



# NEW ID

eight sessions on being in God's family

P  
r  
i  
m  
a  
r  
y



Lunchtime Group  
Resources



## **Seven sessions on being in God's Family**



The Crusader Union is a Bible-based, interdenominational Christian youth organisation, whose vision is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to students in the Independent Schools of Australia, to nurture Christians and to encourage church membership.



Although all pages from  may be photocopied for use in Christian groups, Crusaders requests that each school purchase at least one original. However, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means – electronic, mechanical, recording, or any other – except for brief quotations in printed reviews, without the prior permission of the publisher.

All rights reserved.

*Scriptures marked as "(CEV)" are taken from the Contemporary English Version Copyright © 1995 by American Bible Society. Used by permission.*

*Scriptures marked as "(GNB)" are taken from the Good News Bible Copyright © 1988 by The Bible Society in Australia. Used by permission.*

## WELCOME

This resource has been specifically written with school groups in mind but can be adapted depending on your needs. It is based on the group running for approximately 30 minutes each meeting.

## WHAT'S INSIDE?

- **8** sets of leader's notes for regular meetings. The leader's notes provide an aim, fun activity, guidelines for an interactive talk as well as prayer, memory verse and song ideas.
- **2** colour advertising posters designed to grab the attention of students and help increase awareness of your group. There is space for you to fill in your group name and where you meet. We encourage schools to use the 'CRU School Groups' logo when promoting their group so as to link students with the work that God is doing in other schools.

## BEFORE YOU START

- This series is designed as follow-up material for students who have expressed a desire to trust in Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. However, it can also be used for other junior groups to reinforce what it means to be a Christian, with a **New ID**.
- Please note that all pages in this resource can be photocopied but Crusaders requests each school purchase at least one original.
- An optional resource that is mentioned in this series is the students' New ID booklet. These booklets can be printed out for individuals to use and keep or you may choose not to use them as part of your weekly group time. The booklets may be helpful if you are running a follow-up program for new Christians, and this can be downloaded from our web extras page on the Crusaders website, along with other extra material:

<http://www.crusaders.edu.au/ministry/resourcewebextras>

- Whilst this resource is aimed at easing the load for the group leader, it is vital that time is spent adapting it to the specific needs of your group. Time also needs to be spent on working through the Bible passage and talk before the group meets.
- It would be very easy to spend too much time on the fun activity each week. Remember that looking at the Bible and praying together are the most important parts of the meeting and divide time accordingly.
- All suggested songs are linked to the theme of the talk and are used with permission. The intention of including a wide variety of songs from different CDs is to provide you with options if your group enjoys singing - please do not feel it necessary to buy every CD listed. The CDs listed are available in Christian bookstores and many include sheet music.

We pray that this resource will be a great help as you join in God's work of bringing students to Himself and growing them to be like His Son.

*"We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom,  
so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.*

*To this end I labour, struggling with all His energy which so powerfully works in me."  
Colossians 1:28-29*



| Week | Title                                     | Passage                                | Aim  |
|------|---|--|--|
| 1    | <b>In God's Family:<br/>How?</b>          | Ephesians 2:8-9                        | For students to trust that they can be friends with God by God's grace through Jesus.  |
| 2    | <b>Listening to God</b>                   | Psalm 19:7-8                           | For students to realise how important the Bible is and to set goals to read it regularly.  |
| 3    | <b>Talking with<br/>God</b>               | Philippians 4:6-7                      | That students will grow more comfortable to pray to God about everything.  |
| 4    | <b>God's Family:<br/>My Family</b>        | John 13:34-35;<br>Hebrews 10:24-25     | That students will be thankful for the opportunity to meet with other Christians, and will seek opportunities to do so.                |
| 5    | <b>Living for God<br/>- stop &amp; go</b> | Colossians 3:8-10;<br>Colossians 2:6-7 | That students will stop habits that do not please God, and develop habits that please Him.   |
| 6    | <b>Tell the World</b>                     | 1 Peter 2:9-10                         | That students will be active in telling others about the great things that God has done through Jesus.                                 |
| 7    | <b>Looking forward<br/>to heaven</b>      | 2 Corinthians 5:1-2                    | That students will know that life as a Christian may be difficult, but they can look forward to their home in heaven.                  |
| 8    | <b>ID Guaranteed<br/>forever</b>          | Romans 8:38-39;<br>Hebrews 3:14        | That students will be assured and confident that their identity in Christ is secure and that they will be challenged to remain in Him. |

# In God's Family: H

## Ephesians 2:8-9

### AIM

For students to trust that they can be friends with God by God's grace through Jesus.

### FOCUS VERSES

#### Ephesians 2:8-9 (CEV)

<sup>8</sup>You were saved by faith in God, who treats us much better than we deserve. This is God's gift to you, and not anything you have done on your own. <sup>9</sup>It isn't something you have earned, so there is nothing you can brag about.

### PREPARE

- Read through Ephesians 2, familiarising yourself with the context and content of the focus passage. Pray that students will further grasp the wonderful grace of God which saves them.
- Bring along your passport, or another form of ID to show the group.
- Photocopy and collate enough New ID booklets for each student. Make a few extra for future weeks.
- Bring stickers or a stamp for booklets each week.

### INTRODUCE

Hold up your passport. Through questions and answers, let students know that this is something that proves your identity. Someone who finds it would know a little about you: when & where you were born, where you live, where you have travelled. Ask students to share with the group what their ID is – some things that describe them. (E.g. when & where they were born, where they live, what sport they love playing.)

Did you know that being a Christian means that we have a whole new ID? It doesn't mean that you have

a new name or move house. Instead, you become a new person who is now part of God's family through Jesus. Over the next few weeks, we are going to find out a bit more about what this new ID looks like.

### FUN ACTIVITY

**Stuck in the Mud** – You will need to have a fairly large space for this game, e.g. a hall or grassy area near your normal meeting place. One person is "IT" and must tip the rest of the group. Those who have been tipped must stand still where they are. They must be released by others to be set free. Those who are free can release those stuck in the mud by crawling between their legs. If there is a big group, you may wish to have more than one person catching others.

This game can be used to illustrate the fact that we cannot help ourselves when stuck in sin. We need God's gift that saves us.

### TALK

**Story:** Begin with this story - Jamie regularly got into trouble at school. Last Monday, he was told to behave himself as his class was visiting a museum for an excursion. The class was told how to behave: stick together as a group; don't touch the exhibits; always be polite to the people around you. But Jamie didn't listen! He got separated and lost from the group; he started to touch museum objects and almost knocked over one of the displays at the museum! Some of the museum staff tried to tell Jamie off for running around in the museum but instead of listening, he was rude to them. What does Jamie deserve? (Accept suggestions.) He deserves punishment – probably a detention. And that's what he got! An after-school detention and a note home to his parents. He would not be allowed to take the museum show bag that all the other students were getting.

# ow?



At the end of the day, Jamie's teacher instead told him that he was free to go home and did not have to face a detention after school. Jamie even got to take home the show bag from the museum filled with goodies!

### A) In the story, did the student do anything to deserve getting out of detention?

- Jamie, the student, did nothing good to deserve getting out of detention.
- Because we sin against God, we deserve punishment. We're stuck in sin and can't save ourselves. Remind students of the game "Stuck in the Mud" where we need to be saved because we are trapped when tipped.
- But God sends Jesus to take the punishment that should be ours. This is how we are saved.
- Like Jamie, we don't deserve to get out of our punishment, but God saves us because of His GRACE to us.

### B) Jamie's teacher offered him a gift - what was it?

- The teacher's gift wasn't a toy or a box full of lollies. The teacher was kind and allowed Jamie (the student) to go free, even though he didn't deserve it.
- Read out Ephesians 2:8-9. Emphasize that we can be so thankful for this gift from God! It's the best gift anyone can get!
- God gives us THE most amazing gift – GRACE. He saved us through Jesus' death on the cross!
- We need to accept God's gift to us! We do this by believing and trusting that God has saved us and made us His friends because of Jesus.

### C) This is our new ID!

- Hand out the passports and have students draw in a picture of a wrapped gift. Encourage them to fill out page 1 with their details and maybe even bring in a photo.
- Being in God's family is the most important part of who we are!

- Now that we are saved by God, this is the biggest part of our ID – we are in God's family because of God's gift to us.
- Who are we? **God's family, by God's grace, through Jesus.** Have students write this down in the box on page 1 of their booklet.

## SONG IDEA

Explain to students that one way of thanking God for His gift is to sing songs! Here are some suggestions of songs to sing:

- **My Friend** – The King, the Snake and the Promise CD by EMU Music
- **Trust in the Lord with All Your Heart** – Scripture Rock CD by Brentwood Kids

## PRAY

Lead students in a prayer of thanks. Thank God for where we live, go to school, our family members and our new ID that we have - God's family, by God's grace, through Jesus.

## FINISH

Collect the passports from students and place a stamp or sticker on the completed day's page.