

LORDSBRIDGE TEAM OF CHURCHES



Fourth Sunday after Trinity – 27th June 2021

Read Luke 4.16-21

You may like to use this material as a basis for discussion in your family.

We have now reached the fourth Mark of Mission in the series that we are thinking about. It states that as disciples we should “Seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind, and to pursue peace and reconciliation.” Wow - that’s a huge task!



In this week’s Bible reading Jesus stands up in the synagogue in Nazareth, his home town, and reads a passage from the prophet Isaiah. This passage said that God had sent him to preach to the poor, heal the sick and help prisoners. Part of Jesus’s role was to look after people who were facing difficulties in their lives – and if we are trying to follow Jesus, we should do the same.

Can you think of any groups of people who are not treated well by society? If you watch the news on television or read the newspapers you will probably hear about people who are facing challenges and find life difficult. Jesus wants us to help these people.

You might think of homeless people, or those who are struggling because they are unemployed, or migrants who are looking for a better home in this country, or single parents who find it hard to manage all the demands of a family. What can you do to help them?

Some very special people have spent their whole lives helping others. For example, Mother Teresa was a nun who worked in Calcutta in India helping the poorest people in the city. She dedicated her life to looking after those in need. See if you can find out more about her on the internet. Do you know the names of any other people who have done similar things?

Sometimes, we can only do small things – but small acts of kindness can have a big impact. For example, we can all be friendly to the people we meet. We can avoid disagreements and be kind to each other. Is there someone you know who needs a friendly smile or a kind word?

Activity

- Cut a piece of paper or card into a heart shape. Write on it the name of a person or a situation that you want to pray for. Attach the heart onto a mirror so that whenever you look in the mirror you remember that we are all God’s children and say a prayer for that person or situation.
- This week give some money to a charity that helps people in difficult circumstances.

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- Find some pictures on the internet or in newspapers of people who are facing difficult situations. Make a prayer board of these pictures and use them as the focus for your prayers this week. Here are two pictures to start with – the first is a homeless person, the second is a picture of migrants.



Prayer

We bring before you, Lord, the troubles and perils of peoples and nations,
the frustration of prisoners and captives,
the needs of refugees,
the helplessness of the weak,
the despondency of the weary.

O Lord, draw us to each other for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.