



Faith Adventures Youth Resource

Embedded in Faith Adventures: Children Together, this youth resource is intergenerational in nature and designed to foster God-connection in church, home and beyond.

For guidance on the purpose of the resource and how to use it as a launch pad for your engagement with children and families, please use this link: <https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Faith-Adventures-How-To-FAYR.pdf>

Isaiah 11: 1 -2 – Isaiah speaks about Jesus

Theme: Jesus as God’s servant – can we serve God too?

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Introduction: What would be helpful to know before we begin ?

Isaiah

This issue of Faith Adventures is planned for the second week in Lent, as we are travelling towards Easter. During Lent we remember Jesus’ time in the desert, spending time fasting and praying while he prepared to start his ministry. We sometimes talk about taking time out to “find ourselves”, and Jesus was taking time out to explore who he was as both human and divine (God), what God wanted of him.

The prophecy in Isaiah was written almost eight hundred years before the birth of Jesus, and this prophecy and others predicted the coming of Jesus and the role he would fulfil – both caring and bringing justice. Not all of the writing in the book of Isaiah is believed to have been written by the prophet Isaiah himself, some parts may have been written by other prophets who had similar beliefs. In contrast to some other parts of the Old Testament, Isaiah talks about God’s grace and mercy and the promise that, although God would judge the people, God would also send the means of their salvation.

This passage links clearly to Jesus’ baptism, where God s 9 (t)m (e G 0 12 177.8)2,o Jsgon.us3 :

[-17&version=RSV](#)

It also links well with the passage where Jesus says, “whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me”.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+25%3A40&version=NIV>



It may seem from this passage that Jesus will be passive or meek but take time to explore what Jesus came to do, what the definition is of someone who is a servant of God. Does it mean that we need always to be passive and inoffensive to others? Jesus was no doormat.

Although Jesus served God in many different ways, we are part of the body of Christ which means that we are not called to do everything when we serve God – some people will be called to do one thing, some will be called to do others, but we can all work together to do God's will, just as Jesus

God's spirit is in my heart (Go Tell Everyone)

<https://youtu.be/nzi2q2m65mA?si=z9Hv5INKBO6pB87p>

Show me how to stand for justice <https://youtu.be/jrMuTxZDGLI?si=Blcb5zM-646AHuib>

Send me <https://youtu.be/nLYKMZE5XL0?si=CZjsU2zilUwX24WN>

Explore

Ideas and activities to explore this week's Bible passage together

A new way to explore the theme

You may wish to use the explore section from this week's Faith Adventures: Children Together to guide your exploration of the theme this week.

Alternatively:

Job description of a servant – what did God want Jesus to do?

This is an opportunity to write a job description for a servant of God. I wonder what sort of tasks would be on it? Perhaps it would also include things this person would be expected not to do! Either complete this together as a group or split into smaller groups or pairs discussing your reasons for including and leaving out certain roles and responsibilities. Some suggested subtitles to focus your thinking.

Roles and responsibilities:

Desirable characteristics:

Compulsory characteristics:

Things we would not like to see in the person:

Modern parables

This section includes references to TV programmes, films, books, TED talks, TikTok etc aimed at this age group that will have been widely seen, or where a clip is available to use as a stimulus for discussion. You may also enjoy the picture book recommended for Faith Adventures: Children Together and explore the relevance of the story to the theme of the session in more depth – young people and adults are often well tuned in to the deeper meanings in materials aimed at younger people and the authors are often very aware of the adults reading the books to or with younger ones.

Watch https://youtu.be/M_U8PkIPOTo?si=H-gTPUmb60jRWu-H

2023 URC Community Project Award Winner - DARE Darwen Asylum Refugee Enterprise

This is one example of a church serving their local community, perhaps you can think of examples in your own church or local area.

Talking together: Going deeper

Put up and shut up? Does this passage mean we should never get angry about things, never speak out? How does it compare with what we know about Jesus's life



