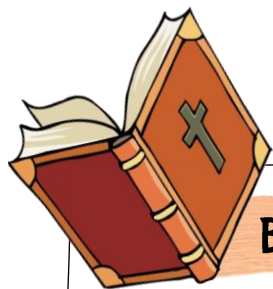


Together @ Home

May 15, 2022

Fifth 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, the story of Peter and Cornelius.

You can find it in your Bible in:

Acts 10:1-11:18

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 the story of Peter's vision which reminds us that you sent your son Jesus so that everybody could receive forgiveness and new life.

Help us to see our own prejudices and change our behavior if it is not pleasing to you. Help us to share your love with everybody we meet even if they are different to us.

We pray for all those in the world who do not yet know you, even those who are currently following a different religion, that they would respond to your love and the Good News about Jesus.

Amen

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

How many times did Peter see the vision? Why didn't he want to eat the food?

Peter saw the vision of the sheet three times, each time he refused to eat the food because it was unholy according to the Old Testament Jewish laws. Under the old laws if somebody broke a law or did something to make themselves unclean they had to go to a priest and make a sacrifice to ask for forgiveness.

But when Jesus came and died, he made a sacrifice so that all the sins of the world could be forgiven forever. We can go direct to God and say sorry.

I wonder if God chose to show the vision to Peter three times to remind him of the three times that Jesus asked Peter "Do you love me?" before he returned to heaven. You can find the story in John 21 and see what instructions Jesus gave to Peter.

A question for children to ask adults

Can you think of a time when you had to change your behavior or viewpoint for God?

Family Activity 1

"Go with them without doubting, because I have sent them to you."



Peter was told to follow the three strangers who had come to visit Him. He was told to do so without doubting.

Play a game of 'Follow the Leader' taking turns being the Leader – where will you make everybody follow you to? How will you travel? Hopping? Jumping? Backwards?

Think about how it felt for Peter following the strangers without knowing where they were taking him.



A verse to remember

Romans 10 v 4

Christ ended the law so that everyone who believes in him may be right with God.

To learn this verse together, 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

Shadow Animals

In today's lesson, we learned about a time when God appeared to Peter in a vision or dream, with a sheet with some animals in it. Have some fun making shadow puppets of some animals Peter may (or may not) have seen.

Turn out the room lights and set a flashlight a few feet away from a blank wall or a plain sheet draped over the back of a chair, etc. Try making shadow animals by placing your hands in different positions (between the flashlight and the wall/sheet) to form shadows on the sheet.



Some sample ideas can be found on the last page.

Helping Older Children

Peter had to overcome his own prejudices and biases against those who weren't Jewish. The news at the moment is full of stories of violence and disagreements around the world many of them can be traced back to the prejudice and bias of people who see the differences in others and not the similarities.

Older children may have heard these news stories or talked with friends about them and will have questions about global inequality. Peter's story challenges us to examine our own hearts and look for prejudice or bias in how we live day to day.

Don't be afraid to discuss these difficult topics, always returning to the truth expressed by Peter... **"I really understand now that to God every person is the same."**

God's love and the sacrifice of Jesus are available to everybody equally.

It is right for us to be angered or upset by the injustice we see in the world – this is how God feels when he sees the fallen and sinful world that we live in. The world is not how God created it to be.

Active Prayer

Peter realized that **"In every country God accepts anyone who worships him and does what is right."**

Go to the place in your kitchen where you keep your food. Read the labels on the food to find out where the food was grown and has come from.

Pray together for each of the countries that you discover!

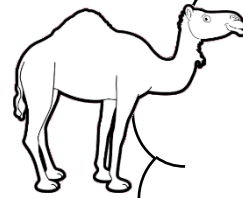


Coloring Page





Puzzle Sheet



Can you unscramble these different foods that might have been on the blanket in Peter's vision?

Join the dots to complete the picture and see who appeared to both Peter and Cornelius.



gip

malec

pwran

tba

lwo

ckeog

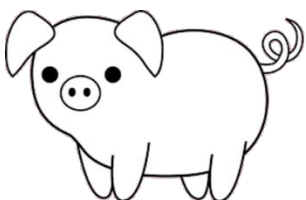
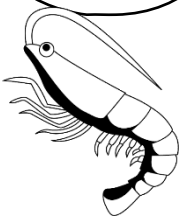
These are all animals that are listed in Leviticus 11 and they can all be found somewhere on this page.

Can you find them all?

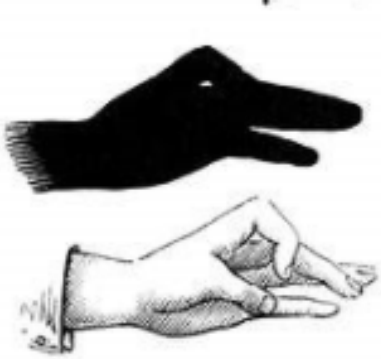
Can you find the following words in the word search below?

**Peter
angel
vision
food
sheet
roof
Cornelius
family
Joppa
baptized**

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



Hand Shadow Animals (for Family Activity 2):



Crocodile



Rabbit



Bird



Snail



Dog



Bear



Bull



Elephant