



Sand, worship session 13/09/2020

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).

Am I in the place of God?

Matthew 18.21-35

- Peter asks how many times he must forgive someone.
- Jesus tells a parable about a slave who does not pass on his master's forgiveness.
- We are challenged to see ourselves as channels of God's mercy.
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GATHERING ACTIVITY An active way to begin your session.

On a table, place a large heap of play money: bank notes or plastic coins.

Share out the play money evenly. Play a simple paying game. Invite everyone to take turns throwing a die. They must pay the person on their right the number of notes/coins that corresponds to the number thrown. If they throw a six, they give the money, then throw again and pay again. Play a few rounds or until someone gathers all the money. Ask the children how they feel about having to pay money, especially when they throw a six. Today's story is about someone who has to pay a lot of money.

GATHERING PRAYER

Make us all like you, God:
forgiving, merciful, fair.
Make us tender-hearted,
slow to judge and quick to care.
And if we get into debt
and worry how we'll pay,
may we think of Jesus, our friend,
every step of the way.
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*)

How many times?

Peter said, 'If someone hurts me,

Gently hit arm.

how many times should I forgive them?

Lift up hands.

Seven times?'

Hold up seven fingers.

Jesus said, 'No.

Shake head.

Seventy-seven times.

Draw 7s in the air.

If someone does something to
harm another person,
Crash fists together.
they should say sorry,
Hold out hands to each other.
and the other person should forgive them.
Take the hands of another person.
Forgive each other from your heart.'
Point to heart.

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

You will need: *cuddly toys, two per person.*

Using two toys, make up and tell a story about an incident that ends with one saying sorry and the other offering forgiveness, e.g. one accidentally tripping the other up. Invite the children to choose toys to create their own story.

CRAFT

Seventy-seven times

You will need *paper, plates of coloured paint, halved raw potatoes with the raised number 7 cut out of the flat surfaces, or cut out the '7's below.*

Invite the children to print or colour in 7s in different colours.

SONG

Be bold, be strong
For the Lord your God is with you.
Be bold, be strong,
For the Lord your God is with you.
I am not afraid,
I am not dismayed,
Because I'm walking in faith and victory,
Come on and walk in faith and victory,
For the Lord your God is with you.

PRAYERS

May we never be afraid
to ask for forgiveness,
may we always try to forgive others,
and may the love of God
be our strength, day by day.
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 forgive people who anger or upset them this week.

With grateful thanks to Roots for use of some material.

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