



Sand, worship session 26/07/2020

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).

Snapshots of the kingdom

Matthew 13.31-33,44-52 The kingdom of heaven is like the seed that becomes a shrub, or yeast in a bowl of flour: a little goes a very long way.

Like buried treasure or a priceless jewel, it is worth giving up everything to possess.

But just as fishermen must sort their catch, so there will eventually be a sorting of good and evil.

GATHERING ACTIVITY An active way to begin your session.

Hidden treasure

You will need: a tray/box of shredded paper, small 'treasures', e.g. whatever you can find! Invite everyone to search through the paper to find a piece of 'treasure' to cherish.

GATHERING PRAYER

Lord, send your light
to guide us onto the path of wisdom.
Lord, send your light
to help us as we explore your kingdom.
Lord, send your light
to teach us to live by your rules.
Lord, send your light to us today.
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*) you will need some coins and a 'pearl' (use anything small and white/cream).

The kingdom of heaven is like...

Jesus said, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure
Cup hands.

that a man found hidden in a field.

Mime digging and finding.

He was so excited

Wave arms.

he hid it again,

'Flatten' soil.

and sold everything he had

Mime giving.

to get enough money to buy the field.

Count 'money' and hand it over.

Or the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls.

Mime looking.

When he found the great pearl,

Pinch fingers to hold 'pearl'.

he sold everything he had and bought it.'

Count 'money' and hand it over.

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

You will need: a cloth, people figures.

Invite the children to lay a figure on the cloth, while naming someone they would like to pray for, then repeat after you:

Father God,
we are all special to you.
Help us to grow in your love
and care for each other.
Amen.

CRAFT

Invite everyone to decorate a 'pearl'. *(see below)*

SONG Jesus' hands were kind hands

Jesus' hands were kind hands,
doing good to all,
Healing pain and sickness,
blessing children small,
Washing tired feet and saving
those who fall;
Jesus' hands were kind hands,
doing good to all.

Take my hands, Lord Jesus,
let them work for you;
Make them strong and gentle,
kind in all I do;
Let me watch you, Jesus,
till I'm gentle too,
Till my hands are kind hands,
quick to work for you.

PRAYERS

Heavenly Father,
for our laughter and learning today,
thank you.

During this week,
help us to grow in faith,
and help others to discover you.

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

Look out for pictures of the kingdom of heaven this week - seeds, bread, coins, pearls, fish, or something that makes them think about the kingdom in a new way.

With grateful thanks to Roots for use of some material.

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