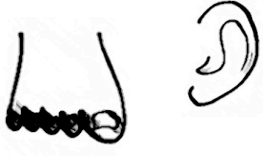


Sunday 30th August: Jesus encourages his friends to 'take up their cross'

Gathering prayer – ask your Junior Church kids to teach you the actions!



From the top of my head to the tips of my toes
From the lobes of my ears to the end of my nose
From my back to my front to my wiggly fingers
God loves me!



Matthew 16:21-28: Older children please encourage your younger siblings to join in with the actions

Jesus was heading to Jerusalem. *(Point)*

He told his friends that when he got there, things would be hard. He would be hurt and killed. *(Make a cross with your arms)*

But on the third day he would be alive again. *(Jump up)*

Peter heard about this and shouted out, 'No! Don't go!' *(Make a stop sign - arm out straight and palm facing out)*

But Jesus was angry and Peter knew that he should not try to stop Jesus. *(Angry face)*

Jesus was doing what God wanted. *(Happy face)*

Jesus said to his friends, 'Pick up your cross and follow me.' *(Make a cross with your arms)*

'It won't be easy but one day you will be rewarded.'

Share the story together in your own bible or you can find it online

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew 16:21-28&version=NIV>

Some questions for older ones to discuss with each other and their adults

- What does 'take up your cross' mean?
- Why did Peter want to stop Jesus?
- And why was Jesus angry with Peter?
- Can you think of a time when you have put the needs of someone else before your own needs? How did you feel?
- Can you think of a time when you were grateful that someone put your needs before his or her own? How did you feel?

Activity 1:

Decorate the cross template on page 3 with your version of this story.

You could draw Peter and Jesus

You could draw emojis showing how Peter felt and how Jesus felt

Could you draw how you feel when someone cares for you? Or how you feel when you care for someone else?

You could draw more people or more crosses

Activity 2:

Make an obstacle course for your teddy to complete. Teddy will need a prize for completing the course, what will it be? A great big hug from you? A teddy bears' picnic? Something else?

Activity 3: 'Roots' Colouring and activity sheets

Roots have a collection of resources for families at home:

activities: <https://www.rootsontheweb.com/media/20748/30-aug-2020-childrens-sheet.pdf>

colouring: <https://www.rootsontheweb.com/media/20758/30-aug-2020-colouring-sheet.pdf>

A prayer to use this week

It may be good,
It may be tough,
But God you are with us
And your love is enough
Amen.

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