

Church at Home Pack – 25th October 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 on Facebook with our church family (@ccwsm)!
In some sections we make several suggestions of ideas. Some may be more appropriate to you or the different people in your family 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.

GATHER TOGETHER

A prayer to start –

Be strong in the Lord, even when you feel weak.
Trust in the Lord, even when you are weary.
Be still before the Lord, even when you are busy.
Believe in the Lord, even when it is difficult.
Be encouraged by the Lord, even when you feel alone.
Pray to the Lord, even when you don’t expect answers.
Listen to the Lord always, for he has the words of eternal life.
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 5: 8-14



International Children's Bible (ICB)

⁸ Control yourselves and be careful! The devil is your enemy. And he goes around like a roaring lion looking for someone to eat. ⁹ Refuse to give in to the devil. Stand strong in your faith. You know that your Christian brothers and sisters all over the world are having the same sufferings you have.

¹⁰ Yes, you will suffer for a short time. But after that, God will make everything right. He will make you strong. He will support you and keep you from falling. He is the God who gives all grace. He called you to share in his glory in Christ. That glory will continue forever. ¹¹ All power is his forever and ever. Amen.

¹² I wrote this short letter with the help of Silas. I know that he is a faithful brother in Christ. I wrote to comfort and encourage you. I wanted to tell you that this is the true grace of God. Stand strong in that grace.

¹³ The church in Babylon sends you greetings. They were chosen the same as you. Mark, my son in Christ, also greets you. ¹⁴ Give each other a kiss of Christian love when you meet.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

New International Version (NIV)

⁸ Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

¹² With the help of Silas, whom I regard as a faithful brother, I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it.

¹³ She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you her greetings, and so does my son Mark. ¹⁴ Greet one another with a kiss of love.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

For Parents:

This passage speaks about the devil. Children may well ask questions. Here's an article from the people at **Parenting for Faith** which is really helpful!
parenting for faith <https://parentingforfaith.org/post/talking-our-kids-about-devil>

If you use Facebook you might like to watch **Rachel Turners Bedtime Drinks** video blog about talking to our kids about evil (ages 5-11)

https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=506403066605215&ref=watch_permalink

WATCH TOGETHER

Clip from 'Home Alone' (Kevin prepares to defend his house from robbers who are coming to break-in):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rgEP1niScLc>

We can't resist the devil by doing things like Kevin did but Tom said there are things we can do to defend ourselves from being tempted to turn away from God.

Other parts of the Bible talk about putting on God's armour to protect ourselves. Watch these videos to find out more.

Word of the Day (The Armour of God) – Saddleback Kids:

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

God's Story: Armour of God – Crossroads Kids' Club:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o7eC-W_XNyw&t=1s

TALK TOGETHER

Peter tells us that we should stand strong in our faith in God. That reminds us of all the things we've learnt from Peter's letter. We've been going through the letter since the middle of July and learnt a lot!

What have you learnt that will help you stand firm in your faith? Talk about it or make a graffiti wall of how Peter says we should live our lives as followers of Jesus. What have you been able to put into practise in your life or as helped you as you live for Jesus?

Here's a brief reminder of the things we've thought about:

- Peter wrote to people who were finding life difficult and possibly feeling alone but they were chosen by God and he had a plan for them.
- We have a living hope because Jesus came back to life.
 - Ian went on a little journey to tell us about grace and holiness. Can you remember what these words meant?
 - We thought about how we grow as Christians (Tom said that one of the ways we do this is by learning to love each other).
 - Meg talked about a dry-stone wall and each stone being important. The church is like that and we each have an important role to play.
- Keith reminded us that it's important to march to a different beat as we live our lives.
- Terry went on a whistle-stop tour of lots of workplaces as he encouraged us to think about how we behave as Christians at work, college or school.
- Then we moved on to our relationships and what being a follower of Jesus means in the way we treat each other.
- What about when people hurt us or make fun of us for being a friend of Jesus? Tom talked about choosing the Christian way forward – choosing love and forgiveness not anger and revenge.



- Then Keith encouraged us to arm or strengthen ourselves with the same attitude as Jesus. He challenged us to show our faith and live like Jesus even if that means we stand out and are different.



- For those who are leaders, Angeline talked about the need to follow Jesus' example and be like shepherds caring for their sheep – to lead through serving others.

Peter's message again and again is to

Be like Jesus!

STUDY TOGETHER

The New Testament letters have some advice about how we can resist the devil and stand firm in our faith in Jesus.

It's not just a case of resisting the devil. We need to have the right relationship with God too. What do these verses say about that?

- 1 Peter 5:6-9
- James 4:7

Paul reminds us that God has given us "armour" to help defend ourselves from the devil's attacks. Read these verses to see what each piece of armour is and then think about practical ways you could use this armour in your life.

- Ephesians 6:10-18



PLAY TOGETHER

'Put on the Armour of God' Game

Gather some things from around your house that can represent the pieces of armour from **Ephesians 6:10-18**.

You will need:

Belt of Truth – this could be a belt or a scarf

Breastplate of Righteousness – you could use a jumper

Shoes/Boots of the Good News of Peace – you'll need something that's big enough to fit everyone who is playing!

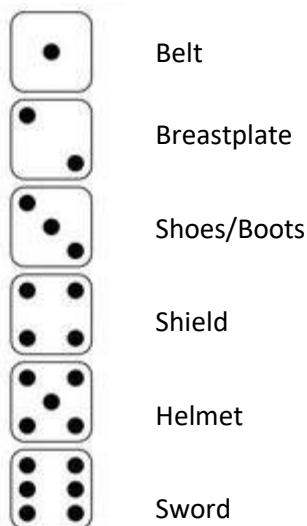
Shield of Faith – Maybe a frying pan or a tray!

Helmet of Salvation – Hat.... or colander?!

Sword of the Spirit – A Bible

And you'll need a dice.

Each number on the dice = a piece of armour



Take it in turns to throw the dice. Whichever number the dice lands on, put on that piece of 'armour'. If someone else rolls the number for the piece of armour you have on, you have to take it off and miss a go! Whoever gets the full armour on first, wins!

MAKE TOGETHER

Stand Firm 'Weeble'

If you have any of those plastic eggs lying around, either from Easter or maybe a Kinder Surprise egg then you can make a **Stand Firm Weeble!**



Open the egg and place a marble or small pebble in the bottom. You can stick it in place with tape or blu tack. Close the egg and decorate the outside with patterns and the words **Stand Firm!**

No matter how much you wobble the Weeble it won't fall over. In the same way, we might get wobbled by things in life but if we **Stand Firm with God**, we won't fall!



SING TOGETHER

Stand firm – Lifetree Kids: <https://youtu.be/y-qWInJ0iYY>

Full Armour of God – Kidspring Children's Ministry: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M3FqKD98FiQ>

Cast your burdens (lift Jesus higher) – Watoto Children's Choir:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xAARfgeVBT4>

Living hope – Phil Wickham: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u-1fwZtKJSM&feature=youtu.be>

Yet not I – City Alight: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwc2d1Xt8gM>

REFLECT TOGETHER

Read Ephesians 6: 10-18

Which piece of armour do you think you need most this week?

As you get dressed each morning think about each piece of armour:

The belt of Truth - as you put on your belt or fasten your waistband.

The protection of right living (or the Breastplate of Righteousness) – as you put on your shirt or top.

The Good News of Peace – as you put on your shoes.

The Shield of Faith – as you put on your coat or pick up your bag.

The Helmet of Salvation – as you put on your hat or put up your hood.



And as you start each day pick up the **Sword of the Spirit** – The Bible, and spend some time with God.

PRAY TOGETHER

An Action Prayer

(Keep your feet firmly in place)

When people try to push me, *(Move body from side to side)*

Jesus, I'll stand firm. *(Stand straight)*

When I feel frightened, *(Curl into a ball)*

Jesus, I'll stand firm. *(Stand straight)*

When I don't know where I'm going, *(Raise a hand over your eyes as if looking into the distance)*

Jesus, I'll stand firm. *(Stand straight)*

When people turn away from you, *(Turn your head to one side as if ignoring someone)*

Jesus, I'll stand firm. *(Stand straight)*

Amen



A Prayer in the style of Billy Ocean! *(That's an 80s reference for those of you who are too young)*

Lord, we bring to you the times we find it hard to be a Christian.

When the going gets tough, the tough get going, and stay with Jesus.

When we are busy and want to be doing other things, when we can't find time to pray:

when the going gets tough, the tough get going, and stay with Jesus.

When so many bad things happen in the world and it seems as if you don't care:

when the going gets tough, the tough get going, and stay with Jesus.

Lord, thank you for staying with us through the tough times.

Strengthen us so we can *be tough, get going and stay with Jesus.* **Amen**

DO IT TOGETHER

When lions are attacking other animals, they choose those who are alone or not alert. Peter says that's like a picture of the devil who attacks us by tempting us to turn away from Jesus and to live in a way which makes God sad. Peter reminds us that we're part of a family of believers who all face these attacks but together we can stand firm.



It has been hard for the last few months as we've not been able to meet together physically, but there are still ways we can encourage each other to stand firm in our faith in Jesus.

Is there anyone from our church family who you used to see/hear from who you haven't for a while?

Get in touch with them to check they're okay and let them know you're there for them.

Encourage them to ask for God's help.

Do you feel alone or are you struggling to stand firm in your faith?

Turn to God, and get in touch with someone from your church family to ask for their help and encouragement

James 4:7

Give yourselves to God. Stand against the devil, and the devil will run away from you.

Email: family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk

All prayers taken or adapted from

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Stand Firm Weeble taken from Flame Creative Ministry www.flamecreativekids.blogspot.com