

	<b>Title</b>	<b>Aim</b>	<b>Activities</b>
<b>Children in the bible</b>	How God sees children	To understand that God has a lot of time for children and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Opener:</b> Children to draw/make a list of things they think can't do because of their age</li> <li>• <b>Story:</b> Let the little children come to me</li> <li>• <b>Challenge:</b> Encouragement tag - stick a piece of A4 paper on each child's back and children must move around the group and put an encouraging word on everyone else's sheet.</li> <li>• <b>Game:</b> Pairs - Match the names and pictures of different children in the bible.</li> <li>• <b>Memory verse:</b> 1 Timothy 4:12</li> </ul>
	Jesus as a child - a special journey	To remind the children that Jesus was once a child like them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Opener:</b> Have the children ever been lost? How did it feel?</li> <li>• <b>Story:</b> Jesus 'gets lost' (Luke 2:41-52)</li> <li>• <b>Challenge:</b> Mention that at the end it tells us Jesus grew up and was obedient to his parents. Do the children find it hard to be obedient?</li> <li>• <b>Game:</b> Balloon praise - write down things the children are thankful to God for. Fold up and put inside balloons. When the music plays children need to keep the balloons up in the air. When it stops they pop one balloon and read out what's inside.</li> <li>• <b>Memory verse:</b> Ephesians 6:2</li> </ul>
	Daniel - the young man who didn't follow the crowd	To encourage the children to be themselves and not follow the crowd.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Opener:</b> Draw a picture of something that is important to them. Share with the group and explain why.</li> <li>• <b>Story:</b> Daniel in the lion's den (Daniel 1:8-21, 3:1-30)</li> <li>• <b>Challenge:</b> Give the children different scenarios (good and bad) which involves them choosing whether or not to follow the crowd. Discuss and ask if they think they should follow the crowd if they think it's wrong.</li> <li>• <b>Game:</b> In the den/out the den</li> <li>• <b>Craft:</b> lions masks</li> <li>• <b>Memory verse:</b> Exodus 23:2</li> </ul>
	Esther - born for such a time as this	To encourage children to use any gifts or talents they might have	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Opener:</b> Colour a set of finger puppets to be used during the story.</li> <li>• <b>Story:</b> Esther saves a nation (Esther 4:4-17) - Children use finger puppets as you tell the story.</li> <li>• <b>Challenge:</b> Get the children to think of any talents or skills they have. Do they use them? How can they be used to help others? Mention that God has a plan for each of us and he wants us to use any gifts or talents we have to please others.</li> <li>• <b>Game:</b> Crown solitaire</li> <li>• <b>Craft:</b> Crown decorating</li> <li>• <b>Memory verse:</b> Jeremiah 9:11</li> </ul>
	Samuel - a boy who heard God speak	To show how it is important to listen to others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Opener:</b> Listening game - one person turns around and another child in the group says a name. The child who has turned around needs to guess the speaker.</li> <li>• <b>Story:</b> Samuel listens (Samuel's 3:1-21)</li> <li>• <b>Challenge:</b> Mention that Samuel wasn't used to hearing God speak so he had to practice listening to him, Think about the people they should be listening to. Do they find it easier to listen to certain people? What could they do to ensure they listen well?</li> <li>• <b>Game:</b> The sound game - in teams children write down as many different sounds as they can hear.</li> <li>• <b>Craft:</b> Phone on string</li> <li>• <b>Memory verse:</b> James 1:19</li> </ul>