



Assisting Children's Evangelists Worldwide

Devotional

In our previous 23 Mini Mag devotionals we have been studying the many attributes or qualities of God. How many of them can you remember? We have discovered that what we learn about God and how we apply what we learn, determines what we think, what we do, how we pray, how we live and how we serve.

Our studies have especially led us to see what God wants most of all from us. He wants us to "worship Him in spirit and in truth." (John 4:23) The attribute of God which will give us great encouragement in that worship is HIS MAJESTY. Read 1 Chronicles 29:10-13, Psalm 95 and Psalm 145 as examples of pure worship which are based upon an understanding of HIS MAJESTY AND GREATNESS.

The word "majesty" is a translation of two Latin words ("maiestas" which mean greatness or dignity and "maior" which means great or

MAJESTY!
MAJESTY!
WORSHIP
HIS MAJESTY!

big). If we address our queen as "Your Majesty" we are acknowledging the greatness of her person and her position and we are voicing our respect for her. God is majestic. His majesty, greatness, glory and honour are revealed to us in

the Bible, in the person of His Son and in creation. We should come, each day, into His presence to worship Him in awe and with deep reverence, and praise Him for His greatness, His glory, and His honour.

I remember the first time I, as a new Christian, read Revelation chapter 4, and its record of John's vision of Heaven and the throne of God. (Take time to read that wonderful chapter) My heart was touched and moved by the majestic picture of God on His throne surrounded by 24 worshipping elders and four living creatures, all giving glory and honour to Him Who sat on the throne, and my heart echoed the words of the elders "You are worthy to receive glory and honour and power." (Revelation 4 :11). These verses gave me a vision of the majesty, the greatness, and the glory of God which I have never forgotten.

Do we have that sense of awe as we come into God's presence and as we worship Him?



Welcome

A special WELCOME to the 24th issue of Mini Mag and the completion of the first two years of our little monthly four-page magazine for children's workers worldwide. A special thank you also to those who have written to express appreciation for Mini Mag, and to let us know how much they have been helped and encouraged by it in their life and ministry. The first 23 issues are also available to you at www.cfbbookministry.com. Be sure to read them, download them and pass them onto others. If you find them helpful, please let us know by sending an email to TFACEW@aol.com.

What do we hear in our churches before the service? The quiet turning of pages of our Bibles in preparation for worship or the noise of many voices speaking about the weather or health?

**"Oh Lord my God when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds Thy hands have made.....**

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee,

**HOW GREAT THOU ART,
HOW GREAT THOU ART."**

Children in the Bible

Our main source of knowledge in our study of children is God's Word, the Bible. In the previous issues of Mini Mag we have studied the two main passages about children in the Old Testament (in Deuteronomy and the Psalms) and the two main passages in the New Testament (in Matthew and Mark). Then, in our last issue, we gave a list of other verses about children in the Old Testament which you could further study. In this issue I will give you a number of other verses in the New Testament which speak about children and which will help you in your studies. I have also suggested what they mean or imply.

GOD ENABLES LITTLE CHILDREN TO UNDERSTAND HIS WORD. Matthew 11:25,26.

LITTLE CHILDREN CAN PRAISE THE LORD. Matthew 21:15,16

CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE OFFENDED. (especially believing children) Luke 17: 1,2.

A CHILD CAN TRULY BELIEVE AND BE SAVED. John 4:53

THE LORD JESUS WANTS US TO FEED HIS LAMBS (SAVED CHILDREN). John 21: 15

IT IS POSSIBLE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY (INCLUDING THE CHILDREN) TO BE SAVED. Acts 16:34

THE CHILDREN OF BELIEVERS ARE PRIVILEGED AND DIFFERENT FROM OTHER CHILDREN. I Cor.7:14.

THE LORD JESUS WANTS EVERYONE TO BE EVANGELISED. Acts 26:22, Mark 16:15



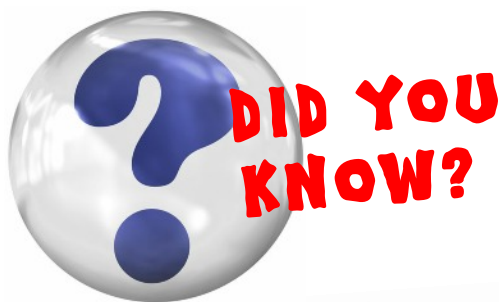
WE NEED TO START EARLY WITH OUR EVANGELISM OF CHILDREN. 2 Timothy 3; 14,15

THE CONVERSION OF CHILDREN IS POSSIBLE, AND FOR ELDERS NECESSARY. Titus 1:6.

CHILDREN CAN KNOW GOD THE FATHER AND BE SAVED. 1 John 2:13.

CHILDREN CAN BE SAINTS (SAVED). Ephesians 1:1,with 6:1-3 Colossians 1:2 with 3:20.

PARENTS HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO EVANGELIZE AND NURTURE THEIR CHILDREN. Eph 6:4, Col 3:21



YOU CAN HELP US

All we need and ask for is that you write an email to us at TFACEW@aol.com and let us know you have downloaded some of our teaching materials and found them helpful, or/and that you are receiving Mini Mag and that you find it encouraging, like the experienced CEF worker and teacher who telephoned recently to let us know that she was reading and enjoying all the Mini Mags we had sent her. You could also help us by suggesting subjects we could deal with in future Mini Mags

That Assisting Children's Evangelists Worldwide (ACEW) is linked to Child Evangelism Fellowship?. We who produce Mini Mag have worked with CEF for a total of almost 200 years, many of them in leadership positions. We founded ACEW in 1996 to write and publish, free of charge, training manuals and visualised doctrinal lessons which were not available, and which would help children's workers all over the world in their ministry. So far, we have produced over 4 million items distributed in over 70 languages to over 100 countries.

ACEW CAN HELP YOU

ACEW has published 15 training manuals and 13 series of visualized doctrinal lessons to help you in your ministry to the children, and we have also produced 8 devotional books to help you in your spiritual growth. ALL of these are available free of charge on the Internet at our website www.cefbookministry.com.

We are also writing and producing this monthly Mini Mag to give you help and encouragement in a readable but practical form. All 24 issues are available on our web site. We encourage you to read them, download them and, one day, even put them together into a Maxi Mag to which you can refer frequently.

Teaching Children

The programme of your 60-minute Good News Club, or children's meeting, programme should be interesting and attractive. It should be varied with each section being helpful to the children in some way. We have already outlined and studied four of these sections—Singing, Learning a Bible verse, Review with Bible Quiz, and Bible lesson. In this issue we will add two more sections –Prayer Time and Missions.



PRAYER TIME, the fifth Good News Club section.

Firstly, you need, in this section, and, over a period of time, to teach the principles of prayer, especially through your

Bible lessons, or through “short talks about prayer” and encourage the children to pray by giving them the answers to the following questions: WHAT does it mean to pray? Prayer is talking to God your loving Heavenly Father Who is all-powerful.

WHY should I pray? Because God wants you to, and because you need to ask Him for His help each day.

WHO can pray? Prayer is the privilege of those who have trusted Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

WHERE can I pray? You can pray anywhere, but you can have special places like beside your bed.

WHEN can I pray? You can pray at any time, but it is good to have a special time set apart each day.

HOW should I pray? You should pray with faith –believing that God will answer your prayer.

WHAT should I say? “Dear Heavenly Father...Forgive me...Thank you...Please...I love you...Amen.”

HOW does God answer my prayer? Sometimes He says “Yes”, sometimes “No, and sometimes “Wait.”

Secondly, after a period of teaching about prayer, you should have a short time of prayer in your club and encourage the children to pray publicly. You could start this prayer time with a short prayer chorus. Then ask the children if they have anything that they want to thank their Heavenly Father for.

Encourage them to do so individually and publicly. Then ask them if anyone has a special prayer request. You could suggest they write it out beforehand. Then invite him to pray for it, publicly and briefly, and explain that you will all pray silently with him. You will then close the prayer time and section with a short prayer.



MISSIONS the sixth Good News Club section. (This section should be no longer than 7-10 minutes.)

Be sure to deal with or touch upon the following subjects, all related to missions, throughout the year.

- Tell them of the great need of the world's people, including children, who have never heard the Gospel.
- Show them from the Bible that God wants to send Christians to them to tell them about the Lord Jesus.
- These people are called missionaries who have been willing to obey God and leave their home country.
- Show pictures and tell them visualised stories about missionaries like Mary Slessor, and David Livingstone. You can purchase these from your local CEF office.
- Explain that they can only do this work because people at home pray for them and support them.
- Suggest they adopt a missionary they will pray for and support, from their pocket money.
- Invite the missionary they adopt to write to them, send their prayer requests and, one day, visit them.
- Understand that God might call one of them to be a missionary. Would they be willing to go?
- Challenge them to be missionaries NOW and tell their friends and family about Jesus Christ and salvation. You could give them some tracts to give to their friends

YOU HAVE A GOOD NEWS CLUB PROGRAMME WITH SIX INTERESTING AND HELPFUL SECTIONS. USE IT.

Q&A YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Question: Should I read a Bible portion and should I myself pray during Good News Club?

Answer: It is not necessary to read a Bible portion during your Club, especially if the children are restless. It is sufficient, when teaching your Bible lesson, to refer continually

to the Bible passage or verse on which your lesson is based, and, from time to time, quote or read a Bible verse.. You should have your Bible in your hand as much as possible. It is good for the teacher to pray during the Club but your prayer should be very brief, in a natural voice, and with simple words. You can ask God to bless the the Club and the lesson you will teach. But the main time for you to pray is before the Club and after the Club and not during it.

History of Children's Evangelism

We have seen in the last three issues of Mini Mag the ministry of three organisations whose aim has been to reach children around the world with the Word of God and the gospel of Jesus Christ --namely the Sunday School Movement, the Children's Special Service Mission and the Bible Club Movement. In this issue we will look at the largest Mission to the world's children—Child Evangelism Fellowship.

In 1937 God spoke to the heart of J. Irvin Overholtzer, a middle-aged pastor of a church in California, when he was reading a book by Charles Spurgeon in which he writes about the spiritual need of children, little children, and their ability to trust Jesus Christ for salvation. Mr Overholtzer resigned from his church and, at the age of 60, started to reach children with the gospel. Others in the same area, and beyond, were challenged to do the same and the work started to grow. As a result, he founded a Mission to children called Child Evangelism Fellowship. This ministry to children, mainly operating through Good News Clubs and open-air Five Day Clubs, backed up by a well organised training programme, spread all over USA. At the same time, a number of CEF missionaries left USA to take the vision and the ministry of evangelising the children, first of all, to the countries of South America, and then to many other countries worldwide. In the last 85 years, CEF has continued to grow. The work has been established in almost 200 countries, and has really grown during the last 35 years under the leadership of the president Reese Kaufman, now retired. There are now well over 3500 full-time CEF workers worldwide, backed by many thousands of volunteer workers, all focused on the salvation of children. Over 800 of these full-time workers minister in USA, but the other 2200 are full time national workers in many countries. For



THE WORLD'S CHILDREN FOR CHRIST

example, CEF is organised in 48 European countries with over 600 full-time European workers and over 12000 volunteer workers reaching over 1,000,000 children each year. A number of national CEFs are now independent, but linked with CEF International, and several of them, like Ireland, South Korea and Germany are sending out CEF missionaries. The result of ALL this growth is that:

OVER 15,620,000 CHILDREN WERE REACHED WITH THE GOSPEL BY CEF WORKERS DURING 2021

Throughout these 85 years, CEF has remained faithful to its three goals:

- To evangelise children with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- To help saved children to grow spiritually.
- To establish children in a local evangelical church.

God has richly blessed all three of these goals.

The direct ministry to children has been based mainly upon Good News Clubs, 5-day Clubs, camps and Holiday Bible Schools plus Youth Challenge for older children and teen-agers. This has been backed up by regular training programmes, 3-month Training Institutes for full-time workers and a very extensive production of excellent teaching materials. If you would like more information about CEF or would like to get involved in its ministry, contact your local or national CEF office.

CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP WE APPRECIATE THE MAJOR PART YOU HAVE PLAYED AND ARE PLAYING IN

**THE HISTORY OF
CHILDREN'S EVANGELISM
AND WE WELCOME YOU
INTO THE MINI MAG HALL
OF FAME.**

**The Mini Mag
HALL of
FAME**

Personal advice from the Author

My advice this month comes in answer to the question "What is the most important advice you can give to all children's workers?"

Answer: I have been in Christian ministry for over 70 years, and, during those years, I have made many mistakes but have learned many lessons. These are the two most important of these lessons

Firstly, the top priority for a children's worker is to build up a good relationship with God, and the best way to do this is to set aside a section of each day to have a "Quiet Time" with God, your Heavenly Father. During this time you will build your relationship with God by listening to Him, speaking to Him and worshipping Him.

- You will listen to Him when you read His Word and meditate upon what you read.
- You will speak to Him as you thank Him for all He has done, as you confess anything wrong you have done, and as you pray for your needs, the needs of others, and for your ministry.
- You will worship Him as you reflect upon His attributes and praise Him for His greatness and His majesty. As a result,

TWO TOP PRIORITIES

your relationship with God will develop and you will grow spiritually.

Secondly, the greatest challenge that all children's workers face is how to handle their problems. We all face problems in our lives and ministries, but we must know what to do when they come.

Our first and normal reaction is usually to FOCUS upon ourselves and the problem and the more we do so the bigger and more depressing it becomes. The biblical answer is to FOCUS immediately UPON GOD and what we have learned about Him and trust Him. He is sovereign and has either sent this problem or has allowed it. He is wise and He knows what He is doing. Listen to the words from the Lord Jesus. "What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter?" (John 13:7)

"Do not let your heart be troubled. **TRUST IN GOD; TRUST ALSO IN ME**" (John 14:1 NIV)

MAY GOD BLESS YOU IN YOUR LIFE AND MINISTRY AS YOU KNOW HIM BETTER AND FOCUS UPON HIM

The Mini-Mag is published by Assisting Children's Evangelists Worldwide and written by Sam Doherty with the assistance and advice of Terry Flannigan, Administrator of the ACEW Trust, and Kenneth Martin, Chairman of the ACEW Trust.

All of them have occupied leadership positions for many years in the worldwide ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship®. The contents of each Mini-Mag are based upon the author's 70 years of experience working with Child Evangelism Fellowship, successively as national director of Irish CEF, as European CEF regional director and as founder of the CEF Specialised Book Ministry. Contact can be made at www.CEFBookMinistry.com.

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