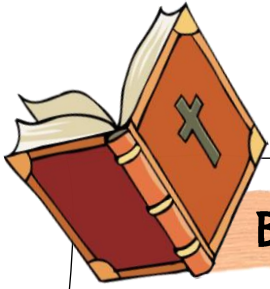


Together @ Home

May 17, 2020

Sixth Sunday of Easter



Here are some activities you could do together as a family. Begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.

Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together a story about the apostles.

You can find it in your Bible in:

Acts 5:27-42

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children’s story version which best suits your family.

The other passages we will be thinking about at church this week are:

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

John 14:15-21 (*lectionary passage for Easter 6-A*)

A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for our helper the Holy Spirit who helps us to live right for you.

Help us to live for you, following the example of Jesus and the apostles. Help us to share your love, to serve one another, and to be bold in telling others the Good News of Your love and the Easter story every day.

We pray for those do not yet know you as their friend but who are in need of a helper. May they hear about your love, experience your presence, and come to know you.

Amen

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

Why do you think the apostles were not afraid to continue preaching and teaching about Jesus?

In John 14 we read of Jesus' promise that the Holy Spirit would help Jesus' followers to continue what he had started--sharing God's love with everybody, teaching, serving, and demonstrating God's power.

The Holy Spirit helped the apostles in our story from Acts 5 to trust in and believe that obeying God and continuing to preach and teach about Jesus was more important than what the Jewish leaders could do to them.

As friends of Jesus today, we can know and be helped by the Holy Spirit as we live for God each day!

A question for children to ask adults

What has been your most memorable experience of being helped by the Holy Spirit?

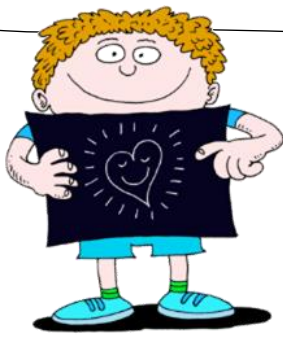
Family Activity 1

In John 14, Jesus told his followers, "If you love me, you will obey my commands".

Play a game of Simon Says together as a reminder that we should only do things that are in line with how God wants us to live.

One person is 'Simon', they should give instructions for everybody else to follow but the group should only obey the instructions if they are preceded by the phrase "Simon says".





A verse to remember

2 Corinthians 5:17

“Therefore anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”

To learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it. Why not decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week?

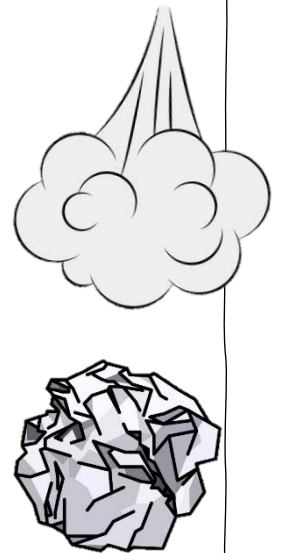
Have you ever made a mistake and wished you could have a second chance to do whatever it was in a different way? Or perhaps you wished you hadn't done whatever it was at all? When we accept God's love and ask to be forgiven for the mistakes we've made, God provides us a new start. With God, we can leave our old mistakes behind and start fresh with a new beginning growing in God's love.

Family Activity 3

Jesus told his friends that some people would struggle to believe in the Holy Spirit because they would not be able to see Him. But we believe in things all the time even though we cannot see them with our eyes! This game uses gusts of air – just like the Holy Spirit, even though we cannot see the gusts we can feel them and see their impact in the world!

You will need: *Paper, an empty container, straws (optional)*

Each person rolls themselves a tiny ball of paper, you might want to give them different colours. Place them on the edge of a table and then blow your ball into the empty container placed at the opposite end. Have a race to see who can move their paper ball the fastest and furthest with just one blow! If you have straws in the house, you could use this to help control your blowing! Why not make it even trickier by building a maze or assault course for your paper balls to travel through.

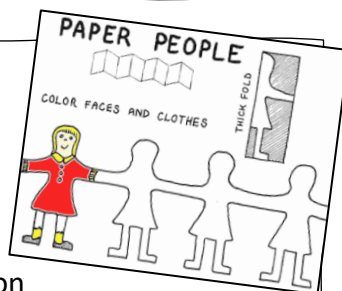


Active Prayer

You will need: Paper, pens, any craft materials you have in the house.

Fold your paper into an accordion and draw half of a person outline – you will need the inside of the person to be on the thickest fold of your paper and the arm to stretch right to the edge of the paper. When you cut out your person and unfold the paper you should have a whole chain of people.

Decorate the people together, make each one somebody you know who doesn't yet know God as their friend – pray as you decorate them that they would hear and respond to the Good News about God's love.



Knowing our Helper

We can call on the Holy Spirit to help us as we live for God each day. The Holy Spirit is a helper for all those who love and live for God, no matter their age.

With the help of the Holy Spirit we can become more like Jesus – showing love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness and faithfulness – we call these the **fruits of the Spirit** (Galatians 5).

The Holy Spirit can also equip us with **gifts** and talents such as teaching, prophesying, healing and serving (1 Corinthians 12).

Coloring Page



“And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.”

—Acts 5:42

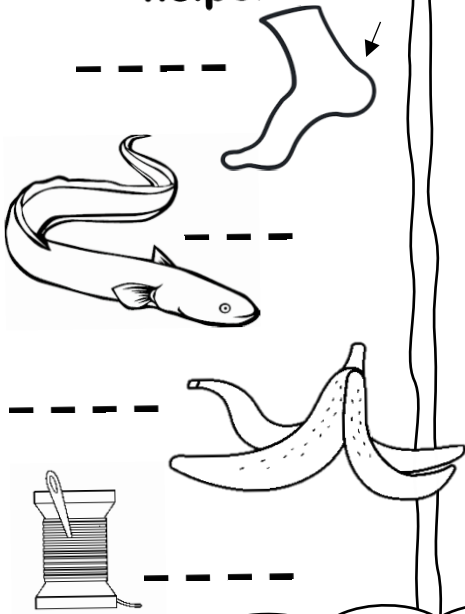
Puzzle Sheet

Jesus promised a helper, The Holy Spirit who would help us to live for God just like He did.

Can you finish the picture of Jesus to show some of the amazing things He did while he was on the earth?

Can you guess the missing words? They are all made from the letters of the word

helper



Can you complete this **SUPER WORDSEARCH?!**

First...find all these Holy Spirit themed words.

These words are all "fruits of the Holy Spirit" – behaviours and attitudes that make us to be more like Jesus.

love
joy
peace
patience
kindness
goodness
faithfulness
gentleness
self-control

prophecy
teaching
healing
miracles
wisdom
service
leadership
faith
evangelism

Next...circle any letters that have not been used in the wordsearch – fill in the spaces below to spell out a Bible Verse.

These words are all gifts and talents from God that the Holy Spirit gives us.

f l p t e a c h i n g s i w i
e a e r h w l l a s e e k t h
h c i a o t i e f l a l t h e
r e a t d p i s c a n f d h e
w i a e h e h a d l l c g i v
p e y l p f r e f o o u a n
o a t h i i u s c e m n r e h
e l t p m n e l h y r t t c o
b e w i i t g h n i y r j i o
u f o r e e v e r e p o o v j
o k i n d n e s s h s l y r n
f o u r t e c e n v e s l e r
s e s i x s s e n d o o g s t
s s e n e l t n e g v e e n
m s i l e g n a v e