



St Lawrence
with St Paul
Longridge



Family Activities: Sunday 23rd August 2020

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 10.45am 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 @10.45am Zoom Children's Church Meeting.

Theme: To encourage the children to persevere (keep going) in their lives as followers of Jesus and not to become distracted by other things

Setting the Scene: Ask the children if they have ever been really sick. Ask them if they can remember how long they were sick. Time seems to go slowly when we are sick. It seems as though everyone else is having fun while we feel miserable.

This week in our story, we are learning about a woman who had been very poorly for many years and how her faith in Jesus healed her.

Song: Sing and dance along to
<https://youtu.be/Q4S0nSwf5rE>



Bible Passage:

A cartoon of the bible passage(s) can be found here:

(Start clip at 1m15s up to 2m40s)

<https://youtu.be/ADGt2bywT0k>



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...or you may prefer to read it:



⁴³ A woman was there who had been bleeding for 12 years. She had spent all her money on doctors, but no doctor was able to heal her. ⁴⁴ The woman came up behind Jesus and touched the edge of his coat. At that moment, her bleeding stopped. ⁴⁵ Then Jesus said, "Who touched me?"

All the people said they had not touched Jesus. Peter said, "Master, the people are all around you and are pushing against you."

⁴⁶ But Jesus said, "Someone did touch me! I felt power go out from me." ⁴⁷ When the woman saw that she could not hide, she came forward, shaking. She bowed down before Jesus. While all the people listened, she told why she had touched him. Then, she said, she was healed immediately. ⁴⁸ Jesus said to her, "Dear woman, you are healed because you believed. Go in peace."

International Children's Bible

Questions to ask:

- 1) Which part of the story did you like best and why?
- 2) Which item of Jesus' clothing did the woman touch?
- 3) How did the woman feel after she had touched Jesus' coat?
- 4) How did Jesus react after the woman touched his coat?

Explaining the Passage (adapt for younger children): Today we are learning about a woman who had been unwell for many years. She had tried and tried different treatments, but nothing had worked. The woman didn't give up but kept going. Eventually she approaches Jesus, secretly touches his coat and is healed. Jesus doesn't just let her go away better. He speaks to her, calling her 'daughter' which would give her a position of importance in other people's eyes.



Prayer: *Father, help us to remember the great faith that the woman had in today's story. We know that you hear us when we pray and you answer in the way that is best for us. Help us to trust in you and never give up. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*



Game: STEP BY STEP WITH JESUS

- Preparation:
1. Prepare a set of direction cards with words like these on them: one giant step, two baby steps, three scissor steps, two slides, one hop, one skip, etc.
 2. Write questions on another set of cards.
 3. Draw a line on the floor.

- How to play:
1. The children stand way behind the line on the floor.
 2. The leader takes a card from each set and reads the question.
 3. If the child answers correctly, he/she may take the number of steps indicated on the card.
 4. The first child who reaches the finish line wins the game.

Activities: Give the children some A3 card or paper and a selection of art materials such as felt pens, stickers, etc. Ask them to design a board game which encourages people to keep going in their Christian journey. The game might for example, have a pile of cards with encouraging message written on which the players need to pick up if they land on a particular square of the board. Once the board game is finished, play it together as a family.

Challenge: Challenge the children to be silent for a moment every day this week, perhaps when they get up in the morning or before they go to bed at night. Ask them to think about someone special to them or someone who has a specific need/problem at the moment. Encourage them to pray asking God to be close to that person.

