



Authorised Mess - Writer's Notes

Authorised Mess Writers' Notes

Thanks to everyone who has offered to create a Messy Church session on a book of the Bible for 2011. It's great that so many Messy Churches are involved – it really is going to be an international, ecumenical project!

Instructions

Please type straight into the template, save it with a file name of the book you've been working on and send it electronically to lucy.moore@brf.org.uk

The deadline is between Christmas 2010 and Easter 2011: obviously the sooner the better.

Theme of session: please make it really clear how your theme works with the book you've chosen, naming chapter and verse if necessary

Submitted by: please include the name of your church and its location (and country if outside the UK) and denomination, and the names of anyone who has contributed, with just one email contact for everyone.

Notes: include anything useful here that might help another leader plan and prepare.

Craft instructions: You'll notice a 'categories' of craft in the first column of the template. Please use this simply as a guideline rather than a hard and fast rule. So if you have activities that don't fit into those categories, that's fine – just delete the 'category' title and replace it with the group that your activity is particularly suitable for. They are only there to encourage Messy Church Teams to ensure there is something for people with all sorts of learning styles and abilities.

Please keep instructions as simple as possible: if instructions for this activity can be found easily on the Web, just advise a search for (for example) "sock sword Christian craft".

If you have taken a unique craft idea directly from a book or website, please include the title, author and publisher.

Celebration: please set out what *you* would do, regardless of whether you think other people may not have your facilities (like puppets, a drama group, surround sound...) This will help make sure that we have a wide range of ideas and approaches. Please include the song book and number of the song you've chosen.

Meal suggestion: don't worry too much about this – it's just in case you have a superb recipe to share that fits beautifully with the theme.

Faith at Home suggestion: an idea to encourage families to continue exploring the theme at home before the next Messy Church. Leaders might include this on a Take Home sheet.

Primary School RE idea: to extend the usefulness of your session, there may be part of it that could work well in a KS1 or KS2 RE curriculum. If you know any primary teachers, you could ask them for their suggestion as to how your ideas might work in a classroom or collective worship and include them here. BRF will flag these up on the Barnabas in Schools website and e-news so that teachers are made aware of the resource.



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Copyright: with a multi-author approach like this, BRF needs the copyright to be signed over to BRF, for the sake of simplicity. But wherever BRF uses your session, you will be credited as the author(s). At the moment (2010) the plan is to publish the Authorised Mess sessions on the Messy Church website, and to consider publication in book or booklet form once decisions have been made about the quality and usefulness of the sessions. There may also be other outlets that we haven't yet found out about. Any profits from publication would go to supporting BRF's Messy Church ministry.

And a huge THANK YOU to you and your team for being part of this exciting project! It's going to be a great fun celebration of the Bible in a way that we know makes sense to the families who come to Messy Church and will bring God's word to life for them and us in a new way, just as the King James Version did for people in England 400 years ago. Let's pray as we write, edit and collate the sessions, that they will open people's eyes and hearts to the love of God in a life-changing way.

We may make minor editorial adjustments to your template before it is available for others to download.