



St Lawrence
with St Paul
Longridge



Family Activities: Sunday 3rd May 2020

Know His Voice

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 recognise some of the important things that Jesus said and to understand what is important to him.

Setting the Scene:

Find and cut out some pictures of animals’ ears – can the children guess which animal the ears come from? Why are an animal’s ears important? They help them to find food or listen out for predators. What do we use our ears for?

Song: Sing and dance along to ‘My Lighthouse’ at:

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



Bible Passage: The Shepherds and his Sheep, John 10, vs 1 – 10

(as adapted by The Big Bible Storybook, Scripture Union 2006)



Jesus said, “Just look at the sheep in their sheep pen. Its stone walls keep them safe at night. No wolf can harm them. No robber can steal them. They’re safe as safe can be.”



Can you see the shepherd in the picture? He's sleeping in the gateway of the sheep pen. The sheep cannot get out. If they did, they might get lost or hurt. But the shepherd is like a gate, keeping them in the pen where they are safe.

In the morning, the shepherd lets the sheep out through the gateway. He leads them to find good grass to eat. The shepherd watches. Nothing can hurt the sheep.

At night, the shepherd calls the sheep. They know his voice and follow him back to the sheep pen. He sleeps in the gateway so that nothing can harm them. They are safe as safe can be.

Jesus said, "The gate keeps the sheep safe. God sent me to keep his friends safe for ever."

Watch the first two minutes of this video to see how sheep really do respond when they hear their shepherd's voice!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Coq_grSFINs

Questions to ask:

- 1) Which part of the story or video did you like best and why?
- 2) Why is it important to listen to each other? What can help you to listen better?
- 3) Can you think of anything that Jesus said in the Bible? (take a look at the speech bubbles at the end of this Activity Sheet to help)
- 4) Do you think Jesus can still speak to us today?
- 5) How does Jesus speak to us today?



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Explaining the Passage (adapt for younger children):

The words of Jesus are so important. In this passage Jesus explains that he is like a shepherd and that his sheep know his voice and follow him. Shepherds in Israel call to their sheep and lead from the front rather than herding sheep from behind, so it is important that the sheep are listening.

Jesus has so many wonderful and challenging things to tell us. In some Bibles the words of Jesus are written in red to emphasize them. Today is an opportunity to share some of the precious things Jesus says that will help our children to understand his love for them. Let's also pray that it helps them to recognize Jesus' voice in the future as he speaks to them through the Bible, through other Christians, through the beauty of his creation and by the Holy Spirit to their hearts. Jesus wants what is best for us. He said that he came so that we could have life and have it to the full. We will, if we listen to his voice and follow him.

Prayer:

“Thank you, Jesus, for all the wonderful things you have taught us. Thank you for those people who wrote down your words so we can still read them over 2,000 years later. Help us to know your voice and follow what you say. Amen”

Game:

- 1) Younger Children: Put things that make a sound into a cloth bag and see if the children can guess what the object is. You could crinkle greaseproof paper, ring a bell, shake a rattle, run your nails along a comb, etc.
- 2) Older Children: Find the speech bubbles



GAME OF THE WEEK

Find the speech bubbles

Hide the speech bubbles around your room or house and see who can find them.

DISCUSS

Once you've found all the speech bubbles can you fill in the gaps? Some of the things Jesus said are very well known; so much so that we are able to see the words and fill in the gaps quite easily. As Jesus' sheep, Jesus calls us to follow him and if we belong to him, we should know his voice and follow what he says. Jesus uses many ways to speak to us such as the Bible, beautiful things in creation like sunsets and rainbows, through other people, and sometimes the Holy Spirit speaks directly to our hearts. Jesus said that he came so that we could have life and have it to the full. We will, if we listen to his voice and follow him.

WEEKLY@



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**I am the Way
and the Truth
and the**

_____ **John 14:6**



**God so loved the
_____ that he
gave his one and
only Son**

John 3:16



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**With man this is
impossible, but
with God _____
things are possible**
Matthew 19:26



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**Go into all the
world and
preach the _____**

Mark 16:15



**Father, _____
them, for they do
not know what
they are doing**

Luke 23:34



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**Whoever follows me
will never walk in
darkness, but will
have the _____ of life**

John 8:12