



CLCGB NORTHERN IRELAND
PRESENTS



Bible
Blockbusters 2

TRUE STORIES OF ADVENTURE AND
TRUTH! EXPLORED WITH THE HELP OF
YOUR FAVOURITE BLOCKBUSTER TALES.



Martins
Scripture Course

This book was written and compiled by Victoria Jackson,
CLCGB NI Chief Executive Officer.

A special thanks to Lynn Adams, Angela Speers and Jill
Hamilton and to the leaders of Lambeg and St Michael's
Parishes for their contributions.

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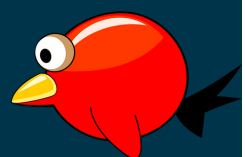
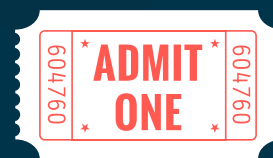


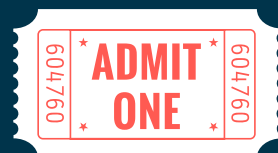
Bible Blockbusters 2

Martins Team Scripture Course

Notes for the Leaders

- This material can be used as a Scripture Course for which certificates can then be ordered from Jennifer Lockhart on jd-wright@sky.com
- The Martin's Scripture course is not examined with a written exam as the other sections are, each Martin who completes 4 or more weeks of the course and can say the memory verse corporately with the rest of the group is eligible to receive their Scripture Certificate.
- While there is no specific badge for the Scripture Course some leaders may wish to award the "Me and God" badge to those children who take part in 4 or more weeks of the course.
- The Martins and Y Team courses follow the same topics to assist those who lead both sections or who run both at the same time.
- Two songs and a memory verse are recommended at the start of this course which you may wish to teach the children and revisit at various stages through the 6 sessions. One of these songs "King of Me" is also used in the Y Team Scripture Course for those groups who are teaching both age groups together.
- We recognize that with an age range of 3-7 there is a big difference between the understanding and development of the youngest Martins and the oldest. To help you to pitch this course at the appropriate level for your group we have included simpler "Mini Martins" and more advanced "Mega Martins" options in each session. Please choose the option which is best suited to your group. For those groups with an even mix of Martins throughout the age group we recommend using the Mini-Martins option for a few weeks and the Mega-Martins options for the remaining weeks.
- A page entitled "Leaders' Preparation Page" has been included at the beginning of each session to aid you in your planning, this page includes a check list of materials that you will need to collect in advance and any Bible passages which we recommend that you read in preparation. These passages do not need to be read out to your members.
- We recommend running this course over 6-12 weeks with one topic per week or spread over 2 weeks, however, this does not need to be 6 consecutive weeks.
- We recommend that the "Bringing it to Life" section takes no more than 5-10 minutes.
- Feel free to add your own style and to omit/add your own ideas, this material is just meant to be a help and guidance for you.
- The memory pen supplied with this resource includes handouts, songs and useful links to aid you in leading this Scripture Course.
- This year your memory pen includes a video Bible teaching lesson for each session. We believed it was important to provide you with this in the light of COVID-19 and the possibility that we may not be able to meet as normal in September.





The Big Idea

We enjoyed bringing you last year's Bible Blockbuster course so much that we have decided to create a sequel! During the "Bible Blockbusters 2" Scripture Course the Martins will learn about 6 blockbuster Bible stories and truths, full of hope, purpose and life. To help bring these passages to life we will be bringing in movies with similar themes, which your members will be very familiar with! While of course these movies are no comparison for the true stories found in the Bible, we believe that relating Bible stories to something relevant to their world will help to bring the Bible to life for your members! So, make yourself comfortable, grab some popcorn and get ready for a journey through the Bible, blockbuster style!!

Topics

1. Blockbuster One – Toy Story (We Are God's Masterpiece (Psalm 139))
2. Blockbuster Two – Toy Story (What Does It Mean To Belong To Jesus?)
3. Blockbuster Three – The Incredible Hulk (The Strength of Samson)
4. Blockbuster Four – The Lego Movie (The Parable of Wise and The Foolish Builder)
5. Blockbuster Five – Zootropolis (Daniel and the Lion's Den)
6. Blockbuster Six – Angry Birds (Jonah's Anger)

Music

You might wish to teach the Martins "King of Me" or "God's Handiwork" as the theme song for the "Bible Blockbusters" Scripture Course. Both songs and action videos can be found in the Martins Folder of your memory pen. Thanks to leaders from Lambeg Parish who made the action video for "King of Me" and to Lynn from St Paul's for being a part of our "God's Handiwork" video.

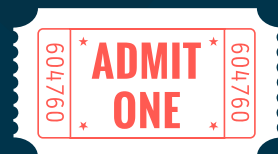
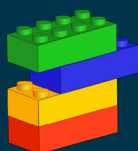
"King of Me" is also used as part of the Y Team Scripture Course for those who may find this overlap useful.

Memory Verse

The recommended memory verse for the "Bible Blockbusters" Martins Scripture Course is;

Mini-Martins

For we are God's handiwork. Ephesians 2:10





Mega-Martins

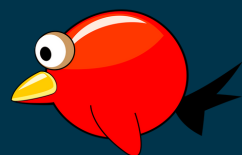
For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
Ephesians 2:10

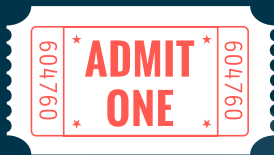
You might choose to teach the memory verse using the following ideas;

1. Use the "Mega-Martins Disappearing Memory Verse" on the memory pen. Have the children say the verse using funny accents, like a character from whichever movie you have been looking at that week. For example, if it is your Angry Birds week they might have to sound Angry or if it's your Zootropolis week they may have to try and say the words like different animals. If you feel they have followed the instructions well then you can move on to the next slide on which some of the words are erased. Continue with this until you have no words left.

Alternatively, you might have the children "Hulk Punch" (Hulk Week) or Catapult (Angry Birds Week) the words off the screen while you discreetly click the slides forward.

2. Give each child a copy of the "Martin's Memory Verse Colouring Sheet" from your memory pen to color in and read the verse together. Encourage them to draw themselves in the frame as "God's Handiwork"
3. Build the Memory Verse – This could be a good activity to do during Session 4 "Lego Week". Borrow some large building blocks from your church Mums and Tots group. Write the words of the memory verse on pieces of paper and stick them to blocks. Hide them around the room. Send the Martins around the room to find them and then help them to build the blocks in order so that the memory verse can be read.
4. Use the song recommended with this course, "God's Handiwork", the lyrics are the memory verse. Encourage your children to learn the actions using the actions video provided to help them learn the words.





Bible Blockbuster One

Toy Story – We Are God’s Masterpiece (Psalm 139)

Leaders’ Preparation Page

The Big Idea

In Toy Story 4, the little girl named Bonnie, creates a new toy out of rubbish, she calls him Forkie and he becomes her favourite toy. Forkie still believes he is rubbish and keeps trying to throw himself in the bin! He has to go on a journey to learn that he is important and special, not because of what he thinks of himself but because of who the person who created him says he is. To Bonnie, he is her masterpiece. Through this session we hope that the Martins will grasp that they were created by God and that He says they are His masterpiece. We hope to encourage them to see themselves as God sees them and to find their identity in Him rather than in what others might say about them.

Foundations

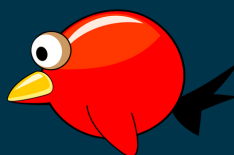
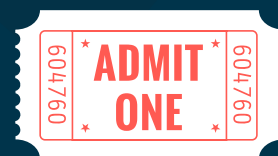
Psalm 139

O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me.

You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I’m far away. You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. You know what I am going to say even before I say it, Lord. You go before me and follow me.

You place your hand of blessing on my head. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to understand! I can never escape from your Spirit! I can never get away from your presence! If I go up to heaven, you are there; if I go down to the grave, you are there. If I ride the wings of the morning, if I dwell by the farthest oceans, even there your hand will guide me, and your strength will support me. I could ask the darkness to hide me and the light around me to become night—but even in darkness I cannot hide from you. To you the night shines as bright as day. Darkness and light are the same to you.

You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother’s womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered! I can’t even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, you are still with me!



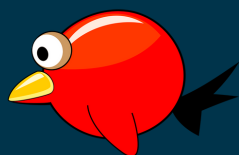
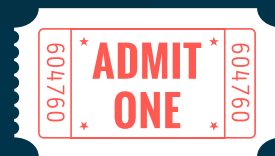


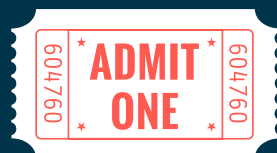
Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Leader's Preparation List

For the Forky Tube Craft you will need to collect kitchen roll tubes.





Bible Blockbuster One

Toy Story – We Are God’s Masterpiece (Psalm 139)

Bringing it to Life

Show your group the “Forky’s Escape” clip from your memory pen.

Ask the Martins about things they have created e.g. a cake, a treehouse, a lego figure, a jigsaw, a picture at school.

Maybe you could show them something that you have made.

Ask them how we feel about the things we have created? (We feel proud of them/pleased with them)

Ask the Martins who created Forky in the clip? (Bonnie created Forky)

Ask the Martins why they think Forky keeps trying to throw himself in the rubbish? (He thinks he is rubbish)

Explain to the Martins that Forky has to learn that he is important and special to Bonnie because she made him and she loves him.

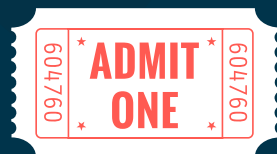
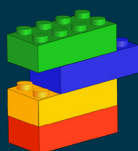
Tell the Martins that the Bible says that God made us and He is very pleased with what He has made. He says we are His Masterpiece, the best thing He created! Ask the Martins to repeat that after you; “I am God’s Masterpiece!”

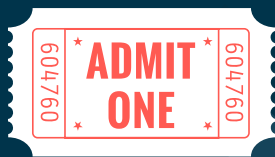
God wants us to learn, like Forky, that we are special and important because we were made by Him and that is who He says we are. He loves us even more than Bonnie loves Forky!

Virtual Option

For those using this resource virtually you can show the video called “Bible Blockbusters Session 1” on your memory pen and then ask your group the following discussion questions.

1. What is the movie we are thinking about today?(Toy Story 4)
2. Who in Toy Story felt like he was rubbish? (Forky)





- Whose Masterpiece are we? (God's)
- What are some of the things that God says about us? (We are loved, important, he has a special plan for our lives etc.)

The Fun Part Crafts

Mini- Martins - Forky Tube

You will need:

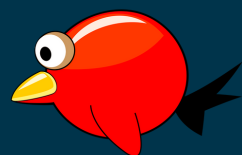
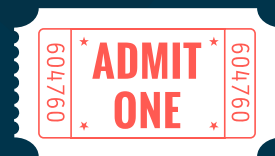
- Googly eyes
- Red pipe cleaners
- Cardboard
- Printed "Forky Face" template
- Kitchen roll tubes

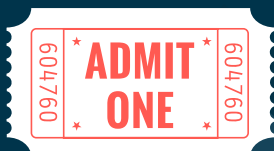


1. Give each child a kitchen roll tube, cut in half.
2. Print the "Forky Face template" onto paper from your memory stick.
3. Cut it into four and give one to each child to stick around their tube.
4. Add googly eyes to the face
5. Help the Martins to wrap a red pipe cleaner around Forky as his arms.
6. Cut out some pieces of cardboard in the shape of feet and give them to the Martins to glue to the bottom of their tube.

Mini - Martins - Forkie Colouring Sheet

Print a copy of the "Forkie Colouring Sheet" and give the Martins a chance to colour it in. Colouring sheet from Bubakids.com





Mega Martins - Forky

You will need

- Plastic sporks/forks
- Lollypop sticks (cut in half) Don't worry too much if they're not clean cut as the ends will be inside the blue tac
- Blue tac
- Googly eyes
- Pipe cleaners
- Glue dots or glue
- Pens

Give the Martins the above materials which they can use to assemble their Forky like the picture above. Have a Forky made as an example to copy.

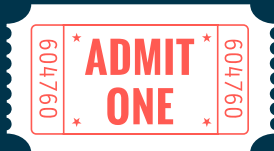
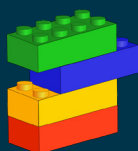


Mega- Martins - Picture Frame

You will need:

- Lolly Pop Sticks (Coloured if possible)
- Card
- PVA Glue
- Stickers/Gems

1. Before the session glue the lollypop sticks together using PVA glue into a square frame.
2. Add a second layer to the square and glue this on as well to give a deeper frame.
3. Give each child a piece of card cut into a square (Roughly the right size to stick over the back of the frame.)
4. Ask the Martins to draw a picture of themselves, on the card and stick it to the back of the picture frame so that their picture is showing in the inner square.
5. Give the Martins gems and stickers to decorate their frame.





Games

Mini-Martins - Toy Statues

A toy story take on musical statues.

When the music is on this means there are not people in the room, the toys can walk about, dance and play.

When the music stops Bonnie has entered the room and they must freeze. Bonnie can't know that they are alive!

If they are caught moving then they are put out, the last toy out is the winner.

Mega- Martins - Trash Races

The leaders are like Forky, always wanting the "trash" to be in the bin.

The children are Woody, always wanting to keep the "trash" out of the bin.

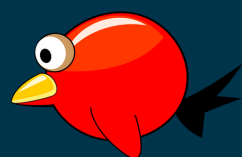
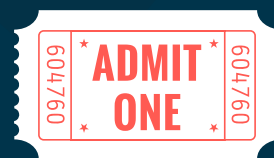
Set up some trash zones around the outside of the room (Large circles marked out with tape or markings on your hall floor.(Keep these areas quite big and advise leaders not to get to competitive to avoid any banged heads!)

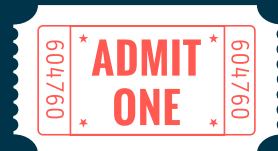
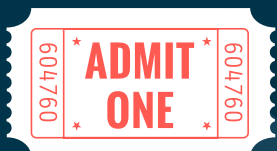
Place some pieces of paper and wrappers in the centre of the hall.

Give the group two minutes on the clock.

The leaders must try to keep the rubbish in the trash zones and the children must try to keep it out in the centre of the room.

At the end of the 2 minutes judge the winner by whether there is more rubbish in or out of the trash zones.





Wrapping it up

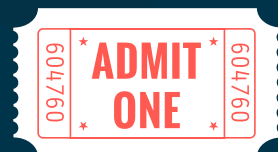
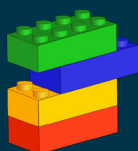
From your memory pen, print out one copy of the “Masterpiece Certificate” per child and help them to write their name on the line.



Say the following prayer with the group;

Thank you God, that (say each child's name/ask them to all say their names together) is your masterpiece, that you created them and think they are amazing just the way they are.

Amen





Bible Blockbuster Two

Toy Story- What does it mean to belong to Jesus?

Leaders' Preparation Page

The Big Idea

In Toy Story the children write their name on the foot of their toys to show who the toy belongs to. Woody has Andy's name written on his foot and Forky has Bonnie's name written on his lollypop stick foot! God has said that His peoples names are written on His hands, because we belong to Him. Through this session we hope to explore with the Martins what it means to belong to God, to ask Him into our life and become adopted into His family.

Foundations

Isaiah 49:14-18

Yet Jerusalem says, "The Lord has deserted us; the Lord has forgotten us."

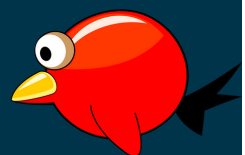
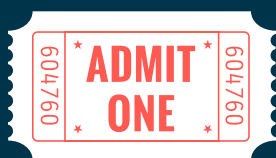
"Never! Can a mother forget her nursing child? Can she feel no love for the child she has borne? But even if that were possible, I would not forget you! See, I have written your name on the palms of my hands.

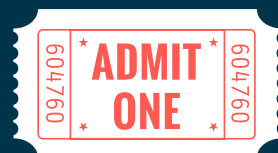
Always in my mind is a picture of Jerusalem's walls in ruins. Soon your descendants will come back, and all who are trying to destroy you will go away. Look around you and see, for all your children will come back to you.

As surely as I live," says the Lord, "they will be like jewels or bridal ornaments for you to display"

Ephesians 1:4-8

Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding.





Bible Blockbuster Two

Toy Story- What does it mean to belong to Jesus?

Bringing It To Life

Before you do the Bringing it to Life session this week you will need to do the “Personalised Forky Craft” with your group. Ask them not to write a name on his foot yet.

Show the group some items and ask them where they belong? E.g Toilet roll belongs in the bathroom, a pot belongs in the kitchen, a shoe belongs on your foot.

Ask the Martins what we do with the things that belong to us like our school book or jumper? (We write our name on them)

Ask the group if anyone can remember what Forky has written on his foot in the movie? (He has Bonnie’s name on his foot)

Ask the group why the children in Toy story write their name on their Toys feet? (To show that the toy belongs to them)

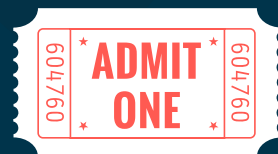
Ask the Martins who they think that they belong to?

Tell the Martins that God wants us to welcome Him into our lives and become part of His family. He wants us to belong to Him. Give the Martins a chance to write “Jesus” on the foot of their personalised Forky if they already belong to Him or would like to.

Tell the Martins that the Bible tells us something really cool. Read them the following verse from Isaiah 49:16

“But even if that were possible,
I would not forget you!
See, I have written your name on the palms of my hands.”

Tell the Martins that God loves us so much that He has written our names on His hands as well.





Virtual Option

For those using this resource virtually you can show the video called “Bible Blockbusters Session 2” on your memory pen and then ask your group the following discussion questions.

1. Who did Forky belong to? (Bonnie)
2. Where did Bonnie write her name? (On Forkys foot)
3. Can you think of anything that you write your name on? (School book, worksheet, brigade jumper)
4. Where does God say He writes our names? (On his hand)
5. What does God say we can become a part of? (His family)

Craft

Mini-Martins - Ducky or Bunny Plates

Ducky and Bunny are two characters in Toy Story 4

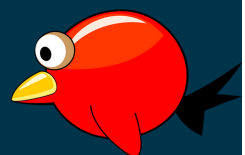
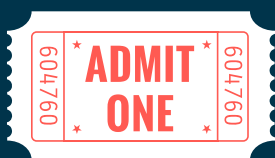
For Ducky you will need:

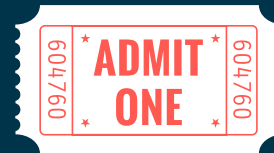
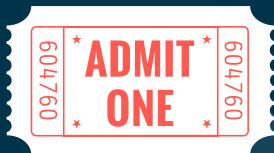
- Paper plate (yellow if you can get them!)
- Yellow crayons/felt tip or paint
- “Ducky Template” from your memory pen
- Colouring pens or crayons
- Yellow Feathers
- Googly eyes



Instructions

1. Before the session print and cut out the “Ducky Template” from your memory pen – enough for one face per child.
2. Sponge paint or crayon the plate yellow
3. Colour in the face and wings pieces which you have cut them out
4. Stick all of the pieces onto the plate
5. Add googly eyes and a yellow feather.





For Bunny you will need:

- Paper plate (blue if you can get them!)
- Blue crayons/felt tip or paints
- “Bunny Template” from your memory pen
- Colouring pens or crayons
- Googly eyes
- Glue



1. Before the session print and cut out the “Bunny Template” from your memory pen – enough for one face per child.
2. Sponge paint or crayon your paper plate blue
3. Colour in the face and ears pieces which you have cut out
4. Stick all of the pieces onto the plate
5. Add googly eyes

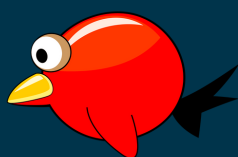
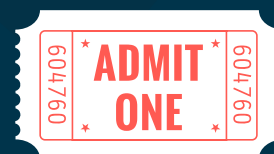
Mega- Martins - Personalised Forkie

Much like last week we will be making Forkys, however, the aim of this craft is not that they look like the Forky in the movie. We have been learning that God made each of us special and unique, so this craft will give the children the opportunity to make themselves in “Forky form!”

You will need;

- Plastic sporks/forks
- Blue tac
- Pipe cleaners
- Lollypop sticks (cut in half)
- Googly eyes
- Sticks
- Feathers
- Wool
- Pens
- Glue dots/glue

Encourage the Martins to make a Forky that looks like them. They may try to match their hair style with the wool/feathers, add stickers of the things they like or draw on glasses or freckles.





Mega-Martins - Forkie Hand

You will need:

- Card
- Pens
- Scissors
- Googly Eyes
- Glue



1. Give each Martin a piece of card and help them to draw around their hand.
2. Help the Martins to cut out their hand print.
3. The Martins can now draw Forky's face on their hand print and stick on some googly eyes.

Games

Mini-Martins - Toy Story Actions

Let the group run around the room as you blow a whistle and shout out instructions.

When you shout:

Woody – They should pretend to swing a lasso over their head and shout “Yehaaa”

Buzz – They should “Zoouuum” around the room and shout “To infinity and beyond”

Forkie – They should walk as though they are on Lollypop stick feet and shout “Trash, Trash, Trash”

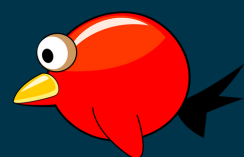
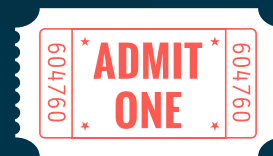
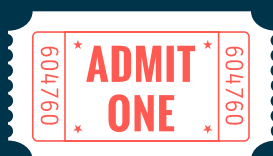
Bonnie Cominig – They should lie down and not move

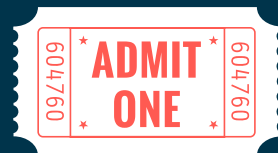
You might want to make this competitive by putting out children who are last to follow the instruction.

Mega-Martins - Don't wake up Bonnie.

For this game you will need a “Forky” which you have made for the craft.

In Toy Story, Forky keeps running away and Woody has to keep putting him back into bed with Bonnie so that she doesn't wake up and realise he is missing!





Choose one child to be “Bonnie”, sleeping in the middle of the circle. The rest of the group sit in a circle around them.

Choose a child to be “Woody” and deliver Forky back to “Bonnie” while she sleeps. They must try to be totally quiet so as not to wake her up.

Once the child has left Forky with “Bonnie” and returned to their place “Bonnie must guess who left him there.

Continue with the game until everyone has had a go at being “Bonnie” or “Woody”.

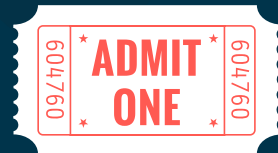
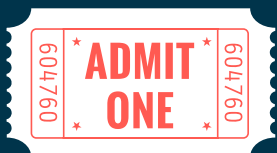
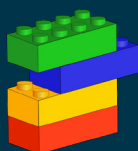
Wrapping it Up

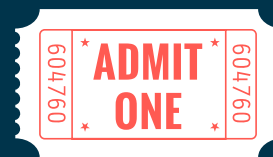
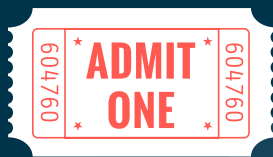
Draw a large pair of hands on a big piece of card and cut them out.

Set them in the middle of your group and give them a chance to write their names on the hands. Remind them that today we have learnt that our names are written on God’s hands.

Once everyone has written their name say the following prayer with your group;

Dear God,
Thank you that you love us and that we can be a part of your family. Thank you that if we believe in you and have asked you into our lives then you have written our name on your hands because we belong to you.
Amen





Bible Blockbuster Three

The Incredible Hulk – The Strength of Samson

Leaders' Preparation Page

The Big Idea

The Incredible Hulk is a super strong, giant, green super hero. In the Bible, Samson was super strong too, he could kill a lion with his bare hands and fight off thousands of men! God had chosen Samson to rescue his people from the Philistines. Both heroes are very strong but neither heroes strength came from himself. Our fictional hero, The Hulk, gained his strength when he was exposed to a heavy dose of gamma radiation.

Although Samson, our real life strong man, made many mistakes and his story is a tough read, he got his strength from God and in the end God still used him to rescue his people. We hope to teach the Martins that we can't be strong all of the time on our own, there are some things which are impossible for us to do on our own strength but God wants to help us, to be with us and give us the strength we need.

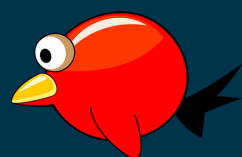
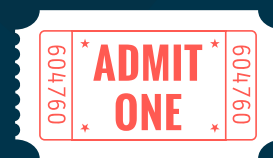
Foundations

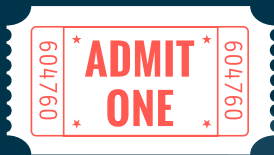
Samson's Story is quite a long one, we encourage you to take some time and read Judges 13-16

Here are some of the key passages;

Judges 13:1-5

Again the Israelites did evil in the Lord's sight, so the Lord handed them over to the Philistines, who oppressed them for forty years. In those days a man named Manoah from the tribe of Dan lived in the town of Zorah. His wife was unable to become pregnant, and they had no children. The angel of the Lord appeared to Manoah's wife and said, "Even though you have been unable to have children, you will soon become pregnant and give birth to a son. So be careful; you must not drink wine or any other alcoholic drink nor eat any forbidden food. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and his hair must never be cut. For he will be dedicated to God as a Nazirite from birth. He will begin to rescue Israel from the Philistines."





Judges 13:24-25

When her son was born, she named him Samson. And the Lord blessed him as he grew up. And the Spirit of the Lord began to stir him while he lived in Mahaneh-dan, which is located between the towns of Zorah and Eshtaol.

Judges 15:12

But the men of Judah told him, “We have come to tie you up and hand you over to the Philistines.”

“All right,” Samson said. “But promise that you won’t kill me yourselves.”

“We will only tie you up and hand you over to the Philistines,” they replied. “We won’t kill you.”

So they tied him up with two new ropes and brought him up from the rock. As Samson arrived at Lehi, the Philistines came shouting in triumph. But the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon Samson, and he snapped the ropes on his arms as if they were burnt strands of flax, and they fell from his wrists. Then he found the jawbone of a recently killed donkey. He picked it up and killed 1,000 Philistines with it.

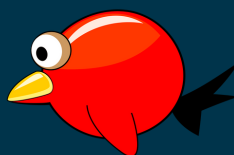
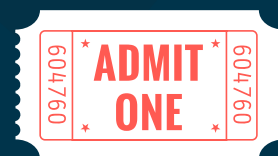
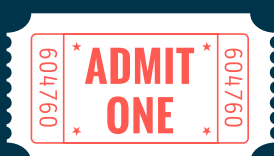
Judges 16:4-8

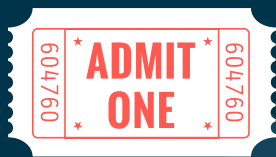
Some time later Samson fell in love with a woman named Delilah, who lived in the valley of Sorek. The rulers of the Philistines went to her and said, “Entice Samson to tell you what makes him so strong and how he can be overpowered and tied up securely. Then each of us will give you 1,100 pieces of silver.”

So Delilah said to Samson, “Please tell me what makes you so strong and what it would take to tie you up securely.”

Samson replied, “If I were tied up with seven new bowstrings that have not yet been dried, I would become as weak as anyone else.”

So the Philistine rulers brought Delilah seven new bowstrings, and she tied Samson up with them. She had hidden some men in one of the inner rooms of her house, and she cried out, “Samson! The Philistines have come to capture you!” But Samson snapped the bowstrings as





as a piece of string snaps when it is burned by a fire. So the secret of his strength was not discovered.

Judges 16:15-30

Then Delilah pouted, “How can you tell me, ‘I love you,’ when you don’t share your secrets with me? You’ve made fun of me three times now, and you still haven’t told me what makes you so strong!” She tormented him with her nagging day after day until he was sick to death of it.

Finally, Samson shared his secret with her. “My hair has never been cut,” he confessed, “for I was dedicated to God as a Nazirite from birth. If my head were shaved, my strength would leave me, and I would become as weak as anyone else.”

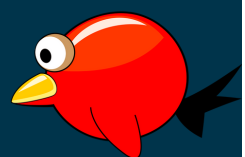
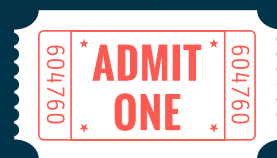
Delilah realized he had finally told her the truth, so she sent for the Philistine rulers. “Come back one more time,” she said, “for he has finally told me his secret.” So the Philistine rulers returned with the money in their hands. Delilah lulled Samson to sleep with his head in her lap, and then she called in a man to shave off the seven locks of his hair. In this way she began to bring him down, [d]and his strength left him.

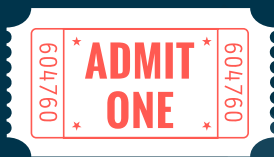
Then she cried out, “Samson! The Philistines have come to capture you!” When he woke up, he thought, “I will do as before and shake myself free.” But he didn’t realize the Lord had left him.

So the Philistines captured him and gouged out his eyes. They took him to Gaza, where he was bound with bronze chains and forced to grind grain in the prison. But before long, his hair began to grow back. The Philistine rulers held a great festival, offering sacrifices and praising their god, Dagon. They said, “Our god has given us victory over our enemy Samson!” When the people saw him, they praised their god, saying, “Our god has delivered our enemy to us! The one who killed so many of us is now in our power!”

Half drunk by now, the people demanded, “Bring out Samson so he can amuse us!” So he was brought from the prison to amuse them, and they had him stand between the pillars supporting the roof.

Samson said to the young servant who was leading him by the hand, “Place my hands against the pillars that hold up the temple. I want to rest against them.”

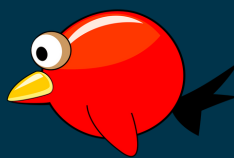
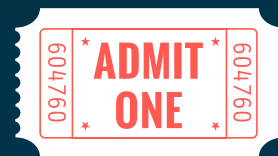




Now the temple was completely filled with people. All the Philistine rulers were there, and there were about 3,000 men and women on the roof who were watching as Samson amused them.

Then Samson prayed to the Lord, "Sovereign Lord, remember me again. O God, please strengthen me just one more time. With one blow let me pay back the Philistines for the loss of my two eyes." Then Samson put his hands on the two center pillars that held up the temple. Pushing against them with both hands, he prayed, "Let me die with the Philistines."

And the temple crashed down on the Philistine rulers and all the people.





Bible Blockbuster Three

The Incredible Hulk – The Strength of Samson

Bringing It to Life

Tell the Martins that today's movie is about a super strong, green, hero. See if they can guess who it is? (The Hulk)

Hulk is super strong because of a science experiment that went wrong and gave him his powers. The Hulk isn't real but there was a real man in the Bible who was super strong too, his name was Samson. He didn't get his powers from himself either, it was God who made him strong because He had a special job for Samson to do.

Show the Martins some objects, two at a time and have them guess which is heavier and which is lighter. You could bring some volunteers or leaders up to test them. Have some heavy items if possible.

Tell the Martins that none of these objects would have been too heavy for Samson, the Bible says he could kill a massive lion with his bare hands!! He was so strong!

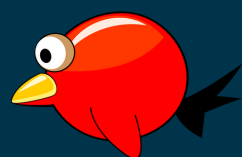
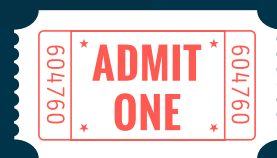
God had decided before Samson was born to give him a special job, to save his people from their enemies, the Philistines. God promised to give Samson super strong strength but only if he followed a few very important rules.

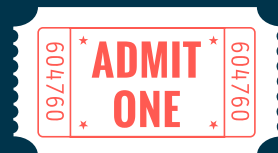
Ask the Martins about some of the rules they have to follow in school/at home.

One of the rules that Samson had to follow was not to ever cut his hair! Ask the Martins how long they think their hair would be if they never cut it!?

Samson did lots of good things but he also made lots of mistakes. Samson didn't follow God's rules, he let a lady called Delilah cut his hair and he lost his strength. The Philistines captured him and tied him up. Samson was tied up in a temple where lots of his people's enemies, the Philistines, were gathered. He was between two pillars. He prayed that God would give him back his strength and God did. Samson pushed the two pillars so hard that the whole temple fell down on the Philistine's heads.

Encourage the Martins that they might not feel very strong on their own but God can make them strong like Samson. Maybe not muscle strong but he can make them strong enough to





do good thing rather than bad and to be brave to face things that feel scary. We can't do these things on our own but God wants to help us and give us His strength.

Virtual Option

Show the video on your memory pen "Bible Blockbusters Session 3" to the Y Team and then ask them the following questions.

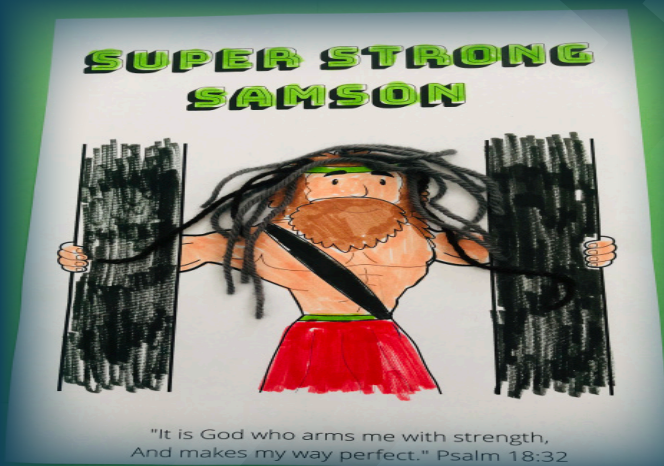
1. How did Samson get his strength? (God gave it to him)
2. What types of things might we not feel strong enough to do? E.g stand up to bullies, sleep on our own in the dark, go to a group on our own.
3. Where can we get strength from to help us with these things? (From God)

The Fun Part

Craft

Mini-Martins - Worksheet

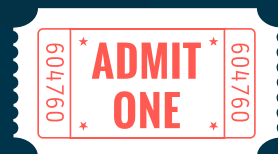
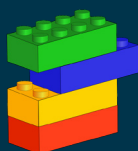
Print a copy of the "Super Strong Samson Worksheet" from the Martins folder in your memory pen and give one to each child. They can colour it in and stick on some hair (Long pieces of black or brown wool.)



Mini- Martins - Samson Lolly-Pop Sticks

You will need:

- Samson face templates
- Scissors
- Black or brown wool
- Lollypop sticks





Instructions

1. Print the “Samson faces” found on your memory pen.
2. Cut them out and give one to each child.
3. They can then colour them in and stick the face to the top of the lollypop stick
4. They can then add long pieces of black or brown wool as hair.

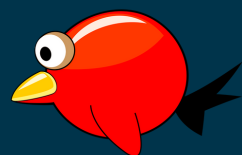
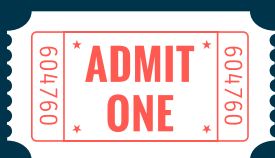
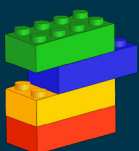
Mega-Martins - Hulk Masks

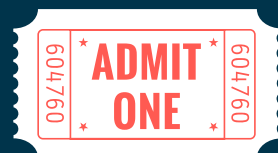
You will need:

- Paper plates
- Green paint or felt tips
- Black card
- White card/paper
- Lollypop sticks
- Googly eyes
- Sticky labels
- Scissors
- Glue

Instructions

1. Give each Martin a paper plate (You can cut eye holes in the plates but you don't have to and can use large googly eyes instead)
2. Let the Martins paint or colour their plates green
3. Give them some pieces of black card which has been cut into eyebrow shapes as in the photo
4. Give them some pieces of black card cut into the shape of hair as shown in the photo
5. Give them a piece of white card which you have cut into the shape of a mouth as shown in the photo.
6. The Martins can stick these on.
7. They can then stick on a handle (a lollypop stick) using a sticky label or cellotape.





Mega- Martins - Hulk Biscuits

You will need;

- Square biscuits (any type)
- Buttercream icing
- Green food colouring
- Edible eyes
- Writing icing pens (dark colours)



Instructions

1. Give each Martin a biscuit
2. Allow them to cover it in buttercream icing which you have mixed with green food colouring.
3. They can then add two edible eyes and use the icing pens to make Hulk's hair.

Games

Mini-Martins- Hulk Smash Relay

Split the Martins into two teams and line them up at one end of the hall.

At the other end of the hall have a leader for each team standing with a large cushion/pillow. The Martins must race to the leader, "Hulk Smash" (punch) the pillow and run back to their team, tagging the next person.

When the whole team have gone they sit down and the first team sitting down wins.

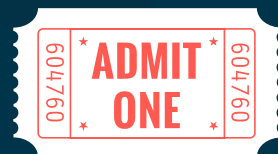
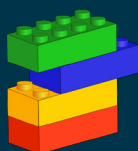
Mega Martins - Hulk Hands

The Hulk has very big hands which he uses to smash things!!

Split the Martins into two teams each with a set of oven gloves.

They should line up with the child at the front of each team wearing oven gloves.

They should compete in a relay race where they have to complete various tasks such as carry a small box, get through a hoop or punch a pillow at the end of the hall all wearing the gloves.





Once back at their team the next team member puts on the gloves and completes the challenges.

The first group with all of their members back wins.

Mega Martins - Carry the Pillars

At the end of Samson's story God gives him his strength back and he is able to push down the pillars of the temple.

If one of your leaders has some large cushions or pillows or your hall has a sofa you could borrow these, build them up and pretend that they are the pillars of the temple. You could also use large boxes.

Split the group into teams each with their own set of pillars.

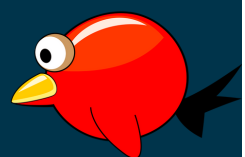
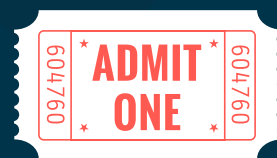
Challenge them to move them from one side of the hall to the other. The team who work together to move them quickest are the winners.

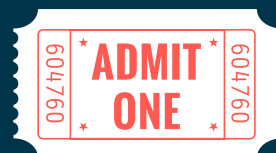
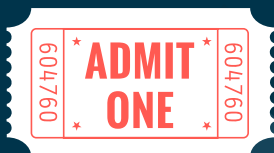
Wrapping it Up

Actions Prayer

Ask the Martins to follow you with these actions as you say a prayer to God:

Dear God (Praying Hands)
 You made Samson (ruffle your hair) super strong (flex muscles)
 to do a special job for you (point up).
 We know (point to head) that we can't be strong (flex muscles)
 on our own (point to ourselves) all of the time. There are some
 things that are too difficult for us to face on our own (thumbs
 down). Thank you that you (point up) can give us your strength
 (flex muscles) to face anything and to do the right thing
 (thumbs up) even when it's difficult.
 Amen (Praying hands)





Bible Blockbuster Four

The Lego Movie – The Parable of the Wise and The Foolish Builder Leaders' Preparation Page

The Big Idea

In the Lego Movie, the “Master Builders” are those who know how to build things really well. They construct buildings which will last and stand up to any test. The Wise Builder in this parable which Jesus told was like the Master Builders, he knew how to build a house that would last, he built it on a solid foundation. The Foolish Builder, builds his house on the sand and when the storm comes it falls down. We hope to teach the Martins that God wants us to build our lives on a good/solid foundation, he wants us to build our lives on Him and on His word. This means putting God first in our lives and always thinking about how we can live our lives for Him. In the Lego Movie the Master Builders don't need instructions, they have the knowledge stored in their mind of how to build a strong building. For us, being a Master Builder also means getting to know God and His word really well so that we have the instructions that we need to live our lives for Him.

Foundations

Matthew 7:24-27

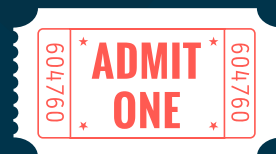
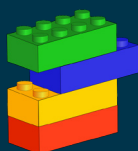
The Parable of Wise and the Foolish Builder

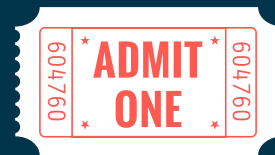
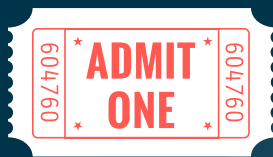
Jesus Said;

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

Leaders checklist

For quite a few of the games and activities you will need lego, if you don't have any and there isn't any in your mums and tots cupboard in church you might want to ask around your leaders or try to borrow some!





Bible Blockbuster Four

The Lego Movie – The Parable of the Wise and The Foolish Builder

Bringing it to Life

Tell the Martins that the Lego Movie is all about builders and that the best builders are called the Master Builders. We are going to see if we can be Master Builders today.

Set up a tray or clear plastic box. Find a large stone (anything stable) and a pile of sand/grass or mud (anything unstable)

Ask the Martins where you should build your houses?

Using building blocks or Lego, build a house on the rock and a house on the sand. You might want to bring up a few volunteers to help you with this.

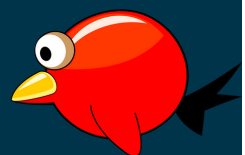
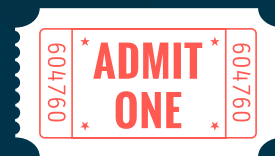
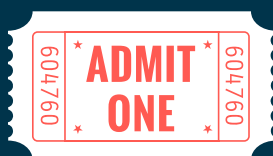
Ask the Martins which house they think will be able to keep standing in a storm?

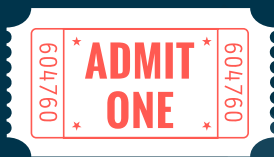
Use a hair dryer to blow on the houses/ pour water over the houses and see which falls over (you might want to try this at home first to make sure your house on the rock isn't going to fall!)

Tell the Martins that Jesus told a story about two builders, one was smart and the other was silly. The smart builder put his house on a nice strong and steady rock, when the storm came it didn't fall down. The silly builder put his house on the squishy sand. When the storm came it fell down!

Jesus said that we can be like the smart builder if we follow Him and listen to what He says in the Bible. The Bible says that Jesus is the rock and if we follow Him we are building our lives on the rock. This means that even if our life gets hard or scary, we won't fall down because Jesus will be with us, holding us up!

Encourage the Martins that they can be like the smart builder by keeping coming to Brigade and church and by spending time reading their Bible and talking to God.





Virtual Option

Show the video on your memory pen “Bible Blockbusters Session 4” to the Martins and then ask them the following questions.

Discussion Questions:

1. Who are the Master builders in the Lego Movie? (The best builders who have all the instructions stored in their head)
2. What did the Wise Man build his house upon? (Rock)
3. What did the Foolish Man build his house upon? (Sand)
4. How can we be like the Wise Builder and be Master Builders in our lives? (Live our lives for God, put him first, learn what the Bible says)

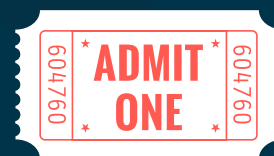
The Fun Part

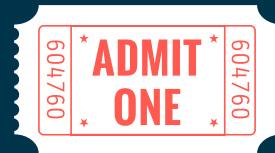
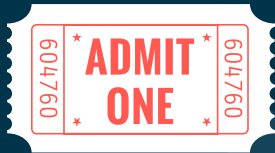
Craft

Mini-Martins - Lego Biscuits

This is a great little activity to help the Martins to think about matching colours!

1. Make up some different coloured icing using icing sugar, water and food colouring
2. Give each Martin a rectangular biscuit or bun (any type will work although we found short-bread was great as it's quite chunky like lego)
3. The Martins should place their biscuit on a plate.
4. Encourage them to make it look like a Lego block by choosing some smarties/skittles to add as the Lego Dots and some icing of the same colour to pour on top.
5. Allow time for the icing to set before taking home.





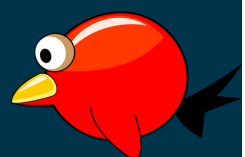
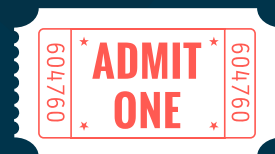
Mega-Martins - House Building Worksheet

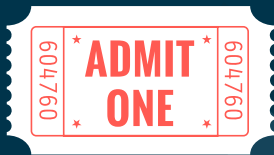
You will need:

- Glue
- Lollypop sticks
- House building worksheets

Give each of the Martins a “House Building Worksheet” from your memory pen and some lolly pop sticks.

Encourage them to stick them on as a house that is standing on the rock and a house that has fallen down on the sand as shown in the photo.





Mega- Martins - Shape Houses

Pre-cut lots of different shapes out of felt so the children can have fun 'building their own houses' while discussing the story and asking them are they a wise or foolish builder.

Give each child a piece of card to glue their house onto.



Games

Mini-Martins - Lego Scavenger Hunt

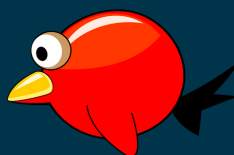
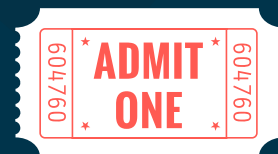
- Hide lots of lego around the hall.
- Have the Martins run around and find as much as they can
- When they bring it back help them to lay it out and count how many pieces they have
- The winner is the child with the most lego collected!

Mini - Martins - Lego and Spoon Race

- Split the group into teams, each with the same amount of Lego in a bucket
- The Martins must race to bring their Lego to another bucket at the other end of the hall
- They must take it from the bucket and carry it across the hall using a spoon, deposit it in the bucket and run back to their team.
- They can try to carry more than one piece if they want
- When all of the Lego is moved to the other bucket the team sit down and the first team sitting, wins!

Mini- Martins - Stack the Cups

- Split the Martins into groups.
- Give them plastic/paper cups and see which group can build the tallest tower (pyramid) without it falling down.
- A leader could go round and blow on the towers to see if they are sturdy.





Mega – Martins - Lego Towers

If you have lots of lego this game is for you!

- Split the group into small teams (2 or 3)
- Have them build the tallest tower they can in 2 minutes (without falling down)
- After the 2 minutes, the team with the tallest tower wins
- To add a bit of competition you might want to have the lego in a central place which they have to run to collect before running back to add it to their tower.

(Hint – have a leader handing out the pieces rather than having them in a bucket so as to avoid banging heads!)

Mega- Martins - Pass the Rock

- Get the children into a circle on the floor.
- Pick one child to be the guesser.
- The guesser stands away from the circle with their back turned.
- Give one child a small rock and when you say ‘GO’ they pass to the child beside them.
- Each child can pass right or left so it doesn’t have to go one way round the circle.
- When you say ‘STOP’ all the children must pretend they are holding the rock in their hands. Invite the guesser to come over and guess who has the rock.
- Choose another Guesser and try again.

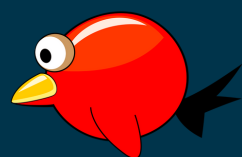
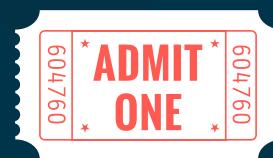
Mega - Martins - Good or Bad Choices

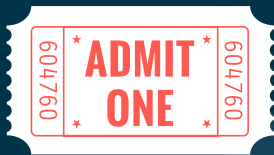
The Wise builder in today’s story made good choices but the foolish builder made bad choices. Use this activity to help the Martins to think about the choices that they make every day.

Print a few copies of the “Good and Bad Choices Worksheet” from your memory pen and cut them into squares.

Split the Martins into small groups each with a leader and a set of “Good or Bad Choices” squares.

Set two bowls/tubs/boxes in the middle of each small group, one labelled as “Good choice” and the other as “Bad choice”.





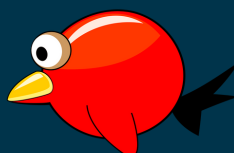
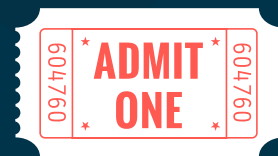
Leaders should read out each of the squares to their Martins and help them to decide which bowl to put each square into.

Wrapping it Up

If you have been using Lego for your activities give a piece to each Martin to hold as we say a prayer to God.

As you say this prayer encourage them to repeat each line after you.

God help me to listen to what you say in the Bible.
 Help me to do the things that are right and good.
 So that I can be like the wise builder.
 And my life will be like the house built on the rock.
 Amen





Bible Blockbuster Five

Zootropolis –Daniel and the Lion’s Den

Leaders’ Preparation Page

The Big Idea

In Zootopia the predators and prey don’t act as we would expect, they get on well together, living in harmony. Until a mysterious plot leads to some of the predators starting to go “savage” and revert to their predatory ways! In the story of Daniel, these real-life lions don’t act as we would expect them to. Hungry and stuck in a pit, the perfect food source (Daniel) is dropped in front of them! But the lions don’t act on their instinct and eat him!! Why? Because God did the impossible and closed the mouths of the lions. We hope to teach the Martins through this epic story that God can do the impossible for us, He can protect us and is always with us!

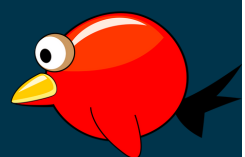
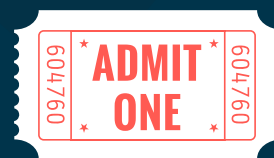
Foundations

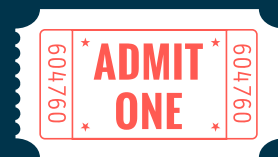
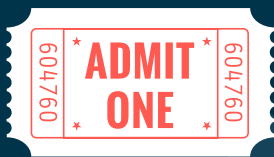
Daniel 6: 1-23

Darius the Mede decided to divide the kingdom into 120 provinces, and he appointed a high officer to rule over each province. The king also chose Daniel and two others as administrators to supervise the high officers and protect the king’s interests. Daniel soon proved himself more capable than all the other administrators and high officers. Because of Daniel’s great ability, the king made plans to place him over the entire empire.

Then the other administrators and high officers began searching for some fault in the way Daniel was handling government affairs, but they couldn’t find anything to criticize or condemn. He was faithful, always responsible, and completely trustworthy. So they concluded, “Our only chance of finding grounds for accusing Daniel will be in connection with the rules of his religion.”

So the administrators and high officers went to the king and said, “Long live King Darius! We are all in agreement—we administrators, officials, high officers, advisers, and governors—that the king should make a law that will be strictly enforced. Give orders that for the next thirty days any person who prays to anyone, divine or human—except to you, Your Majesty—will be thrown into the den of lions. And now, Your Majesty, issue and sign this law so it cannot be changed, an official law of the Medes and Persians that cannot be revoked.” So King Darius





signed the law. But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God. Then the officials went together to Daniel's house and found him praying and asking for God's help. So they went straight to the king and reminded him about his law.

"Did you not sign a law that for the next thirty days any person who prays to anyone, divine or human—except to you, Your Majesty—will be thrown into the den of lions?"

"Yes," the king replied, "that decision stands; it is an official law of the Medes and Persians that cannot be revoked." Then they told the king, "That man Daniel, one of the captives from Judah, is ignoring you and your law. He still prays to his God three times a day."

Hearing this, the king was deeply troubled, and he tried to think of a way to save Daniel. He spent the rest of the day looking for a way to get Daniel out of this predicament. In the evening the men went together to the king and said,

"Your Majesty, you know that according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, no law that the king signs can be changed."

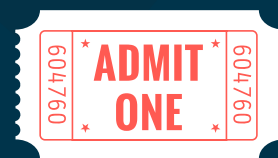
So at last the king gave orders for Daniel to be arrested and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to him, "May your God, whom you serve so faithfully, rescue you."

A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den. The king sealed the stone with his own royal seal and the seals of his nobles, so that no one could rescue Daniel. Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night fasting. He refused his usual entertainment and couldn't sleep at all that night. Very early the next morning, the king got up and hurried out to the lions' den. When he got there, he called out in anguish,

"Daniel, servant of the living God! Was your God, whom you serve so faithfully, able to rescue you from the lions?"

Daniel answered, "Long live the king! My God sent his angel to shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, for I have been found innocent in his sight. And I have not wronged you, Your Majesty."

The king was overjoyed and ordered that Daniel be lifted from the den. Not a scratch was found on him, for he had trusted in his God.





Bible Blockbuster Five Zootropolis –Daniel and the Lion’s Den

Bringing it to Life

Show the Martins the “Zootropolis clip” on your memory pen or explain to them that in Zootropolis all of the animals have learnt to get along. They don’t hunt each other or eat each other like they do in real life or like we would expect them to.

Tell them that in today’s story there are going to be scary lions, we will find out if they eat a man called Daniel, like everyone expects them to!

Tell the Martins they are going to do lots of sound effects with you.

Practice the following sound effects:

- Lions (“Roarrrr”)
- Daniel (Praying hands)
- King (Kings Crown)
- God (Shout “Nothing is Impossible”)

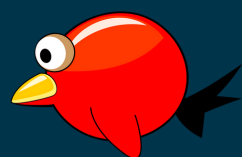
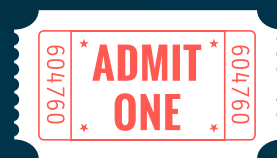
Daniel loved and followed **God** but he lived in Babylon, a place where you weren’t allowed to follow **God**.

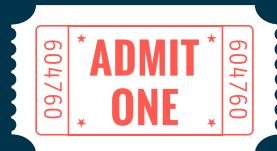
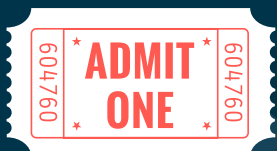
Daniel was told that he had to stop praying to **God** but he wouldn’t. Three times every day **Daniel** kneeled down at his window and prayed. So the **King** threw him into a pit full of hungry **lions**.

You would expect the **lions** to have eaten **Daniel** right up, not sit and look at him but that is what they did. The next morning when the **King** came back to the **lion’s** den, he expected **Daniel** to have been eaten but he was safe and sound! The **King** brought him out of the **lion’s** den and said that from now on everyone should follow **Daniel’s God!!**

Normally this would be impossible but **God** was with **Daniel** and nothing is impossible for him, He is able to do things that we could never expect. **God** shut the **lion’s** mouths so that they couldn’t eat **Daniel**.

Tell the Martin’s that God is with us the same way as He was with Daniel! God can do impossible things for us too and we can always ask Him for help.





Virtual Option

For those using this resource virtually you can show the video called “Bible Blockbusters Session 5” on your memory pen and then ask your group the following discussion questions:

1. What did the lions do when Daniel was thrown into their den? (They keep their mouths shut)
2. Why did they do this? (God shut their mouths)
3. True or false, nothing is impossible for God? (True)
4. When should we remember that God is with us and nothing is impossible for him? (When we are scared/when things are difficult/all the time)

The Fun Part

Craft

Mini-Martins - Colouring Sheet

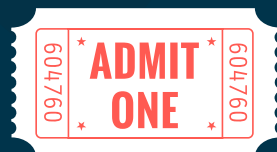
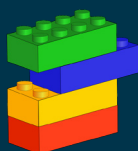
You can find a Zootropolis Colouring Sheet on your Memory Pen in the “Martins Folder”. Colouring sheet is from colouringbook.info

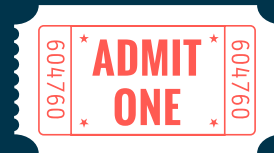
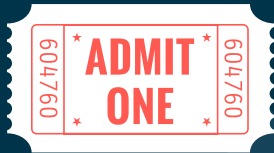


Mini-Martins - Judy Hopps Treats!

This is a messy craft but the Martins will love it!

- Give each Martin a few strawberries (washed the day before so that they are fully dry), a plate and a fork.





- Make some icing using icing sugar and a little water. Add icing and stir until the texture is very thick.
- Add some orange food colouring (orange gel colouring is less messy if you want to allow the Martins to get involved – available in Tesco!)
- Let the Martins put their strawberries on their forks and roll them in the icing.
- Set the “Carrots” on plates and enjoy as a tasty snack!

Mega- Martins - Police Badge

In Zootropolis, Judy Hopps is a police officer and today we are investigating the strange happenings in the story of Daniel!

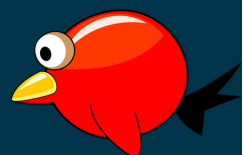
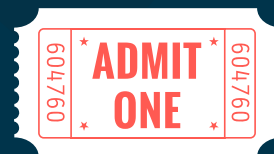
Instructions:

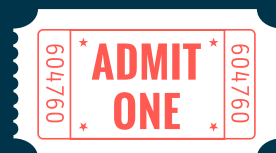
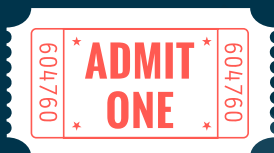
- Print out the “Police Badge Template” from your memory pen onto card.
- Cut out one badge per Martin.
- Allow the Martins to colour in their badge
- Use glue to stick the card badge to a the front of a pin on badge (we used glue dots)

(You can buy packets of party badges in most pound shops)

Mega Martins -Daniel Falling into the Lion’s Den Worksheet

- Print one copy per child of the “Daniel Falling into the Lions’ Den Worksheet” from your memory pen. Cut a slit in the worksheet, near the top of the Lions Den.
- Print a few copies of the “Daniel Worksheet” from your memory pen and cut out one Daniel per child
- Have the Martins colour in the worksheet and Daniel.
- The can then stick Daniel to a lolly pop stick and put it through the slit so that he can be moved up and down and if he is falling into the lions den.





Mega Martins - Lion Stick Craft

You will need:

- Glue
- Yellow card
- Black pen
- Googly eyes
- Lollipop sticks
- Ribbon (alternative to ribbon is card or coloured stickers cut in strips)

Instructions

1. Draw a round circle on yellow card and cut it out.
2. Glue on eyes and draw mouth.
3. Cut strips of ribbon, fold and glue together.
4. Glue ribbon to back of lions head.
5. Glue on lollipop stick.



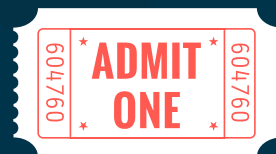
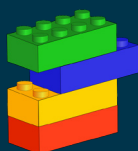
Games

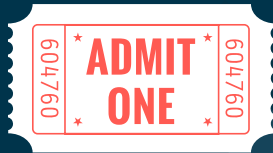
Mini- Martins - In the Den

- Although he had faith in God, Daniel would have been terrified going in to the lions' den. Illustrate the story by having one child play a sleeping lion, with their back to the other children and their eyes closed.
- Place a small beanbag behind the "lion" and have the children take turns trying to take the beanbag without the lion noticing them.

Mega-Martins - Charades

- Print a copy of the "Daniel and the Lion's Den Charades" worksheet from your memory pen and cut out the squares.
- Choose children to come up and act out a word from the story of Daniel for the group who must guess what they are acting.
- As each child comes up show them one of the cards so that they know which word they are acting.

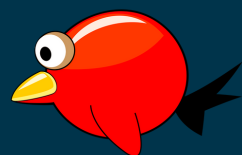
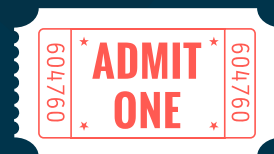


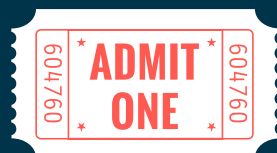


Wrapping it Up

Carry on your sound effects from the story and encourage the Martins to close their eyes and listen very carefully for the word “Lion”. They should “Roar” when they hear you say “Lion” in your prayer:

Dear God,
Thank you that nothing is impossible for you.
Thank you that you shut the mouths of the lions.
You saved Daniel from the lions.
Even though that seemed impossible.
Thank you that you can help me, even when I have to face
scary things like Daniel did.
Thank you that you are always with me.
Amen





Bible Blockbuster Six Angry Birds – Jonah’s Anger Leaders’ Preparation Page

The Big Idea

In Angry Birds, we see a group of birds with anger problems, they don’t want to give the rest of the chirpy happy birds a chance. But through an adventure, where they are forced to work together, they learn to give others a chance and not to be so angry. In the true story of Jonah, God asked him to go to Nineveh to tell the people there to turn from their bad ways and follow Him.

Jonah didn’t want to go and even after God got him to obey Him the hard way, Jonah was still angry that God would forgive these bad people and give them a second chance. He had to learn that God is forgiving and gracious, He keeps giving us another chance even when we don’t deserve it. We hope that through this story the Martins will learn that God wants us to be kind and forgiving to other people, just like He is to us.

Foundations

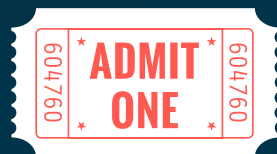
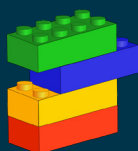
The story of Jonah is quite long, if you have time we recommend reading Jonah chapters 1-4. We have included the key passages here for you.

Jonah 1:1-17

The Lord gave this message to Jonah son of Amittai: “Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh. Announce my judgment against it because I have seen how wicked its people are.” But Jonah got up and went in the opposite direction to get away from the Lord. He went down to the port of Joppa, where he found a ship leaving for Tarshish. He bought a ticket and went on board, hoping to escape from the Lord by sailing to Tarshish.

But the Lord hurled a powerful wind over the sea, causing a violent storm that threatened to break the ship apart. Fearing for their lives, the desperate sailors shouted to their gods for help and threw the cargo overboard to lighten the ship.

But all this time Jonah was sound asleep down in the hold. So the captain went down after him. “How can you sleep at a time like this?” he shouted. “Get up and pray to your god! Maybe he will pay attention to us and spare our lives.”





Then the crew cast lots to see which of them had offended the gods and caused the terrible storm. When they did this, the lots identified Jonah as the culprit. “Why has this awful storm come down on us?” they demanded. “Who are you? What is your line of work? What country are you from? What is your nationality?”

Jonah answered, “I am a Hebrew, and I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the land.”

The sailors were terrified when they heard this, for he had already told them he was running away from the Lord. “Oh, why did you do it?” they groaned. And since the storm was getting worse all the time, they asked him, “What should we do to you to stop this storm?” “Throw me into the sea,” Jonah said, “and it will become calm again. I know that this terrible storm is all my fault.”

Instead, the sailors rowed even harder to get the ship to the land. But the stormy sea was too violent for them, and they couldn’t make it. Then they cried out to the Lord, Jonah’s God. “O Lord,” they pleaded, “don’t make us die for this man’s sin. And don’t hold us responsible for his death. O Lord, you have sent this storm upon him for your own good reasons.” Then the sailors picked Jonah up and threw him into the raging sea, and the storm stopped at once! The sailors were awestruck by the Lord’s great power, and they offered him a sacrifice and vowed to serve him.

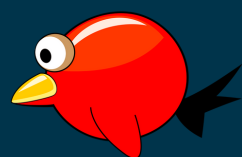
Now the Lord had arranged for a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was inside the fish for three days and three nights.

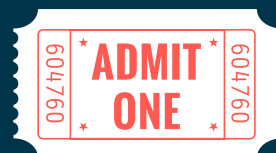
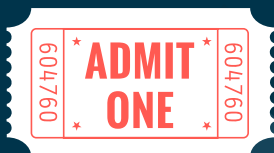
Jonah 2:10-3:5

Then the Lord ordered the fish to spit Jonah out onto the beach.

Then the Lord spoke to Jonah a second time: “Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh, and deliver the message I have given you.”

This time Jonah obeyed the Lord’s command and went to Nineveh, a city so large that it took three days to see it all. On the day Jonah entered the city, he shouted to the crowds: “Forty days from now Nineveh will be destroyed!” The people of Nineveh believed God’s message, and from the greatest to the least, they declared a fast and put on burlap to show their sorrow.





Jonah 3:10 – 4:10

When God saw what they had done and how they had put a stop to their evil ways, he changed his mind and did not carry out the destruction he had threatened.

This change of plans greatly upset Jonah, and he became very angry. So he complained to the Lord about it: “Didn’t I say before I left home that you would do this, Lord? That is why I ran away to Tarshish! I knew that you are a merciful and compassionate God, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. You are eager to turn back from destroying people. Just kill me now, Lord! I’d rather be dead than alive if what I predicted will not happen.”

The Lord replied, “Is it right for you to be angry about this?”

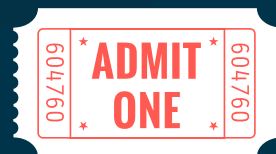
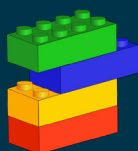
Then Jonah went out to the east side of the city and made a shelter to sit under as he waited to see what would happen to the city. And the Lord God arranged for a leafy plant to grow there, and soon it spread its broad leaves over Jonah’s head, shading him from the sun. This eased his discomfort, and Jonah was very grateful for the plant.

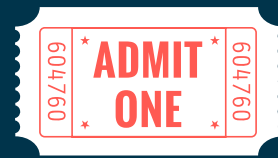
But God also arranged for a worm! The next morning at dawn the worm ate through the stem of the plant so that it withered away. And as the sun grew hot, God arranged for a scorching east wind to blow on Jonah. The sun beat down on his head until he grew faint and wished to die. “Death is certainly better than living like this!” he exclaimed.

Then God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry because the plant died?”

“Yes,” Jonah retorted, “even angry enough to die!”

Then the Lord said, “You feel sorry about the plant, though you did nothing to put it there. It came quickly and died quickly. But Nineveh has more than 120,000 people living in spiritual darkness, not to mention all the animals. Shouldn’t I feel sorry for such a great city?”





Bible Blockbuster Six Angry Birds – Jonah's Anger

Bringing it to Life

Use the Angry Birds/Jonah Powerpoint on your memory pen – either on the screen or printed off as you tell this story.

(Slide 1) Tell the Martins that the birds in the Angry Birds movie are very angry, grumpy and unfriendly to everyone. They go on a journey to learn to be kind and to give other birds a chance!

(Slide 2) Explain to the Martins that there was a man in the Bible called Jonah who was very angry too. God told Jonah to go to a place called Ninevah to tell the people there about Him. The people in Ninevah were very bad, doing lots of awful things to each-other and God wasn't pleased. Jonah didn't want to go and help them, maybe he was a bit scared of them and he definitely didn't think they deserved to be given a second chance. So, Jonah ran away, he got on a boat that was going in the opposite direction.

(Slide 3) Jonah was sleeping on the boat when a really bad storm started. The sailors were terrified, they thought it was going to sink.

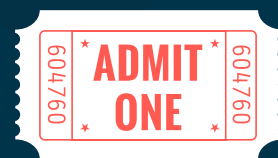
(Slide 4) The sailors on the boat knew that Jonah was running away from God and so they decided that if they threw him overboard, maybe the storm would stop. So that is what they did and the storm did stop.

(Slide 5) Jonah was in the water but God wanted to give him another chance so He sent a huge fish to swallow him up.

(Slide 6) Jonah was in its belly for 3 whole days, in there he prayed and asked God for another chance.

(Slide 7) God wanted to give Jonah another chance so He made the fish spit him up on the beach.

(Slide 8) This time Jonah went to Nineveh and he told the people about God. He couldn't believe it, they stopped doing the bad things they were doing and started to live their lives for God. Jonah was angry when he saw God had given them a second chance, he didn't think





they deserved it. But God told Jonah that He loves everyone and that we all deserve a second chance.

Print out the “Jonah Lesson Heart” from your memory pen or draw a heart on a page.

Tell the Martins that this is like our hearts,. Ask them about some angry or cross things we might say to other people. As they give you answers, fold the heart so that it is folded over in lots of places. Eventually scramble it up.

Ask the Martins what we might do after we are angry with someone and we feel bad about it? (We say sorry) Unfold the heart.

Ask the Martins if the heart looks the same as it did in the beginning?

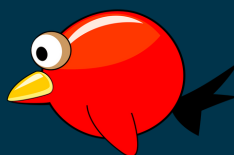
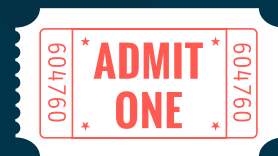
Even though the heart is unfolded, there are lots of creases still in it. It helps when someone says sorry to us but even though we forgive them sometimes we can still remember they're angry words and our hearts can feel hurt. We can't take our words back.

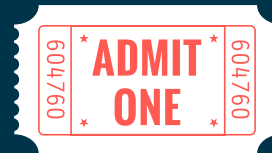
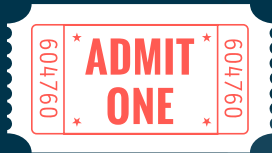
Tell the Martins that God wants to give us a second chance when we are angry, or say nasty words, He forgives us. But He does want us to try to be more like Him and try to use kind and loving words to other people.

Virtual Option

For those using this resource virtually you can show the video called “Bible Blockbusters Session 6” on your memory pen and then ask your group the following discussion questions:

1. Why was Jonah angry? (he didn't think the people of Nineveh deserved a second chance)
2. What did God do to the people of Nineveh who had been doing bad things? (He gave them a second chance)
3. Why should we try not to use angry words? They hurt other people/ we can't take them back)
4. How does God want us to treat other people (Give them a second chance/ be kind)



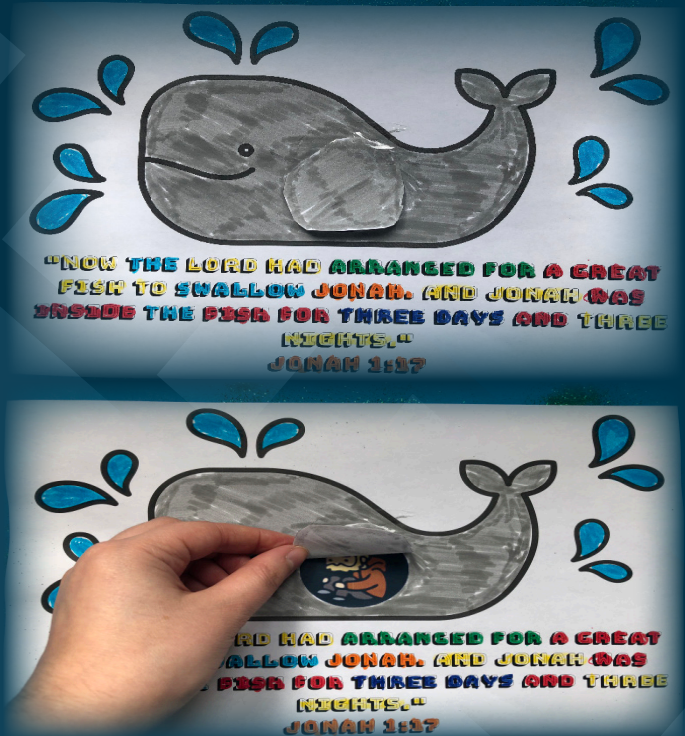


The Fun Part

Craft

Mini-Martins - Jonah and the Whale Worksheet

- Print a copy of the “Jonah in the Whale” worksheet for you Martins.
- They can colour this in and then add a little square of card like a flap over Jonah so that he is hidden but they can look underneath to find him.
- Cellotape works best to stick on the top of the square



Mega-Martins - Angry Birds Masks

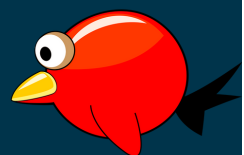
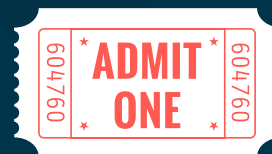
You will need:

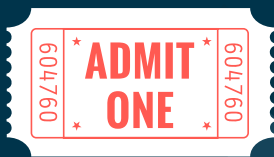
- Print out of “Angry Birds Mask” Template from your memory pen
- Lolly pop sticks
- Felt tips
- Cellotape
- Scissors



Instructions:

1. Print the “Angry Birds Mask” Template from your memory pen onto card
2. Cut out angry birds masks
3. Give to the Martins to colour in
4. Help the Martins to stick a lolly-pop stick onto the back of their mask.





Games

Mini-Martins - Pin Jonah on the Whale

- Print the “Pin Jonah to the Whale” template from your memory pen onto A3 paper, cut out and mount on a blue background. Alternately you could draw a large whale and stick it to the wall!
- Colour in, “Jonah”, whose picture is also found on this template. Add some blue tac to the back of “Jonah”
- Blindfold the children and take it in turns to try and place Jonah in the whales tummy.

Mega -Martins - Blindfold assault course

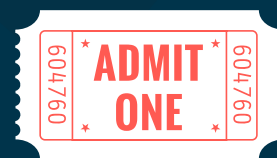
- Set up an assault course and put the Martins into pairs.
- Blindfolded one of each pair. Their partner gives instructions on how to get round the course safely.
- Discuss at the end, the importance of listening to God and doing as he asks us, even though we cant see Him.

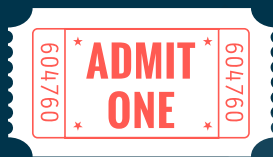
Wrapping it Up

Paper chains

As we have been thinking about how our words affect eachother, why not make a big paper chain altogether and ask God to help us to be kind to all of the people we are connected to.

- Get the Martins to write their name on a strip of coloured paper/card, leaders will need to help the Mini -Martins with this.
- Join the strips together to make a large paper chain (a stapler is quickest)
- The paper chain can be hung in the room for everyone to see and as a reminder to be kind to eachother.
- Leader can end in prayer including each child’s name, saying sorry to God for the





times we haven't used kind words and asking Him to help us to give those around us a second chance when we feel angry.

OR

As a round up prayer activity for this Scripture Course encourage the Martins to fill in the blanks in this prayer by shouting "Me"

You might need to try a few times and leave quite long pauses!!

If you can shut the mouths of the lions God, you can rescue ...
(Me).....

If you can give Samson back his strength God, you can help...
(Me)...

If you can send a whale to swallow up Jonah God, you can
save...(Me)...

When Jesus died on the cross, He died for ...(Me)...

When God said we are a part of His family He was talking
about....(Me)...

When God said that we are His Masterpiece He was talking
about ...(Me)...

Thank you God that you love... (Me)..
Amen.

