

## **Alive@5 – Oh The Places You'll Go**

### **March 2013 Program - "Oh, The Places You'll Go"**

Theme: Life and faith are a journey. Jesus' life was a journey of doing what he believed God wanted him to do and trusting in God's love. Jesus calls us to follow him and do the same. The journey of life has ups and downs, happy times and sad times. Through all of this God is with us.

**Photo Loop** – Funny Transport, "Where The Hell Is Matt?", Adam Cousens Clip

**Arrival Activity** – Map of the world – place a Lego person onto a place where you've travelled. Tell someone what you like best about this place. Tell them something that was difficult about being in this place. Make some kind of transport from Lego (plane, car, horse, bike, spaceship...)

#### **SLIDE**

**Welcome** - Phil

#### **SLIDE X 3**

**Song** – "Travellers on the Journey"

#### **SLIDE**

**Theme Intro** - Phil

Today is about going places. All of have travelled to places. It might have been a holiday to a Victor Harbour, or a trip to visit Gran in Queensland. S

Some of us have had loooooong trips in cars (who's had a long car trip?) or in a plane (who's been on a plane trip).

Some of us have moved house. (Who's moved house? Who's moved from one state to another state? Who's moved from one country to another country?)

Have you ever felt excited about going to a new place? Going places can be exciting, fun, adventurous.

#### **SLIDE**

But it can also be sad, lonely and even scary. Have you ever felt a bit lonely, a bit uncertain or anxious, a bit lost in a new place?

Jesus called people to follow him, and they went to all kinds of places and met all kinds of people. Sometimes it was fantastic – they made friends, helped people and had a great time. Sometimes it was difficult – people didn't like them, they felt frightened and lonely.

Today we're going to explore life and faith as a journey with God, with Jesus.

## **SLIDE**

### **Saying Thanks – Phil**

People are given a word on a piece of paper. (They can keep it or pass it on) For the prayer, that are asked to name something related to the piece of paper for which they are thankful

- a place you have visited
- a special holiday memory
- some people who have hosted you
- a nice meal that someone offered you
- somewhere you saw an amazing sunset or sunrise
- someone who has been the driver or pilot when you've travelled
- something that you appreciate about your home
- someone who has helped you move

**Response** (on screen): Thanks God that you travel with us

## **SLIDE X 8**

**Bible Story** – Luke 9 – Eight people to read (use radio mic) – music and images on screen

## **SLIDE**

**Video** – “Oh, The Places You’ll Go”

## **SLIDE**

**Activities** – see over

### **Gathering**

- What happened in the different places?
- What did you feel?
- What did you learn about going places with Jesus?

## **SLIDE X 4**

**Song (with percussion and drums) – “We Are Marching In The Light of God”**

[The song is a fifth place on the journey – a celebration place]

## **SLIDE**

**Song** – “Thank You God for Everything”

## **SLIDE**

### **Shema**

The Shema (or Jewish household prayer) in the style of Dr Seuss

“And you shall love the Lord your God  
With all the heart inside you  
With every breath that you may breathe  
And all you have beside you.”

Take these words I teach you now  
And keep them close to heart  
Teach them intently to your kids  
That they may grow up smart  
Talk about them with your friends  
When you sit at home  
And speak them proudly on the road  
Wherever you may roam  
Lie down with them, so that you may  
Wake with them on your lips  
Bind them fast upon your hand  
And 'tween your eyes affix  
These words that they may be a sign  
To you for evermore  
- Inscribe these words upon your gates  
And write them on your doors!

## **SLIDE**

### **Blessing**

**SLIDE – Burning Man video**

## Activities

### 1. **The Slump** – feeling alone – inflatable, slow music – Room 5 - Yvonne (Luke 6 – spoken) MUSIC: Lux 1- Brian Eno “Lux”

Jesus had been teaching in the synagogue, which was like a church, and he was tired. He went off to be by himself up on a mountain. He climbed and climbed until there was no-one else around. I wonder if he felt lonely, or whether he just needed some time to himself. Sometimes when you feel alone it feels like being in a bubble – cut off from everything else.

I wonder if you've ever felt like that, like you just wanted to be left alone for a while?  
What does it feel like to be alone?

Jesus decided to pray to God while he was there. I suppose you could say that God kept him company on the mountain.

I wonder if you've ever prayed to God when you've felt alone. I wonder what you'd say?

Jesus stayed on the mountain praying all night long. The next day he went and called some people to be his followers, and they said yes. From then on, Jesus knew he wouldn't have to do his work for God by himself.

It's nice to have friends, and it's also nice to be alone at times. I wonder if you have special friends who you like spending time with?

If we feel alone, just like Jesus did, we can know that God is with us too. Thank you, God, that you are with us all the time. Would anyone else like to say a prayer?

### 2. **The Maze** – feeling lost and confused – maze of chairs, blindfolds – Creche – self-directed (Luke 7 – printed on door)

Jesus spent 40 days all alone in the desert. It was a time when he was being tested by the voice of evil.

Jesus was tired, hungry, and lonely. At times he probably felt confused and hopeless.

It was like being lost in a maze and trying to find your way out. Jesus chose to reject the voice of evil and to listen to God instead.

I wonder when you've felt tempted to do something wrong. I wonder how you felt at the time.

Like Jesus, we can know that God is with us when we have to decide how to behave.

Ask someone to place a blindfold on you and crawl through the maze. Be careful not to move the walls.

As you crawl, imagine what it was like for Jesus to feel lost in the desert. Imagine what it was like for Jesus to be listening for God's voice of love to help him.

**3. The Race** – feeling alive and challenged – Geetas, stilts – Outdoors - Phil  
(Luke 9 - spoken)

Jesus sent his followers out to all of the towns to tell people the good news that God loved them. It was challenging and exciting for them to go. They had to work together as a team. Today we're going to have a challenging race, to remind us that Jesus says to us "Go and tell everyone the good news that God loves us."

**4. The Storm** – feeling scared – parachute, spooky music, video – Room 4 - Craig  
(Luke 8) Music -

One day, Jesus and his disciples got into a boat, and he said, "Let's cross the lake." They started out, and while they were sailing across, he went to sleep. The sky was clear and they thought it was going to be a nice voyage.

Suddenly a great windstorm struck the lake. The waves grew bigger and bigger. The boat started to rock. The wind started to howl. The water waves started splashing over the sides of the boat.

The boat was starting to sink. They were in danger. The disciples were terrified! So they went to Jesus and woke him up, "Master, Master! We are about to drown!" Jesus got up and ordered the wind and waves to stop. " he said. And soon, everything was calm.

Then Jesus asked the disciples, "Don't you have any faith? Why didn't you trust me?" But they were frightened and amazed. They said to each other, "Who is this? He can give orders to the wind and the waves, and they obey him!"

I wonder how the disciples felt when they saw the storm? I wonder what it was like to see Jesus stand up and command the storm to stop? I wonder when you've felt frightened. I wonder what it would be like to ask God or Jesus to help you feel peace when you are scared.

Say a prayer.

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