

PROPER 8

Sunday between 26 June and 2 July inclusive

Thought for the day

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

Readings

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
or Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15; 2:23-24
Psalm 130 or Psalm 30 or Lamentations 3:23-33
2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

Aim

To know that Jesus is never too busy to bother with them.

Starter

Play the singing game *Here we go round the mulberry bush*, with lots of busy verses, such as 'This is the way we clean the car/carry the shopping/hover the hall/make the packed lunches'.

Teaching

Talk together about being busy, and all the things that need to be done each day and each week. Sometimes we have to wait to tell our news or talk over a worry we have because people are too busy to listen straightaway. They might say, 'Just wait till I've got the dinner on', or 'till I've driven round this roundabout', or 'till we've paid at the checkout'. But Jesus is always ready to listen to us, because he isn't stuck in time like us. He can give us his full attention straightaway, wherever we are. He never rushes us or tells us to wait. He's always ready to listen to our worries and fears, and enjoy our news and jokes with us.

Praying

Thank you, Jesus,
for listening when we pray.
You're never too busy to hear what we say.

Activities

There are pictures of some very busy animal life – ants, birds, bees and spiders – to talk about, with an observation activity. There is also someone telling some news, and they draw in a friend who is really listening to what she's saying. This discussion of what good listening involves will help the children become better at the skill themselves, as well as helping them understand that Jesus is the very best listener ever.

Notes