

Hello First Church Families!

While you're spending extra hours at home together, and we're not able to connect face to face as a congregation, we thought we'd send along some ideas for meeting with Jesus as a family.

In our preschool classes at First Church we use the *Jesus Storybook Bible* by Sally Lloyd-Jones. If you've been around First Church long enough you may have one. If you don't yet, let us know, we have copies to share and would love to make sure that each of our families have one for the weeks ahead. Contact Pastor Todd (toddw@firstchurch.org) and we'll make a copy available to you.

Lenten Stories to Read from Jesus Storybook Bible :

The Servant King — pg. 286

A Dark Night in the Garden — pg. 294

The Sun Stops Shining — pg. 302

God's Wonderful Surprise — pg. 310

Going Home — pg. 318

As you go through each story, examine the pictures and think about the words, ask questions like, "What is Jesus doing?" It may be helpful to read the same story a few days in a row. Repetition can help make things clear. Your kids may even begin memorizing some of the key sentences!

Prayer and Worship Together:

A fun prayer activity is to create a prayer jar. Find an empty canister, you can even decorate it. Make several strips of paper using construction paper. On each strip come up with a different phrase to pray. Here are some examples: God please heal people who are sick; Thank you God for the sunshine; Thank you God for my family; God please help the doctors and the nurses as they take care of people; Thank you Jesus that you love me! Take turns pulling a slip out of the canister and praying the prayer that's chosen. As the days go by, you can add more prayer points into the jar.

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Get Creative:

Using paint, crayons, or whatever your favorite media is, work with your kids to express a scene from the story you read. Place those scenes somewhere in your house to remind you of the stories you've read.

Reach Out:

We've put together a great opportunity to bless the seniors in our community. You're invited to join us by making cards with encouraging bible verses, prayers, and pictures. Completed cards can be dropped off in the designated plastic bin outside the front door of First Church anytime.

Extra Stuff...

If you're looking for some extra content, one of our favorite online resources to use is Saddleback Kids. Here's a link to their youtube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEbM1vIWVubIANRR54YuS0g>.