

Together @ Home

Here are some activities you could do together as a family, begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.

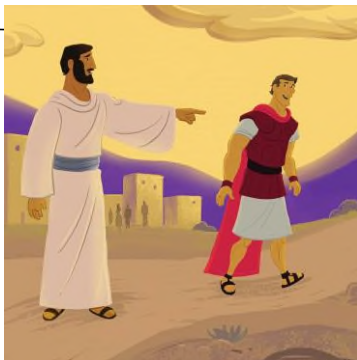


Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, the miracle of the official's son.

You can find it in your Bible in:
John 4 v 46–54

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your group.



A prayer to say together

Dear God,
Thank you for the story of the Official's Son which reminds us that you care for everybody. Help us to have faith and trust in you like the Official in the story. Even when we cannot see you at work or when we do not feel you near us, help us to remember that you can perform miracles.

We pray for all those who have family members that are ill at this time, may you be their comfort. Give them strength and faith to trust in you and to bring their own family to you in prayer.

Amen

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

How do you think the official felt when Jesus said "Go. Your son will live"?

There are so many miracles in the Bible where we see Jesus reach out and touch somebody to heal them, the official must have heard all the stories about what Jesus had been doing. Perhaps he thought Jesus would come with him, maybe he imagined Jesus laying hands on his son and praying for his healing.

It took a lot of faith for the official to come to Jesus for help, it took even more to go home and trust that Jesus could perform a miracle from so far away. *(It is 16.47 miles between Capernaum and Cana).*

Some questions for children to ask adults

Can you think of a time when you had to trust in God even when you couldn't see Him at work?

Family Activity 1

Jesus healed the Official's son without even touching him, set your family a hands-free challenge. You will need an object to transfer such as a balloon, teddy or ball. Can you get the object from one side of the room to the other without using your hands and without letting it touch the floor?

You could try holding the item with your elbow, between your knees, under your chin or even balancing it on your head... see how well you can work together as a team to complete the hands-free challenge!





A verse to remember

James 5 v 15

And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up.

Try to learn this simple verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.

If you have some friends or family members that you know who are sick why not put the verse up alongside a list of names, photos or a selection of Lego or toy figures chosen to represent them. Use this as a prayer station and as a reminder to keep asking God to be their healer.

Even though we might not be able to lay hands on people to pray at the moment we can still trust that God will be their healer, just like the Official in the story.

“What time did my son begin to get well?”

The Official was not there when his son first began to get better, but he knew it was the exact time that he had met with Jesus. Why not take on some of these time themed challenges...

Prayer O'clock

Why not challenge everybody in your family to pause for a quick prayer on the hour every hour!

You could do this for the whole week or pick a day / time to focus on e.g. praying together every day at 7am and 7pm.



“What’s the time Mr Wolf?”

Play a game of "What's the time Mr. Wolf?" . One person is 'Mr Wolf' and stands at one end of the room, everybody else stands at the other, they are the sheep.

The sheep ask "What's the time Mr. Wolf?" and Mr. Wolf must say a time e.g. - "one o'clock" "eight o'clock" etc. The sheep then take that number of steps toward Mr. Wolf – (e.g. eight steps for eight o'clock)

This is repeated. Each time the steps will take the sheep closer to Mr Wolf. When Mr. Wolf feels like it, instead of a number they say, "Dinner time!" they then turn around and chase the sheep.

The first sheep to be caught becomes the next Mr. Wolf.



The Minute Game

One person has a clock or phone timer, this person tells everybody when to begin.

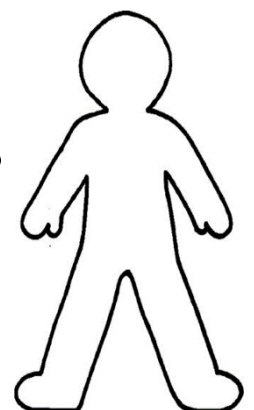
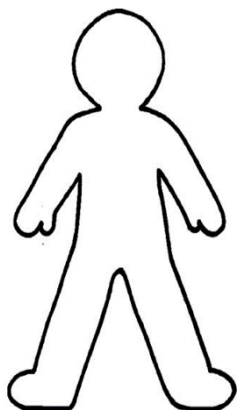
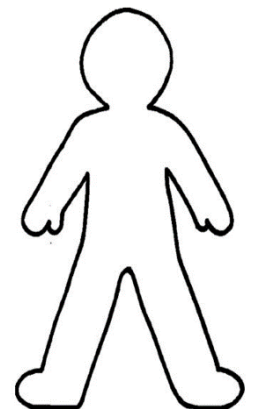
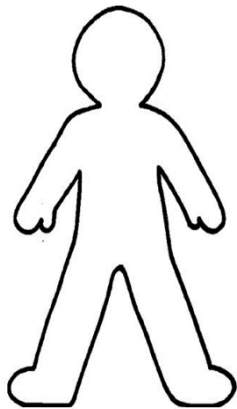
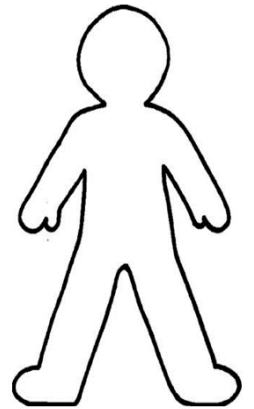
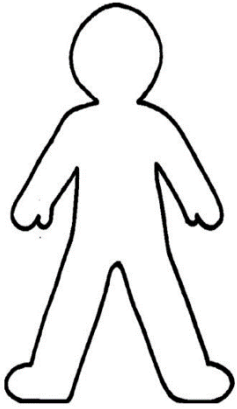
Everybody else must stand up, they must sit down when they think a minute has passed – they are not allowed to cheat by looking at a watch or clock. Once everybody has sat down the person watching the timer should say who was closest.

A colouring page you could print and colour together

Decorate the people around the edge to represent people you are praying for.

James 5 v 15

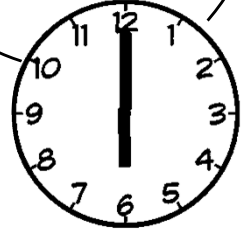
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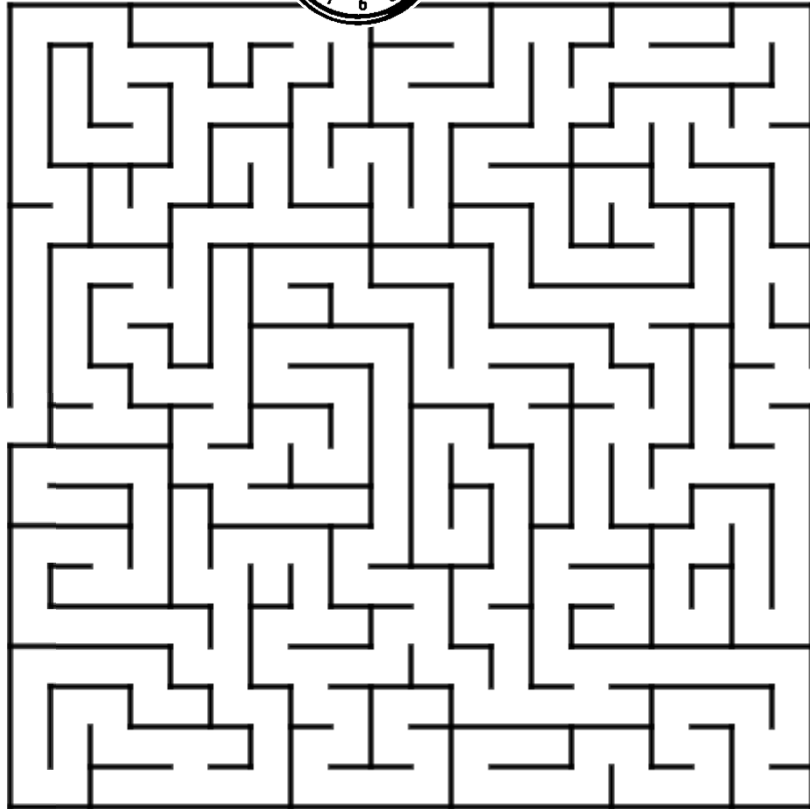
PUZZLE SHEET

How many clocks are on the page?

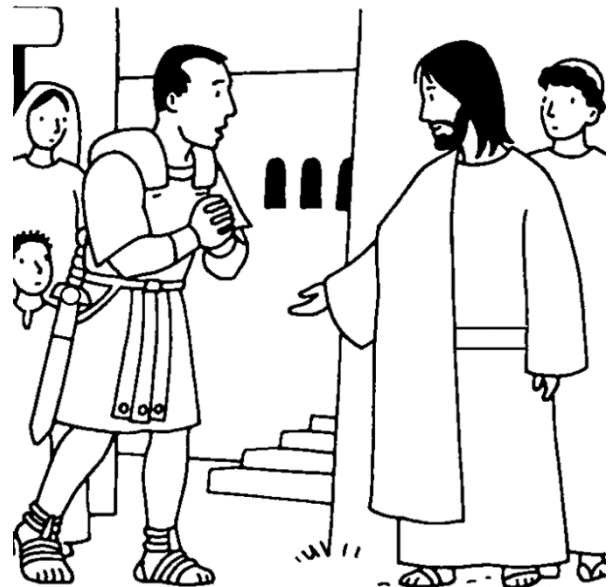
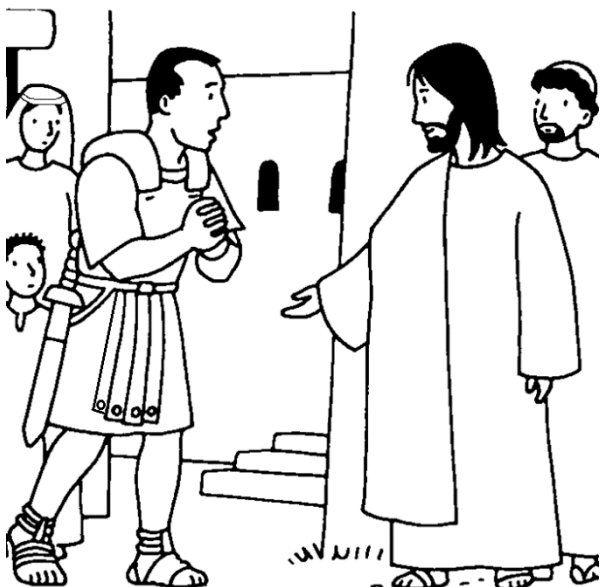
Which one shows the time at which the official met Jesus?



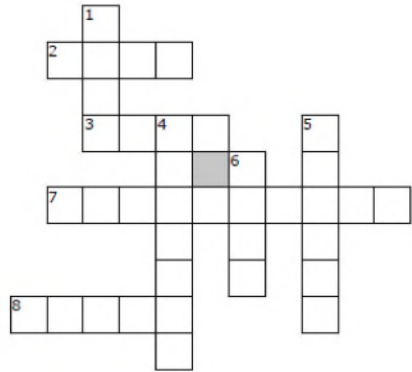
Can you help the official find his way from Capernaum to Cana to meet Jesus?



Can you find 10 differences between the two pictures?



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. A yellow metal often used in making jewelry
3. Having great material wealth
7. Showing partiality toward a person or group
8. To form an opinion about something or someone

DOWN

1. Having little or no wealth and few or no possessions
4. Articles of dress; wearing apparel; garments
5. Deserving of blame
6. A small band of precious metal worn on the finger

rich	ring	poor	favoritism
gold	clothes	judge	guilty



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Children's Worship Bulletin

Playing Favorites

James 2:1-12

Word Search Puzzle

B R O T H E R S N B A S W R R
 Y L P X N E E E G F O I Z F I
 O Q U H G C S G O S G S B I N
 U Y M D Y O U F L B L T W L G
 I T U H H V M M D V F E O T W
 I J D C W C F C P O O R H H D
 P R O D C L O T H E S S C Y T
 G D I S C R I M I N A T E I E
 E Y Y C L U W E N E Z H O T J
 P D U E H E P F S O T L I T J
 N E I G H B O R F B P R K B K
 C P T X H N T P I X O H Y Q I
 X L S Z R F K Y E V W M D P T
 S B Z K N K Z M A G U I L T Y
 F X X O A T X F E K I I X P R

RICH	FAVORITE	FILTHY	DISCRIMINATE	GOLD
CLOTHES	BROTHERS	NEIGHBOR	JUDGE	POOR
EXPLOIT	CHOSEN	SISTERS	GUILTY	RING

Murray Valley Lutheran Community – Christ Church
Murray Bridge, South Australia

Coloring Page



I can make others feel welcome by being friendly.

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Multiple Choice

Choose the word that best matches the definition.

- ___ 1. A yellow metal often used in making jewelry
A. gold B. judge C. poor D. favoritism
- ___ 2. Articles of dress; wearing apparel; garments
A. clothes B. poor C. ring D. rich
- ___ 3. Deserving of blame
A. guilty B. clothes C. ring D. gold
- ___ 4. A small band of precious metal worn on the finger
A. favoritism B. poor C. judge D. ring
- ___ 5. Having great material wealth
A. gold B. guilty C. rich D. clothes
- ___ 6. Having little or no wealth and few or no possessions
A. judge B. poor C. gold D. favoritism
- ___ 7. To form an opinion about something or someone
A. ring B. poor C. rich D. judge
- ___ 8. Showing partiality toward a person or group
A. favoritism B. clothes C. ring D. guilty

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious
Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism.

James 2:2 (NIV)



Growing FAITH at home

PROPER 18

YEAR B

God cares for the needy.



Grow Ministries
LCA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



www.growministries.org.au

Sunday between
September 4 and
September 10



CONVERSATIONS

Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

1. Share about a time when you were in need. Who helped you?
2. The apostle James reminds us that having faith means that we are concerned with the needs of others (James 2:14-17). Can you see any needs in the people around you? (What are they?)
3. How are you involved in helping to provide for the needs of others? (Look at the service idea this week).



BIBLE READINGS

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week.
Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

S	Mark 7:24-37	Jesus heals the Gentiles
M	Isaiah 35:4-7a	The return of the exiled
T	James 2:1-17	Faith without works is dead
W	Luke 18:1-8	The widow and the unjust judge
T	Hosea 12:2-6	Return to your God
F	Mark 9:14-29	Jesus gives a boy speech
S	Psalms 146	Praise for God's help

VERSE OF THE WEEK

Say to those whose hearts are afraid,
'Be strong. Do not fear. Your God will come'.

ISAIAH 35:4



CREATIVE RESPONSE

Gather stories from the newspaper, magazines or the internet which describe people in need.

Place them on a poster, pinboard or in your family prayer book. Pray for these situations and people in need as you gather together this week. Close by praying the Lord's Prayer.



MEALTIME PRAYER

Lord, as we thank you for all that you give us, bless those who have little. Give us hearts that care and hands that share. Amen.



PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who comes to bring mercy and healing for our daily lives. Amen.



ACTION RESPONSE

Create a permanent category on your shopping list entitled 'Items for those in need'.

Whenever you shop for groceries, purchase non-perishable items, toiletries etc to contribute to your church community outreach food box.

Involve different people in your household to choose items for purchase.

Pray together for God to bless those who will receive your donations.



BLESSING

May the Lord lift you up, watch over you, and uphold you now and always.