

# Together @ Home

September 20<sup>th</sup>

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 where Jesus performs an "extreme makeover"!

You can find it in your Bible in:

**Luke 8:26-39**

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



## A prayer to say together

Dear God,  
Thank you for being with us even when things are scary and we don't understand.

Thank you for the new life we have in you. Help us to tell others the story of Jesus through our words and our actions. May others see the way Jesus' love has changed us as we share the good news of God's love with the people around us.

Amen.

## Discussion

### Questions for adults to ask children

*Where did the man in our Bible story live? Why? How was the man different after Jesus healed him? Why were the townspeople upset with Jesus? Why do you think Jesus wanted the man to stay, instead of going with him?*

When Jesus met the man he was living alone in a graveyard/cemetery. The Bible says the man had demons--evil spirits--that lived in him that made him act wild and strange. After Jesus healed him, the man put on clean clothes and sat by Jesus feet, listening to him. The people were afraid of Jesus' power. He wanted the man go back home to share his story of what God did for him through Jesus.

### A question for children to ask adults

*What are some ways you see God's power at work in our world? In what ways has God changed your life?*

## Family Activity 1

### "What Would You Do?"

*You will need: index cards or pieces of paper, pencils or pens*

Parents: In healing the man in our Bible story, Jesus demonstrated mercy and love. To help children move beyond just learning the facts in the Bible story and help them apply God's Word to their everyday life, create "situation cards" that list normal situations you/your child(ren) might encounter in which they could show mercy/love/care to someone who is hurting. (Examples might be: a child being bullied, a child's dog is missing, someone fell while riding their bike/scooter, someone's grandmother or friend has died) Write one scenario on each card.

Turn the cards face-down and let each person take turns drawing a card. After drawing a card, read the scenario and discuss ways you could help the person in the situation.



## A verse to remember

**Luke 8:38-39**

Jesus said "Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away and told all over town how much God had done for him.

The man in our story was so happy and thankful that Jesus had healed him. He wanted to go with Jesus and follow him wherever he went. But Jesus had an important job for the man--

Jesus wanted him to go back to his home and tell everyone what God had done for him. To learn this verse, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.

## Family Activity 2

### "Make-Over Snack"

*You will need: a plain cookie, cracker, rice cake, etc.*

*Ingredients to "transform" it into something new (toppings appropriate to base--for cookies: frosting, sprinkles, etc.; for crackers/rice cakes: cheese, peanut butter, etc.)*

Give everybody a plain cookie/cracker and a set of toppings. Let each person "transform" his/her item into something new.



## Family Activity

*You will need: sidewalk chalk, a timer*

Head outside to a smooth concrete or asphalt surface. Give each person a piece of sidewalk chalk. See how many "stick people" everyone can draw in two minutes. Count the total number of people everyone drew and pray for all of the people we need to tell about Jesus and the good news of God's love.

## Active Prayer

Although the taste map of the tongue, has been disproved by scientists, what we do know is that we can taste many different things. Why not collect a food to represent each of these different tastes. As you taste it, use it to inspire your prayers.



### UMAMI

Umami is the savoury taste, it is linked to warm comforting things like broth.

Pray and ask God to give you the feeling of his wrap around love and comfort.



### SWEET

Take it in turns to pray and say thank you to God for a good thing that has happened to you this week.



### SALTY

Pray and say sorry to God for anything you have done this week that is not pleasing to Him.



### BITTER

Take it in turns to bring to God in prayer something that has been challenging or upsetting this week.

Pray and ask God to help you forgive anybody who has upset you this week.



### SOUR

# Coloring Page



## I Can Tell My Friends About Jesus

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# Word Search

## Go and Tell

"Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.  
Luke 8:39 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 7:36-50



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| D | S | H | O | U | T | I | N | G | P | U | H | L | F | T |
| H | B | T | B | N | Y | N | W | G | D | R | T | A | H | D |
| D | X | C | S | J | Y | C | V | E | U | S | A | K | R | K |
| G | A | L | I | L | E | E | N | D | D | B | R | E | Z | X |
| C | L | Z | G | I | Z | W | Z | E | C | H | H | T | N | H |
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HOUSE  
LAKE  
HERD

CLOTHES  
DEMON  
HOME

GUARD  
GALILEE  
TELL

TOMBS  
DROWNED  
AFRAID

SHOUTING  
CHAINED  
PIGS

