

Activities for "Crumbs from the table" - Matthew 15:21-28, (16th August)

Cardboard tube puppets for telling the story

Make cardboard tube puppets of Jesus and the woman in the story. You could print off the pictures in the resources section or draw your own. Stick the pictures on cardboard tubes (toilet roll tubes or the inside of kitchen roll tubes). Use the puppets to act out the story. "One day Jesus was a long way from home. A woman came up to him. 'My daughter is ill,' she said. 'Please help her.' 'Why should I help you?' said Jesus. 'You're not from my country.' The woman said, 'I know you can help me. Please make my little girl better.' What do you think Jesus did? The woman was being very noisy! Should Jesus tell her to go away? No. Jesus said, 'You really believe I can help you and I will. Your daughter will get better.' And she did. Jesus can help everyone, no matter where they come from."

'Jesus loves everyone' picture

Cut out pictures of different people from magazines or print some off the internet. Try and find pictures of people of different ages, different ethnicities, and different abilities. Stick the pictures on a piece of paper with the title 'Jesus loves everyone'. Thank God that no one is separated from his love.

Praise shout

Use the Jesus and woman puppets to show that Jesus loves people, who are often left out, holding up each in turn. Jesus loves everyone! (*Hold up the Jesus puppet.*) Does that mean just rich people? No, poor people too! (*Hold up the woman.*) Jesus loves everyone! (*Jesus puppet.*) Does that mean just boys and men? No, girls and women too! (*Woman puppet.*) Repeat with 'good people', 'people from this country', 'happy people' and 'old people/grown ups'. Are there people at school that no one wants to be friends with? Jesus loves them too!

Make a prayer cube

Make a prayer cube using the template in the resources section or make your own template by drawing a T shape out of 6 adjoining squares. In each square write the name or draw a picture of someone who is ill, lonely, left out, worried, sad, or in pain. Each day this week, roll the dice and pray for that person. Perhaps you could send them a card or phone them to say you are praying for them.

Helping

Think of ways that parents and children could help each other. Parents could help children with a jigsaw or building something. Children could help parents with tidying up or dusting. In the story Jesus helps a woman. We can help each other.