



St Lawrence
with St Paul
Longridge



Family Activities: Sunday 2nd August 2020

What a Team

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 consider that the Bible describes the church as a body. We don't simply work as individuals on a team we are joined as one body! We are all dependent on one another.

Setting the Scene:

Write out the word TEAM in large bubble letters on a big piece of paper. Ask your children to colour the letters in and draw pictures of themselves around the edges. Ask them to write (younger children may need some help) any words they can think of to do with 'Teams' around the edges of the letters also. Comment on how well they worked to decorate the letters.

This week we will consider that, as followers of God, our team goes even deeper than just working together using our gifts and talents. We are described as one body! Today we will look at the importance of everyone playing their part from the oldest to the youngest; from the weakest to the strongest.

Song: Sing and dance along to Walking, Jumping, Clapping for the Lord

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KevsQ1rvmVo>



Bible Passage:

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



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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMt7-SVZc-U> One body many parts

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Th7yEV0qLF4> Song

...or you may prefer to read it:

1 Corinthians 12

The Body of Christ

A person's body is one thing, but it has many parts. Yes, there are many parts to a body, but all those parts make only one body. Christ is like that too. Some of us are Jews, and some of us are Greeks. Some of us are slaves, and some of us are free. But we were all baptized into one body through one Spirit. And we were all made to share in the one Spirit. And a person's body has more than one part. It has many parts. The foot might say, "I am not a hand. So I am not part of the body." But saying this would not stop the foot from being a part of the body. The ear might say, "I am not an eye. So I am not part of the body." But saying this would not make the ear stop being a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, the body would not be able to hear. If the whole body were an ear, the body would not be able to smell anything. If each part of the body were the same part, there would be no body. But truly God put the parts in the body as he wanted them. He made a place for each one of them. And so there are many parts, but only one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the foot, "I don't need you!" No! Those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are really very important. And the parts of the body that we think are not worth much are the parts that we give the most care to. And we give special care to the parts of the body that we want to hide. The more beautiful parts of our body need no special care. But God put the body together and gave more honor to the parts that need it. God did this so that our body would not be divided. God wanted the different parts to care the same for each other. If one part of the body suffers, then all the other parts suffer with it. Or if one part of our body is honored, then all the other parts share its honor. All of you together are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of that body. (Taken from ICB)

True or False:

1. We all have a job to do.
2. We don't need anyone else.
3. We should care about each other's problems.
4. Some church members are more important than others.

Question:

Can we be a "church" all by ourselves?



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Explaining the Passage (adapt for younger children):

The passage describes the church as a body. The body isn't just a team of things working together. Rather it is joined in a way that every part is dependent on the other parts! Each part of the body is important. The foot cannot do what the ear can do! But it would be silly if the ear and foot were jealous of each other! God has placed the parts of human body together; each part cannot function on its own. He has also placed us together in the same churches and groups. He has given each of us special skills to contribute. It's important that we take care of all the parts of our bodies. Similarly, this passage reminds us that we need to take care of each other too; if one person is suffering, the rest of the group suffers too.

Prayer:

Dear God, We thank you for Jesus Who helps us know how to receive your pictures that show us how we can better live together as your gifts to one another.

Amen

Game:

Play the game 'Twister' where you have to follow the directions on the spinner to place your hands and feet on coloured circles on the mat, potentially getting tied up in knots. If you don't have access to the game, try making your own version by painting coloured circles on an old sheet and making a spinner with a paper plate. Alternatively, you could simply call out instructions that you want the children to follow – even if they get in a muddle! Give instructions such as: Max place your right hand on Hannah's right elbow. Hannah place your left hand on Max's right foot. Jack place your left knee against Hannah's left knee. Max place your left hand on Jack's head. ...and so on. Today's Bible verses remind us that the body is made up of different parts; each part is different but each has a special role to play.

Activity: People In Our Church

Give each child a piece of A4 card and ask them to fold it in half lengthways. Then give each child a piece of A5 card and ask them to fold that in half length-ways also. Ask the children to cut the end of the folded A5 card to a point (as shown) and then attach the 'tower' behind the folded piece of A4 card to make a traditional church shape. Attach it so that the A4 piece opens by lifting up the bottom like a birthday card. Ask the children to draw the front of the church with doors and windows, etc. Talk to the children about members of your church and ask them to draw and label some of them inside their card, e.g. Sue welcomes people, John sings in the music group, Ian prepares refreshments.



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Challenge:

Ask your children to think of a specific job relating to the church or a particular group that they are involved in; cleaning, making the coffee, tidying the garden, etc. Challenge them to find out who does one of these jobs and to make a special effort this week to thank them for what they do. By doing this you will encourage that person as they carry out their team work!