

12th October 2015

KYB Oct 4-9th 2016 Report

Praise God for our second KYB! He is gracious and merciful to allow these earthen vessels to shine with the glory of His gospel.

When we started this annual ministry last year we knew that a children's vacation programme should not be viewed as a one-off event, but a ministry that develops from one year to another. This year we modified our activities slightly, learning from the previous program while still benefitting from the knowledge and experience of our evangelist, Mike Neilson, along with his wife, Mandy, and daughter, Claire.

86 children attended at least one day of the week. Our peak attendance was on Thursday with 69 children and our average attendance was 55 a day. Last year's program peaked at 40 children.

We had the usual physical fun with Mr. Mike's 'square', although this year the sweltering heat meant that this activity was shorter and the children enjoyed an additional water break. With the thermometer reaching 42.5°C, even the indefatigable 'Boss' was beginning to take strain by Friday!



This year's Bible story was Joshua's entrance into Canaan, including the capture of Jericho. Angie, Mandy and I took turns telling the story as well as teaching the daily memory verse.

Mike held the children's attention with the ever promise of sweets and a captivating story of an American Eagle being pursued by a trapper. This story illustrated how Satan uses similar deceitful tactics to tempt us into his snare.

One of the highlights of the teaching was Shanya Grobler's recounting of the Amy Carmichael missionary story. She was so convincing, dressed in her headscarf, that some of the younger children started to call her 'Amma' (Amy Carmichael's nickname). It was Shanya's initiative that brought the KYB to our church last year and it is encouraging to see her become such a willing servant-teacher.



We had the opportunity to personally counsel 20 children on the matter of salvation. We are very careful when counselling young children taking care that they understand the gospel and trying, as best as possible, to ensure that they are not merely trying to impress us. Some of these children confessed their sin and asked Jesus to save them for the first time in their lives.

This year we provided limited transport from two pickup locations; one in Nelsville and the other in West Acres. Although on Monday there were only 2 children transported, this grew to 17 by Thursday.

A special 'thank you' goes to the refreshment team; Marion, Jessica and Jennifer as well as Clive 'The Ice Man' Pinker. I would also like to recognise the valuable roll that Doreen, the Marsh lads, Maddie 'Lady' LaBelle and Anne Badgett played at the registration table and on the square. I thank God for the privilege of working alongside these precious co-labourers.



We are also indebted to Mr. Viljoen, Principal of Nelspruit Primary School, along with Mr. Nell (deputy Head) and Mr Oosthuizen (Maintenance Manager), for making the school available to us for the second year running.



The Friday evening closing program was well intended with about 30 of the child along with their parents. The message was entitled 'Your Own Strength is Not Enough' and it contained a clear gospel presentation. A number of parents indicated they would be interested in postal Bible studies and at least one expressed interest in the Church.

To God be the glory.