way into the future. The Bible tells us that love and truth will win, and that "God will wipe away all tears." Revelation 21:4

6, A Map. Sometimes we get lost and we need something to show us the way. The Bible is like a map that shows us the best way to live, guides us on life's journey and leads us to God. "I have come to seek and to save the lost" Luke 19:10



7, A Friend. A Teddy Bear or special toy is often a constant companion for a small child. The Bible introduces us to the most wonderful companion and friend who will never let us down or leave us. This friend is Jesus, humble servant and King of Kings! "There is a friend that sticks closer than a brother." Proverbs 18:24

8, A Plaster. At times we get hurt or sick and we need some love and care. The Bible has many stories of Jesus healing people physically and emotionally. Jesus loves to bind up the broken hearted and the Bible says that one day there will be no more sickness or pain. "I am the LORD that heals you" Exodus 15:26



9, A Pot of Honey. The Bible says that God's words are sweeter than honey. Honey is delicious, and good for you. The Bible invites us to "Taste and see that God is good!" Psalm 34:8

10, An Invitation. The Bible is an invitation for us to become part of God's family and Kingdom. Jesus says "Come to me." Matt 11:28 He also says that, "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life" John 3:16



Mark... When I heard what Mervyn was going to speak this morning about the torch and the light, it made me think of one of the verses in the Bible. In Psalm 119 v 105, it says that, *'your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.'*

Now if you have a lamp that lights up your feet, you see what is immediately around you, particularly if you're in a dark area. God's word can also be a light to show the future as Mervyn was illustrating by looking through the binoculars; looking into the future and looking back to what's been before. I got to thinking about how Holiday Club came about. We thought about this months ago, and of course had to start planning it months ago, too. And we pick five children from The Bible deliberately. We thought of Samuel and David; pretty obvious choices, and then we thought of the un-named girl that worked as a servant for Naaman. We don't know her age, don't know anything about her as she appears in the Bible once. Then we move on, and we have the boy with the five loaves and two fish, and of course Jesus as a boy at the temple the only account that we have of Jesus' childhood, apart from the birth stories.



It just so happened as I was reading my Bible in a year or listening to it on the app I have on my phone - which is great to listen to. It's the Bible in a year by Nicky Gumbel as part of the alpha series. One thing I really love about it actually is the fact that David Suchet reads the Bible in his really husky voice and he really emphasizes and dramatizes some of the passages it is brilliant - but at the moment at which we were about to shoot the Samuel, and the David stories, guess what I was reading on those days? The stories of David and Samuel!



I'd read the passage in isolation already; David and Goliath, the calling of Samuel, that kind of illuminated my immediate area and gave me insight into what was actually happening, but the more I read into the stories, in the weeks I was filming, it actually showed me the way forward and how it went on from there.

So I have a lit pathway ahead, which in some senses has directed the way Holiday Club has worked. And it's been fantastic, because one of the things we wanted to point out to everybody watching the video is that this book, 'The Bible' is not a fictional book. The stories in here are real, and particularly thinking about the Naaman story, the king that he served is mentioned, not only in the Bible but also in other historical books too, so you've got books backing up the stories in the Bible.

The fact that Israel and Judah split; that actually happened! So when you get into the New Testament and you see the outpouring of God's love through Jesus, the truth that Jesus taught us, the miracles he performed, this book is as alive now, as it was when it was first penned almost 2000 years ago. It was compiled about 1700 years ago, when it was all put together. The stories in here are great, and I would encourage you if you've not ever even picked up a Bible, or read any bits of it to find some way of doing that. You can read it on a phone, get one from a Bible shop, look online for Bible reading notes, and if you get stuck in any way, shape or form, feel free to contact us, so we can direct you towards some material that you can get access to and read the Bible. This thing is fantastic. It's the best thing I have ever read. I never get tired of reading it, and I hope you enjoy reading it too.



In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

By Townsend/Getty

The Grace

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, now and evermore. Amen .