

Messy Church @ Home No 9



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“How to live life today?” First session

1 Peter 3: 13

¹³ If you are always trying to do good, no one can really hurt you. ¹⁴ But you may suffer for doing right. Even if that happens, you are blessed. (ICB)

“How to live life today?” is a massive question.

Peter, one of Jesus’ disciples and a friend, gives us clear guidance as to how to live our lives and in which direction - **try to do good**. Peter says you will not always find it easy or straightforward. People don’t always like you when you are good and tease you.

In one of the books in the Bible the Psalms are songs that were written thousands of years ago. The first psalm is all about choosing the right path. If you listen to God you will flourish like a tree. You will become rooted in God’s love so you can pass it on to other people.

We will look at “**How to live today**” in two sessions over the next two weeks.

Psalm 1

“When I listen to you, God,
When I do what you ask me to do,
I am like a tree
Planted by a river,
A tree full of fruit
With leaves that are always green.”
Paraphrased by Marie-Helene Delval in Psalms for young children.

- 1. **To start thinking how we are going to start this day, let’s sing together with the cartoon.** Please find a musical instrument of some sort that you can shake or drum with while you play this YouTube version of

“**It’s a beautiful Day**”, sung by The singing Walrus.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iw8FddcclQ>

Please copy and paste into your search engine.

- 2. **Prayer:** Collect some stones and two bowls then place in them in front of you. Place all the stones in one bowl. If you have no stones think of an alternative like a pile of Lego or marbles. **Each time you pray for something move one stone from one bowl to the other bowl.**



Dear God, help me
..... Listen to you,
..... Not to bully people.
..... Choose to be like Jesus
.....

..... To be good.
..... Be Humble
..... Manage when people tease me
for being good
.....
.....

- 3. **Story Time:** Please ask someone who likes reading to read you the story of The Ugly Duckling, or they could tell you the story. After you have read or listened to the story, talk together and think about how it felt to be the ugly duckling. Jesus was an outsider too, and he was never unkind to anyone. Jesus understands that people who follow him and try to be good can get picked on just like Jesus did.

4. Craft time

- **Craft One Collect and identify leaves from trees in your neighbourhood.**

If you do what “God wants you to do” as Psalm 1 says, you will become rooted like a tree.

How to. Go for a walk around your home area with a family member. When you find any leaves look at them carefully and draw them or collect one leaf at a time. If you live in town perhaps you can take a photo of the tree and find them online on your parent’s phone and identify the trees in the local park. Collect what natural materials you can find with permission from the adult with you. Take home your drawings or your leaf collection. When you get home place them on a piece of paper and make a picture with them. Name the leaves you have managed to collect. Then you can press the leaves under some heavy books to preserve.



Why. We will flourish if we listen to God and choose to try to be good. It is all too easy to wake up in the morning and choose to be grumpy and choose to be unkind. Each morning we need to wake up and make a choice to be as Good as we can that day with God’s help. If we do, we will be rooted in God’s Love and grow up and be a healthy tree.

- **Craft time two. Walking with God Today**

How to. Take a large piece of lining paper. Then dipping your feet in different coloured paint walk along the length of the paper. If you have no paint draw around your feet and colour the outlines in with pencils. Following the trail of feet, write next to the footprints what you will be doing today to walk well with Jesus. Examples you could write or tell people who like writing are be kind, be calm, be hopeful, smile, make friends, be thoughtful and pray. Ask all the members of your family to add comments alongside the footprints of “How to live life today”.



Why.

Because we have to choose every day “to try to do good” and as Peter says later in the passage quoted above ‘*Then, those who speak evil of your good life in Christ will be made ashamed. ¹⁷ It is better to suffer for doing good than for doing wrong.*’ 1 Peter 3 Verse 16 & 17. It is hard to keep trying and thinking of ways to do what God wants us to do, but it is far easier than a life filled with bad thoughtless acts.

5. Sing and Dance along with.

I’ve got joy, joy, joy down in my heart by Wayne Hackman <http://www.youtube.com/whackstar>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MxFx8V3DSwc>

6. Prayer. Thy Kingdom Come starts this week on Thursday 21st

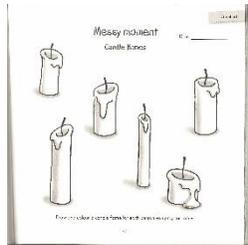


- For all those who like reading.

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/lightuptheworld>

Thy Kingdom Come is from 21st May to 31st May this year.

From the lighting up of the world page go to the home page to join in.



- For a daily simple prayer routine please draw a picture of five candles. *Messy Crafts by Lucy Moore Page 77 Copy right 2011 published by BRF.* Then, once a day, pray for 5 friends that they may find Jesus. Do this each day for 10 days from Thursday 21st to 31st May and join in the global wave of prayers.

Challenge. Food where does your food come from? With an adult, place some of the families food packets and food on the table and try and work out how far your food has come. How careful are you when you buy sweets? Do you buy Fairtrade sweets, or do they cost too much?

I hope you will have time to have a meal together after this Messy Church @ Home session.

Messy Grace May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (Hold out your hands as if expecting a present) And the love of God (Put your hands on your heart) And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (Hold hands) be with us evermore. (Hands up in the air) Amen.

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Thanks to Jane Billing for her ideas and support May 2020.