



Sand, worship session 05/07/2020

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 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).

A glutton and a drunkard? 05/07/2020

Matthew 11.16-19,25-30

- Jesus characterises his contemporaries as deaf to the voice of God.
- He thanks God that the truth has been revealed to the least significant in society.
- He invites the weary to learn from him and find rest.

GATHERING ACTIVITY

A quiet way to begin your session.

Display some pictures of yokes (see below) with signs saying, 'What is this?', 'Do you think it would be easy to carry one?', 'What does it do?', 'Does this look heavy or light?'

GATHERING PRAYER

Thank you for gathering us today.

Help us to follow you, Lord God,

looking for signs of you all around us,

and learning from each other and from you,

through our stories and the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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 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

Mini Bible story with actions (*see italics*)

Jesus said, 'Come to me, all of you

Open arms.

who are tired from carrying heavy loads,

Mime carrying a heavy weight.

and I will give you rest.

Rest head on hands.

Put down your load

Mime putting down.

and take mine instead,

Mime picking up.

because my load is easy to carry.'

Skip

Ideas to explore the story further... These are just ideas, use whatever you have to hand to explore the story!

You will need: 'heavy' bags, e.g. sacks, filled with toys; cushions and blankets.

Place the bags at one side of your play space and the cushions and blankets at the other. Invite the children to carry the heavy bags over to the cushions, then settle down for a rest. They could take the toys out of the bags and play with them.

Take my load instead

You will need: bowls of things with different weights, e.g. feathers, cotton wool, stones, shells; a large piece of cloth or card.

Invite the children to feel the weights of the different materials, then arrange them to make a pattern on the cloth/card.

Prayer

You will need: stones, a bowl, a jug of water. Invite the children to take a stone, think of something that they would like to say sorry for, place the stone in the bowl, pour water over it, and say 'Amen'.

CRAFT

Create a space to find 'rest for your soul'

You will need: a pop-up tent or cushions, drapes, fairy lights, LED candles, music, sensory items, e.g. stones, holding cross, a welcome sign. Or use whatever you can find to make it a calm place, you could use two chairs with a blanket over and some cushions.

- Together create a place of rest in a room
- Use the materials to create a comfortable and relaxing area. Place sensory items inside and hang up the welcome sign.
- Encourage everyone to use this space as a place to rest with God. If it is possible, leave it set up for a while, so that anyone can go there when they wish.

SONG He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got all of our teachers, in his hand.

He's got all of our teachers, in his hand.

He's got all of our teachers, in his hand.

He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got the doctors and the nurses, in his hand.
He's got the doctors and the nurses, in his hand.
He's got the doctors and the nurses, in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got the policewoman and the fireman in his hand.
He's got the policewoman and the fireman in his hand.
He's got the policewoman and the fireman in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got everybody here in his hand.
He's got everybody here in his hand.
He's got everybody here in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

PRAYERS

Loving Father,
this week we want to dance for you,
this week we want to sing.
This week we want to praise your name,
this week we want to bring
the very best of all we are,
and all that we could be,
to work for you, and work with you,
and bless your holy name.

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

Live your faith

Encourage the children to find five minutes every day to rest and be with God.

With grateful thanks to Roots for use of some material.

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