

Sunday School at Home

Sunday School at Home Resources for the season of Lent and Easter Sunday (2021) prepared collaboratively by Immanuel United Church in Winnipeg and Crossroads United Pastoral Charge (St. Andrew's United Church in Elm Creek and Carman United Church)

Note: This resource packet is designed for children ages 2 – young teen. The first page, *Come as a Child*, is designed with young children in mind. The rest of the pages are intended for school aged children. We encourage the grown-ups to read through the resources and decide which are best suited for the children in your household.

Come as a little child ... a learning resource for young children March 7, 2021

Choose a place and a time where you and your child/children can sit together quietly to listen to the story and then talk about it
OR

Find whatever time is possible, expect distractions, and invite your child/children to join you in taking three deep breaths before you start.

Story: Matthew 21:12-13; Mark 11:15-18; Luke 10:45-48

[see the story in the section below]



Reflection and Action: (Grown-ups, please read the activity and choose the most suitable way of responding to it for your child/ren.)

All of us get angry sometimes. This story is about Jesus getting very angry at the moneylenders for cheating people. Anger is a very strong feeling. All of us get angry sometimes. We also experience lots of other strong emotions. You will think, talk and draw about strong feelings in this activity.

Make a list of strong feelings. Choose one.

What made you have this feeling? How did your body feel while you were having it? What did your face look like? Draw a picture of you experiencing this feeling.

We can't hold on to strong feelings for a long time. How do you move past the feeling? Ask a grown up about how to do this.

If you like you can talk and draw about more than one feeling.

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Sharing our Bible Story for Today

This week our story comes from the Gospels in the Christian Scripture section of our Bible library. Gospel means Good News! We have provided a shorter telling of the story. If you want to find the full story in a Bible at home or online, you will find it in 3 different books! Matthew 21:12-13, Mark 11:15-18 or Luke 19:45-48. Maybe you want to read each one to see how they are the same and different. It is like what happens with us today – 3 people in your family or 3 friends could have the same experience, but the way they tell the story of what happened could be very different!

Last week God made people laugh out loud, this week our Good News is that there is a place and time to be angry as we try to learn how to live in God's way.

Something to remember when we read the shorter telling of the story – in his retelling of the Bible story, Ralph Milton describes the Temple as the "biggest church in the country". Actually the Temple was not a church. Church is a word that Christians use to describe where we gather and worship. The Temple was very important to the Jewish people, including Jesus, and today Jewish people gather and worship in a synagogue. It is important to show respect for all God's people by paying attention to how we talk to and about one another. And when we forget, people have a right to be angry!

The Moneychangers

You will find the story at the end of this activity sheet.

Copied with permission from The Family Story Bible, Ralph Milton and Wood Lake Books.

Thinking and talking about the Story

What other emotions might Jesus have been feeling this day, on top, around or underneath the angry feelings he shows in this story.

How might you have felt if you were in the Temple that day?

Is there something that made you feel angry this week?

If you were to colour this feeling what colour(s) would you choose?

If you had to describe your anger like a weather report what kind of weather would it be and what would be your weather forecast for the next few days?

Maybe you would like to write a weather report or draw a picture – do you need a bigger paper to fit some of these extra big feelings?

Putting the Story into Action

- 1) Have you looked at “Take a Sacred Pause” in our Sunday School at Home resources yet? If not we encourage you to take a look. When we feel angry or overwhelmed it can help to be outside, take a deep breath of fresh air and remember that we are part of God’s great big good creation. When we go outside we can find more room for all our feelings, whether we need to be super active or find a safe place to be quiet and still.
- 2) Older kids and youth might be interested to learn more about one of Canada’s youngest Members of Parliament – Mumilaaq Qaqqaq, an Inuk woman, MP for Nunavut and human rights defender. Elected in 2019 she is one of the few people to have given a speech in the House of Commons before being elected. Mumilaaq is someone who is a great role model for how to channel her anger and use her strong voice to work for justice and respect for the people of Nunavut. I heard an interview with her on Sunday Magazine on CBC radio while I was creating this activity sheet and I was surprised at how well her story illustrated our Bible story today. You could find that interview or other stories about her by doing an internet search or by visiting this website: mumilaqqaqqaq.ndp.ca

3) Do you have a question about the story? Send us an email and we will respond! We love questions – the harder the better!

- 3) Did you explore this week’s story in another way – by acting it out or drawing pictures or some other creative idea, or by doing some research and learning about someone new or a social justice issue that matters to you? We encourage you to share what you are learning with your church family! We miss being together in person!

Carman United Church and St. Andrew’s United Church families - to share your responses to this week’s story visit Carman United Church Face Book page or email the church office Karen.mcgill@crossroadsunited.com. Visit www.crossroadsunited.com and see Sunday School At Home to view previous lessons and stuff people are sharing.

Immanuel United Church families –If you are willing to have your art shown before or during worship, please ask your grown-ups to take/help you take a picture of your drawings and send the picture(s) to Ha Na to be shared before or during the service on Sunday.

- 5) Maybe you have a book in your library that talks about anger. Or perhaps you can find one at your local library. Here are some helpful suggestions about feeling angry from a book I have at home, in case you can’t find it (it was published in 1995!) These suggestions work for children, youth and grown-ups! We all feel angry sometimes and it is not an easy emotion!

Let's Talk About Feeling Angry by Joy Berry

(excerpts with some edits by Karen Tjaden)

When you feel angry, you feel bad tempered.

When you feel angry, you might want to do things you shouldn't do.

Try to avoid breaking things when you are angry.

Try to avoid doing things that could hurt you when you are angry.

Try to avoid doing things that could hurt other people when you are angry.

When you are angry, there are things you can do to make yourself feel better.

Try to calm down before doing anything.

Slowly counting to ten will give you time to calm down.

Talk to the person you are angry with.

Tell the person why you feel the way you do.

Ask the person to stop doing what's making you angry.

Sometimes the person who is making you angry won't listen to you.

Talk to a grown-up you know and trust.

Tell that person how you feel. Ask him or her to help you decide what you should about your anger.

Sometimes you might need to do something with your energy when you are angry. It's okay for you to

Cry or yell,

Jump up and down, or

Hit something that can't be damaged – like a pillow, a punching bag or your bed.

When you are angry you might need to go outside.

Or you might need to go into a room by yourself and close the door.

Remember that everyone gets angry.

Feeling angry is okay.

The important thing is to pay attention to your anger and try to use that energy to make things better for yourself and other people.

Praying at Home

If you don't already have a daily ritual at home, or if you want to try a new one, you might like to invite people at your house to share a *ROSE* and a *THORN* at meal time, or another time when you are together during the day or evening.

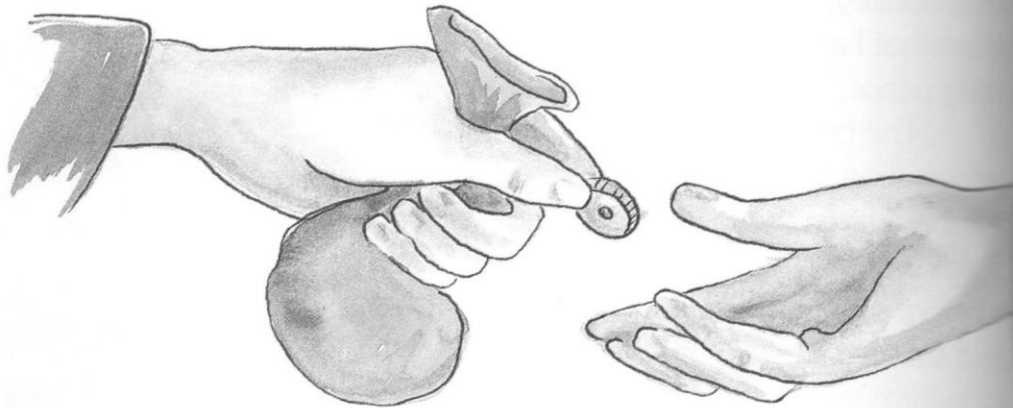
I learned this from the staff at Rock Lake United Church Camp.

A rose is something that you appreciate today.

A thorn is something that has been challenging today.

We can be thankful for both our roses and thorns, and those of others, because they help us learn to live in God's way.

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The moneychangers

Matthew 21:12-13

Mark 11:15-18

Luke 19:45-48

Jesus wanted to pray in the Temple in Jerusalem. The Temple was the biggest church in the whole country.

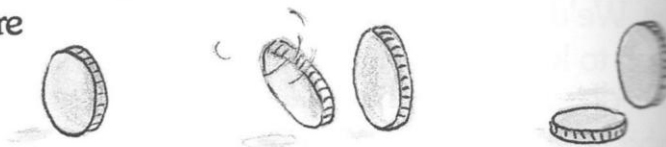
Jesus walked around the Temple. It was very beautiful. But Jesus saw something there that made him feel angry.

People came to the Temple to worship God. As part of their worship, they gave some money. They needed a special kind of money to take inside the Temple. The people got this special money from moneychangers. The moneychangers took ordinary money, and gave people the Temple money.

Some of the moneychangers cheated people. Especially the poor people. And that made Jesus very angry.

Jesus walked right up to the moneychangers. He grabbed their tables and turned them over. The money rolled all over the floor.

“Don’t you know?” Jesus yelled at them. “This is God’s house. It should be a place where everyone comes to pray. But you are making it a



den of robbers!"

The moneychangers scrambled all over trying to pick up their money. Then they went to the rulers. "Did you see what Jesus did?" they cried.

"That Jesus!" said the rulers. "We've got to get rid of him. Somehow."

