

GET THE
WORD
OUT

Leader's Notes

2018



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OUTLINE

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WORKING TOGETHER

When two or three come together in Jesus' name, we know that the Lord is there with them (Matthew 18:19-20). Groups are powerful in prayer. God's people are powerful when they work together to help others.

That's what Bible Society's **Get The Word Out** is all about. We're asking churches, schools and community groups like yours to share **Bible Society's mission of spreading the Good News found in the Bible**. Every year we pick a different country to support by engaging them with the word of God. This year, we ask your help in fundraising for children living with cancer in one of the poorest countries in Latin America.

Your partnership has helped Bible Society **Get The Word Out** across the world; from Rwanda to Lebanon, and from China to South Africa. Last year, we brought our mission home, supporting Bible work in Australian public schools, Indigenous communities and chaplaincy work in hospitals and prisons.

In 2018, we're getting the word out to Nicaragua. We're taking God's word into Nicaragua's only hospital for children living with cancer, and offering peace and hope to thousands of sick kids and their families.

Will you help us Get The Word Out to Nicaragua?

SEE MORE AT:

biblesociety.org.au/gtwo18

PROMOTE THE PROGRAMME

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Help us promote **GTWO** by downloading and using the resources in your churches, communities and schools.

GO TO:

biblesociety.org.au/gtwo18kids

Feel free to download as many resources as you wish:

1. **Posters** A4 and A3 size which enable you to fill in your own event details
2. **GTWO** booklet
3. **Video** on the main **GTWO** page
4. A volcanic **activity sheet** to use in your classrooms
5. Resources for **kids**
6. Resources for **adults**

If you are unable to download, you can order copies of the A3 poster and booklet.

See more at:

biblesociety.org.au/gtwo18

OTHER IDEAS

1. Establish a **Promotion Plan** and **Fundraising Goal** that will make an impact, e.g. book a promotion time for your school, assembly or church.
2. Organise and promote a fun **Project Event** that your participants can take part in (see fundraising ideas page).
3. **Contact us** about having someone come to speak to your School or Church Group about Bible Society Australia and the **Get The Word Out** project. Remember, availability is limited—so book in early to avoid disappointment.
4. Use word of mouth, text messages and email to **tell others**.
5. Have a reward or crazy outcome if participants **reach their goal**, eg: teachers wear school uniforms for a day; a group of students or teachers dye their hair or shave off beards/hair; celebration lunch together etc. Be creative!
6. **Take photos**/video of your activities.
7. Start a **visual chart** showing how many Bibles your team has sponsored.

FUNDRAISE

Will you help us *GET THE WORD OUT* to Nicaragua and give God's hope to children living with cancer?

This year, your help will provide funds for:



Bibles for children living with cancer



Training for pastors and volunteers to support the children and their families



Practical assistance during cancer treatment, because the government and local charities can't meet the great need.

In 2018, we're inviting you to join the team of champions! Your church or community group can help Bible Society offer spiritual and practical support to thousands of children living with cancer in one of Nicaragua's largest and most-overwhelmed public hospitals.

Bible Society Website

Use the resources provided on our website to promote **GTWO**. You will find posters, lessons, videos and also "shareables" for Facebook, email and word of mouth.

www.biblesociety.org.au/gtwo18kids

See more at:

www.biblesociety.org.au/gtwo18kids

FUNDRAISING IDEAS

Let's get started!

1. **Special Days 4 Bibles:** Have some exciting different theme days in your school or church. Theme ideas? 'Let your hair down'; or 'bad hair day'; or do hair colouring; or shaves to fundraise for Bibles.
2. Sponsor your Minister or Principal to shave or colour for Nicaragua! Whatever will create the most buzz! **Maybe they won't shave unless \$X funds are raised!!!!**
3. Have '**Volcanic**' food stalls. Sell biscuits, cakes, cacao milk drinks and/or spicy Central American food.
4. Go on a **Bus Ride**. Use a Fundraising Shopping Bus or take a bus ride together for **funds**.
5. Nicaraguans love poetry. Organise **Kids Poetry Slam** (doing their own, or someone else's poems/lyrics) and charge to attend.
6. Paint some bright canvases and set up a temporary **Art Stall** to sell the pictures.
7. Have a **Night Party 4 Bibles** and go bowling, to the movies or hot pools. Have an extra cover charge that goes towards the project.
8. Kids who are in treatment have to sit still a lot—so they do colouring in! Sell **Christian colouring-in** books and pencils to fundraise!
9. **Bike, Walk or Run 4 Bibles:** Organise a ride/walk or run around your local park or oval where participants are sponsored to do a certain amount of laps or timed ride.
10. Organise loose **change collections** by giving people empty containers to fill with coins.
11. **Sell chocolates** to fundraise.
12. Make extra **postcards** and sell them.

Want more ideas?

biblesociety.org.au/gtwo18kids

TEACHING RESOURCES

Click the following link for this **GTWO** lesson plan document and activity sheets.

GTWO LESSON PLANS:
biblesociety.org.au/gtwo18kids

CHECKLIST



1. **If you are unable to download, order booklets or A3 posters to help you fundraise.** Phone 1300 BIBLES or order online at: biblesociety.org.au/gtwo18



2. **Choose a time to do the project**



3. **Request a Bible Society Australia representative to speak at your School or Church** (subject to availability).

Phone **1300 BIBLES** (1300 242 537) or email
bibles@biblesociety.org.au

STAY CONNECTED



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Request Bible Society Australia's Sower magazine and Eternity newspaper.



Encourage others to be involved in the *GET THE WORD OUT* programme.



Sign up to become a Bible Society Australia representative in your school or church.



Become a FACEBOOK friend of Bible Society Australia and Eternity News.



Visit wildbible.org.au and biblesociety.org.au/get-involved

**** SENDING MESSAGES TO KIDS LIVING WITH CANCER**



Send a message of hope to the kids living with cancer in Nicaragua.

Hola!

Escuché que tienes tratamiento en el hospital La Mascota. Yo sé que Dios se preocupa por todos los niños, así que estoy orando, pidiendo a Dios que te ayude a mejorar. Espero que estés siguiendo a Jesús y descubriendo más de Él en la Biblia.

Mi historia favorita de Jesús es _____. (referencia Bíblica)

Esta es una foto de un animal Australiano _____. (nombre de animal)

Tu amigo Australiano,
_____. (nombre)

Hello!

I have heard about you having treatment at La Mascota hospital. I know God cares about all children, so I am praying, asking God to help you get better. I hope that you are following Jesus and discovering more about him from the Bible.

My favourite story about Jesus is _____ [give Bible reference]

Here is a picture of an Australian animal _____ [Name of animal]

Your Australian friend,
_____ [name]

VIDEO TRANSCRIPT



When a child is sick, a team forms around them. Doctors, nurses, family, friends. They work together to do everything in their power to help the child's recovery. **In Nicaragua, Bible Society is a vital part of that team.**

The Head of Oncology at La Mascota hospital in Nicaragua has called Bible Society's work with the children in its care **"essential"**. He says sometimes it makes the difference between life and death.

In 2018, we're inviting you to join the team. Help Bible Society offer spiritual and practical support to thousands of sick children in one of Nicaragua's largest and under-resourced public hospitals.

Nicaragua is the second poorest country in the western hemisphere, where access to basic services is a daily struggle. **Half of Nicaraguan children live in poverty.** So, when a child gets sick, accessing treatment can prove impossible for families without help.

That's where Bible Society comes in. We're pairing faith with action inside La Mascota hospital, offering financial assistance to families who can't afford even the bus fares to get their child to and from the hospital. Without this support, many families are forced to stop vital treatment.

But that's not all. **With your help, we're bringing God's word into La Mascota hospital.** Trained volunteers are supporting families with the hope and peace found in the pages of the Bible. They're there for good news, and for bad.

Not all stories at La Mascota have a happy ending. Yet, God is powerful enough to make even the saddest stories work for his glory. **Children are learning about Jesus.** Parents are finding or renewing their trust in God.

You can be part of the team! Help us **Get The Word Out** in Nicaragua in 2018.

EXTRA IDEAS

Make a Volcano*

Shape a clay volcano, or if you're in a hurry to make your volcano, use a mound of dirt or fine gravel.

Ingredients:

- Baking Soda
- A small yoghurt tub, a baby food jar, or similar size container
- Red and yellow food colouring (optional)
- White vinegar
- Liquid dish washing soap

What to do:

1. Go outside (or prepare for some clean-up inside!)
2. Put the container into the volcano
3. Add 5–6 spoons of baking soda
4. Add about a spoonful of dish soap
5. Add about 5 drops each of the red and yellow food colouring
6. Now for the eruption! Add about a cup (200–250 mL) of the vinegar into the container and watch your volcano come alive!

A VOLCANO is produced over thousands of years as heat and pressure build up. That aspect of a volcano is very difficult to recreate in a home experiment. However this volcano will give you an idea of what it might look like when a volcano erupts. This is a classic experiment in which a CHEMICAL reaction can create the appearance of a PHYSICAL volcanic eruption.

The reaction will bubble up and flow down the side like a real volcano—only much faster! Look for videos of volcanoes erupting and be sure that you understand how heat and pressure work to really make volcanoes erupt.

You should look at pictures of volcanoes to be familiar with the different types. (A SHIELD volcano, for example is the most common kind of volcano, and yet few people know about them.)

***Adult supervision advised**





Volcano Biscuits*

These chewy biscuits look like cooling lava. We used dark and white choc chips—but you could use: dark, milk, white or caramel chips. Sell as “gourmet” biscuits for \$2.00 each.

Ingredients (1 batch makes 15–18 large biscuits):

Ingredients	1 Batch	2 Batches	5 Batches
Caster sugar	420 grams	840 grams	2,100 grams (2.1 Kg)
Unsweetened cocoa	2/3 cup	1 1/3 cups	3 1/3 cups
Salt	1/2 teaspoon	1 teaspoon	2 1/2 teaspoons
Large egg whites	4 eggs	8 eggs	20 eggs
Vanilla extract	3 teaspoons (15 mL)	6 teaspoons (30 mL)	15 teaspoons (75 mL)
Semi-sweet choc chips	1 1/4 cups	2 1/2 cups	6 1/4 cups

Directions:

- Preheat oven to 180°C or 160°C Fan forced. Line biscuit trays with baking paper; very lightly coat with non-stick cooking spray.
- Separate eggs (put egg yolks aside—you won’t be using them).
- In large bowl, mix caster sugar, cocoa, and salt.
- Add vanilla to egg whites.
- Pour egg white mixture into dry ingredients in small batches and mix with wooden spoon until smooth.
- Fold in chocolate chips.
- Cover mixture and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes or until slightly thickened.

Teaspoon out dough, 5cm apart, onto tray. Suggested bake time 15 minutes, reducing time with each batch cooked. Bake until crackly. Sit for 3 minutes then transfer to wire racks to cool completely.

***Adult assistance needed**

FAQS ABOUT THE PROGRAMME



How is Bible Society helping kids living with cancer?

- Training over 360 pastors and volunteers each year to lead devotions, pray and offer spiritual support to children with cancer and their families.
- Providing 8,400 free Bibles a year for patients, family members, doctors and nurses and Bible Society volunteers to use on their visits.
- Distributing over 32,000 Scripture portions to hospital outpatients and their families.

Bible Society also offers practical assistance:

- Working with La Mascota, Bible Society donates funds to supplement the children's daily

diet, ensuring they receive enough nutrition to help them withstand intensive treatments.

- Providing free transport from the hospital to treatment centres, including radiology, and helping family members visit their children.
- Providing financial assistance for families struggling to pay for medications needed once their child leaves hospital.
- Providing accommodation and nursing staff to assist children who are waiting for a bed in the hospital.

How far does your money go?

- \$40 will help purchase 3 Bibles for volunteers to give away to a child, parent or hospital staff.
- \$80 will help us produce 133 copies of Scripture portions and activity packs for children with cancer.

- \$140 will help train four pastors and volunteers to provide spiritual care to children, family and staff at the hospital.

What cancers do the children have?

- Cancer is a general name for many different types of cancers. The children attending La Mascota have many different types of cancer. These need to be treated in different ways; from surgery or medicine to radiotherapy and chemotherapy.

Does the cancer hurt?

- For more than 40% of children, the cancer does not hurt. Sometimes you cannot tell a child who has cancer from their healthy family member sitting next to them.
- Other children experience pain as a symptom of their cancer. The treatment reduces their pain as the cancer shrinks.
- For more than half the children, the treatment of their cancer will be painful, but that pain goes away as they get better!

Sources: Cancer Council NSW and American Cancer Society.



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Lesson Plan

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LESSON PLAN: WE CHAMPION OTHERS!

GET THE WORD OUT



Main idea: We can be champions for kids in need in Nicaragua.

Bible Passage: The Good Samaritan Luke 10:25-37.

Memory Verses: Psalm 46:1-3 (GNB).

Aim: When we care for others in need, we serve and honour God!

Lesson Outcomes: Children will understand the spiritual and practical needs of kids living with cancer in Nicaragua. They will respond with compassionate support and prayer, and champion them by fundraising through Bible Society Australia's **Get The Word Out** programme.

Lesson Time: 52 minutes

WELCOME (2 MIN)

Welcome children to the lesson. Explain that they will be learning about Bible needs in a small Central American country called Nicaragua (pronounced "Nika-ragwa"). Ask the children if anyone can speak Spanish. Can you teach the children how to say "Hello!" in Spanish?

¡HOLA!

Count to three in Spanish "one, two, three."

"UNO, DOS, TRES."

Most poorer Nicaraguan children work

from around age six. They start school at around six as well. School is in the morning (the very poorest may only go to school for one or two years). In the afternoon many children are expected to work. Children pick coffee or harvest other fruit and vegetables, run errands, labour on farms, care for farm animals and clean houses. Most of the work is poorly paid because it doesn't require a lot of skills. 75% of Nicaraguans live on less than AU\$2.50 each day.



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PLAY: CATCH THE SLOTH (5 MIN)

A fun game of “tag.” Sloths are slow moving, native animals of Nicaragua. Nicaragua has protected land to ensure the sloths’ survival!

Every player puts their non-preferred* hand on their own head (if you are left-handed, put your RIGHT hand on your head). This elbow sticking out (your right

elbow, if you are left handed) is the only part of your body you can tag someone with. When the games leader calls “CATCH THE SLOTH”, everyone tries to tag everyone else. When you are tagged, you stop where you are. Last person who isn’t tagged wins (the champion!)! Restart the game, and play once more!

INTRODUCE THE PROJECT (2 MIN)

Say: Nicaragua is a place that experiences tremors—the nation is right on the edge of the Pacific continental plate, where there’s volcanic activity, and where the earth releases heat and pressure. But some Nicaraguan kids have it even tougher than earth tremors, earthquakes and active volcanoes. Their lives and the lives of their family are shaken by them being diagnosed with cancer.

So, the SAD NEWS is that there are nearly 4,000 kids per month in Nicaragua who need to be treated for cancer.

The GOOD NEWS: is that cancer treatment is free at the La Mascota Hospital in Nicaragua.

The BAD NEWS is that La Mascota is the ONLY hospital in Nicaragua that treats children living with cancer. This means children are a long way from most of their family and friends during a difficult and scary time while being treated for a life-threatening illness. It is lonely and exhausting. One boy, Jonny, needed to travel twenty six hours by bus to reach the hospital! That could cost up to AU\$15.30 per

person per trip for the longest distances. So even though the cancer treatment is free, the travel isn’t and that stops many families from getting treatment for their sick children.

BUT! The GOOD NEWS is that we can help them get there! The Bible Society in Nicaragua is helping kids living with cancer to travel to their cancer treatments, so that they can get better. And the Bible Society is providing them with other support so they can cope through the difficult times. They are training volunteers to bring that hope and love into La Mascota hospital. These church pastors and volunteers support families in times of great difficulty by reading the Bible and praying with them, by counselling and supporting them. They run devotionals and church services within the hospital. They are there for the patients and for their families. They stick with them through the good news, and the bad news.

We’re going to fundraise for spiritual and practical support through Bible Society Australia’s **Get The Word Out** programme!

NICARAGUAN FACTS GAME—SLOTH HEADS OR MONKEY TAILS (7 MIN)

The aim is to learn some quick facts about life for kids living with cancer in Nicaragua. Children there like to play Las cebollitas—a tug-of-war game without a rope. They play marbles (chibolas), swim in rivers, climb trees to pick fruit, and make toys and new games.

How to play: This is a “Heads or Tails” way of playing TRUE or FALSE. When you hear the Nicaraguan “fact”, you need to decide if it is TRUE (Sloth Heads) or FALSE (Monkey Tails). If you decide it’s TRUE, put both hands on your head; if you decide it’s FALSE, put both hands on your tail. Your class may enjoy this as an elimination game, or just a question by question fun game. (All questions, answers and additional information is on the PowerPoint/video.)

Test Fact—Hint—this fact is True: Nicaragua is in Central America. TRUE. Nicaragua is in the middle of the tiny land-bridge between North and South America. It shares a border with Honduras to the North West, and Costa Rica to the South.

Nicaragua has a lake full of volcanoes. TRUE. Lake Nicaragua covers 8,264sq km and is home to more than 430 volcanic islands and at least 400 (active or dormant) volcanoes.

There are no sharks in Nicaragua. FALSE. Nicaragua is home to freshwater sharks, and they have saltwater sharks in the sea.

Nicaragua has a coast on the Pacific Ocean—just like Australia. TRUE. The Pacific Ocean is on Nicaragua’s West Coast AND, its East Coast is on the Caribbean Sea.

Soccer (which they call football) is the most popular sport in Nicaragua. FALSE. Baseball is the most popular sport.

Three quarters of Nicaragua’s people live on less than \$2.50 each day. TRUE. This means that most people don’t have access to enough food, clothes or quality housing.

Nicaragua has the oldest city in the Americas. FALSE. But... their oldest city Leon Viejo is over 1500 years old—the oldest in Central America. Caral in Peru, is the oldest city in the Americas, dating from around 2600BC.

Nicaraguan kids with cancer are treated in hospital for free. TRUE. Children with cancer have free health treatment available at La Mascota Hospital, BUT...many families can’t afford travel to and from the hospital or the nutrition that the children need to help their recovery.

Nicaragua is frequently threatened by hurricanes, volcanoes and earthquakes. TRUE. Hurricane season is from July to November, the San Cristobal volcano has been active since 2012, and seismic activity (earth tremors) occurs very regularly.

Some kids don’t get cancer treatment because families can’t afford Bus fares to the hospital. TRUE. Children with cancer often miss or stop their treatments because their families can’t afford the travel costs.

Bus fares are cheap in Nicaragua. FALSE. Short bus rides may cost up to AU\$1.25, but longer rides between cities cost AU\$4–8. This can be much more than a person earns in a day. $\frac{3}{4}$ of Nicaraguans live on less than \$2.50 per day.

Nicaragua is so poor that they don’t protect the land or animals. FALSE. There are seventy protected regions of land and water in Nicaragua, which aid in saving many endangered species found in the country. These species include monkeys, sloths, sea turtles and boa constrictors.

Children with cancer in Nicaragua appreciate our help. TRUE. They appreciate the Bibles, bus fares, medicine and support they receive because other people care enough to help them.



MEMORY TIME—ACT IT OUT! (7 MIN)

Psalm 46:1–3 (GNB)

Group 1: God is our shelter and strength,
always ready to help in times of trouble.

Group 2: So we will not be afraid, even if the earth is shaken
and mountains fall into the ocean depths;

Group 3: even if the seas roar and rage,
and the hills are shaken by the violence.

1. Divide children into three groups. Give each group a section of the passage.
2. Ask each group to make up group actions or a drama they can perform while saying the verse.
3. Give them three minutes to come up with something.
4. Kids perform each passage to the other groups.
5. THEN REPEAT! The whole group works to perform the whole action drama, Group 1 will lead the first section, Group 2 the second; and Group 3 the third section.

C'mon Champs! Who would like to do the whole action drama on their own?

WATCH NICARAGUA VIDEO (3 MIN)*

Watch the video about kids living with cancer in Nicaragua. (You can read the video transcript in the Leader's Notes.)

LUKE 10:25–37 BIBLE DISCOVERY (10 MIN)

Watch the video:

biblesociety.org.au/thegoodsamaritan

OR Read the Bible: **Luke 10:25–37**

Questions for older kids:

1. What does this passage say about what God wants?
2. What do we discover about people from this passage?
3. How can we connect what we see in this Bible story, with kids living with cancer in Nicaragua?
4. What could we do? [Move directly to next activity.]

Questions for younger kids:

1. What does Jesus teach the man about eternal life?
2. Who was the one who loved their neighbour in Jesus' story?
3. What could we do to love our Nicaraguan "neighbours"?

THREE GREAT WAYS TO BE A CHAMPION FOR KIDS LIVING WITH CANCER IN NICARAGUA (5 MIN)

1. **Pray for them.** Stop and pray for the kids right now.

Dear Lord Jesus, please help us to love you and love others. Show us how we can help the kids in Nicaragua and encourage them when their life is so difficult. Thank you that Bible Society Australia and Bible Society Nicaragua are working together to help us help those children. Amen.

2. **Decide as a group how you will fundraise together to help them with Bible and treatment costs.** Talk about some fundraising ideas together. For example: Odd jobs for cash; bake volcano biscuits; Have a KidChef challenge; do a sponsored group walk.
 - \$40 will help purchase three Bibles for volunteers to give to a child, parent or hospital staff.
 - \$80 will help us produce 133 copies of Scripture portions and activity packs for children with cancer.
 - \$140 will help train four pastors and volunteers to provide spiritual care to children, family and staff at the hospital.

3. **Write and send messages/prayers of hope.** Bible Society Australia and Bible Society Nicaragua are going to take any postcard made by a child in Australia, and give it to a child living with cancer in Nicaragua as they help them come to treatment. Draw on a postcard for a kid in Nicaragua [use the templates**]!

Send the messages together with the funds you have raised to Bible Society Australia by Mid-May 2018 (for June delivery). Use the donation form online at biblesociety.org.au/gtwo18 or in the GTWO booklet:

Mail to:

Bible Society Australia
GPO Box 4161
Sydney NSW 2001

MAKE A POSTCARD MESSAGE FOR A CHILD IN NICARAGUA (10 MIN)

While the kids are drawing on their postcard, chat with them about fundraising ideas that will work locally. Use our FAQ page for questions your kids might have about the children in Nicaragua living with cancer. For more information, contact:

Bible Society Australia

Get the Word Out 2018

Web: biblesociety.org.au/gtwo18

Call: 1300 BIBLES or 1300 242 537

Email: donor.support@biblesociety.org.au

FAREWELL THE CHILDREN (1 MIN)

Remind the children about fundraising as a team to help **Get The Word Out** to Nicaragua.



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