

Adventures in Narnia



Nine interactive sessions for seniors,
aiming to explain the truths of the gospel through
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
by CS Lewis.

Introduction

We ran Adventures in Narnia once a month as part of our weekly meetings for seniors at Christ Church Dunstable. About 60 seniors generally came along of which about half were not regular church goers.

We sat in groups of about 8 around tables and after a time of coffee and chat we ran our sessions, which lasted an hour in total. One of our pastors took the role of CS Lewis, wearing a tweed jacket and tie, sporting round glasses and carrying a pipe (unlit!).

Each session consists of –

1. An introduction, with a brief recap of where we are up to in the story.
2. An explanation by CS Lewis of his thoughts about the chapters which are the focus of the session.
3. A 10 - 15 minute section of The Lion The Witch and the Wardrobe video (Disney).
4. 15 – 20 minutes of group discussion.
5. A 5 minute Bible Focus drawing out the Biblical truths behind that section of the story.
6. People are then given a take home sheet, containing the Bible verses that we hope they will remember, to add to the folder which they had been given at the start.

These sessions were very popular. People engaged well with the discussion questions and listened attentively to the Bible Focus.

Bob and Pat Heath,
Pastoral Assistants for Seniors, Christ Church Dunstable.

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Adventures in Narnia - an Overview

1. Meet CS Lewis

His life, his conversion, his purpose in writing the book.

Film: Chapters 1 & 2

The children are evacuated and find the wardrobe.

Group discussion

1. Make a list of as many books written by CS Lewis as you can.
2. What are the big questions that people ask today?
3. What are people's main motivations today?

Bible Focus

Our main motivation in life should be to love and obey God. In order to do that we need to know him.

Mark 12:20; Jeremiah 29:13

2. We meet Mr Tumnus – A Good Choice

Lucy goes through the wardrobe and meets Mr Tumnus. He's made a bad choice to be a kidnapper for the White Witch and tries to capture Lucy. But when he gets to know her he realises that what he plans to do is bad and he makes the good choice to let her go.

Film: Chapters 3 & 4

Group discussion

Making Choices

What bad choice did Mr Tumnus make at first?

Why did he make that choice?

What sort of things might pressurise people into choices they are reluctant about today?

What made Mr Tumnus change his mind about his choice even though he was afraid of the consequences?

Do we sometimes make poor choices without knowing all the facts?

How difficult is it to own up to a poor or bad choice and change it?

What can help us to make good choices?

Bible Focus

We need to choose who we will serve. Joshua 24:14 & 15

3. We meet the White Witch – A Bad Choice

Edmund goes through the wardrobe and meets the White Witch. He chooses to betray his siblings because of flattery and inducement- Turkish Delight.

Film: Chapters 5 & 6

Group discussion

How did the Witch tempt and manipulate Edmund?

What made her successful in her temptations?

What kind of manipulation do we face today? e.g. advertising, scams, peer pressure, other?

What can help us to resist temptation?

Bible Focus

The devil tempts us. Jesus faced temptation but without sin. We all face temptation. God can help us to overcome it.

Hebrews 4:14,15; 1John 1:9

4. What is real? Does Narnia Exist?

Conversation between The Professor, Peter and Susan about whether Lucy is lying about the existence of Narnia.

Film: Chapters 7 & 8 (33:32 – 42:57)

Group discussion

Why do Peter and Susan find it so difficult to believe that Narnia might really exist?

What does the Professor say that helps them to consider that it might be true?

What makes it hard for us to believe in something or someone we've never seen?

Do we believe this physical world that we experience with our senses is all there is?

Bible Focus

Jesus tells Thomas, 'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed'

John 20:24 - 29

5. Who is Aslan? - Where does help come from?

Peter, Susan and Lucy go into Narnia and meet Mr&Mrs Beaver. They have tea together and hear that Mr Tumnus has been captured and turned into stone. The beavers tell them that Aslan is on his way and they learn something of who he is.

Film: Chapter 8 - Chapter 11 (42:26 - 58:44)

Group discussion

The situation for Mr Tumnus seems hopeless but what gives the children hope?

What have we found out so far about Aslan?

Who would we turn to at difficult times in our lives?

Why would we choose to turn to them?

Why or why not would we look to God for help?

Bible Focus

We can totally trust God

Proverbs 3: 5 & 6

6. Into Captivity - Can Edmund be rescued?

Edmund is in captivity in the Witch's house. She taunts him and sets out to capture the other children. But the snow begins to melt and Father Christmas appears to say that Aslan is on the move. The Witch prepares to kill Edmund. The children see the stone table and are very afraid but Aslan appears and reassures them.

Film: Chapter 12 – 14 (058:44 -1:20:25)

Group discussion

Have you ever been in a situation where you needed rescuing?

What are the characteristics of a good rescuer?

What has caused Edmund's need for rescue?

Why do you think CS Lewis chose the rescuer to be a lion?

Who does Aslan point us to?

Why might we need a rescuer?

Bible Focus

We need a rescuer.

Colossians 1:13; Romans 10:13

7. **The Great Exchange** - Who will take Edmund's place?

Edmund is rescued by Aslan's helpers. Aslan talks privately with him and tells the others that there is no need to mention what has happened in the past. Aslan allows the Witch to capture him and he is killed on the stone table. The children are horrified.

Film: middle of chapter 14 -17 (1:20:15 - 1:38:47)

Group discussion

What did Aslan do?

Why did he do it?

Do you know of examples of people taking the punishment for others or dying for them?

What did Jesus do that this episode reminds us of?

Why did he do it?

What makes his rescue unique?

What are the results of his rescue?

Bible Focus

Substitution. Jesus took our place and bore our sins when he died on the cross.

Isaiah 53:5, 6; 59:2; 1 Peter 2:22-24; 2 Corinthians 5:5, 6.

8. **Alive Again!** – The captives are set free

Susan and Lucy see Aslan lying dead on the stone table. They withdraw and the table cracks. Aslan appears, alive. There is a battle with the Witch. Aslan transports Susan and Lucy to the Witch's castle. They see the stone statues, including Mr Tumnus. Aslan breathes on him and he comes alive again. They search the castle and set all the prisoners free. We return to the battle scene. Peter and the Witch fight. Just as she is about to kill Peter, Aslan pounces and kills her. He says, 'It is finished!'. Edmund is injured but revives after Lucy gives him the cordial that Father Christmas gave her.

Film: Half way through chapter 17 (1:38:47 – 2:00:05)

Group Discussion

What happened in today's episode that was unexpected?

Aslan said, 'It is finished!' When did he say that and what did he mean?

Who else said these words? When did he say them and what did he mean?

What events in life can we be absolutely certain will happen? Eg: day and night

Look back at the answers you gave for number 4. Is there anything that humans can do to stop or change those certainties? (Think of King Canute for example)

The greatest certainty in life is that every person eventually dies. We should try live in as healthy a way as we can but is there any way we can stop death happening?

What happened after Aslan came to life again?

What did the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ achieve? What hope does it give to Christians?

Bible Focus

Our salvation is assured because of Jesus' death.

Ezekiel 36:25 – 26; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Matthew 17:22 & 23;

John 20:19 & 20

9. Kings and Queens - Living for ever

Aslan and the children are in the witch's courtyard. The statues, including Mr Tumnus are now alive again. Aslan now crowns the children and then leaves them. They return through the wardrobe.

Film: Chapters (1:59:00 – 2:06:13)

Group discussion

What effect did evil have in Narnia throughout the story?

In what ways do we see the effect of evil in our own society today?

How was the evil in Narnia overcome?

In what ways do you think evil can be overcome in our own society today?

In what ways did the defeat of evil change life in Narnia?

Our lives on earth eventually come to an end. What do you believe happens after death?

What hope do Christians have for life after death?

Bible Focus

Christians have the sure hope of eternal life with God in heaven.

'I am come that you might have life'

Heb 9:27; Rom 6:23; John 11:25; John 3:16.

Adventures in Narnia Session 1

We meet CS Lewis - Why did he write the book?

Introducer

Welcome to our first session of Adventures in Narnia based on the famous book by CS Lewis, 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. During our 9 sessions we will be watching extracts from an excellent film of the story and having discussions about the main themes of the book. If you'd like a copy of the book let us know and we'll put a bulk order in.

So, let's get started. We have exciting news for you. Thanks to our amazing Time Machine we've been able to bring Mr CS Lewis here today to be with us. Please give him a warm welcome.

CS Lewis

Thank you very much! It's very surprising to be here today. I was sitting in my study at Cambridge University in 1956 minding my own business when suddenly I found myself transported here and the date had changed to 20...!

Please allow me to introduce myself. I like to go by the name of Jack. It's not the name my parents gave me and that I use when I write. (*Hold up The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*). That's CS Lewis, Clive Staples Lewis, but I really don't like those names, so as a boy I decided to call myself Jack, after a dog I had called Jacksie who I loved very much. So if you want to ask me any questions later please call me Jack - all my friends do.

My love of stories, especially adventure stories, began when I was young. My home was full of books which I read avidly from the moment I learnt to read. As a small boy I enjoyed Beatrix Potter and as I got older *Treasure Island* and *Gulliver's Travels* were among my favourites. I was inspired by these books and started writing my own adventure stories.

When I was nine years old, just two weeks after the death of my beloved mother, my father sent me away from my home in Ireland to Wynyard boarding school, in Watford. It was very strict! I hated it and often felt very homesick. When I was 12 I was sent to Malvern College in Worcestershire. I loved the town of Malvern but not my school there which was worse than the one in Watford! I did like studying however, apart from Maths, which I found very difficult. In 1916 I gained a place in

Oxford University to study classics but was only there for a short time before I joined the British army. World War 1 had begun!

But I've been talking for quite long enough now. It's your turn to do something. I've written a number of books over the years and I'd be very interested to see how many you can name. I'll give you 5 minutes to make a list of as many of my books as you can think of. I expect most, if not all of my books are probably out of print by now so don't please don't worry if you can't think of any except this one! (*hold up The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*)

Group Discussion 1

Introducer

Make a list of as many CS Lewis books as you can
(*after about 5 mins give each group a list of his main books and then announce the highest number of books achieved by a group*)

CS Lewis

Very impressive, I'm amazed and flattered that you knew so many! That's not what I expected at all.

Back to my life story. My mother's death and my miserable experiences at school made me a very unhappy, confused and angry boy.

My time in the army on the front line in Arras added to my misery. The suffering I experienced and saw there caused me to question God. As well as asking, 'Why did my mother have to die when I was still so young?' I also wrestled with, 'Why were so many of my friends injured and killed in battle?' ... 'How could God be loving if he allowed all this anguish?' Eventually I stopped believing in God altogether and wrote in my diary, rather inconsistently, 'I am very angry with God for not existing'. My mind was teeming with unanswered questions.

When I returned to Oxford after the war I had many debates and discussions with friends about these questions and was thinking deeply about all sorts of issues. 'What is life about?' ... 'Is there a God?' ... 'If there is can we know him?' ... 'What happens after death?' Etc etc

I think most people ask themselves these type of questions at some time or other. I wonder if you do? I'd be so interested to know. Please could I ask you to have a go at making another list in your groups, What are the

Big Questions that people ask today? Are they the same as when I was thinking about these things or are there different ones today?

Group Discussion 2

Introducer

We'll take up to ten minutes now to make a list on the topic-
What are the big questions that people ask themselves today?
(Read out a sample of answers from various tables)

CS Lewis:

Very interesting! Thank you. I can see that you are asking many of the same questions that people were exploring when I was young.

Over a period of several years, as I continued to discuss and wrestle with these big questions, faith began to grow in me. I read the Bible carefully and gradually came to understand and believe that the Bible gives the only true explanation for the way things are in this world. It shows us how people rebelled against God and went their own way. That Jesus is God's son who gave his life to rescue us and bring us back to God. These truths gripped my mind, my heart and my imagination.

When I was 32 I became a committed Christian believer which was something I had thought would never happen. A key event in that spiritual journey happened to me as I was travelling with a friend to visit Whipsnade Zoo near Dunstable when I finally came to truly believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

My faith continued to grow and my stories began to reflect my search for meaning in life and the truths from the Bible that had such a huge impact on my life. I longed to write a great adventure story that would capture people's imagination. I wanted to create a land where things had gone badly wrong and so Narnia came into being, where it was always winter but never Christmas. The creatures in Narnia were in grave trouble and needed a rescuer, so the mighty Aslan was born. Bit by bit my story grew into a whole series of books.

So now you know something of the motivation and inspiration behind The Chronicles of Narnia. Could I ask what motivates you in what you do? You may not write books as I've had the privilege of doing but we all have reasons for what we choose to say and do. Would you be kindly

willing to have a final few minutes of discussion about what our main motivations in life are?

Group Discussion 3

Introducer

Our final group time this morning is 10 minutes thinking together about-
What are people's main motivations in life today?
(Ask groups to contribute some of their answers)

We're now going to watch the first 10 minutes of a film of The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe to get the story underway.

Film: Sections 1 & 2

The children are evacuated to the Professor's house

Bible Focus

What is the greatest motivation in your life?
Happiness? Health? Success? Prosperity? Harmonious family?

All these things are valid and good but the Bible tells us that the main motivation in our lives should be to love and obey God and to do that we need to know him.

The greatest commandment

²⁸ One of the teachers of the law (the Pharisees) came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them (the Sadducees) a good answer, he asked him, 'Of all the commandments, which is the most important?'

²⁹ 'The most important one,' answered Jesus, 'is this: "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."³¹ The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself." There is no commandment greater than these.'

³² 'Well said, teacher,' the man replied. 'You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. ³³ To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.'

Mark 12:28-33 (NIVUK)

Our great hope for each one of you is that you will be motivated to seek and search for the truth as we have heard that CS Lewis did. It says in the Bible, 'You will seek me and will find me if you seek for me with all your heart' Jeremiah 29:13. We pray you will be motivated to seek the Lord with all your hearts.

(Give out the take home booklets with the first sheet)

Session 1: Meet C. S. Lewis

– Why did he write The Chronicles of Narnia?

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

The Bible tells us that the main motivation in our lives should be to love and obey God. In order to do that we need to know him.

What is the greatest motivation in your life?
Happiness? Health? Success? Prosperity?

Jesus told one of the teachers of the law:

³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”³¹ The second is this: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” There is no commandment greater than these.’

Mark 12:30-31

“You will seek me and find me if you seek for me with all your heart”

Jeremiah 29:13

Books by CS Lewis

The Screwtape Letters
Mere Christianity
The Great Divorce
A Grief Observed
Out of the Silent Planet
Miracles
Prince Caspian
The Voyage of the Dawn Treader
The Horse and his Boy
The Magician's Nephew
The Four Loves
The Problem of Pain
The Pilgrim's Regress
Perelandra
The Case for Christianity
That Hideous Strength
The Silver Chair
The Last Battle
Till we have Faces
The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe
Surprised by Joy
The Joyful Christian
God in the Dock
Spirits in Bondage
Dymer
The Allegory of Love
Christian Behaviour
The Abolition of Man
The Weight of Glory
Reflections in the Psalms
Studies in Words
The World's Last Night
An Experiment in Criticism
They asked for a Paper
Letters to Malcolm
Christian Reflections
Letters to an American Lady
The Dark Tower
Letters to Children
Present Concerns
Timeless at Heart

Adventures in Narnia Session 2

We meet Mr Tumnus - A Good Choice

Introducer

Good morning everyone. Welcome to the second episode of The Chronicles of Narnia. Last week we met the author, CS Lewis and I'm pleased to say that our time machine has brought him here to be with us again today. Welcome Jack, as you told us to call you last month. Before I hand over to you I'd like to fill you in with what has been happening with your Chronicles of Narnia.

You might be surprised to hear that although originally you intended your books to be for children, adults like them very much too. Over 1 million copies of The Chronicles of Narnia have now been sold and they've been translated into 46 languages! There have been 9 film versions, several radio versions and many stage plays of the books!

CS Lewis

I can hardly believe it! I wish I could have a chat with my good friend JR Tolkien right now! You know who I mean don't you? Among other books, he wrote The Lord of the Rings and I hear that's also been very successful and has a film version of it too! Have any of you seen it?

We used to be in a literary club together called The Inklings in Oxford. We'd meet in the pub on Tuesday evenings and discuss our writing. He really didn't like my Chronicles. He said it was shallow and didn't hold together as a story. He described it as a mishmash of strange creatures, like fauns and dryads and dragons, and thought it was ridiculous that I even included Father Christmas of all people! I wish he could be here to learn just how much children and adults alike enjoy my Chronicles of Narnia just like they love his Lord of the Rings!

Anyway! Let's get down to today's part of the story. Last time you met four children, Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy who were evacuated from London during the Second World War to a large house in the countryside. I wanted my readers to think about the possibility of realities that we can't see with our physical eyes here in this world so I had Lucy go through a door in the back of a large wardrobe into a new land altogether. That's what I want to do with my stories. To open a door in my readers' imaginations to there being truths we may only have glimpsed faintly so far.

In today's session you will begin to see what that world is like. It's very beautiful and magical but there's a big problem which I'm not giving away now! You're going to meet one of the mythical creatures that Mr Tolkien objected to, a Faun, who is half man and half goat. I hope you grow to like him very much when you see beyond his strangeness and get to know his true character. So, with no further ado let's get on with the story!

Film. Sections 3 & 4:

Lucy goes into Narnia and meets Mr Tumnus

Introducer

Let's have about 15-20 minutes of discussion now in our groups about making choices. There are some questions coming around for you to think about together

Group Discussion (15-20 mins)

What bad choice did Mr Tumnus make at first?

Why did he make that choice?

What might pressurise people into choices they are reluctant about today?

What made Mr Tumnus change his mind about his choice even though he was afraid of the consequences?

What areas might we make poor choices without knowing all the facts?

How difficult is it to own up to a poor or bad choice and change it?

What can help us to make good choices?

Bible Focus

We all make many choices every day. Some are relatively trivial and inconsequential, like what we have for breakfast and what we listen to on the radio. Others are far bigger and have a more important impact on our own lives and the lives of others. There can be times when we all make choices that we regret and even ones that we know are wrong.

The biggest and most important choice we ever make in our lives is whether we will trust and obey God. We might hesitate to do that because we are not fully sure what we believe to be true. We know that not everyone around us trusts God, so we think that perhaps they are right.

In the Old Testament part of the Bible we read that Joshua led the children of Israel into the promised land where they found themselves living with people who did not know or trust the Lord. Instead of holding

firmly to their faith in the Lord they began to compromise to fit in with their new surroundings. They began to worship the gods of those around them. We too live in a world today in which there are many different belief systems, including having no faith at all. We're told that it doesn't matter what we believe but the Bible says that it does matter. We cannot have a foot in different camps. We have to choose.

Joshua spoke to the people and put that choice before them. He said,

'Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.' Joshua 24: 14-15

Joshua chose to serve the Lord. Will you?

(Give out the take home sheets)

Session 2: Into Narnia – a good choice

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

At first Mr Tumnus made the wrong choice of working for the White Witch. But then he made the good choice of turning away from what he knew to be wrong.

The Bible tells us that we have the choice too. We can choose to love and serve God as he is revealed in the Bible or choose to go our own way.

God challenged the children of Israel through Joshua:

'Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.'

Joshua 24: 14-15

Adventures in Narnia Session 3

We meet the White Witch – A Bad Choice

Introducer

Welcome back to The Chronicles of Narnia by CS Lewis. In our last episode Lucy went through the wardrobe into Narnia where she met Mr Tumnus. He confessed that he had planned to kidnap her and hand her over to the White Witch who had much power in Narnia and caused it to be always winter and never Christmas. After he got to know and make friends with Lucy, Mr Tumnus could not bring himself to betray her and made the good choice to let her go.

Let's welcome Mr Lewis now to introduce us to today's episode of The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe. Welcome Mr Lewis.

CS Lewis

Thank you and please remember to call me Jack, we're friends now. Good morning everyone. Thank you for having me back again.

Have you ever had two different explanations about the same event from more than one person and wondered which one is the true and accurate one? The police frequently have to deal with that when they listen to different witnesses of an incident or a crime. Also when you try to sort out a squabble between two children you often get a completely different account of what has happened from each of them.

On a more global scale people can have very different explanations for such questions as, How did life originate? Where do we come from? What is the purpose of our lives? Why is there so much evil and suffering in the world? What happens after death? We wish we could hear a trustworthy voice answering those questions for us. I wanted my story to reflect that struggle to find the truth, to know who to believe.

Edmund, Lucy's brother, wanted to find out for himself whether his sister was telling the truth about Narnia, so today we will see him going through the back of the wardrobe himself and to his astonishment finding that Narnia really does exist! While he is

there he has an encounter with the White Witch who had been trying to force Mr Tumnus to kidnap any humans he comes across.

She tells him that she is the true and only ruler of Narnia. The whole land is her domain alone. Is this the truth? Can she be trusted? Could there be a different explanation as to who rules Narnia that we haven't heard about yet? I want you to think about that for yourselves and keep an open mind. Perhaps there's more to discover.

She also tempts and tricks Edmund into promising to bring his siblings to her in Narnia. She uses very subtle and deceptive means to do this! Manipulation and temptation are all too familiar to every one of us so that's another area of life that I want my readers to explore.

Let's watch the next episode of the story now and see what you think.

Film Sections 5 & 6
Edmund meets the White Witch

Introducer

Edmund faced several temptations today in Narnia and that's something we can all understand. We all face the temptation to make foolish or wrong choices at times in our lives. That's what we're going to discuss in our groups now. There are some questions coming round to help you with that.

Group Discussion (15-20 mins)

How did the witch tempt and manipulate Edmund?

What made her successful in her temptations?

What kind of manipulation do we face today? E.g. advertising, scams, peer pressure -other?

What causes us to sometimes be taken in by manipulation?

What temptations do people face these days?

What can help us to resist temptation?

Bible Focus

The White Witch purports to be the ruler of Narnia. She claims she has all power in the land and at this point in the story we don't know of anyone else who is greater than her.

She flatters and tempts Edmund with Turkish Delight and promises that he will be a king himself one day in order to get him under her power. So, she has appealed to his desire for rich food and also to his pride in wanting to be more important than his siblings and able to boss them about. Her true goal in all of this is to persuade him to bring his brother and sisters to her so that she can capture them.

The Bible speaks of an evil being called the Devil. He too falsely claims to be the Prince of our world, though the truth is that God is the real and only creator and Lord of it. He attempts to usurp God's rightful power and authority.

He too is the great tempter. He even tried to tempt Jesus! When Jesus was in the wilderness the Devil attempted to get him under his power. Jesus had been fasting and was hungry so the Devil tempted him to change stones into bread, but Jesus refused to use his power in that way. He then tempted him to gain fame by throwing himself off a high cliff and show that God would keep him safe. But again Jesus refused to give into this temptation to show off his power in that way. Finally, the Devil promised Jesus great power if he would bow down and worship him as God but Jesus knew that this claim to be God was a false and wicked one. He would only worship and obey the one true God, his Father. He resisted these temptations by speaking God's true and trustworthy words from the Bible.

The Devil also brings temptation our way. We've all known what it is to be tempted to say or do things we know are wrong. We don't always resist that temptation successfully. Jesus was the only one who was, 'tempted in every way, just as we are – yet he did not sin.' Hebrews: 4:15. This is the reason that he could bear our sins when he died on the cross in our place. He was sinless. We can be forgiven for our sin if we put our trust in him and if we ask for his help he promises not only to forgive us but also to help us in our temptations too.

(Give out take home sheets)

Session 3: Meet the White Witch

– A bad choice

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

The Devil brings temptation our way. We all know what it is to be tempted to say or do things we know are wrong. We don't always resist that temptation successfully.

Jesus the Son of God, ... has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet he did not sin.

Hebrews 4:14,15

We can be forgiven for our sin if we put our trust in Jesus and if we ask for his help he promises not only to forgive us but also to help us in our temptations too.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

Adventures in Narnia Session 4

What is Real? Does Narnia exist?

Introducer

Good morning everyone. Welcome to the fourth session of Adventures in Narnia, What is Real?

We're going to begin today by watching a short excerpt from Michael Portillo's Great British Railway Journeys which was on TV recently and which has some interesting information about CS Lewis and 'The Chronicles Of Narnia'.

Video clip: Michael Portillo (Series 10:7 Belfast to Portrush) (9:11-15.03)
(Stop after pull back in church)

Introducer

And you'll be pleased to know that is CS Lewis himself is here visiting us again today.

CS Lewis

Good morning everyone! I'm very pleased to be here with you again.

This is the fourth time that I seem to have managed to travel from Cambridge, through time from the 1950s to join you all here in in 20..! It's simply amazing and very exciting.

The first time I joined you I was astonished to find out that many of you had heard of me and had even read some of my books. Since then we've been exploring The Chronicles of Narnia together and in particular, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. I know you've had some very interesting discussions about the book and I'm thrilled that you are enjoying digging deep into my story.

So, where are we up to? Well, we've met the four Pevensie children, Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy who've been evacuated to the countryside during the Second World War. They are staying in a large house belonging to the Professor and managed by his housekeeper, the rather fearsome Mrs Macready.

Lucy was the first of the children to make an amazing discovery. She went into a large wardrobe in one of the many bedrooms in the house and to her astonishment she found she could walk through the back of it into a strange and magical land. There she met Mr Tumnus, a fawn, who told her that the

land was called Narnia and that it was always winter and never Christmas there. At first Mr Tumnus planned to capture Lucy. You see the White Witch, who claimed to be the supreme ruler of Narnia, had ordered that any humans who came into the land must be captured and brought to her. Mr Tumnus was too afraid of her not to obey her command.

But once he had got to know Lucy he found he couldn't do it and let her go back through the wardrobe into the Professor's house.

The other children didn't believe Lucy when she told them about Narnia, but Edmund wanted to see for himself whether it was true or not. He too went through the wardrobe and found himself in the magical land of Narnia! While there he met the White Witch herself, who flattered him and gave him Turkish Delight to eat. She told him that if he would bring his brother and sisters to her she would give him lots more Turkish Delight and make him King of Narnia. Edmund was very excited about this and promised to do so.

So, we take up the story again just after Edmund has returned to the Professor's house. In today's episode you are going to see Peter and Susan still struggling to believe Lucy's account of Narnia and sadly Edmund won't admit that he has seen it too. Peter and Susan have been inside the wardrobe for themselves and couldn't find a way through to Narnia so they are convinced that Lucy is making the whole thing up!

They try to work things out logically and come to the conclusion that if you can't see, hear or feel something with your senses then it doesn't exist. They are completely convinced of this.

We can understand why they think this and perhaps we would agree with them, but I want my readers to think about the possibility of realities that we can't experience with our physical senses. That's why I had Lucy go through the back of the wardrobe into a new land altogether. That's what I want to do with my stories. To open a door in my readers' imaginations to there being truths we may not have realised exist or have only so far glimpsed faintly.

So, we're going to explore that possibility some more today. I hope you enjoy this next episode of the story and that you'll be gripped by the tension and uncertainty of what is going to happen in Narnia and enjoy your foray into the unknown!

Introducer

Thank you very much Jack. Let's watch today's instalment of the story now!

Film: Sections 7 & 8 (33.32 – 42.57 Stop after aerial view)
Peter and Susan discuss what is real with the Professor

Introducer

In a minute we're going to have our group discussions about what we've seen today. One of the questions is, 'What does the Professor say to help Peter and Susan to begin to think that Narnia might be a real place? There is more in the book than there is in the film so we are just going to read out to you what CS Lewis actually put and we'll also give you a copy of this when you start your discussions.

Role play

(an extract from Chapter 5)

Prof: How do you know that your sister's story is not true?

Susan: Oh, but Edmund said they had only been pretending

Prof: That is a point which certainly deserves consideration; very careful consideration. For instance - if you will excuse me for asking the question - does your experience lead you to regard your brother or your sister as the more reliable? I mean, which is the more truthful?

Peter: That's just the funny thing about it sir, up till now I'd have said Lucy every time.

Prof: And what do you think, my dear?

Susan: Well, in general, I'd say the same as Peter, but this couldn't be true - all this about the wood and the faun.

Prof: That is more than I know, and a charge of lying against someone whom you have always found truthful is a very serious thing; a very serious thing indeed.

Susan: We were afraid it mightn't even be lying, we thought there might be something wrong with Lucy.

Prof: Madness you mean? Oh, you can make your minds easy about that. One only has to look at her and talk to her to see that she's not mad. Logic, why don't they teach logic at these schools? There are only three possibilities. Either your sister is telling lies, or she is mad, or she is telling the truth. You know she doesn't tell lies and it is obvious she is not mad. For the moment

then and unless any further evidence turns up, we must assume that she is telling the truth.

Peter: But how could it be true, sir?

Prof: Why do you say that?

Peter: Well, for one thing, if it was real why doesn't everyone find this country every time they go to the wardrobe? I mean, there was nothing there when we looked; even Lucy didn't pretend there was.

Prof: What has that got to do with it?

Peter: Well, sir, if things are real, they're there all the time.

Prof: Are they?

Susan: But there was no time. Lucy had no time to have gone anywhere, even if there was such a place. She came running after us the very moment we were out of the room. It was less than a minute, and she pretended to have been away for hours.

Prof: That is the very thing that makes her story so likely to be true. If there is a door in this house that leads to some other world (and I should warn you that this is a very strange house, and even I know very little about it) – if, as I say, she had got into another world, I should not be at all surprised to find that the other world had a separate time of its own; so that however long you stay there it would never take up any of *our* time. On the other hand, I don't think many girls of her age would invent that idea for themselves. If she had been pretending, she would have hidden for a reasonable time before coming out and telling her story.

Peter: But do you really mean, sir that there could be other worlds – all over the place, just round the corner- like that?

Prof: Nothing is more probable.....I wonder what they do teach them at these schools?

Introducer

Let's have our group discussion now. We'll take about 15 minutes to think about the questions that are being given out now.

Group Discussion

Why do Peter and Susan find it so difficult to believe that Narnia might really exist?

What does the Professor say that helps them to consider it might be true?

What might make it hard for us to believe in something or someone we've never seen?

Do we believe this physical world, that we can experience with our senses, is all there is?

Bible Focus: Seeing is Believing

Perhaps you've heard or have said, 'Seeing is believing'. It's a phrase we might use in a variety of situations.

'Yes Dad, I have done my homework, honest!'

'Well, let me see it please. Then I'll be sure you have'

'It's a fabulous place to go on holiday! We loved it!'

'I'll reserve judgment until I've been there myself'

'I really do love you'

'Well, show me in your actions, then I'll know for sure'

We can feel sceptical about things unless we've seen or experienced them for ourselves. There's a man in the Bible who was like that.

When Jesus rose from the dead and appeared to his disciples, one of them called Thomas was not present at the time. Allow me to read what happened to you from the Bible.

(Read John 20:24-29 Jesus appears to Thomas)

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord!' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.' ²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.' ²⁸ Thomas said to him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹ Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.' (NIVUK)

When Jesus said, 'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed', he was talking about people like us. We were not alive when Jesus was born and lived on this earth so we've never seen him with our physical eyes and yet those of us who are Christians believe he truly is God's son. The faith we have is a gift from God. It's not that we are a certain type of person, or that we've chosen to suspend our rational minds. No, we've asked God to reveal himself to us and to help us to know him, and he has opened our eyes to see and understand that by trusting in Jesus as our Saviour we can really believe in God and know him.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, may we be those who ask you to reveal yourself to us so that we might believe even though we have not seen. Thank you for those who faithfully share their faith with us so that we too may come to know and love you. Amen

(Give out take home sheets)

Session 4: What is Real?

– Does Narnia exist?

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

Like Peter and Susan, we too can feel sceptical about things unless we've seen or experienced them for ourselves.

Jesus said -

'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe'

John 20:29

When Jesus said this he was talking about people like us.

We can ask God to reveal himself to us and help us to know him. He will open our eyes and give us the faith we need to believe and trust him if we ask him to.

Adventures in Narnia Session 5

Who is Asian? Where does help come from?

Introducer

May I ask you all to please welcome Mr CS Lewis who is with us again today.

CS Lewis

Good morning everyone. I'm very pleased to join you again today.

We left the story on a bit of a cliff hanger last time. All four of the children are now in Narnia and have made a terrible discovery. Mr Tumnus has been captured by the White Witch for helping Lucy to escape from her clutches and his little home has been destroyed. They want to try to find and help him but have no idea where to start looking. If that wasn't enough they realise that they are completely lost. They don't know the way back to the wardrobe – and they've got no food with them!

Just as it seems it can't get any worse they hear snapping of twigs and see movement in the forest. Who or what is coming towards them?

We all have times in our lives when we feel lost and confused and not sure what to do or where to turn. When events are happening that feel unfamiliar and threatening. I wanted my story to reflect that reality but also to give hope of help – which will unfold as we go along.

Dear friends, please look for glimpses of that hope in today's episode.

Enjoy your morning and I'll see you all again soon.

Introducer

We're going to watch the next episode of the DVD in a minute but let me first tell you what the second question in our discussion time which follows the DVD is going to be.

What have we found out so far about Aslan?

Someone in today's part of the story introduces the name Aslan to the children for the first time. We get some clues and fascinating snippets of information about him. Watch out for these as we go along so that you can use them in helping to answer that question.

Film (16 mins)

*(Start near the end of section 8 (04226) Leaving Mr Tumnus' house
Stop at the end of section 11 (05844) Peter says, 'We just want our
brother back')*

Introducer

We'll now have our group discussion time

Group Discussion

The situation for Mr Tumnus seems hopeless but what gives the children hope?

What have we found out so far about Aslan?

Who would we turn to at difficult times in our lives?

Why would we choose to turn to them?

Why or why not would we look to God for help?

Bible Focus

Let's look back for a few minutes at question 2 in our discussions. What have we found out so far about Aslan? I wonder what points you wrote down?

(Choose people to contribute points from their discussions)

We'd like to refresh your memories now by reading the conversation between the children and Mr and Mrs Beaver taken straight from the book (p74 & 75)

Role Play

Mr Beaver: Aslan is on the move

Susan: Who is Aslan?

Mr Beaver: Aslan? Why, don't you know? He's the King. He's the Lord of the whole wood, but not often here, you understand. Never in my time or my father's time. But word has reached us that he has come back. He is in Narnia at this moment. He'll settle the White Queen all right. It is he, not you, that will save Mr Tumnus.

Edmund: Won't she turn him into stone too?

Mr Beaver: Lord love you, son of Adam, what a simple thing to say! Turn *him* into stone? If she can stand on her two feet and look him in the

face it'll be the most she can do and more than I expect of her. No, no. He'll put all to rights as it says in the old rhyme in these parts:

*Wrong will be right, when Aslan comes in sight,
At the sound of his roar, sorrows will be no more
When he bares his teeth, winter meets its death,
and when he shakes his mane, we shall have Spring again*

You'll understand when you see him.

Susan: But shall we see him?

Mr Beaver: Why, daughter of Eve, that's what I brought you here for. I'm to lead you to where you shall meet him.

Lucy: Is he a man?

Mr Beaver: Aslan a man! Certainly not. I tell you he is King of the wood and the son of the great Emperor-beyond-the-sea. Don't you know who is the King of the Beasts? Aslan is a lion – *the* lion, the great lion.

Susan: Ooh, I'd thought he was a man. Is he - quite safe? I shall feel rather nervous about meeting a lion

Mrs Beaver: That you will dearie, and no mistake. If there's anyone who can appear before Aslan without their knees knocking, they're either braver than most or else just silly.

Lucy: Then he isn't safe?

Mr Beaver: Safe? Don't you hear what Mrs Beaver tells you? Who said anything about safe? 'Course he isn't safe. But he's good. He's the King, I tell you.

Bible Focus *(continued)*

So what do we learn about Aslan from this conversation? We find out that-

He's on the move
He's the King
He's the Lord of the whole world
He's come to Narnia

He will save Mr Tumnus
He's more powerful than the White Witch – she can't turn him to stone
He'll put all to rights
He will make sorrow to be no more
He will end winter and bring Spring
He's the son of the Emperor-beyond-the-Sea
He's a lion
He's *the* lion, the great Lion
He's not 'safe' but he's good
Only Aslan can help

We don't know everything there is to know about Aslan yet but from what we've been told so far he does sound as if he is someone who can be trusted.

That's what we need when we are in difficulties isn't it? If we've got a medical problem, we need a doctor we can trust. If we have an important choice to make we need someone who knows what they're talking about who we can trust to advise us well.

With so many scams and frauds around these days we can almost begin to feel that there's no one we can trust. But in this story it's emerging that although things are looking bleak in Narnia, Aslan can be trusted. Why? He is good and he is powerful.

So in our world, which can be bleak at times, those of us who are Christians believe that God can be trusted. Why? Because he's good. And he is all powerful. We can learn about who he is from the pages of the Bible. There are many passages that I could have chosen but let me read a few verses from Psalm 33 which tells something of what God is like.

Psalm 33

Verse 4 'he is faithful in all he does'

Verse 5 'the earth is full of his unfailing love'

Verse 8 'let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the people of the world revere him'

Verse 9 'for he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.'

Verse 11 'the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.'

Because God is so good we know we can trust him with our whole hearts and lives.

Proverbs 3:5&6

'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your steps'.

(Give out the take home sheets)

Session 5: Who is Aslan?

– Where does help come from?

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

If we've got a medical problem, we need a doctor we can trust. If we have an important choice to make we need someone who knows what they're talking about who we can trust to advise us well.

⁴ ... ***[God] is faithful in all he does***

⁵ ... ***the earth is full of his unfailing love'***

⁸ ... ***let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the people of the world revere him***

⁹ ... ***for he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.***

¹¹ ... ***the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.***

Psalm 33:4, 5, 8, 9, 11

⁵ ***Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;***

⁶ ***in all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths straight.***

Proverbs 3:5,6

Adventures in Narnia Session 6:

Into Captivity: Can Edmund be rescued?

Introducer

Good morning everyone, welcome to Session 6 of our Adventures in Narnia series, 'Into Captivity'.

I'm very pleased to say that CS Lewis himself is here with us again to introduce and explain the next part of his book, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. Welcome Mr Lewis, or should I say 'Jack'.

CS Lewis

Thank you for your welcome everyone, I'm very pleased to be here with you all again. We are coming now to a sad part of our story.

We've got to know the four Pevensie children quite well by this time and have seen their different personalities and ways of reacting to events.

In particular we've seen Edmund being deceived by the White Witch. She has successfully flattered and tempted him into believing her false promises to give him lots more Turkish Delight and to make him into the King of Narnia. We feel worried for him as we watch him falling for her lies and walking into her trap. We want to shout,

'Edmund!'

'She's lying to you!'

'Don't believe her!'

'Don't do what she says!'

'Don't betray your brother and sisters!'

We do feel like that when we see people we care about making wrong or foolish choices. But they don't always listen to us. In fact, at times any one of us can be convinced that we know best - we don't want to be told what to do! We deceive ourselves into thinking that we don't need advice or help.

I'd like to read you a page from chapter 9 of the book in which I've tried to show how Edmund's mind was working as he chose to believe what he wanted to be true rather than properly considering what the truth really was. Edmund is in the Beavers' house with the other children and

Mr and Mrs Beaver, but as they are talking, without them noticing, he slips quietly out of the door and sets off to go to the Witch's palace.

(Chapter 9 the first 3 paragraphs)

'And now of course you want to know what had happened to Edmund. He had eaten his share of the dinner, but he hadn't really enjoyed it because he was thinking all the time about Turkish Delight – and there's nothing that spoils the taste of good, ordinary food half so much as the memory of bad, magic food. And he had heard the conversation, and hadn't enjoyed it much either, because he kept on thinking that the others were taking no notice of him and trying to give him the cold shoulder. They weren't, but he imagined it. And then he listened until Mr Beaver told them about about Aslan and until he had heard the whole arrangement for meeting Aslan at the Stone Table. It was then that he began very quietly to edge himself under the curtain which hung over the door. For the mention of Aslan gave him a mysterious and horrible feeling just as it gave the others a mysterious and lovely feeling.

Just as Mr Beaver had been repeating the rhyme about 'Adam's flesh and Adam's bone', Edmund had been very quietly turning the door-handle; and just before Mr Beaver had begun telling them that the White Witch wasn't really human at all but half a Jinn and half a giantess, Edmund had got outside into the snow and cautiously closed the door behind him.

You mustn't think that even now Edmund was quite so bad that he actually wanted his brother and sisters to be turned into stone. He did want Turkish Delight and to be a Prince (and later a King) and to pay Peter out for calling him a beast. As for what the Witch would do with the others, he didn't want her to be particularly nice to them – certainly not to put them on the same level as himself; but he managed to believe, or to pretend he believed, that she wouldn't do anything bad to them.

'Because,' he said to himself, 'all these people who say nasty things about her are her enemies and probably half of it isn't true. She was jolly nice to me, anyway much nicer than they are. I expect she's the rightful Queen really. Anyway, she'll be better than that awful Aslan!' At least that was the excuse he made in his own mind for what he was doing. It wasn't a very good excuse, however, for deep down inside him he really knew that the White Witch was bad and cruel.'

Do you see how Edmund has been taken in and is choosing to believe what he'd like to think is true? He's closed his eyes to the truth but I'm afraid his eyes are very soon to be opened to some painful realities.

I want to encourage my readers to reflect on the sad fact that at times we can all have the tendency to block out truths we don't want to hear and that can bring painful consequences.

But be encouraged dear friends! It's not all bad news. Behind the scenes amazing events are taking place which will eventually transform everything! We've heard a few hints about a rescuer and now we are going to get our first glimpse of him! Keep a look out for him!

Enjoy your morning! I'll see you next time!

Introducer

We're now going to watch the next episode of the film

Film: *21 mins*

(Start: Beginning of DVD chapter 12 (05844) Edmund in the Witch's dungeon

Stop: End of 14 (12015) Aslan says, 'I too want my family safe')

Edmund is in captivity in the Witch's house. She taunts him and sets out to capture the other children. But the snow begins to melt and Father Christmas appears to say that Aslan is on the move. The Witch prepares to kill Edmund. The children see the stone table and are very afraid but Aslan appears and reassures them.

Introducer

Let's have our discussion time now. There are questions on both sides of the paper.

Discussion

Have you ever been in a situation where you needed rescuing?

What has caused Edmund's need for rescue?

What are the characteristics of a good rescuer?

Why do you think CS Lewis chose the rescuer in his story to be a lion?

Who does Aslan point us to?

Aslan's final words in today's section are, 'I too want my family safe'.

Why might we need a rescuer?

Bible Focus:

In today's section of the story we watched Edmund striding confidently into the Witch's castle. He had no idea that he was in serious danger. We, the readers, can see it clearly but Edmund does not.

The Bible tells us that until we trust Jesus as our Saviour, every one of us is also in serious danger. We too might not recognise that danger.

I'd like to encourage you to ask yourself two important questions.

Why are we in danger?

What is the danger?

The Bible gives us a clear answer to both of those questions.

Why are we in danger?

Romans 3 v23 says,
'For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God'

We all do things wrong in our lives even when we try our very best to be good. We all fall short of God's standard.

What is the danger?

Isaiah 59 v2 says,
*'Your iniquities have separated you from your God,
your sins have hidden his face from you
so that he will not hear.'*

We are in danger of being separated from God, both now in this present life, and then for ever in the life after death because of our sins. God is holy and our sin causes that separation.

At last Edmund realised how wrong and foolish he had been and faced up to the great danger he was in. He longed to be rescued and saved from his dire situation.

For us too, realising the seriousness of our situation is the first step in us being willing to look for a rescuer, a Saviour.

We saw our first glimpse of a rescuer in our episode today. Aslan is on the move and he says, 'I too want my family to be safe'. He points us to Jesus, the great rescuer and Saviour who wants us to be safe in his family. We'll think more next time about how he rescues us and brings us safely into a relationship with God but for today our main focus is for us all to recognise that we need a Saviour and that Jesus came to be that rescuer.

(Give out the take home sheets)

Session 6: Into Captivity

– Can Edmund be rescued?

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

We've heard in our story that, 'Aslan is on the move'- the rescuer is coming! Because our sin has separated us from God, he initiated our rescue by sending his Son, Jesus into the world.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life'

John 3v16

'He [God] has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins'

Colossians 1v13

'Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.'

Romans 10v13

God never turns away anyone who calls out to him for rescue.

Adventures in Narnia Session 7

The Great Exchange

Introducer

Good morning everyone and welcome to session 7 of our Adventures in Narnia series. Today's episode is called, 'The Great Exchange' and is the climax of the whole story. Please welcome Mr CS Lewis who has come across the miles and the years again to introduce us to this part of his story. Thank you for coming Mr Lewis and welcome.

CS Lewis

Good morning everyone, thank you for the welcome. I'm very pleased to be with you all again today.

We left Edmund in a terrible situation last time. He had been captured by the White Witch and by now he has realised that she has completely tricked him. All the things he said to try to convince himself that she was good and kind and that her side was really the right side, sound foolish now.

The Witch has caused it be always winter and never Christmas in Narnia but things are beginning to change! With Aslan on the move, the snow and ice are melting, flowers are springing up, birds are singing and Father Christmas has appeared. But best of all Peter, Susan and Lucy get to meet Aslan himself!

Lucy asks Aslan a very important question, 'Please Aslan, can anything be done to save Edmund?' Aslan's reply is both profound and intriguing. He says, 'All shall be done, but it may be harder than you think.'

And today you will see what Aslan does. It's terrible and wonderful at the same time. You will see some fearful sights in my story today. They will make you sad and maybe afraid and angry too. Your hopes will be raised and your fears about Edmund will lessen but you will grieve for someone else. All may seem lost, ruined. But take heart dear friends, we are not at the end of the story yet.

Film

Middle of Chapter 14 to 17 (1:20:15–1:38:47)

Edmund is sitting tied to a tree. Lucy and Susan are confronted by Maugrim, the wolf. She blows the horn for help. Peter confronts two wolves. Aslan comes but leaves the battle to Peter. He kills the wolf and Aslan knights him. Aslan's helpers rescue Edmund. Aslan talks privately with Edmund. He tells the children that there is no need to talk to Edmund about what's past. The Witch comes to see Aslan. She tells him that there is a traitor in their midst. She says that every traitor belongs to her. His blood is her property and unless she has blood, as the law demands all of Narnia will be overturned. Edmund must die on the stone table. Aslan talks with the Witch alone. Aslan says that the Witch has renounced her claim on Edmund's blood. They go to bed and Susan and Lucy follow Aslan. They watch from afar as the Witch binds, shaves and kills Aslan. They see his body.

Introducer

We're going to have our group discussion time now.

Group Discussion

What did Aslan do?

Why did he do it?

Do you know any examples of people taking the punishment or dying for others?

What did Jesus do that this episode reminds us of?

Why did he do it?

What makes his rescue unique?

What are the results of his rescue?

Bible Focus:

Today we've seen the Witch demand Edmund's life. She says she has a right to have him killed on the stone table because he is a traitor. He deserves to die. This reminds us of what we saw last time in our Narnia 6 session, that the Bible tells us we deserve death and separation from God because of our sin. This truth is taught and explained right through the whole Bible.

For example, in the book of Isaiah in Old Testament it says,

'Your iniquities have separated you from your God;

Your sins have hidden his face from you so that he will not hear.'
Isaiah 59:2

But just as all seems lost in our story, an amazing and unexpected event takes place! Aslan steps in and willingly allows the Witch to kill him on the stone table as a substitute for Edmund. Aslan has done nothing wrong but he chooses freely to die in Edmund's place.

This points us clearly to Jesus. He was without any sin at all but he willingly and freely took our sin on himself and died on the cross as our substitute. He took our place.

Speaking of Jesus in the book of 1 Peter it says,

*'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.
When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead he entrusted himself to him (God) who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.'* *1 Peter 2:22-24*

This was God's loving and gracious plan to save us. He gave his only Son, Jesus as our substitute.

'God made him who had no sin to be sin for us so that in him we might become the righteousness of God' *2 Corinthians 5: 21*

And in Isaiah it says,

*'He (Jesus) was pierced for our transgressions,
He was crushed for our iniquities;
The punishment that brought us peace was on him,
And by his wounds we are healed.
We all, like sheep have gone astray,
Each of us has turned to our own way;
And the Lord has laid on him
The iniquity of us all.'* *Isaiah 53:5, 6*

This is the most wonderful truth you will ever hear. Just as Edmund did not have to face the punishment he fully deserved, neither do you! Jesus has died to take your punishment on himself. You can be forgiven and made right with God today if you will trust him as your Saviour.

(Give out take home sheets)

Session 7: The Great Exchange

– Who will take his place?

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

Speaking of Jesus in the book of 1 Peter the Bible says,

***“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”
When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he
suffered, he made no threats. Instead he entrusted himself to him (God)
who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so
that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you
have been healed.’***

1 Peter 2:22-24

This was God’s loving and gracious plan to save us. He gave his only Son, Jesus as our substitute.

***‘God made him who had no sin to be sin for us so that in him we might
become the righteousness of God.’***

2 Corinthians 5: 21

***‘We all, like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own
way; And the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.’*** *Isaiah 53:6*

Adventures in Narnia Session 8

Alive Again! The Captives are set Free

Introducer

Good morning and welcome to our eighth episode of Adventures in Narnia. We've very much enjoyed being visited across the miles and the years by Mr CS Lewis who wrote the famous series of books, 'The Chronicles of Narnia' one of which, 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' we are having the pleasure of working our way through. Good morning again Jack, as you've been encouraging us to call you. Thank you for coming to see us again and explaining some of your thinking behind the writing of this much loved book.

CS Lewis

Good morning everyone. It's my pleasure to be with you all again today. I've very much enjoyed my visits and am so pleased that you are interested in what I wrote and enjoying the story.

We left things at an extremely sad point last time didn't we? Aslan, the great lion was lying dead on the stone table. He had been mocked and humiliated, his mane had been cruelly shorn off and he was finally killed by the White Witch herself. Throughout all this he did not defend himself or fight back, which he could easily have done. He voluntarily walked quietly and meekly to the stone table and submitted to the torture and murder without any resistance at all.

In your discussions I know you thought about why he did this and saw that he did it to rescue Edmund because of his great love for him. Edmund had been a traitor and so his life was forfeit. The Witch demanded his blood on the stone table but Aslan, who had done no wrong himself, freely took his place and let himself be killed, so setting Edmund free.

This is the climax of my story. The rescue of a guilty person by an innocent one through taking their deserved punishment. I know that last time you also looked at how this pointed to the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross to rescue us. I myself had come to understand and believe this truth and had put my trust in Christ as my rescuer and Saviour some years before I wrote this story. It was the most wonderful and important event in my life when I received forgiveness because of Jesus' death and became a Christian, a rescued and forgiven sinner.

But I promised you last time that the story doesn't end on a sad and seemingly hopeless note. My words were, 'All may seem lost, ruined. But take heart dear friends, we are not at the end of the story yet'. And indeed we are not. Today, wonderful events will lift us out of the grief we feel for Aslan and we'll find out that we can have complete assurance that we truly are rescued and forgiven for our sins if our trust is in Christ!

Enjoy this episode! I'll see you next time – which will be my final visit!

Film

(Start at 138.47)

Aslan is lying dead on the stone table with Susan and Lucy. They withdraw and the table cracks. Aslan appears, alive. There is a battle with the Witch. Aslan transports Susan and Lucy to the Witch's castle. They see the stone statues including Mr Tumnus. Aslan breathes on him and he comes alive again. They search the castle and set all the prisoners free. We return to the battle scene. Peter and the Witch fight. Just as she is about to kill Peter Aslan pounces and kills her. He says, 'It is finished!'. Edmund is injured but is ok after Lucy gives him the cordial given to her by Father Christmas.

(Stop the video when Aslan breathes on the statue. 2:0005)

Discussion

What happened in today's episode that was unexpected?

Aslan said, 'It is finished!' When did he say that and what did he mean?

Who else said these words? When did he say them and what did he mean?

What events in life can we be absolutely certain will happen? Eg: day and night

Look back at the answers you gave for question 4. Is there anything that humans can do to stop or change those certainties? (Think of King Canute for example)

The greatest certainty in life is that every person eventually dies. We should try live in as healthy a way as we can but is there any way we can stop death happening?

What happened after Aslan came to life again?

What did the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ achieve? What hope does it give to Christians?

Bible Focus

Last time we saw Aslan choose deliberately to go to the stone table and die there in Edmund's place. He wasn't forced to do that. The Witch didn't make him. He did it freely from his own choice because of his great love for Edmund. Equally, Christ gave up his life for us sinners freely and of his own choice. It's why he came to earth. Several times he told his disciples that he was going to die and be raised to life again.

Jesus said to his disciples,
'The Son of man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him and on the third day he will be raised.' Matthew 17 v22 & 23

The disciples found it hard to hear and very difficult to understand and believe. The verse goes on to say that they, *'were filled with grief.'*

After his resurrection Jesus showed himself to many people and proved it really was him.

It tells us in John chapter 20 verses 19 & 20.
'On the evening of the first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.'

One of the disciples called Thomas was not there when Jesus showed himself to them and he declared,
'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.'

A week later Jesus came again to the disciples and spoke specifically to Thomas saying,
'Put your finger here, see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.'

Thomas did believe. He bowed down before Jesus acknowledging him as God and saying,
'My Lord and my God!'

We haven't had the privilege of seeing Jesus in the flesh but he has a special word for us. He says,
'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'

The story of Narnia went on to show us the creatures, including Mr Tumnus who had been turned into stone statues come back to life again, living and breathing. So also when we trust Jesus as our Saviour we are given new life.

In Ezekiel 36 verses 25-26 this new life is promised,
'I will cleanse you from all your iniquities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.'

In 2 Corinthians 5 verse 17 it says,
'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here.'

All of this is possible because Jesus defeated death and rose up back to life. We can have real certainty that we are forgiven for our sins and that though we will die physically we will live with him for ever after death if we have trusted him as our Saviour during our life time.

(Give out the take home sheets)

Session 8: Alive Again

– The captives are set free

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

When we trust Jesus as our Saviour we are given new life.

'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here.'
2 Corinthians 5:17

Jesus defeated death and rose back to life. We can have real certainty that our sins are forgiven and though we will die physically we will live with him for ever after death, if we have trusted him as our Saviour.

'And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead ...'

1 Corinthians 15:17-20

Adventures in Narnia Session 9

Kings and Queens in Narnia Alive for ever

Introducer

Good morning everyone. Here we are at the final session of our Adventures in Narnia! It seems to have gone by very quickly. We hope that you've enjoyed the ride! So, this is the last time that I will have the privilege of introducing Mr CS Lewis to you.

Jack, we would like to thank you very much indeed for visiting us each month and explaining your brilliant story to us. We have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know you better and understanding more clearly the truths embodied in, 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. This has become much more to us than just a very exciting and engaging story. We've been able to trace the truths of Christianity through it which we know are central to your own life.

CS Lewis

Thank you very much. I've thoroughly enjoyed joining you these past nine months and am pleased to have been able to share my faith in the Lord Jesus with you and explain how he is the most important person in my life and my inspiration for writing, 'The Chronicles of Narnia'. The truths of the gospel underpin all that I have written. They tell the greatest story in the world - a completely true and dependable one!

So now we come to the end of our Adventures in Narnia. You've travelled with me through the wardrobe into a new and unfamiliar land, complete with all sorts of fantastical creatures. We've made unexpected discoveries. We've been on a rollercoaster of emotions as we've watched betrayal and loyalty, selfish ambition and sacrificial love acted out before our eyes. And today we reach the resolution of all our travels. I'm not going to spoil the ending for you but simply hint that what unfolds today is the joyous future for every person who puts their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour. So please enjoy your final episode, 'Kings and Queens in Narnia for ever!'

Goodbye 21st century! I'm going to miss you all but there's hope for a grand reunion ahead!

Film

(15900 – 20613)

Aslan has overcome the Witch and the battle is won. The children are crowned Kings and Queens of Narnia. They reign in Narnia for many years and grow into young adults there. One day when following a white horse, they come across the lamppost again and then go back through the wardrobe into the Professor's house again where they find no time has passed at all. He shows that he understands all about Narnia.

Introducer

And so our story ends. I'd just like to read you something the Professor says to the children which is in the last paragraph of the book but which isn't in the film. He says, *'Of course you'll get back to Narnia again some day. Once a King in Narnia, always a King in Narnia.'* And that points to the one of the themes of our discussions this morning when we're going to think about what happens after death.

Group Discussion

What effect did evil have in Narnia throughout the story?

In what ways do we see the effect of evil in our own society today?

How was the evil in Narnia overcome?

In what ways do you think evil can be overcome in our own society today?

In what ways did the defeat of evil change life in Narnia?

Our lives on earth eventually come to an end. What do you believe happens after death?

What hope do Christians have for life after death?

Bible Focus:

One day our lives on earth will be over and we will die. Is that the end of us? It certainly is the end of our bodies but is it the total end of us? The Bible teaches us that it is not. It says,

'Just as people are destined to die once and after that to face judgement' Hebrews 9:27

So there is a life after death! Our souls live on and we all appear before God who will judge us.

We can be very afraid of this truth. Have I been good enough? Does the good I've tried to do outweigh the bad? Or is it the other way round? Will I get a, 'Well done' or a, 'Not good enough'?

We have fantastic news for you this morning! We can tell you how you can be 100% sure of being welcomed by God and of spending eternity with him in heaven. It's not based on how well we've performed in this life. If it was none of us would ever be able to be, 'Kings and Queens in Narnia for ever'. Never be able to enter heaven at all. We can never be good enough. We are all sinners. The Bible tells us, *'For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God' Romans 3:23*

No, instead it's based on what our response to Jesus is while we are alive. Just as we saw Aslan die to take the punishment that Edmund deserved and thus he was set free, so Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment that we deserve so that we can be forgiven and be made right with him. Then when we die we can enter heaven to be with God for ever.

John 3:16 says, *'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life'*.

This verse isn't suggesting that our bodies will never perish and die because that would obviously be untrue. We all know they do. But it tells us clearly that our souls do not die. We live after death, either with God if we have trusted him during our lives or apart from him if we have not.

Jesus himself said, *'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live even though he die and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.'* John 11:25

He ends this statement by asking a vital question. 'Do you believe this?' Our answer to that question is the most important one we can ever consider. Heaven is going to be a wonderful place. The Bible describes heaven as God's dwelling place where those who have trusted in Jesus will be with him. The last book of the Bible, Revelation says, *'Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people and he will dwell with them. They will be his people and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.'* Revelation 21:3-4

Wouldn't you love to be there?! Well you can!

There is a wonderful follow up to the verse from Romans that I read to you earlier.

'For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God' Romans 3:23

'For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord' Romans 6:23

God offers us the free gift of eternal life with him in heaven. We don't have to deserve it or earn it. We accept it as a gift. Will you accept that gift of eternal life with God? Would you like to be a King or Queen in Narnia for ever? Then put your trust for salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ. It's the only way.

If you'd like to learn more about that just have a word with one of us about joining a Christianity Explored Group for 7 Sessions starting.....

(Give out take home sheets)

Session 9: Kings and Queens

– Living Forever

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

The Bible teaches us that death is not the end of our existence. We will meet God after death.

'Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgement' *Hebrews 9:27*

Jesus took the judgement we all deserve. He gives us hope of eternal life if we trust in him.

'The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord' *Romans 6:23*

Jesus said, ***'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.'*** *John 11:25*

Put your trust in Jesus as your Saviour

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life' *John 3:16*

Adventures in Narnia

Group Discussion Questions - **Narnia 1 – Meet C.S.Lewis**

Discussion 1: Make a list of as many books written by C. S. Lewis as you can.

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Discussion 2: What are the big questions that people ask themselves today?

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Discussion 3: What are people’s main motivations in life today?

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Adventures in Narnia

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Adventures in Narnia

Group Discussion Questions - Narnia 2 – Meet Mr Tumnus

What bad choice did Mr Tumnus make at first?

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Why did he make that choice?

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What might pressurise people into choices they are reluctant about today?

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What made Mr Tumnus change his mind about his choice even though he was afraid of the consequences?

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What areas might we make poor choices without knowing all the facts?

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How difficult is it to own up to a poor or bad choice and change it?

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What can help us to make good choices?

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Adventures in Narnia

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Adventures in Narnia

Table Discussion Questions - Narnia 3 – A Bad Choice

How did the witch tempt and manipulate Edmund?

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What made her successful in her temptations?

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What kind of manipulation do we face today?
e.g. advertising, scams, peer pressure - other?

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What causes us to sometimes be taken in by manipulation?

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What temptations do people face these days?

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What can help us to resist temptation?

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Adventures in Narnia

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Adventures in Narnia

Table Discussion Questions - Narnia 4 – What is Real?

Why do Peter and Susan find it so difficult to believe that Narnia might really exist?

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What does the Professor say that helps them to consider it might be true?

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What might make it hard for us to believe in something or someone we've never seen?

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Do we believe this physical world, that we can experience with our senses, is all there is? Why do you think this is so?

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Adventures in Narnia

Table Discussion Questions - Narnia 6 – Into Captivity

Have you ever been in a situation where you needed rescuing?

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What has caused Edmund’s need for rescue?

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What are the characteristics of a good rescuer?

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Why do you think CS Lewis chose the rescuer in his story to be a lion?

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Who does Aslan point us to?

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Aslan’s final words in today’s section are, ‘I too want my family safe’. Why might we need a rescuer?

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Adventures in Narnia

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Adventures in Narnia

Table Discussion Questions - Narnia 7 – The Great Exchange

What did Aslan do?

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Why did he do it?

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Do you know any examples of people taking punishment or dying for others?

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What did Jesus do that this episode reminds us of?

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Why did he do it?

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What makes his rescue unique?

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What are the results of his rescue?

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Adventures in Narnia

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Adventures in Narnia

Table Discussion Questions - Narnia 8 – Alive Again

What happened in today's episode that was unexpected?

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Aslan said, 'It is finished!' When did he say that and what did he mean?

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Who else said these words? When did he say them and what did he mean?

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What events in life can we be absolutely certain will happen? Eg: day and night

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Look back at the answers you gave to the last question. Is there anything that humans can do to stop or change those certainties? (Think of King Canute for example)

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The greatest certainty in life is that every person eventually dies. We should try to live in as healthy a way as we can but is there any way we can stop death happening?

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What happened after Aslan came to life again?

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What did the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ achieve? What hope does it give to Christians?

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Adventures in Narnia

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Adventures in Narnia

Table Discussion Questions - Narnia 9 – Kings and Queens

What effect did evil have in Narnia throughout the story?

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In what ways do we see the effect of evil in our own society today?

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How was the evil in Narnia overcome?

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Our lives on earth eventually come to an end. What do you believe happens after death?

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Adventures in Narnia

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Adventures in Narnia



Christ Church
Dunstable

Adventures in Narnia

1. **Meet C. S. Lewis**
– why did he write the book? 18th Oct '18
2. **Meet Mr Tumnus**
– a good choice 22nd Nov '18
3. **Meet the White Witch**
– a bad choice 24th Jan '19
4. **What is Real?**
– does Narnia exist? 28th Feb '19
5. **Who is Aslan?**
– where does help come from? 28th Mar '19
6. **Into Captivity**
– can Edmund be rescued? 2nd May '19
7. **The Great Exchange**
– who will take his place? 23rd May '19
8. **Alive Again**
– the captives are set free 20th June '19
9. **Kings and Queens**
– living forever 11th July '19



Bible truths from

*'The Lion, the Witch
and the Wardrobe'*

by C. S. Lewis

Adventures in Narnia

based on,

'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'

By C.S.Lewis

Our series of sessions, *Adventures in Narnia*, is based on the famous book by C. S. Lewis, 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. It is one of the books in *The Chronicles of Narnia* which is widely read and loved by adults and children alike.

Connect warmly invites you to explore the Christian faith with us as we go through the wardrobe into Narnia for a series of adventures.

Each time we will meet C. S. Lewis and there will be storytelling, drama, and discussion.

Adventures in Narnia

Session 1: Meet C. S. Lewis
– why did he write the book?

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

The Bible tells us that the main motivation in our lives should be to love and obey God. In order to do that we need to know him.

What is the greatest motivation in your life?
Happiness? Health? Success? Prosperity?

Jesus told one of the teachers of the law:

³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”³¹ The second is this: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” There is no commandment greater than these.’

Mark 12:30-31

“You will seek me and find me if you seek for me with all your heart”
Jeremiah 29:13

Adventures in Narnia

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Adventures in Narnia

Session 2: Into Narnia

– a good choice

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

At first Mr Tumnus made the wrong choice of working for the White Witch. But then he made the good choice of turning away from what he knew to be wrong.

The Bible tells us that we have the choice too. We can choose to love and serve God as he is revealed in the Bible or choose to go our own way.

God challenged the children of Israel through Joshua:

‘Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.’

Joshua 24: 14-15

Adventures in Narnia

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Adventures in Narnia

Session 3: Meet the White Witch

– a bad choice

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

The Devil brings temptation our way. We all know what it is to be tempted to say or do things we know are wrong. We don't always resist that temptation successfully.

Jesus the Son of God, ... has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet he did not sin.

Hebrews 4:14,15

We can be forgiven for our sin if we put our trust in Jesus and if we ask for his help he promises not only to forgive us but also to help us in our temptations too.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

Adventures in Narnia

Session 3: Meet the White Witch

– a bad choice

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Adventures in Narnia

Session 4: What is Real?

– Does Narnia exist?

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

Like Peter and Susan, we too can feel sceptical about things unless we've seen or experienced them for ourselves.

Jesus said -

'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe'

John 20:29

When Jesus said this he was talking about people like us.

We can ask God to reveal himself to us and help us to know him. He will open our eyes and give us the faith we need to believe and trust him if we ask him to.

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Adventures in Narnia

Session 5: Who is Aslan?

– Where does help come from?

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

If we've got a medical problem, we need a doctor we can trust. If we have an important choice to make we need someone who knows what they're talking about who we can trust to advise us well.

⁴ ... *[God] is faithful in all he does*

⁵ ... *the earth is full of his unfailing love'*

⁸ ... *let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the people of the world revere him*

⁹ ... *for he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.*

¹¹ ... *the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.*

Psalms 33:4, 5, 8, 9, 11

⁵ *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;*

⁶ *in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.*

Proverbs 3:5,6

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Adventures in Narnia

Session 6: Into captivity

– Can Edmund be rescued?

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

We've heard in our story that, 'Aslan is on the move'- the rescuer is coming! Because our sin has separated us from God, he initiated our rescue by sending his Son, Jesus into the world.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life'

John 3v16

'He [God] has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins'

Colossians 1v13

'Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.'

Romans 10v13

God never turns away anyone who calls out to him for rescue.

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Adventures in Narnia

Session 7: The Great Exchange – Who will take his place?

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

Speaking of Jesus in the book of 1 Peter the Bible says,

“ He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead he entrusted himself to him (God) who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.’ 1 Peter 2:22-24

This was God’s loving and gracious plan to save us. He gave his only Son, Jesus as our substitute.

*‘God made him who had no sin to be sin for us so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.’
2 Corinthians 5: 21*

*‘We all, like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; And the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.’
Isaiah 53:6*

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Adventures in Narnia

Session 8: Alive Again

– The captives are set free

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

When we trust Jesus as our Saviour we are given new life.

‘Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here.’

2 Corinthians 5:17

Jesus defeated death and rose back to life. We can have real certainty that our sins are forgiven and though we will die physically we will live with him for ever after death, if we have trusted him as our Saviour.

‘And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead ...’

1 Corinthians 15:17-20

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Adventures in Narnia

Session 9: Kings and Queens – Living Forever

THE TRUTH TO REMEMBER

The Bible teaches us that death is not the end of our existence. We will meet God after death.

‘Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgement’ *Hebrews 9:27*

Jesus took the judgement we all deserve. He gives us hope of eternal life if we trust in him.

‘The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord’
Romans 6:23

Jesus said, ***‘I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.’***
John 11:25

Put your trust in Jesus as your Saviour

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life’ *John 3:16*

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