**Ash for Kids – Sorry and Forgiveness**

**Welcome**

**Ash Talk**

Lent is the time from this last Wednesday that goes until Easter. It’s a time when we get ready for Easter. Lent is a special time. A time when God’s people all over the world really think about our friendship with God and spend more time with him.

This week we celebrate Ash Wednesday.

**Q. Does anyone know what ash is?** It is dirty black powder, left over when something is burnt and finished.

On Ash Wednesday we make the shape of a cross with black ash on ourselves, like this. **Demonstrate on your hand.** The black ash reminds us that we are sorry for the dirty sin in our lives, the bad things that we do.

**Q. Why do we make it in a shape of a cross?** We make it in the shape of a cross to show Jesus that we belong to him and we believe that he takes all those dirty things away.
**Q. What are some things we do or think that makes Jesus sad?** Eg. Fighting, hurting, teasing, lying. Those things all make it hard to live the way God wants us to.

**Snack & Story Idea – David says Sorry – Black and White Jelly Beans**

**Display picture of David**

<http://www.jesuswalk.com/david/images/tissot-david-sees-bathheba-bathing-640x459.jpg>

One of our favourite poem and song writers in the bible king David wrote a sorry song (Psalm 51) after he had really messed up. King David arranged for a man to be killed in battle (accidently on purpose) so that he could marry that man’s wife. After realizing how wrong he had been. David wrote a song saying sorry and asking God to give him a fresh start and do better. On Ash Wednesday we pray this same prayer David wrote when we ask for forgiveness. God promises to give us a fresh start and help us make things right.

*(At this point the leader may like to share something they have been sorry for and the way God has helped them make things right.)*

Take a black/Ash coloured Jelly Bean and as you eat it think about something you would like to say sorry to God for now.

Take a white coloured Jelly Bean and as you eat it remember that God has forgiven you, he can help you have a fresh start.

**Activity – Cross**

Let’s make a cross now, to remind us to keep talking to Jesus about the things that we do that we are sorry for and find hard because he will help us. We will write on it part of that poem that David wrote. Psalm 51:10.

Poster of verse here: <http://38.media.tumblr.com/8d4cca99eb0adbfe19f6bea246673d7e/tumblr_mhxupnVcpf1qgdqbbo1_500.jpg>

[*http://catholicicing.com/2012/07/how-to-bead-a-cross-fun-christian-craft/*](http://catholicicing.com/2012/07/how-to-bead-a-cross-fun-christian-craft/)

*or*

[*http://frillsfluffandtrucks.blogspot.com.au/2011/03/stained-glass-cross-craft-tutorial.html*](http://frillsfluffandtrucks.blogspot.com.au/2011/03/stained-glass-cross-craft-tutorial.html)