



Sand, worship session 12/07/2020

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).

Sown in your heart

Matthew 13.1-9,18-23

The farmer scatters his seed indiscriminately all over his field.

- Much of the seed flourishes and produces a good harvest, but some fails to grow.
- The seed is God's Word: it flourishes where it is heard, but fails with those who have other concerns.

GATHERING ACTIVITY

An active way to begin your session.

If you can make up four trays - in trays, on boards or shallow cardboard boxes:

1. nothing on it, so it's just a hard surface;
2. soil mixed with small stones;
3. weeds, sticky or prickly, if possible;
4. compost or good soil.

Invite the children to look at the four trays, and touch the contents. Take care with the prickly weeds!

Ask them which tray they would plant seeds in and why. Discuss what might happen to the seeds in each of these conditions.

GATHERING PRAYER

On a day such as today,
Jesus met with his disciples up a mountain,
sitting by a lake, followed by crowds,
and in a quiet place where they could be alone.
Today we meet as disciples of Jesus,
sitting here, part of a crowd,
in a place where we can meet and learn of you,
eager to hear your Word, O Lord.
In Jesus' name.
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*)

Crops from the good soil

Jesus said, 'A farmer sowed some seeds.

Mime sowing.

Some fell on the path and were eaten by birds.

'Peck' with fingers.

Some fell on the rocks and were burned by the sun.

Twinkle fingers.

Some fell among weeds that grew up and choked the young plants.

Clench fists.

But some fell on good soil.
Run hands over ground.
They grew into plants,
'Grow' hands up.
and produced crops for the harvest.'
Mime gathering corn.

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

If you are lucky enough to have some seeds to plant do the following:
- ask everyone to think of something to give thanks for, sprinkle some seeds, then repeat after you:

Heavenly Father,
thank you for all the good things you give us.
Help us to share what we have with others.
Amen.

If you don't have any seeds take a walk around your garden or look at a house plant and talk about why the plant or the flowers in the garden have grown, using the examples from the story.

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

Like seeds broadcast on the wind,
send us out from this place
to sow your seeds of love
in every place we go.

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

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