

## Sunday Club – 6<sup>h</sup> December 2020

The following is one way of delivering this session with children.

### Opening activity

Give your child(ren) a small spoonful of honey or other sweet food.

Invite them to slowly eat the honey, while asking them some questions: what does the texture of the honey feel like? How does it taste? How would you describe honey in three words? Explain how John the Baptist ate honey and introduced the sweet message of the good news.

If you made the card advent wreath last week, you can now glue the second flame to the Peace candle.

### Opening prayer – Lord Jesus

Lord Jesus,  
call us to a quiet place,  
an open space within our hearts  
to be with you.

**Amen.**

### Open the Word: Open the Bible at Mark 1.1-8

John the Baptist is telling people to say sorry and change their ways to get ready for Jesus' coming.

### [Mark 1.1-8 ICB - John Prepares for Jesus - This is the - Bible Gateway](#)

Display some sand (or salt will give a similar texture) in a tray, a rough piece of fabric and a bowl of water. Begin to read the story. When you come to the part about the desert, encourage the children to take turns to feel the sand. Ask them what it would be like to live in a desert. When you read about John's clothes, ask them to feel the rough texture of the fabric, and think about what it would be like to wear those clothes. Finally, when John baptizes people, invite the children to touch the water and think about what it would have been like to be baptized by John.

Talk together:

- Why do you think that so many people responded to John and came to see him?
- Has anyone ever told you to change? What did you do?
- How can we tell/show people who Jesus is?

Play a game to help the children think about moving to Jesus

- Ask your child(ren) to walk across the room in a way that expresses specific emotions. For example: happy, tired, nervous, laughing, sad, in love, angry.
- For the final walk, ask them to walk across the room as if they are moving toward Jesus.
- Explain that we don't need to be in any particular mood to hear the good news and move to Jesus, and that John was inviting everyone to come to Jesus.

### Craft Activity – Message in a bottle

Write messages to think about how important a good message is

**You will need:** clean, empty plastic bottles; paper, pens, stickers and decorations.

- Give your child(ren) a bottle and some paper. Talk about how a good message makes you feel. It could come in a letter, email or text message. Ask them when they last received a message like this.

- Invite your child(ren) to think of someone they would like to encourage and write them a 'good news' message. This could be an encouraging note or a positive statement about the person.
- Ask them to place their message in a bottle, and then to decorate their bottles using stickers and other decorations.
- During the week, they can give their bottle to the person they want to encourage.

Praise Song: Jesus is the Great, Good News, Good News Club

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7x-Umg6oEYY&feature=youtu.be>

Sing along and dance along!

Closing Prayer: Lord Jesus

Lord Jesus,  
John the Baptist spoke up  
and made a straight path  
so that people were ready to welcome you.  
May we speak up  
and make straight paths  
for people to meet you.  
**Amen.**

Other ideas for family worship:

An alternative is provided by Hull minster (Mark 1: 1-8)

<https://hullminster.org/family-resources>

Kid's Church (Isaiah 40:3-5) which is great fun and very interactive. Beforehand, you can read the details which shows you the resources that will be required.

[\(1\) Get ready! Christmas Presence 2 | High Energy Church Episode 38 - YouTube](#)

Rochester Diocese Ministry at Home (Isaiah 40:1-11)

<https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/5f3ecf1e68cdc/content/pages/documents/1606913959.pdf>