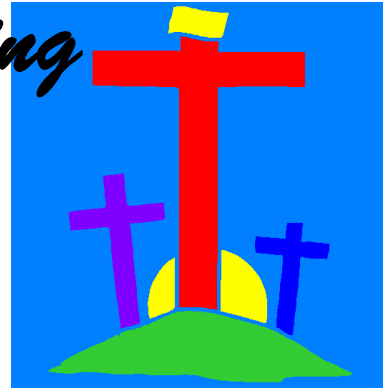


Junior Christian Endeavour

**Bible Knowledge
Studies**

The Weekly Devotional Meeting



Christian Endeavour aims to train young people to actively take part in their Christian meeting. The following eight Bible studies on the life of **Jesus** contain many opportunities for Junior participation.

The Plan

The 'CHAIRPERSON'S PLAN' need not be adhered to rigidly as you, the leader, may feel your Juniors need a lighter programme with some more active games or art work etc., or the activity needs adapting to their needs. The time allowed has also to be considered and perhaps you will need to cut out some of the items. The order of items, however, does have a progression and should be used in the given order.

Programme Contents

Refer to the 'Programme Contents' (following page) for guidance on Chain Prayer, Sword Drill and Drama.

Award Scheme

The programme content of the **Jesus** series is to teach and reinforce the learning of the Bible passages set for the Bible Knowledge Award. This may be sat at the end of the series. Enquiries about this should be made to the Scottish Christian Endeavour Headquarters. The completed effort would then be sent to the Junior Convener who marks it and awards the "Bible Knowledge" Award certificate.



The Bible Knowledge certificate is only one of the Awards which may be worked on during the weekly devotional meeting. Details of 'Games/ quiz Master', 'Public Bible Reading', 'Book Keeping', 'Chairperson', 'Faithful Attender', 'Instrumentalist', 'Singer', 'Meeting Room Attendant', 'Speaker', and 'Drama' are all explained in the Award Scheme Contents and may be achieved while working on the Bible Studies.

"MARK TIME" Video

This visual aid, featuring Roy Castle, is available from www.mailorder@scriptureunion.org.uk and can be used throughout the Bible Study series.

Acknowledgements

Bible version - quotes for Bible texts are acknowledged to be from the Good News Bible, or the New International Version.

Music -

MP = Mission Praise, compiled by Peter Horrobin and Greg Leavers, published by Collins
JP = Junior Praise, compiled by Peter Horrobin and Greg Leavers, published by Marshall Pickering

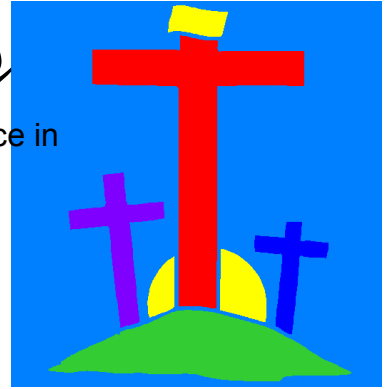
Clipart -

Authentic Software,
Kingstown Broadway,
Carlisle, CA3 0QS
www.sunrise-software.com

Serif Art Gallery,
PO Box 2000,
Nottingham,
NG11 7GW
www.serif.com

Art work by Pauline Adams from "How to Cheat at Visual Aids" published by Scripture Union (1996)

Programme Contents



In the Christian Endeavour meetings, there is opportunity to gain confidence in

- Public prayer through **Chain Prayer**
- Finding one's way around the Bible through **Sword Drill**
- Understanding Biblical stories **Drama**
- Participating competitively and socially in **Games**
- Learning through **Quiz activities**

Chain Prayer

A chain is made by joining many links and so with Chain Prayer, many small prayers from the Juniors are linked into a chain of prayer.

Organisation:

- Sit in an inward facing circle of 6-8 Juniors, with a Leader. If the same group members are kept weekly, this can help the child's understanding of each other and their needs. It also leads to continuity and so there can be continued prayer for an item or thanks for answered prayer.
- Pass round an object e.g. A 'Prayer Bear' or frog (Fully Relying On God) so that each child will know their turn. If a child does not wish to participate s/he passes the object to the next person.
- OR use a Prayer Notebook. Each week a Junior writes in it, in advance, three items for prayer. This gives ideas to the other children and can be an excellent reference for answers to prayer.
- Take time to discuss items of need or praise in the group.

Drama

This is a way of learning names, places and actions and understanding feelings and the manner in which people react to situations. There are three ways of doing this:

- The children mime to the Bible passage as it is read. Use a modern translation of the Bible and read slowly where there is more action or pause for an action.
- Have a narrator and the characters learn some of the spoken words and speak these at the appropriate part.
- Update and rewrite the story in a modern context. You will be surprised what the Juniors will come up with! Do not underestimate them.

Sword Drill

Use the poster of **Ephesians 6: 17**. Here the Bible is called the "Sword of the Spirit" because we use it to fight the Devil. A sword is kept in a sheath hung from a belt at hip level. These commands are used:



Sheath swords: hold your closed Bible at hip level

Draw swords: lift closed Bibles high above your head

Charge: Bibles are lowered for use

Now have a competition to see who can find a Bible verse first.

Give the commands 'sheath swords' and 'draw swords' and then tell the Juniors the verse to find. The Juniors repeat this several times before the "charge" command is given. (Confine the verses to the Gospels until the order of the Bible books is familiar then gradually learn more of the New Testament order.) When a Junior finds a verse, s/he stands up. When several, or all, are standing, ask a Junior to read out the verse clearly. Help those with most need and encourage the more able to help others too.