

Children and family talk for Sunday 26th June 2022.

Good morning!

This time of year, we are usually all looking forward to sunny summer holidays – whether we are going away or not! But there is often preparation to do before you can go away or even out for the day. You have to decide where to go, what you will need to wear and take with you, who will come and other decisions, and then pack a day bag or a suitcase, depending on how long you are going to be away from home. We're going to look at some bible verses that talk about preparation.

Let's read from Luke chapter 9, verses 51 to 62.

⁵¹ The time was coming near when Jesus would leave and be taken to heaven. He was determined to go to Jerusalem ⁵² and sent some men ahead of him. The men went into a town in Samaria to make everything ready for Jesus. ⁵³ But the people there would not welcome him because he was going toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ James and John, the followers of Jesus, saw this. They said, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven and destroy those people?"^[a]

⁵⁵ But Jesus turned and scolded them. [And Jesus said, "You don't know what kind of spirit you belong to. ⁵⁶ The Son of Man did not come to destroy the souls of men but to save them."] Then he and his followers went to another town.

⁵⁷ They were all going along the road. Someone said to Jesus, "I will follow you any place you go."

⁵⁸ Jesus answered, "The foxes have holes to live in. The birds have nests to live in. But the Son of Man has no place to rest his head."

⁵⁹ Jesus said to another man, "Follow me!"

But the man said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

⁶⁰ But Jesus said to him, "Let the people who are dead bury their own dead! You must go and tell about the kingdom of God."

⁶¹ Another man said, "I will follow you, Lord, but first let me go and say good-bye to my family."

⁶² Jesus said, "Anyone who begins to plow a field but keeps looking back is of no use in the kingdom of God."

Sandy: Hello Mickey, how are you today?

Mickey: hi everyone, I'm really excited!

S: Oh, why is that then?

M: I'm going on an adventure!

S: Oh, that does sound exciting! Where are you going?

M: Well, I haven't decided yet, but it's going to be great fun!

S: Oh, I see, so who's going with you?

M: Well, I was going to ask you!

S: Oh, that's lovely, when are you going?

M: tomorrow, I think.

S: You don't sound very sure. I'm afraid I can't go tomorrow, Mickey, I'm a bit busy.

M: Ok, then the day after that!

S: Ah, well, I will need to let a few people know – and how long will be away?

M: Well, that depends....

S: On what?

M: On where we go of course!

S: I see, I think?! So, you don't know where you are going, when you will be coming back, and you're not exactly sure when you want to go. You haven't thought this through very well, have you?

M: No, I just thought it would be fun, especially if you are coming!

S: Oh, thank you Mickey, that's a lovely thing to say. Ok, let's plan this properly later, shall we?

M: Yes please!

In our bible reading today, unfortunately, the Samaritans didn't welcome the followers of Jesus, meaning the plans Jesus had, had to be put on hold. Later in the reading, some of the people who wanted to follow Jesus were put off by the fact that they weren't ready when it was time to leave their homes. They wanted to go back and say goodbye to their family, or wait until they had no family ties. Whilst another person is really eager to follow Jesus, but doesn't realise that it will mean leaving the comforts of his home.

Mickey hadn't really made any plans, he just wanted to go on an adventure. Being a disciple of Jesus can be an adventure, you never know what God has planned for you, but you can know that whatever it is, God is right there with you, walking by your side. God never lets us down! Let's talk to God now;

Dear God,

Thankyou that you are a patient, loving God,

Full of wisdom, and love.

Help us to prepare when we need to, and to be spontaneous when we can.

Give us the insight to allow you to lead our lives, with the knowledge that you will always look after us.

Amen.

Let's finish by saying the grace together:

And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ (Hold out your hands as if receiving a present)

The Love of God (Cross your hands over your heart)

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (hold hands together)

Be with us all, now and for evermore, Amen. (Bring thumbs together).

Here's a link for the children's sheet: [activity-sheet-26-june-2022.pdf \(rootsontheweb.com\)](https://www.rootsontheweb.com/activity-sheet-26-june-2022.pdf)

And here's a worship song from Chris Tomlin: I will follow:

<https://youtu.be/1ohvhmGSfxI>