

Sunday Home Sessions – Spring/Summer 2020

22nd March 2020: The Servant King (The Last Supper – Mark 14, John 13-14)

HOW TO USE THIS MATERIAL:

This is designed to be a straightforward session that you can do with your children in about 15mins at home. It will start with a Bible story from *The Jesus Storybook Bible*, and then there will be a suggestion for a simple craft activity and/or an easy game to play. The session rounds off with a suggested prayer you can pray together, and some discussion questions you can use, either at the time or later in the day/week.

Before we go onto the suggested session plan, please have a quick read of the **parents' overview** below. This includes a single-sentence summary of what we are learning (**big idea**) and some **Bible story background**, to help you get familiar with the story we'll be looking at.

PARENTS' OVERVIEW:

Big idea: Jesus was going to die on the cross to rescue us, because He loves us.

Bible story background: On the night before Jesus died on the cross, He had one last meal with His friends. At the meal He did two very odd things:

1. He washed the disciples' feet! They would have arrived with very dirty feet from walking the filthy streets in sandals, but foot washing was a job for the lowliest servant, not the one who they had begun to realise was King of the whole Universe.
But Jesus is a King who comes to serve, not to be served (Mark 10:45), and to do whatever it takes to wash us clean – not just our feet but our hearts too (Mark 7:20-23, John 13:10, Hebrews 10:22).
2. He changed the dinner menu! They were meant to have the traditional Passover meal of lamb, unleavened bread and bitter herbs, reminding them of the way God had rescued their ancestors from slavery in Egypt. The lamb was the reminder that the eldest son in each family in Egypt had died one night, but not in the Israelite homes – a lamb had been sacrificed instead. Now Jesus takes the lamb away, and explains that He is about to die in their place, just like those lambs long ago in Egypt. Instead of lamb, they eat bread (to remind them of Jesus' body broken on the cross) and drink wine (to remind them of Jesus' blood shed on the cross, just like with sacrifices in the Temple). In short, the meal was the new reminder of the new and even greater rescue God was doing through Jesus.

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SESSION IDEAS:

Bible story:

- Read the story, “The Servant King”, from *The Jesus Storybook Bible* if you have a copy, OR
- Watch an animated reading of the story at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7j-O4wonvg0> (just the section from 3:00:13 to 3:05:07)

Craft activity:



- Use a paper plate (or a circle of card) and some blue paper or tissue paper to make a bowl of water.
- Draw around your feet on some paper and cut them out, and stick them on the edge of the “bowl”.
- You could write out Mark 10:45 on a piece of paper, or even around the rim of the plate: *“Even the Son of Man did not come to be served. Instead, he came to serve others. He came to give his life as the price for setting many people free.”*

Snack activity:

Grab some bread (or breadsticks) and blackcurrant juice, and act out the Last Supper. Ask your child to see if they can remember what each bit helps us to remember about Jesus’ death for us.

A simple prayer you can pray together with your child:

*“Father God,
Thank You so much for sending Jesus to be our King. But thank You that He is a different kind of King, who comes to help us and rescue us rather than just boss us around. Thank You that Jesus loves us so much that He was willing to die on the cross to rescue us. Please help us never to forget what He did for us, and never to stop saying thank-you to Him!
Amen.”*

A couple of simple questions to chat through with your child afterwards:

1. Why did Jesus wash the disciples’ feet?
2. What do the bread and wine help us remember about what Jesus did for us?

If you have extra time:

Why not listen, or even sing along, to the song *Mighty, Mighty Saviour*? You can find a video with lyrics here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJceYvHo3rw>