

Road to Emmaus

EJ14

Bible Verses: Mark 16:12-13, Luke 24:13-35.

In this session, we'll see Jesus' encounter with the two on the road to Emmaus and see that our hearts know when we've met Jesus - even if our head takes a while to catch up.

Journeying Across

Warming Up

10 mins

Activity

Line all the children up along one wall. Ask them to cross the room in whatever way you say. You can make up other ways, but here are some to get you started:

- Walking
- Skipping
- Gallop
- Hopping
- Bunny hopping
- Dancing
- Rolling
- Crawling
- Sliding

The Point: Just for fun – tenuous link to travelling somewhere!

Equipment

None.

Expect The Unexpected!

Warming Up

10 mins

Activity

In small groups, ask the children to come up with unexpected outcomes to the situations suggested below. The more outrageous, the better! Let everyone chip in to build up more and more unexpected stories. You could go round in a circle, adding a new ridiculous story with each person, or do this randomly.

- Pouring cereal into a bowl.
- Opening a letter.

- Diving into a pool.
- Opening the front door.
- Going to the supermarket.
- Opening your eyes first thing in the morning.

So, for example: When I started to pour cereal into my bowl this morning, I was expecting cheerios to come out. But, instead, teeny tiny pigs poured out into the bowl. And they were real pigs! They all clambered over each other and jumped down onto the table and then onto the floor. There were so many of them that they lifted my chair up and carried it (and me) out of the door and down the street - still in my pyjamas. A fairy godmother appeared and offered to transform my PJs into clothes but she got the spell wrong and instead I ended up in a giant piggy outfit...

You get the idea!

The Point: Just for fun, idea of something unexpected happening.

Equipment

None.

An Unexpected Meeting

Teaching Time

15 mins



Visual And Audio Clips

Summary of clip: In this clip, Jesus comes alongside two of his followers on the road to Emmaus.

Start of clip: 1:17:50

End of clip: 1:20:53

Length of clip: 3:03

There is a link to a YouTube clip here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wR4xhA4Mb6A> stop the clip at 4 minutes when the animation ends

Ask the children how the disciples must have been feeling at the beginning of the video clip. Why were the two going to another town? Why do you think Jesus didn't tell them who he was straight away?

What does Jesus tell them on the walk? How do the two recognise him in the end? What do they do as soon as they recognise him? How do they feel at the end of the clip?

Are these two disciples changed by meeting Jesus on the road? Why? Why is this meeting more important than Jesus just having a chat with two of his friends? (It is one of the things that changes everything because it was proof that Jesus really did rise from the dead!)

The Point: To tell the story.

Equipment

DVD of The Miracle Maker and the means to play it.

Breaking News! EAH

Teaching Time

20 mins

Activity

Begin by reading the account of the road to Emmaus from Luke 24:13-35. Use a simple translation like the CEV or Good News Bible. Say that this is quite a dramatic story and that today it might be reported on the news - Jesus had been very well known and the story of his death would have been known by everyone.

Ask the children to get into small groups and make a news report about what happened. They should include interviews with the two disciples who met Jesus on the road. Try and get them to articulate how they felt meeting Jesus again and what they did next.

The children can either make a big newspaper front page to tell the story (you might like to have some newspapers to give them an idea what it looks like) - some can draw pictures, others can write the story, others can do the layout.

Alternatively, the children can do a dramatic sketch of a news report of the story - with someone in the studio, an outside reporter and the eye witnesses. If you have the tech, they can video their pieces.

The Point: To tell the story and get the children to explore it a bit creatively.

Equipment

Simple translation of the Bible (CEV), optional: big sheets of paper and felt tip pens.

Together On The Road

Take Away

15 mins

 Craft Ideas

This item can be shared with your group using the QR code:

This activity will work well with the following Teaching Time activities: all.

You can either have the salt dough ready-made for this activity or you can make making it part of it.



SALT DOUGH RECIPE: 2 cups of Plain Flour, 1 cup of table salt, 1 cup of water.

OPTIONAL: 1 tablespoon of vegetable oil (makes it a little easier to knead), 1 tablespoon of wallpaper paste (gives the mixture more elasticity), 1 tablespoon of lemon juice (makes the finished product harder).

METHOD: Put plain flour, salt and any, or all, of the optional ingredients into a mixing bowl and gradually add the water, mixing to soft dough. This should be neither too sticky, in which case add more flour, nor too dry, in which case add more water. When mixed remove from the bowl, place on a flat surface and knead for 10 minutes to help create a smooth texture.

Give each child enough salt dough to be bigger than their foot and about 2 inches thick. Get them to press their bare foot into it to create a footprint. Scrape initials into the back to save confusion.

The salt dough will dry over the course of 2 days, or you can help it along by putting it in a very cool oven (max 100c, 200f, gas mark ¼) for a few hours.

You can make different coloured dough by adding food colouring at the mixing stage, or add glitter to make a sparkly alternative.

Tell the children that the footprint reminds them of Jesus walking alongside the disciples on the road to Emmaus.

The Point: Reminds them of the story.

Equipment

Salt dough (recipe below), protective table covering.

Warmed Hearts

Take Away

10 mins

 Craft Ideas

This item can be shared with your group using the QR code:

This activity will work well with the following Teaching Time activities: all.

Say that the two disciples on the road said that their hearts felt warmed when Jesus was speaking to them. Ask them what they think that means. Say that the disciples' hearts' were recognising Jesus before their heads did!



Give everyone some dough or clay and let them make it into a nice chunky heart shape. Get them to push the tea light into the middle to make a hole for it. They can use a pencil or spreading knife to mark patterns on if they want to. Scratch initials onto the bottom and let dry.

The Point: To remind the children of the disciples' hearts' being warmed when they talked to Jesus.

Equipment

Salt dough (see previous activity) or air drying clay, tea light candles.

Warming Hearts

Take Away

20 mins

 Food And Cooking

This item can be shared with your group using the QR code:



This activity will work well with the following Teaching Time activities: all.

Say that the two disciples on the road said that their hearts felt warmed when Jesus was speaking to them. Ask them what they think that means. Say that the disciples' hearts were recognising Jesus before their heads did! You're going to make gingerbread hearts to remind you of this.

Makes: 25 biscuits

Ingredients:

125 g unsalted butter
100 g dark muscovado sugar
4 tbsp golden syrup
325 g plain flour
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
2 tsp ground ginger
Writing Icing (optional)

Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 170°C, gas mark 3. Line baking trays with baking parchment. Melt the butter, sugar and syrup in a medium saucepan, stirring occasionally, then remove from the heat.
2. Sieve the flour, bicarbonate of soda and ginger into a bowl and stir the melted ingredients into the dry ingredients to make a stiff dough.
3. Turn out onto a lightly floured surface and roll to a thickness of about 5 mm. Dip biscuit cutters into flour before cutting the dough. Place the heart shapes onto the lined baking trays and bake, in batches, for 9-10 minutes until light golden brown.
4. Remove from the oven.
5. When completely cool, decorate with the icing. The gingerbread biscuits can be stored in an airtight container for up to two weeks.

The Point: A reminder that Jesus can warm our hearts.

Equipment

Ingredients as detailed in the main description, rolling pins, heart cutters, baking trays, oven, baking paper.

Face To Face 14

Response

10 mins

This is an activity that you can do with every story every week or you can choose to dip in and out as you see fit.

Ask the children to lie down comfortably with their eyes closed and use their minds to imagine the story. Read the following fairly slowly allowing time for the children to respond.

“Imagine that you have been with Jesus as one of his disciples. Imagine that you have seen him die on the cross and now you are scared and going to hide out in another town. You are walking along the road - it feels like a long way! How are you feeling inside?

Imagine that suddenly a stranger comes alongside you and starts asking why you look so sad. What do you tell him? Now imagine that the stranger starts to explain all sorts of things about Jesus to you. What he’s saying makes lots of sense and your heart feels all funny inside of you.

Imagine that you get to the place where you’re staying and you invite the man in to have some tea with you. Before the meal, the man says thank you to God for the food and suddenly you know that it’s Jesus! How do you know? What does he look like? How does your heart feel now?

Jesus disappears. What do you do? How do you feel inside?”

Give the children some time and then encourage them to come back into here and now.

If you are using the Meeting Jesus books, it would be a great idea for them to write or draw what they experienced in there.

The Point: To have an encounter with Jesus.

Equipment

None.

On The Road With Jesus 14

Response

10 mins

 Craft Ideas

This is an activity that can be built on every week in the series. Before the session, prepare a board or wall by putting a large winding road or pathway on it. Ideally you want to make it huge! There are quite a lot of people to meet on the journey... You could title it ‘On the road with Jesus’.

You can use it in two ways. Either ask the children to draw a small picture of the two followers on the road that you’ll stick at the on the pathway (so you’ll have lots of wee men). Or ask the children to create the whole scene of today’s story at the next point on the path. You’ll need to put in landscape details, etc as well as the people to let everyone make a contribution. This will be easier if your group isn’t enormous.

Remember that you want to be able to add to this every week so don’t take up the whole space! If your

display is very full now, you could start to take some of the earlier encounters down.

The Point: To build up a picture of Jesus' encounters.

Equipment

Paper and pens/pencils, scissors, wall fixings.

Warm!

Response

10 mins

 Memory Verse

“When Jesus talked with us along the road... didn't it warm our hearts?” Luke 24:32

Sit the children in a circle and choose one child. Send that child out of the room for a moment while you hide the heart object and the card with the verse on it. Everyone else should know where it's hidden.

Call the child back in and have them hunt for the heart. Everyone else should call out whether they are warm (close to the object) or cold (far away from it). You can have degrees of it - ie freezing is as far away as you can get; burning up would be pretty much on top of it.

When they find it, they should read the verse out.

Play several times with different children hunting.

The Point: To learn scripture.

Equipment

Heart shaped object, card with the verse on.
