

Which way will you walk? Family Activity Bible Trail @



At each numbered post along the trail, read and discuss the corresponding verse below, and collect the mystery letter. See if you can spot the key word which is found in every verse!

- ① *This is what the Lord says – your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go." Isaiah 48v 17*
- ② *Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord. Blessed are they who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart. Psalm 119 v 1-2*
- ③ *Praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he. Deuteronomy 32 v 3-4*
- ④ *There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death. Proverbs 16 v 25*
- ⑤ *This is what the Lord says: See, I am setting before you the way of life and the way of death. Jeremiah 21 v 8*
- ⑥ *The ways of the Lord are right; the righteous walk in them, but the rebellious stumble in them. Hosea 14 v 9*
- ⑦ *For a man's ways are in full view of the Lord, and he examines all his paths. Proverbs 5 v 21*
- ⑧ *The Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction. Psalm 1 v 6*
- ⑨ *Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Psalm 139 v 4*

At Ebenezer Cairn:

So, did you spot the word which was in every verse? Write it here: _ _ _ Hopefully as you read those verses you could see that the Bible teaches us that there are two ways to live: we can chose God's way – or we can chose not to go God's way...

Do you like going for walks? If you want to make sure you don't get lost when you go for a walk, you'll need to be careful which way you choose to go - and it's helpful to have a map, isn't it?

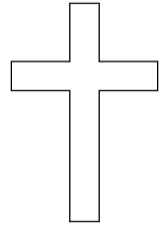
The Bible is like God's map for life, and it teaches us that the way we choose to walk matters a great deal: if we follow God's ways then we can look forward to everlasting life with God, but if we are not walking in God's ways, then we are walking along the way that leads to destruction, the way of death.

The trouble is that we have a problem – none of us live God's way all the time. Psalm 119 v 1 tells us that those whose ways are blameless will be blessed, but when we're honest with ourselves, we know that we are not blameless. Proverbs 5 v 21 says that all our ways are in full view of the Lord – he even sees our thoughts and our motives – and we just cannot manage to be blameless in all that we do, say, think & feel, all the time. So, we cannot find the way to eternal life through trying to be good.

Think of something you've done wrong during this past week, and find a small rock somewhere nearby to represent it. That thing that you're holding represents whatever you've done this past week to go your own way instead of God, and also all the other times you've gone your own way instead of His. And with that thing, which is your sin, God cannot let you on his road to everlasting life. What has God done to make it possible for us to be forgiven when we go our way instead of His?

⇒ He sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sins – Jesus took the punishment we deserve.

So, as a way of saying sorry – let's lay down our rocks as a family in the shape of a cross...



Now unscramble your mystery letters to complete this sentence:

Jesus said, "I am the WAY, the _____ and the _____ No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14v6

We cannot walk on the road to everlasting life by ourselves, because of those things (sins) which block our way from that road. But when we are truly sorry, Jesus invites us to come to Him and lay those things at the cross (as we've just done), asking Him to forgive us and lead us in His ways – then He promises that He will take us by the hand and lead us forwards along His way of everlasting life!

So, take up your stones from the cross you have built, and place them on the Ebenezer Cairn, Phillipskop's Cairn of Thankfulness – and as you do so, thank God that He sent His Son so that we could have eternal life.

Here's a prayer that you could pray, if you'd like to:

Dear Lord Jesus, We are sorry for all the times when we have gone our own way, and not lived in a way that pleases you. Thank you for dying on the cross for us, so that we can be forgiven. Please help us to follow you and walk in your ways more and more each day. Amen.

Route Map:

Follow the Candlewood Trail from Reception; about 150m past the rope swing at the blue gums, turn left onto the Panorama Trail—you should see Post 1 soon after the turn off. Follow the trail past the 9 posts, and on to Ebenezer. Continue on the Panorama Trail in order to return to Reception.

