WEARE ARE ALONG SIDERS

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING MANUAL



WE ARE ALONG SIDERS

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My Name:	
My Little Brother or Sister's Name:	
My Group Leader's Name:	
Our monthly meeting time:	
My phone number:	
My pastor's phone number:	
My Alongsider Coordinator's phone number:	
Child Helpline phone number:	

BEFORE YOU START...

GOALS FOR THIS YEAR

	Annual Check Up
	(complete this section at your Orientation Training Session for year 2)
(1)	Why do you want to be an Alongsider?
(2)	Why did you choose your Little Brother or Sister (LBS)?
(3)	How will completing this Training Manual make you a better Alongsider?
(4)	What would you like to learn this year?
(5)	What do you want your Little Brother or Sister to learn?
	What are your hopes for your community and how does being an Alongsider lp you achieve those hopes?
	What are your goals for this year as an Alongsider? How will you achieve them
	low?
	ioal #2
	low?

6 WE ARE ALONGSIDERS

Goal #3

How? _____



These are the prizes you can unlock at each stage of becoming an Alongsider...



REWARD

An Alongsider Wristband

HOW TO GET IT:Become an Alongsider



REWARD

Group/Pairs Photo

HOW TO GET IT:

Start a new Alongsiders group (group goal)



REWARD

Year 1: Certificate (GULL) Year 2: Alongsiders Diploma Year 3: Bachelor's Degree

HOW TO GET IT:

See Appendix 3 for more info about **Global University of Lifelong Learning** (GULL) qualifications



REWARD

Alongsiders Baseball Cap or Polo Shirt

HOW TO GET IT:

Your little brother or sister becomes an Alongsider at age 16

Never Give Up

Lesson Summary

- 1. Don't give up even when it is hard. Problems can turn into learning and growing experiences.
- 2. Don't let obstacles get in the way of your goals.
- **3.** Jesus endured the cross. He understands your pain and strengthens you to persevere.



Monthly Check Up

(sit in a circle, Alongsiders report to one another.)

How many times did you get together with your LBS this month?					
O 0 times. Why?					
O 1-2 times	O 3-4 times	O 5 or more times	5		
How many hours did	you spend togethe	er this month?			
O Less than 1 hour	O 1-2 hours	O 3-4 hours	O 5 or more hours		
Did you sit down and	l read comic lesson	#10 together?	O Yes	O No	
Did you discuss the d	Did you discuss the questions in the comic together? O Yes O No				
Did you do the activity in the comic together? O Yes O No					
What did you notice (good or difficult things) in the life of your LBS this month? (eg: health, family issues, school attendance, attitude, relationships, etc)					
How did you walk alongside your LBS through those good or difficult moments?					



- 1. Group leader: introduce the topic and train the Alongsiders how to read the comic.
- 2. Do you have a goal? Work on the Activity in the comic book. Write down your short-term goal. Later you will help your little brother/sister create a short-term goal when you get together with him/her. (Also write down what sacrifice you need to make in order to fulfill that goal.)

Short-term Goal	
Sacrifice	

- 3. a. Outside on the ground, draw a straight line in the dirt at least 20 metres long (not too short). Put a book on your head, and each person walk on the line. Keep both feet on the line. Pretend you are walking high above the ground and you don't want to fall off. Stay focused and walk along the line.
 - b. Then choose one person to do it again (maybe a person who had a hard time staying on the line). This time the rest of the group will cheer this person as he/she walks on the line again. Encourage him/her along.
- **4.** Come back inside. In a big group, discuss the following questions:

How did you stay focused?

What made you lose focus?

What do you learn about setting goals and perseverance from this activity?

5. Read Hebrews 12:1-2:

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

Ask God to speak to you through this verse. Circle a word or phrase that stands out to you. Reflect on it by yourself.

5. In pairs, share what God is speaking to you. Pray for each other and for your little brothers/sisters.



For Further Learning

(with the group or by yourselves during the month)

1. If you work hard, if you believe in yourself hard enough, if you have faith that God will strengthen you, will you definitely fulfil your goals? Oftentimes we will meet our goals. Other times we will not meet our goals. Whether we fulfil our goals or not, there will be discouragement, obstacles, loneliness, and disappointment along the way. Jeremiah, the prophet in the Old Testament, knew these discouragements well. Even though God Himself had called Jeremiah as a prophet 'before he was born', not only did people not listen to him, but also they were taken into captivity by the Babylonian empire at the end – the very thing Jeremiah worked hard to warn against for 40 years. Jeremiah knew tears, loneliness, disappointment, anguish, and unfulfilled goals... Jeremiah also knew that God was with him, and that God would rescue and save him.

Read Jeremiah 15:18-20 a few times alone. "Why is my pain unending and my wound grievous and incurable? Will you be to me like a deceptive brook, like a spring that fails? Therefore this is what the Lord says: "If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve me: if you utter worthy, not worthless, words, you will be my spokesman. Let this people turn to you, but you must not turn to them. I will make you a wall to this people, a fortified wall of bronze, they will fight against you but will not overcome you for, I am with you to rescue and save you, declares the Lord."

- a. In pairs share your thoughts. What do you think kept Jeremiah going, speaking God's voice to his people? E.g. A strong sense of a call from God, God's voice that spoke to Jeremiah constantly, etc.
- b. Have you had a similar experience to Jeremiah, when you felt like hard work was producing no results, you were not reaching your goals despite of your efforts, or you felt like giving up...?
- c. At times when you feel like giving up, how did you overcome the obstacles? What will help you not give up and persevere?
- d. Pray for one another and each other's little brother/sister.
- **2.** You have created a short-term goal. Let's review your goal and make it into a better one. We don't want a goal that just sounds good. We want a goal that will help you work hard and guide you to attain that goal. Have you heard of SMART goals? SMART goals should have the components as listed in the table below:

S	Make it Specific	What do you want to accomplish?
	-	- Not specific: I want to make good grades.
		- Specific: I want to have a 90-point average in Science.
M	Make it	How will you know when you have accomplished your goals?
	Measurable	- Not measurable: I want to make a lot of free throw shots.
		- Measurable: I want to make at least 9 out of 10 free throw shots in
		the next basketball game.
Α	Make it Achievable	How can the goal be accomplished?
		- Wrong: I will study hard to make a 90-point average in Science.
		- Right: In order to make a 90-point average in Science by May 26th,
		2017, I will read over my Science notes every night for 20 minutes.
R	Make it Realistic	Is this goal worth working hard to accomplish?
		- Unrealistic: I want to make 200 free throw shots in one game.
		- Realistic: I want to make 8 out of 10 of the free throw shots
		that I attempt.
Т	Make it Timely	By when will the goal be accomplished?
		- Not timely: I want to learn to play the piano.
		- Timely: I want to learn to play "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" by June 5th.

a. Let's review your goal. Check if it is Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timely. If not, keep working on it so that it becomes a SMART goal.

Examples of SMART goals:

- I want to improve my health by drinking 8 cups of water every day this month.
- I want to lose 2 kg by running 20 minutes 3 mornings a week.
- I want to reduce my coca cola intake, by reducing it to one can per week for 3 months.

3. What can you do to help each other to persevere? Together list 10 small actions you can do for one

- I want to eat better by choosing to eat more vegetables and protein every day.
- b. Rewrite your goal. Make it SMARTer. Then in pairs, share your goals and help each other to fix them if needed.
- c. Pray for each other and your goals.

another at difficult and challenging times.

1	
10	
	Application
	Think of someone in the community who needs encouragement so that he/she can persevere.
	Put an action plan together and help this person to persevere.

Stop!

Lesson Summary

- 1. God created men and women and values them the same way.
- **2.** Treat women with the respect they deserve.
- **3.** Girls, be assured of God's love and value. Boys, be role models who show respect for girls.



Monthly Check Up

(sit in a circle, Alongsiders report to one another.)

How many times did	you get together v	with your LBS this	month?		
O 0 times. Why?					
O 1-2 times	O 3-4 times	O 5 or more times	S		
How many hours did	l you spend togeth	er this month?			
O Less than 1 hour	O 1-2 hours	O 3-4 hours	O 5 or m	ore hours	
Did you sit down and	d read comic lessor	n #11 together?	O Yes	O No	
Did you discuss the questions in the comic together? O Yes O No					
Did you do the activity in the comic together? O Yes O No					
What did you notice (good or difficult things) in the life of your LBS this month? (eg: health, family issues, school attendance, attitude, relationships, etc)					
How did you walk alongside your LBS through those good or difficult moments?					



Before gathering today, the group leader takes a photo of one Alongsider without letting other Alongsiders know he/she took the photo.

- 1. Group leader: introduce the topic and train the Alongsiders how to read the comic.
- **2.** Read **Genesis 1:27.** "So, God created humans in his own image, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them." Both male and female are created in God's image.
- 3. The group leader describes the person in the photo to the group using words. Make sure the group don't know who is in the photo! Don't describe the clothes he/she is wearing. Describe as, "this person has black hair, round eyes, nice smile," etc. The group guesses who the person is. It should take some time to guess the right person, or not guess at all. Then show the photo to the group.
- **4.** We are more similar to each other than we think. We are all created in God's image. What do people see in us that is like God? Male or female, Asian or African, child or adult, we are ALL made in God's image. In groups of three or four, share what are some of the common characteristics of God that we all reflect.
- 5. In a big group, share what each group discovered about God's image.
- 6. Share and pray for one another. 1) for each others' LBS, 2) for each other (share how you are doing).



- 1. a. In Jesus' time, men usually did not talk to women in public places, except within their own families. A foreign woman would be considered even more unclean since she was both a foreigner and a woman. However, Jesus talked to them. Read John 4:7 to 5:30.
 - b. (In pairs) How did Jesus value and respect the Samaritan woman?
 - c. How do you think Jesus made the woman feel?
 - d. In our society today, how do you think Jesus would make women feel valued?
 - e. When do you feel respected as a woman? When do you feel devalued as a woman? (for the men: How can you show respect to women in your life? What are ways men mistreat women today?)
 - f. What is God teaching you or challenging you about through Jesus' example?
- 2. a. What are some differences between males and females in your country? List as many differences as you can think of.

Male Female

Do/can	Don't/can't	Do/can	Don't/can't

- b. Look at the differences. Which ones are defined by the culture/society?
- c. Which ones are defined by biological nature?
- d. How does your culture view women/men? What is the traditional role of women and men in your culture?
- e. What do you think are some strengths women have in your culture? How about men's strength?
- f. Regardless of gender differences defined by our culture and society, let's remember both genders have God-given value and dignity and carry God's image. What are some characteristics of the opposite gender that makes it difficult for you to respect and see value and dignity in that gender?
- g. Pray for one another that you can continue to grow in respecting male and female, their different roles, and God's image in both genders.



Application

Read Galatians 3:28-29. "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

- a. What one word or phrase stands out to you?
- b. What three changes would you like to make in your daily life to reflect respect for both genders?
- c. How could you talk to your little brother/sister about this lesson?

Finding Freedom

Lesson Summary

- 1. Choose the group of friends you hang out with wisely.
- 2. Drugs and alcohol affect health, study, relationships and future.
- **3.** Welcome those with addiction problems. They need a 'family' to move toward recovery.



Monthly Check Up

(sit in a circle, Alongsiders report to one another.)

-		O 5 or more time		
O 1-2 times	O 3-4 times	O 5 or more time	es	
How many hours di	id you spend toge	ther this month?		
O Less than 1 hour	O 1-2 hours	O 3-4 hours	O 5 or m	ore hours
Did you sit down an	ad vond gemie laas	on #12 to zoth or 2	O V	O No
Did you sit down ar	id read comic less	son #12 togetner?	O Yes	O No
Did you discuss the questions in the comic together? O Yes O No				O No
Did you do the activity in the comic together?			O Yes	O No
What did you notice (good or difficult things) in the life of your LBS this month? (eg: health, family issues, school attendance, attitude, relationships, etc)				
How did you walk alongside your LBS through those good or difficult moments?				



- 1. Group leader: introduce the topic and train the Alongsiders how to read the comic.
- 2. Divide into two groups. Each group receives a sheet of paper. Copy the table below onto the paper.

Together, list at least five things about a good friend in each box.

A good friend IS:	A good friend DOES:
A good friend SAYS:	A good friend WON'T:

- **3.** Share in your groups.
 - a. Which quality or action of a good friend is important to you? Why?
 - b. Do you have a friend who displays such a quality? Share about that friend.
- **4.** Get into pairs.
 - a. Are you a good friend to someone right now? How?
 - b. (If not) Does anyone need friendship from you?
 - c. What needs to change for you to become a good friend?
- **5.** Share and pray for one another.
 - a. For each others' LBS.
 - b. For each other (share how you are doing).



1. Read Mark 2:1-12 a few times.

"And they came, bringing to Him a paralytic, carried by four men. And being unable to get to Him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had dug an opening, they let down the mat on which the paralytic was lying. And Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the paralytic, 'My son, your sins are forgiven."" (v. 3-5)

In a group of 3 or 4, discuss the following questions.

- a. What characteristics of the friends in the story inspire you the most?
- b. What does this story teach you about friendship?
- c. What challenge or encouragement is God giving you or your Alongsiders group through this story?
- 2. Optional: Friendship Web Activity
 - a. Prepare a ball of strong string.
 - b. Get in a circle, stand close to each other.
 - c. One person holds the end of the string and throws the ball to another person across the circle. When you throw the ball, speak out one quality of a good friend (e.g. kind, good listener, patient, etc).
 - d. After you catch the ball, hold the string tight, throw the ball to another person, say one quality of a good friend.
 - e. Continue until you have a 'friendship web' inside the circle.
 - f. Find a person who could slowly fall onto the web. Can you hold the person up from hitting the ground?
 - g. When a friend has fallen into addiction, or is going through a difficult time, he/she needs the love and support of friends who will hold and carry him/her.
 - h. Can your group be that support for a friend? Do you know anyone needing that kind of community support? What can you do?
- **3.** a. Friends can pressure you to try alcohol or drugs. Peer pressure usually happens in four ways. As a group, can you think of more examples? Fill in the table with some examples:

Rejection "I won't be your friend anymore"	False Reasons "It won't kill you. Just try it"
Insults "You are such a baby"	Silent pressure "I want to look like those cool kids" "I want to fit in"

- b. Peer pressure is hard for some people. Here are some reasons:
 - They are afraid of being rejected by others.
 - They want to be liked and don't want to lose a friend.
 - They don't want to be made fun of.
 - They don't want to hurt someone's feelings.
 - It seems thrilling to try something new.
 - They think that just one time should be ok.
 - They don't know how to get out of the situation.

Can you think of other reasons why peer pressure from your friends could be hard to resist?

c. There is nothing wrong with saying 'NO' to your friends. We have the right to protect our body, mind, heart and soul. Say NO and let your friends know you mean it.



How have you experienced peer pressure? How did you deal with it?

e. In your own words, write out the reasons below why you don't want to take drugs.

If you are with the group, practice these in a role play or short skit.

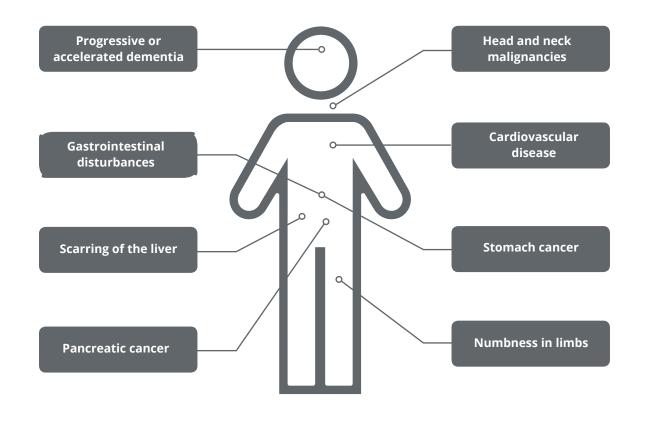
4. Taking drugs and alcohol when you are young will affect your body and life. Your body is still under construction until you are in your mid-twenties (especially the brain). Not only is it difficult to make wise decisions when your brain isn't fully developed, it is also difficult to control your impulses. That is why many youth get addicted to substance abuse. Study the diagram and the table below, and work through the following questions in a group of 3 or 4.

How Drugs Affect the Average Teen

- Drugs affect the brain and the body of the average adolescent.
- · Drugs affect three parts of the brain
 - The brain system in charge of all of our body in order to stay alive
 - The limbic system links together all brain structures
 - The cerebral cortex the outer part of the brain
- Drugs affect the normal processing of the brain.
- Drugs also limit the teen's ability to set limits, but makes them become addicted, and want more drugs.
- When a teen takes drugs, the brain releases chemicals that makes the teen feel an enormous amount of emotions instantly. People call this chemical the "happy chemical" because of this outburst of emotions.

Long-Term Effects of Alcohol Abuse

Over time, alcohol addiction can cause serious damage to your brain and your body.



Oo you know anyone who suffers from the symptoms described above? What is this person like?	How
the addiction affecting his/her relationships with family and friends?	
low would you explain the dangers of drugs and alcohol to your little brother or sister? Write it i	n the
ox and practice it with your group.	

- d. Addiction not only affects the individual, but also the people around him/her. How does drug and alcohol abuse affect relationships?
- e. What are some possible solutions? Come up with four solutions. Draw the solutions in the boxes on the following page.

1	2
3	4
3	4
3	4
3	4
3	4
3	4
3	4
3	4
3	4

Application

Spend some time praying for those who are affected by drugs and alcohol. Pray for each other's little brothers and sisters and their families. Pray for protection for yourselves.

Don't Be Afraid

Lesson Summary

- **1.** You don't have to be afraid of the dark, ghosts and spirits, because Jesus has power and authority over them.
- 2. Jesus has given you His authority over all areas of your life.
- **3.** You can use Jesus' authority to stop an evil spirit, to cover each home, family and relationship with His protection, to fill your mind and heart with His love, and to bless your land.



Monthly Check Up

(sit in a circle, Alongsiders report to one another.)

O 1-2 times	O 3-4 times	O 5 or more time			
J-2 times	5-4 times	O 9 of more time			
How many hours d	id you spend toge	ther this month?			
O Less than 1 hour	O 1-2 hours	O 3-4 hours	O 5 or m	nore hours	
Did it da			0 1/	0.11	
Did you sit down and read comic lesson #13 together? O Yes O No					
Did you discuss the	questions in the	comic together?	O Yes	O No	
Did you do the activity in the comic together?			O Yes	O No	
What did you notice (good or difficult things) in the life of your LBS this month? (eg: health, family issues, school attendance, attitude, relationships, etc)					
How did you walk a	alongside your LBS	S through those goo	od or diffic	ult moments?	



- 1. Group leader: introduce the topic and train the Alongsiders how to read the comic.
- 2. a. Get into pairs. Play 'rock paper scissors'. The winner slaps the loser's hand each time.
 - b. This game illustrates ones' authority to hurt the other person. It is similar to life. There are leaders with authority in our life, such as our parents, teachers, village chief, police, politicians. Not all are good people. They can hurt us or bless us with their authority.
- **3.** How about Jesus' authority? Jesus' authority is love. He used His Godly authority to love and care for people. Let's look at how Jesus used His authority. Look up the verses listed below, and describe how Jesus used His authority in each situation.

Mark 1:21-28	Jesus used His authority to teach and rebuke an evil spirit.
Mark 1:40-42	To heal.
Mark 2:1-12	
Mark 4:35-41	
Mark 5:37-43	
Mark 6:45-52	
Mark 4:1-2	
Mark 8:1-13	

- a. What happened to people when Jesus used His authority? What happened physically, emotionally, relationally, spiritually, etc?
- b. In pairs discuss what it means for you to have Jesus' authority. Why do you think Jesus gives us His authority? Where in life do you use Jesus' authority?
- 4. Share and pray for one another.
 - a. for each others' LBS,
 - b. for each other (share how you are doing).



1	and receiving His authority. "Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." b. Write or draw what you have heard from God.

- 2. Read Matthew 14:22-33. Reflect on the questions below.
 - a. Why were the disciples afraid?
 - b. What did Jesus say to them?
 - c. What did Peter do and say?
 - d. How was Peter able to walk on the water?
 - e. When did he start to sink?
 - f. What are you afraid of right now? What is Jesus inviting you to do about it?
 - g. Read the text below. When are you tempted to trust in yourself instead of God?

Peter had so much fear. There was a big storm, the boat could have turned over, then he saw something like a ghost coming close to him. I'm sure you would have been scared, too. His fear increased when Jesus asked him to walk on water. Imagine Jesus asking you to step out onto the deep stormy water. Peter trusted Jesus and put his feet off the boat. He was able to not only stand, but also walk on water! Then he became afraid again and stopped trusting in Jesus.

In your own life there are times when you face similar fear. When you forget that God is always with you, you become frightened by the situation you are in (dark rooms, unknown future, parents fighting, parents' expectations, etc.) or something you see (deep water, dogs or ghosts), just like Peter. When you see or hear things that scare you, you can remember to trust God and in His promise that He is right there with you.

- h. Let's finish off by doing a "trust walk" together. Get into pairs. Blindfold one person. The other person will guide the blind person through the pre-prepared course. Take turns being blind folded. Think about **fear and trust** as you do this activity.
- i. In a big group, share about the "trust walk". How did you experience "fear and trust"? What is God speaking to you about "fear and trust"?
- 3. Read the following verses alone.

"Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7).

"The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:5-7).

"Peace I leave you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful" (John 14:27).

b. We can use the authority Jesus has given us when we are fearful and bring God's power into the situation. Jesus spoke out with confidence when facing difficult situations. For example, to the waves He said "Quiet, be still". To a leper he said, "I'm willing, be clean!" To a demon he said, "Come out of the man!" How can you pray with authority in a fearful situation? Think of three situations/objects you are afraid of, and write out a confident command to rebuke them.

Fearful situations/objects	Rebuking prayer
Example: Fearful of not passing an exam	In Jesus name, fear and worry leave now! Jesus, please guide my life.
1	
2	
3	



This week, look for a scary situation to practice your confidence in God. When you face that scary situation, speak out the words you have practised and trust in Jesus.

True Healing

Lesson Summary

- **1.** Jesus has the authority to heal sickness, restore emotional brokenness, and mend broken relationships.
- **2.** However, in His wisdom, some receive healing and others don't get better.
- **3.** Even in times when God does not heal, He works beyond what we ask for. And God is with us and will never leave us.



Monthly Check Up

(sit in a circle, Alongsiders report to one another.)

	O 3-4 times	O 5 or more time		
O 1-2 times	O 3-4 times	O 5 or more time	es	
How many hours di	id you spend toge	ther this month?		
O Less than 1 hour	O 1-2 hours	O 3-4 hours	O 5 or m	nore hours
5.1		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	0 11	0.11
Did you sit down ar	nd read comic less	son #14 together?	O Yes	O No
Did you discuss the	questions in the	comic together?	O Yes	O No
Did you do the activ	vity in the comic t	ogether?	O Yes	O No
What did you notice (eg: health, family issues,			of your LBS	S this month?
				ult moments



- 1. Group leader: introduce the topic and train the alongsiders how to read the comic.
- 2. Read Mark 10:46-52, the story of Jesus healing a blind man.
 - a. Let's act out this story. You'll need four volunteers: Bartimaeus, Jesus, Man 1 and Man 2. Each actor read the script as they act out the story.

Bartimaeus: Money for the blind! Please give money for the blind! (Bartimaeus sits and begs for money)

Man 1: Be quiet, you old blind man.

Bartimaeus: Thank you. Thank you. (one person gives him money) Money for the blind! Money for the blind!

(Jesus enters with his disciples)

Man 2: Isn't that Jesus of Nazareth?

Bartimaeus: Money for the ... JESUS?!... He can heal me! Jesus! Messiah! Have mercy!

Man 2: Shhhhh! Be quiet, you old beggar, Jesus doesn't have time for you. He is a busy teacher.

Bartimaeus: Jesus! Messiah! Son of David! Have mercy on me!

Jesus: Bring that man to me.

Man 1: Bartimaeus, cheer up. Stand up, He is calling you. (Man 1 leads Bartimaeus to Jesus)

Bartimaeus: Jesus! Hallelujah.

Jesus: What do you want me to do for you?

Bartimaeus: Lord, I want to see.

Jesus: Go. Your faith has healed you. (Bartimaeus turns and begins to walk away, then hesitates)

Bartimaeus: Ah! Ah! I can see! Thank you, Jesus! I can see! Thank you, Jesus!

- b. What changes instantly happened to Bartimaeus? Discuss in pairs. Talk about the physical healing, emotional healing, social healing, vocational changes, spiritual healing (Bartimaeus' relationship with God), etc.
- c. Jesus will heal a person in many areas of life. He looks for faith on our part, as well as giving us the same power to heal the sick (Mark 16:17-18). We can boldly pray for healing. God may heal right away, or heal slowly. He may encourage right away, or bring the spiritual family together to pray together. God will do His work! Earnestly seek God for healing! What kind of 'healing' have you experienced in your life?
- 3. Share and pray for one another.
 - a. For each others' LBS.
 - b. For each other (share how you are doing). What kind of healing do you need?



- **1.** Read **Isaiah 61:2-3** several times. He will come "to comfort all who mourn...Giving them a crown of beauty instead of ashes... the mantle of praise instead of a spirit of despair. So they will be called oaks of righteousness."
 - a. What word or phrase stands out to you? What is God saying to you through that word or phrase? Share in pairs.
 - b. Have you experienced grief? Have you experienced God's comfort in mourning?
 - c. What are ashes in your life that you would like God to turn into a crown of beauty?
 - d. Do you have a strong emotion (such as anger, sadness, anxiety, emptiness, hurt, etc) that controls your mind and heart? Describe the feeling. When do you feel it? When did you start to feel it? Is there any connection to a memory or an incident that happened in the past? Write about it as a letter to Jesus. Then share in pairs as much as you feel comfortable.
 - e. Pray for one another. Ask Jesus to cover you with His mantle and reassure you of how much He loves and cares about you.

("The mantle of praise" may look different in different cultures. What do people wear for ceremonies such as weddings in your country? Let Jesus put on that "mantle", hold you in His healing arms, accept your brokenness, and celebrate you - for you are His beloved child)

2. The man harassed by demons wanted Jesus to stop the demons. He would have been more than satisfied to experience freedom. Yet Jesus did more than the man had expected. Jesus sent him to "go home to [his] own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for [him]" More than deliverance, Jesus gave him a purpose and a calling (Mark 5:19).

The chronically ill woman wanted to be healed. When she reached and touched the hem of Jesus' garment, Jesus not only healed her, but also gave her the opportunity to share her healing in the community. More than healing, Jesus gave her community (Mark 5:25-34).

The best thing that Jairus and his wife wished for was for their ill daughter to be healed. When Jesus heard that the girl had died, Jesus proved that He can do much more than what they had expected. A few people were able to witness a miracle of raising a person from the dead. More than healing from sickness, Jesus restored a young girl's life (Mark 5:42).

- a. In groups of 3 to 5, read Mark 5. Reflect on your life. When have you prayed for physical healing? How did you see God at work?
- b. When and how did God work in you in unexpected ways or in ways greater than your expectations?
- c. Do you know someone who needs healing? Together pray for those people who need physical healing and more than physical healing.

- **3.** To ask for healing means to ask for God's rule over sickness and brokenness. To ask for deliverance of evil spirits means to ask for the Holy Spirit to rule over the person or place. To ask for healing of fear or igworry means to ask for the Holy Spirit to fill your mind and heart with the love of Jesus.
 - a. What are other areas in your life that you want Jesus to rule over? Ask for God to come and rule over those areas.

Area of Need for Jesus to Intervene	Invitation to Jesus
Eg. School	Jesus please provide a breakthrough in this area.

b. In pairs, pray through each other's list. Pray that God will rule over those areas.



Application

Ask God for an opportunity to pray for someone who is sick this week. When you see that person, ask them for permission to pray for healing. Lay hands on them and ask God to heal them in Jesus name, or to give them the strength and comfort they need to persevere. Invite God to do whatever He wants to do, even above and beyond what you have asked for.

Family Ties

Lesson Summary

- 1. Every family passes down bad sins, habits and traits, as well as good characteristics, habits and traits to the next generation.
- 2. God wants to break the generational curse (things passed down through your family that are bad).
- 3. God will strengthen the generational blessing (things passed down through your family that are good).



Monthly Check Up

(sit in a circle, Alongsiders report to one another.)

O 0 times. Why?				
O 1-2 times	O 3-4 times	O 5 or more time		
How many hours did	d you spend toge	ther this month?		
O Less than 1 hour	O 1-2 hours	O 3-4 hours	O 5 or m	nore hours
Did you sit down and	d read comic less	on #15 together?	O Yes	O No
Did you discuss the	questions in the	comic together?	O Yes	O No
Did you do the activity in the comic together?			O Yes	O No
What did you notice (eg: health, family issues, s			of your LB	S this month?
	ongside your LBS	Sthrough those goo	od or diffic	ult moments?



- 1. Group leader: introduce the topic and train the Alongsiders how to read the comic.
- **2.** a. Divide into two teams. Select one volunteer from each team to read the questions listed below. The volunteers stand at one end of the room.
 - b. At the other end of the room, the two teams line up separately.

 The first runners get ready to run to the other side to the volunteers.
 - c. Someone say 'GO'. The two runners run to the volunteers who will read the first question. The runners answer.
 - d. After answering the first question, runners run back to your team, touch the next person's hand, then that person run to the volunteer and answer the next question.
 - e. The first team to finish all the guestions wins!

Questions:

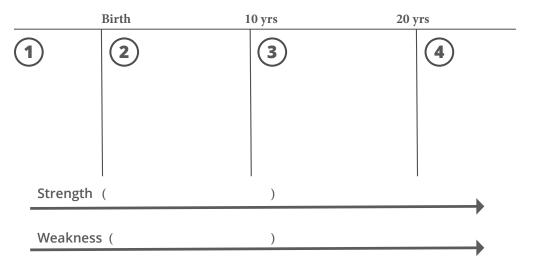
- 1. What is your grandmother's name?
- 2. How many aunts do you have?
- 3. How many children in your family?
- 4. Where was your father born?
- 5. How many cousins do you have?
- 6. How did you celebrate New Year last year?
- 7. What was one of your grandfather's jobs?
- 8. What is one word that describes your family?
- 9. Where does one of your uncles live?
- 10. What is one dish your family loves to eat together?
- 3. Get into pairs. Share together about your family's strengths and weaknesses.
- 4. Share and pray for one another.
 - 1. For each others' LBS and their families.
 - 2. For each other (share how you are doing).



For Further Learning

(with group or by yourselves during the month)

1. Let's create a family timeline. Follow the instructions below:



- a. In box 1, write down 3-5 significant facts you know about your family before you were born (eg. family town, family business, family problems, family members, grandparents, etc).
- b. In boxes 2, 3 and 4 write down significant events, dates and people fromt hose parts of your life:
 - Important family events (good and painful things, deaths, moving house, changing jobs, changing school, family trip, etc)
 - Significant events/people that influenced you (new teacher, English class, first job, best friend, sick for 3 months, first visit to church, accepted Jesus, etc)
 - Dates (birthday/year, dates of events, etc)
- c. How would you describe your family in ONE WORD? (hard working, caring, broken, warm, close, etc)
- d. Spend time reflecting on your timeline. What are some things you notice about yourself and your family?
- e. Pray for one another. Pray for God's blessing, love, faith and forgiveness to reign in your family members and relationships.
- 2. Family Timeline continued...

Read **Psalm 103:17** "But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children."

- a. Look at the bottom two arrows on your timeline. Write down your family's biggest strength and biggest weakness.
- b. Spend some time reflecting on the strength. Pray that God will continue to bless your family with strength, character and faith to thousands of generations. Pray that the strength will flow into even those who don't know Jesus yet and into their children.
- c. Spend some time reflecting on the weakness and negative influence. ow are you influenced by the family weakness? Pray that God will bring freedom from that family weakness. Pray for other family members who are under the influence of the weakness.
- 3. In **Matthew 1:1-17**, Jesus' family line is recorded. We may want to think that Jesus' family must have been perfect. However, they were far from perfect. We know King David alone was an amazing leader, yet he stole another man's wife and had the husband killed. There were others with sinful lifestyles and with problems. Just like every family, Jesus' family had their weaknesses. You don't have to be discouraged by your family background. God placed you in a family to be a light to shine in the imperfect areas in your family. God will show His love to thousands of generations (Exodus 20:5)! God will change your family. He has already begun His work!
 - a. Where do you see God's work in changing your family?How has your family changed ever since you accepted Jesus?
 - b. You are part of a spiritual family too! When your family crisis seems hopeless, your church family will hold your hand and never give up. When you feel alone as the only believer in your family, your spiritual family will be there for you. You belong! How have you experienced the care of your spiritual family?



Ask God to show you one way you can demonstrate freedom from a family weakness. Practise that action this week.

A Lesson In Honesty

Lesson Summary

- 1. Money can be a blessing, as well as corrupt and hurt us.
- 2. Let us not fall into temptation to steal or cheat for money, even when we desperately need it.
- 3. God loves a cheerful giver. In God's Kingdom, we care about each other's welfare and share the resources God has entrusted us to take care of.



Monthly Check Up

(sit in a circle, Alongsiders report to one another.)

O times Why?	lid you get togethe	-		
O 1-2 times	O 3-4 times	O 5 or more time		
How many hours	lid you spend toge	ther this month?		
O Less than 1 hour	O 1-2 hours	O 3-4 hours	O 5 or m	nore hours
Did you sit down a	nd read comic less	son #16 together?	O Yes	O No
Did you discuss th	e questions in the	comic together?	O Yes	O No
Did you do the act	O Yes	O No		
What did you notion (eg: health, family issues	_	It things) in the life (of your LB	S this month?
How did you walk	alongside your LB	S through those goo	od or diffic	ult moments?



- 1. Group leader: introduce the topic and train the Alongsiders how to read the comic.
- **2.** There are things money can buy, and things money can't buy. Get in groups of 3 or 4. List these things in the table below. Come up with as many items as you can.

Can buy with money	Can't buy with money
Clothes Food	Time with family Friendship
Characteristics of items money can buy	Characteristics of things money can't buy
Necessities to live	Relational

- **3.** (In the large group) Each small group share what you came up with. Think through the following questions in the large group.
 - What are some new things you discovered from this activity?
 - What item or characteristic is most important to you?
 - What are your thoughts about money, or about how to use money?
- 4. Share and pray for one another.
 - a. For each others' LBS.
 - b. For each other (share how you are doing).



For Further Learning

(with group or by yourselves during the month)

- 1. Read Matthew 6:19-34 a few times alone.
 - What verse, word, idea speaks to you personally?
 - What are you anxious about concerning life?
 - How anxious are you about money? What are your needs that require money?
 - Spend time alone with God. Allow God to speak His truth to the area you are anxious about.
 - Share how God touched and spoke to you in groups of 3 or 4 people.
 - Encourage and pray for one another.

- **2.** Let's practice budgeting together.
 - (In a large group) Who creates a budget for your monthly income? What do you know about budgeting? Why is it important to budget?
 - Below is an example of a budget:

Income (Money you receive monthly):	\$
Expenses (Money you spend monthly):	\$

- eg. Tithe: minimum 10% of your total income; purely 'giving' for God's work.
- eg. Needs: 40% of income for daily & monthly routines, expenses.
- eg. Debts: 30% of income for repaying what you owe.
- eg. Wants: 10% of income for hanging out with friends, buy clothes, etc.
- eg. Saving: 10% of income for your needs in the future.
- Fill in the table below with your expenses each month. Even if you don't have a regular income, treat this as an exercise. Come up with hypothetical numbers if you want. If you are giving some money to your family monthly, you can include that in the "need".

Expense	Amount	What, Where	Percentage of Total
Tithe			
Needs			
Debts			
Wants			
Saving			

- (In pairs) What new things did you learn about your budget? Which expense would you like to change (reduce or increase) if possible?
- "Every good gift comes from God" (James 1:17). We want to be wise stewards of the gifts God blesses us with, even though we think it's not enough or we go through a financial crisis. Pray for one another to be better stewards of God's gifts.

3. The danger of debt: We all know that borrowing money, taking out a loan, losing in gambling, feeding an addiction, etc, will create debt. We also know debt can tear families apart, cause much stress, take a house away from a family, bring a business down, etc. There also are benefits to borrowing money. What do you know about debt?

(In pairs) Fill in the chart below.

	Benefits	Dangers
Benefits/dangers of borrowing		
money from the bank		
Benefits/dangers of borrowing		
money from family/friends		
Benefits/dangers of getting		
money from a money lender		
Benefits/dangers of receiving		
illegal money such as bribery		
Benefits/dangers of leasing items		
such as computers, phones, etc.		

- (In a large group) Each pair share with the group what you came up with.
- Share with one another ideas on how to be careful about borrowing money in general.
- Close in prayer.



Application

"God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). This week ask God to give you an opportunity to give to a friend or child who is in financial need.

Choices

Lesson Summary

- 1. It is important to learn to make good decisions.
- 2. Seek advice from trusted people such as leaders, elders, family and friends (Proverbs 11:14).
- 3. God will lead you in your decision making, and guide your ways (Proverbs 3:5,6).



Monthly Check Up

(sit in a circle, Alongsiders report to one another.)

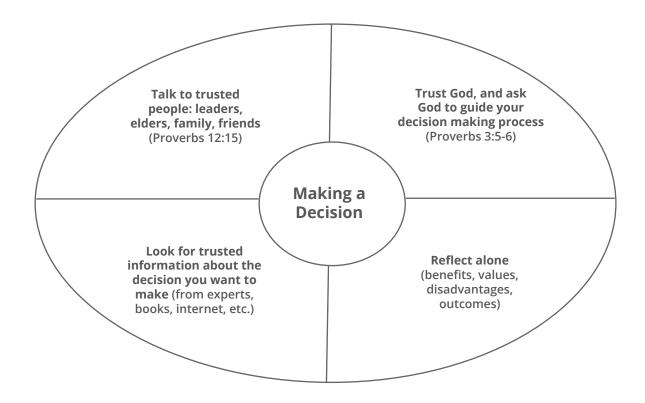
O 1-2 times	O 3-4 times	O 5 or more time	es	
How many hours di	d you spend toge	ther this month?		
O Less than 1 hour	O 1-2 hours	O 3-4 hours	O 5 or m	nore hours
Did you sit down an	d read comic less	on #17 together?	O Yes	O No
Did you discuss the questions in the comic together?		O Yes	O No	
Did you do the activity in the comic together?		O Yes	O No	
What did you notice (eg: health, family issues, s			of your LBS	S this month?
How did you walk a	longside your LBS	S through those goo	d or diffic	ult moments?



- 1. Group leader: introduce the topic and train the Alongsiders how to read the comic.
- **2.** Sit in a big circle. Each person takes one sheet of paper to write on. On the top of the paper, write down one decision you need to make (big or small decision; real or made up is ok).
- 2. Pass your paper to the person on your right. Each person quietly reads the decision that needs to be made on the paper you just received. Write down one thing the person can do to help make this decision. Eg. "Decision: what career should I choose?" "Suggestion: ask your parents what you are good at."
- **3.** Pass your paper to the person on your right. Repeat the same thing. Continue passing the paper until you get your original paper back. Now read all the suggested solutions.
- 4. Get into pairs. Share with each other the following questions:
 - What were some helpful suggestions?
 - Why were they helpful?
 - What is your next step going to be?
- 5. Pray for one another and your LBS.



1. When we make decisions, there are many factors that we should consider:



- a. In the past, which one(s) played a significant role in making a decision?
- b. Currently, what decision are you trying to make? Move through all four elements, take notes, and see what kind of issues you still need to resolve before making a decision.

- **2.** Sometimes, life events, family finance, cultural expectations and circumstances do not allow you to decide what you really want for yourself.
 - a. Do you sometimes feel like you do not have the freedom to decide for yourself? Share with another person about your situation.
 - b. Is it a situation you have to accept 100%? What are the areas you can't change? Ask God to help you accept the situation you can't change, and find God in that challenging circumstance.
 - c. What little changes can you make? Think about it together in pairs.
 - d. Come up with an action plan. What is your next step? Encourage one another in the small steps you can make toward change and/or a decision.

Can't Change	
Can Change	
Action step	

- **3.** Divide into two groups. Each group will practice making a decision. This activity will help you do the activity in the comic lesson with your LBS.
 - a. Each group will receive an imaginary situation. Follow the given order and together in your groups come up with a decision. Then come together as a big group and each group share about how you came up with the decision.
 - **Group 1:** You are about to finish your studies. You need to decide what job to do after graduation. Your family can't pay for you to study more. Your family needs you to give about \$50 a month to help pay the bills. Your family needs you to stay home and not move to the big city. What are some job options? Which one should you choose?
 - **Group 2:** Your LBS has dropped out of school and is working on the streets. Their work is a bit dangerous and you are worried about their studies and future opportunities. What will you do?
 - b. Consider each step and make a group decision.

Step 1 - What is the problem?	
Step 2 - What are the options?	
Step 3 - What are the positives and negatives for each option?	
Step 4 - Make a decision.	

Remember: good decisions do not always end up in good results or the results we anticipated. However, God has the situation in His hands, the good and the bad results. Learn to give your options, your decisions and the results to God, and trust that all things will work together for good.



This week take some time alone with God to pray about a significant decision you are facing. Ask God for wisdom and insight. Trust that He will speak to you and write down what you hear from God.

LESSON 18.

Caring for Creation

Lesson Summary

- 1. God created the earth, the plants, animals and humans and called them 'good'.
- 2. God created us in His image and gave us the responsibility and power to manage His creation.
- 3. We need to set an example as a generation who will deeply care about God's creation.



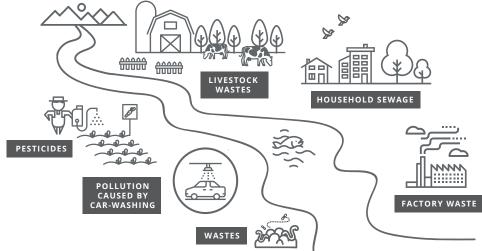
Monthly Check Up

(sit in a circle, Alongsiders report to one another.)

O 1-2 times	O 3-4 times	O 5 or more time		
How many hours di	d you spend toge	ther this month?		
O Less than 1 hour	O 1-2 hours	O 3-4 hours	O 5 or m	nore hours
Did you sit down an	nd read comic less	on #18 together?	O Yes	O No
Did you discuss the	questions in the	comic together?	O Yes	O No
Did you do the activ	vity in the comic t	ogether?	O Yes	O No
What did you notice (eg: health, family issues,	.0	0 /	of your LB	S this month?
	la a saida a sau I Br	S through those goo	d or diffic	ult moments



- **1.** Group leader: introduce the topic and train the Alongsiders how to read the comic. In the comic lesson we will learn about the importance of throwing away trash in a trash can.
- 2. Rubbish is not the only thing that pollutes our environment. Together in pairs, look at the picture below and talk about what pollutes the soil, river, ocean, fish, air. How does pollution affect human health?



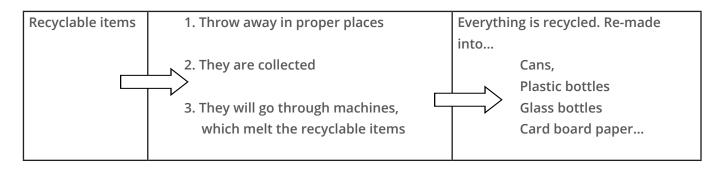
- 2. Another way to care for God's creation is to reuse items, instead of more rubbish. Each person will receive a plastic water bottle. Take 5 minutes and creatively make something useful out of the bottle you received. For example: a drinking cup, a plant cup, a pencil stand, a flower vase, etc. After you are finished, share with your group what you have made.
- **3.** Pray for our environment. Pray that we can be proactive about learning more about the problem, and take small steps toward taking better care of our earth. Pray for your LBS and for one another.



For Further Learning

(with the group or by yourselves during the month)

1. Rubbish made of glass, aluminium, plastic, metal, etc, can be used again. Many countries recycle rubbish. What are some recyclable items around your house? List them in the table below under Recyclable items. (Recyclable items are usually made from glass, aluminum, paper, plastic, etc)



Read Genesis 1:26 by yourself. "Then God said, 'Let us make humans in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." What kind of responsibility has God given to us over His creation? Are we doing a good job in taking responsibility for God's creation? Where are we failing? After working alone, share your thoughts in the large group.

2. We see people throw rubbish away in the streets. Have you ever thought about what happens to the rubbish? Does it sit there? For how long? Will someone collect it? Rubbish will not suddenly disappear, or turn into soil in a week or a month. Below is a chart to show how long it takes to decompose. It takes an extremely long time!

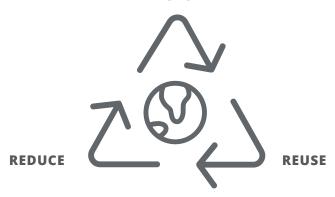
Plastic bottles	450 years
Glass	Does not decompose
Aluminum cans	200-250 years
Plastic bags	10-20 years
Cardboard	2 months
Diapers	550 years
Tin cans	50 years
Batteries	50 years

Regardless of where rubbish goes, it makes sense to **reduce** rubbish in our daily lives. How would you explain to your little brother/sister about the significance of **reducing** rubbish? How can you do so?

Reasons for reducing rubbish	Ways to reduce rubbish
1.	1. Drink less canned coca cola
2.	2. Use less plastic bags
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.

Remember:





- 3. Read Psalm 148 a few times alone. After each question read Psalm 148 again, and write the responses.
 - a. What do you learn about God the Creator?
 - b. What do you learn about God's creation?
 - c. What do you learn about human's role in this world? ___
 - d. What is God speaking to you today about becoming a better steward of His creation?



Application

Commit to refusing plastic bags at shops whenever possible, especially for small items that you can easily put in your pocket. Teach your LBS to do the same.

APPFNDIX 1

My Child Protection Commitment

I commit to the following actions in order to protect my little brother or sister and other children:

- 1. When working with children, I will be in full view of others.
- 2. I will be careful of any situation that is dangerous.
- 3. I will commit to protect them from abuse in any of the following ways:

I commit to protect my little brother or sister from SEXUAL abuse:

- No sexual contact with children
- · No touching private parts of children
- · No hugging or kissing the children in a sexual way
- No pornographic speech or showing pornographic images to children
- I will not be alone with the child in a place where we cannot be seen
- I will not take children to any place where they are in danger of sexual abuse
- I will not persuade children to have sexual relations

I commit to protect my little brother or sister from PHYSICAL abuse:

- I will not hit children
- · I will not exploit children's labour
- I will not make children do anything they do not want to do, or that is beyond their ability
- I will not punish children excessively

I commit to protect my little brother or sister from **EMOTIONAL** abuse:

- I will not mock or tease children or otherwise discourage children
- I will not insult, swear at or call children names
- I will not speak in a way that scares a child
- I will not share confidential information about children with others

I commit to follow up any abuse in the following ways:

- If possible, I will help save the child immediately
- I will inform the local authorities
- I will inform the Alongsiders Coordinator

	5 /
Signature and Name of Mentor:	Date:

APPENDIX 2

Final Exam

	Circle T	rue or Fals
1. If you work hard and have faith you will achieve your goals every time.	True	False
2. God created both men and women, but he values men more than women.	True	False
3. Drugs and alcohol can affect your health, study, relationships and future.	True	False
4. We don't have to be afraid of the dark, ghosts or spirits, because Jesus has power and authority over them.	True	False
5. Jesus has the authority to heal sickness so if you believe, you will be healed every time.	True	False
6. God can break a generational curse that is not good for your family.	True	False
7. In God's Kingdom, we care about each other's welfare, but if we are very poor we don't need to share resources.	True	False
8. It is important to learn to make your own decisions, so you don't need to consult anyone else.	True	False
9. We need to set an example as a generation who will deeply care about the environment, throw away trash in proper places, and tell others about the problems and dangers of pollution.	True	False
10. What 3 activities did you do regularly together with your little brother or si	ster this y	/ear?
11. Name 3 areas your little brother or sister improved, developed or grew this	s year?	
12. Name 3 areas you improved, developed or grew as an Alongsider this year	?	

APPENDIX 2

FINAL EXAM continued...

13. What parts of your relationship with your little brother or sister w	vere easy this year and why
14. What parts of your relationship with your little brother or sister w	vere difficult and why?
5. What could you have done differently this year to make the relation	onship stronger?
6. What do you plan to do next year to be a better Alongsider?	
7. List 3 things that you have learned from using the Workbook this	year.
8. Look back at the goals you made in the beginning. Have you achie If not, why not?	eved them?
Goal #1	
Goal #2	
Goal #3	

How can I get a degree?

The Global University of Lifelong Learning (GULL) in United States of America (USA) is partnering with Alongsiders International to offer a professional bachelordegree for all Alongsiders who successfully complete Years 3. GULL is an officially recognised educational institution, endorsed by the governments of multiple countries. A degree from GULL reflects your hard work as an Alongsider and may help you in applying for jobs in the future.



YEAR 1: CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

To receive the **Certificate of Achievement** at the end of Year 1 you must complete the following tasks:

- 1. Visit your little brother or sister a minimum of 3 to 4 times a month throughout the year.
- 2. Complete all parts of this Discipleship Training Manual.
- 3. Pass the Final Exam (See Appendix 2).
- 4. Receive a recommendation from your Group Leader.

Note: There is no cost for the certificate in Year 1.

YEAR 2: ALONGSIDERS INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMA

To receive the Alongsiders International Diploma at the end of Year 2, you must complete the tasks listed above for a second year. There is no cost for the Diploma in Year 2.

YEAR 3: BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK DEGREE

To receive a **Bachelor's Degree of Professional Studies** (B.Prof) from GULL at the end of Year 3, you must complete the tasks listed above for a third year. The cost for graduation with the Bachelor Degree is \$25 in your local currency.

