



Sand, worship session 30/08/2020

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).

Reality of faith

Matthew 16.21-28

Peter finds it impossible to believe that the Messiah must suffer.

- Jesus rebukes Peter.
- Jesus points all his disciples to the way of the cross.

GATHERING ACTIVITY An active way to begin your session.

We often hear negative things said about people, so do an exercise that overturns those expectations. Everyone compliment each other on something they are wearing or have said or done recently. Encourage them to say something positive to each other.

GATHERING PRAYER

Teach us the truth about faith, Lord,
and what it means to be real.

We want things to be easy,
but that's not part of the deal.

Show us how to stay strong
when suffering comes and it's tough.

Stay by our side at all times, Lord.

Help us to know that's enough.

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*)

The road to Jerusalem

Jesus was talking to his friends.

'Chatter' with fingers.

He said, 'I must go to Jerusalem.

Point.

I will suffer and die,

Make sign of cross and lie down.

but on the third day I will be alive again.'

Jump up.

Peter pleaded, 'Don't go!'

Put out hand.

But Jesus was angry.

Wave fist.

Then Peter knew

Tap head.

he should not try to stop Jesus.

Shake head.

Jesus was doing what God wanted.

Point up.

He said, 'Pick up your cross and follow me.

Mime carrying cross.

One day I will come again with my angels,

Flap 'wings'.

and lead you to my kingdom.'

Point up.

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

I must go Use a cloth or paper 'road', building blocks, toy figures. Invite the children to lay out the road, build barriers, then knock them down to let the figures pass.

CRAFT

Pick up your cross If you have a long strip of paper, get everyone to paint crosses along the paper.

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

Lord Jesus,
sometimes we are sad.
Sometimes life is tricky.
Help us to be strong.
Help us to follow 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 Encourage the children to pray for people who are suffering in their community and the wider world.

With grateful thanks to Roots for use of some material.

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