



Sand, Rocks & Pebbles worship session 22/3/2020

Welcome to Junior Church! we pray the following helps you to worship as a family at home, on a regular basis.

Please see the links below, for activity sheets you can utilise as a family or as an adult which are free to use from 'Roots on the web'. There is a more detailed story and details of activities for older children on this link. (you do not need a password to access these).

These sessions will follow a similar pattern to those you experience on a Sunday morning. Maybe different members of the family can lead your service? (All words in bold, we encourage you to say together).

Sight and insight 22/3/2020

John 9.1-41 Jesus gives sight to a man born blind, who comes to 'see' him for who he truly is. But Jesus' critics refuse to see as the man sees, and their attitudes reveal a more sinister kind of blindness.

GATHERING ACTIVITY

A quiet way to begin your session.

Provide a container of dry soil or compost and invite the children to touch and play with it.

Ask if they can think of a Bible story that mentions soil, e.g. the parable of the sower or the Creation story. Explain that Jesus uses mud in today's story. Wash hands afterwards. Or if you have a mud

pack use it on your hand to show the children what it looks like explain how it feels and how it feels if you leave it.... it will dry up...leave it on your hand as you continue if you are happy to do so.

GATHERING PRAYER

God our Father open our eyes to see your works in the world. Show us your beauty in creation, your healing in those who follow Jesus and your actions in the Church. Open our eyes to see you. Amen.

The lord be with you
And also with you.

ACTIVE PRAYER (*encourage everyone to stand up and join in!*)

From the top of my head	<i>Touch head</i>
to the tips of my toes;	<i>Touch toes</i>
from the lobes of my ears	<i>Touch ear lobes</i>
to the end of my nose;	<i>Touch nose</i>
from my back, to my front	<i>Turn round</i>
to my wiggly fingers,	<i>Stretch out arms, wiggle fingers</i>
God loves me!	<i>Jump up and down</i>

Lord you want us to be with you,
Thank you for inviting us

Lord you chose each one of us to be your friend,
Thank you for inviting us

Lord we love being with you
Thank you for inviting us
Amen

WE SAY SORRY TO GOD (*can you remember the actions?*)

We're happy when we're close to God, since that's where we belong. (*hug yourself*)

But sometimes we go far from God and everything feels wrong.

(turn away and hands by your sides)

But if we say we're sorry then, God's love is sure and strong,

And he will draw us back to him and that's where we belong.

(turn back around and hug yourself again).

Dear God, we want to follow you

When we let you down,

Forgive us and fill us with your love.

When we are selfish,

Forgive us and fill us with your love.

When we are greedy,

Forgive us and fill us with your love.

When we want to do things our way instead of yours,

Forgive us and fill us with your love.

Dear God, we want to follow you,

Forgive us and fill us with your love.

WE RECEIVE GOD'S FORGIVENESS

May the Father of all mercies cleanse us from our sins and restore us in His image. To the praise and glory of His name. Amen

SONG My God is so Big

My God is so big so strong and so mighty, there's nothing that he can not do! Repeat

The mountains are his, the rivers are his, the stars are his handywork too!

My God is so big so strong and so mighty, there's nothing that he can not do! For me, and you and you.

STORY (for Sand age Children)

The children could use their teddies or dolls to help act out the story, the children could pretend to be Jesus, they will need a blind man, a couple of teddies for the crowd and one for a teacher of the law. A very small amount of water!

Jesus saw a man who had been born blind. *(ask the children to cover their eyes and ask them what they can see)* He wanted to help him, so he made a paste with mud and spread it on the man's eyes.

(pretend to put mud on the blind man's eyes) Then Jesus told him to go and wash in the pool. *(wash the blind man's eyes with the small amount of water)* The man went; he washed and suddenly he could see again!

The people in the crowd didn't understand how this had happened. The man told them about Jesus. Then he told the teachers; some of them were angry about what Jesus had done but some thought this showed Jesus was from God. They couldn't agree, so they drove the man out of town.

Jesus went to find the man he had healed and the man worshipped him. Jesus said, 'I came so that those who do not see may see.'

Ideas to explore the story further...

- Someone can be blindfolded. Spin them round five times, while the others move around the room. Next, the blindfolded player shouts 'stop'. The others freeze and the blindfolded player tries to catch them.
- Use black paper if you have any or a chalk board and invite the children to use chinks to create a symbol of faith, e.g. a cross, in the centre.

Invite the children to close their eyes then pray together:

Jesus,
help us to see you more clearly this week.
Amen.

For Pebbles and Rocks age children please see the link below for a more detailed version of the story.

SONG Jesus love is very wonderful

Jesus' love is very wonderful, Jesus' love is very wonderful,
Jesus' love is very wonderful, Oh, wonderful love!
It's so high you can't get over it, So low you can't get under it,
So wide you can't get round it, Oh, wonderful love!

PRAYERS

Jesus, light of the world,
help us to shine with your light
in everything we do this week.
Help us to follow in your footsteps
and to give you glory
when we see your healing hand at work.
Jesus, send us out in your light.
Amen.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom
come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us this day
our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin
against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the Kingdom the power and the glory are yours now and
forever, Amen.

JUNIOR CHURCH PRAYER

Thank you for each other.
Thank you that we can learn together, play, laugh and pray
together. Bless us Lord, as we remember how much you love us.
Amen

This week at home resources

www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome22mar

www.rootsontheweb.com/adultsathome22mar

