

Christy Wing, one of our LifeGroup Leaders, has used various resources for the children's meeting time in their LifeGroup. Here are her comments and if you'd like to follow up with her on any of these please email her at cmw@worldexpresstours.com.

Character Training (includes Bible color page, Bible Stories, Object Lessons and Puppet Shows for Character Traits... Patience, Kindness, Sharing, etc.) - Can be used for younger children too - especially if you have the older ones help with the Object Lesson. We had our older ones actually put on the puppet shows for the younger ones.

Bold Bible Kids for Children's Ministry --12 Character Building Lessons by *Group*

Veggie Tales (Vacation Bible School type kit) - Everyone LOVED this one. It was easy to tailor to a small group setting. *This is available for checkout in the LifeGroup (LG) Ministry Library.*

Based upon Colossians 3:12-14, participants will learn what it means to be kind, forgiving, gentle, loving, compassionate, holy, patient, dearly loved by God, a good friend, & humble.

Veggie Kids Video Sessions include Veggie Family

- At the Restaurant
- At the Church
- At the Beach
- At the Home
- At the Retirement Center

Crown Financial Study, Children's Resources

<http://www.crown.org/Cart/Individual/Children.aspx>

Heritage Builders Workbooks spell out what to say, life slogans (a memory verse that helps them remember what they learned), and different crafts, games, activities to go with the lesson. It's not too complicated and some are very short that allow more time for songs or something else.

- Heritage Builders 10 Commandments Family Nights Tool Chest- *available in LG Ministry Library*
- Simple Science Family Nights Tool Chest- *available in LG Ministry Library*
- Money Matters Family Night Tool Chest- *available in LG Ministry Library*
- Bible Stories for Preschoolers Old Testament Family Nights Tool Chest- *available in LG Ministry Library*
- Holidays Family Nights Tool Chest-
- Proverbs Family Nights Tool Chest-*available in LG Ministry Library*
- Heritage Builders Simple Science Family Nights Tool Chest
- Books of the Old Testament / Books of the New Testament

Special K - we borrowed this series from Kidspointe that was used several years ago.

On-line Bible Study Lesson Plans:

There are also a bunch of on-line Bible study lesson plans that we have found just by searching. You can get small group lesson plans that include the story, an activity and worksheets, etc. Here is an example from one Church (Calvary Chapel) http://children.calvarychapel.com/site/curriculum_n.htm . They have a study from each chapter in both the Old and New Testament. They include a color page (for younger kids) and for the older kids, they can do the crossword puzzle and/or word find. Then there are also a bunch of True False/fill in the blank questions that can be used for discussion. Just add a craft and you

are done! (we have a separate craft book to choose from when the lessons don't include the craft). Anyway, there are tons of free lesson plans on line... this is a great way to get just the right study for your group - then you can modify it however you need.

Also, we start group with singing - we have downloaded the KPN & KPS songs to our computer and hook them up to the big screen so the kids can sing and dance to the same songs they do on Sunday mornings. This takes up a good 15-20 minutes. We also have Dance Praise (like Dance Dance Revolution...but with Christian Songs) and the kids enjoy dancing to Christian songs.

Kim Van Pelt, the Wing's children's group meeting leader, shares some more resources their group has used.

One good book is **The Encyclopedia of Bible Crafts** and they have various books for different ages. The crafts go with an important verse in the Bible and have a short lesson with questions to ask about what they learned.

My Bible Coloring Book: A Fun Way for Kids to Color through the Bible--from Genesis to Revelation!

I just printed off the coloring pages, read the story with the page, and did a craft or two from the particular book in the Bible from the craft book. But that did take awhile doing 1-2 books each week. I was usually able to fit in 2 books with 1 craft, unless there was something else I wanted to do that night.

<http://www.christianbook.com/bible-coloring-color-through-genesis-revelation/shirley-dobson/9780830720682/pd/0720685#curr>

I have also used many random sites on the internet. Two are DLTK.com and makingfriends.com (craft ideas). I usually just Google Bible crafts for kids, or whatever I'm looking for, and a lot of times the same sites come up.

I highly recommend the VeggieTales study. It was more geared for younger kids, but all the kids in my group love VeggieTales and they enjoyed the movie clips with each lesson, the games and crafts, and I had them help me with the younger ones when they were getting bored. That was set up very nicely because it had exactly what to do and say, and more than enough things to do so I just picked which games and crafts I liked and had time for 1-2 of them.

Along with lessons, when a holiday is coming up I do a lesson or two on that holiday (Easter, Christmas, Thanksgiving, 4th of July sometimes, Valentine's, etc). I have had the kids perform a short Christmas play for the parents each year, and when there are things they have memorized (the 10 Commandments recently) they will say that in front of the parents. The kids feel so good memorizing the play, Commandments, whatever and showing the parents all together.

The kids really enjoy the songs. It's something they know and have fun with, and the younger ones are learning them so when they are in Kidspointe they will know them. We haven't used Dance Praise recently because this new group is a little bit younger and none of them really know how to use it and are too afraid to try. But the older ones can't get enough! I hoping to try it again soon and maybe since they are older than a year ago maybe the younger ones will try it now. But it's a great thing. They have fun dancing (and singing along!) to good, Christian music.

Jenny Rogers recommends and owns the following. If you'd like to borrow any of these, contact her at jrogers@crosspointe.org.

StoryKeepers— Thirteen 30-minute DVDs

"The Storykeepers" is an animated video series created for children that tells the story of Ben the baker, and his wife Helena, who are Christians in Rome at the time of the Neronian persecutions (64 A.D.). Ben and Helena have adopted four children whose parents were lost during the fires set by Emperor Nero. The hope-giving stories and parables of Jesus are told in the course of their exciting adventures, including the passion narrative from the Gospel of Mark."

<http://www.storykeepers.com/intro.html>

Activity book and puzzle are also available.

Kid's 10 Commandments – 5 DVDs

<http://www.amazon.com/Kids-Ten-Commandments-Complete-Collection/dp/B000E5N66Q>

Greatest Heroes and Legends of the Bible – 5 VHS videos

- The Nativity
- The Story of Moses
- Daniel & Lions Den
- The Miracles of Jesus
- The Last Supper, Crucifixion and Resurrection

Also available in the LG Ministry Library are the following:

Kay Arthur's Wrong Way Jonah!

Kay Arthur's Jesus Awesome Power Awesome Love