

THE ISLAND

LEADER	DATE (am) 12 October 08 **FAMILY SERVICE**
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

- **SERIES / LESSON:** Children of the Bible / Jesus blesses the children
- **SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16;
Luke 18:15-17
- **CONCEPT:** Jesus loves me

GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To help kids realise that Jesus loves children, and that they are not too young to have a relationship with Him.
- To invite kids to ask Jesus into their hearts.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ DVD player / laptop / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Song DVD
- ✓ Treasure Chest – with all the props from the last 5 weeks (Moses' basket, Samuel's coat, Naaman's 'leprous powder', Lucas the lamb, Josiah's scroll)
- ✓ Map or globe
- ✓ Graphics of all the characters from the last 5 weeks (Miriam, Samuel, the little girl who helps Naaman, David, Josiah)
- ✓ Memory verse slides of the last 5 weeks
- ✓ EvangeCube (available from Nazarene Publishing House www.nph.com)
- ✓ Pictures of the EvangeCube (either purchase a large EvangeCube or take photos to display on screen)
- ✓ Prayer Net
- ✓ Prayer cards and pen
- ✓ Name tag box

The children will be in the main sanctuary from the beginning of the service and will stay throughout. The following is a programme of what takes place before The Island officially takes over the sequence. Approximate timing shows that the entire church service should last just over an hour.

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11:50 **Invite children to the front (Screen: *The Island* logo)**

Welcome Rocky – Introduce the monkey to the congregation. Have a chat with him. Let him tell you how excited he is because the kids are going to sing!

<p>A. Worship through Music (with puppet) 10 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing. 2. Sing 2 songs together (<i>This is the Day / I Am Not Forgotten</i>). 3. Ask kids to lift a mat each and sit down. (<i>The mats could already be placed at different spots at the front of the church beforehand to save time and a human traffic jam during the service!</i>) 	<p>You'll need ... <i>DVD player / projector</i> <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</i></p>
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12:00 Kids should be sitting on their mats at the front of the church

Follow the script with the puppets – Rocky will introduce his little brother, Ringo. The treasure chest recap activity serves the purpose of informing Ringo of what he has missed over the series.

<p>B. Message</p> <p><i>Make sure to give your puppeteers a copy of the following script to prepare in advance of the service. Bring extra copies to the service to leave in the puppet box, just to be prepared!</i></p> <p><i>Rocky –</i> <i>Ringo –</i></p> <p>Rocky: Hey! There are a lot of new people here today, people I've never seen before!</p>	<p>25-30 minutes</p> <p>You'll need ...</p> <p>Screen: The Island background</p>
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Leader: That's right, Rocky. Remember, today is our special family day. Remember, last week I told all the boys and girls to bring their mummies and daddies, brothers and sisters, and their grannies and granddads with them today?

Rocky: Yeah, I remember you said that. I'm just surprised that so many people can fit on our island! Eh, Emma, hmm, uh, eh ...

Leader: What is it Rocky? Is there something you want to tell me?

Rocky: Hmm, eh, well, yes ... I brought somebody with me too.

Leader: Who have you brought?

Rocky: I've brought my little brother. But I've lost him. I'm getting a bit worried because I don't see him anywhere.

Leader: Rocky! I didn't know you had a brother! Boys and girls, did any of you know that he had a little brother? Hang on, you said that you've lost him? Hmm, where was he the last time you saw him?

Rocky: Ehh, I remember seeing him climb up that tree. He likes to bungee jump off palm trees! I told him to be here on time but I don't know where he is.

Leader: Maybe we can help you. There are plenty of us here, and we can make a lot of noise altogether. Maybe, if you tell us his name, we can all shout together and he should be able to hear us, wherever he is on the island. What do you think?

Rocky: Good idea! His name's Ringo.

Leader: Ringo. Ok. Boys and girls, I really want to meet Rocky's wee brother, Ringo. So let's say his name altogether and see if he can hear us. One – two – RINGO!

Ringo: *(you are still behind the curtain at this stage)*
Hellooooooooooooo!

Rocky: *(Act surprised)* Where are you Ringo?

Ringo: I'm jumping off a treeeeeeeeeeeeeeee!

Rocky: Ringo! You're late! You were supposed to be here with me to meet the boys and girls. Hurry up!

Ringo: I'm coming, I'm coming ... *(after a few seconds appear in the puppet box)* ... Hello everybody!

Leader: Hi Ringo. We're very pleased to meet you.

Ringo: It's great to meet all of you too! I've been really excited about coming here today. Rocky tells me every week how much fun he has with the boys and girls on The Island. I'm sorry I'm late!

<p>But I could hear you all singing on the other side of the island when I was jumping off that tree! Those songs are cool!</p> <p>Leader: That's ok, Ringo. I'm glad you're here. I love the songs too. Your big brother, Rocky, helps me sing them with the boys and girls every week. But we don't just sing when we're here. Every week we learn something from the Bible. The last five Sundays, we have been learning about children in the Bible.</p> <p>Ringo: Tell me, tell me.</p> <p>Leader: I can tell you, but I will need the boys and girls to help me.</p> <p>1. Recap (7-8 minutes) Ask different children to help you take out the props from the treasure chest. Have each child stand and wait in a visible spot until all the props have been explained, stories recapped and memory verses recited.</p> <p>Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out the basket. Ask for someone to explain the significance of the basket. Recap the story of Miriam and her baby brother by asking a few follow-up questions.</p> <p>Miriam was worried and frightened, but she knew that God would help her baby brother too. Can you imagine how hard she must have prayed to God while she was watching the basket? Praying that God would keep her baby brother safe from harm, and that no Egyptian soldiers would find him. God had a special job for Miriam too – she was ready to run to the princess and offer to find a lady to care for the baby. What a great idea Miriam had, to go and get her own mummy!</p> <p>Finish by eliciting the Bible concept: God is with me.</p> <p>Ask if anyone remembers the verse you learnt and have them recite it as a group. They may read it from the screen. <i>"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid."</i> Hebrews 13:6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * * * *</p> <p>Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out Samuel's coat. Ask for someone to explain who the coat belonged to and why it was special. Recap the story of Samuel hearing God's call by asking a few follow-up questions.</p> <p>Hannah prayed and asked God for a baby. She promised to take the baby to the church to work for God there. God heard Hannah's prayer and He gave her a special son called Samuel. Hannah kept her promise and took Samuel to the church.</p> <p>Samuel was a good boy who helped the pastor at church and spent a lot of time learning about the Lord God. God looked after him and kept him safe even though he was far away from his mummy and daddy. The Lord God is always with us too. You</p>	<p><i>Treasure chest with props from the last 5 weeks</i></p> <p><i>Moses' basket</i></p> <p><i>Screen: Miriam portrait</i></p> <p><i>Screen: Hebrews 13:6</i></p> <p><i>Samuel's coat</i></p> <p><i>Screen: Samuel portrait</i></p>
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might not hear Him call your name like he called Samuel, but you might feel Him in your heart, telling you that He wants you to trust Him. And like Samuel, we can say, *'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'* ¹ Samuel 3:10.

Screen: 1 Samuel 3:10

Have kids recite this as a group. They may read it from the screen.

Finish by eliciting the Bible concept: God is with me.

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Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out Naaman's 'leprous powder'. Ask for someone to explain the significance of the powder and why it was so serious for Naaman. Recap the story of the little girl who helped Naaman by asking a few follow-up questions.

Naaman's leprous powder

Screen: the little girl who helped Naaman portrait

Naaman went back to his own country a different person. He was clean on the outside because God had healed his leprosy. He was different on the inside too because he understood that God was the only true God. Naaman decided that day to trust and follow God.

Naaman must have been so thankful to the little girl in his home who had told him about the man of God. Now he knew and trusted God just like she did.

Finish by eliciting the Bible concept: God wants me to help others.

Ask if anyone remembers the memory verse and have them recite it as a group. They may read it from the screen. *"This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another."* 1 John 3:11

Screen: 1 John 3:11

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Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out Lucas the lamb. Ask for someone to explain where Lucas lived and who looked after him. Recap the story of David, the shepherd boy, by asking a few follow-up questions.

Lucas the lamb

Screen: David portrait

God was always with David, when he was a shepherd boy in the fields, when he went to work for King Saul in the palace, and many years later when David eventually became the new king. God saw that David was a good boy with a good heart. God saw that David took care of Lucas and the sheep, fighting off the lion and the bear and protecting the sheep from danger. God saw that David cared for King Saul and helped him to feel better by playing lovely music on his harp.

Finish by eliciting the Bible concept: God wants me to help others.

Ask if anyone remembers the memory verse and have them recite it as a group. They may read it from the screen. *"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."* John 10:27

Screen: John 10:27

Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out King Josiah's scroll. Ask for someone to explain the significance and importance of the scroll. Recap last week's story of King Josiah, the boy king, by asking a few follow-up questions.

Screen: Josiah portrait

The people of Judah had forgotten to read the Bible to learn what is right and wrong, and so they were not obeying God. They had forgotten to read the Bible and to go to church and take care of it. After Josiah's workmen found the dirty, dusty scroll under all the rubble and rubbish in the old run-down church, King Josiah brought his people together and took them to the church. He opened the Bible scroll and read every single word to the people. Josiah promised that he would always obey the laws written in the Bible, and that he would love and follow the Lord with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength. Then he made all the people promise to do the same.

Josiah was only eight years old when he became king, and he already loved God. That tells us that none of you is too young to love God and live for Him. You can ask Him to help you to pray and read your Bible, and to obey or do the things God wants you to do.

Finish by eliciting the Bible concept: God wants me to obey.

Ask if anyone remembers the memory verse and have them recite it as a group. They may read it from the screen. *Jesus said, "If you love me, you will obey what I command." John 14:15*

Screen: John 14:15

Boys and girls holding props may leave props and sit down.

2. Set the scene

One day, Jesus stopped to talk to the people. There were crowds and crowds of people around Him, everyone wanting to ask Him questions and hear what He was teaching them about God. They loved listening to Jesus and the stories He told them.

Screen: *The Island*
background

3. Tell the story

Some mummies and daddies saw the big crowd of people and they wanted to take their babies and their children to see Jesus. They wanted Jesus to talk to the children and pray for them. So they pushed their way through the crowds of people until they got to Jesus.

Jesus had some special friends who travelled with Him and helped Him with his work. Those friends are called 'disciples' in the Bible. Well, Jesus' disciples saw these mummies and daddies coming with all their noisy babies and all their silly little children, and they said, 'Mummies and Daddies, take your children away. Jesus has more important things to do and more important people to talk to. Do not bother Him with these noisy children!'

When Jesus heard this, He stopped talking to the people. He turned to His special friends, the disciples, and told them, 'Let the little children come to me, and **do not stop them.**' The children

ran to Jesus. Jesus took them in His arms, gave them hugs and prayed for them, asking God to take care of each one of the children.

You see, Jesus wanted to show the people that He loves children and that they are just as important as the grown-ups. He showed them that everyone is important to God, little people and big people, and that we should love everybody.

4. Explain

Boys and girls, God had a wonderful plan to show the whole world how much He loves us – grown-ups and children (**EvangeCube position 1**). The problem is that sometimes we do bad things or we think bad thoughts. Do you remember the name we give to those bad things? – Sin. Our sin – the bad things we do – keeps us from God. It's like a big wall between us and God. And if we want to be friends with God, we have to do something about that sin, because God is perfect, without sin.

(EvangeCube position 2) Well, God loved us so much that He let his son, Jesus, go to die on a cross for you and for me and for everybody in the whole world. Jesus took our place; He took our punishment when He died. When Jesus died, that broke down the big wall between us and God.

(EvangeCube position 3) When He was dead, the soldiers took His body and put it in a tomb, and rolled a huge, big stone in front of the door so that nobody could get in. The soldiers stood guard at the big stone, just in case anybody would come and try to move that stone.

Jesus had been dead for three days. And then, God did something amazing! God sent an angel to roll the stone away from the tomb, and guess what? Jesus was alive! **(EvangeCube position 4)** God had raised Jesus from the dead! It was the greatest miracle ever! Jesus had paid the price for our sin. Soon after that, God took Jesus back to heaven.

Why is it such a miracle, boys and girls? Well, the Bible tells us that Jesus is the way, and the truth, and the life. You see, when Jesus died, He broke down that wall between us and God **(EvangeCube position 5)**. He made a way for us to be forgiven for all those bad things we have done or thought, and to be with God forever. If you tell God that you're sorry for your sin, and if you believe that Jesus is alive and wants to be your friend, if you want to live for Jesus ... then He will always be with you and help you, and when you die, you will go to be with Him in Heaven **(EvangeCube position 6)**. That's how much He loves us.

Solo: 'Jesus Loves Me' –

Boys and girls, I'm going to say a prayer for all of us. If you want to trust God and live for Him every day, then you can pray this prayer too.

Picture of EvangeCube position 1

Picture of EvangeCube position 2

Picture of EvangeCube position 3

Picture of EvangeCube position 4

Picture of EvangeCube position 5

Picture of EvangeCube position 6

Dear God, thank You for loving me. I know that sometimes I don't always do the right thing, and sometimes I have bad thoughts, and I'm sorry for that. Please forgive me. I believe that Your son, Jesus, died on a cross to take away my sin. I believe that You raised Jesus back to life again. I want Jesus to live in my heart. I want Jesus to be my best friend. I want to trust Jesus every day and live for You. Thank You for loving me so much. I pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

I'm going to put my prayer in the prayer net. Boys and girls, if you prayed that prayer and you want to live for God, then it's very important that you tell somebody before you go home today. If you have Jesus in your heart then we want to celebrate with you!

C. Conclusion (with puppets)

10 minutes

1. Let's stand up and celebrate God's goodness to us by singing our songs. Let's ask the grown-ups to stand up and sing along with us. Rocky, are you ready? Ringo, are you ready? Let's sing! **(This is the Day)**
2. Remind kids to come back this evening for The Big Island Quiz.
3. Let's sing Rocky's favourite song! **(Not Forgotten)**
4. Close in prayer – Pastor.
5. Ask kids to leave their name tags in the box.

You'll need ...

*DVD player / projector
Song DVD (Hillsong Kids
– Supernatural)*

Green box

THE ISLAND cont'd

LEADERS	DATE (pm) 12 October 08
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To reinforce the Bible stories and concepts of the series, Children of the Bible, through a quiz covering the last five weeks' material.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ Song DVD / DVD player / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ THE BIG ISLAND QUIZ: Tic tac toe question and answer sheet
 Pass the parcel question and answer sheet
 Bananas question and answer sheet
- ✓ 9 play mats arranged in a 3x3 grid
- ✓ Music (CD or mp3 files with sound equipment)
- ✓ Pass the parcel – small gift, e.g. box of sweets, book or CD, wrapped in layers with around 10 questions between the layers.
- ✓ Bananas (count one for each child)
- ✓ 2 baskets labelled with the team names
- ✓ Name tag box

D. Worship through Music (with puppets) 10 minutes 1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing. 2. Sing 2 songs together. <i>(This is the Day / I Am Not Forgotten)</i> 3. Open in prayer. 4. Ask kids to remain standing and divide them into 2 teams, e.g. boys and girls.	<i>You'll need ...</i> <i>DVD player / projector</i> <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</i>
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<p>E. Quiz (with puppets) 25 minutes total <i>The quiz is made up of 3 separate activities. Try to stick to the time limit assigned to each activity so that the majority of the quiz questions are covered.</i></p>	<p>You'll need ...</p>
<p>Human Tic Tac Toe 8 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask each team to sit on opposite sides of the room in a line. 2. Lay out 9 mats in a 3x3 square in the centre of the floor. 3. <i>Explain:</i> Each team has a turn to answer a question. Put up your hand if you want to answer – do not shout out the answer! If you answer correctly, your team can choose a square (mat) for you to sit/stand on. Questions will not be passed to the other team. The correct answer will be given and then we will move on to the next question for the other team. The object of the game is for one team to have 3 in a row. 4. Assign one team to sit, and the other to stand on the grid. 5. Ask a question to each team in turn, allowing them to sit and stand on the grid until one team wins or you have gridlock. Repeat the game if you have time. 5. Put away the mats at the back of the room. 	<p><i>9 play mats arranged in a 3x3 grid on the floor</i></p> <p><i>Tic tac toe question & answer sheet</i></p>
<p>Pass the Parcel 10 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask kids to sit in a large circle on the floor. 2. <i>Explain:</i> We are going to play 'Pass the Parcel'. While the music is playing, pass the parcel to the next person in the circle. Do not throw the parcel! When the music stops, the person with the parcel should take one layer of wrapping paper off the parcel. There will be a question stuck to the parcel. Read aloud the question and then tell us the answer. If you don't know the answer you can ask someone to help you. When the music starts playing again, start passing the parcel again. The person who opens the last layer of wrapping paper gets to keep the prize! 3. Have someone help you control when the music stops so that different children get to open a layer of the parcel. 4. Help younger children to read the question as required. 	<p><i>Music (and sound equipment to play it)</i></p> <p><i>Parcel (small gift) wrapped with approximately 10 questions between layers</i></p> <p><i>Pass the Parcel question & answer sheet</i></p>
<p>Bananas! 7 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Divide the kids into 2 teams, e.g. As and Bs. Have them sit on either side of the room. 2. <i>Explain:</i> This is a quick-fire question game! We will ask you a question and your team must give the correct answer. You can discuss the answer with your teammates. If you give the wrong answer, the question will be passed over to the other team and they will have a chance to answer. If you answer correctly, Rocky will put a banana in your team's basket. At the end of the game, we will count how many bananas are in each basket to see who is the winner. 3. Have someone help Rocky put the bananas into the correct basket. 4. At the end, allow the kids to see you count the bananas in each basket to determine the winners. Congratulate the winning team. 	<p><i>Bananas question & answer sheet</i></p> <p><i>Bananas – leave these in the puppet box with Rocky</i></p> <p><i>2 baskets labelled with the team names</i></p>

