

OVERVIEW: The Captain's Aye

²⁰ *Whatever God has promised gets stamped with the yes,*
the "aye" of Jesus. ²¹ God affirms us, making us a sure thing in
Christ, putting the Captain's Aye within us!

Second Corinthians Chapter One



A Pirate Theme?

The Captain's Aye is a tale told by pirates, arrrrrrg!

Now you may be asking yourself, "What in the world do pirates have to do with teaching children about Jesus?" Well, buckle your britches and batten you hatches 'cuz *The Captain's Aye* is one of *The MrJ Band's* most powerful events for leading kids to invite Jesus to be the "captain" of their lives.

Take a look at the paraphrase of 2nd Corinthians 1:20-21 up above. God wants to stamp our lives with his, "Yes!" When others all around us would say, "No!" God shouts, "Yes!" And how do pirates say, "Yes?" They say, "Aye!" and "Aye, Aye!" Jesus gives us His Father's yes, the Captain's Aye! It's the story of grace, the story of surprising, breath-taking love. It's *The Captain's Aye*!

Session Themes (Compass Points)

The Captain's Aye is a multi-day event designed to teach children how much Jesus loves them. Then it will teach them what a wonderful adventure God has in store for those who let Him be the boss of their lives!

The main theme for each day will be called "The Compass Point." Each session will feature Bible lessons, songs, sketches and games that will revolve around that day's main point, a.k.a. *Compass Point*.

The Four Compass Points

1. **God wants a friendship with you!**
2. **God invites you to join Him in His work**
3. **Working for God takes faith!**
4. **God works through servants.**

Each of these themes will be 'unpacked' on the following page.

Some of you may recognize these Compass Points from the popular book and Bible Study *Experiencing God*, by Henry Blackebey. *The Captain's Aye* is an adaptation of that study aimed right at the preschool and elementary-aged child.

Don't be fooled, *The Captain's Aye* is not "kiddie" stuff. It was written and designed with the upper elementary student in mind. It has been performed hundreds of times in dozens of camps, churches and schools. In addition, MrJ has 34 years of experience with preschoolers and will adapt this event for your wide range of students.



The Story Line

The Captain's Aye takes place on board a pirate ship. Yes, MrJ will be bringing a 16-foot ship's mast to your stage! It includes a crow's nest at the very top! Arrrrrrg! (YES, IT CAN BE ADJUSTED FOR LOWER CEILINGS.) It is here where we will learn how to begin a friendship with Jesus and grow to have Him as the captain of our lives.

On the very first day we learn that the crew of this pirate ship has met Jesus. They all heard Jesus ask them to let Him be the captain of their lives. And all on board said, "Aye!" to the new Captain Jesus.

All, that is, except one. The ship's evil Captain Cook refused to follow Jesus. The crew demoted Captain Cook to be their ship's chef. "Cookie" they called him. Jesus then promoted MrJ to be his first mate and gave MrJ the Captain's coat and hat to wear.

As the story continues we see the crew trying to convince Cookie to follow Captain Jesus. But each day Cookie stubbornly refuses. He even tries to thwart the new captain by trying to steal back the coat and hat and lead a mutiny to take control of his ship again.

Each day Cookie develops a new recipe to try and trick MrJ out of the coat and hat. Each day the recipes are more disgusting and the trickery more devious.

Eventually, Cookie will...

...well come to think of it, you'll just have to find out what the swashbuckling finale will bring to your event!

But one thing is certain. All of your children and adults will be changed because of the Captain's Aye!

Is there any Bible teaching?

In all MrJ Events you are going to hear dramatic teachings played out in front of a great set with imaginative costumes. But behind all the theater is a solid base of Bible stories. In each session there will be a lesson equipping students, young and old, with a habit of daily Bible reading. Each day in *The Captain's Aye* the students will be assigned an age appropriate portion of the Bible to read on their own or with the aid of their parents. Then each student will write and pray over their favorite verse in that reading. These Quiet Time lessons will be based in a "QT Book" which each student will receive. Thousands of children have developed a Bible-reading habit after attending a MrJ event! Our files are full of letters from parents and students thanking us for teaching them how to read this love-letter from God.

In addition to the QT Time teaching, each day will feature specific Bible stories that drive home the *Compass Point* for that day. Each session's Bible lessons will be delineated on the next page.

Session Themes

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Session	Symbol *	Compass Point	Bible Story *	Story Address	What We Will Teach
1	Heart	God wants a friendship with you!	Call of Andrew Andrew Brings His Brother To Jesus Call of Matthew	John 1:29-42 John 1:42-43 Matt. 9:9-13	God loves us so very much he desires a friendship with us. He is ready to pour out his best into us once we invite Him to be the "captain," or boss, of our lives. Once we have become His friend we will want to run and tell everyone we know about this captain. It will change the world! GOSPEL PRESENTED – MATTHEW STORY.
2	Fish	God invites you to join Him in His work	Feeding of the 5,000 (Jesus invites boy to help, boy says, "Yes!") The Rich Young Man Jesus Heals the Man Lowered Through Roof	John 6:5-14 Matt. 19:16-26 Luke 5:17-26	People often ask God to bless them in <i>their</i> work. But, if we'd just open our eyes we will find out that God is inviting us every day to join Him in <u>His</u> work. What an adventure it is for those who give up what they want and begin to look for what God wants! In the final story we hear about some men who got really creative in order to get their friend to Jesus. <i>Do whatever it takes to bring people to Jesus!</i>
3	Umbrella	Working for God takes faith!	Peter Walks On Water Calming of the Storm Thomas Doubts then Believes	Matt. 14:22-33 Matt. 8:23-27 John 20:24-29	But joining God in His work is not easy! Every time you decide to do things God's way you can be sure that there will be difficult decisions and actions. It's a wild world that God has put us into, but, oh the joys of those who step out of the boat and take a walk on God's wild side! It takes faith.
4	Bucket	God works through servants.	Peter's Denial and Restoration I Am the Vine, You are the branches. Jesus washes his disciples' feet.	John 21:15-17 John 15:5 John 13:1-17	On the final day, MrJ and his team will make it clear that Jesus works best through those who serve others. And when we give up our hearts to Captain Jesus he gives us so much more in return! We don't lose when we serve, we truly win. GOSPEL WILL BE PRESENTED AT END

*SYMBOLS These symbols will be hanging above the crowd on ropes. Each day we will emphasize one of these symbols. Many events build their craft or game or snack around these symbols. You could also build around the Compass Point or Bible Story.

*BIBLE STORIES: Stories for the YOUNG students — In events which include preschool or early elementary students, the BOLD Bible Stories are the only stories they will hear. Older children will hear three stories but YOUNGER will only have one Bible story each day.