



Middle River Friends Church learn at home Sunday School Pack-May 10, 2020

Because we LOVE our kids, this pack has been put together for our families so that we can partner with you in this time to help your children learn more about God and the Bible. Faith in God is important to instill in our young people as often as we can. Please use these materials throughout the week and be sure to post any coloring pages, crafts, or impromptu plays of the Bible Story that your children do on our Facebook page. We would love to see them engaged in learning the Bible.

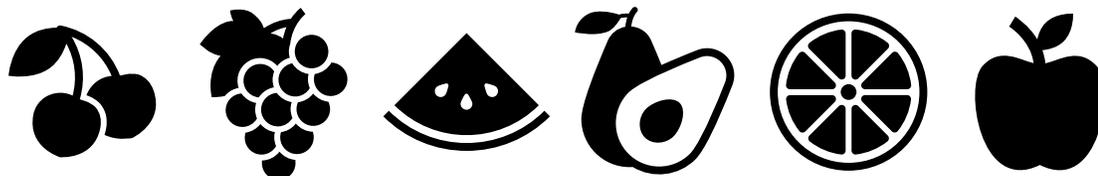
Pastor Matt's sermon today was on the fig tree that bore no fruit and the narrow door found in Luke 13.

This packet will have two parts;

Part 1 will be the story found in Luke 13:1-9

Part 2 will be the story found in Luke 13:22-30

Part 1



Have some fruit on hand as you say this:

“Look what I have...apples, oranges, peaches, and bananas. Yum! Yum! I think I'll have a delicious snack right now. How about you? Would you like to join me? Do you know what I think would be great? I think it would be great to have a lot a fruit trees in your yard so that any time you wanted a snack, you could just go out and pick a piece of fruit off of the tree. But what if you had a fruit tree in your yard that never had any fruit on it? It wouldn't be good for anything except shade, would it?”

*****In our Bible lesson today, Jesus told a story about a man who planted a fig tree in his garden. After some time had passed, he went to look for some fruit on the tree, but there was none. Year after year he watched the tree, but the tree never produced any fruit. Finally, the man**

went to the gardener who took care of the tree and said to him, "For three years I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! It is just taking up space in the garden."

Scripture Reference: Luke 13:1-9

Read Luke 13:1-9

13 Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. ²Jesus answered, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? ³I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. ⁴Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

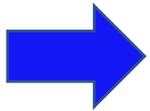
⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. ⁷So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?'

⁸"'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.'"

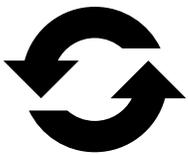


***In telling this story, Jesus was really talking about us and about God. God has "planted" us here on this earth and he expects us to produce good fruit in our life. What kind of fruit does he expect? When He looks at the way we live our life, he wants to see things like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, and gentleness. There are times when he is disappointed in what he sees, but he is willing to give us another chance.

What can we do to help us produce the kind of fruit that God expects? We can worship regularly, read God's Word, and pray. Those things will help us to live a fruitful life. Let's pray right now and ask God to help us.



Heavenly Father, we know that you expect good things from your children. Help us live a life that will be pleasing to you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Here are some activities you can do at home to reinforce the Bible lesson you just taught. Do one or two.

BIBLE VERSE RELAY: Divide the children into two teams. Each team member will take a turn running to their Bible verse basket and taking one strip of words from today's Bible verse and run quickly back to the team. Team members will continue to run and select a strip of words until all the strips are gone. The team will then gather together in a circle and put the Bible verse together in the correct order on the floor. The first team to get the Bible verse in the correct order will win the game and will READ THE VERSE out loud to the class.

FRUIT TREE RELAY: The teacher will draw different kinds of fruit on construction paper and cut it out before class begins. Be sure there is one of each type of fruit for each team. The fruit will be hidden around the room. Divide class into teams. When the teacher says -- FIND THE BANANA -- the entire team can hunt for one banana and run back to their starting area. Continue with finding fruits such as FIND THE APPLE, FIND THE ORANGE, FIND THE MANGO, FIND THE GRAPES, etc. After each "fruit find", the team will return. Each fruit can have a word from our Bible lesson today and children can tape their fruit to a poster board tree that has been made for each team after their fruit has been found. Children will enjoy watching their FRUIT TREE get more and more fruit with all the fruit that they are finding.

FRUIT PUZZLES: Let the children draw a large piece of fruit on a piece of construction paper. Cut around the outside tracing of the fruit. Write fruits of the Spirit on their fruit (love, joy, peace, etc). Then the children will cut their puzzle into 5-10 pieces (Depending on age of children. Older children could cut the puzzle into more pieces) The children can then then exchange their puzzle pieces with another child to let that child try to put the puzzle together. Children will enjoy watching another

child put their puzzle together. If time allows, let children put their own puzzle together once again and glue the completed puzzle to a piece of construction paper or poster board.

WATERMELON FRISBEE: Give each child paper plate. Use GREEN watercolor or tempera paint to paint around the edge of the plate. Use RED watercolor or tempera paint to paint the center of the plate. Use black paint to paint seeds in the red area of the plate. When all of the paint is dry, the children can enjoy tossing their watermelon Frisbee around the room.

POPSICLE STICK APPLE CORE CRAFT: The children will begin by gluing three jumbo Popsicle sticks together. Set them aside to dry while they cut two semicircles to form the top and bottom of the apple. Glue one semicircle at the top of the Popsicle sticks and the other at the bottom. On the center stick, use a black marker to draw apple seeds. Cut out a stem from some brown construction paper and leaf from green construction paper at glue them to the back of the Popsicle sticks.

HIDDEN FRUITY PUZZLE: Write today's Bible verse on a piece of poster board. Cover the words with pictures of fruit from a magazine or fruit that the teacher has drawn and cut out. Let the children call out a fruit to be taken off the board and try to say the Bible verse. If unable to recite the verse, then another child can ask for a fruit to be removed from the board. Continue until the children can read all of the verse.

FRUIT BEARING CHRISTIANS: Divide the children into pairs. Give each pair a piece of paper that they can try to draw a person (looking at each other for ideas of hair, face, clothes, etc) and cut the outline of the "person". Have the children write on their drawn person, "FRUIT BEARING CHRISTIAN" and write words that represent bearing fruit, such as, WORSHIPS REGULARLY, READS GOD'S WORD, PRAYS, SHARES JESUS WITH OTHERS, LOVING, JOYFUL, ETC. Tape the drawn people to the classroom wall.

SHARE A FRUITY SNACK: Have samples of fresh fruit for children to enjoy, or dried fruit or fruity candy snacks. Have children take turns naming a fruit of the Spirit, or go around in a circle, saying the fruits of the Spirit as quickly as they can and go faster and faster!

Adapted from Ministrytochildren.com

There are
coloring and activity pages in the kid pack that also go
along with this lesson.

Part 2

Everyone likes knock, knock jokes. Here is a few for you today.

Knock, Knock. (Who's there?) Ben. (Ben who?) Ben knocking for ten minutes. Please let me in.

Knock, knock. (Who's there?) Doris. (Doris who?) Doris locked, that's why I'm knocking.

Knock, knock. (Who's there?) Adore. (Adore who?) Adore is between us, please open up!

Knock, knock. (Who's there?) Lettuce. (Lettuce who?) Lettuce in, it's cold out here!

In our Bible lesson today, Jesus tells about people who will be knocking at the door, but it will be too late. Where is the door Jesus is talking about? It is the door to heaven. Everyone wants to get into heaven, but there is only one door and Jesus says the door is very narrow. Jesus said, "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.' "But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Get away from me.'"

Read Luke 13:22-30

²²Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. ²³Someone asked him, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?"

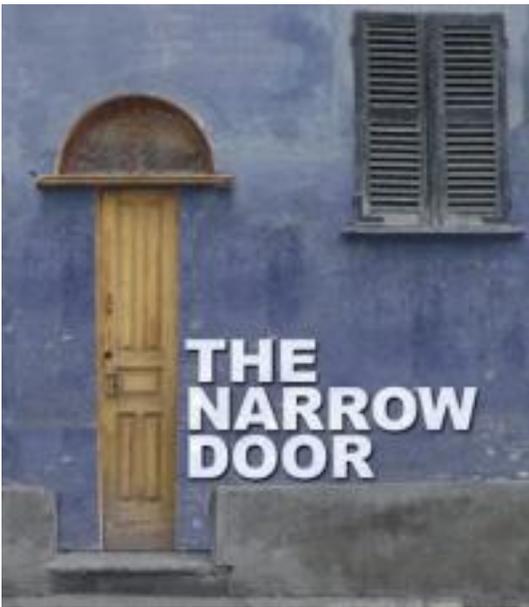
He said to them, ²⁴"Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. ²⁵Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.'

"But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from.'

²⁶"Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.'

²⁷"But he will reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!'

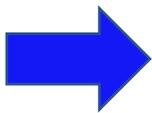
²⁸"There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. ²⁹People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. ³⁰Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last."



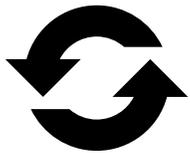
Does that sound harsh to you? Where is that narrow door that we must find and how do we enter in? You may remember that Jesus once told a story about the good shepherd. In that parable, Jesus said, "I am the door: by me if any man enters in, he will be saved." (John 10:9 KJV) There is only one door to enter into heaven and that door is Jesus. Who can enter that door? Anyone! If we put our faith and trust in him, we won't be left standing outside knocking and crying, "Let me in."

Here is one more knock, knock joke for you:

Knock, knock. (Who's there?) Orange. (Orange who?) Orange you glad to know that Jesus is the door to heaven?



Heavenly Father, we are thankful that you loved us so much that you sent Jesus, your only Son, to be the door through which we can enter into heaven. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Activity!

NARROW DOOR RELAY: The teacher will have two doors partially blocked. The relay will see how quickly each team can squeeze through their team's door. Another option for fun would be for all the children to squeeze through the door at one time.

DOOR MARCHING: If there is a large area with many doors such as a fellowship hall, etc), have the children march from room to room and through many doors while music plays. When the music stops, they will all run through the doors as quickly as possible and sit in a circle together.

DOOR HANGER: Provide the supplies for the children to make a Bible door hanger! This can have words from today's lesson or Bible verse with a picture of Jesus on the card. The children can color the door hanger with many lightly color crayons as in a rainbow if desired, and cut a slit from the outside edge to the inside circle to make it possible to hang over a doorknob!

DOOR TO OPEN: Give each child a piece of brown construction paper or paper from a brown paper bag and tri-fold it so there is an opening in the middle to open as a door. On the inside of the open door, the children can write words such JESUS OPENS MY HEART DOOR and color and decorate it! Encourage children to write JESUS in brighter colors or decorate it in some way to draw attention to His name.

DOOR KNOCKING: Divide the children into teams and one child from each team will meet at a door. The first child will tap out a rhythm for the other child to try and imitate. The other child can then take his turn at tapping out a rhythm. If time allows, let all the children tap a short rhythm for others to



God made you special and he loves you very much!

(Adapted from ministrytochildren.com)

Remember, we want to see the results, so be sure to post them on Facebook!

There are additional coloring and activity pages for this lesson in the kid pack! Enjoy!

Resources

If you have access to the internet, here are some great resources for you to use that are fun for the kids as well. (We make no promises as to the content of these resources at the time you look at them.)

www.kidsanswers.org

<https://biblegamescentral.com/>

<http://www.akidsheart.com/bible/bible.htm>

<http://dg4kids.com/>

We hope you have enjoyed doing this with your family. As we learned today, a tree that does not bear fruit will be cut down. We can produce fruit in our lives by reading the Bible, praying, and learning more about God every day. The Narrow Door is one in which only some can enter. We enter that narrow door by trusting God with our lives here on earth and faithfully serving Him till we are called home. Jesus is the only way to heaven!

God Bless,
Middle River Friends Church Children's department

