

PROPER 5

Sunday between 5 and 11 June inclusive
(if after Trinity Sunday)

Thought for the day

Anyone who does God's will is considered a close family member of Jesus.

Readings

1 Samuel 8:4-11 (12-15) 16-20 (11:14-15)

or Genesis 3:8-15

Psalms 138 or Psalm 130

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35

Aim

To know that Jesus thinks of us as family when we do God's will.

Starter

Part of the family. Stand in a circle. Tell each group in turn the way to move in the circle, like this: 'If you are a brother, run in the circle; if you are a sister, skip round the circle; if you have an uncle, stand still in the circle; if you have a grandma, walk about in the circle.'

Teaching

Talk about the way we look a bit like other people in our family, and look for family likenesses in children from the same family, or with families everyone in the group knows well. Sometimes we are alike in the way we look and sometimes in how we walk, fiddle with our fingers, or laugh. Sometimes we are like other people in our family in being quiet or noisy, losing our temper or liking music. One day Jesus was sitting talking to a circle of his friends, rather like we are sitting now. Someone told him that his mother, brothers and sisters were outside. Jesus looked around at all the people and told them he thought of everyone living God's way as part of his close family! So that means us as well. We are part of Jesus' family, and when we are living God's way we're showing the family likeness.

Praying

(To the tune of *Twinkle, twinkle, little star*)

Jesus, Jesus, can I be
in your loving family?
When I live the loving way,
loving others every day,
Jesus, Jesus, I can be
in your loving family!

Activities

On the sheet there is a picture of Jesus sitting in a house surrounded by people who are listening to him. They add themselves to the group, and other people who are living as Jesus' friends. Also there is a praying space in which they can draw someone who doesn't know Jesus yet. As they draw this person meeting Jesus, they will be thinking of them and that is very real prayer.

Notes