



Rocks & Pebbles worship session 17/05/2020

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).

The Spirit beside us 17/05/2020

John 14.15-21 Jesus promises his disciples that God will send the Spirit of truth, who will be with them for ever. He reminds them that those who love him are those who keep his commandments. These are the ones to whom he will reveal himself.

An active way to begin your session.

If...then...

Prepare some sentences: 'If..., then...' For instance: 'If we love our parents, then...' 'If you train hard at running, then...' 'If you go to bed late every night, then...' 'If you work hard at school, then...' 'If you treat people with respect, then...' etc. Shout these out and ask everyone to call out good endings to complete each sentence, then discuss the concept of consequences.

GATHERING PRAYER

Jesus, we love you,
and know that you love us.
Help us to understand
how you want us to behave:
towards you and towards others.
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

Re-order and read

If you are able to print the passage out and cut it into eight strips corresponding with the numbered points below. Give these out and ask the everyone to work as a group to put the passage in the right order and make sense of it. then read it together.

One day, Jesus said to his disciples, 'If you love
[1] me, you will keep my commandments. Although I am going away

[2] in a little while, I will not leave you on your own. I am going to ask God the Father to send an Advocate, his Holy Spirit

[3]. It is the Spirit of truth and it will stay with you for ever.' He continued, 'The world is not ready for the Holy Spirit, because it does not see or know God's Spirit. But you will know the Holy Spirit

[4] because it will live in you.'
Jesus said, 'The world will not see me

[5] once I have gone away. But you will see me. On that day you will know that I have returned to my Father. And you will know that I live through you

[6] and you live through me. 'There are other people,'

[7] he added, 'who also love me and keep my commandments. They are loved

[8] by both me and my Father and I will show myself to them.'

Glossary

commandments rules to follow in life, given by God

Advocate the Holy Spirit who speaks for God.

Talk together (Connect faith with everyday life)

- What do you think Jesus means when he says that the Holy Spirit will 'live in you'?
- Can you think of an example where you've kept a rule because you love someone?
- If we love Jesus and try to show his love, what difference might that make to the other people we know?



- How might this image speak of relationship?
- How easy is it to balance the commandments in the Bible with the love which Jesus offers?
 - What sort of things do you regularly do for other people, just because you love them?

SONG

Jesus love is very wonderful

Refrain

*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

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have called us to love God
and love our neighbours as ourselves.
Give us the Holy Spirit
to help us follow your commandments
and to live in peace, hope and love.
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 - Jesus, I love you

Find a quiet space and privately spend some time in prayer, telling Jesus how much you love him, and to think about what this love means to you and what it inspires you to do. If you find it helpful, write your prayer instead.

LIVE YOUR FAITH

Make a simple poster saying 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments' and stick it on the wall by your bedroom door so that each time you leave the room, you are reminded to do as Jesus asks.

With grateful thanks to Roots for use of some material.

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