

Introduction for parents/carers

During August, whether your children have been at school recently or not, a different routine and a holiday feeling may be a helpful change.

‘Summer Club’ resources for everyone in the household

We have re-worked our August resources for you to use with your children throughout the week, each week in the style of a ‘summer club’ for all ages, for whole households. Each week focuses on a familiar story from Matthew’s Gospel and the activities are hand-picked to create a journey with the story, exploring and responding in different, creative ways to involve everyone.

How to use the ‘Summer Club’ resources

Before you begin each week, read through the Bible passage (text provided in Part 2 of each week) and have a look at the kit list you need. We have tried to focus on activities which don’t require a lot of ‘kit’ but if you don’t have some of the things listed, be creative and improvise with what you do have. There may be some things you need to prepare before you start, e.g. cutting out shapes.

There are five parts for each week. Part 1 introduces the theme for the week, Part 2 offers suggestions for ways of reading the Bible passage. Parts 3 and 4 encourage a practical response and Part 5 concludes the week.

Read through the whole of each week before you make a start and think about what to do and when. You might like to use one ‘Part’; every day, Monday-Friday, or to create a full day of activity, or in any other way you choose. You can of course miss some out or change the order to suit your family – however do bear in mind that the story is within ‘Part 2’ each week so this will be important whatever activities you choose for the rest of the time.

Think about how you will involve everyone in the activities. There is a variety to suit preferences so do adapt or leave out to suit your own family. For confident readers there are prayers to be read – with an opportunity for everyone to join in too. You can find what works for you and repeat with the other weeks as needed, or just adapt as you go along. You might find you need to recap and revisit the story if you use Parts 3-5 on different days.

Allow plenty of space and time to enjoy these activities together, don’t worry about ‘getting it right’ these are all about exploring together and making mistakes along the way. Find what works for you and your family and...have fun!