

GOING DEEPER

Use the questions and ideas on this sheet explore the story more deeply.

Jesus in the Temple

Luke 2 v 41-52

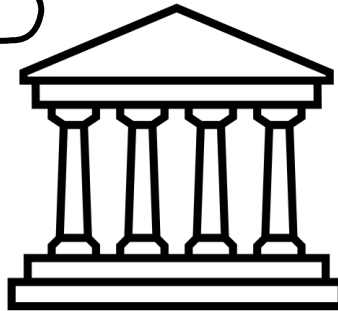


In the story Jesus was found in the temple answering questions and discussing scripture with the teachers there. How confident would you feel if somebody asked you questions about God and the Bible?

Not confident 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very confident

Set yourself a personal goal to help build knowledge of God and the Bible and your confidence in sharing it with other people.

My goal is...



What do you miss most about being able to meet in church?

Visiting Jerusalem for the Passover was a part of Jesus' family traditions. What traditions can you think of that your own family have that help you draw close to God? Write or draw one of them here:

Find the story in your own Bible. The book of Luke is in the New Testament, find the big number 2 and the small number 41.

PRAY

Jesus' parents were very worried when they couldn't find Jesus. Why not pause and pray for the grown ups in your own life who look after you. Ask God to give them his peace and to take away any worries they might have.



APPLY

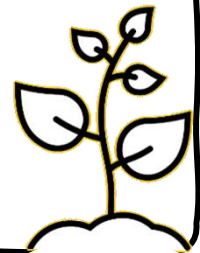
In the story Jesus was sitting in the temple courtyard talking with the teachers. They were amazed at what Jesus knew and understood.

Who can you connect with as you grow in your knowledge of and relationship with God? Who could you share your knowledge with?

GROW

The final part of this story says that Jesus became wiser, stronger and more pleasing to God.

What can we learn from Jesus' example and apply to our own lives to help us grow as Christians?



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Jesus' first followers

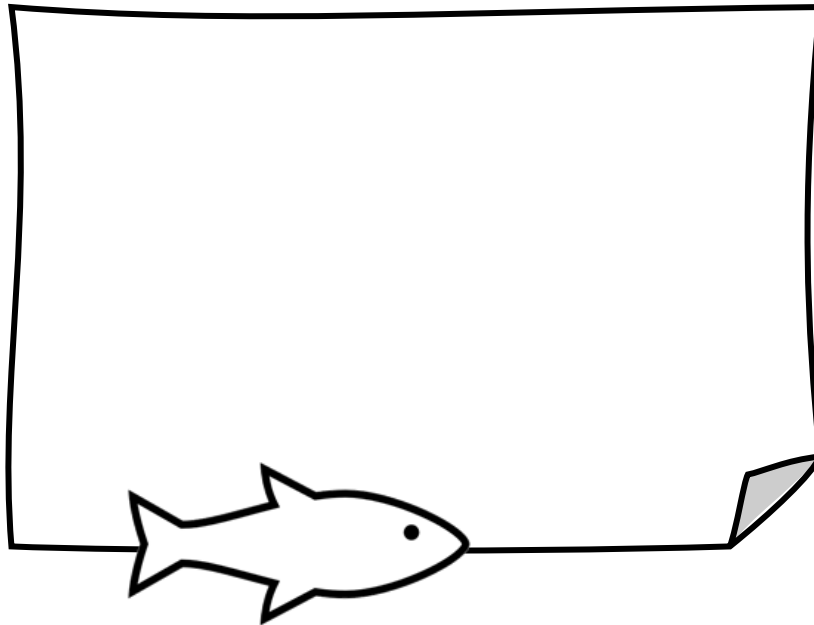
Luke 5 v 1-11



In the story Jesus called the fishermen to follow him and become 'fishers of men'. How easy or hard do you find it to share the Good News about Jesus and his love with other people?

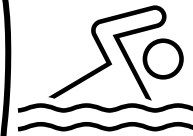
Very easy 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very hard

What different ways can you think of that we could share God's love with others? They don't all have to include talking! Write or draw your ideas here:



If Jesus was choosing disciples today who do you think he would ask?

Find the story in your own Bible. The book of Luke is in the New Testament, find the big number 5 and read the first 11 verses.



Jesus told Simon to 'go out into deep water' so that he could catch fish. How could you go deeper in your relationship with God? Write or draw some ideas here:

PRAY

Jesus told his Simon and the other fishermen to follow him and become fishers of men teaching and sharing God's love with others.

Pray for your friends or family members who don't yet know Jesus as their friend.



APPLY

In the story Jesus told the fishermen to follow him. They left everything behind and went after Jesus.

What examples from Jesus' life could you follow and apply in your own life? Is there anything you need to leave behind to follow Jesus completely?

GROW

The fishermen in the story had been fishing all night with no success. When Jesus told them to try again, they gave it a go even though they weren't sure it would work.

What is an area in your life where you could try to trust and obey God more?



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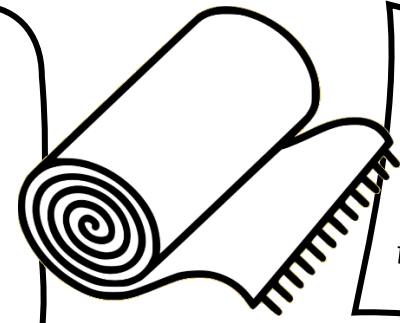
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Jesus heals and forgives.

Luke 5 v 17-26



In the story a group of friends brought a man to Jesus to be healed. They had to carry him onto the roof, break a hole in it and then lower the man through! We are not alone in our journey to draw close to God; church, friends and family can all play a part in helping our faith grow. Draw or write the names of some of the people who help you to draw closer to God.



Find the story in your own Bible. The book of Luke is in the New Testament, find the big number 5 and the small number 17.

Jesus amazed those watching when he healed the man, but they were even more amazed when Jesus said he had authority to forgive sins. Why not take a moment to pray and ask God if there are any areas in your life where you need to say sorry for your behaviour and seek forgiveness?

What is the most unusual thing you have ever seen?

What do you think is the most amazing thing about God?

PRAY

Who do you know at the moment who is sick and needs healing? Perhaps you know somebody who like the man in the story has been sick for a long time.

Take some time to pray for them today.



APPLY

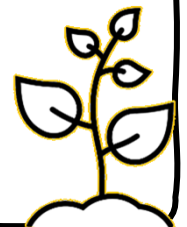
In the story the man's friends knew that Jesus could help their friend. There were obstacles in their way but they did not give up, they kept going till they had brought their friend to Jesus.

Is there an area in your life where you need to keep going in spite of obstacles today?

GROW

There is always more for us to learn and discover about God but we do not have to do this alone.

Who are some of the friends around you that help you to grow in your faith? What could you share with them from this story today.



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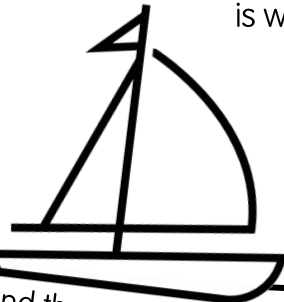
Jesus calms a storm.

Luke 5 v 1-11



Many of the disciples were experienced fishermen but this storm terrified them. In the middle of their panic they knew that Jesus was with them, but it was like they had forgotten who Jesus was!

Take a moment to think about your first reaction when something goes wrong or you face a difficult or scary situation. What can we do to help ourselves remember that Jesus is with us?



Find the story in your own Bible. The book of Luke is in the New Testament, find the big number 5 and read the first 11 verses.

Who are the people you go to when things are difficult?

What is your first response when something scares you?

What are the biggest fears or worries in your life right now? Right or draw them here and ask God to give you his peace. *Why not rip off this piece of the sheet, screw it up and throw it away as a reminder that we can give all our worries to God.*

PRAY

Take a moment to think about who is in the same boat as you right now. Who are the people in your family, class or church facing stormy difficult times?

Use your own experiences of difficult times to understand and pray God's peace over them.



APPLY

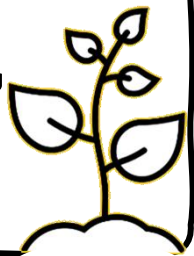
Jesus was not afraid, he was confident in his authority, he gave the wind and waves the order to stop. God's word promises that we too have authority over things on earth and in heaven through the Holy Spirit.

How could this change the way you respond to difficult and challenging situations?

GROW

It is good to build positive habits into our lives so that when challenges come, we are ready to face them.

This week take time to share with God how you are feeling through the day, check in with your emotions and pray.



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Jesus with two sisters

Luke 10 v 38-42



In this story there are two sisters, Mary and Martha. Think about which sister you are most like, how can we learn from the examples of each sister?

Mary was sat at the feet of Jesus listening to his teaching. Which of these ways of connecting with God do you find easiest?

Reading the Bible

Listening to teaching

Quiet time with God

Prayer alone

Prayer with others

Praise and worship

Spend some time waiting on God and listening to His voice. God can speak to us through pictures in our heads, words or feelings. Write or draw anything you hear.

Are you more of a Mary or a Martha?

Martha wanted to be a good host, she was busy preparing refreshments and trying to make everybody welcome.

What are some of the ways that you like to show love and care for others? Write or draw them here:

Martha got so caught up looking after others that she missed out on spending time with Jesus.

What can you do to make sure you have time for loving and serving others and time to focus on being with God?



Find the story in your own Bible. The book of Luke is in the New Testament, find the big number 10 and the small number 38.

Spend some time waiting and listening to God.

PRAY

Ask God to help you find a good balance between being like Martha (loving and serving others) and like Mary (setting aside time to be with God).



Jesus once said, "put God's kingdom first" Just like Martha we can become upset and worried about many things, but God says that we can trust him with all our worries and needs. We can choose to put God's kingdom first, going after the things that God wants and living our lives for Him.

APPLY

To become better at anything takes practice. Even listening is something we can commit to practicing each day. Take some time each day this week to listen to God and ask what He would like to say to you. The more you practice the easier it will become.

GROW



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Jesus and the children

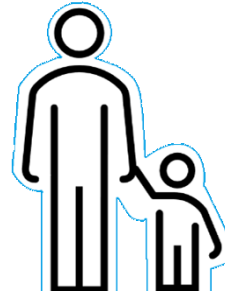
Luke 18 v 15-17



In the story the parents wanted to bring their children to Jesus but the disciples stopped them. What are some of the things that get in the way of you coming close to God and spending time with Him?

They could be thoughts and doubts or activities that you put first. Write or draw them here.

What helps you draw close and connect with Jesus?



PRAY

Jesus prayed "Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven".

Why not pray this over our world and the place where you live. Pray that people would come to know God and be drawn closer to Him



APPLY

Jesus said "let the little children come to me" – you are never too young to have a relationship with Jesus and come close to Him.

We are all invited to get to know Jesus better and spend time with Him, how could you prioritise time with Jesus this week?

GROW

Even though Jesus said that we should be like "little children" to receive God's kingdom we can still mature in our faith. Spending time with God, praying, reading our Bible and learning from others can all help us to grow in faith and understanding.



Jesus spoke about God's kingdom. A kingdom is somewhere under the authority of a King. What do you think would be different in the world if everybody knew and lived for God? Write or draw it here.

Find the story in your own Bible. The book of Luke is in the New Testament, find the big number 18 and the small number 15.

GOING DEEPER

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Zacchaeus the Tax Collector Luke 19 v 1-10



Zacchaeus was a sinner, he had made lots of mistakes but Jesus still wanted to meet him and visit his house for tea.

Are there any areas in your own life where you find it hard to live in a way that pleases God? Write or draw them here:

Jesus reached out to Zacchaeus even though lots of other people didn't like him. Can you think of somebody you know that does not have many friends?

Could you reach out to them this week? Why not draw them below and pray for them?

Find the story in your own Bible. The book of Luke is in the New Testament, find the big number 19 and read the first 10 verses.



Where are the places where you feel most connected to God?

Pray and ask God to help you to change your behaviour and to live right for Him.

PRAY

We all make mistakes and behave in ways that are not pleasing to God. The Bible promises that we can come to God, repent (say sorry) and receive forgiveness.

Say a sorry prayer today for any behaviour that has not pleased God.



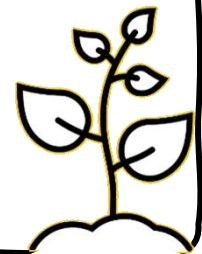
APPLY

In the story we see Jesus reach out to somebody even though they were a sinner. God's love and forgiveness is for everybody no matter what they have done in the past. Even when we make mistakes we can come to God to receive forgiveness and a fresh start.

GROW

Jesus showed love to Zacchaeus even when he was still a sinner.

Are there people in our own lives who God is asking us to love and show forgiveness to?



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**Jesus comes to
Jerusalem as King
Luke 19 v 38-42**



**What names do
you use to
describe who
Jesus is to you?**

**Why do you think
the people were
so excited by
Jesus' arrival?**

PRAY

The people in the story recognised how important Jesus was. They praised him for the miracles they had seen.

Who could you pray for today that they would come to know Jesus for themselves?



APPLY

When the people in the story saw Jesus they praised him for all he had done. They celebrated that he was with them and laid down their coats in front of Him.

How can we praise God when he does amazing things for us today?
What can we offer to God in worship?

GROW

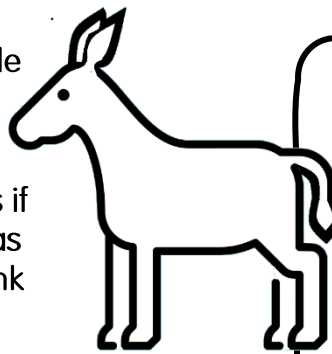
Jesus came to be our King but also our friend. As we explore the different names we use for God we can grow closer in our understanding of and relationship with God.

Ask God what name he would like you to discover and use today.



When Jesus rode into Jerusalem people called out "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord."

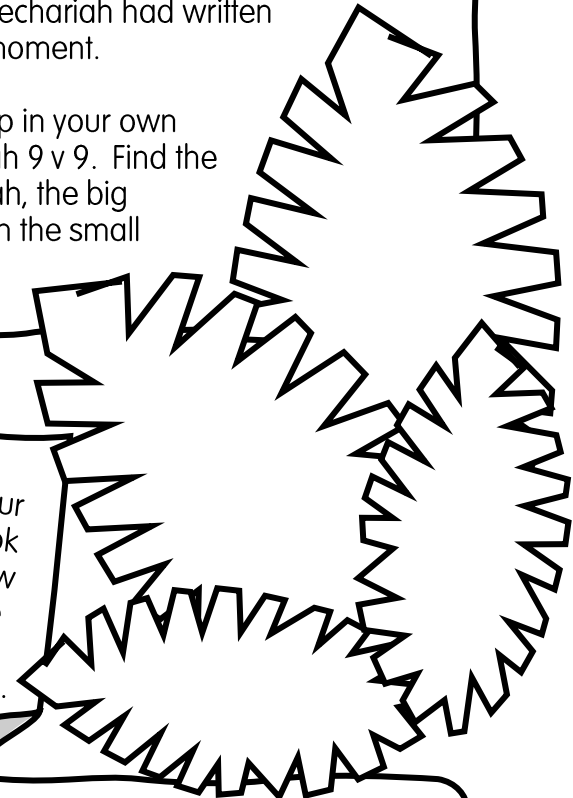
What do you think you would call Jesus if you met him face to face? Write here as many different names that you can think of for how we describe Jesus in our worship.



How would you expect a hero or king to enter a city? Jesus entered Jerusalem not with a big parade or a huge army but on a young donkey. This was all part of God's big plan. Many years before Jesus was even born a prophet called Zechariah had written about this very moment.

Why not look it up in your own Bible in Zechariah 9 v 9. Find the book of Zechariah, the big number and then the small number 9.

Find the story in your own Bible. The book of Luke is in the New Testament, find the big number 19 and the small number 38.



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Jesus' last supper

Luke 22 v 7, 14-21



Find the story in your own Bible. The book of Luke is in the New Testament, find the big number 22 and the small number 7.

Jesus told his disciples that whenever they shared bread and wine together in the future they should remember his sacrifice on the cross.

What other activities and traditions do we have in church, what do these teach us about who God? Write or draw your favourites here:



Have you ever wondered why we use bread and wine to remember Jesus' sacrifice on the cross?

The bread represents Jesus' body which was broken on the cross.

Bread is mentioned many times in the Bible. In **John 6 v 35** Jesus said "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry. And whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." Just like God gave the Israelites bread to feed them in the wilderness, we can trust that God will give us the things we need each day. Just like Jesus, we can pray "give us this day our daily bread" and ask God to give us all the things we need.

The wine represents the blood of Jesus.

In the Old Testament animals had to be sacrificed as a blood offering to God, the blood of the sacrifices showed God they repented of their sins. In **Exodus 12** we read about the first Passover. The Israelites painted their doorways with blood from young lambs or goats, God protected them from the plague of death he had sent against their enemies. When Jesus died on the cross, he was the ultimate sacrificial lamb for all of us, his blood was shed so that all our sins could be forgiven.

PRAY

In his letter to the Corinthians Paul said we should look into our own hearts before we take communion.

Pray and ask God to show you if there is anything you need to say sorry for or unforgiveness in your heart.



APPLY

Communion is our way of remembering what Jesus did, suffering and dying on the cross to take the punishment for all of our sins, shedding his blood as a sacrifice for us all.

Imagine being the disciples hearing this for the first time, how do you think it made them feel? Sometimes we can get into habits or patterns of how we do something. When we take communion, it is not supposed to be a tradition or habit it is an opportunity to really think about God's love for us. Ask God to help you discover something new the next time you share communion.

GROW



GOING DEEPER

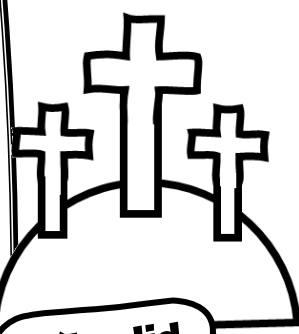
Use the questions and ideas on this sheet explore the story more deeply.

Jesus dies

Luke 23 v 32-34, 44-46. 52-54

Jesus is alive again

Luke 24 v 1-6



Why did Jesus die on the cross?

Jesus died on the cross surrounded by criminals even though he had done nothing wrong. How does it make you feel when you read about Jesus' death on the cross?

How can we draw closer to God?

When Jesus was on the cross the temple curtain was ripped in two. The curtain was stopped people from entering a special place called the Holy of holies where God's presence was, now everybody was invited to draw close to God.

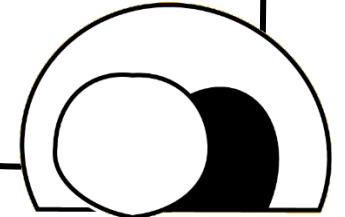
How does knowing God change the way we live?

APPLY

When we hear the story of Easter we can choose to respond. God invites us to be his friend and be forgiven for all our past mistakes.

When we know God's love and the story of Jesus it changes the way we live, we can choose to live for God and to share his love with others.

When the women arrived at the tomb they were amazed to hear that Jesus was not dead but alive! How would you share the good news of Easter with somebody else? Write or draw your own explanation here:



PRAY

Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for every mistake we will ever make so that nothing can stop us being close to God. We can all receive forgiveness from God and be his friends. If you have never said a prayer thanking God for his forgiveness and asking to be his friend and if you would like to you could use this simple prayer today.

Thank you, God, that you sent Jesus to die on the cross and to take the punishment for my sins. I am sorry for the times when I haven't lived for you.

Today I choose to live my life for you as your friend and to share your love with those I meet.
Amen



GROW

What have you learned about yourself and God this Lent?

Why not take some time to think about how you can keep on growing in your faith in the future.

