

21 February, 2012

Support, Training And Resources from Rona Orme, Children's Missioner

Do you need some ideas for sharing the account of Easter with children? Look at: <http://xa.yimg.com/kq/groups/23404912/674408604/name/20120215171055552.pdf> to read an article I have written for *The Reader* magazine.

1 Do Lent generously

Sign up to receive 40acts e-mails for a daily dose of doing Lent generously from 22 February: www.40acts.org.uk. Grow your own spiritual life so you are better equipped to lead the children God is asking you to nurture.

2 Become a Bible storyteller

Read these excellent ideas from our friends at Barnabas: [www.barnabasinchurches.org.uk/become-a-bible-storyteller/?](http://www.barnabasinchurches.org.uk/become-a-bible-storyteller/?utm_source=bicenews&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=%20bicfeb12)

[utm_source=bicenews&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=%20bicfeb12](http://www.barnabasinchurches.org.uk/become-a-bible-storyteller/?utm_source=bicenews&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=%20bicfeb12) and get some fresh ideas.

You can also come along to the workshop I am leading, *Ways to help children engage with the text (rather than just illustrate it with a craft)*, at the Bishop's Bible Day on Saturday 17 March www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/bibleday12.pdf

3 One Way UK Puppets

Join the fun of a puppet ministry training day. The nearest sessions to us are: Bromham, Bedfordshire on 3 March and Quarndon, Derbyshire on 21 April. You read all the details at www.onewayuk.com/events.php



4 From Tip to Ship

This is a great competition to encourage children to take part in the Queen's Jubilee celebrations – design a boat from junk! From The Ark, Hiram's ships and the ships from which Jonah and Paul were shipwrecked, to the fishing boats of the disciples, the boat to which Jesus walked and the boat from which he calmed the storm, we can take inspiration from the Bible to enter the competition. Do let me see your photos if you decide to take part. This would be great project for a uniformed group, a school class or a church club. See: www.startimagining.co.uk/competition-tip-ship

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There is much junk to be had at the Milton Keynes Play Association Scrapstore as well as from the Phoenix in Raunds (for which I can let you have tokens if required).



5 What do families look like?

How would you describe your family - traditional? Modern? Out of the ordinary? In December the [Centre for the Modern Family](#) was launched, and some of its early research has identified [10 family types](#). Of course the reality is that we will find families of all shapes and sizes in our communities. (It also found that 75% of people identified themselves as religious - but only 40% said that it impacted upon their family or way of life.) The challenge for churches is how we welcome and engage with families groupings which don't conform to our understanding of the norm.

6 Book Review

Top Tips on Worshipping with under 5s by Alison Dayer, Scripture Union isbn 978 1 84427 568 7 £3.50

Theory, lots of ideas and real-life stories make this book a real gem. Anyone who leads worship when there are under 5s present should have a copy of this. Whilst most of the material is for worship that focusses on the needs of babies and small children, we need to take the key principles into account when we plan all-age services.

STAR thought:

As one little boy said to his Mum: "When they said All Age Eucharist, did they forget about age six?"

From a parish somewhere in the Peterborough Diocese

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