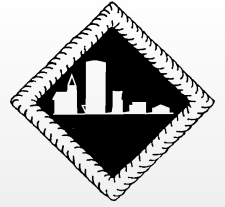


THE CITY

A Builder Level



Purpose

This badge is to help you discover what is good and bad about city life, and to find out what responsibilities God says His followers have for their city.

Exploring

Did you know that most Australians live in cities? In fact Australia is one of the most urbanised countries in the world even though there is lots of space to live out in the country.

The city can be both a good or bad place in which to live. On the one hand it is a place of brilliant discoveries, science, technology, industry, art, on the other hand it can be a place of loneliness, poverty, crime and unhappiness.

The Bible tells us that the city is man's creation, that man often uses the city to rebel against God, but that because of Jesus' death and resurrection the city too will one day become a perfect place to live.

1. Draw the outline of a city skyline; copy it from a photograph or picture.
Write down as many words as you can that make you think of city life (e.g. cars, noise, people etc.)

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2. Make a list of the good and bad things about living in the city.
(If you can't think of anything, ask your teacher, Pastor, Counsellor or parents to help you)

GOOD

BAD

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3. In your Bible read Genesis 4: 8-17 and Daniel 4: 27-32.

- Who was one of the first city builders
- Who was the other famous city builder.....
- What was the name of their cities
- What sort of men were these city builders.....

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4. In your Bible read the story of two cities, one at the beginning of history, the other at the end of history. Compare these two cities by noting down all the things the Bible says about each (get your Counsellor or parents to help you). What is the difference between them? Which would you rather live in? Check Genesis 11 :1-9 and Revelation 21: 1-5, 10, 11, 22-27.
- Give name of city.....
 - Name of builder.....
 - Reason for building
 - Type of people living there
 - What happens to each city
 - What the city stands for (represents).....
5. Select one city in Australia and find out the following things about it (use an encyclopedia, local library, atlas, ask your teacher etc.):
- Name and when it was founded.....
 - How many people live there
 - What are the special things about this city (landmarks, tourist attractions, industries, buildings etc.)
- d. How many churches of your denomination are there in this city.....

Doing

1. If you were to come to your city as a total stranger what places and organisations could you go to for help if you needed it?
(Look up a telephone directory, ask a policeman, ask a City Council worker.)
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2. Go to a Police Station, Social Security Office or Citizens Advice Office in your district. Find out what they think are some of the problems of city life and which people suffer the most. Write down answers.
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Discuss with your Counsellor or parents some of the things the church or Christians might be able to do to help.

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With your Counsellor choose one project in which you could help people hurt by city life, or make your city a better place to live.

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3. Find a map of your city and with the help of photographs, pictures and drawings make a collage of the main points of interest of your city.



Reflection

Read Jeremiah 29: 5-7. How does God want Christians to be involved in the city?

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What specifically could you pray for?

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For the time agreed on with your Counsellor work on a project to *better your city* and daily pray for the people and things you have explored.

Ask your Counsellor below and arrange for the presentation of your badge.

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