

you have been chosen to proclaim the wonderful acts of God. 1 Peter 2v9



## CORPS OFFICERS, CHILDREN'S MINISTRY WORKERS

Sagala, Kid's Club, Kid's Church, Sunday School,

Last week I was at a camp. During the hike one afternoon, I listened as a leader answered a 9 year old boy's questions about death and heaven. The leader grasped the opportunity to chat as they walked. Very significant spiritual steps were made that day in that boy's life. The leader supported him on his daily walk with Jesus. Yes, it was a real 'life -changing' moment in the life of that boy.

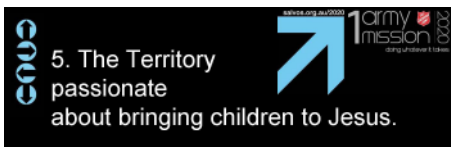
**Amazingly, God trusts ordinary people like you and me with the divine privilege of helping lead kids into a life with Jesus.** God reveals himself in many different ways, usually in the ordinary things in our lives.

**So why do we have 'decision week' every quarter in The Salvation Army?**

Offering these 'commitment times' is a way of supporting children on their journey towards faith. It gives children a chance to respond to what they have learnt and understand from their spiritual journey to date. This journey never ends.

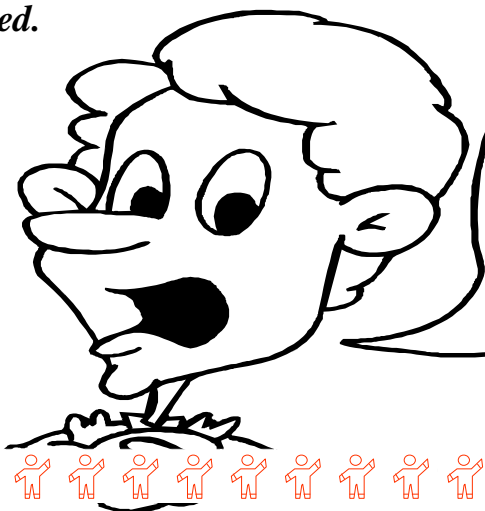
Don't worry when children make many decisions to follow Jesus. Each one is important, but it doesn't invalidate any earlier decisions. They build on each other. The important thing is to give them the opportunities to respond to God as these 'decisions' really make a difference.

# Decision Week



Ask your corps folk to pray that the kids will respond to Jesus.

- *I'm attaching a 'PowerPoint presentation & songs' for you to use.*
- *I've included teaching for pre-schoolers because we received feedback last term asking for this (same slides used for both levels of teaching)*
- *Choose what is most appropriate for you kids.*
- *Please continue to give us feedback & ideas as we develop this resource for you.*
- *The "PowerPoint presentation" can be printed out and made into posters if needed.*



Be ready to tell kids how & when you became a Christian & the difference it makes to you. Try & say it in 3 or 4 sentences

1. Before Christ
2. The cross - conversion
3. Your life now



### Picture 1: Who is God?

Ask the kids to tell you what they notice about this slide. It's about God, the Bible & 2 children.

God is real even though we have not seen him.

He has given us the Bible to tell us some very important things about himself.

Through the Bible we can get to know what God is like.

The Bible tells us two very important things about God.

1. The first is that he is the most powerful person that has ever lived. If you were to put all the **computers** in the world together they would not be able to think as fast as God. If you got all the heavy machinery in the world all in one place, together they would not be as **powerful as God**.
2. We also know that God loves us. God loves you as much as he loves anyone and he wants to be your friend.

SONG (Great Big God CD – vineyard)

**Our God is a great big God.  
Our God is a great big God.  
Our God is a great big God.  
And He holds us in His hands.**

**He's higher than a skyscraper.  
He's deeper than a submarine.  
He's wider than the universe.**

**And beyond my wildest dreams.  
And He's known me and He's loved me  
since before the world began.  
How wonderful to be a part of God's  
amazing plan!**

*Jo & Nigel Hemming  
Copyright © 2001 Vineyard Songs*

### Picture 2: Wrongdoing

God hates wrongdoing because wrongdoing brings **unhappiness** (sad faces)

When you or I do something wrong (like stealing or telling a lie) it causes unhappiness.

God is especially unhappy when we do wrong.

The Bible tells us that everyone except Jesus has done wrong things and this means that we cannot come close to God.

But God decided a long time ago, that he wanted us close to him so he did something about it.

### Picture 3: God Sent Jesus

God has just one son, Jesus. God sent his son from heaven to earth as part of God's amazing plan to help us.

Jesus showed us what God is like. He showed how powerful God is by healing sick people, walking on water and calming storms.

Jesus also showed how loving God is. It didn't matter to Jesus how old or young a person was, how rich or how poor, Jesus loved everyone.

### Picture 4: Jesus died for my Wrongdoing

When Jesus died on the cross, he took our place. Every person in the world should be punished for wrong doing, except Jesus.

Yet Jesus took enough punishment for the whole world.

That was part of God's amazing plan to deal with sin.

### Picture 5. Jesus our Friend

When Jesus friends put his body in a grave, they thought that would be the last time they would see him.

But on the third day after he died, Jesus rose from the dead. He became alive again. It was the greatest miracle ever. Jesus proved to everyone that he is more powerful than death. *(He's higher than a skyscraper, he's deeper than a submarine, He's wider than the universe)*

**Jesus is still alive today.** He wants to be your friend and your Saviour.

But you need to ask him. If you do, he promises to live with you and to be your friend forever.

### **Picture 6: Loving Jesus**

When you do ask Jesus to be your friend your life will change. You will have a new friend who will be with you forever. You will also find that sinful things you used to do, you will no longer want to do.

If you ask him, Jesus will help you stop doing wrong things. (*notice the happy faces*)

Instead of hate, you will have love.  
Instead of lying, you will tell the truth.  
Instead of hurting, fighting and unforgiveness, you will show peace.

Would you like to be a Christian today?  
If your answer is YES, then you can pray this prayer:

***Dear Jesus,  
I am sorry for my wrongdoing.  
I thank you for dying for me.  
I ask you to come into my life and make me a Christian.  
Thank you Jesus for forgiving me of my sins.  
I will live for you forever. Amen***

**SONG – God loves me**  
(Great Big God 3 Vineyard series)  
**God who made the universe  
The earth, the sun, the moon and stars  
Has a place in His heart for me  
From the beginning to the end  
God will always be my friend  
So I can jump and shout 'cause God loves me  
God's love is big, God's love is great  
God's love is fab and He's my mate  
God's love surrounds me everyday  
And I love to sing and say  
God's love is big, God's love is strong  
God's love goes on and on and on  
God's love surrounds me everyday  
And I love to sing and say...God loves me WEHAY**

# Pre-schoolers

- Show pictures on screen or print them out and ask a child to hold one at a time.
- Ask lots of questions about the pictures.

**Picture 1** The word says GOD – how do we know what God is like? The book called The Bible tells us that God is a great big God and very powerful.

*Song – Our God is a great big God*

**Picture 2.** 2 sad children, sometimes we do wrong things and that makes us sad. God doesn't like it when we are sad.

**Picture 3** God sent Jesus from Heaven to live on earth to show us how to live. That was part of God's amazing plan.

**Picture 4** The amazing plan was for Jesus to die on a cross. It hurt God heaps, but now it means you don't have to hurt because of the wrong things you've done.

**Picture 5** Jesus is very powerful and became alive again and wants to be your friend and live with you forever.

**Picture 6** The children are happy now because they don't want to make God sad and do wrong things any more.

Do you want to be happy? Do you want to make God happy?

Say this prayer after me....

***Dear God***

***Thank you for loving me.***

***Thank you for Jesus who loves me***

***Thank you for always being with me.***

*Song – God loves me*

*Adapted from David Goodwin KidsReach*