




Faith Adventures for Children Together



*Committed to URC Children Together:
enabling everyone to grow more like Jesus
together in the home, church and beyond.*

For guidance on the purpose of the resource and how to use it as a launch pad for your engagement with children and families, please use this link:
<https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/FACT-how-to-sheet.pdf>

Acts 1: 6-11 – God is.... Jesus

Theme: Jesus is with us, even when we can’t see him

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Introduction: What would be helpful to know in my planning?

It is believed that Acts was written by Luke – as a sequel to his gospel. In this first chapter, Luke tells of Jesus leaving the disciples and ascending to heaven. This is an opportunity to make a further link with the Trinity (looked at in week 4 of this month) in that Jesus leaves earth to ascend to heaven to be with God the Father, but promises to send the Holy Spirit to be with his disciples.

You will need to be sensitive to the emotions of children who have loved ones who are not around – perhaps as a result of a recent bereavement, family break up, a parent/carer working away from home, or serving a prison sentence and the uncertainty that can cause. The disciples were left similarly confused and upset when the person they loved, trusted and relied on left them – although Jesus promised to return, but wouldn’t tell them when.

We also need to be aware of the feelings of children/young people for whom the return of someone into their lives might not be a positive experience or something to celebrate.

If necessary, remind the children in your group that it is ok to be scared and uncertain about what is going to happen in the future.



Together

How do I help my group to come together and get started with the theme?

Gathering prayer

Jesus, our friend

(use alternate index fingers to point and tap the middle of opposite palms)

Be with us today

(two hands, palms up in front of you, move up and down twice)

As we share together,

(two hands, palms up in front of you, move one forward and one back and alternate twice)

Pray together,

(hands together, palm against palm, as though praying)

Play together,

(hands to each side, palms up, make two small circles outwards)

And get to know you better,

(point up with one hand)

As children together in your family

(one hand out, palm down in front of you)



Talking together: How might we talk about the story together?

- I wonder why God chose that time and place for Jesus to be born?
- If Jesus were born today, how would his story be different? (or) -3 340 chf wond25shy x JesusIf Jesus we

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can hold it. Wind the string round and round the wheel until the yoyo is in your hand when you slip your finger through the loop.

If you are using milk bottle lids, carefully screw a short screw through the exact centre of each of the lids. On the first lid you just make a hole and remove the screw. On the second lid you fasten the screw all the way, going from the open side of the lid to the top so that the screw head is right inside the lid. Then continue to screw the other lid onto the end of the screw so that the pointed end of the screw is inside the lid. Put two blobs of glue in each lid so that they line up, one blob each side of the circle. Glue your decorated circles onto the lip of each lid so that they cover the screw. Now continue as above, tying the string around the screw in the middle.

Microwave Meringues

You will need:

- 300g icing sugar
- 1 lightly beaten egg white
- whipped cream (optional to serve)

What you do:



Sift 300g of icing sugar over one lightly beaten egg white. Stir until the mixture is a thick, pliable icing and roll into balls. Line a plate with kitchen paper.

Put three balls at a time on the plate and microwave them on high for 1½ mins – and watch, in amazement, as the mixture grows into meringues.

When they are cool, sandwich together with whipped cream if you wish.

Everyday with Jesus – Walking the Way

What could we do this week to carry on what we've learned? Maybe members of the group could come up with a suggestion. If not, get them to choose from these two challenges:

- Find one of your favourite Jesus stories and share it with someone else – you might want to read it to them from a book or show them a video or just tell the story somehow. You could even get together with some friends and put on a play!
- Jesus came to earth so we would know God a little bit better. He couldn't stay on earth for ever so he went back to heaven, but we can still talk to him and know that he is with us. Find time to talk to Jesus during the day, whatever you are doing. You can ask Jesus for help, say sorry if you mess up, say thank you for good things you see or experience, or even just say "Hi Jesus, I'm glad you're here."

We hope you enjoyed exploring the story from **Acts** with us.

Please let us know what you liked or what you would find useful by emailing lorrainewebb@urc.org.uk

Why not have a look at next week's resource on **Joel 2**







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