



St Lawrence
with St Paul
Longridge



Family Activities: Sunday 21st June 2020

Worth More

Introduction: Children's Church at St Lawrence with St Paul is not meeting in person at present due to the advice given by the Church of England to suspend services. However, the team is putting together a sheet each week for families to do 'Children's Church at Home' and we are also meeting on Zoom on Sunday mornings at 1045am to go through some of the activities together!

We are very grateful to the Blackburn Board of Education and their 'Weekly@' resources which we are drawing on to help us to put together each week's activities.

Please do e-mail Carolyn Barton at carolynbarton@hotmail.co.uk to be added to the Children's Church private Facebook group and/or to be sent the link to the Sundays @1045am Zoom Children's Church Meeting.

Theme: To understand that God believes we are worth more than anything else in creation and that he knows things about us that no-one else does.

Setting the Scene:

Play a game where the children must guess the number of sweets in a jar. How close to the correct number was the nearest guess? There are some things that are very difficult/impossible to count, for example grains of sand on a beach or stars in the sky but when God looks at us the Bible says he immediately knows how many hairs we have on our head!

Song: Sing and dance along to 'Your Love' at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9ajEQpKYo4>



Bible Passage: Jesus Sends out his Apostles, Matt 10, 24-39

Read the bible passage below and/or take a look at the following clip which is not the exact passage but brings out similar themes:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PG1LjFO99dA>

²⁴ "A student is not better than his teacher. A servant is not better than his master. ²⁵ A student should be satisfied to become like his teacher. A servant should be satisfied to



become like his master. If the head of the family is called Beelzebul, then the other members of the family will be called worse names!

Fear God, Not People

²⁶“So don’t be afraid of those people. Everything that is hidden will be shown. Everything that is secret will be made known. ²⁷I tell you these things in the dark, but I want you to tell them in the light. I speak these things only to you, but you should tell them to everyone. ²⁸Don’t be afraid of people. They can only kill the body. They cannot kill the soul. The only one you should fear is the One who can destroy the body and the soul in hell. ²⁹When birds are sold, two small birds cost only a penny. But not even one of the little birds can die without your Father’s knowing it. ³⁰God even knows how many hairs are on your head. ³¹So don’t be afraid. You are worth much more than many birds.

Tell People About Your Faith

³²“If anyone stands before other people and says he believes in me, then I will say that he belongs to me. I will say this before my Father in heaven. ³³But if anyone stands before people and says he does not believe in me, then I will say that he does not belong to me. I will say this before my Father in heaven.

³⁴“Don’t think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵I have come to make this happen:

‘A son will be against his father,
a daughter will be against her mother,
a daughter-in-law will be against her mother-in-law.

³⁶ A person’s enemies will be members of his own family.’ *Micah 7:6*

³⁷“Whoever loves his father or mother more than he loves me is not worthy to be my follower. Whoever loves his son or daughter more than he loves me is not worthy to be my follower. ³⁸Whoever is not willing to die on a cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Whoever tries to hold on to his life will give up true life. Whoever gives up his life for me will hold on to true life.

Questions to ask:

- 1) Which part of the story or video did you like best and why?



In Matthew chapter 10, Jesus was teaching his disciples that even though they were going to be facing some difficult times as his followers, they should not be afraid.

The clip tells us that God knows everything about us and he loves us so much.

- 2) Can you count all the hairs on your head?

The bible passage tells us that God knows how many hairs are on are head!

- 3) Does anyone know what a sparrow looks like? We see lots and lots in our garden.

There are some birds that are rare, and people think they are very important like a bald eagle, then there are some birds that are all over the place and we hardly look twice when one flies by or lands near our feet; like sparrows. The Bible also says that when God sees one little sparrow fall, he notices. Ask the children if they think God notices when they fall over. Point out that the Bible says they are worth much more to God than sparrows, so if God notices sparrows, he will definitely notice us when we are having a difficult time or feel sad or lonely. God loves us more than anyone on earth has ever loved us.

- 4) Have you ever thought about talking to God about the little things in your life? He cares about everything that you care about and loves it when we talk to Him.

- 5) How do other people make you feel special or important?

- 6) How can we make other people feel special and important?

Explaining the Passage (adapt for younger children):

The bible reading and the clip show us that God loves us and knows us completely – we have nothing to worry about. He knows each of us better than anyone on earth ever will. He is worth any sacrifice we make for him. Hopefully the children we serve won't face division and difficulty whilst they are young, but they need to know how precious they are to God and that whatever they face in the future, whatever they must give up for him, he is worth it and cares for them deeply.

In Matthew chapter 10, Jesus was teaching his disciples that even though they were going to be facing some difficult times as his followers, they should not be afraid. He said to them, "Two sparrows are sold for one copper coin, but not one single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. So don't be afraid, you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows." And that although the hairs on our head fall out from time to time, the Bible says God knows how many hairs we have [left] on our heads! God knows everything that we go through. Nothing that happens to us that he doesn't know about.



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How does that make us feel? We should feel safe, happy, important, loved, thankful. God wants what is best for us even if things seem difficult at the time or other people don't understand why we choose to follow Jesus.

Prayer:

“Lord, thank you that you know us completely and yet still choose to love us. Thank you that you know how many hairs we have on our heads and every detail about us. Amen”

Craft Activity:



Draw around your hand and then fill in the space using your fingerprints (paint your fingers and print them into the outline). Look at your fingerprint - it is so detailed and it is unique! God knows every detail about us and He loves us so much.