



Sand, worship session 27/09/2020

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).

Who do you think you are?

Matthew 21.23-32

- Jesus is questioned about the nature and source of his authority.
- After testing his questioners, who decline to respond, Jesus also refuses to answer.
- Instead, he tells a parable about the priority of faithfulness and obedience over appearances.

GATHERING ACTIVITY A quiet way to begin your session.

You will need: *interlocking building bricks.*

Invite everyone to take turns and create a brick structure, naming someone or something they would like to pray for with each brick they add. Repeat together:

Lord Jesus,
help us to think of others,
to choose the right thing to do,
and to work together.

Amen.

GATHERING PRAYER

Lord Jesus,
you are our friend and our teacher;
you are our guide and our Saviour;
you are our Lord,
and we praise you with all your Church.
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)*

Which son did what his father wanted?

Jesus said, 'A man asked his son to help him on the farm.

Hold out hands.

The son said, 'No',

Shake head.

so the man went to ask his other son.

Hold out hands.

The other son said, 'Yes',

Nod head.

but he went back to bed.

Mime sleeping.

Then the first son changed his mind

Jump up.

and he went to help.'

Mime digging.

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

Helping hands You will need: toys inside attractive boxes, a pile of cloths.

Show the boxes and ask the children to help you spread out the cloths, before helping each other to get the toys out of the boxes and playing with them together.

Do what I say!

A variation on 'Simon says' to illustrate authority and obedience

- Choose one person to be the leader.
- Using their own name, they say, '...says' and give an instruction, e.g. scratch your head, stand on one leg, cluck like a chicken, and the group must do the action.
- If the leader does not say their name, but merely gives the instruction, the group must not follow the instruction and anyone who does so is out.
- Rotate the role of leader so that everyone who wants to can have a go.

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

Help us to be proud of who we are in Jesus,
at home or at school,
and may this week bring:
ways to help others,
times to be still,
and opportunities to have fun.
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 notice when they are afraid to say what they really think and encourage them to talk to God about it.

With grateful thanks to Roots for use of some material.

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