



Family Activities: Sunday 29th March 2020

Time

Introduction: Children's Church at St Lawrence with St Paul is not meeting at present due to the advice given by the Church of England to suspend services but the team is putting together a sheet each week for families to do 'Children's Church at Home'! We are very grateful to the Blackburn Board of Education and their 'Weekly@' resources which we are using in putting together each week's activities.

Please do e-mail Carolyn Barton at <u>carolyn.barton@hotmail.co.uk</u> to be added to the Children's Church private Facebook group and share any photos of your family using these activities.

Theme: To recognise that God's timing is perfect.

Song: Sing and dance along to 'Every Move I Make' at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dgf1YzscBlE







Bible Passage: John 11 v 1-45 : Jesus Raises Lazarus

The bible passage for this week is quite long and so how about watching it in a cartoon instead? Take a look at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1FT04jjh3Q8

Questions to ask:

- 1) Which part of the story did you like best and why?
- 2) Have you ever been terribly late for someone or something?
- 3) Share a time when you had to wait for something.
- 4) Is there an area of your life where you want to ask for God's patience?

Explaining the Passage:

In the Gospel reading for this morning, Jesus received word from Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, that their brother was very ill. When Jesus heard about it, he said, "Lazarus's sickness will not end in death. This has happened so that God will receive Glory from this." So, although Jesus loved Mary, Martha, and Lazarus he stayed where he was for two more days. Finally, he told his disciples that he was going to Bethany to the home of his friends. When Jesus arrived, Mary and Martha greeted him with frustration that he had not arrived sooner because their brother had died. But it didn't matter because when they took Jesus to Lazarus's tomb, he prayed to God and then called in a loud voice, "Lazarus come out!" Then Lazarus walked out of the tomb; he had been raised from the dead.

God's plans were bigger than those of Mary and Martha. It may not have felt it but Jesus arrived at just the right time. Many saw this amazing miracle and put their faith in Jesus because of it.

We sometimes feel impatient that things in our lives are not happening at the right time, but what we think is the right time may not match God's time. God is beyond time, which means he knows when the time is absolutely right. God's timing is perfect.





Activity:

ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK

Big Picture Jigsaw

- 1 Complete a jigsaw puzzle together using the image on the box as your guide.
- 2 Complete another jigsaw together, but this time hide the box so you can't see the picture.

DISCUSS

Was it frustrating doing the second puzzle, not knowing what the end result would be? Is it easier to have the picture in front of you? We may not understand things that happen because we cannot see the big picture. God can see the big picture and understands what is going on in a way we can't, so we have to trust him.

WEEKLY@





Prayer:

Family Prayer

Everyone stands up, start a timer and each person must sit down when they think a minute has passed. Person in charge of the timer notes when a minute passes. When everyone has sat down, share who got the closest. How did it feel waiting for a minute? Did it seem longer or shorter than you expected?

Whilst sitting down together pray:

Father God, we bring you the areas of our lives where we struggle to wait. Please give us your patience. Amen





Finally...if working through these activities has led to any questions then please do feel free to contact Carolyn Barton at carolynbarton@hotmail.co.uk