

Contents

How to use this book		5
Zechariah's praise	<i>Luke 1:5–25,57–80</i>	6
Mary's praise	<i>Luke 1:46–55</i>	8
Angels' praise	<i>Luke 2:8–20</i>	10
Christmas praise	<i>Luke 2:1–40</i>	12
Simeon's praise	<i>Luke 2:28–35</i>	14
Jesus at Nazareth	<i>Luke 4:16–21</i>	16
At Peter's house	<i>Mark 1:29–34</i>	18
A man with leprosy	<i>Mark 1:40–45</i>	20
A man with a damaged hand	<i>Mark 3:1–6</i>	22
Jesus heals a man	<i>Mark 7:31–37</i>	24
Following Jesus	<i>Luke 10:1–16</i>	26
Ask, seek and knock	<i>Luke 11:5–13</i>	28
The widow and the judge	<i>Luke 18:1–8</i>	30
Jesus stops a storm	<i>Matthew 8:23–27</i>	32
Bread for everyone	<i>John 6:1–15</i>	34
A man who could not see	<i>John 8:12; 9:1–12,35–38</i>	36
Peter knows Jesus	<i>Mark 8:27–30; Luke 9:18–27</i>	38
A tiny seed	<i>Matthew 13:31,32</i>	40
Light for the whole world	<i>Matthew 5:14–16</i>	42
A good shepherd	<i>John 10:1–15</i>	44
Jesus the healer	<i>Luke 17:11–19</i>	46

Mr Proud and Mr Sorry	<i>Luke 18:9–14</i>	48
Palm Sunday	<i>Mark 11:1–11; Matthew 21:1–17</i>	50
Asking Jesus	<i>John 14:13,14</i>	52
Jesus in the garden	<i>John 18:3–12; Luke 22:39–53; Mark 14:32–50; Matthew 26:36–56</i>	54
Loving others	<i>John 15:12</i>	56
Where is Jesus?	<i>Matthew 27:14 – 28:20; Mark 15:6 – 16:18; Luke 23:13 – 24:49; John 18:39 – 20:23</i>	58
Going to Emmaus	<i>Luke 24:13–35</i>	60
Jesus meets his friends	<i>Luke 24:36–49</i>	62
Jesus is with us	<i>Matthew 28:20</i>	64
Jesus' promise	<i>John 16:5–7; Acts 2:1–12</i>	66
Peter speaks out	<i>Acts 2:1–14,38–42</i>	68
Talking about Jesus	<i>Acts 4:1–4,23–31</i>	70
Stephen is chosen	<i>Acts 6:1–7</i>	72
Aeneas	<i>Acts 9:32–43</i>	74
Cornelius	<i>Acts 10</i>	76
Paul meets Jesus	<i>Acts 9:1–19</i>	78
Barnabas helps Paul	<i>Acts 4:36,37; 9:26–30; 13:1–5</i>	80
Paul and Barnabas	<i>Acts 13:1–3; 15:1–35</i>	82
Lydia joins the church	<i>Acts 16:11–15</i>	84
Epaphroditus	<i>Philippians 2:25–30</i>	86
Philemon	<i>Philemon</i>	88
A letter to Timothy	<i>2 Timothy 1:3–10; 3:14–17</i>	90
Priscilla and Aquila	<i>Acts 18:1–23</i>	92
Paul is safe	<i>Acts 27:1,13–44</i>	94

How to use this book

All the activities in this book can be used either as short stand-alone activities or as part of a longer session, with other activities. You may like to use them to introduce the children to a Bible story, or to remind them of a Bible story that you have just listened to, and to get them involved in more of the detail. Each picture activity is designed to stimulate further thought on, and discussion of, the Bible story at the level of under-5s, as well as to provide them with plenty of fun!

Read through each activity before the session, so that you can ensure you have all the art materials you need. Most of the activities will require only crayons, paints, glue and collage materials, but some of them use less everyday art materials to get particular effects.

Have fun! A relaxed, welcoming and loving environment may tell the children in your group as much about God's love for them as the retelling of a Bible story.

A taster verse or two of the actual Bible text is also given. You could use this to help children relate the Bible stories to a complete Bible. Try looking up the verse in your Bible and showing the children the same words on the Bible page. (All actual Bible text used here comes from the CEV translation.)

Tell the story. The retelling of each Bible story has been written in a way that is accessible to under-5s.

Read the story from the Bible yourself before the session, so that you are familiar with all the details.

Copy the picture – one for every member of your group.

Jesus in the garden



Read it from the Bible

John 18:3-12; Luke 22:39-53; Mark 14:32-50; Matthew 26:36-56
 "Jesus walked on a little way before he knelt down and prayed, "Father, if you will, please don't make me suffer by making me drink from this cup. But do what you want, and not what I want." Luke 22:41-42

Tell the story

After the special meal with his friends, Jesus went into a garden to pray.

"Sit here and keep watch while I go and pray," he told his friends.

Then Jesus prayed to God. "I feel very scared, Father," Jesus prayed. "Please help me!"

Jesus went back to his friends and found them sleeping. It was late and they were very tired.

"Please stay awake and pray for me," Jesus said to them. Then Jesus prayed again. "Please help me, Father. Help me to do what you want."

Then Jesus saw his friend, Judas, coming with a crowd of soldiers. Judas showed the soldiers who Jesus was. Some of Jesus' friends were going to fight the soldiers. But Jesus said, "No! Do not fight! This is all part of God's plan." Jesus went with the soldiers. But all his friends left him and ran away.

Talk to God

Thank you, God, that you are with us when we have to do really difficult, scary things.

Use the picture

1 You can use the picture as an introduction to the Bible story or to help you review the story together.

2 Show the picture and ask the children what time of day it is. How do they know?

3 Who is in the picture? (Draw) Where is he? (Outline, in a garden) (Draw Jesus's back, knees, or feet, or sandals, etc., what?)

4 Before the children complete the picture, think about how things look at night. Provide suitable colours, so the picture will look shadowy and dark if it is evening.

5 While the children work on their pictures, talk calmly about the Bible story, explaining that Jesus needed to pray to his Father, God, because he knew he was going to have to do something difficult.



Talk to God. Each activity is rounded off with the words of a prayer or an idea for a prayer topic that you can use with the group towards the end of your session.

Use the picture. Each activity gives you ideas on how to get the most from each Bible picture, stimulating further thought and discussion of the topics involved. Some of the activities can be used together as a mini-series.