

On the sheet there is a wordsearch to reinforce the teaching, and they can make a game to play which helps them imagine a typical day in Jesus' ministry. They will need some thin card on which to mount the game and pieces, once they have coloured them and cut them out.

Activities

Use the prayer on the activity sheet.

Praying

(Walk with the group back to the usual meeting place, singing something like *Alléluia, alléluia, give thanks to the risen Lord* or *Oh! Oh! Oh! how good is the Lord.*)

Jesus told all the crowd to wait here, and only Peter, James and John, and Jairus and his wife were allowed to go on with him. (A leader takes three children and leaves the group to walk just out of sight.) So we'll stay here and wait for them to come back. (Sit down together, looking down towards the house. The healing party let out loud, excited shouts and come running back to the full group. Everyone gets up and crowds around them. The other leader continues the story. S/He excitedly explains how Jesus went into the house where the little girl was lying.) He held her hand, saying to her, 'Little girl, I tell you to stand up!' And sure enough she opened her eyes again and stood up, perfectly well, and Jesus had told her parents to give her something to eat!

(Walk with the group back to the usual meeting place, singing something like *Alléluia, alléluia, give thanks to the risen Lord* or *Oh! Oh! Oh! how good is the Lord.*)

So everyone went on walking to Jairus' house. (Start walking.) But then they were stopped again. (Stop.) Some men from the house came up to Jairus and whispered to him. Jairus burst into tears. (Can the children guess what the men had told him?) But Jesus paid no attention to what the men had said. He put his arm round Jairus. 'Don't be afraid,' he said. 'All you have to do is believe.'

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One man came up to Jesus and bowed. His name was Jairus, and he told Jesus that his twelve-year-old daughter was very ill, and asked Jesus to come and lay his hands on her so that she would be healed and live. So Jesus and his followers started to walk with Jairus to his house, down the narrow street. (Start walking.) But suddenly Jesus stopped walking and looked around. (Stop.) 'Who touched me?' he was asking. His friends said, 'Well, it's so crowded here that everyone is squashed against everyone else!' But Jesus had felt healing power go out of him and knew that someone had touched him wanting to be made better.

Then one of the women in the crowd came up to Jesus. 'It was me, teacher,' she said. 'I touched your clothes because I wanted to be made well - I've been ill for twelve years, you see. And thank you, Jesus, because you have made me better!'

Provide all kinds of dressing-up clothes, including some thick gloves. Everyone sits in a circle, and a dice is passed round. When someone throws a six they run and start dressing up in all the clothes. If they manage to dress up in everything before another six is thrown, they can try peeling and eating a banana. As soon as someone else throws a six, they interrupt the first person and take the clothes for themselves.

Today we are going to travel with Jesus and his friends and see what happens. (Gather them all up and walk around, outside if possible, with you telling the story as you go.) Explain that Jesus would often set off with his followers like this, walking from town to village to town. They would have passed by hills with sheep on them, fields growing barley and wheat, vineyards full of grapes, and farms with hens and their chicks. At the towns it became very crowded as the streets were narrow, and everyone came out to join them and see Jesus. Rumours about him being able to make people better meant that people would bring their sick friends and family out (stop walking), and Jesus would lay his hands on them and make them well again. Then everyone would be so happy, and join in the crowd! (Start walking again.)

There's an interruption in our story today. Remind the children that Mark has written his Gospel to show us who Jesus is, and we've seen Jesus healing people, teaching people with his stories, and making the wind and waves do what he tells them. The disciples are beginning to realise that this is no ordinary teacher and healer - he seems to have the power of God in all he says and does.

Everyone climbs out of the boat and stops. One man came up to Jesus and bowed. His name was Jairus, and he told Jesus that his twelve-year-old daughter was very ill, and asked Jesus to come and lay his hands on her so that she would be healed and live. So Jesus and his followers started to walk with Jairus to his house, down the narrow street. (Start walking.) But suddenly Jesus stopped walking and looked around. (Stop.) 'Who touched me?' he was asking. His friends said, 'Well, it's so crowded here that everyone is squashed against everyone else!' But Jesus had felt healing power go out of him and knew that someone had touched him wanting to be made better.

Teaching

Today we are going to travel with Jesus and his friends and see what happens. (Gather them all up and walk around, outside if possible, with you telling the story as you go.) Explain that Jesus would often set off with his followers like this, walking from town to village to town. They would have passed by hills with sheep on them, fields growing barley and wheat, vineyards full of grapes, and farms with hens and their chicks. At the towns it became very crowded as the streets were narrow, and everyone came out to join them and see Jesus. Rumours about him being able to make people better meant that people would bring their sick friends and family out (stop walking), and Jesus would lay his hands on them and make them well again. Then everyone would be so happy, and join in the crowd! (Start walking again.)

Starter

To know the story of Jairus' daughter and the healing which interrupts' Jesus on his way to the house.

Aim

Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15; 2:23-24  
Psalms 130 or Psalm 30 or Lamentations 3:23-33  
2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

Readings

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 or

Thought for the day

God's power can reach even into death and draw out life.

PROPER 8

Sunday between 26 June and 2 July inclusive