



Rocks & Pebbles worship session 09/08/2020

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).

Fragile faith

Matthew 14.22-33 Jesus' disciples are in a boat, battered by wind and waves, when they see Jesus.

- Peter goes to Jesus, but struggles to remain standing because of his lack of faith.
- Back in the boat, the storm over, the disciples acknowledge Jesus as 'Son of God'.

A quiet way to begin your session.

Share a time when they you 'stepped out in faith'. What gave you the courage to do so? What were the consequences?

GATHERING PRAYER

Living, loving God,
may your words be so near to us
that we can taste them on our lips,
hear them in our minds,
and feel them in our hearts.

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

While Jesus is away praying by himself, the disciples get caught in a storm on the lake. Jesus walks on the water and Peter goes to meet him. When he gets scared and starts to sink, Jesus reaches out and saves him.

Soundscape

Get the group to create their own storm with wind and wave sounds. Do this either with hands, feet and voices, or with percussion instruments. Have fun 'conducting' them and practise getting louder and quieter. Tell the story and conduct the sound effects. Don't rush it - let them enjoy the storm, and the silence.



Straight after feeding the crowd with the fish and bread, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and cross to the other side of the lake (*point*). He sent the crowds home (*wave*). When everyone had left, he went up the mountain by himself (*climb mountain*) to pray (*kneel and bow head*). He stayed there on his own until evening.

Meanwhile, the boat that the disciples were in was caught in a storm - battered by the waves, far from the shore, with the wind against them. Early the next morning Jesus came walking towards them on the water (*walk slowly*). When the disciples saw him they were absolutely terrified! They shouted out in fear, 'It's a ghost!'

But immediately Jesus called to them, (*cup hand*) 'Be brave! It's me. Don't be afraid.'

Peter called out in reply, 'Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come and meet you on the water.'

'Come!' called Jesus (*beckon*). So Peter climbed out of the boat and began to walk across the water to Jesus. All was going well until Peter began to notice the strong wind and got frightened.

He started to sink and cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him (*reach out*).

'Why didn't you trust me?' he asked Peter.

When they got back into the boat and sat down (*climb on board and sit down*) the wind died down (*look around and smile*). This made everyone in the boat worship him, saying, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

Talk together (Connect faith with everyday life)

- How do you feel about silence and being on your own?
- Why do you think Peter started sinking?
- I wonder what made the disciples call Jesus the 'Son of God'.

CRAFT

If you have any egg boxes make the boat craft below, if not you could make a collage of the story using things from around the house or the garden!

SONG This song is about another time Jesus saw his disciples in their boat

Peter, John and James in a Sailboat

Peter, John and James in a Sailboat,
Peter, John and James in a Sailboat,
Peter, John and James in a Sailboat
Out on the deep blue sea.

Fished all night and caught no fishes,
Fished all night and caught no fishes,
Fished all night and caught no fishes,
Out on the deep blue sea.

Jesus came walking down by the water
Jesus came walking down by the water
Jesus came walking down by the water
Out on the deep blue sea.

Now their nets are full and breaking,
Now their nets are full and breaking,
Now their nets are full and breaking,
Out on the deep blue sea.

Called their friends to come and help them,
Called their friends to come and help them,
Called their friends to come and help them,
Out on the deep blue sea.

PRAYERS

Jesus, Son of God,
give us faith in your power
to move the mountains
that get in your way,
and to calm the storms
that threaten to sink us.
Jesus, Son of God,
bless us with your peace.
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 -



- Have you ever been this alone?
- Did you feel beyond God's reach?
- How might silence help you to find God?

LIVE YOUR FAITH

Do something this week that helps you to confront a fear or reach out to someone who needs your help.

With grateful thanks to Roots for use of some material.

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