

Children and family talk for 13th November 2022

Hello everyone, thank you for joining me to hear the bible and worship God together. Today is Remembrance Sunday, when we think about all the people who have died in wars. It's a time when people remember friends and relatives who gave their lives trying to make this world a better place. And it's also a time when we can realise how awful war is and thinking about our history can help us to try not to let it happen again. Sadly, there are still wars happening today, with Russia invading Ukraine being the one we have heard the most about on the news. There are wars too in Africa, Mexico, Afghanistan and Syria. People fighting people over land, religion, and resources.

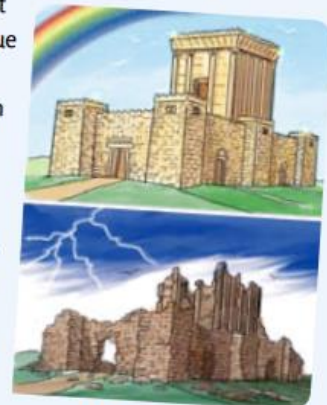
Our bible reading today is where Jesus was speaking to his special friends, the disciples about the future. Let's read that now; we are reading from Luke chapter 21, verses 5 to 19.

The Temple was huge; the Temple was grand; the Temple was covered in sparkling gemstones and decorated with ornaments. Jesus listened. He listened and heard people talking about the Temple's beauty. ✪ 'These things that you see,' he said, 'will all be thrown down one day. Not one stone will be left on top of another.' The disciples couldn't imagine the huge, grand, sparkling Temple being thrown down. 'When will this happen?' they asked. They were sure that Jesus must be talking about the end of the world. 'What signs should we look out for?'

Jesus didn't answer directly. 'Beware that you are not led astray,' he said. 'Many will come in my name, saying, "I am he, the time is near." Don't follow them.' ✪ Jesus continued, 'Before the end, there will be wars. Don't be scared. These things must happen, but the end won't follow immediately. Countries will fight one another; there will be earthquakes, starvation and terrible diseases; you will see incredible signs from heaven.'

The disciples tried to imagine all the things Jesus was talking about. But he hadn't finished. 'Before all these things happen, you will be arrested and insulted because you believe in me. You will be brought in front of kings to explain yourselves. This will give you the chance to tell people about me. Don't worry about what to say because I will give you words and wisdom, so that nobody will be able to argue against you. You will be hated because of me; even your families and friends will turn against you, but not a hair of your heads will be harmed. You will be rewarded in heaven if you hang on and endure.' ✪

Luke 21:5-19



✪ See Share the Word.

Let's talk about our bible story:

From our reading, we can see that Jesus was predicting the Disciples would have a tough time ahead. And that did happen – the temple did indeed fall and all that is left of it today is a portion of wall, known as the wailing wall, that people still make a trip to visit today. The disciples themselves had to hide from the Romans and many were killed for their faith. So, what did Jesus mean when he said, "Not a hair of your head will be harmed". Jesus was not talking about their physical bodies, on earth everyone dies, but believers in Jesus will be saved for eternal life in heaven.

In the world wars, many people gave their lives for their countries, and many of them did so with faith that they would have eternal lives with Jesus after physical death. Our faith helps us to cope when life gets tough, when we face things we don't know how to deal with, because we believe our God will look after us here and in the eternal life that is to come.

It's not easy to be a Christian, sometimes people will make fun of us because of our faith, and we might be bullied. Christians have often suffered through history, but Jesus has promised us everlasting life with God – in this world we will have trouble, but take heart, Jesus has overcome this world. Knowing that Jesus is with us, even when things are hard, can help us see things differently. When we are confused, scared, or worried, Jesus is with us.

Being a Christian can be fun too, and we can support each other and be a shining light in the darkness of this world, by helping each other and other people, we can show them God's love which is the power that will defeat all the badness. Love is the greatest thing because God is Love.

Let's talk to God now:

Lord Jesus,
as we go out into our world,
if we find things tough,
be with us
and help us with the words and wisdom we need.

Amen.

Now let's say the grace together...

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 bringing thumbs together on the
Amen)

Here is the activity sheet for this week: [activity-sheet-13-november-2022.pdf](https://www.rootsontheweb.com/activity-sheet-13-november-2022.pdf)
([rootsontheweb.com](https://www.rootsontheweb.com))