

Sunday October 17th

This week we explore working out our place in Jesus' community.



Gospel reading: Mark 10: 35 – 45

Father, may we serve you in all we do.
Help us to always work together with others.
Amen.

The Request of James and John

³⁵ James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶ And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" ³⁷ And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸ But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" ³⁹ They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

⁴¹ When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴² So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³ But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."



A version of the story for very young children

Lay out a cloth and some play figures.

Here is Jesus. (place one figure on the cloth)

Here are James and John. They are friends of Jesus.

(place two more figures on the cloth)

One day they came to Jesus and asked a question:

'In heaven can one of us sit on your right side?'

(place one figure on the right of Jesus)

'And the other on your left?'

(place the other on the left of Jesus. Now add some other figures on the cloth)

When the other disciples heard this, they were cross.

(move the play figures into a circle)

Jesus said, 'To be great you must serve others and help others.'

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- To sit at the right or left hand of an important person made you important and recognised too.
 - The Son of Man is a title from the Old Testament Book of Daniel, used by Jesus to describe himself as fully human as well as being the Son of God.

Again Jesus tells the disciples not to quarrel with each other about who is the greatest. He tells them He has come as a servant and not as a king. He continues by telling them it is people who think of others before themselves who will be rewarded for their goodness, and they will have a place with Him in the kingdom of Heaven.

God will measure our 'greatness' by our willingness to think of others before ourselves. Jesus did not come as a king but to serve all humankind. He put our needs first by dying on the cross for us to save us from sin. Do you know of anyone who puts the needs of others before their own? Have you heard of Mother Teresa? She was a nun who truly did just that. She made herself a servant of the people and always put the needs of the poor and sick people in India first. She did this because of her true love for Jesus and didn't expect any thanks or reward at all. We should always treat other people as we would like to be treated. Jesus said that whatever we do to others we do to Him.

Jesus, teach us to be caring and loving and to think of other people before ourselves. Amen.



Colour this picture of Jesus and the disciples

Talk together

When do you feel important?

What do you think was wrong with James and John's request?

How can we put others first in our daily lives?
 A game about different ways of serving other



CHILDREN & YOUTH | 17-23 October 2021
 Template to use with: *Service bingo*, p.32
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SERVICE
B I N G O

Smile at someone	Write a thank-you note to your teacher
Ask a parent/ carer how his/ her day was	Offer to help with a task at school
Invite someone to play with you	Give someone a compliment

SERVICE
B I N G O

Spend time with someone who is lonely	Give up some time to help others
Hold the door open for someone	Invite someone to sit with you at lunch time
Thank someone you meet, e.g. a shopkeeper or bus driver	Ask if there is something you can help with at church

SERVICE
B I N G O

Do a litter pick	Help a friend who is struggling
Help to cook a meal at home	Work to make some money for a charity
Help out with a task at home	Give a friend a high five

SERVICE
B I N G O

Make a treat for a neighbour/ friend	Tidy up at home without being asked
Ask a parent/ carer how his/ her day was	Hold the door open for someone
Smile at someone	Write a thank-you note to your teacher

SERVICE
B I N G O

Tidy up at home without being asked	Give a friend a high five
Ask a parent/ carer how his/ her day was	Offer to help with a task at school
Thank someone you meet, e.g. a shopkeeper or bus driver	Give someone a compliment

SERVICE
B I N G O

Spend time with someone who is lonely	Give up some time to help others
Hold the door open for someone	Help a friend who is struggling
Invite someone to play with you	Ask if there is something you can help with at church

SERVICE
B I N G O

Do a litter pick	Invite someone to sit with you at lunch time
Ask a parent/ carer how his/ her day was	Hold the door open for someone
Help out with a task at home	Write a thank-you note to your teacher

SERVICE
B I N G O

Make a treat for a neighbour/ friend	Smile at someone
Help to cook a meal at home	Work to make some money for a charity
Smile at someone	Write a thank-you note to your teacher

You will need: bingo cards for each person; a list of actions to read out (see below); coloured pens/pencils. (Bingo cards on previous 2 pages for you)

- Give everyone a bingo card.
- Ask a leader or volunteer to read from the list of actions to serve others. Ask everyone to colour in the service action, if what is read out is on their sheet.
- The first one to finish colouring all the sections on their sheet is the winner. Talk about what kind of community you would be if you all did these actions for one another.

List of actions to read out

Smile at someone

Write a thank-you note to your teacher

Do a litter pick

Help a friend who is struggling

Ask a parent/carer how his/her day was

Offer to help with a task at school

Help to cook a meal at home

Work to make some money for a charity

Invite someone to play with you

Give someone a compliment

Help out with a task at home

Give a friend a high five

Spend time with someone who is lonely

Give up some time to help others

Hold the door open for someone

Invite someone to sit with you at lunch time

Thank someone you meet, e.g. a shopkeeper or bus driver

Ask if there is something you can help with at church

Make a treat for a neighbour/friend

Tidy up at home without being asked

Wanted: Followers of Jesus

Consider the community Jesus wanted to create

You will need: paper, pens.

Ask your family to create wanted posters for people to join Jesus' community, featuring the characteristics needed to follow Jesus.

Encourage them to consider these questions: What is important about relationships in Jesus' community? How could you describe how Jesus wants his community to work together?

A symbol of your place in community

You will need: [a medal template](#) , printed on card, one per child; colouring pens, ribbon, a stapler.

- Give everyone a medal-shaped card.
- Ask them to write their name on it and colour in the letters.
- Help them to staple on the ribbon and wear it, if they wish.
- Talk together about how medals are a symbol of achieving something, but in today's session everyone gets a medal, because we all have a place in Jesus' community.

Remember those who are powerful and those who serve

- Display a chair and, if possible, decorate it to show power and authority, or explain that this is what it is to symbolise.
- Invite the children to sit in the chair, one at a time, to pray about those who are powerful in your community, then kneel before it and pray about those who serve others in the community. Then think about where they would like to be/where they are.
- Remind the children that we all need to be willing and able to serve each other, and that this is part of being in Jesus' community.



Everyone has a place in Jesus' community. When I serve others I am serving God.

T	G	R	E	T	R	S	I	F	E	ZEBEDEE
O	N	T	N	A	V	R	E	S	Z	GLORY
T	N	A	G	E	D	T	Z	L	E	DRINK
S	S	E	N	R	H	E	E	A	B	INDIGNANT
I	S	R	I	G	B	N	B	E	E	CUP
T	Y	N	I	E	I	G	E	V	H	HAND
P	K	R	D	F	B	D	R	A	D	PAGANS
A	L	E	O	E	E	E	N	D	E	GREAT
B	E	V	A	L	S	D	Z	I	E	SERVANT
E	R	S	N	A	G	A	P	U	C	FIRST
										SLAVE
										SERVE