



Sand, worship session 16/08/2020

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 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).

For all people

Matthew 15.(10-20),21-28 The disciples try to stop a Canaanite woman who asks Jesus to heal her daughter.

The woman pleads her case, saying, 'Even dogs eat the crumbs from their master's table'.

Jesus commends the woman's faith and says her daughter is healed.

GATHERING ACTIVITY An active way to begin your session.

Lost sheep and hungry dogs

You will need: a picture/figure of Jesus, toy figures of sheep, dogs (pictures below if you don't have figures) and people. (use toys or teddies). Invite the children to bring the toy figures and place them around Jesus.

GATHERING PRAYER

Everyone is welcome -
there is room for all,
here in God's presence.

You are welcome - there is room for you,
here in God's presence, where we gather in God's 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*)

Please help!

A woman from another country came to Jesus

'Walk' hands.

and begged for help.

Hold out hands.

The disciples wanted to send her away.

Point away.

Jesus said, 'I have only come for God's lost sheep.'

Shake head.

But she kept on pleading,

Hold out arms.

'Make my daughter better.'

Clasp hands.

Jesus said, 'It wouldn't be right to give the children's meal to the dogs!'

Shake head.

The woman said, 'Even the dogs can eat the crumbs on the floor.'

Find a 'crumb'.

Jesus said, 'Because you believe,

Touch head and chest.

your daughter is well.'

Make the sign of the cross.

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

Everyone to place their hands on their heads and ask them to think about some of their own thoughts or attitudes towards people that need to change, e.g. someone at home or school.

Then invite them to put their hands on their hearts and ask them to think about a feeling they have that needs to change, e.g. anger, jealousy.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus,
help us to change our thoughts and our feelings
when they make you sad, or hurt other people.

Amen.

CRAFT

A poster to show that our hearts are open to everyone

You will need: *a large piece of paper, pens, magazines, scissors, glue sticks.*

- The disciples, and maybe even Jesus, had their minds and hearts changed to accept the Canaanite woman. Our hearts should be open to everyone, too.
- Beforehand, write at the top of the card 'You are welcome' and draw a large heart in the centre.
- Invite everyone to look through the magazines and cut out people of as many different ages, gender, races and emotions as possible to stick on the heart.

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

Faithful God,
help us to bring
words of welcome and love,
hope and healing,
into your world this week.

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

Challenge the children to pray every time they see crumbs this week, thanking God for how he values us, and then help to clear them up!

With grateful thanks to Roots for use of some material.

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