



Rocks & Pebbles worship session 14/06/2020

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).

Call to action 14/06/2020

Matthew 9.35-10.8(9-23) Matthew gives an overview of Jesus' ministry - teaching, proclaiming the gospel and healing people. Then Jesus gives his disciples the commission and authority to replicate and extend this ministry more widely.

A quiet way to begin your session.

Watch a clip of herding sheep. Discuss how hard it must be to get this effect. Have they any experience of herding sheep? Or does this remind them of another scenario that is like trying to round up sheep, e.g. have they ever taken a group of small children on a walk? What are the problems faced? What dangers do you have to think about?

GATHERING PRAYER

Glorious God present in creation;
Jesus Christ, risen and ascended;
Holy Spirit, inspiring and transforming;
be present among us,
as we worship you today. **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

Jesus gathered his twelve disciples and sent them out. He gave them these instructions:

'Don't go to Gentile or Samaritan towns. Instead go to the people of Israel, for they are like a flock of lost sheep. Tell people the good news about the kingdom of heaven. Cure the sick, raise the dead, heal those

with skin diseases, send out demons. You have been given all this freely, for no payment. Now you must help others without being paid.'

Jesus reassured them, 'You won't need gold or silver; don't take a travelling bag or an extra shirt; don't take sandals or a walking stick. When you go into a town, find out who the good people are and stay with them until you are ready to leave. If you enter a home, bless it with your peace, but if it is not worthy, take the blessing back. If someone doesn't welcome you or they won't listen, leave at once, shaking the dust from your feet.

'I am sending you out like sheep into a pack of wolves,' he said, 'so you need to be as wise as a snake and as innocent as a dove. Because of me people will hand you over to those in power and have you beaten. You will be dragged before kings and leaders. But if this happens, don't worry about what to say - you will be given the words at the time. It will be God's Spirit speaking.

'Because of me there will be unrest in families,' Jesus said sadly. 'Brothers will turn against brothers. Fathers will turn against children. Children will turn against parents. Many will be hated because of me. But if you remain with me until the end you will be saved. If they persecute you in one town, run to the next. I promise that before you have been to all the towns of Israel, the Son of Man will come.'

Glossary

Gentile the name Jews give to non-Jews; **Samaritan** a person who lived in Samaria and worshipped God differently from Jews. Jews and Samaritans hated each other; **demons** spiritual forces that trouble people - could be interpreted as mental illness; **Son of Man** a title from the Old Testament Book of Daniel, used by Jesus to describe himself.

Talk together (Connect faith with everyday life)

What was Jesus sending the disciples out to do?

Have you ever had to do something that was very hard or that tested you?

Jesus sent the disciples out to do his work without getting paid for it. What sort of things do volunteers do today?



- How does this image relate to your experiences of going away?
- What do you think gives us, today, Jesus' authority to go out and make disciples?
 - When you do most feel like you are doing Jesus' work?

SONG

Be bold, be strong
for the Lord your God is with you.
Be bold, be strong,
for the Lord your God is with you.
I am not afraid,
I am not dismayed,
because I'm walking in faith and victory,
come on and walk in faith and victory,
For the Lord your God is with you.

PRAYERS

Jesus said, go and make disciples.
With our friends, we are friends of Jesus;
with our families, we are friends of Jesus;
at school, we are friends of Jesus;
everywhere we go, we are friends of Jesus.
Jesus, give us actions and words
that show others we are your friends.
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 -

Cut out large sheep shapes from pages of newspaper. Play the song 'God of justice' by Tim Hughes and encourage everyone to look at what news stories are written on the sheep. Allow time in quiet to pray for those stories and situations.

LIVE YOUR FAITH

Each time you open a door this week, pray to God to show you where he is sending you to be called to action. What does he want you to do?

With grateful thanks to Roots for use of some material.

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