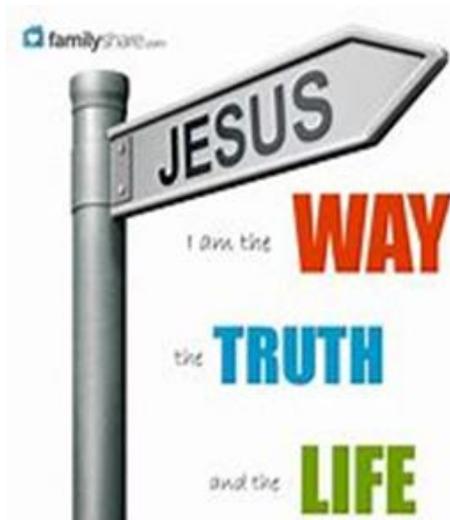


Faith at Home for families



Activity 3 – Showing Us the Way



Hello to you from St Mary's Church!

We hope you and your family are keeping well.

How is your Prayer Treasure Box coming along?
(See the notes if you're not sure what this is.)

We're putting things in our prayer Treasure Box so we have a box of things to help us get close to God. We get close to God when we talk and pray to him about the people we love and about ourselves.

This week, finding the 'Way'

This week the Bible story is about finding the way as well as Jesus saying he *IS* the way! Don't worry if this is tricky to understand, Jesus's first followers (called disciples), found it tricky too! Let's think about it together.

You might like to read this story from a Bible you have at home, or look it up online, or you can read it at the bottom of this sheet.

The reading is from John chapter 14 verses 1-14

- I wonder if you have been on a journey, perhaps you went with your family. What did you do to get ready?
- Did you pack a bag?
- Did you choose things to play with or do on the journey?
- While you were travelling did you say, "Are we nearly there yet?"!



When we go on a journey, we like to know which way we need to go. Perhaps we use a Satnav or a road map or a compass to help us find the way. Even if you don't use these, grownups often use them. These are all really good ways to help us find the place where we are going.



But what about in our everyday life?



You could say that our life is a bit like a journey.

We have family and friends who go with us on our life's journey – and we can say 'Thank you' to God for that!

But do we know where we are going?

Do we know what will happen to us on the way?

In this week's Bible story, Jesus is trying to explain to his disciples that he is going on a journey and that at the end of the journey he will be with God in heaven.

The disciples are worried because they don't understand how they can follow Jesus on this journey to God in their own lives. They are worried because they don't think they know the way.

Jesus then says to his disciples,

"I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John ch3 v 16.)

He is reminding the disciples – and us – that if we believe in him and try to do the things Jesus says in the Bible, then we will find God the Father.

If we try to do things the way he does, we are following Jesus! If we believe in Jesus then we will be walking his way in life. The good news is that Jesus walks with us!

Jesus did things like being kind to people, even people no-one else liked! He is a good friend and he keeps his promises.

➤ I wonder what you can do this week to walk some steps with Jesus.

Prayer Treasure Box - Idea 3

We thank God for Jesus, who shows us the way.

Try to find something for your Prayer Treasure Box that reminds you that Jesus IS the way, and he shows us the way in our lives.



- This might be a small compass you have.
- Maybe you can draw a road map, or even a treasure map.
- Or you could draw around your feet on paper to show you are following Jesus!

A prayer you might like to say

Dear God,

Thank you that you love us.

Thank you for sending Jesus your Son to the world.

Thank you that Jesus is the way to you and to heaven!

Help us to follow him. Amen.

Other 'way' activities!

TREASURE HUNT

- Have a treasure hunt in your house or garden.
- I wonder what you will find at the end of it!

HOTTER / COLDER

- Hide some things in your house and then ask someone to find them.
- Use the words 'Hotter' (meaning they're getting close) and 'colder' (when they're getting further from the hidden things). Use the words to guide the person to find the hidden things.

Bible Story

John chapter 14 verses 1-14 - Jesus the Way to the Father



Jesus said to his disciples, "Don't be worried! Have faith in God and faith in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house. I wouldn't tell you this, unless it was true. I am going there to prepare a place for each of you. After I have done this, I will come back and take you with me. Then we will be together. You know the way to where I am going."

Thomas said, "Lord, we don't even know where you are going! How can we know the way?"

"I am the way, the truth, and the life!" Jesus answered. "Without me, no one can go to the Father. If you had known me, you would have known the Father. But from now on, you do know him, and you have seen him."

Philip said to Jesus, "Lord, show us the Father. That is all we need."

Jesus replied: "Philip, I have been with you for a long time. Don't you know who I am? If you have seen me, you have seen the Father. How can you ask me to show you the Father? Don't you believe that I am one with the Father and that the Father is one with me? What I say isn't said on my own. The Father who lives in me does these things.

Have faith in me when I say that the Father is one with me and that I am one with the Father. If you don't believe that, then believe because of the miracles I have done."

Jesus carried on, "I am telling you the truth: if you have faith in me, you will do the same things that I am doing. You will do even greater things, now that I am going back to the Father. Ask me, and I will do whatever you ask. This way the Son will bring honour to the Father. I will do whatever you ask me to do."

Notes

The **Prayer treasure Box** is Activity 1 and can be found on St Mary's church website. You'll also find Activity 2 on the website too:

<http://www.stmarysbottesford.co.uk/faith-at-home-for-families/>