

Church at Home Pack – 31st January 2021

Join us online for our 10:30am service on Sunday

<https://ccwsm.org.uk/service-type/sunday-service-online/>

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 or life group 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.

Our verse for the year is the same as last year's verse as we think about the difference being with Jesus makes to our lives

When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

Acts 4:13

GATHER TOGETHER

A prayer to start –

We come to praise and honour God
in word, in thought and in action.

We come to give God our full attention,
to worship and to offer our lives.

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)

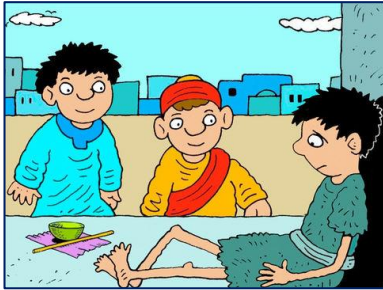
READ TOGETHER

Acts 3: 1-16



International Children's Bible (ICB)

3 One day Peter and John went to the Temple. It was three o'clock in the afternoon. This was the time for the daily prayer service. **2** There, at the Temple gate called Beautiful Gate, was a man who had been



crippled all his life. Every day he was carried to this gate to beg. He would ask for money from the people going into the Temple. **3** The man saw Peter and John going into the Temple and asked them for money. **4** Peter and John looked straight at him and said, "Look at us!" **5** The man looked at them; he thought they were going to give him some money. **6** But Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold, but I do have something else I can give you: By the power of Jesus Christ from Nazareth—stand up and walk!" **7** Then Peter took the man's right hand and lifted him up. Immediately the man's feet and ankles became

strong. **8** He jumped up, stood on his feet, and began to walk. He went into the Temple with them, walking and jumping, and praising God. **9-10** All the people recognized him. They knew he was the crippled man who always sat by the Beautiful Gate begging for money. Now they saw this same man walking and praising God. The people were amazed. They could not understand how this could happen.

11 The man was holding on to Peter and John. All the people were amazed and ran to Peter and John at Solomon's Porch. **12** When Peter saw this, he said to them, "Men of Israel, why are you surprised? You are looking at us as if it were our own power that made this man walk. Do you think this happened because we are good? No! **13** The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, gave glory to Jesus, his servant. But you gave him up to be killed. Pilate decided to let him go free. But you told Pilate you did not want Jesus. **14** He was pure and good, but you said you did not want him. You told Pilate to give you a murderer instead of Jesus. **15** And so you killed the One who gives life! But God raised him from death. We are witnesses to this. **16** It was the power of Jesus that made this crippled man well. This happened because we trusted in the power of Jesus. You can see this man, and you know him. He was made completely well because of trust in Jesus. You all saw it happen!

New International Version (NIV)

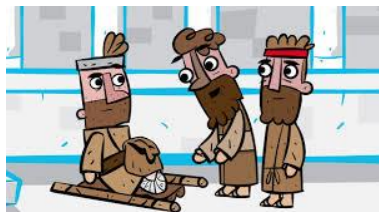
3 One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. **2** Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. **3** When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. **4** Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" **5** So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them. **6** Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." **7** Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. **8** He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. **9** When all the people saw him walking and praising God, **10** they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

11 While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's



Colonnade. ¹² When Peter saw this, he said to them: “Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. ¹⁴ You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. ¹⁵ You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. ¹⁶ By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus’ name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

WATCH TOGETHER



Peter heals a beggar who can't walk - Saddleback Kids:

<https://youtu.be/orp4ZT9710Y>

TALK TOGETHER

- What do you think the lame man was expecting when Peter told him he had something else he could give him?
- The man was asking for money to help him in his difficult circumstances. He couldn't walk, so he couldn't work. But, through the power of Jesus, he was given something more, something to take him out of the circumstances, something to change his life. Have you ever been in a difficult situation and God has given you a way out that you weren't expecting?

STUDY TOGETHER

Look at our verse for the year (**Acts 4:13**). Our Bible reading today shows us that Peter and John were noticeably changed by 'being with Jesus'. In **Acts 2: 43-47** we see how they were living and serving God. Following the healing of the lame man, Peter and John made sure that all the glory went to Jesus. In Tom's 'Sermon Snippets' he asked the question: Am I humble enough just to concentrate on God's Kingdom and my place of serving within it, not looking for 'glory' myself?

- What does it mean to give someone (or yourself) the glory?
- Have there been times when you've done something to 'get the glory'?
- Can you see how what you do each day could be used to serve God and bring him glory?

If we too are changed by a relationship with Jesus, then all we do should point to him and bring him glory. How do we do that?

Here are some ideas:

Love him and love others:

- **Matthew 22: 37-40**

How will doing this give glory to Jesus?

When Jesus was asked what the greatest commandment was, he said that all the commandments are hung on loving God and loving others. First and foremost, we are to love God with all our heart, soul and mind. Jesus showed us how to love God and love others.

Loving Jesus and obeying him are closely linked

- **Deuteronomy 11:1**
- **John 14:15; 15:10**

What does obedience have to do with love and how does it bring glory to Jesus?

Obedience can sound like a life of restrictions and boundaries. However, we know that good parents place boundaries in the lives of their children because they want to protect them and they want the best for them. Being obedient to Jesus' teachings is ultimately for our good and His glory. He knows us better than we know ourselves.

Worship only him:

- **Exodus 20: 1-3**
- **Matthew 4:8-10**

What might come into our lives and crowd Jesus out?

Things can creep into our lives and take over our hearts, and our time. Putting our relationship with Jesus above everything else in our lives, gives him the glory that he is due and that he deserves.

Glorify him in the everyday:

We make decisions every day. The choices we make, how we choose to relate to others and respond to situations can reveal what it is or who it is we are living for. Our relationship with Jesus should affect our everyday life, all our choices and decisions.

- **John 15: 8**

What does Jesus want us to do in our lives?

What is this 'fruit' and how can we 'grow' it in our lives? (See Galatians 5:22-25)

When the world sees this fruit in us it shows that we are followers of Jesus and gives him the glory.

- Can you think of any practical everyday ways in which you could show that you have a relationship with Jesus and bring him the glory?

MAKE TOGETHER

Bible Story Finger Puppets

Make these puppet people and use your fingers as legs! You can use them to play out the Bible Story together – see the **Play Together** Section.

You will need:

Card (You can use card from your recycling box – an old cereal box would be ideal!)

Pens/Pencils

Scissors

Draw an outline of a person (no legs) as shown in the picture.

Colour it in. Cut it out and cut two holes for your fingers.

Make enough puppets to play out the story together.



PLAY TOGETHER

Retell the story with finger puppets

Using the puppets in the Make Together section you can retell the Bible Story together. You could find the story in a Children's Bible Story Book and read it together too.

Have fun jumping your fingers around when the lame man gets healed!

'Have Faith' games

Tom talked about our faith being a relationship that needs nurturing and developing. Faith means to trust in something or someone. Find someone you trust in your house to help you play these games:

- ❖ Build an obstacle course. Put a blindfold on one person and another has to guide the blindfolded person through it without touching them. Only giving directions. The blindfolded person will need to trust the one who can see to get them through.



- ❖ Put a lot of cushions or pillows on the floor for this one! Two people stand, one in front of the other. The person at the front closes their eyes and puts their arms out to the side. Then they fall backwards towards the person behind. The person behind needs to catch them! The person falling needs to trust in the one who is going to catch them.



SING TOGETHER

Only Jesus – Casting Crowns: <https://youtu.be/eQd3K2Fxp4>

Yet not I but through Christ in me – CityAlight: <https://youtu.be/hwc2d1Xt8gM>

To God be the Glory – Lifetree Kids: <https://youtu.be/Y0dQbfbSW0Q>

Every move I make – Hillsong Kids (Amen TV): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CEtrCKZKbAI>

REFLECT TOGETHER

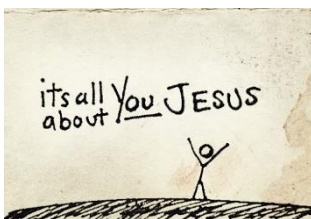
Tom explains in his ‘Sermon Snippets’ that the apostles’ ability to heal wasn’t something they owned: it wasn’t a possession. It came through faith. It came through a regular and close connection with God. Tom asked this question: Do I see my faith as a possession or more of a relationship needing cultivating?

- What does faith mean to you?
The dictionary definition is: complete trust or confidence in someone or something.
- We don’t just **get** trust or confidence in someone. Trust or faith in someone is something that builds as you spend time with them and your relationship deepens and grows.

How can you deepen your trust and faith in Jesus?

PRAY TOGETHER

Use the words of the song “It’s all about you” as a prayer.



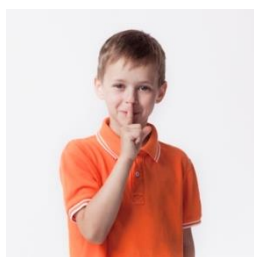
It’s all about you, Jesus
And all this is for you, for your glory and your fame
It’s not about me, as if you should do things my way
You alone are God, and I surrender to your ways

Stand in a circle and hold hands. As you say this prayer send a Mexican Wave around the circle by lifting up the hand of the person next to you (and so on). Don't forget to shout "Amen" at the end!

Glory and honour
and power and might,
world without end,
in heaven and earth,
to God most high.

Amen.

DO TOGETHER



Spread some of the joy and goodness of God's kingdom by doing something helpful or special in your home that you don't usually do BUT **don't tell anyone** you've done it (e.g. wash-up, tidy the lounge, leave a gift or card for someone where you know they'll find it – but don't sign it).

If you live on your own, do something helpful or special for a friend or neighbour without them knowing it was you.

OR

Think about how you can cultivate and grow your faith in Jesus this week. Here's some suggestions:

- Go for a walk with Jesus. As you take your daily exercise, use that time to listen and talk to Jesus
- Choose a book of the Bible to read this week to help you get to know God better
- Talk to a friend or family member about how Jesus has been with you this week, and find out what he has been doing in their life



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*Action Reminder, Gathering Prayer and Mexican Wave prayer taken from
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