

# St J of J 'At Home'

The Building is closed, the Church is open



*St John of Jerusalem Junior Church at Home*

# First Sunday after Trinity - 14<sup>th</sup> June 2020

## Time to Gather

Glorious God,  
present in creation;  
Jesus Christ,  
risen and ascended;  
Holy Spirit,  
inspiring and transforming;  
be present among us,  
as we worship you today.  
**Amen.**

## Time to say sorry

**Leader:** Let us think about the times we forgot we are followers of Jesus. The times we were unkind or hurtful, the times we did not care for the world or other people. When we say sorry to God, God promises to forgive us.

**Leader:** We are sorry for the times when we lacked love. Lord have mercy.

**Everyone:** Lord, have mercy.

**Leader:** We are sorry for the times when our words and actions were hurtful. Christ have mercy.

**Everyone:** Christ, have mercy.

**Leader:** We are sorry when we failed to care for your world. Lord, have mercy.

**Everyone:** Lord, have mercy.

**Leader:** May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Everyone:** Amen.

## Time to read our Bible story

**Open the Bible at Matthew 9.35-10.8,(9-23):** Jesus' friends go out to share all that he has taught them with the world.

### **You don't need that!**

Display six large boxes. Ask for a volunteer and pile all the boxes into their arms. Explain that in today's Gospel reading, Jesus sends the disciples out to tell people about him.

Ask everyone: how might they prepare for this task?

Read the Bible passage and, when you get to 'you won't need gold...', take one of the boxes away. Continue to read what they won't need, removing a box with each item.

When you get to the end of the story, remind everyone that you don't need anything to go out on Jesus' mission; instead, Jesus gives us the Holy Spirit to help us.



Jesus gathered his twelve disciples and sent them out. He gave them these instructions:

‘Don’t go to Gentile or Samaritan towns. Instead go to the people of Israel, for they are like a flock of lost sheep. Tell people the good news about the kingdom of heaven. Cure the sick, raise the dead, heal those with skin diseases, send out demons. You have been given all this freely, for no payment. Now you must help others without being paid.’

Jesus reassured them, ‘You won’t need gold or silver; don’t take a travelling bag or an extra shirt; don’t take sandals or a walking stick. When you go into a town, find out who the good people are and stay with them until you are ready to leave. If you enter a home, bless it with your peace, but if it is not worthy, take the blessing back. If someone doesn’t welcome you or they won’t listen, leave at once, shaking the dust from your feet.

‘I am sending you out like sheep into a pack of wolves,’ he said, ‘so you need to be as wise as a snake and as innocent as a dove. Because of me people will hand you over to those in power and have you beaten. You will be dragged before kings and leaders. But if this happens, don’t worry about what to say - you will be given the words at the time. It will be God’s Spirit speaking.

‘Because of me there will be unrest in families,’ Jesus said sadly. ‘Brothers will turn against brothers. Fathers will turn against children. Children will turn against parents. Many will be hated because of me. But if you remain with me until the end you will be saved. If they persecute you in one town, run to the next. I promise that before you have been to all the towns of Israel, the Son of Man will come.’

### Glossary

**Gentile:** the name Jews give to non-Jews; Samaritan a person who lived in Samaria and worshipped God differently from Jews. Jews and Samaritans hated each other;

**Demons:** spiritual forces that trouble people - could be interpreted as mental illness; Son of Man a title from the Old Testament Book of Daniel, used by Jesus to describe himself.

### Time to think and talk about the story

*Please feel free to choose as much or as little as it suits you from the suggestions below to think together about the story.*

**Wonder together:** I wonder what was your favourite part of that passage/story? I wonder which part surprised or puzzled you? I wonder what it tells us about God? I wonder how it helps us to live as Christians?

**Draw or sculpt:** Use paper and pens, modelling dough, Lego or pipe cleaners to respond to the passage or story. Share with each other something about your drawing or model.

**Bring something to the circle:** Look around where you have gathered and find something to bring to the circle that helps you think more about what you have heard. Share why you chose that object.

## Time to pray

### Mind map prayers

Place a large sheet of paper in the middle of the room. Create a mind-map as a group, using the following questions:

- What do you want to thank God for?
- What would each of you like prayer for?
- What people you know do you want to pray for?
- What do you want to pray for our city, our country and our world?

*Pray together as works best for you as a family. If you like, you could keep the mind map to use it for praying together throughout the coming week.*

## Time to sing

*Jesus sent the disciples out in twos, because he knew that we need each other. As we share the good news of God's Kingdom and the ups and downs of life, as the Church we all need one another, especially in this time of lockdown. This week's song reminds us of that. There are no lyrics here, but they are in this video on YouTube:*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=85&v=iaB-WkaOHDY&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=85&v=iaB-WkaOHDY&feature=emb_logo)

## A prayer to end with

Dear Lord Jesus,  
as we go into this next week,  
help us to proclaim your kingdom wherever we go  
and remind us that you are always with us.

**Amen.**

© ROOTS for Churches Ltd (www.rootsontheweb.com) 2002-2020.  
Reproduced with permission

'Family Worship at Home', compiled by Mary Hawes, material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council

A big thank you to Mary for giving us permission both to use her work and to make changes that suit this occasion and this context