

# SHARING THE VISION

OF CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP OF BRITAIN

2019 SUMMER

## The time is short and the task is big

The theme of the recent CEF European Conference in Germany was “Show Them Jesus!” Reese Kauffman, President of CEF, reminded the 250 attendees, from 38 countries, that children are waiting to hear the gospel of Jesus, that there is much work to do, that the harvest is plentiful, that the workers are few and the task is overwhelming and too great for us.

So, what should we do? We must pray! In fact, God has given us a prayer request. In the Gospel of Luke, chapter 2, verse 10, we read, “Pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest” (ESV).

When Jesus called a child to stand near him, he told his disciples that unless they changed and became like little children, they would never enter the kingdom of heaven. Jesus warned his disciples not to “look down on one of these little ones” (Matthew 18:10 NIV). Jesus told them about a shepherd who owned a hundred sheep and sought for the one that had wandered off, rejoicing when he found it. Then Jesus reminded the disciples, “In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost”. (Matthew 18:14 NIV)

The apostle Peter reminds us that the Lord “is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but for everyone to come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9 NIV). He emphasises that the day of the Lord is coming suddenly and unexpectedly and that we all need to be ready.

Some children in Sri Lanka were ready on Easter Sunday in 2019. Their Sunday School teachers had been teaching them of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and of their need of a Saviour. Many had responded by repenting of their sin,

trusting in Jesus for their salvation and committing their lives to follow him.

A few hours later a number of them were killed when a bomb exploded outside their church. From trusting in Christ on one day, some were seeing Jesus face to face in heaven on the next.

This heart-breaking event was reported by the Barnabas Fund on 23rd April 2019. We have permission to reproduce some of the content.

<https://barnabasfund.org/en/news/death-toll-rises-to-321-in-sri-lankas-anti-christian-easter-attacks-but-is-this-enough-for>

### “Children who died for Christ”

*“How many of you are willing to die for Christ?” said the Sunday School teachers to the children of Zion Evangelical Church, Batticaloa, on Easter morning. Every child raised their hand. A few minutes later, the class was over. The children spilled out to play in the church grounds while the adult congregation gathered inside for the main Easter morning service. It was then that a suspicious-looking stranger was ushered out of the building by Ramesh, a concerned church member. The stranger was a suicide bomber and detonated himself, killing Ramesh, 15 other adults and twelve of the children who had just pledged their willingness to die for their Lord.*

*Children enjoying Sunday School at Zion Evangelical Church in Batticaloa on Easter Sunday. Minutes later many of them were killed when an Islamist suicide bomber detonated his vest in the church grounds*

Would you join us in praying for the evangelism of children even more urgently? Around the world in 2018 over 25 million children were reached with the gospel through the ministry of CEF workers.

The events of Easter Sunday 2019 should wake us up to the reality that the culture we are living in is an increasingly hostile one towards Christians. The Bible reminds us that we should not be surprised (1 Peter 4:12) at the trials that come to test us, as though something strange were happening.

At the European Conference the key-note speaker, Mark Vroegop, speaking from Lamentations chapter 3, verse 22, on the subject of “Show them Jesus: through believing God’s promises consistently”, encouraged us to have hope by rehearsing the truths we already know: that God’s mercies never end; that waiting is not a waste; that the final word has not yet been spoken and that God is always good.

In the light of the recent horrific and heart-breaking attacks on Christian children and adults in Sri Lanka, let us pray for the grieving families that they would be comforted and let us pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out more workers to share the gospel and show Jesus to the children who are not yet ready to meet him.

**DAVID COOK, CHAIRMAN,**  
National Committee, CEF Britain  
([info@cefbritain.org](mailto:info@cefbritain.org))

**CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP OF BRITAIN**

A MISSION WITH GOD’S VISION FOR CHILDREN

[www.cefbritain.org](http://www.cefbritain.org)

■ “It was so encouraging to go back to the children in Lye at the start of May. The church there is running a weekly teenage boys club. After a year and a half of not having the GNC, the boys still remembered the songs we were singing at the GNC as when they saw me they started to sing them to show they didn't forget. Never underestimate the power of the words in Christian songs. Those Gospel songs will remain in those children's minds forever and hopefully one day the Lord will help their hearts and minds to personally understand them and put their trust in Him.”

**MONICA NECHITA**

Birmingham

[monica@cefbrtain.org](mailto:monica@cefbrtain.org)

■ Oftentimes, looking at the size of the task before us in CEF – to reach “every child, every nation, every day” it seems impossible. How can we even reach the number of children in our city let alone world? God gives the remedy. As we were reminded every night at CEF's European conference, God has instructed us what to do in bringing in His harvest – to beseech the Lord of the Harvest for more workers! From the adults to the children, our hearts were moved throughout the week to come to our Father in prayer for every circumstance and with every need.

Edinburgh and the Lothians

[hannah.cashman@cefonline.com](mailto:hannah.cashman@cefonline.com)

## A door opens in school...

■ ...followed by another. What an AMAZING answer to prayer and a GREAT opportunity to reach children in their own environment! After a year of being involved in monthly assemblies in 2 local schools, the Lord has opened the door for me to start an after school ‘good news club’ in each school. The children spend one hour of singing, a Bible Lesson, a fun review quiz, learning a memory verse, an activity/craft /‘wonder time’ and a game! As I do not have volunteers to help me run the clubs, a teacher helps me each week. Would you pray that the Lord would provide a volunteer to help me in each school? Maybe you could help?

**CLAUDINE UWIZEYE**

Teesside

[claudine@cefbrtain.org](mailto:claudine@cefbrtain.org)

## “To teach others also!”

■ Since the autumn of 2018, a total of 29 children's workers have taken part in four different teacher training events in Baglan. They came from seven different churches and it has been lovely to be able to teach them and share life, vision, passion and experience with doing children's ministry together.

Paul makes the importance of passing on and teaching others clear in the following verse:

*And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.*

2 Timothy 2:2

“Your teaching is really helping me:” A children's worker told me a few weeks back. She was very grateful for some tips I had shared about how to keep

a good atmosphere at her children's meeting and ideas to deal with different types of children.

Two other teachers have inquired about more training with CEF and one church has decided to use CEF material in their children's ministry. We are very grateful for all God is doing in South Wales right now.

**HANNE EVANS**



■ ‘We started a new Good News Club (known as Monday Club) on a housing estate near to our church. The first club, a lego special attracted 20 children. They listened really well to the story of Noah and enjoyed a big build challenge. Praise God for the team, the London City Missionary who lives on the estate and our church for praying for this club. Pray that the children would return each week.’

North East London

[steveandrachel@cefbrtain.org](mailto:steveandrachel@cefbrtain.org)

■ Eun Sook is praising the Lord for the provision of a flat to live in and work from. She has been working from one room accommodation for some time now which has made her work very difficult but she now has a whole flat and room to store the many materials needed for the work.

**EUN SOOK GEUM**

South London

[eunsook@cefbrtain.org](mailto:eunsook@cefbrtain.org)

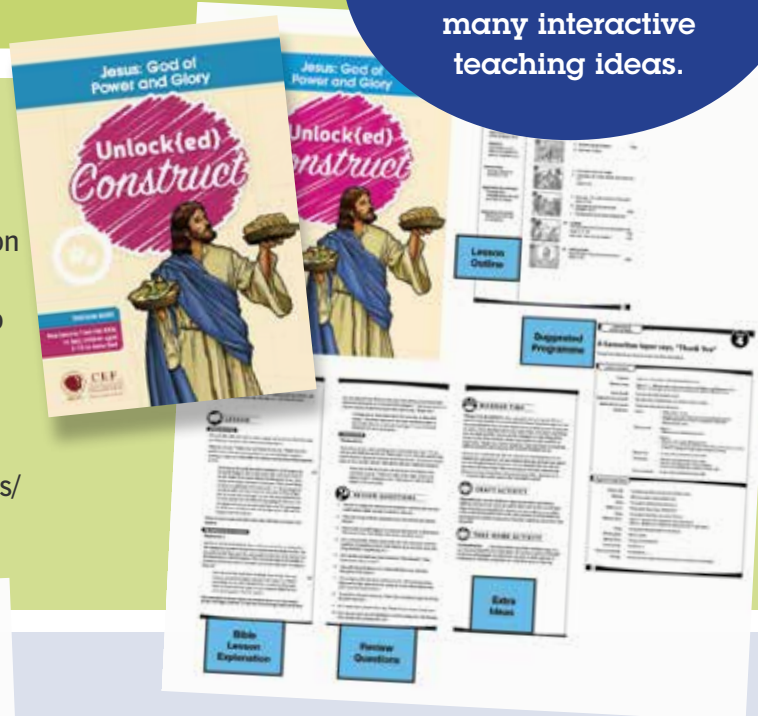
# A new 4 year curriculum for your weekly children's club!

The new 'Good News Club' curriculum offers exciting and easy-to-teach Bible lessons with many interactive teaching ideas.

## What's in the pack?

- 23 weeks of teaching material
- Visuals and explanations for Bible lesson and memory verse included
- Additional creative and fun materials to help in the learning process
- See pictures right...

The order form can be found online:  
[www.cefbritain.org/equipping/lesson-packs/](http://www.cefbritain.org/equipping/lesson-packs/)



## The 'Good News Club'

- **What?** A weekly children's club that lasts 1hr - 1hr30mins during term time.
- **Why?** To reach unreached children in your community with the gospel, disciple saved children and establish them in the local church.
- **Where?** In schools, church halls, community centres, homes, etc...
- **Who?** For children aged 5-11

## Lessons for School year 2019-2020

- Beginnings
- Jesus: God Who Saves
- God's Power: Escape from Egypt
- Paul: Witness and Winner

## Volunteers' training

CEF offers training tailored to your needs.  
To find out more, visit:

[www.cefbritain.org](http://www.cefbritain.org)





# Let's Share Bible Stories with Toddlers

***"Hello friends, hello friends. How are you, how are you? It's time for a story, time for a story. Come and listen, come and listen."***

**We sing this song to the tune of 'Frere Jacques' every week at toddler group. We gather round the story chair in a semi - circle; some sit on the rugs and others on chairs and then we share a story together.**

**B**y saying share a story together I mean that I don't just read a story from a book or recite a story script. It is story telling – a much more interactive group activity. We are 'in it together', taking part, joining in. There are different ways of creating a joining in experience when telling a story. Here are a few ideas

- **Sounds to make** – the sound of the storm on the lake
- **Actions to do** – climbing the tree with Zacchaeus
- **Saying hello** to the characters in the story as they come out of the story bag
- **Singing a song** – include 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star'

part way through the story of the shepherds and angels.

## So how do you choose which stories to tell?

As a church-based group (although we meet in a community hall) we tell stories from the Bible. It can help if each story is connected to a theme for half a term. Animal Bible stories, Homes Jesus Visited, Stories Jesus Told, Creation. Choose stories that you feel comfortable with and will enjoy telling. When to have Storytime? Pick a time in your session when there are less distractions. If you want the children to join in, then serve snacks before or after. Try to time

things so that hands are free to take part in the story actions. If possible, have a space where there are no toys or do Storytime at the beginning or towards the end of the session.

## Create a space

The storyteller needs to be seen and to be on the children's level. Choose a low seat and create a semi - circle. Clean rugs encourage parents/carers and children to sit on the floor, but chairs are good for adults who need a higher seat. The idea is to know the story well and encourage interaction with the group. The Bible is full of the most wonderful stories. Enjoy sharing them!

**RACHEL BALL**  
CEF East London

## Helpful resources

Go Teach Toddlers Books (Go Teach Publications), Tiddlywinks Stories and Pictures (Scripture Union), Lettheirlightshine.com (Rachel's blog full of story and craft ideas for toddler groups)

## God cares for all!

Here is a quick and easy way of sharing the story of Bartimaeus at toddler group using a story bag. Firstly, get to know the story about Bartimaeus from Mark 10: 46-52 and Luke 18: 35-43. Make an outline of the story and find one thing about God in the story that you want to teach the kids (God cares for all. Find the following objects for the story bag: A Bible, a poster with pictures of the five senses, coins, Duplo men and a heart. The following is just a short description of how to use the objects.

I begin the story by asking the children if they can remember which special book my stories come from? I show them the Bible and tell them it is God's special book. Then I ask the children to say hello to Bartimaeus and one of the Duplo men comes out and says hello to the children. I ask the children to close their eyes and make

them imagine how it would be not to be able to use the sense of sight. The poster with the five senses comes out of the bag and we talk briefly about them, how Bartimaeus needed to use the rest of his four senses and the children point to their eyes, ears, nose, fingers and mouth. I tell the children that Bartimaeus needed to beg for coins and show them the coins. Hold the heart when you teach the children about Jesus love and care for Bartimaeus, who must have felt lonely and sad at times, but that Jesus knew him and cared. Ask the toddlers to say hello to Jesus when you take out another Duplo man with a crowd of Duplo men around him. Let the



children join in with Bartimaeus shouting out for Jesus and the people around Jesus saying: Shush! When Jesus ask for Bartimaeus, hold the heart again and teach about Jesus' great care for all of us. Finally ask the children what they think Bartimaeus wanted when Jesus ask him what he wants? End the story and lift up the heart again and remind the children about God's care for them.

**HANNE EVANS**  
CEF South Wales



**CEF**  
CHILD EVANGELISM  
FELLOWSHIP

Since 1937 Reaching children worldwide

Tel: 0120 2233286  
E-mail: [info@cefbritain.org](mailto:info@cefbritain.org)  
Website for kids: [www.WonderSurf.com](http://www.WonderSurf.com)

Sharing the Vision is distributed by **Child Evangelism Fellowship of Britain** to those who love the Lord and have a heart for the spiritual welfare of children. Please advise us of any change in address.

**Gifts:** If you would like to financially support the vital work and witness of CEF in evangelising children in England, Scotland and Wales, please send your gift to: CEF of Britain, PO Box 9281, POOLE, BH14 4FS.

Registered Charity in England No 235080 Registered Charity in Scotland No SC040343 Registered Company No 570740

*"Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish."*

Matt. 18 v 14

We continue to send you Sharing the Vision news letter because you have previously requested it. We shall continue to keep your contact details safe and protected. We have updated the privacy notice on our website accordingly. If you no longer wish to receive Sharing the Vision, please notify us on email or by telephone.