



St Lawrence  
with St Paul  
Longridge



## Family Activities: Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020

### Seeing Things Differently

*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](mailto: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 Jesus gives us a new perspective which helps us to see things in a different way.

#### Setting the Scene:

Print off several optical illusion pictures from the internet. Ask the children to look at the pictures and say what they see. It maybe that some children see one image and others see a different one, or both. We are all unique therefore we all see things differently.

The people in our story today were seeing things differently, but their faith and Jesus helped them to see the situation in another light.

**Song:** Sing and dance along to 'Our God is a Great Big God' at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSTfM8M2Md8> and/or 'When I Look' at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4iW9MN7vMpQ>



**Bible Passage:** Luke 24 v 13-25

A cartoon of the bible passage can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/34zqp750auM>



Watch from the beginning to approx. 2 mins 20 sec



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*...or you may prefer to read it:*

## **On the Road to Emmaus**

13That same day two of Jesus' followers were going to a town named Emmaus. It is about seven miles from Jerusalem. 14They were talking about everything that had happened. 15While they were discussing these things, Jesus himself came near and began walking with them. 16(They were not allowed to recognize Jesus.) 17Then he said, "What are these things you are talking about while you walk?"

The two followers stopped. Their faces were very sad. 18The one named Cleopas answered, "You must be the only one in Jerusalem who does not know what just happened there."

19Jesus said to them, "What are you talking about?"

The followers said, "It is about Jesus of Nazareth. He was a prophet from God to all the people. He said and did many powerful things. 20Our leaders and the leading priests gave him up to be judged and killed. They nailed him to a cross. 21But we were hoping that he would free the Jews. It is now the third day since this happened. 22And today some women among us told us some amazing things. Early this morning they went to the tomb, 23but they did not find his body there. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels. The angels said that Jesus was alive! 24So some of our group went to the tomb, too. They found it just as the women said, but they did not see Jesus."

25Then Jesus said to them, "You are foolish and slow to realize what is true. You should believe everything the prophets said."



### Questions to ask:

- 1) Which part of the story did you like best and why?
- 2) Why were the two disciples sad?
- 3) Why did the disciples not recognise Jesus?
- 4) How did the disciples feel when they realized that the “stranger” they were talking was their good friend Jesus?
- 5) Can you remember a time when you haven’t seen something clearly?
- 6) What would you miss most if you couldn’t see it?
- 7) Is there anything that you would like God’s help to see differently?

### Explaining the Passage (adapt for younger children):

In today’s reading the disciples were walking back to Emmaus after the death and burial of Jesus; they were feeling lost and confused. When Jesus died, his followers thought that he was gone forever. They were very sad and didn't know what to do. They couldn't see things clearly because they were so mixed up and upset. Then a stranger joined them who helped them to see their situation in a new way and they were amazed at what they heard and saw. Suddenly they saw clearly what they hadn't seen before even though they had been looking right at it most of the day. They realized that the stranger who had joined them on the road was really Jesus - alive and well. After Jesus left them, they ran back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples.

Jesus helped the disciples to see what had happened in a new way. When we face difficult times, things they can get blown out of proportion and seem bigger than they really are. If we bring those things to God, he helps us to put things into perspective so we can cope with them better.

### Prayer:

**“Father God, we are thankful that you can see situations in ways we cannot. Give us your insight so that we can see our situations with fresh eyes. Amen”**



## Game:

### 1. What is it?

Print out some closely zoomed-in pictures of different animals. Challenge the children to work out which animals they are. Afterwards, discuss how it was difficult to see which animals they were when the picture was zoomed in so much. They looked so different up close and often looked like something else. Sometimes we can be too close to the problems we face to see them clearly, and we may need help to take a step away so that we can see it differently.

## Activity:

### 1) Black Dot

Prepare lots of pieces of plain white paper with one black dot (1cm diameter) printed or drawn in the same place on each piece. Encourage the children to turn the black dot on their paper into whatever they want the picture to be, using pencil or black pen. When the children have finished, come together and look at all the different things they made the black dot into. Just as everyone saw the dot differently, sharing our problems with God and others can help

### 2) 'Nine Dots, Four Lines'

The key to solving this puzzle is to look at it differently!

## The Nine Dots Puzzle

- Start on any dot
- Can you draw 4 straight lines going through all the dots without taking your pen from the paper?

