

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES FOR 3rd SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

SUNDAY 28th JUNE 2020

Getting Started



How many things can you do with a cup of water?

Drink it, wash with it, clean your teeth, make a cup of tea, cook vegetables, water the garden or in the hot weather fill up a paddling pool or have a water pistol fight!

If you've come to one of our summer holiday clubs you'll remember we always have a fun team water game. Each team lines up across the field, everyone has a cup and the team has to transfer the water from a large bucket from one end of the line to the other using the cups, the team who gets the most water to the end bucket is the winner, see the pictures below. If you can, (please don't do this inside the house) set up an obstacle course and try and carry a cup of water round it, how fast can you go and how much water is left in the cup at the end?



In this week's story a cup of water becomes a symbol of hospitality. To show hospitality is to welcome other people into our homes or churches or other places where we spend time. Hospitality is not only offering practical things like a glass of water or food or somewhere to stay, it is also opening our hearts and showing people they are special and loved. In today's story we hear that in welcoming other human beings we are welcoming God.

The Story

Jesus said to his disciples, "Wherever you go, if people welcome you, then they are welcoming me, too. And if they welcome me, then they are also welcoming God."

He continued, "If someone welcomes a prophet and welcomes them because they are a prophet, then they will receive the same reward as a prophet. If someone welcomes a good person and welcomes them because they are good, then they will receive the same reward as a good person."

And if someone helps one of these little ones – if they give them only a cup of cold water because they are one of my followers – then they will certainly be rewarded."

A prophet in the Bible is someone chosen to speak for God



Thinking About It

Sometimes, we might say 'welcome', but then have conditions. At the moment lots of shops have 'welcome back' signs...but only if you haven't been sick, use hand sanitiser and follow social distancing. We might have a doormat that says 'welcome'....but not if you smell bad!

This is not what Jesus wanted.

Jesus told people that when we receive and welcome others, it's like we are welcoming Him, and welcoming 'the One who sent Him', that's God Himself! Jesus had a reputation for welcoming people who might otherwise be looked down on. He went to people who were sick and hurting, outcasts of society and those who had done wrong. Jesus cared for them and loved them. He welcomed them into God's family. Jesus wants us to welcome and love others to.

Today's story also tells us that whenever we give a cup of water to someone in need we will be rewarded. We may not be able to go to Africa to help build wells for people, or even give out a hug to someone at the moment given the Coronavirus situation...but we can still help our family, our friends and our neighbours. Maybe we could send a letter or message someone. We can all help each other the way Jesus wants us to.

Activities



Make some welcome bunting. Find a piece of string and cut triangles from paper, on each triangle write a letter from the word welcome. You can colour your bunting bright colours or draw a story from the life of Jesus on each triangle.

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Puzzle Can you find the 'welcoming' words in the word search?

b	x	e	l	d	y	h	e	w	r
t	e	e	r	g	u	a	l	a	r
u	u	i	s	a	s	n	i	v	n
t	n	s	r	a	h	d	m	e	h
k	i	m	e	a	l	s	s	u	w
k	p	y	l	s	w	h	g	v	m
a	a	l	s	d	e	a	j	d	q
v	i	t	a	i	d	k	i	e	e
q	y	l	k	y	z	e	d	i	k
e	b	j	d	x	r	m	g	f	v

drink
greet
handshake
hug
kiss
meal
play
share
smile
wave

Prayer

When God rewards us, it can be in the form of a blessing, this is something good that happens. This week each time something good happens, stop and remember to thank God.

Dear God, help us to welcome everyone and to show them your love. Amen.