



Faith Runs Deep Children’s Resources

Key verse: **Ephesians 2:8-10**

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— **9** not by works, so that no one can boast. **10** For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to.

Songs: Colin Buchanan - The One and Only God

Working Overview		
Celebrating stories of faith in Australia to inspire us to live out our faith today.		
Episode	Big Idea	Main Story
Episode 01 – Faith Runs Deep (introduction)	It starts with Faith <i>Australian faith stories</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gospel message /Testimony from own church
Episode 03 – Second Chance (early years)	God of second chances <i>Faith stories of Colonial Australia</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Reibey
Episode 04 – Eternity in our Hearts (First Nations culture and stories)	God has always been at work in Australia <i>Faith stories of First Nations People of Australia</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barnabas Roberts
Episode 05 – Melting Pot (immigration)	God has been at work in the world <i>Faith stories in Immigration</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tony Hoang
Episode 06 – That Other Religion (sport)	God can work through the things we enjoy <i>Faith stories in Sport</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eloise Welling
Episode 07 – My Brother’s Keeper (charity)	God of compassion <i>Faith stories in Charity</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Flynn

Session 1 It starts with Faith	
Aim: Explore the concept of faith and to understand our faith stories flow from our response to the Gospel.	Resources/notes
<p>Welcome and Intro Activity:</p> <p>Have a map of Australia on display. (Either printed or via a projector). Hang up signs around the room for each of the 6 states in Australia: New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria, Tasmania.</p> <p>Have the children go and stand in a state that they have been to (if they have been to more than one ask them to choose their favourite memory or reason for being in the state). Ask the children what they did in the state they are standing in.</p> <p>Have some basic facts relating to each state. Get the children to stand in the state they think the fact is referring to.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) This state has the NRL team of the Broncos. (QLD) 2) This state has the famous Harbour Bridge (NSW) 3) This state is the smallest in Australia (TAS) 4) This state is the largest in Australia (WA) 5) Kangaroo Island is in this state (SA) 6) This state has Movie World and Sea World (QLD) 7) This state has the Blue Mountains (NSW) 8) The capital city of this state is Melbourne (VIC) 	Map of Australia, signs to hang for the 6 states.
<p>Prayer:</p> <p>Teacher to pray for the morning that God would open their hearts and minds to what He wants to show them today. That they would discover together about how faith in Jesus makes a difference in people's lives.</p>	
<p>Memory Verse Activity: Ephesians 2:8-10</p> <p>This is the verse that the children will be learning throughout the 6 week program. This week we will focus on verse 8 and build on that for the following weeks.</p> <p>“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God” Ephesians 2:8</p> <p>Print out the verse in 3 different colours in a large sized font. Cut the words</p>	Verse printed in different colours. (3 groups/3 colours)

<p>out and hide them around the room. Put the children into three groups and allocate each group a colour to find. Allow them to find all of the words for the verse and put it together. Give them a copy of the verse to refer to. The group that has put it together and read it out first will be the winners. Encourage each group to finish and read the verse aloud.</p> <p>Say: <i>For the next six weeks we will be thinking about faith in the history of Australia. This verse says "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God". God has given us the gift of salvation! This verse says it is through faith.</i></p> <p>Ask: <i>What is faith?</i> Take some suggestions from the children.</p> <p><i>Faith is trusting in God and what He says.</i></p> <p><i>The people that we will be hearing about over the next 6 weeks all had one thing in common. That is: their faith. They all trusted in God and lived their lives to show the faith they had.</i></p>	
<p>Lesson Content:</p> <p>Say: <i>Each week we are going to be learning about some people from Australia that have had faith in Jesus and lived it out to make a difference in our country and in other people's lives. Today though we have asked _____ from our church to come and share about their faith.</i></p> <p>Ask someone from your church to come and share their story of faith. You could prompt them with some of these questions...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) When and where was the first time you heard about Jesus? 2) How old were you when you decided to follow Jesus? 3) Where were you and who was with you when you made this decision? 4) How would you describe faith in Jesus? 5) Who was helpful to you in growing your faith in Jesus? 6) If you could give the children here some advice in staying close to Jesus, what would you say? 7) How has having faith in Jesus made a difference in your life? <p>See if the children have any questions they would like to ask about their faith or life. (You could give the 7 questions above out to children and get them to do the asking)</p> <p>God has been at work in our world from the very beginning of time. We see that in the story of creation and His work continues in our lives today.</p> <p>What is faith? Faith is trusting in who Jesus is and what He has done for us. Let's have a look at this now.</p>	

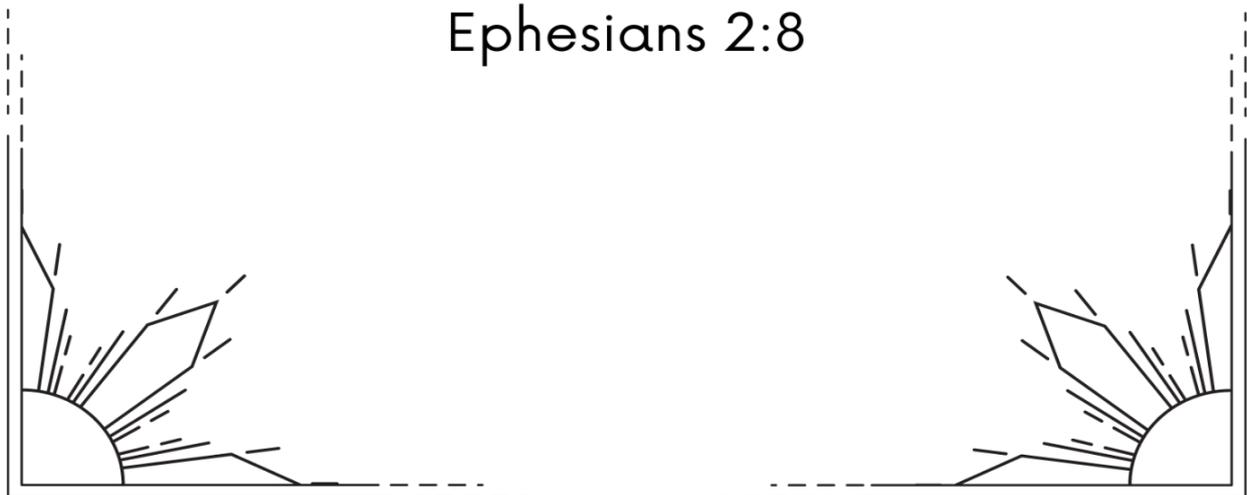
<p>Give a Gospel presentation, using the wordless book or the Gospel beads bracelet. There are a lot of examples online. This is a helpful resource.</p> <p>https://www.letthelittlechildrencome.com/child-evangelism-resources/wordless-book-share-the-gospel/</p> <p>Aim to ask the children questions as you go to engage them in the process. They could even make their own wordless book or bracelet.</p>	
<p>Follow Up Activities:</p> <p>DISCUSSION: Ask the children some similar questions that you asked the guest who came to talk to the children today. Have the children ask you some of the questions too so you can share some of your faith story. Be sensitive in the way you ask as some children may not have made a decision to follow Jesus yet. If this sparks some discussion and questions as to whether they would like to follow Jesus let their parents know so that you can involve them in the process of praying with their child.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) When and where was the first time you heard about Jesus? 2) How old were you when you decided to follow Jesus? 3) Where were you and who was with you when you made this decision? 4) How would you describe faith in Jesus? 5) Who was helpful to you in growing your faith in Jesus? 6) If you could give the children here some advice in staying close to Jesus what would you say? 7) How has having faith in Jesus made a difference in your life? <p>PRAYER: After hearing today that faith is something that is passed on and shared with others, think of someone in your life that you could pray for to know Jesus. Pray for them and write their name on a sticky note to add to the wall, encouraging others to pray also.</p> <p>RESPONSE: Give the children some time to consider their own faith. You could play a song and encourage them to think about what Jesus has done. Ask them to commit to one thing this week that might help them stay close to Jesus. (eg I am going to pray when I go to bed, I am going to ask my parent to read a bible story with me, I am going to go on a walk with my family to be in nature and see God's creation)</p> <p>CRAFT/ACTIVITY: Colouring page of the word Faith. (see resources)</p>	<p>Colouring page</p>



FAITH

"For it is by grace you have been saved,
through faith - and this is not from yourselves,
it is the gift of God"

Ephesians 2:8



Session 2

God of second chances
Faith Stories of Colonial Australia

NB Please be sensitive to the issues around First Nations People. There has been a difficult history of hurt and grief that should be considered when sharing this lesson.

<p>Aim:</p> <p>To know that God gives second chances.</p>	<p>Resources/notes</p>
<p>Welcome and Intro Activity:</p> <p>Show the children our Australian money (notes). Give them a quick overview of some people on them - particularly point out the \$20 which has Mary Reibey on it.</p> <p>Game: Rob the Nest with gold coins ... steals</p> <p>Put the children into 4 teams. Each team is located in a different corner of the room. Each team has a hoop in front of their group. The aim is (one at a time) a child runs to the centre to get a gold coin and bring it back to their group (they can only get one coin each time) then the next player does the same thing. This is repeated until all of the coins are gone from the centre. After this they can start to "rob" from the other teams. The teams cannot block the opponents. At the end of a given time (2 or 3 minutes) the team who has the most coins wins.</p> <p>Say: We have just played a fun game of Rob the Nest where we had to steal from each other. In real life it is ok to steal from others? Today we are going to hear a story about someone who stole something a little larger than a coin!</p> <p>Ask: Will God forgive us if we are sorry for stealing? (Have kids answer).</p>	<p>Plastic gold coins</p> <p>Hoops</p>
<p>Prayer: Invite a child to read this prayer for today.</p> <p>"Thank you Jesus that we can be here together today. Help us to remember that we are here because of you and your love for us. I pray that you would help us see how you have been at work in people's lives for such a long time and that you will continue to be at work in our lives too. Help us to live for you! In Jesus name AMEN."</p>	
<p>Lesson Content:</p> <p>SECOND CHANCES</p> <p>Before you tell the story of Mary's life, for extra engagement you could have some children act out the story. (Just for some fun).</p> <p>Last week we talked about faith and how faith in Australia has been around for a</p>	

very long time. Today we are going to look at faith in the 1800's, over 200 years ago. There are lots of stories of people of faith but today we are going to look at a lady's life called Mary Reibey.

She came to Australia as a convict, and it is an amazing story, actually. She was convicted of horse stealing in 1790. When she was arrested, she was dressed up as a boy named James Burrow. And it wasn't until after her trial, that they discovered that she was actually a girl. She was only 15 when she arrived in Australia as a convict. She was sentenced to 7 years as a convict, but she was set free two years after she arrived. She married a man called Thomas Reibey who she had met down on the docks. He was an employee of the East India Company. He was an Irishman, and they married in 1794. And at that point she was set free and he was given land and they settled on the Hawkesbury River and farmed there for some time.

Mary's husband Thomas became very successful with a cargo business on the Hawkesbury river and then also in Sydney. Unfortunately, he died in 1811. Mary was left with 7 children and the business to run as well. Thomas had a business partner, but he died also so she was left with the whole thing. However, she really thrived and succeeded in business herself. Mary managed to not just run it, she expanded it as well.

You might be wondering about Mary's faith. The reason we know she had a strong faith was because she wrote in her diary about the sermons she listened to, some key verses that she loved, her values also involved a lot of generosity as well, which came from her Christian faith.

Mary gave back in her life by supporting places and she was generous with her money also. We can see from her life that God gives us second (and third and so on) chances. Mary did something wrong when she was a young girl and it looked like her life would be over being a convict in NSW, but her life turned into something wonderful. She is even on our \$20 note! Remember the verse we have been learning. Mary did the good works God had planned for her to do! (Some information adapted from Faith Runs Deep, episode 3).

I want to share a different verse with you. It tells us what God is like.

"But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness." Psalm 86:15

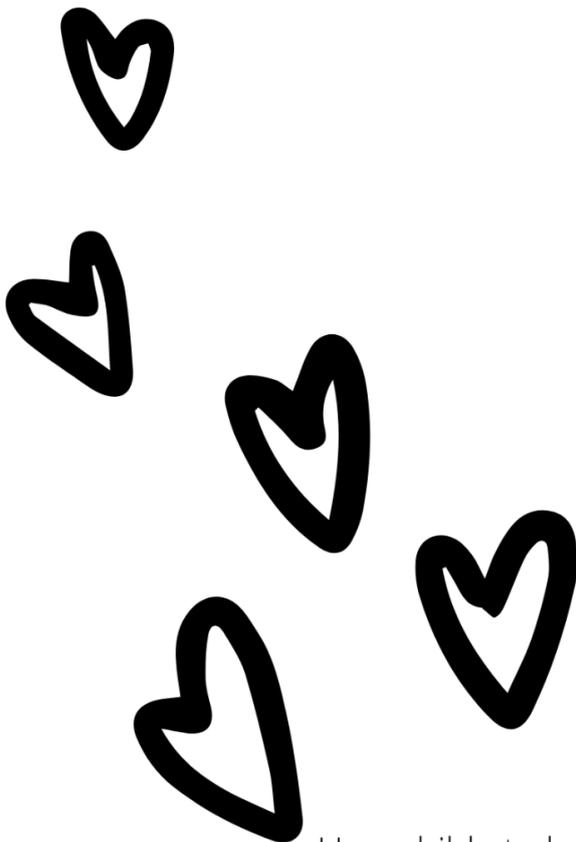
Did you hear the words that described God? *Compassionate, gracious, loving, faithful, slow to anger.*

I want you to know today that God is still like this and still gives us all second chances. Even when we feel like we messed up. Maybe not stealing a horse, but in other ways. We can always come back to God and know His forgiveness,

<p>compassion and love.</p>	
<p>Follow Up Activities:</p> <p>DISCUSSION: Use these questions to discuss the lesson content. How do you think Mary Reibey felt when she was caught for stealing a horse? How do you think she felt when she was transported as a convict to Australia? How did Mary get a second chance? Can you remember why we know 200 years later that Mary was a Christian? Does God still give us second chances? How does God want us to live our lives?</p> <p>PRAYER: Lead the children through a time of confession. Encourage them to ask God for forgiveness and remind them that God will always forgive them. They could write something down they want to ask forgiveness from and then rip it up into little pieces over a bin to show that it is now forgiven.</p> <p>RESPONSE: (This activity would work well for younger children). It is so wonderful that God offers us many chances. Spend some time giving thanks to God. Sit in a circle and roll a ball across the circle. As you roll it shout something to thank God for. The person that catches the ball takes a turn. Keep going until everyone has had a turn.</p> <p>CRAFT/ACTIVITY: Do activity page “God of Second Chances” using the words from Psalm 86:15 to describe God. (see resources)</p>	<p>Paper to write on</p> <p>Ball to roll</p> <p>Copies of activity page</p>

God of Second Chances

What is God like?



Use a bible to look up Psalm 86:15.
Write down some words from this verse that describe God.

Session 3

God has always been at work in Australia
Faith stories of First Nations People in Australia

NB Please be sensitive to the issues around First Nations People. There has been a difficult history of hurt and grief that should be considered when sharing this lesson.

<p>Aim:</p> <p>To show how God has always been at work and how His work can be seen through Australia's First Nation people.</p>	<p>Resources/notes</p>
<p>Welcome and Intro Activity:</p> <p>Find out the name of the traditional owners of the land where you meet. Introduce that to the children. You can find a First Nations Australia map online to show. Locate your area. Teach them an acknowledgment of country.</p>	
<p>Prayer:</p> <p>Draw with chalk a map of Australia (on the carpet or outside area) encourage the children to walk around and pray.</p> <p>You could pray for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Australia in general ● First Nation Australians ● The environment (floods/bushfires etc) 	<p>Chalk</p>
<p>Memory Verse Activity:</p> <p>Stepping-stones. Print out the stepping-stones (see resources) of the Bible passage Ephesians 2:8-10 that they have been learning. Put them down in a pathway around your room and encourage the children to read it aloud as they step onto each stone. Younger children might need to be buddied up with an older child to help them read the words.</p>	<p>Stepping-stones (see resources)</p>
<p>Lesson Content:</p> <p>Barnabas Roberts story - Beautiful feet</p> <p>Over the last few weeks we have been learning about faith stories from Australia. Today we want to look at the First Nations people. There are many stories of faith from Australia's First Nations people! Let's look at a man today called Barnabas Roberts.</p> <p>Barnabas Roberts came from the Roper River region in the Northern Territory. (Use your map of Australia to show the children where the Northern Territory is.)</p>	

<p>The community is now called Ngukurr, where his descendants now live.</p> <p>Barnabas Roberts became an evangelist. (Do you know what an evangelist is? That is someone who tells people about Jesus!) Barnabas Roberts was a fairly short man and he had a foot that went sideways, because of an accident he had on a horse. His foot didn't stop him from telling people about Jesus. He walked hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of kilometres preaching the Gospel. (Adapted from Faith Runs Deep Episode 4.)</p> <p>Imagine that! Walking all that way to tell other First Nations people about who Jesus is and what He had done. He was helping people to put their faith in Jesus and live their lives for Him.</p> <p>This story of Barnabas Roberts reminds me of a passage in the Bible talking about faith. Romans 10:9-15.</p> <p>9 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. 11 As Scripture says, "Anyone who believes in Him will never be put to shame." 12 For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on Him, 13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."</p> <p>14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"</p> <p>People can hear about Jesus if we tell them. Barnabas Roberts, even with a foot that wasn't normal, walked and walked to tell people about Jesus. Verse 15 says "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" The news of Jesus is the good news, the same news that Barnabas Roberts was telling people about.</p> <p>It is encouraging to hear stories of people sharing their faith and telling others about Jesus. You know we can do that also. We can share our faith with others just like Barnabas Roberts did. At school, at home, at soccer wherever we go.</p>	
<p>Follow Up Activities:</p> <p>DISCUSSION: Read Romans 10:9-15 again. Have the children share what stands out to them about the passage. You could ask "What do you think God is saying through this passage?"</p> <p>PRAYER:</p>	<p>Bibles</p>



<p>Lead the children through a time of prayer. Give them an outline of Australia and have them write a prayer for the nation.</p> <p>RESPONSE: Give each child an outline of a foot (see resources). They can write down the different places they go each week where they could share the good news of Jesus.</p> <p>CRAFT/ACTIVITY: Have the children draw an outline of their foot (or help a friend and do each others) Cut out their foot and write the end of Romans 10:15 “How beautiful are the feet of those that bring the Good News” Remind them of how Barnabas Roberts walked and walked to tell people the Good News.</p>	<p>Outline of Australia</p> <p>Foot outline page (see resources)</p> <p>Paper/Pens</p>
<p>There are some great children’s resources to educate and inform on the Common Grace website that you may find helpful to use in this lesson or let parents know about that they can use with their children. Find it here. https://www.commongrace.org.au/childrens_resources</p>	



Places I go, where I can share and
show the love of Jesus

Session 4

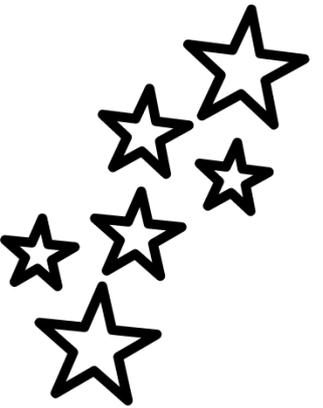
God has been at work in the world
Faith Stories in Immigration

NB. Be aware that Tony's story has some significant themes. You will need to tell this story carefully, and be sensitive to children who may be affected or triggered by this story. You may need to provide appropriate support for children.

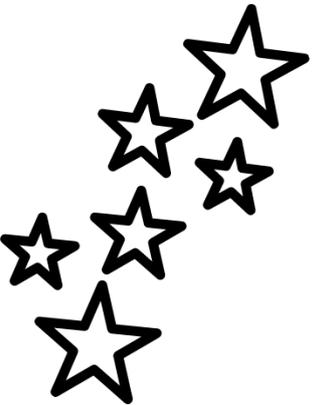
<p>Aim:</p> <p>To explore stories of how Australian immigrants have lived out their faith.</p>	<p>Resources/notes</p>
<p>Welcome and Intro Activity:</p> <p>Have a large world map printed, or use a globe. Invite kids to find where their family comes from and add a sticker. You could also add the places different people in your church have come from.</p> <p>Say: Australia is lucky to have people from lots of different countries and cultures. Today we will look at how God has been working in and through people who have come from far away.</p>	<p>Printed world map or globe stickers. Have several if you have a large group</p>
<p>Prayer:</p> <p>Thank God for all the wonderful cultures that are represented in Australia, and pray that God will encourage us with their stories of faith.</p>	
<p>Memory Verse Activity:</p> <p>If you have people in your church or children in your group, you may like to invite them to read Ephesians 2:8-10 in their own language. Otherwise, have children, or a leader read the Bible verses in several different languages (search for translation online). They may like to try and guess which country they are from.</p> <p>Say: No matter what language they are in, these verses are really important, reminding us we are all made by God - we are His 'handiwork'. Say the memory verse together, using the actions from session 1.</p>	<p>Ephesians 2:8-10 in variety of languages</p>
<p>Lesson Content:</p> <p>Today we are going to hear a fantastic story about a man named Tony, Tony is from a big family - he has 9 brothers and sisters! Tony's family was from Vietnam (Show this on your world map). About 50 years ago, there was a nasty war in Vietnam, and many people escaped on boats. Tony's parents were some of those people. His parents and about 90 of his family escaped on a boat to Australia, and Tony was born once they were in Australia.</p>	

<p>Tony didn't have an easy childhood. His Dad didn't treat him well, he drank lots of alcohol, so Tony felt angry with his Dad. And soon he started taking it out on other people - getting into fights. In fact, he was expelled from three schools because of fighting.</p> <p>Pretty soon, Tony got involved in gangs and dealing drugs at the train station. One day, when Tony was only 14, he tried to sell some drugs to an undercover police officer and so he had to go to jail. He was very angry</p> <p>Things got worse for Tony when he left jail - he was angry and lonely. He moved out of home, was still doing drugs and there was lots of violence in his life, and some of his friends died. By the time he was 21, Tony just wanted to give up on life.</p> <p>Finally, Tony booked into treatment for his drug addiction and before he went, he decided to visit the church where he grew up. Tony cried out to God saying "God, if you're there, please give me a sign or something".</p> <p>The next day, Tony woke up early and went walking. In the middle of the mall, a church group were singing, and a guy handed Tony a flyer which said "If you're looking for a sign from God, here it is." The man told Tony that God loved him but sin was in the way, so all he needed to do was repent of his sin and put his faith in Jesus and he would be forgiven.</p> <p>And that's exactly what Tony did, and it completely changed his life! He went to a Bible conference and now is Pastor of the church that reached out to him when he needed it.</p> <p>Say: Tony's story is a great reminder that Jesus can change our lives. It is a great example of our memory verse - Tony was saved by faith, and now he is doing the things God planned for him to do! No matter what is happening in your life, no matter where you have come from, God loves you and can forgive you and give your life great meaning when you put your faith in Him.</p>	
<p>Prayer:</p> <p>Dear God, thank you that you love us. We want to say sorry for the times we have sinned against you and others. Please forgive us, and show us the good works you planned for us to do. Amen</p>	
<p>Follow Up Activities.</p> <p>DISCUSSION: Invite kids to imagine how it would feel to move to a different country. Invite kids who have moved countries to share how it felt. What might be good about moving to a new country? What might be hard about to a moving to a new country? Think about the memory verse, how might this verse encourage people who have moved to a new country? How does it encourage us to treat people from other countries?</p> <p>PRAYER:</p>	<p>International snacks (What you choose will depend on budget and how many volunteers you have to help you prepare. Cold snacks could be sushi, pastries, unusual fruits, lollies from other countries. A bigger</p>

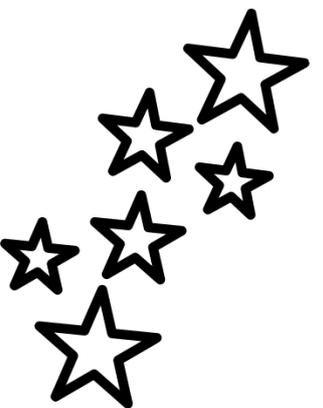
<p>Print off a range of world flags, enough for each child (try to include nationalities that represent your community). Ask kids if they know which countries the flags represent, then invite them to choose a flag and write a prayer for people from that country on the bag. Peg them up where the wider church can see.</p> <p>RESPONSE: Have a variety of international snacks (beware of allergy requirements). Have kids work out where they are from, encouraging them to be grateful for all that people have shared from other cultures, Enjoy the snacks together!</p> <p>CRAFT: Print off the memory verse bookmark for each child - invite them to colour them in as they think about Tony's story. You could laminate them if you like!</p>	<p>feast might include spring rolls, scones, corn chips and salsa!)</p> <p>World Flags</p> <p>Copies of bookmarks, textas, laminating materials (optional)</p>
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Session 5 God can work through the things we enjoy <i>Faith stories in Sport</i>	
Aim: To explore stories of how Australian sports heroes live out their faith.	Resources/notes
Welcome and Intro Activity: Divide kids into group of 6-8 and give each group a get-to-know you ball. Kids can toss the ball to each other, when they catch the ball they should answer the question that is under one of their thumbs. Play until each child has had a chance to answer.	On medium balls (eg beach ball) write questions about kids hobbies such as "favourite sport", "favourite book" "What do you do on Saturdays?"
Prayer: Thank God for the fun of hobbies and sports.	
Memory Verse Activity: Say: We have been exploring Ephesians 2:8-10, which tells us a little of how we can live out our faith in Jesus. Let's see if we can put the words in the right order. Have the words of the memory verse (in phrases) written on ping pong balls. Kids can pull out each ball and place them in the correct order. You could do this in one large group, choosing some volunteers, order the words or complete the challenge in small groups. Younger kids or non-readers might find it easier to say the memory verse with the actions.	Ping pong balls with memory verse written on them.
Lesson Content: Say: Sometimes we think that our hobbies have nothing to do with God. It's just fun after all isn't it? But actually, there are many people in sport who are followers of Jesus. Let's look at one. Show kids a photo of Eloise Wellings and tell her sporting story: When Eloise was a young girl, she loved athletics. She went to Little Athletics and held the shot-put record for under 6's. By the time she was 10, she was focused on middle and distance running and so began to focus on that. She decided that one day she wanted to run in the Olympics for Australia, and she trained hard. When she was 16, she qualified for the Sydney Olympics and she was so excited! Her dream was going to come true! But then something very sad happened - she	

<p>suffered an injury and wasn't able to compete.</p> <p>Eloise didn't give up, even though she had several more injuries. Finally, in 2012 she ran in the London Olympics. She has run many other races in places like the Commonwealth Games, and ran in the Rio Olympics coming 10th in the 10,000m, which is the highest place any Australian has reached in that particular race.</p> <p>Eloise is an amazing athlete, but there is another part of her story, that talks about her faith in Jesus. Here is what Eloise says:</p> <p><i>"So, I was 16 when I qualified for my first Olympics. I was in year 11 at school. And, you know, running was who I was. It was everything to me. It was soon after that I'd just been told that I would miss the Olympics through this injury. And a new girl came over. Her name was Lisa and she sat beside me and she said, 'Hey, I just want you to know that I've been praying for you'. In that moment, it just really touched me that she had this idea of God, that she could pray to Him for something so trivial as my injury, even though it was a big deal to me, I thought that God was so far away from it. I didn't realise that He cared. I went to church with my new friend Lisa, and I heard the Gospel. I heard about Jesus. After a couple of weeks, I decided that this is what I wanted to live for, I wanted to live for Jesus."</i> (From Faith Runs Deep Episode 6.)</p> <p>Say: We've been looking at lots of stories of Australians who are followers of Jesus. I hope these are a reminder that we can live out our faith no matter where we are from and what we are doing - even playing sport!</p>	
<p>Follow Up Activities:</p> <p>DISCUSSION: Read Ephesians 2:8-10. Invite kids to think about verse 10 and discuss these questions: What does it mean to be God's handiwork? ("masterpiece" in NLT). How does God use the gifts and talents and interests we have for Him? What ways can we show our faith in Jesus in fun things like sport and music (you might like to have other testimonies of sports stars available)</p> <p>PRAYER: Draw a running track on some large cardboard. Have Ephesians 2:8-10 written in the middle. Remind kids of how important it was that Eloise's friend prayed for her. Invite kids to think of a friend they could pray for and write a prayer for them on the track (or use post it notes). You could also do this activity individually or in small groups by printing off the running track printable for each child or small group.</p> <p>RESPONSE: In small groups, have a ball to pass around the group. As each child receives the ball, ask them to share something they are good at. When everyone has had a turn, pass it around again, this time inviting kids to share how they could use that skill or environment to serve God or other people. If you have time, pass the ball around a third time, this time thanking God for giving them good gifts</p>	<p>Running track printable</p> <p>Small ball for each small group</p>



<p>CRAFT: (Suitable for younger kids) Explain that at lots of sporting games, people make banners and flags to cheer for their team. In small groups, invite kids to make flags and banners to celebrate being followers of Jesus.</p>	<p>Cardboard, textas other materials for making banners.</p>
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Faith Runs Deep

A large, thick, black outline of the letter 'D' is centered on the page. The letter is composed of multiple concentric lines, creating a sense of depth and shadow. The text is placed within the central negative space of the 'D'.

For it is by grace you have been saved, through
faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift
of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.
For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ
Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in
advance for us to do.
Ephesians 2:8-10

Session 6 God of compassion <i>Faith stories in Charity</i>	
Aim: To explore stories of how Australians have lived out their faith through charities.	Resources/notes
Welcome and Intro Activity: Say: Welcome to our last week of Faith Runs Deep! Let's start today with a fun activity: Provide a variety of coloured paper and invite kids to make paper planes (you can provide some examples of printable instructions). When everyone has made their plane, test them out by seeing how far or how high they can fly.	Coloured paper Examples of paper planes
Prayer: Invite two children to pray - the first one thanking God for all that Jesus has done for us, the second thanking God for all the people who have followed Jesus in Australia.	
Memory Verse Activity: Remind kids that they have been learning an important memory verse for the past few weeks. Invite the kids to say the verse with the actions (see session 1). Congratulate kids on knowing this verse so well (you may like to provide prizes for kids who can say the verse on their own)	Prizes for kids who know the memory verse (optional)
Lesson Content: Show the kids a \$20 note, remind them that Mary Reibey was on one side and that we discussed her story in lesson 2. Ask if they know whose picture is on the other side of the \$20 note. Say: This picture is of a man named John Flynn. Ask if any of the kids have heard of the Royal Flying Doctors. Explain that the Royal Flying Doctors is an organisation that provides medical help in remote areas of Australia, and it was started by John Flynn. John Flynn was born in 1880 - about 140 years ago! When he was about 16, he felt God calling him to something important. He went to Bible College, but didn't do that well. So he ended up traveling around preaching. As he did this, he realised	\$20 note You may like to find and print pictures of the Royal Flying Doctors to show as you tell the story. (a more detailed biography is available on the Flying Doctors

<p>that in the outback, people didn't live close to hospitals or doctors, and it could take a really long time before a doctor could get to them. He heard one story that really impacted him - a story of one man who was injured in the outback and it took the doctor 12 days to travel - but the man died before the doctor could get to him.</p> <p>John began telling that story all around Australia. He believed that helping people to get good medical care was a way to show God's love to them. One day, a young man (who later died in WW1) wrote him a letter suggesting that planes could be used as ambulances. And so John found some people to help him design planes that could be used to transport patients, and the Royal Flying Doctors began. It is still a really important way of helping people in the outback. And it all began because a man who had faith in God decided to help others.</p>	<p>Website, https://www.flyingdoctors.org.au/about-the-rfds/history/john-flynn-bio/)</p>
<p>Follow Up Activities</p> <p>DISCUSSION: Use these questions for small group discussion: How have people like John Flynn lived out Ephesians 2:8-10? Do you know stories of other people who have done good works for Jesus (The children's book <i>Game Changers</i>, <i>World Shakers</i> and <i>Real-life Superheroes</i>, might be a good resource here.) What are some of the needs in our area? Or what are some of the projects and ministries that our church is involved in? How could we be involved?</p> <p>PRAYER: Invite kids to take their paper planes from the introduction activity (or make a new one) and write a prayer on it. Encourage the kids to ask God how they can use their gifts for Him and to pray for different charities and ministries.</p> <p>RESPONSE: Use the "How can I help?" response sheet to help kids to reflect on how they might be able to care for people in need in their community. This could be done in small groups or individually.</p> <p>CRAFT: Make Money Boxes. Provide simple materials for kids to decorate money boxes - small pringle tins are ideal as a slot can be cut (by adults) into the lid. A simple, easy alternative is to provide an envelope for kids to use. Decorate with stickers and paper and a label with Ephesians 2:8-10 written on it. Encourage kids to save some money to give to a charity they care about.</p>	<p>Paper Planes</p> <p>"How can I help?" response sheet for each child. Pens, pencils</p> <p>Materials for Money Boxes: Tins, child-safe jars or envelopes Stickers and textas to decorate Ephesians 2:8-10 printed on stickers or on paper and cut out for each child</p>

How Can You Help?

Think about these people- write or draw about how you could help

PEOPLE WHO ARE LONELY

PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK

PEOPLE WHO ARE HUNGRY

PEOPLE WHO ARE SCARED

EPHESIANS 2:8-10

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Additional Resources

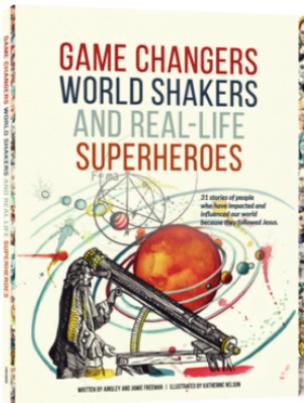
WATCH FAITH RUNS DEEP EPISODES:

- Here is the link to watch FAITH RUNS DEEP. Go to Olive Tree Media's On Demand Streaming Platform page to watch the episodes

<https://www.olivetreemedia.com.au/on-demand/>

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES:

- Games Changers World Shakers and Real-Life Superheroes children's book
<https://www.olivetreemedia.com.au/product/game-changers-world-shakers-and-real-life-superheroes/>



- Faith Runs Deep Anthology
<https://www.olivetreemedia.com.au/product/faith-runs-deep-anthology/>

