

Children and family talk for 31st January 2021

Good morning, and welcome to the children and family worship from Christ Church URC, Rayleigh. Let's start our worship by reading from Psalm 111 verses 1-4.

"Praise the Lord! I will thank the Lord with all my heart in the meeting of God's good people. The Lord does great things; those who enjoy them seek them. What God does is glorious and splendid and God's goodness continues forever. God's miracles are unforgettable. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Our Bible story today is from Mark 1 verses 21 to 28.

Jesus and his followers went to Capernaum. On the day of rest, (the Sabbath) he went to the Jewish meeting place called the Synagogue, and began to teach. The people were amazed  by his teaching, because he taught like a person who had authority, not like their teachers of the law.

Just  then, a man was there in the synagogue who had an evil spirit in him. He shouted,  Jesus of Nazareth! What do you want with us? Did you come to destroy us? I know who you are – God's Holy One!"

Jesus commanded the evil spirit, "Be quiet! Come out of that man!" The evil spirit shook the  man violently, gave a loud cry and then came out of him. The people were so amazed  they asked each other, "What is happening here?  This man is teaching something new, and with authority. He even gives  commands to evil spirits, and they obey him." And the news about Jesus spread quickly  everywhere in the area of Galilee.

Let's praise God now as we sing:

My God is so big

My God is so big, so strong and so mighty, there's nothing my God cannot do
My God is so big, so strong and so mighty, there's nothing my God cannot do
The rivers are God's, the mountains are God's, the stars are God's handiwork too,
My God is so big, so strong and so mighty, there's nothing my God cannot do

Let's talk about our Bible story:

Our bible passage today comes at the beginning of Jesus's ministry, just after he has met the fishermen who become his special friends. Not many people had seen or heard Jesus talk yet and they were surprised with how different he spoke and taught than the people they were used to hearing. Jesus had a new way of doing things and had power because he was God's Son. The people were even more amazed when Jesus was able to control the man who

started to shout at him. This man was said to have an evil spirit in him, but Jesus commanded the spirit to come out of him. He used the power he had from God to do this. Once again, the people were amazed and wondered how this could happen. Very quickly, the news about what Jesus had done was spread around the area, and lots of people heard about what had happened.

I think the people that day must have gone through a lot of emotions. Maybe they wondered who this man was who taught them with such strength. Then they must have been shocked and amazed when the man was freed from his evil spirit. And I should imagine that many were filled with joy and excitement when telling others about what they had seen. Jesus has the power to turn our lives upside down and fill us with all these emotions. And all we need to do is take the time to be with our Lord, listen and then be prepared to share the good news!

Let's talk to God:

Lord God, we are sorry for anything we have done wrong this last week. Thankyou that you can have power in our lives, help us to listen and to let your spirit into our lives. Help us to tell those that we meet about your love and power. 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)

The children's sheet from Roots:

<https://www.rootsontheweb.com/media/21764/31st-january-2021-activity-sheet.pdf>