

# Church at Home for Abridge


17<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## Activities for the whole family

John 14: 15-21




1. Here's a lively song which is a prayer about the promise that Jesus makes in today's reading [Jesus send me the helper](#) by Derek Llewellyn



**Together @ Home**

Lectionary Edition  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May  
Sixth Sunday of Easter

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 story of Jesus promising a helper.

You can find it in your Bible in:

**John 14:15–21**

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

**The other passages we will be thinking about at church this week are:**

Acts 17:22-31  
Psalm 66:8-20  
1 Peter 3:13-22

### A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for our helper the Holy Spirit who helps us to live right for you.

Help us to live for you, following the example of Jesus. Help us to share your love, to serve one another and to be bold in telling others the Good News about your love.

We pray for those do not yet know you as their friend but who are in need of a helper. May they hear about your love, experience your presence and come to know you.

Amen

### Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

*Who is the helper that Jesus promised in this passage?*

Jesus was telling his friends about the Holy Spirit, who was coming to be a helper for them as they lived for God. Jesus wanted his friends to continue what he had started; sharing God's love with everybody, teaching, serving and demonstrating God's power – but Jesus also knew that they wouldn't find it easy. In a few weeks we will be reading the story together of what happened when the Holy Spirit first arrived – it's very exciting!

Jesus promised that the Helper would be with his friends forever – as friends of Jesus today we can know and be helped by the Holy Spirit as we live for God each day.

A question for children to ask adults


*What has been your most memorable experience of being helped by the Holy Spirit?*

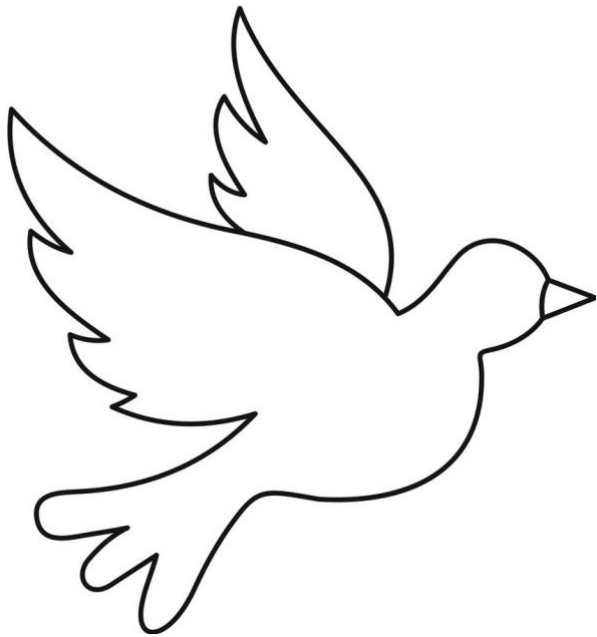
### Family Activity 1

Jesus told his disciples "If you love me, you will obey my commands".

Play a game of Simon Says together as a reminder that we should only do things that are in line with how God wants us to live.

One person is 'Simon', they should give instructions for everybody else to follow but the group should only obey the instructions if they are preceded by the phrase "Simon says".





## Family Activity 2

In today's Bible story, Jesus makes lots of promises to his followers. Can you pick out a key word from each promise and write it on this dove outline?

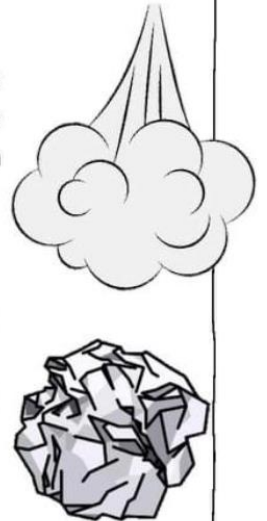
**Talk together about** what these promises mean for us today.

## Family Activity 3

Jesus told his friends that some people would struggle to believe in the Holy Spirit because they would not be able to see Him. But we believe in things all the time even though we cannot see them with our eyes! This game uses gusts of air – just like the Holy Spirit, even though we cannot see the gusts we can feel them and see their impact in the world!

You will need: *Paper, an empty container, straws (optional)*

Each person rolls themselves a tiny ball of paper, you might want to give them different colours. Place them on the edge of a table and then blow your ball into the empty container placed at the opposite end. Have a race to see who can move their paper ball the fastest and furthest with just one blow! If you have straws in the house, you could use this to help control your blowing! Why not make it even trickier by building a maze or assault course for your paper balls to travel through.

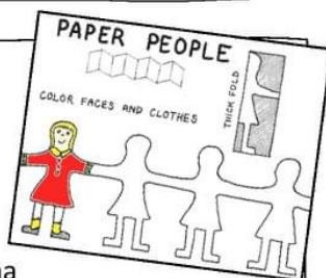


## Active Prayer

You will need: Paper, pens, any craft materials you have in the house.

Fold your paper into a concertina and draw half of a person outline – you will need the inside of the person to be on the thickest fold of your paper and the arm to stretch right to the edge of the paper. When you cut out your person and unfold the paper you should have a whole chain of people.

Decorate the people together, make each one somebody you know who doesn't yet know God as their friend – pray as you decorate them that they would hear and respond to the Good News about God's love.



## Knowing our Helper

We can call on the Holy Spirit to help us as we live for God each day. The Holy Spirit is a helper for all those who love and live for God, no matter their age.

With the help of the Holy Spirit we can become more like Jesus – showing love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness and faithfulness – we call these the **fruits of the Spirit** (Galatians 5).

The Holy Spirit can also equip us with **gifts** and talents such as teaching, prophesying, healing and serving (1 Corinthians 12).

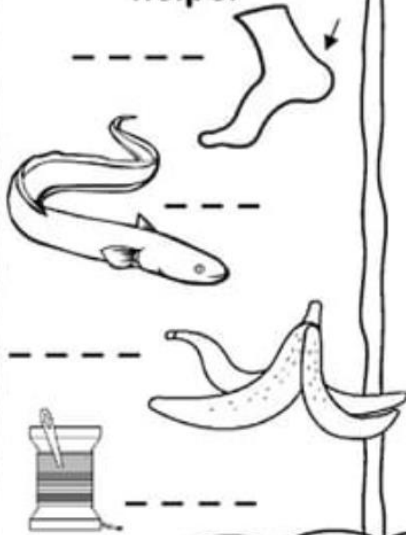
# Puzzle Sheet

Jesus promised a helper, The Holy Spirit who would help us to live for God just like He did.

Can you finish the picture of Jesus to show some of the amazing things He did while he was on the earth?

Can you guess the missing words? They are all made from the letters of the word

**helper**



Can you complete this **SUPER WORDSEARCH?!**

First...find all these Holy Spirit themed words.

These words are all "fruits of the Holy Spirit" – behaviours and attitudes that make us to be more like Jesus.

love  
joy  
peace  
patience  
kindness  
goodness  
faithfulness  
gentleness  
self-control

prophecy  
teaching  
healing  
miracles  
wisdom  
service  
leadership  
faith  
evangelism

f l p t e a c h i n g s i w i  
e a e r h w l l a s e e k t h  
h c i a o t i e f l a l t h e  
r e a t d p i s c a n f d h e  
w i a e h e h a d l l c g i v  
p e y l p f r e f o o o u a n  
o a t h i i u s c e m n r e h  
e l t p m n e l h y r t t c o  
b e w i i t g h n i y r j i o  
u f o r e e v e r e p o o v j  
o k i n d n e s s h s l y r n  
f o u r t e c e n v e s l e r  
s e s i x s s e n d o o g s t  
s s e n e l t n e g v e e n  
m s i l e g n a v e

Next...circle any letters that have not been used in the wordsearch – fill in the spaces below to spell out a Bible Verse.

These words are all gifts and talents from God that the Holy Spirit gives us.

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