

Discovery

December 2011



An online biblical game...
where the game of life
is more than just a game

www.2ndcity.co.nz



To our Discovery Magazine Readers:

It is with mixed emotions that I write to let you know that this will be the final edition of Discovery Magazine. Over the last while, God has been leading the pssm board to develop a new and innovative project, that seeks to reach the world with the truths of the Bible. I have been employed to help bring this vision into reality, which is both exciting AND challenging at the same time.

I am very mindful of how the pssm ministry has been successful over the course of it's history, and our board has high hopes for our new direction via the gaming world. It would have been **safe** to continue with what we have been doing, but with steadily declining numbers Bible Discovery was not looking like it would last much longer.

Discovery Magazine (formerly "Joybells") has encouraged and supported many thousands of people for many decades with the truths of scripture. To conclude a publication such as this, there definitely needs to be good reason to do so. The development and establishment of 2ndcity, is that reason.

2ndcity will be a world-changing way of opening up the scriptures (and the truths within them), to tens of thousands of children and young adolescents around the world in a way that is designed to make the most of how THEY learn.

My thanks to the many people who have contributed to the production of this publication over the years. We now have a new team of writers developing the 2ndcity game which should be out by the end of next year.

Thanks for your support,

Carl Becker
CEO, pssm Bible Discovery

What does it take to build a game?

by Brook Warner



Quite a lot really! There are many many things to think about. What will the game look like? What is the back-story of 2ndcity? Where is it set? What happens in the game? How do you "win"? What does "winning" mean in God's story? These are all questions that we are having to answer as we seek to turn the most epic tale ever told, God's story, into 2ndcity. I can say that for me and my writers, it is a fantastically rewarding process. It makes us think long and hard about really deep questions - what kind of city does God want? How do you portray faith? How do you 'advance'? What are 'rewards'? Throughout the process of writing so far we have all grown in our relationship with the Author, Director and lead Actor of this great story - our Triune God!

At the moment we are working on the back-story - how you get to 2ndcity - and creating the storyline that will carry through the game. Like any good story, it will have a beginning, middle, and an end, with some twists, turns, and climaxes throughout. I have two fantastic writers, Tim and Andrew, working with me on this task. We are also hard at work trying to decide how 2ndcity will look. Hopefully soon we will have some fantastic artists on our team, turning this story into awesome images. After that, we will then need to get game programmers and animators on board - to build the world, to make the characters, to construct the levels.

It really is a journey in-and-of itself, but one that I (and my team) are thoroughly enjoying! Let's see where God leads us next...

How can you be involved in building 2ndcity?

by Al Ronberg



2ndcity needs input from a wide range of different people. We are building something that will meet the needs of a wide variety of game-players. Over the course of the summer we are going to run an exciting competition that will see people exploring their communities and the places they may head to for family holidays. We will be using the 2ndcity e-mail list and website to keep people informed of this competition, so sign up for the e-mail at www.2ndcity.co.nz to make sure you keep in the loop!

If you are on Facebook - 2ndcity has a Page that you can "like" to chat to us and keep involved with our ongoing development. One of the things that we have started recently is a monthly prayer event at the pssm and 2ndcity offices... This is an opportunity to come and meet our staff, board and be a part of keeping 2ndcity's development and story connected to God.

You may also be in a church, school or community organisation that would really value hearing a bit more about 2ndcity and it is my role to travel around sharing our story... so if you think you would like someone to come and talk to your group about 2ndcity then please send me an e-mail at al@2ndcity.co.nz to arrange a time.



Are you looking for something special to put inside your Christmas card? How about this:

*"Invite Jesus in this Christmas,
the Saviour from above.*

*The gift he seeks,
you need not wrap,
he only wants your love!"*

What are YOU going to give Jesus this Christmas as we all celebrate his birth? How are you going to show your love for him?

Pray about it!

Wendy

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, (14) "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

Luke 2:13-14

A big thank you to all the faithful writers who have contributed over the years to the publication of Discovery Magazine – your contributions have been a blessing and a gift to many. To all our faithful readers- remember that Jesus is the reason for the season of goodwill – keep him close all year round! Merry Christmas to you



**BIBLE
DISCOVERY**

Making the most of your Bible

info@biblediscovery.org.nz
www.biblediscovery.org.nz

Discovery is a publication of the PSSM Bible Discovery Trust (formerly the Postal Sunday School Movement of NZ Inc.) This is an evangelical, non-denominational, Christian trust. We depend on God to supply our financial needs through the donations of interested individuals and groups. All donations are receipted and tax-deductible. This is our last issue of *Discovery* but Bible lessons are still available, either by email or post.

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The Greatest Gift

Betty came up to Bobby one day near Christmas and whispered, "What are you going to get from Santa Claus this year Bobby? I know what I'm getting 'cause I wrote Santa a letter!"

"Aw, come on Betty," Bobby said, "You know Santa isn't real... he's only pretend!"

"I don't care!" said Betty, "It's better to be safe than sorry and I don't want to miss out."

She ran out of the room and found Sally curled up on the couch reading a book. "Sally," she said in an aggrieved voice, "Bobby says Santa isn't real. He is, isn't he? What do you think?"

"Come on Betty," said Sally, "You know very well that Christmas is when Jesus was born, it's nothing to do with Santa. He came later when people wanted to sell things for presents."

Betty still wasn't satisfied. "I don't care," she said, "I'm going to make sure I get the doll I want. I've written a letter to Santa and put it in the post box, so there!"

Mum came into the room then and put down the washing basket on the chair. "Well, it's only a few weeks to Christmas," she said, "It's about time I made the Christmas cake!"

"How did all these Christmassy things start Mum?" Sally asked, "I know Santa isn't really real, but he's a lot of fun with Christmas parades and things."

"Well," said Mum as she started to fold the clothes from the basket, "The stories about Santa originally started in different countries of Europe, with each place having its own customs. But nowadays, it has all merged to become the Santa that we know. And yes, it IS a lot of fun to have Santa around at Christmas time, but we must never forget the real meaning of Christmas. Why, even the name of the season tells us what it is really about... 'Christ' for Jesus, and 'mas' comes

from an old Latin word meaning a church service celebration. So we celebrate Christmas in all different ways, but let's make sure we remember the real celebration is of Jesus' birth."

"Thanks Mum", said Sally, "But then there are things like the Christmas tree and presents that we put under it... what about them?"

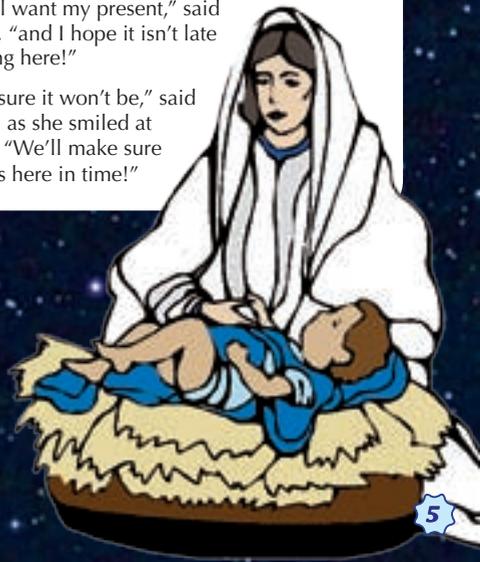
"Well, the trees originated in Europe too and when they were taken to America they really caught on. It's a big thing over there to decorate the trees beautifully with lights and pretty things. In fact, they start selling Christmassy things in the shops from September onwards. As for presents, it's nice to give each other presents and for us, we remember the best present of all that God gave to the world, the gift of the Lord Jesus."

"We learnt a verse about that in Kidzone not long ago", said Sally, "something about the wages of sin being death, but the gift of God is eternal life."

"That's right Sally," said Dad as he came into the room, "And it is sure the greatest gift there is too!"

"I still want my present," said Betty, "and I hope it isn't late getting here!"

"I'm sure it won't be," said Mum as she smiled at Dad, "We'll make sure it gets here in time!"



CHRISTMAS BACK THEN

There's something special about Christmas, especially if you're a child. When I was a little girl, more than fifty years ago, Christmas seemed a lot simpler than today.

There was no television at our house with advertisements bombarding us with things to buy, and no junk mail jammed our letter box with bargains and gift ideas for all. Plastic money hadn't been invented and there were no money machines in the town, so unless we had cash to spend, we went home empty-handed.

At our home we weren't allowed to hang up Christmas decorations. "They'll spoil the wallpaper," we were told, "and pine trees are a nuisance because they drop needles all over the carpet." So our house looked rather dull without decorations and a tree.

The only Christmas party we attended was the one held by our church in the local hall. Old and young came along and we played party games such as 'The grand old duke of York' and 'Jolly miller'. The ladies always provided a scrumptious supper.

Everyone brought along a small gift to put in a basket and at the end of the evening there was great excitement when Santa appeared and handed out the gifts. One year my father received an unusual gift. One of the older men was a regular fisherman on Lake Taupo, and for fun he wrapped up a trout and put it among the gifts.

A highlight for us all back then was Christmas Eve. Everyone went into town and the main street was closed to traffic. Shopping malls and precincts hadn't been thought of in those days, so a street without cars meant total freedom to the young ones.

Our small town had running water flowing down the gutters alongside the pavements in the main

street. The youngsters had great fun having water pistol fights around the side streets and alleyways.

Mid-evening, the local brass band led the special parade down the main street and all the children joined in blowing hooters and throwing paper streamers. It made a terrible mess, but nobody cared as it was only once a year.

Christmas dinner was always held at our grandparents home on the farm up the road. It was usually a roast dinner with home-killed lamb. The exciting part was the Christmas pudding that followed — not that I liked heavy pudding, but this one had money hidden inside it — silver threepences, sixpences, shillings and even a few florins.

Searching with a spoon through the stodgy brown pudding was much like a treasure hunt. It was always a thrill to hit metal with the spoon and discover a coin. Eating the pudding was not such fun.

Somehow my father always had the best fortune. Years later I discovered why: when no one was watching, he sneaked coins from his pocket into his plate of pudding. With a twinkle in his eye he'd tap yet another coin with his spoon and hold it up for all to see.

Christmas was my favourite season back then and I'm so thankful that as a child I learned the true meaning of Christmas. My parents were Christians and as a family we went along to a little church that stood in a paddock along a country road near our home. There we learned the wonderful stories about Jesus and his love for us all. We were told how he came into the world to be our Saviour and Friend.

As another year draws to a close, we can still celebrate this wonderful timeless message of Christmas with great joy and gladness.

Giving - not Getting

Janet and Veronica were in the same class at school, but they lived in different parts of the town.

Veronica lived in a two-storied house with a tree-lined driveway and a swimming pool set in a large garden. She was an only child. Her father was a lawyer and her mother had her own business.

Janet lived in a rented cottage in the poorer part of town. She had several brothers and sisters and her father worked at the mill.

With Christmas approaching, the caretaker at Veronica's home set about decorating the house and putting up coloured lights and displays in the garden. A huge Christmas tree was set up in the entrance hall with its top branches almost reaching the crystal chandelier above. At the base of the tree, piles of beautifully wrapped presents were displayed.

Veronica boasted to her friends about the list of items she was expecting to receive on Christmas Day. She also made a point of telling them that her family had booked a posh restaurant for Christmas dinner so her mother would be free to enjoy herself.

Janet sighed. She hadn't dared to ask for anything for Christmas as she knew her parents had been through a tough year. Her mother had lost her part-time job and her father's hours had been cut back. She was still excited about Christmas though as it was always a fun time to be together as a family and what they lacked in possessions, they made up for in love for one another.

A few days before Christmas, Veronica received news that her parents had been involved in a car crash and were both in hospital.

Janet felt sorry for Veronica and so called round to her home with some flowers from the garden. She rang the door bell and Veronica appeared at the door with tear-stained eyes.

"I'm so sorry to hear the bad news," said Janet.
"I hope your parents will recover soon."

"I'm sure they will," said Veronica. "In the meantime I'm stuck here alone with Dora, our housekeeper."

"What will you do on Christmas Day?" asked Janet.

"Nothing much – just spend the day at the hospital, I guess,"

"Would you like to come over to our house?" asked Janet. "We're a big noisy family but we've always got room for one more."

Veronica's eyes brightened. "I'd love to," she replied.

On Christmas morning Veronica visited her parents in hospital and then arrived at Janet's home. The small cottage was bursting with fun and excitement. The house was decorated with home-made paper streamers and festive crafts the children had made. A small pine tree stood in the corner and was covered with envelopes. There was no sign of presents anywhere.

Christmas dinner was full of surprises. It was simple food but Janet's mother had spent a lot of time and effort making it special for the family.

After dinner the children had a treasure hunt and played party games. They held a talent quest and everyone had to take part. Veronica had never had so much fun and laughed until she cried.

Instead of presents, the family members had pinned envelopes on the tree bearing one another's names. Inside each envelope was a home-made voucher promising certain services or treats. Janet promised her mother she would do the ironing every week for a month, while her older brother received a voucher from his parents entitling him to six free driving lessons in the family car. The younger children received offers for special outings, picnics or swims at the river. No one was disappointed.

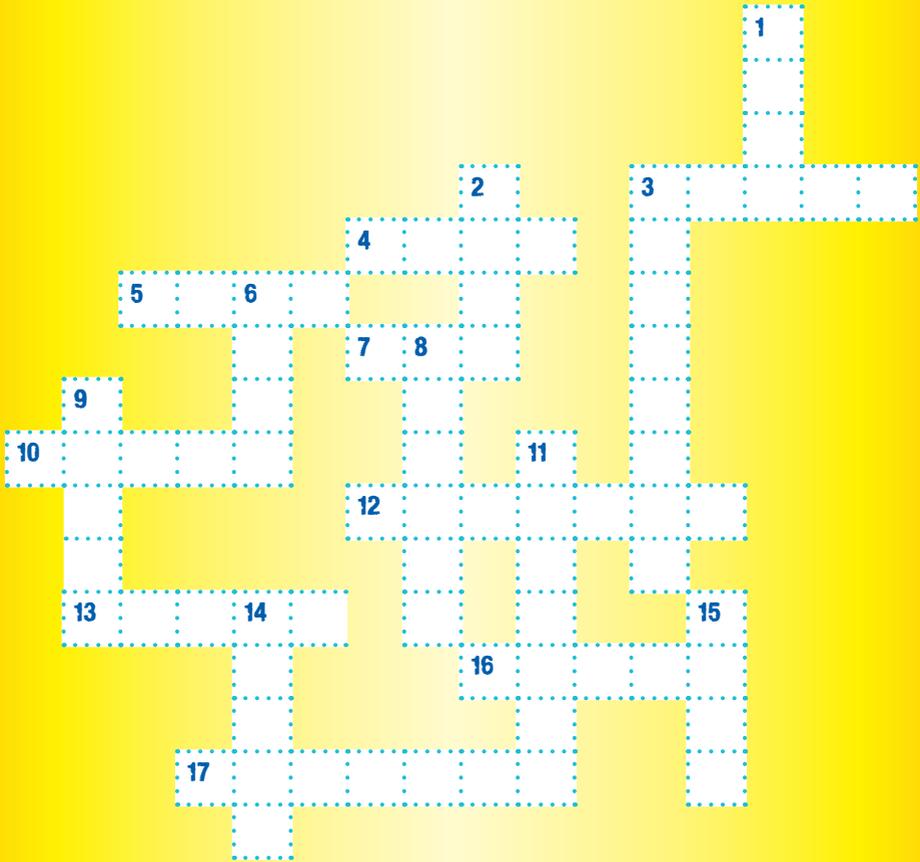
With the day drawing to an end, Janet's father gathered the family around him and read them the story of Christmas. He explained how God gave the greatest gift of all - His only Son to be the Saviour of the world.

As Veronica was leaving to return home, she announced to the family, "I want you all to know that I learnt a big lesson today. I always thought Christmas was all about GETTING, but now I know it's more about GIVING."

Thank you for giving me the best Christmas I've ever known."

Christmas Crossword

Read Luke 1:26-38 and Matthew 1: 18-25; 2:1-14



Across

3. God's angel told them to go to this country.
4. They followed this to find the baby.
5. The sort of men who came to see the baby Jesus.
7. They went home a different...
10. The baby's name.
12. Name of angel.
13. God's angel came to Joseph in this way.
16. How many gifts did they bring?
17. Mary said she was God's..

Down

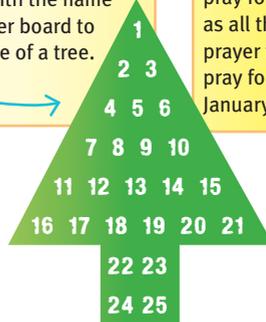
1. The angel told Mary she would have this.
2. She was engaged to Joseph.
3. The name which means "God with us".
6. The angel said Jesus would save his...
8. Mary felt this when she saw Gabriel
9. The name of the king they went to.
11. This sort of person had said Jesus would come.
14. God's messenger.
15. They were looking for the king of these.

Tree of Prayers

By Janet Fleming 

- 1 Get together with a group of your friends and family. Cut up 25 small pieces of paper and divide them up between the group.
- 2 Ask each person to write the name of one person that needs prayer on each card (The Prime Minister, Pastor, Parents, Grandparents, etc).
- 3 After all the cards have been filled out, individually place them in small envelopes and date each of them from 1st December to 25th December.
- 4 Place the envelopes under the tree, or hang them where your family can see. Each day open the relevant envelope and pray together for the person whose name is enclosed.
- 5 After you have prayed, add the card with the name to a large poster board to make the shape of a tree. Eg. 
- 6 Each day in December pray for the new name, as well as all the other names on the prayer tree. After Christmas, pray for all 25 people until 1st January.

Start the new year by continuing to pray daily you could choose a new person each day or stick with the same person. This is a great way to show our love for one another and to share our faith in Christ.



envelope size

*** Use this template to make the cards and envelopes out of recycled paper.**

Tip: Hold it up to the window to trace the first set, then use that as your guide to trace around for all the others.

card size

Bible readings:

December

Date	Book	Verse
1 Thur	1 Tim.	6:17-21
2 Fri	2 Tim.	1:1-7
3 Sat	2 Tim.	1:8-10
4 Sun	2 Tim.	1:11-14
5 Mon	2 Tim.	2:1-7
6 Tue	2 Tim.	2:8-19
7 Wed	2 Tim.	2:20-26
8 Thur	2 Tim.	3:1-9
9 Fri	2 Tim.	3:10-17
10 Sat	2 Tim.	4:9-18
11 Sun	Prov.	15:18-24
12 Mon	Prov.	15:25-30
13 Tue	Prov.	15:31-33
14 Wed	Prov.	16:27-30
15 Thur	Prov.	18:10-11
16 Fri	Prov.	20:10,11
17 Sat	Prov.	22: 1-3
18 Sun	Prov.	23 :22-25
18 Mon	Prov.	24:5,6
20 Tue	Prov.	25:21,22
21 Wed	Prov.	26: 17-22
22 Thur	Prov.	26:23-28
23 Fri	Prov.	28:4-7
24 Sat	Matt.	1:18-25
25 Sun	Matt.	2: 1-6
26 Mon	Matt.	2:7-12
27 Tues	Matt.	2:13-15
28 Wed	Matt.	2:16-23
29 Thur	John	1: 1-5
30 Fri	John	1:6-13
31 Sat	John	1:14-18

Congratulations

for years completed

- 1**
Jessica Alexander
Rebekah Brown
Mama Chioma
Stephanie Chirchan
Gwendalyn Ega
Asher Jeffries
Irish Manase
Tere Parkinson
- 2**
Lucy Balchin
Toby Braun
Hannah Brown
Wennyi Garaewoka
Jeremii Lavasii
Norrin Levi
Peter Stokes
Jazmyn Woolston
- 3**
Mere Diligodrau
Levi Horton
Stephen Mitchell
Zachary Moir
Stephen Turner
- 4**
Bradley Holtslag
Kaiden McCormick
Michael Stokes
- 5**
Moreke Iruna
Joel Spurgeon
Luke Spurgeon
Jonathan Spurgeon
Matthew Thomas
- 6**
Sarah Duncan
- 7**
Jill Speake
- 8**
Sheila Parsons
- 9**
Darylann Sim
- 15**
Fiona Blissett
Helen Dunn
- 17**
Kim Barwick
- 18**
Simpson Rangas
- 23**
Cathy Gallagher



Readers' Response

CHRISTMAS

DISCIPLESHIP

IN GOD'S WAYS

SEEKING

COUNSEL IN BIBLE

OBSERVING

VERSES AND PRAYERS

EXCEPTIONAL INSPIRATIONS

RECREATIONAL READINGS

YIELDING MAXIMUM INSIGHTS

By Nwisu Anthony Chimezie, Nigeria

Christ is the center of Christmas to me
He came as a babe and died on the tree
Risen and living, yes, gloriously true
In all ways triumphant, in all ways new
Saviour of men, of me and of you
To many no more, than a babe in a stall
Much more to me, the King of my all
Almighty Saviour, Son of God is He
Such is the Christ of Christmas to me

The perfect gift

A cup of love, a pinch of Joy, add a
teaspoon of Patience and a handful
of kindness

Mix in peace and self control,
Gentleness is next followed by some
faithfulness.

Bake until goodness spills out to give
you Peace of Mind

By Jennifer Share (16)



Jesus, tiny baby, born in Bethlehem,
Jesus, tiny baby, I love you,
Jesus, tiny baby, let me bring
One small heart to love you, one small voice to sing.

Jesus, friend of children, sitting on your knee,
Jesus, friend of children, I love you.
Jesus, friend of children, let me bring
One small heart to love you, one small voice to sing.

Jesus, friend of sinners, you have come to die,
Jesus, friend of sinners, I love you.
Jesus, friend of sinners, let me bring
One small heart to love you, one small voice to sing.

Molly's Christmas Pass the Parcel

Cast: Narrator, Mum, Molly, Neighbours 1-4 (doesn't matter if male/female apart from neighbour who receives knitting – may be better as female! Adjust names where necessary. Molly could be made a male role, and Mum could be a Dad).

Props: Cellotape and bow. Present with the various gifts wrapped inside: From smallest at end of gift – a heart (either ornament/locket/cardboard); knitting wool; set of headphones; packet of seeds; packet of sweets. Chair and book; spade; Washing basket with clothes in)

If you have lots of kids, there can be heaps more layers and 'neighbours'. Use items around your house to wrap for the gifts so you don't have to buy anything.

Scene: Molly and her Mum are wrapping the last layer of the present as narrator speaks.

Narrator: Molly was so excited. She had been thinking about all the things she had been learning about sharing God's love, and how He shared His love by sending Jesus. Molly delivered advertising material down her street every week and often stopped and talked to the people at the different houses. But she was sad that hardly anyone knew their neighbour. So Molly had prayed and asked God to show her how to share about Christmas and get her neighbours talking to each other. God had given her a really good idea!

Mum: There! That should do it. It looks great!

Molly: I do hope everyone joins in. What if someone doesn't? The parcel will be stuck at someone's home.

Mum: Well, God gave you the idea, so I'm sure He will work things out. And we've prayed over the present. So let's give it a go.

Molly: Okay. Operation Pass the Parcel Christmas-style here we come!

(Mum and Molly exit. Neighbour 1 and 2 enter stage on opposite sides. N1 sits on chair reading book. N2 freezes in digging pose. When they are ready, Molly 'knocks' off stage – same side as person in chair – and calls out...)

Molly: Mrs. Granger! Hello! It's me, Molly!

N1: Come in my dear. I'm just in the lounge reading.

(Molly enters with present)

Molly: Hello. How are you doing today?

N1: Very well thank you. What on earth do you have there?

Molly: It's my neighbourhood Pass the Parcel Christmas gift.

N1: That sounds interesting.

Molly: Everyone knows how to play Pass the Parcel, so this present works just the same. I give it to you; you unwrap one layer, then you take it to the person next door. They unwrap a layer and then they pass it on – and so it goes down our street and back up the other side.

N1: What a great idea. *(unwraps present: favourite sweets)* Well look at that. My favourite sweets! These aren't in the shop very often. That's so lovely, thank you.

Molly: You're welcome. Now you get to pass on the joy to your neighbour. Bye.

(exits. N2 begins 'digging')

Narrator: Later that day, Mrs. Granger took the present over to her neighbour's and found him digging in the garden.

N1: Hello George. I haven't seen you for ages.

N2: I've been away for a month, visiting with friends in Australia.

N1: Goodness. I didn't even notice. How terrible of me. Well, here's a present for you but you only unwrap the top layer and then pass it on to next door. It's Molly's Christmas Pass the Parcel.

N2: That is an interesting idea. *(opens present – packet of seeds)* Ha! I have been wanting to grow snow peas for ages, but never got around to it. Now I guess I'll have to do it. Hey – I'm finished here. Come in and have a cup of tea and we can have a good chat.



(They exit. N3 and N4 enter opposite sides of stage. N3 has an ipod and one earphone in and is moving to the music. N4 'freezes' with bowl and wooden spoon pretending to mix.)

Narrator: The next day George took the present to his neighbour who he hadn't met before.

(N2 enters with present same side as person with ipod)

N2: Hello. My name is George. I live next door.

N3: Hi. I'm Taylor. Pleased to meet you.

N2: I saw you move in last month. I was intending to come over earlier but I was busy packing for a trip... anyway – let me give you this. It's a Christmas Pass the Parcel. You have to unwrap the top layer and then pass it on to your neighbour. A girl up the road thought of it.

N3: Do you mean Molly? I've stopped and talked with her a few times. Nice kid.

N2: Yeah, she's great. Well, enjoy your gift and don't forget to pass it on. And let me know if I can ever help you with anything. Just pop over any time. (exits)

N3: (unwraps present) Cool, new earphones. I told Molly that one side of mine are broken. Excellent.

Narrator: Taylor decided to go straight over to his other neighbour and pass the present on. (N4 starts folding washing.)

N3: Hello – I'm Taylor. We met briefly when I moved in.

N4: Yes, of course. How are things going? Have you settled in?

N3: Yep, all good. My neighbour George gave me this. It's something Molly organised. Everyone takes the top layer off and passes the present on. It's your turn.

N4: How lovely. How is George? I haven't spoken to him for months. (unwrapping present)

N3: He looks fine. He's been away somewhere I think.

N4: I must have him over for lunch one day, and you should come too.

N3: Thanks, that would be great.

N4: Oh look – I have a new baby niece and I haven't had time to go and get some wool to knit a baby jacket. This is wonderful.

N3: I know, this is the best gift I can remember being a part of. Looking forward to lunch sometime. Bye. (exits)

N4: I'll pass this on straight away. What a great Christmas present.

Narrator: And so the whole street got an unexpected gift that Christmas. Not only did they get something that gave them joy, they found greater joy in passing the present on, and connecting with their neighbours. At last the present made its way back to Molly's house. Mum gave the now tiny present to Molly.

Mum: I think there is one more gift left.

Molly: But I didn't put anything else inside.

Mum: I did. I thought you deserved a reminder of the way you have touched people's hearts this Christmas, and the way God touched our hearts at the very first Christmas.

Narrator: So Molly unwrapped the final present and found a heart, the symbol of love. Molly hugged her Mum and knew she would always look at the heart and be reminded of how big God's heart is for each and every person.

You could try this in your street. Instead of real gifts, you could put some biscuits in each layer, or some sweets. Get your parents permission first and see what happens.

The Christmas story according to the Old Testament

The amazing story of the birth of Jesus is found in the New Testament gospels of Matthew and Luke. But did you know that many of the details concerning his birth are also recorded in the old Testament and were written hundreds of years before it took place? How incredible is that??

See if you can complete the following statements using words from the list below.

ABRAHAM DAVID BETHLEHEM ADAM EGYPT REDEEMER
SAVIOUR IMMANUEL VIRGIN MESSIAH JUDAH

1. When _____ and Eve disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden and sin spoilt everything, God promised a _____ would come one day. (*Genesis 3:15*)
2. The _____ would be born a Jew, a descendant of _____, Isaac and Jacob. (*Genesis 12:3*)
3. God promised a king would one day occupy the throne of _____ and reign forever. (*Isaiah 9:7*)
4. The _____ would come from the tribe of _____. (*Genesis 49:10*)
5. His birth place would be the town of _____. (*Micah 5:2*)
6. The birth of God's Son would be miraculous because he would be born of a _____. (*Isaiah 7:14*)
7. One of his many names would be _____, meaning 'God with us.' (*Isaiah 7:14*)
8. As a baby, he would spend time in the land of _____. (*Hosea 11:1*)

The exact fulfillment of these Old Testament details, written hundreds of years earlier, shows that God's Word and His promises can be trusted.

Answers: 1. Adam, Saviour 2. Messiah, Abraham 3. David 4. Redeemer, Judah 5. Bethlehem 6. Virgin 7. Immanuel 8. Egypt



Changes to Current Bible Discovery Lessons

2011 will now be the last year we provide lessons in their current printed format. The reason behind this is that the 2ndcity game project is very costly for pssm to build and prepare for release by the end of next year. Our plan is to reduce our expenses by cutting back on our biggest costs which are graphic design, printing and postage. This will mean the following:

- The "Discovery" magazine will no longer be published.
- The Bible Discovery lessons will continue to be provided through e-mail (where possible) to students. Students will then print them and either mail, or scan and e-mail their completed lessons back for marking. (For those who don't have access to email we will still post the lessons.)
- The same marking and personal support will continue.

This has not been an easy decision for the pssm board, but a necessary one so that the new era can gain the momentum that it needs to continue development. We pray that you will appreciate what we are trying to do for the advancement of God's Kingdom in the lives of current and future generations of young people. It is our plan to provide this service until the game goes online (end of 2012), then review how we move forward from there.

What Do You Need To Do?

If you wish to continue with our lessons we need you to complete the return slip below, or sign-up online at <http://biblediscovery.org.nz/register>. We will only continue to send lessons in 2012 to those who communicate with us in response to this letter. **We would appreciate it if you could please let us know your intentions by December 20, 2011**

God bless
Carl Becker
CEO pssm

P.S. Campbell McSkimming, Former Director and current board member of pssm says:

"We praise God for this chance to use the internet to bring you God's truth. With 2nd city we are developing an interesting, exciting, fun way of connecting people with God and his message to us, in the Bible. We are sure you will love and learn heaps from this online Bible game."

Return Slip

Name _____ Age _____

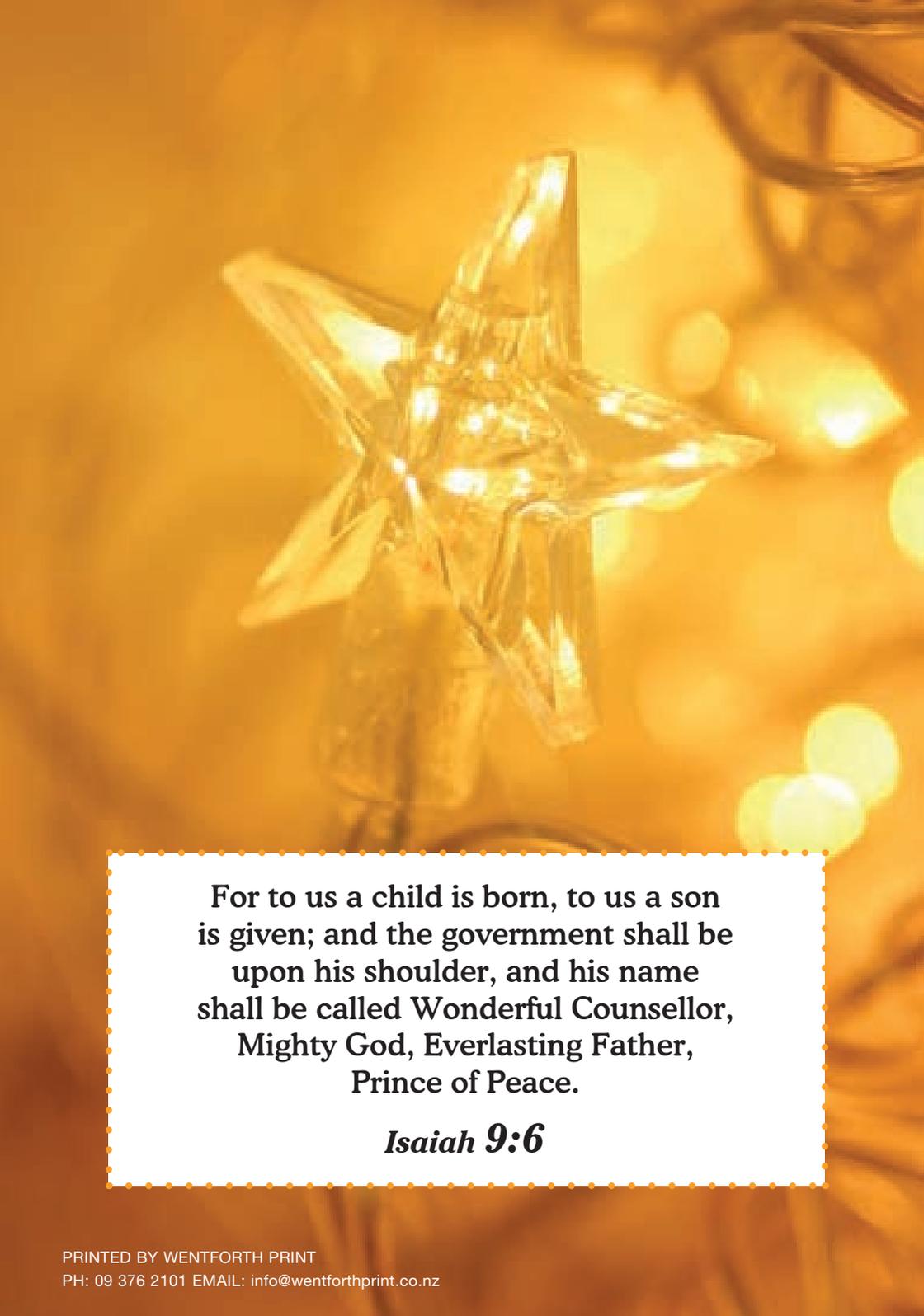
Lesson Level _____ Email Address _____

Postal Address (if no email) _____

Phone # _____

Comments.





**For to us a child is born, to us a son
is given; and the government shall be
upon his shoulder, and his name
shall be called Wonderful Counsellor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.**

Isaiah 9:6