



Faith Adventures for Children Together

How and why to use this resource

*Committed to URC Children Together:
enabling everyone to grow more like Jesus
together in the home, church and beyond.*

FACT – A Bible-based children's group resource

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Values

It will be:

- **Bible-based** - every issue is based on a passage from the Bible, encouraging children together to experience the story, explore it in new ways which relate to their daily life experience, and express their own response
- **Creative and playful** – the essence of childhood is creativity and playfulness and these are the best way for our scriptures to come to life for children and adults alike.
- **Inclusive and accessible** – God's love is for all and this resource aims to be accessible to all children, regardless of age, gender, 'churched-ness', wealth, education, physical or cognitive needs, locality etc
- **Fostering God-connection** – This resource is designed to encourage and enable children and adults to talk and listen to God and become friends of Jesus for themselves.
- **URC unique** – there are lots of resources out there, but this resource is written primarily with URC children in mind. There is a focus on social justice and walking the way, a focus on the Bible, inclusivity and an encouragement to develop a personal understanding which may differ from that of others but is still accepted and respected.

Purpose

This resource gives URC churches a free flexible weekly outline to use in services, groups, wider settings etc with all ages, particularly including children from 0-12 – and encouraging them to resource faith at home through enabling



children, parents and grandparents to experience, explore and express faith through those activities and providing a simple 'take home' connected resource.

- It will develop URC Children through resourcing churches and families/households.
- It will support the Children and Youth Friendly Church scheme focus on children's spirituality.
- It will enable children and young people to play their part in the mission of God.

Introduction: What would be helpful to know in my planning?

It is good to know a little bit about the passage and where it fits into the Bible before you begin. Read the passage, maybe in a couple of different versions, and read this short introduction to help you think about the context of the passage and what the passage means to you. This section may also help you think about how to tackle any tricky subjects that may arise.



Wondering together: suggested questions to use during activities

The beauty of wondering questions is that they don't imply there is a right or wrong answer, they are a chance for adults and children alike to ponder together. They can be used to encourage more chatting on the theme and are perfect for while a craft or similar activity is happening, though they can be used at any time.12.3(f)-9during activ1



Express

How can you encourage the group to respond to the story and share it?

Praying together: how can you involve the children actively in prayer?

Our aim is to create opportunities for children to see prayer as talking and listening personally to God, as much a part of life as talking and listening to others, and something that can happen in many different ways. Children (and adults too) can often disengage from prayers spoken or written on their behalf by others, but tapping into their creativity and their everyday experience enables the prayers to be truly theirs.

Do not worry if the prayers do not feel like the prayers you are used to experiencing in church.

The resource offers a creative prayer and a spoken prayer to choose from (or you could do both at various points in the session)

Responding together: how can you facilitate children making God's



