Church at Home Family Pack - 13th September 2020

Join us for our online service, usual time of 10:30am on Sunday at www.ccwsm.org.uk – "see" you there!

If you like, join in with the discussion of Facebook with our church family (@ccwsm)!

In some sections we make several suggestions of ideas. Some may be more appropriate to the people in your home than others. We're not expecting you to do all of them (although you are very welcome to!). Choose the ones which best suit you and your family.

GATHER TOGETHER

A prayer to start -

Lord Jesus,

As we look ahead to the work we will do this week, whether difficult or easy -

Help us to choose to follow in your footsteps.

Amen



Action reminder -

From the top of my head
(Touch head)
to the tips of my toes;
(Touch toes)
from the lobes of my ears
(Touch ear lobes)
to the end of my nose;
(Touch nose)
from my back, to my front
(Turn round)
to my wiggly fingers,
(stretch out arms and wiggle fingers)
God loves me!
(jump up and down)

READ TOGETHER

1 Peter 2: 18-25

International Children's Bible (ICB)



¹⁸ Slaves, accept the authority of your masters. Do this with all respect. You should obey masters who are good and kind, and you should obey masters who are bad. ¹⁹ A person might have to suffer even when he has done nothing wrong. But if he thinks of God and bears the pain, this pleases God. ²⁰ If you are punished for doing wrong, there is no reason to praise you for bearing punishment. But if you suffer for doing good, and you are patient, then that pleases God. ²¹ That is what you were called to do. Christ suffered for you. He gave you an example to follow. So, you should do as he did.

²² "He did no sin. He never lied." *Isaiah 53:9*

²³ People insulted Christ, but he did not insult them in return. Christ suffered, but he did not threaten. He let God take care of him. God is the One who judges rightly. ²⁴ Christ carried our sins in his body on the cross. He did this so that we would stop living for sin and start living for what is right. And we are healed because of his wounds. ²⁵ You were like sheep that went the wrong way. But now you have come back to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

New International Version (NIV)

¹⁸ Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. ¹⁹ For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. ²⁰ But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. ²¹ To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

²² "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." ²⁵ For "you were like sheep going astray," but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

WATCH TOGETHER



What do your parents do for work? - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vOaugsz3l0k

Kids, do you know what your parents' jobs are? If not, why not ask them now.

TALK TOGETHER

Should we obey all "masters" (parents, teachers, other leaders) or only those who are nice to us?



- Why does God bless us for this?
- What is the difference between being punished because you deserve it, and being punished even though you have done the right thing?
- Do you think this means we should never stand up for ourselves and others who are being treated badly at work or school?

(From the New Living Translation notes)

Many Christians were household slaves. It would be easy for them to submit to masters who were gentle and kind, but Peter encouraged loyalty and perseverance even in the face of unjust treatment. In the same way, we should submit to our employers, whether they are considerate or harsh. By so doing, we may win them to Christ by our good example.

Paul gave similar advice in his letters: Ephesians 6:5-9 & Colossians 3:22 – 4:15, as did Jesus: Matthew 5:46 & Luke 6:32-36

1 Peter 2:21 - Christ suffered for you. He gave you an example to follow. So, you should do as he did.

STUDY TOGETHER

- ➤ Read 1 Peter 2:18-23. Peter's words give us quite a challenge. Although he is writing about slaves and masters, are there principles we can apply to work relationships between employees and employers today?
- ➤ How do we make this fit with the Bible's teaching about standing up for those who are oppressed (see e.g. Isaiah 58:1-10)?
- Do Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount help (Mt.5:43-36)?
- Paul also had some guidance for slaves and masters. Read Ephesians 6:5-9.
 - o What would it have been like for slaves and masters to follow these instructions?
 - Are there any principles we can apply to our own work relationships today?



PLAY TOGETHER

Follow my leader





Choose someone to be the leader.

Everyone else stands behind the leader and then follows whatever the leader does!

The leader can just move around or shout out instructions for different actions as the line travels along. You could travel all over your house and garden, hopping, clapping, pretending to be aeroplanes, doing star jumps, singing a song – whatever your leader decides!

MAKE TOGETHER

Following Foot Prints



Paint and make a print or draw around the foot of each person in your house. If you are drawing around a foot then you might like to use coloured paper or colour each one in. You could even write your names on the edge of each one. Cut each foot print out. (If you live alone use your two feet or maybe ask your family to send you footprints in the post!!)

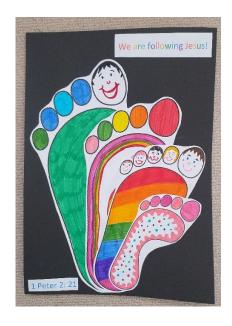
Stick the foot prints down onto a larger piece of paper, you can layer them however you like. You could even make a banner with all your footprints on - one pair following another!

Add a title: We are following Jesus!

Display your picture as a reminder of verse 21:

ICB: That is what you were called to do. Christ suffered for you. He gave you an example to **follow**. So, you should do as he did.

NIV: To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should **follow in his steps.**



SING TOGETHER



Stand Strong - Lifeway Kids: https://youtu.be/52GHF 8v-kw

Through it all – *Lifetree Kids: https: www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPdDB2jlMjc*

Cry of the broken – Hillsongs: https: www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRq-DF-4TRQ

Liturgy of the hours – Stuart Townend: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2kKsjgcTlAE&t=58s

REFLECT TOGETHER

Whether we go out to work or school, we visit other places or we stay at home, Jesus still wants us to follow his example.

In our service today we heard a song called 'A Worker's Prayer'. The first verse goes like this:

Before You I kneel, my Master and Maker
To offer the work of my hands,
For this is the day You've given Your servant;
I will rejoice and be glad:
For the strength I have to live and breathe,
For each skill Your grace has given me,
For the needs and opportunities
That will glorify Your great name



If you're able, kneel down (if not, just sit) and listen again to the song - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1q80twGSKLs

- Thank God for the strength he has given you
- Think about the things you're good at doing the skills and talents God has given you. How can you use these in a way that shows that you're thankful to God for them?
- Think about where you spend your time during the day. What needs do other people have that you could help with? What opportunities are there to show God's love?

PRAY TOGETHER

Prayer Map

Think of all the places each person in your home spends a typical week day – e.g. office (or other place of work), college, school, pre-school, home, etc. If you live on your own you can think of the different places you spend your time during a week.

At the top of a piece of paper write 'Prayer Map' and then draw each of the places.

Think of the people you spend most time with in those places and draw them on the prayer map in the right places – e.g. your friends at work or school.



If people are nice to you in those places draw a smiley face. If they are not nice to you, draw a sad face. If it's mixed (some nice, some not) draw a smiley face and a sad face.

If you're on your own, move around your prayer map praying for each place and the people you've thought of. If you're with others, pray for each other. You may want to:

- Thank God that you have a job you enjoy or that you enjoy going to school/college.
- Thank God for your friends
- Pray for your friends who don't know Jesus
- Ask for God's help with people you find difficult or who don't seem to like you very much
- Pray that you will be a good example of a follower of Jesus in each of these places.

A final prayer

At work, at rest, at play - the peace of God the Creator to you.

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit go with you on every side and at every turn, each day and each night, for all eternity.

Amen.

DO IT TOGETHER

Verse 21 says: He gave you an example to follow. So, you should do as he did. **(ICB)** ... leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. **(NIV)**



Each day, as you tie your laces or put on your shoes, ready to leave the house, think about the places you are going to, the work you will do and the people you will spend time with. Ask yourself 'What would Jesus do?' if he was doing those things and spending time with those people. If the work of the day feels difficult, ask for his help to follow in his footsteps.