

LETTER FROM A KIDS CHURCH LEADER

Hi everyone!

How are we all? What have you been doing throughout lockdown? I know lots of people have been baking, playing games and getting outside. I have been reading a lot of books. Even though I really enjoy reading, one of the things that I miss doing is building lego with my niece and nephew (I might 'look' like a grown up to you all but I'm really not). I miss creating something from lots of different coloured blocks and seeing how it stands. My niece and I are expert builders, but my nephew is in his destruction phase so they get knocked down quite quickly.

In today's parable, we learn about two different builders who make their own houses, but they have different results. One remains firm because it was built on the rock, whilst the other has a house that has been knocked down (a bit like a lego house) because it was built on the sand. We are going to learn later on how important it is for us to build our lives on our rock – God. I encourage you to use your extra time in lockdown to spend some time with God, praying to Him and reading the bible.

From,

Nikki, Ben, Katie, Abigail, Judith, Mark, Ruth, John, Lois!

Challenge:

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock." - Matthew 7:24 (NIV because we know you love to add that in).

This verse is the main message from the story today. If you can remember it, you will always be reminded to build your life on God. Can you remember this verse? Why don't you write out the words and cut them up to put together again as a way of remembering?

Sing-A-Long:

Here's a song to sing and do some actions with. We hope you can encourage your family to join in. If you can't remember the actions, you can make some up.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eu5bBDRpzPM>

Bible Story:

For the month of May, we are going to learn about parables in the bible. We are looking at the Wise and Foolish Builder which can be found in Matthew 7:24-27. Read the story and watch the video below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6S3cRVLMFQ>

In this parable, Jesus tells us that the wise builder chose to build his house on the rock while the foolish one built his on sand. The rock and the sand are the foundation of each house. The rock is strong and immovable. The sand washes away very easily (if you've ever been devastated by the tide washing away your castle, you'll know sand is not a good foundation option). As people, we need foundations too. To grow and develop in our faith we need to have a foundation and we can learn from this parable. We will be able to stand firm if we build our life on the God (rock) instead of building it on the everyday distractions (sand) and things that pull us away from God. This doesn't mean that we won't face difficult times or storms in our lifetime, even the house built on the rock had a storm. But it means that we can trust God and lean on His strength to get through whatever is going on in life.

Craft:

Today's craft is going to give you some artistic freedom to create something personal to you.

What you will need: Colouring pens, paper, scissors and glue (whatever resources you need to create your own picture).

This picture was submitted last week and we thought it would be lovely to include today!

1. Today we want you to create your own poster, so we need you to split your page down the middle.
2. On the left side, write in your prettiest bubble writing: Life on Sand. Now draw some of the things that distract you from God and distract you from having a strong foundation (this could be worries, distractions).
3. On the right side, write in your prettiest bubble writing: Life on the Rock. Now draw some of the things that encourage you to build your life on God (this could be reading your bible or prayer).
4. Be as creative as possible!
5. We would love to see your creations, please take a photo and sent it to steven@railwaystreet.org



Worksheet:

NAME: _____

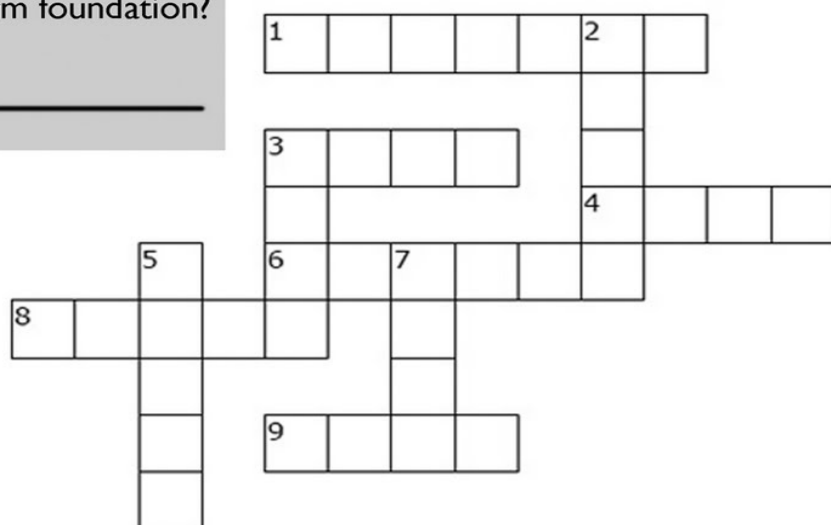
Wise or Foolish

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. Matthew 7:24 (NVI)

Based on Matthew 7:24-27



Who is my firm foundation?



ACROSS

1. Not very clever
3. The natural movement of air
4. A large stone
6. A small river
8. A building where a family lives
9. Loose soil which is found on beaches

DOWN

2. A sudden or violent condition in nature
3. Someone who exercises good judgment in his daily life is _____
5. To make or form something such as a house
7. Water that falls from the sky

HOUSE
WISE

FOOLISH
STREAM

BUILD
RAIN

STORM
SAND

WIND
ROCK

Prayer:

Dear God,

Thank you for the parable of the Wise and Foolish Builder. Thank you that it is a reminder for us to always build our lives on you. We pray today that you help us to do that, that we can learn to pray and read our bibles more so that you are our foundation.

For your glory and our good, Amen.

The End:

Thank you for another week of Kids Church everyone! We hope you are all ok and we can't wait to see you all. Thank you for sending us your craft pictures, they make us so happy! We continue to pray for you.

From,

Nikki, Ben, Katie, Abigail, Judith, Mark, Ruth, John, Lois!

Other Resources:

The Bible Project are sending out weekly family encouragements: <https://bibleproject.com>

Illustrated Ministry have lots of Free resources that can be used as well:
<https://www.illustratedministry.com/>

Railway Street Presbyterian Church: <http://www.facebook.com/RailwayStreetPC>

Hope for Youth Ministries are doing assemblies on Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays:
<https://www.facebook.com/hopeforyouthministries/>

She Reads Truth have a Kids Read Truth section with a free digital download, 'Kids Read Matthew.' This is a daily scripture and activity book, follow the link below to download:
<https://shereadstruth.com/downloads/>

Made for More have an Encounters with Jesus booklet which can be requested from
steven@railwaystreet.org

Scripture Union Devotion:

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

1. THOUGHT

'I Forget' game (a.k.a 'Conveyor Belt Challenge')

- Gather everyone together in one room.
- One person leaves and displays 10 random items in another room.
- Give everyone 1 minute to view and attempt to memorise items.
- Everyone returns and attempts to write down or say the items they can remember.
- The person who remembers most wins!

It's easy to forget things and that's why it's good to have reminders.

Talk about some things that we can all need reminded to do
e.g *brush teeth, do homework, switch off lights, buy milk etc.*

2. BIBLE

Today we're looking at the end of the Lord's Prayer. And it ends just as it began - *by praising God*. So the last line of the Lord's Prayer is a great reminder of who God is. And that gives us great confidence when we pray.

Although this line was probably added at a later date, it is still a great model for how we should end our prayers.

Read Matthew 6:13b together:

*For yours is the **kingdom**, the **power** and the **glory**, **forever** and ever. **Amen**.*

Can you think of actions to do for the words in bold, as you say this out loud?

3. INPUT

Reminders about God

- Which three things are we told belongs to God?
- Which word tells us that God can do anything?
- Which word tells us that God rules everything?
- For how long has God ruled and for how long will he rule?

Giving God the Glory

Explain that giving God the **glory** means praising Him for who He is and what He does

We can give God **glory** for His greatness and love, for creation, for the good things we see in our lives, for food, for families, for our gifts and the salvation He offers us because of Jesus.

We can give God **glory** for everything!

4. PRAYER

Each person says something that you can give God **glory** for.

Why not use your ideas to give thanks to God for who He is, what He gives us and what He has done in our lives. You could start your prayer like this:

Father God, we give you glory for: _____

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY:

Find out how many words there are in The Lord's Prayer

Can you write your own prayer using the same number of words?

You could even add some illustrations.

Display it somewhere and use it to remind you of God's goodness.