



## **Rocks & Pebbles worship session 10/05/2020**

**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).

### **I am the way 10/05/2020**

**John 14.1-14** Jesus reassures his disciples that they will be with him. He explains that he is the way, the truth and the life and that anyone who has seen him has seen the Father. He promises that he will do anything asked in his name.

### **An active way to begin your session. (Showing the way)**

Display a sign in one part of your house marked 'Home'. Give the children a list of instructions as to how to get there, e.g. 'Take three steps forward, turn left, go upstairs, take two more steps...' Ask the children if they can find their way 'home' using the directions.

### **GATHERING PRAYER**

God, you know our every thought,  
(point to head)  
every feeling in our hearts,  
(place hands on heart)  
every passion in our souls,  
(spiral hands forward)  
every worry that we carry;  
(place both hands out in front)  
thank you for loving us  
just as we are.  
**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** *Take me home*

Ask the children how they found following the instructions in *Showing the way*. Was it simple or was it quite easy to make a mistake? In today's story, Jesus talks to his friends about his Father's house. Ask the everyone to listen, to discover how they are supposed to find it. At the end of the story, say that Jesus didn't give instructions, he said he would take his friends there. As you read the story again, lead everyone to the place marked 'Home'.



Jesus said to his disciples, 'I will be going away soon, but don't worry, because I am going to prepare a place for you in my Father's house, which has many rooms. When the time is right, I will return and take you there, so that we can all be together.' Wanting to know where this place would be, Thomas asked, 'How will we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. I will show you the way to God the Father.' But Philip wanted Jesus to show them the Father. Jesus sighed. 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still don't recognise me?' Jesus continued, 'Believe in the Father and believe also in me, because I am in the Father and the Father is in me. If you can't do that, then look at the things I have done and you will know what God the Father is like. If you believe in me, you will be able to do even greater things than I have done. All you have to do is to ask in my name and I will do it for you.'

**Talk together** (Connect faith with everyday life)

- What does Jesus say to his friends about the way to his Father's house?
- Is it always easy to understand what Jesus means? Is it helpful to know that his disciples asked him questions?
- What difference does it make if we believe that Jesus is always with us?



- What do you use to help you find the way?
- How does it feel that Jesus has prepared a way and a place for each of us?
- When are the most difficult times to recognise Jesus as the way?

**SONG (this music can be found on you tube)**

I am the way the truth and the life  
That's what Jesus said  
I am the way the truth and the life  
That's what Jesus said  
Without the way there is no going  
Without the truth there is no knowing  
Without the life there is no living  
I am the way the truth and the life  
That's what Jesus said.

## **PRAYERS**

Filled with the Spirit,  
(*make a bird with your hands*)  
giving glory to God,  
(*lift your cupped hands above your head*)  
send us to others  
(*arms open in front*)  
until Jesus returns.  
(*hands raised and outstretched*)  
**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 - John 14.1-14 (*see below*)**

Get them to read the text for themselves, before reading the passage together.

### **Questions to discuss**

- What stands out to you the most about what Jesus says here?
- If you were one of the disciples, what would you like to ask Jesus?
- What does it mean for Jesus to remain with us?

**LIVE YOUR FAITH** Begin each day by looking at a map (this could be on your phone) and asking Jesus to show you the way.

*With grateful thanks to Roots for use of some material.*

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## Jesus Comforts His Disciples

**14** "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God<sup>[a]</sup>; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. <sup>4</sup> You know the way to the place where I am going."

## Jesus the Way to the Father

<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

<sup>6</sup> Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you really know me, you will know<sup>[b]</sup> my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

<sup>8</sup> Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

<sup>9</sup> Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup> Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. <sup>11</sup> Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it."