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| DAY 1 3-6  **Be Found in His Mercy** | **Relevant Bible Scripture to Read** |
| John 8:1-11  Romans 5:8; 8:38-39 Titus 3:4-7 |
| **Teaching Point** | **Equipment** |
| There is nothing we can do to stop God from loving us | Dice  Story Cards  Debt/Gift Cards & Instruction  Bible verse posters  Bible  Workbooks  Pens/Pencils |
| **\* Game - Get to know you Dice game** |
| Pass the dice around the circle, each child rolls the dice, says their name and then answers the questions based on the number they rolled. 1=Favourite colour 2=Favourite thing to do 3=If they could be a Circus character what would they be 4=Something they have done over the school holidays 5=Favourite movie/tv show 6=Favourite food. |
| **Teaching Spot** | **\* Memory Verse** |
| **🡪 MAKING CONNECTIONS**  **ASK**: a. *Who did Taryn meet at the circus today?*  *b. Why did the clown run away to the circus?*  *c. How did the clown feel about doing the wrong thing?*  Taryn told a story about a woman who had sinned or done the wrong thing.  **ACTIVITY**: Using the story images provided get the children to put the events of the story in order.  **ASK:**  a***.*** *Who were the people who had sinned in the story?*  *b. The men wanted the woman to be punished for doing the wrong thing even though they had done the wrong thing too. How did Jesus respond?*  **EXPLAIN:** But Jesus showed her mercy and forgave her. Mercy is not getting what we deserve. When you do the wrong thing at school you deserve to get a timeout or lunch detention. If your teacher doesn’t give you those things, they showed you mercy because you didn’t get what you deserved.  **🡪 SO WHAT?**  **ASK:** *a.* *What kind of things do we do wrong? (Speak generally)*  *b. Do we deserve to be punished when we do the wrong thing?*  **EXPLAIN:** We can do some bad things that hurt others or ourselves. This is called sin. We all sin because we are in a broken world.  **READ:** **Romans 3:23**  The bible is God’s word to us and tells us that the punishment for sin is death. That is why the men wanted to punish the women who had sinned. We all deserve death, because we have all sinned. But that is not the end of the story!  **ASK**: *God loves us more then we can imagine. Do you think he was happy to leave us in our sin?* **READ:** **Romans 3:24**  **EXPLAIN**: God showed us mercy because he doesn’t want us to get what we deserve. He loves us too much! He sent his son Jesus to die for EVERYONE’s sin, and took our punishment of death instead. Jesus lived the perfect life that we couldn’t and died the death we should have. This means our forgiveness has nothing to do with what we have done but it is all about Jesus. It is Jesus’ gift.  Jesus died, forgave us of our sin and gave us mercy. God sent Jesus because He loves us so much and we can accept His gift.  **ACTIVITY**: Debt card and gift object lesson. Instruction included with card.  **🡪 BE FOUND**  **EXPLAIN***:* God forgives us for all the wrong things we do or have done, no matter what it is. There is nothing we can do that is too big for God to forgive, because Jesus paid the price.  **ASK**: *What do you think is the best thing about being forgiven?*  **Explain:** Because we are forgiven God is not angry at us, He is always in a good mood. He loves us and wants us to be close with Him, talking with Him, listening to Him and asking Him for help.  He wants to be our friend and now we can because Jesus died FOR us.  **ASK:** *How do we live life forgiven by God? Does it change anything?*  Accepting God’s forgiveness and living in His mercy changes thing. We do not need to feel guilty about things because we are forgiven! We can say sorry and never have to think about it again! There is nothing we can do that is too big for God to forgive, because Jesus paid the price. When we are Jesus’ friend, we try to live God’s way, not because we have to for Him to love us, but because we know this is the best way to live.  **FINAL STATEMENT:** Because of Jesus, the woman in the story was forgiven. He showed her mercy because He didn’t give her what she deserved. Jesus died to take the punishment for all the things we do wrong. God gives us His forgiveness too. There is nothing we can do that can make God stop loving us.  **WORKBOOK PAGE -** Let the children complete their workbook page. | *‘Nothing can separate us from God’s love that is revealed in Christ Jesus’*  **Romans 8:39**  Make up your own actions to the memory verse with your small group e.g. move hands apart for ‘separate’ |
| **Prayer** |
| **EXPLAIN:** Prayer is when we spend time talking with and listening to God. We can pray anywhere we want and we can pray whenever we want! We don’t need fancy words to talk with God, we can talk with Him like we talk with our friends. He loves us to share our thoughts with him and he loves to share His thoughts with us.  **Ask** the children who would like to accept God’s gift of forgiveness and love today. This could be for the first time or again as a reminder to ourselves. Children can repeat the below prayer out loud or in their head.  **Dear God,**  **I accept your gift of mercy and forgiveness through Jesus. Thank you that nothing I can do can stop you from loving me.**  **Amen** |
| **Teaching Tips** | |
| * Take the time, perhaps at the beginning of your lesson to work through the get to know you page. This is a good way to see where your children are at with their relationship with God. * Set some group expectations e.g. listening; kindness; respect for others/groups * As it is the first day, don’t pressure children to share - tell them to think in their head * If a child asks you what adultery is you could say ‘Adultery is when a person does not keep their marriage promises’ or ‘Adultery is when a person pretends that someone else is the husband/wife when they are not’ * If your children are up to it, make sure you address the issue of why we don’t just abuse God’s amazing grace and do whatever we want. We live a life different to other people in this world not because God has put us under ‘rules’ we have to follow or he will be upset or angry at us. Christian’s lives look different or appear ‘good’ because it is an overflow of the love we have experienced from God. We try live a life free from sin because we are free from sin, we are no longer slaves to it. Praise Jesus! We understand that Christian living as outlined in His word are not more rules to add to the list that we have to keep, but are there because they are the best and most loving way to live. * Although the bible verse we read to our kids in small group time are printed out as a visual, please read them from your bible to model the importance of God’s word and where they all come from. | |

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| DAY 2 **3-6**  **Be Found in His Grace** | **Relevant Bible Scripture to Read** |
| Matthew 20:1-16  Ephesians 2:8-9  Romans 11:6 |
| **Teaching Point** | **Equipment** |
| There is nothing we can do to make God love us more, He already loves us 100% | Bible  Workbooks  Pens/Pencils  Pass the Parcel package  Gift card (you will need to get this or print off a picture of this) |
| **\* Game - Hand Clap Games** |
| Everyone lies on their stomachs, facing inwards in a circle. Interlock your hands and face them flat down on the floor. Go around the circle by creating a tapping wave. One tap of the hand keeps the wave going in the same direction. A double tap changes the direction. If a person’s hand moves out of turn or takes too long, that hand is eliminated. The game is over when there is two people left. |
| **Teaching Spot** | **\* Memory Verse** |
| **🡪 MAKING CONNECTIONS**  **\* ASK**: a. *Why was Strongman Samson angry at Jake?*  *b. How do you think Jake felt when Strongman said he was weak?*  *c. Was the story Taryn shared, or the game we played fair?*  **EXPLAIN:** Sometimes we get upset when we think we deserve something and don’t get it or if someone gets something easily that you had to work hard for.  **🡪 SO WHAT?**  **EXPLAIN:** God loves EVERYONE the same, no matter who they are, what they look like or what they do. God doesn’t think you are weak or unimportant; in fact God loves us all 100% and thinks we are all as important as each other. It is because we are not measured by that, but by how good God is and how much He loves us and He loves us ALL.  **EXPLAIN:** This is sometimes hard for us to understand because that isn’t really how life is.  **ASK:** *Have you ever been given something special for being good or doing really well at something?*  **EXPLAIN:** It’s nice to receive special awards at school or get something special from Mum or Dad for being good. But that’s not how God works. We don’t have to do something special or be the best at something to receive God’s love. We can’t earn God’s love because there is nothing we can do to make God love us any more. God gives us ALL His love freely, no matter what we do and we call this grace.  **ASK**: *a.**Would God love you more if you got 20 /20 in your spelling test?*  *b. Would God love you more if you came to church and prayed every day?*  *c. What about if you are a Christian? Does God love Christians more?*  **DEMONSTRATE:** Use a gift card to demonstrate God’s grace. God’s love is like a gift card where Jesus has already paid for it. You get to go to the shop with a gift card and get to buy things. Imagine if you went to the shop and after buying stuff with your gift card, you tried to pay again with your own money. That would be silly! But sometimes we think we need to do that with God even though Jesus paid all of the price! We think maybe if we live a certain way, act a certain way, and be really good then you can pay Jesus back. But we can’t! Because it is a gift, there is nothing we can do to make God love us any more then He already does.  **🡪 BE FOUND**  **EXPLAIN:** When we accept Jesus’ gift of grace, all of God’s other gifts follow! This is because Jesus died for us AND gave us new life, His life: a life as a son and daughter of God.  **\* WORKBOOK PAGE -** Brainstorm as a group using the butcher’s paper: ‘What do you think it means to be God’s children?’  **FINAL STATEMENT**: We don’t do these things to make God love us. We don’t need to be the best at everything, we don’t need to work harder like Strongman, or do better or be perfect in order for God to loves us. His gift of Grace is for all of us. He loves us just as we are and He loves us all the same. There is nothing we can do to make Him love us more because He already loves us 100%. | *‘Nothing can separate us from God’s love that is revealed in Christ Jesus’*  **Romans 8:39**  Pass the parcel: in each layer there will be a section of the memory verse. Organise the verse and read it aloud as a group. For younger children, read the verse to them. |
| **\* Prayer** |
| **Dear God,**  **Thank you that we don’t have to try earn your love and that you love us just the way we are. Thank you that Jesus died for me, and gave me everything of his. Thankyou that I can be your child.**  **Amen.**  **WORKBOOK PAGE** –The children can draw or write prayers of thanks to God for the gifts He gives us. |
| **Teaching Tips** | |
| * It’s great for children to share about their achievements (referring to Question 2 in the material) - try & keep discussion on track. | |

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| DAY 3 **3-6**  **Be Found in His Strength** | **Relevant Bible Scripture to Read** |
| Matthew 6:25-34  Psalm 91  Psalm 27  Romans 8:31-32  Luke 12:6-7 |
| **Teaching Point** | **Equipment** |
| With God, nothing can stand against us! | Memory Verse Puzzle  Pictures from the Teaching Time  Bookmark materials  Bible  Workbooks  Pens and Pencils |
| **\* Game - 1-2-3 - Look** |
| Everyone closes their eyes and lowers their heads, Leader says “1-2-3-Look!” As the leader calls "look," the children look up at one specific person. If that person is looking back at him/her, both players are out. If that person is looking at a different person, the children put their heads back down and wait for the next call of "1-2-3 Look." Continue the game and eventually you'll be left with two people and the game is over. |
| **Teaching Spot** | **\* Memory Verse** |
| **🡪 MAKING CONNECTIONS**  **\* ASK:** a. *What was wrong with Miss Felicity Flyhigh?*  *b. What did Taryn say to make Felicity overcome her fears?*  We heard from some other people about things they are worried about.  **\* ACTIVITY:** Use the story images provided to ask the children what each person from the teaching time was worried about.  **🡪 \* SO WHAT?**  **ASK:** *What kinds of things do you worry about or what makes you afraid?*  **READ: Matthew 6:25-34**  **EXPLAIN:** Today we learnt in teaching time that God looks after birds and that since we are much more special to him than birds, He is going to look after us too! God is described as a good dad in heaven, who gives us good things because He loves us.  When we worry about things it’s because we have forgotten that we can trust God.  **ASK:** *But how do we know we can trust God?*  **READ: Romans 8:31-32**  **ASK*:*** *What do you think it means when it says if God is for us who can be against us?*  **EXPLAIN:** On Monday we learned that God sent Jesus to die for us so we can be forgiven. If He gave us Jesus, then He is powerful and strong enough to give us anything else we need too. We don’t need to worry, God will always give us what we need and He always has good things planned for us. We can trust in Him because he loves us and wants to look after us!  **ASK:** *Does anyone remember how Miss Felicity Fly High felt after Taryn told her that God was with her and on her side?*  **EXPLAIN:** We can feel brave too, because with God, nothing can stand against us!  **🡪 BE FOUND**  **\* STORY**: Have one leader give apersonal testimony of how God has helped them focusing on how God help them overcome it.  **EXPLAIN**: As God’s children he want to help us and care for us.  **FINAL STATEMENT:** Just like Felicity and just like [insert name of leader who shared story], we can feel brave too. When we start to worry we can let His Holy Spirit remind us that God loves us and we can trust Him. We can do this by praying with Him about anything, reading His word in the bible because that tells us about His promises, worshipping him and getting together like we are now and reminding each other. He is always with us and He has good things planned for us. With God, nothing can stand against us!  **PRAYER ACTIVITY –** See Prayer box to the right.  **\* WORKBOOK PAGE -** Read through the 5 verses with the children. Children choose which verse helps them the most. They then use this verse to decorate a bookmark. | *‘Nothing can separate us from God’s love that is revealed in Christ Jesus’*  **Romans 8:39**  Make the memory verse puzzle together. Have the group read it out loud doing different voices (ie quiet, high pitched, singing etc). Each time they read it take away 2 or 3 cards (you can get a group member to choose which ones) until eventually there is none left. |
| **Prayer** |
| Lead the children in a prayer time of talking and listening to God by using the ‘Hands down, Hands up’ exercise.  Starting with hands facing down (to symbolise them giving things over to God) get the children to tell God what they are worried about.  Then with their hands now facing up (to symbolise that they are ready to receive from God), get the children to ask God, ‘God what do you want to tell me?’ The can sit and dwell on what was taught today, they might get a picture from God, or words or just feel peaceful in his presence.  We encourage you to let Holy Spirit lead you and to give you prompts for things the children might be afraid of, or what God wants to tell his precious children. |
| **Teaching tips** | |
| * A child may share times when they have asked God for help but God “didn’t help them”. Tell the children that God is good and he knows what we need. Even though we may not understand it, God does and he always has good things planned for us. You could share a personal example to help explain it. * The bookmarks need to be put in the envelope that will be provided. Someone will laminate them during the day so that they are ready to give your children them during sign out time * Consider leading the children through the Prayer activity before starting the Bookmark activity. | |

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| DAY 4 **3-6**  **Be Found in His Family** | **Relevant Bible Scripture to Read** |
| Luke 15:11-32  1 John 3:1  Ephesians 1:3-8 |
| **Teaching Point** | **Equipment** |
| Nothing can separate us from the Love of our Heavenly Father | Bible  Workbooks  Pens and Pencils |
| **\* Game - Make Up a Story** |
| Create a fun story as a group by going around the group and saying only one word at a time. |
| **Teaching Spot** | **\* Memory Verse** |
| **🡪 MAKING CONNECTIONS**  **\* WORKBOOK PAGE -** Using the worksheet, gets kids to recap on what they learnt each day from each character in the drama.  **\*ASK:**  a. *Why did Taryn decide to go back home to her Dad?*  *b. Why did the lost son in our story decide to go back home to his Dad?*  *c. How do you think the son felt when his Dad welcomed him back home?*  **\* WORKBOOK PAGE -** Children can write a letter to the Dad pretending to be the son in the story.  **🡪 SO WHAT?**  **EXPLAIN:** Jesus told people the story of the lost son to help us understand the kind of Father God is and the love He has for us. He’s different from our normal Dad, He is our Father in Heaven, our Heavenly Father. Our Heavenly Father loves us so much that even when we do the wrong thing, He has already forgiven us because He sent His son Jesus to take the punishment we deserve. This is a gift, so there is nothing we can do to make our Heavenly Father love us more because He already loves all of us 100%. He’s such a wonderful Father that we don’t need to worry or be afraid. He is always with us, so nothing can stand against us. And just like Taryn and the son were welcomed home to their families, our Heavenly Father has His arms stretched out wide to welcome us into His family. He wants all of us to be part of His wonderful family.  **WORKBOOK PAGE -** Get the children to close their eyes and remember what God said to them or what it looked like just before God hugged them and welcomed them into His family. They can draw or write their experience.  **PRAY and INVITATION:** He gave up His life for us, so we can be His children! Jesus gave us a gift and all we have to do is accept it. Accepting His gift is saying you know Jesus died for you because he loves you and you want to live the rest of your life in God’s family.  **ASK:** Who believes God loves you so much that He sent Jesus to die for you and you want to be part of God’s family forever!? Ask the children who are already Jesus’ friend and invite them to join in as we welcome new people into the family!  **🡪 BE FOUND**  **EXPLAIN:** The bible tells us that when we become God’s children, we are given his Holy Spirit. This is God’s spirit, living inside of us, reminding us of God’s love for us, helping us to pray and gives us the power, strength and gifts we need to live a great life with Jesus! The Holy Spirit lives inside of us so we are never alone!  Being apart of God’s family lasts forever and forever. Even when we die, God promises us we will be with him forever in heaven. | *Nothing can separate us from God’s love that is revealed in Christ Jesus’*  **Romans 8:39**  See if any of your kids know the memory verse off by heart! |
| **Prayer** |
| **Dear Heavenly Father,**  **Thank you that you loved us so much and that nothing can separate us from your love. Thank you Holy Spirit that you are always with us. Help us to be more aware of you everyday.**  **Amen.**  *For children that want to be part of God’s family:*  **Dear Heavenly Father,**  **Thank you that you sent Jesus to die for me and to take the punishment I deserve. I want to be a part of your family forever. Help me to grow in my love for you.**  **Amen.** |
| **Teaching Tips** | |
| * Make sure you pray individually with the children who accept God’s gift. Don’t push it. Some children will not be ready, and that’s okay! Make sure another leader is supervising the rest of the group and keeping them settled while individual children are being prayed for. * The kids (and their parents) will love the messages you write in their workbooks – please take the time to do this! * Personally invite your group of children to church and take the time to explain the importance to keep growing in our relationship with God. | |

**Workbook Activities 3-6**

**Day 1**

**Page 1 –** Get to know you page: Kelly has details?

**Page 2** **–** Text at top of page: God’s gift of mercy and forgiveness is for everyone. There is nothing we can do to

stop God from loving us!

Under Text: Box for them to write or draw how they feel about Jesus’ mercy and forgiveness

Something else?

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**Day 2**

**Page 1 – Text at top of page:** There is nothing we can do to make God love us more. He loves us all the same, no matter

what we do and He loves us with all of His love!

**Under text:**

**Page 2 – Text at top of page:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Day 3**

**Page 1 – Text at top of page:** With God, Nothing can Stand Against Us!

**Under Text:** 3 verses printed on the page:

Psalm 16:8 NLT - I know the Lord is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me.

Philipians 4:13 CEV - Christ gives me the strength to face anything.

1 Peter 5:7 NLT - Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.

Joshua 1:9b (NLT)

2 Cor 1:10b (NLT)

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**Day 4**

**Page 1 – Text at top of page:** What did we learn about God from Taryn and her friends this week?

**Under texts:** 3 text boxes with Pictures of the drama characters (Clown, Jake, Felicity) with their names printed underneath and then space for them with lines to write a short sentence or two.

**Under that**: Box for letter for son to Dad.

**Page 2 – Text at top of page:** “So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him.” Luke 15:20

**Under Text (position will depend on the picture):** Picture/silhouette of outstretched arms (on dropbox) with space for square saying, ‘What did God say to you?’