

This is a bit of a 'junior church' for the older group, and it would be what I would do with you (more or less) if I was leading you. BUT as you are all at home, you can chose to do it with parents, with your brothers/sisters or just on your own. It sometimes helps to bounce ideas around in a group but remember you are not allowed to make each other feel silly for sharing ideas!

Please can you start by hunting out a bible and reading Acts Chapter 2 verses 1-21. It should be the story of Pentecost.

The disciples had lost their leader, the messiah. He had turned out to be a very different messiah to what they had expected, and before he had delivered them from the Romans, they had seen him die. Then they had learnt that had been part of the plan. It took a bit of a mind shift!

Now the disciples were hiding in a house, scared of the Jewish leaders, lying low. They were waiting in Jerusalem because Jesus had told them to. But he had been put to death, and they were afraid they were being hunted down.

Then... something happened.

If you had been told to wait for a helper, what (or who) would you expect?

If you were being hunted, who would you want to come and help you out? If you could design a superhero, what would they look like?

When the helper came, it looked like fire. It sounded like a rushing wind. It split up into flames that hovered over each of the disciples.

Then suddenly they were talking in different languages.

What was God's plan?

Was 'the helper' sent to help the disciples escape, or to help with God's plan?

The noise drew in a crowd. No more hiding! Out came the disciples, to the crowd's wonder... and a bit of mocking.

So Peter stood up and expanded the Bible. In fact, this back-water, ham-fisted fisherman stood in front of the crowd and explained the prophets to them. These were good, God-fearing Jews. If anything was going to get up the noses of the Jewish leaders, preaching to these men in the middle of Jerusalem would come close.

How easy is it to stand up and defend Jesus, Christianity or God?

Do we ask for help?

Do we expect the Spirit will help us in our own plans, or help us to do God's work?

Which is more important?

Prayer:

May the power of the Spirit challenge me.

May the peace of the Spirit comfort me.

May the presence of the Spirit enable me to live in love and service in the name of Christ.

Amen.

Challenge for this week:

Think about God's work and try to do His will in the next week(s), especially when it clashes with something you want! There are a lot of things we are being asked to do for social distancing which help others (but not ourselves). I'm sure there are challenges in every household!

Craft: There are instructions on the website for making kites.

