



Rocks & Pebbles worship session 26/04/2020

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

These sessions will follow a similar pattern to that the children 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).

Moments of revelation 26/4/2020

Luke 24.13-35 Two disciples walk back from Jerusalem to their home in Emmaus. They are in despair about the death of Jesus. Jesus appears and walks beside them, but they do not recognise him. He teaches them from the Scriptures and they see who he is when he breaks bread with them.

An active way to begin your session.

Prepare sticky notes with the names of different famous people written on. Give one to each person - making sure they don't see what is written - and ask them to stick it to their forehead. Taking turns, using simple yes or no questions, each individual tries to guess whose name is on their sticky note. Trying to find out some of the story of the people by asking questions can be very important.

GATHERING PRAYER

Jesus of Nazareth,
we all come with our own stories to tell,
we've all made different journeys here,
but we all come to hear your story
and to understand how our stories and journeys fit with yours.
Walk and talk with us, Lord Jesus.
Amen.

The lord be with you
And also with you.

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 cannot 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 cannot do! For me, and you and you.

STORY

Luke 24.13-35

Jesus shows who he is by explaining the stories in the Bible and sharing food with his friends.



Who was the mysterious man on the road to Emmaus? That's what Cleopas wanted to know. Cleopas and his friend had been walking away from Jerusalem, talking about Jesus' death, when the man suddenly appeared with them. 'What are you talking about?' the man asked. Everyone in Jerusalem was talking about Jesus. Where had this stranger been?

Cleopas said, 'We're talking about our friend, the prophet Jesus. We thought he was the Messiah, the one sent by God to save Israel, but he was killed three days ago, and now we don't know what to think.'

There was something familiar about the stranger, but Cleopas couldn't put his finger on it.

Cleopas' friend said, 'This morning some women went to Jesus' tomb and told us the body was gone. They said they saw angels, who told them he was alive. The body's definitely gone. The disciples checked. But what does it mean? Where's the body?'

Then the stranger began to speak about the Old Testament prophets. He explained how the Messiah's life and death had been predicted a long time ago. 'You are slow and foolish not to see it,' the stranger said. 'The Messiah had to suffer before entering his glory.' They all arrived in Emmaus as evening approached. 'Come in and eat with us,' Cleopas said. The stranger accepted, and when he broke the bread, Cleopas suddenly knew who he was. It was Jesus! Back from the dead!

Jesus disappeared and Cleopas and his friend couldn't contain themselves. They rushed back to Jerusalem to tell the 11 disciples what had happened. When they got there, the disciples were talking about Jesus. 'He appeared to Simon. He has risen!' Cleopas told his story and how he had recognised Jesus when he broke bread.

Talk together (Connect faith with everyday life)

- Why do you think the two friends may not have recognised Jesus?
- Are there any times in your life where you have learnt something about Jesus' story?
- How might we take time to share Jesus' story with our friends?

Ideas to explore the story further...

Cover up large pictures of simple objects, e.g. a tree, a house, with smaller pieces of paper. See if the children can guess the object as you slowly reveal it.

CRAFT

Write your name in large letters down the left side of a piece of paper. Using each letter as a start, write a word to tell people something about you. Decorate the empty spaces.

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

Almighty God,
we pray for people
who don't know you when they see you:

Open their eyes.

We pray for people
who have read the Bible,
but haven't understood...

We pray for people
who haven't heard your story yet...

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

For older children



- When have you gathered round a fire (or similar) to tell/listen to stories?
 - If you were to tell your own story, where would you begin?
 - Where is Jesus in your story?

LIVE YOUR FAITH Sum up each day this week with one word. At the end of the week, take time to reflect on the good and bad moments and share your story with God.

With grateful thanks to Roots for use of some material.

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