

connect

August 2020

*Praying
with style*

**baptist
children &
family
ministries** 
manatū iriiri whānau tamariki

BUBBLES OF HOPE

**HELPING YOUR CHURCH
BECOME MORE
INTERGENERATIONAL**

KIDS' KITCHEN

**baptist
children &
family
ministries**

manatū iriri whānau tamariki

(09) 526 7958

childrensministry@baptist.org.nz

www.baptistcfm.org.nz

PRODUCED BY
*Baptist Children &
Family Ministries*

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Rebecca McLeay

FRONT COVER
Jantaneel/lightstock.com

THE
Team

NATIONAL TEAM LEADER

Karen Warner

(09) 526 7958 | 021 279 0919

karen.warner@baptist.org.nz

**REGIONAL ASSOCIATION CHILDREN & FAMILY
COACHES AND LEADERS**

NORTHERN

Raewyn Moodie

021 797 427

candrmoodie@gmail.com

WAIKATO

Mike Walker

021 793 431

waikatorml@gmail.com

BAY OF PLENTY

Jan Ozanne

(07) 576 2523 | 027 733 3298

jan@obc.org.nz

WELLINGTON

Mike Warring

027450 1400

mike.warring@baptist.org.nz

CANTERBURY/WESTLAND

Rachel Sangster

021 904 8578

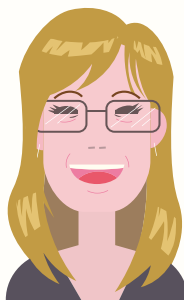
rsangster@swbc.org.nz

OTAGO/SOUTHLAND

Derek Pyle

(03) 448 5177

dmapyle@gmail.com



I'm feeling a lot of sadness as I write this editorial today. It's only two days since one of our own, Mel Keith, very suddenly lost her 11 year-old son, Noah. I was teaching on the power of God in CM yesterday, from the story of Peter healing the lame man, and I confess that I did not find it easy. The family had prayed through the night for Noah and yet, he died. We all know these things happen, but that does not make it any easier. I do not understand why, but I'm clinging to the knowledge that in all things God works for the good of those who love him—and Mel and her family love him dearly. Please keep them in your prayers, and pray also for Northpoint as they too grieve the loss of this child.

Speaking of prayer, this issue includes a great article on styles of prayer by Dave Csinos. He uses the four spiritual styles of word, action, emotion and symbol, to reflect on the ways that we pray. I wonder what utilising these different prayer styles could look like in your CM?

I love hearing stories of creative missional outreach with kids, and 'Kids' Kitchen' certainly ticks the creative box. The programme teaches kids valuable life skills, along-side developing friendships with leaders who love Jesus. Look out for another great story from Napier in the next issue.

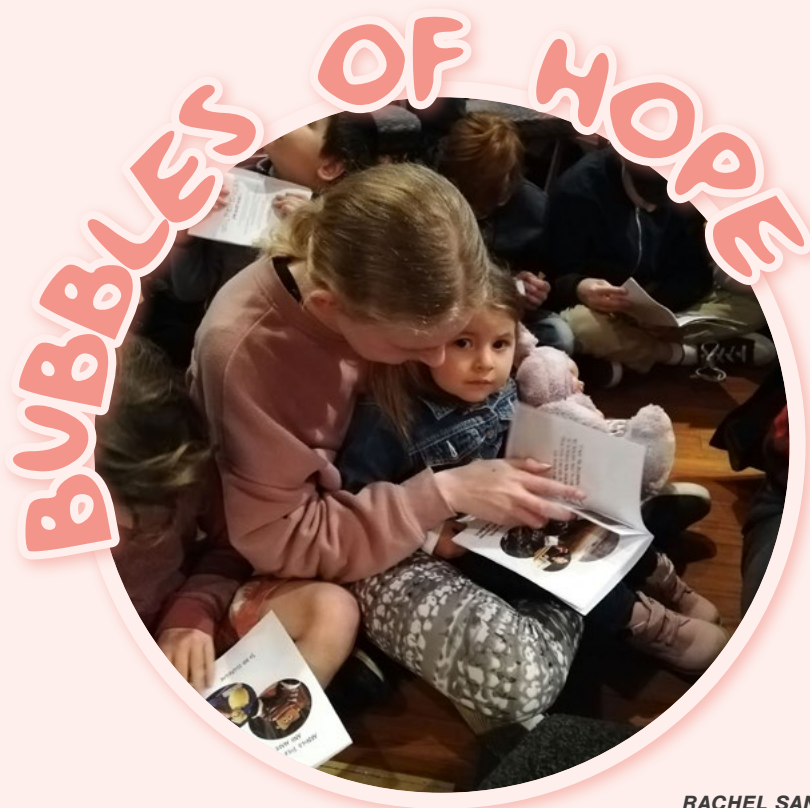
It's less than a month until the Children's Ministry block course at Carey, and I'm really looking forward to it. This will be the 5th time I have audited this course, and each time I have come away with new learnings, new friends and fresh enthusiasm. It is the best PD for CM leaders currently available in NZ—so DON'T MISS OUT! For more information, and to register take a look at the Pin the Dates on page 19. I hope to see you there.

Ngā mihi nui,

Karen

***I have told you all this so that you may
have peace in me. Here on earth you
will have many trials and sorrows.
But take heart, because I have
overcome the world.***

John 16:33



RACHEL SANGSTER
CHILDREN & FAMILIES LEADER
SOUTH WEST BAPTIST

Lifelong discipleship across all ages is a value of ours at South West Baptist. We believe that everyone benefits and grows when we are intentionally intergenerational during all aspects of our faith community. This looks different in all aspects of our church life, and will look different in each of your contexts, too. This is one recent example that stands out to me.

The team that leads our Sunday gatherings approached me to say that they, and the leaders and elders would like to do something special to bless the children. They said that the intergenerational spaces we had been creating lately had been such

a blessing to the adult generations and they wanted to do something to bless the children in return, something to show them that they are not just tolerated but are an integral and valued part of our faith community. It was important to them that the children's team and staff did not have to work on this, they wanted to do something that would be a blessing to us, too. I was in tears by now—overjoyed ones!

They decided to make a memory book about the Covid-19 lockdown and what we had done during this time as a community. They took some of the photos we had gathered and wrote a story called



Bubbles of Hope. This was made into a book to give to the children at the end of the Sunday morning service.

While the children were out in children's ministry, Alan showed the book to the adults and invited them to come up during the worship, or his sermon, to write individual words of encouragement, blessings or prayers onto bookmarks that would go with the books.

When the children came back at the end of the service, Alan had them all come up the front and he showed and explained the book to them.

He then asked adults to hand the books to the children. This was intentional. Rather than the children just grabbing them from a pile, it was amazing to see adults handing them to each child specifically. It felt as if they were handing them a blessing at the same time!

I spoke to many children, parents, and older adults afterwards and everyone was blessed by this intergenerational experience.

A 10-year-old boy was looking at his bookmark that said, "You are very special, Jesus loves you!" I said, "Wow, that is a great word for you!" He said, "Nah, everyone got the same thing." I showed him some others and explained that they were all different and that the adults in the church had written them for each child. He said, "Oh really!" and his head lifted, and he seemed immensely proud of it.

An older man said to me that he gave his book to a preschooler. He was not used to being around little children. He said he asked her name and she answered him sweetly. He was glowing, and said, "I feel so filled up. Her speaking to me has made my day!"

The value of this intergenerational experience was felt amongst all the generations, not just the children. It gave the children a great sense of belonging. They know without a doubt that they are a valued and loved part of our community of faith. ♦



PRAYING WITH *style*

Jantane/lightstock.com

DAVID CSINOS

In this article Dave looks at how the four spiritual styles of word, emotion, symbol and action can enhance the ways that we pray—especially in our gathered communities. For more information on these spiritual styles see Connect December 2019 at www.baptistcfm.org.nz/news-events.

A few years ago I had the pleasure of being part of a conference about children's spirituality. As the team prepared for this event, their goal was to 'bathe the conference in prayer'. But as the prayer-full planning process went on, the team members realised that they each prayed in very different ways.

Instead of arguing over the 'right way to pray', the team learned from one another and engaged in one another's prayer practices. At the conference, they wanted to share this experience, so they began each session by praying in one of the ways that they had shared as they prepared. One person led the group in a worship song that she learned

How we pray is intimately linked to the spiritual styles through which we live out the life of faith. And the ways in which we commune with God are related to our spiritual styles.

as a child. Another had us write prayers on pieces of paper and read them to one another. And yet another person 'prayed in colour' as she helped us pray by reflecting on beautiful works of art.

How we pray is intimately linked to the spiritual styles through which we live out the life of faith. Prayer is more than simply 'talking with God'. It's a spiritual communion with God, a spirit-to-Spirit connection with the Divine. And the ways in which we commune with God are related to our spiritual styles.

WORD-CENTRED PRAYER

For Christians with a preference for a word-centred approach to spirituality, prayer is—not surprisingly—based on words. This style values concreteness, so prayer often involves concrete discussions with God. Prayers may be spoken or written, said aloud or silently, alone or in community, but for the most part, people who prefer this style of spirituality pray with words. They commune with God through language.

EMOTION-CENTRED PRAYER

People who practise emotion-centred spirituality put their whole being into their prayer life. Like word-centred people, they perceive God in concrete terms, so they may also pray through words and language, as if they were talking to a good friend. But they tend to care less about the precision of the words they are using. For emotion-centred Christians, prayer involves opening up with God, being completely honest with God, and speaking to God with passion, zeal and

fervour. They cry out to God with tears of joy and tears of sorrow. They seek to lose themselves in prayer and may put their bodies into their prayers by kneeling, falling prostrate, or raising their hands to God.

SYMBOL-CENTRED PRAYER

The prayer life of symbol-centred Christians moves from concreteness to abstraction. Prayer becomes about dwelling in the presence of God, about sensing that God is near and listening for the voice of God. Prayer may be more felt than spoken and it is often an individual activity, one that may become diminished if it is expressed or experienced with others. Prayer can take all sorts of forms within a symbol-centred spirituality, many of which draw from early Christian tradition and ancient spiritual practices like breath prayers, lectio divina, silent retreat and meditation on icons.

ACTION-CENTRED PRAYER

Within an action-centred approach to spirituality, prayer is lived. People who value this style might say that their lives are their prayers. They commune with God through their activity, the ways in which they seek to bring in God's reign on earth. This isn't to say that action-centred people never stop working in order to pause and engage in quiet meditation. In fact, when times get tough in their mission to join God at work in the world, they may find themselves needing to pause in order to cry out to God in frustration and to question and listen to God about ways of moving forward.

NURTURING MANY STYLES OF PRAYER

It is important to remember that identifying a variety of spiritual styles is a way of describing broad approaches to the way individuals connect with God. No one fits perfectly into a single style. While many people express a dominant or preferred spiritual style, other styles also influence →

their spiritual journey. So also with prayer communing with God will take a variety of forms.

So how do we ensure that our congregational prayers reflect all spiritual styles? What sorts of prayer practices should we include as we prepare church services, children's ministry, youth group, and other activities in our faith communities? You don't need to try to cram every style of prayer into every church service or event, but over time you can make your faith community's prayer practices reflective of every spiritual style.

To nurture word-centred prayer, remember that the words used to speak of and speak to God are incredibly important, so having prayers pre-written can help ensure that our prayers appropriately convey our theology. Try praying by reciting creeds, prayers passed down through tradition. These can be recited individually, by the entire community, or in a call-and-response fashion. Why not put white boards or paper on the wall so that congregants can write down their prayers and pray for one another? You can also nurture word-centred prayer by offering a 'model' that helps ensure that spontaneous prayers include different important elements (e.g. the 'ACTS' model—adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication).

Since emotion-centred people tend to pray from the heart rather than the head, be sure to include time for spontaneous prayer. They can get bogged down and frustrated if every prayer in a church service is printed and there is no space for personal, heartfelt conversation with God. Pray about what matters to you and your community—a crisis in your community, wisdom to discern future changes and decisions, a reason to celebrate the work of God in the congregation, and anything else that matters to the personal lives of members of your faith community. And don't use words alone. Encourage people to pray with their whole selves, feeling free to raise hands, kneel,

sing, dance and cry out to God in laughter and sorrow.

In seeking to connect with symbol-centred Christians, it is helpful to remember that words can fall short in expressing the inner life; to become comfortable with periods of silence and stillness in worship is key. Such silence is not 'dead air time'—it's a space that offers room to connect with God beyond words. You can offer opportunities for people to pray by reflecting on icons, photographs, or paintings; by engaging in silent reflection; by looking for God in the little things in life; through breath prayers; or by walking a labyrinth. And don't be afraid to get creative as you engage in symbol-centred prayer practices—the possibilities for new prayer practices are endless!

Whether through words or silence, meditation or music, Christians who express an action-centred spirituality see prayer as intimately connected to God's vision for justice, care and peace. They remind us that prayer is political—it is tied to our visions for the world. So not only can churches include prayers that reflect the Christian desire to join God in healing the world, they can include tangible ways for all of us to make a difference—collecting offerings for important causes, welcoming strangers, refugees, and homeless people into the community, and much more. And since the quest for justice is ongoing, embodied prayer ought to spill over church services and into a community's mission in its corner of the globe.

VALUING DIFFERENCE

When prayer practices that reflect different spiritual styles are experienced and encouraged in a faith community, a balance is achieved—a balance that nourishes and challenges all towards further growth. ♦

This is adapted from an article published on www.rootsontheweb.com



BCFM, with the help of Raewyn Moodie, have published a booklet aimed at helping you and your church to become more intentionally intergenerational. Not multigenerational, with lots of generations politely smiling at each other, or cross-generational where there is some sharing but little individual or collective transformation, but truly intergenerational—where there is transformational mutual, equal and reciprocal sharing of life and faith.

Raewyn begins the booklet by sharing, “First, I need to be clear that this is not an overnight journey or a quick fix! Working in a typical mid-sized, silo-ministry Baptist church in the 2000s, I was keen for our church to become more intergenerational. As a youth pastor I had turned a failing youth group around in a year. I made all the calls and things happened. It was like zipping round in a speedboat! The journey to becoming more intergenerational as a whole church is like steering an ocean liner. In order to bring the whole congregation along and break down silos you need to make small, incremental changes. It is a long journey but so worthwhile. May God bless you and encourage you on your journey!”

The booklet includes a checklist for evaluating your practices and suggestions for next steps. The BCFM national and regional team are keen to assist you and your church as you undertake this journey, so please feel free to contact us—our details can be found at the front of this booklet.

To order a free hard copy email the BCFM office (the first copy is free, with extra copies \$2 each), or to read and download online go to: baptistcfm.org.nz/intergenerational ♦

KIDS' KITCHEN @MOTUEKA



LOUISE VETTE
MOTUEKA BAPTIST

It's Friday afternoon again... it's going to be noisy, it's going to be chaotic, it's going to be crazy-busy. BUT, it's also going to be rewarding, amazing, truly delicious and, most definitely, it's going to be FUN! It's Kids' Kitchen of course.

So, what is Kids' Kitchen? It's a clean, safe, friendly environment where primary school children can learn some basic cooking skills, with the main focus being preparing a meal together and sitting around the dinner table, sharing and eating together. Oh, and of course there's always dessert!

When Motueka Baptist was looking for a new community outreach God clearly said "Kids' Masterchef." Cooking is my passion so Kids' Kitchen was born. We hold it every week of the school term, but couldn't do it without our AMAZING team of church helpers. The kids love that these reliable people turn up week after week to

hang out with them and help them prepare, cook and eat a meal together. We have had up to 15 children but usually average 8-12, all from different schools in the area. On average it costs \$80 a week for the ingredients. To help fund this our church treasurer was able to secure a generous grant from the Tindall Foundation (through the Baptist Union), which helps immensely.

Our menu includes things like make your own pizza, burgers, lasagna, stacks, wraps and homemade fish and chips. Our favourite meal is probably breakfast consisting of eggs three ways, bacon, spaghetti and beans, mini sausages, hashbrowns, French toast and pancakes. We have had an all soup dinner where the pumpkin soup was a hit, and an all salad dinner where the roast potato salad won over by far. We try and include fresh herbs in every meal and there's often a rule to try and have



Dinner conversation is always excitable and interesting to listen to.

something green on our plates. A blind taste testing afternoon was a little different for most with some of the unknown foods making for an entertaining dinner. There are always other learning opportunities like where the food has come from, what it costs and the different food groups.

Basic cooking skills include peeling, grating, chopping, measuring, cooking, mixing, rolling and melting. There is usually a recipe to follow which we collate and at the end of the term the children have a small recipe book to take home.

We have learnt how to set the table along with other skills like sharing, consideration for others, food portion size and table manners.

There is always the opportunity to say grace for those who want to and we usually end up singing it. Dinner conversation is always excitable and interesting to listen to.

Dessert is delicious and well received by all, with decorate your own cupcakes a fan favourite.

Sometimes we have a couple of parents join us for dinner, otherwise parents come along at 5.30pm to pick up their well-fed, happy, ready to go home children.

Parent feedback has been fantastic. Mostly that the kids have a new found confidence with food and being able to continue their kitchen confidence at home by helping prepare family meals. Also the excitement of trying and eating new foods simply because that is what the other children are eating.

We continue to be blessed by being a part of this awesome community kids' outreach.

So, after two intense hours of another busy, noisy, chaotic afternoon of Kids' Kitchen there's only one question to answer... what are we making next week? ♦

BACK TO THE BASICS:

Discipleship AT HOME

CHRISTINA EMBREE
REFOCUS BLOG

The other day I had someone say to me, “I love reading your blog and I like your thoughts on discipleship in the home but I don’t even know how to get started. I don’t think of those things like you do. Where do I start?” It’s a good question and one that I have heard expressed many times before. Acknowledgment of the need for faith formation at home is often overshadowed by fears of implementation.

- How do you ‘see God in the everyday’?
- How do you begin to prepare for a ‘faith talk’?
- What in the world does it mean to ‘speak a blessing’ over your kids?

If you, or the parents you serve, have ever asked these questions or ones like them, take a second and celebrate. Why? Because asking questions like these show a heart that is already in tune with God’s heart for children and families and even if you feel completely at a loss for ‘what to do’ chances

are the very fact you feel that way probably reflects in your parenting and leadership already. Combining that heart with intentional actions created to draw children into the ‘mystery’ of the faith is a dynamic duo for discipleship at home.

If this is a new arena for your family or those you serve, I encourage you to start with these four small but powerful ‘baby steps’ that begin to shift the focus of the home towards Christ.

MORNING PRAYER/BLESSING

In Deuteronomy 6:4-9, God tells parents to “impress” His commands on the children and provides four times in which to do that. One of those times is “when you rise.” Mornings can often be rushed, crazy times as everyone is trying to get shoes tied, hair brushed, coffee guzzled and breakfast consumed. In the middle of it all, take just 30 seconds to stop with each child and pray a simple blessing.

This prayer doesn't have to be long or eloquent. In fact, simple is good; it's easy to remember and repeat daily. Something like, "Lord, be with Grace today. May she know that you are with her, that you love her and that you have called her by name and may she return home full of joy and wisdom."

DINNER DISCUSSIONS

Another time God encourages us to engage with our kids is "when you sit." It's rare to have families in a place where they all sit down together, but sometimes dinner still gives us that opportunity. To centre our conversation during those nights, our family asks four questions: What was your high today? What was your low? What mistake did you make? Where did you see God today?

We have had more 'teachable moments' at dinner than we could have ever imagined. Sometimes we only get two questions in before we begin discussing something related to our faith, God, family or church. And what's great is that everyone, even Mum and Dad, gets to participate.

DRIVE TIME

God tells parents to share with their kids as they "walk along the road." This doesn't happen as much as it did but we do drive along the road an awful lot. If you have to travel frequently, might I suggest downloading or purchasing some Adventures in Odessey programs from Focus on the Family? These radio dramas provide a great platform for discussion with kids and they will love listening to them (you will too—they're pretty great!). We have had many conversations with our children brought on by topics discussed in the episode and as an added bonus, the episodes all have Scriptures to go with them so you don't have to figure it out yourself!

Older children/teens? Podcasts! There are some great podcasts out there that explore history and story. Remember,

*We have had more
teachable moments'
at dinner than we could
have ever imagined.*

Jesus is with us everywhere and He is the greatest storyteller. Listening together to these podcasts can open up conversation that allow us, as parents, to introduce our children to a providential God who shows up all through history.

BEDTIME BLESSING

The final time God specifies is "when you lie down." Kids are fantastic stallers when it comes to bedtime. Wouldn't it be great if you got them at their own game and turned their stall time into a time for discussion and blessing?

For young children, check out the *Jesus Storybook Bible* which tells the stories of Scripture in a unique way and points out where Jesus can be found in every story.

For older kids, before they go to bed, simply ask them if anything is on their mind that they need to talk about before bed so they can sleep well. It will shock you what they are willing to share in that safe place with you. These moments will be the last thoughts before your cherub slips off to sleep; can you think of a better send off?

Once these four practices become habitual for you, you will find it much easier to put Christ in the centre of your family activities. Your kids won't think it's 'weird' when you take time to schedule a Family Faith Talk because you've already invited Jesus to the dinner table. It won't feel difficult to turn to Scripture in everyday moments because you've been listening to it in the car and reading it before bed. And before you know it, your baby steps will become faith-forming strides as discipleship happens... at home. ♦

INTERGENERATE CONFERENCE 2020— REFLECTIONS

DENISE SNOOK
MANUKAU CITY BAPTIST

Looking at my notes from Intergenerate Conference is a little like trying to decipher another language. The conference came at the 'perfect' time as we had been out of lock-down just long enough to feel entirely overwhelmed by what needed to be done.

The opportunity to sit with other wonderful children and family ministry leaders while we listened and participated in the online sessions was a real gift! While the content was great, talking through the information and ideas with others, and seeing it through a Kiwi lens, was invaluable. We are truly blessed in New Zealand to be walking this journey with so many inspiring people around us.

My notes were brief but here are the main learnings I took from the sessions and discussions:

- **It has to be intentional.**

Being intentional about intergenerational community is the first step. The aim is

to get to a place in our church culture where we don't have to be intentional anymore—it's just who we are.

- **It's a gift.**

It's not a burden or a hassle. Including all is a privilege and a gift. The diversity is a blessing and something to be sought after.

- **It's not what we do it's who we are! It's our DNA.**

I took from this point a sense that biblical thinking needs to permeate us until putting others first, whether younger or older or somewhere in the middle, with or without obvious impairments or cultural differences, is so much a part of us that it moves from intentionality to automatic pilot, because we know no other way.

- **Find some other adults willing to be radical/intentional.**

Get some people inside. Approach those wonderful people who are willing

to be part of the change and plant them in strategic places so the culture changes. People who are willing to draw people from different generations together and begin conversations, then deepen those conversations and value the opinions of each person.

- **If a space hasn't changed when someone enters you haven't included them.**

This was a truly thought provoking comment for me. I guess you've all been part of a conversation where you have been invited in but you're not really a part of it, you don't understand the private jokes and your invitation to be there was more of an intrusion than inclusion! Is this how an older person would feel entering your worship service, or a child entering your shared lunch. Is tokenism a way to describe the way we 'include'? Has the space changed?

Cory Seibel, in his session said, quoting Wes Wick...

"We're sometimes prone to seeing younger generations as aliens from other planets—and they often see us in a similar way. True, our life experiences at different points of history can undermine some common ground. But think how much richer our lives can be when we tap into this variety of life experiences and viewpoints!"

- **It's not about me.**
Self-explanatory I think!



- **We surround ourselves with people who reflect ourselves, in doing so I can affirm myself without the transformation of myself.**

"As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend" Proverbs 27:17.

We must ensure that we are allowing people different from ourselves to sharpen us!

- **If you want to go fast go alone but if you want to go far walk together.**

The 7th generation principle, "participation in deep time" was new language to me. This principle embodies the idea that, just as the nation of Israel was asked to do, we consider the generations that follow us, and not just the here and now.

Again Cory Seibel quoted Loralie Crabtree...

"One thing that was really important to us as we started the church plant was to have a multiplicity of voices at the table to feed into what we call 'group discernment'... It is important to understand how those from different generations feel, because when we forge the way together it lasts longer and takes us further."

I hope my musings are helpful to you! This last Sunday as a church we were looking at 1 Corinthians 12. They used the example of Mr Potato Head, where lots of different parts are joined together to create a unique whole, and I was reminded of how simple, yet complex (and also how biblical!) intergenerational church really is. ♦



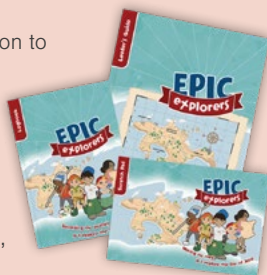
Resources

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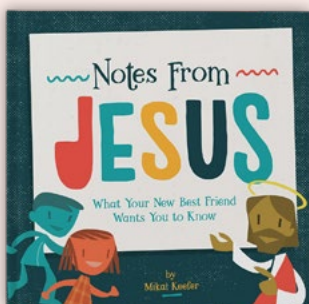
the**good**book.co.nz

I love to discover places down-under where affordable books and resources for leaders and children can be purchased. This Australian based website has loads of resources that can be used in your Children's Ministry or in the home. Here are just a few that are worth looking at:

- **Epic Explorers**—*Epic Explorers* is the newest addition to the Christianity Explored range, specially designed for 4-11s. The five flexible sessions can be used for a holiday club, after-school club, or as an opportunity for children to invite friends to their church group. *Epic Explorers* takes children through Mark's Gospel as they explore the life of Jesus together. On the way they will discover who Jesus is, why he came, and what it means to follow him.
- **Starting Out in Children's Ministry**—Alison Mitchell (see Editor's Picks for further details).
- **Meals With Jesus**—Ed Drew. A journey through the book of Luke for the whole family (or maybe your Children's Ministry!)
- **Jesus and the Very Big Surprise**—Randall Goodgame. A true story about Jesus, his return and how to be ready.



Go to: www.thegoodbook.co.nz



NOTES FROM JESUS

BY MIKAL KEEFER

I know I have promoted this book before, but just in case you missed it first time around this one is MOST definitely worth another mention. It is the best book I have come across for helping children learn about, and get to know Jesus (aside from the *Jesus Storybook Bible*). Every child should grow up with this book beside their bed. Yep, I love it that much!



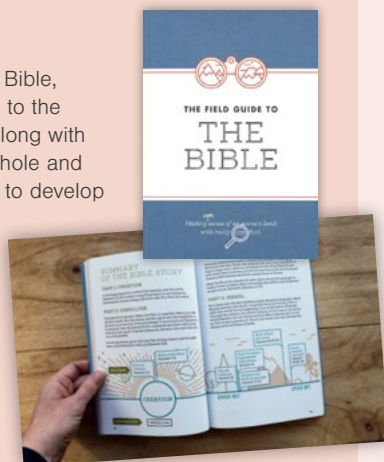
SCRIPTURE UNION ADVENTURE MAGAZINE

Our awesome colleagues at SUNZ put out a quarterly newsletter that is always full of inspiring ideas and challenging stories. The latest issue has a great article on choosing suitable Bibles for children. Check it out here: sunz.org.nz/get-involved/adventure-magazine

FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIBLE

For many young Christians and people new to the Bible, not knowing where to start reading is a key barrier to the Bible playing an important role in their faith. This along with confusion about how the Bible fits together as a whole and how it connects with real life has led Bible Society to develop *The Field Guide to the Bible*.

At more than 100 pages, and including lots of Bible reading helps, fun tips and illustrations, *The Field Guide to the Bible* is especially designed to equip young people with ways to connect with God through the Bible. It also features a timeline and narrative of key events in the Bible as well as practical, brief, introductions to each book of the Bible.



THE BAPTIST CFM WEBSITE

Yes, it's true, there's nothing like a little bit of self-promotion! But all joking aside, we think it's pretty good and we recommend you look regularly as we update on a weekly basis. Our aim is to curate the best we can find on the internet, so that you don't have to, along with providing great resources specifically for the New Zealand market. Check us out here: baptistcfm.org.nz

Editor's picks

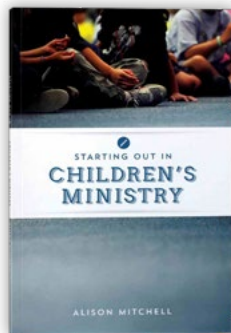
STARTING OUT IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

BY ALISON MITCHELL

When I first came across this book I ordered it based solely on its title—oh, and the fact that it was a short read! When it arrived I was thrilled to see that it was packed with encouragement and essential skills for anyone involved in leading or helping with children's ministry—even someone like me who has had a 'bit' of experience.

Alison takes the reader on a thoughtful, yet practical journey in how to be the sort of leader who is effective in sharing the good news of Jesus with the next generation. She has even woven useful discipline tips throughout the book. If you are the Children's Ministry leader in your church there are also great tools and tips for using with your team. You might also want to suggest that your volunteers, many of whom may not have had any formal training, to read it as well.

Alison Mitchell is convinced that teaching young people about Jesus is the best job in the world. She has trained literally thousands of children's workers over the past 30 years and is passionate about helping others to get as excited about children's ministry as she is. I highly recommend this book.

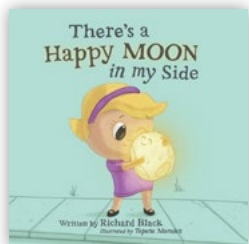


THERE'S A HAPPY MOON IN MY SIDE

BY RICHARD BLACK


This brand new book by well-known New Zealand counsellor and speaker, Richard Black, is a departure from his previous works which have been written for adults. The book helps children unpack their feelings and learn positive ways to deal with the emotions they experience. The aim is to help them develop emotional resilience. Richard writes, "Many children struggle with their emotions and mental health. This book helps children learn skills to grow their emotional awareness, resilience, and wellbeing. These are skills that will help them throughout the years into adulthood."

It's aimed at a secular audience, so that it can be used in schools, but is just as useful in the faith context. There are tips for ways to use the book in the back, and further resources for churches and parents on his website: strengthtostrength.co.nz



Pin the dates

8 AUG	CBM Training Auckland Special to God seminar For more information contact: info@cbm.org.nz
31 AUG - 4 SEPT	Children's Ministry Block Course Carey Baptist College Auckland For more information and to register: carey.ac.nz/events/childrens-ministry
6 SEPT	Father's Day
12 SEPT	CBM Training Auckland Master Storytelling For more information contact: info@cbm.org.nz
14 SEPT - 20 SEPT	Māori Language Week <i>Te Reo Māori Activity Book</i> produced by Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa www.tepapa.govt.nz/sites/default/files/final_te_reo_activity_book-with-license.pdf
16 SEPT	Safety First Training Auckland 9am - 12.30pm To register email Karen: karen.warner@baptist.org.nz
5-7 NOV	Baptist Hui Manukau City Baptist More information to come



31 AUG - 4 SEPT **block course**

children's ministry course

with Annette Osborne and Tammy Tolman

Equip yourself to be more effective in your Children's Ministry.

This highly interactive course explores the biblical and theological foundations, current trends, and relevant issues in ministry to children and their families within a local church context.

carey.ac.nz | rachel.roche@carey.ac.nz

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child discipleship
is the most critical
conversation impacting
the future of faith.***

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Fearless Future of the Church***