

Children and family talk for 6th September 2020 week 24.

Hello everybody! Welcome to the children and family worship.
Let's begin by talking to God:

*Dear Lord Jesus,
we don't have to see you
to know you are with us.
You bring us all together,
as a community,
in your love.
Thank you, Jesus.
Amen.*

Our Bible reading today is from **Matthew 18.15-20**

Imagine,' said Jesus, with his disciples gathered about him, 'that somebody in the church has done something to upset you.' The disciples had just been asking about who was the most important in the church, and Jesus had shocked them by saying it was the children. Now he was teaching them about relationships.

Jesus continued, 'Speak to the person alone and tell them what they've done wrong. If they listen, you'll have solved the problem and got a brother or sister back.'

'What if they don't listen?' the disciples asked.

'Take along one or two other people, who can hear what you say to one another,' Jesus replied. 'If the person still won't listen, then tell the whole church what has happened. If they won't even listen to the church, then that person is not like a brother or sister to you. They are like a Gentile or a tax collector, and you shouldn't treat them as family.'

Jesus told the disciples that they would be the ones making judgements in the church. 'You are in charge of deciding what is forbidden and what is allowed now. Whatever you forbid on earth, will also be forbidden in heaven. Whatever you allow on earth, will be allowed in heaven. And remember, if two of you agree when you ask for something on earth, my Father in heaven will give it to you.' Looking at the group listening to him, Jesus said, 'Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

Let's praise God now as we sing:

This little light of mine <https://youtu.be/ueYcZqoDW4Y>

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
(X3) Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

1. The light that shines is the light of love,
Lights the darkness from above.
It shines on me and it shines on you,
And shows what the power of love can do.
I'm gonna shine my light both far and near,
I'm gonna shine my light both bright and
clear.
When there's a dark corner in this land
I'm gonna let my little light shine.

This little light of mine....

2. On Monday He gave me the gift of love,
Tuesday, peace came from above.
On Wednesday He told me to have more
faith,
On Thursday He gave me a little more grace.
Friday, he told me just to watch and pray,
Saturday, He told me just what to say.
On Sunday He gave me the power divine
To let my little light shine.

This little light of mine...

Junior Praise 258.

Let's look at the story together:

If you'd like to have a go you will need: a simple balance scale (you can make this by hanging a yoghurt pot off either side of a wire coat hanger and hanging it on a rail), different sized stones.

Place a big stone in one side of the balance scale and challenge yourself to add stones to the other side to make it balance.

It is quite hard to balance the scales with the different stones in them isn't it! The best way to balance them is to take everything out and start afresh.

It's like this when someone does something that upsets us – trying to take revenge will never achieve balance. Forgiveness is the only way to put things right and make a fresh start.

Why do you think Jesus tells us that the whole church should be involved if two people can't sort a problem out?

Sometimes one person can have a biased viewpoint, meaning that their decisions are made putting themselves first and not others. By involving more people, you will get a more balanced viewpoint. Also, one person will not be responsible alone and the decision is shared. Another reason is that more than one person will be able to come up with more ideas and better solutions, as the saying goes, a problem shared is a problem halved!

Have you ever fallen out with a friend? What did you do about it?

What things can we do to help everyone get along with one another?

The bible gives us lots of ideas to help us to get along with each other. In Hebrews 10 verses 24 – 25 it says we should think about each other and help each other to show love and do good deeds. It goes on to say we should meet together and encourage each other. In our bible reading today, Jesus tells us to speak to anyone who has done wrong, they may not realise they have upset you and you may find you gain a friend afterwards. Also, Jesus asks us to pray about it. Let's talk to God again now;

Praying together

For the times I do wrong
and don't think how it affects others:

forgive me, Lord Jesus.

For the times I don't work together
with my friends:

forgive me, Lord Jesus.

For the times I don't listen to you:

forgive me, Lord Jesus.

Amen.

Let's all do the Grace together, follow me for the actions

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (Hold out hands as if expecting a present)

And the love of God (Put your hands on your heart)

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (Hold hands)

Be with us all now and for ever. Amen! (raise hands together on the Amen)

Don't forget to join in the Sundayclub zoom session at 11.15am on Sunday, just ask Sandy for the link. Tel: 07511950633

The children's sheet from Roots: <https://www.rootsontheweb.com/media/21027/06-sept-2020-childrens-sheet.pdf>