

*This is my blood, and with it God makes his agreement with you. It will be poured out, so that many people will have their sins forgiven.*  
- Matthew 26:28

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week is our final session in the Covenant Series looking at the New Covenant. Jesus in His perfection fulfilled all the commitments of the Old Testament. Hebrews says how superior this covenant is compared to the old. What is important in this covenant is the implications that it has for us today as Christians. We are members of this covenant and the promises are ours!

I hope that you have enjoyed teaching your children God's word as you have worked through the covenants with them. Discipleship in the home is such a valuable tool in building a strong relationship with God. As children grow older having a Christian foundation will help them to stand firm in their values and faith throughout their teen and adult years.

If you have children in more than one age group, can I please encourage you to pick one program that you feel works best for your children's ages and complete that together as a family.

Blessings,  
Jess

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<b>Topic:</b>	Covenants of the Bible – The New Covenant
<b>Session Aim:</b>	Children will learn how Jesus fulfilled all the Old Testament commitments. What are the promises God made us in this New Covenant.
<b>Bible Passage:</b>	Matthew 26:28

### A Time of Prayer

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Come together for a time of prayer with your children. All of you can share your God stories from the week. This is also a chance for your children to bring anything before God that they are worried about or want to say sorry for.

Dear Father,  
Thank you for sending Jesus for us,  
And thank you that we are members of your New Covenant.  
Please send the Holy Spirit, to help us understand your message and know you better.  
Amen

### Worship Songs

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Please spend some time listening and singing to your family's favourite worship songs. This may have already been done in the worship period of Oaktree's service. Below are some suggestions:

- Kids Praise Song – Excited <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NbmIT5u1h8U>
- Alive <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEvEVALlNQ>

## Recap of Covenants

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1: This is our last week of looking at the covenants of the Bible, hopefully your children have a better understanding of what this Biblical word means. Ask how would they explain the word covenant to someone who has never heard it before and who does not know the Bible.

'A covenant is a deal between God and His people. God promises different blessings to His people and His people have a part to play as well.'

### 2: Covenant Snap

For this particular craft and games, you will need to make a deck of snap cards. This can be done by printing some copies of the template at the end of this document or children can create their own on blank paper and cut them out. Having multiple of each card will increase the chance of a matching pair.

Children decorate the cards. Encourage them to decorate with drawings that match the covenants on the side of the card with words. For example, on the Davidic Covenant they may draw a crown.

Deal out the entire deck among all the players. Cards either list a promise of an Old Testament covenant or how Jesus fulfilled it. You can 'snap' when the two cards match. There are some cards which will have two possible matches. You may have to go through the deck a few times to match the different covenants with how Jesus fulfilled them.

With younger children it would be helpful to read out what is written on each card.

Below is a listing of matches. If your children don't enjoy snap they could decorate the cards, shuffle them and then match them. If you have more than one child it could be a race to see who can do it first.

God made a promise to Noah	God never flooded the whole world again
God promised Abraham and his family he would be a blessing to everyone	Jesus brings blessings to everyone in the world
	Jesus is a great, great, great, great grandson of Abraham
The Israelites needed to follow the Ten Commandments	Jesus followed the Ten Commandments perfectly
God told the Israelites if they followed the rules he would bless them	
A family member of King David would have a kingdom that lasted forever	Jesus' Kingdom lasts forever
A relative of King David will be king forever	Jesus is our King and he always will be
The New Covenant is for the forgiveness of sins	Jesus died on the cross for our sins

3: In a covenant sometimes God wants humans to do something as well. Jesus is the only one that could perfectly do all the things that God wanted. This is because he is the only perfect human – the only one who never sinned.

That is why we see the promises God made brought about in Jesus.

Jesus brought blessings to all nations, like God promised to Abraham.

Jesus is the only one who perfectly kept all of God's laws.

Jesus is related to King David, and Jesus is the one who is king forever of the everlasting kingdom.

## **Bible Time**

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1: Have your children find Matthew 26 in their Bibles. Encourage them to use the contents page to help them learn their way around the Bibles. Either you or one of your children pray for God's Spirit to be at work in your heart's revealing His meaning.

You or your children reads Matthew 26:25-30.

2: We as believers of Jesus are a part of the New Covenant! Discuss the two promises below that we get to enjoy as members of the New Covenant:

1. Our Sins are Forgiven

What great news! Jesus said, the wine was like his blood. When he died on the cross his blood was for the forgiveness of our sins. What a great feeling to know that God has already forgiven us.

2. Eternal Life in God's Kingdom

John 3:16 tells us that whoever believes in Jesus will have eternal life. This means that as believers of Jesus and members of the new covenant we get to live forever in God's kingdom where Jesus is the forever King.

## **Application**

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1: We are members of this awesome New Covenant and its awesome promises. The Bible doesn't want us to keep it to ourselves or keep it a secret. The Bible tells us to do the opposite. We need to tell everyone this exciting news!

Never underestimate the power of a child as an evangelist, they are often the best at explaining Jesus to other children. Discuss with your children one way they can share the good news about Jesus, how to invite a friend to church or do a Christian activity with friends. These ideas could also be for when we are able to meet with people again.



God made a promise to Noah



God never flooded the whole world again

God promised Abraham and his family he would be a blessing to everyone



Jesus brings blessings to everyone in the world



Jesus is a great, great, great, great grandson of Abraham



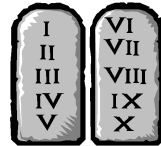
The Israelites needed to follow the Ten Commandments



God told the Israelites if they followed the rules he would bless them



Jesus followed the Ten Commandments perfectly



A family member of King David would have a kingdom that lasted forever



Jesus' Kingdom lasts forever



A relative of King David will be king forever



Jesus is our King and he always will be



The New Covenant is for the forgiveness of sins



Jesus died on the cross for our sins



SNAP