

MHA Sunday - Children's Group Materials (under 11s)

Session layout: in-person or on Zoom



Resources for on Zoom:

- Paper plates
- Colouring pens
- Wifi and access to a laptop

Resources for in person:

- Plain bookmarks or bookmarks with outlines to colour in
- Paper plates
- Colouring pens
- Wifi and access to a laptop

Attention Grabber – around 5 minutes

This idea is courtesy of Teresa Klassen.

Props: Paper plate “masks” with different facial emotions drawn on them.

Give the children each a plate with an emotion on it. Have each child, in turn, hold their plate up in front of their face. Have the others describe the feeling on the plate – and then have the child pull the plate away from their face and affirm the truth: “But Jesus just sees the person he created. He sees past their (mean/sad/angry/scary) face and sees a child that he made. Jesus loves all people.”

Say: “Today we are going to learn about a man who would have been seen as all those things: strange, angry, scary, weird... but Jesus went right to him to care for him.”

Read Bible Story, Mark 5:1-20 — around 10+ minutes

Use the <http://www.thebrickbible.com/thegerasenedemoniac/> to help you tell the story of the demon possessed man (you can pick and choose which slides you want to show). You can show this on your laptop in person, or share your screen over Zoom.

(Brickstatement is a website that uses Lego to tell stories in the Bible!)

Ask the children to share (raise their hand to speak) what they think today's story is about.

This story is also about how Jesus loves us no matter what, and about how Jesus is more powerful than anything bad.

Video: What is being lonely? Show the video (2 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=tFaxBF0QLo4>

Activity – around 10 - 15 minutes

In person:

Say: Our group is fun because we're all friends here. But sometimes we go places where we're not surrounded by friends. Let's do an activity to see what that's like. First, spread out so you're not standing near anyone.

Pause for children to follow your instructions.

Say: Close your eyes, and I'll turn off the lights so you can't see either. When I say "go," move around slowly, and gently try to join up with everyone in the class to make a giant circle. Remember, no noises and no peeking! Ready? Go!

(If your room doesn't get completely dark, use bandannas as blindfolds. When children are all joined together, turn on the lights, and have them form a circle and sit down. Then ask:

- What was it like to try to find your friends? (Hard; dark; kind of scary; almost impossible.)
- How did you feel when you found the group? (Glad; happy; relieved.)

Say: Being lonely is kind of like looking for friends in the dark. It's a bad feeling! But that bad feeling can get smaller when we realize that Jesus is with us when we're lonely.

On Zoom:

Share your screen and do the word search below

MHA Loneliness Wordsearch

A	L	R	S	A	D	A	C	N	C	C	O	S	H
R	Y	I	Y	L	D	N	E	N	O	T	E	S	P
A	M	N	P	O	I	H	O	M	Y	N	Y	N	B
Y	M	T	P	N	C	T	P	T	O	O	G	A	R
D	U	E	A	E	A	A	I	I	N	M	T	C	O
D	M	R	H	L	N	N	T	O	E	C	N	S	T
A	I	N	T	Y	U	C	S	E	D	D	E	H	H
D	U	E	S	M	E	I	T	C	N	C	C	G	E
Y	I	T	M	N	S	I	I	D	A	R	T	R	R
L	S	O	N	T	N	O	S	C	U	R	M	I	H
I	C	O	E	G	R	N	R	H	O	A	E	I	K
M	C	R	O	M	G	T	C	D	C	L	Y	D	I
A	S	F	R	I	E	N	D	P	M	I	M	L	N
F	H	I	Y	N	O	I	T	A	L	O	S	I	D

- COMPANY
- CONNECTION
- ISOLATION
- SAD
- SISTER
- CHURCH
- SCARED
- INTERNET
- FAMILY
- FRIEND
- HAPPY
- BROTHER
- COMMUNITY
- KIND
- MEETING
- MUMMY
- LONELY
- DADDY

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1924948/>

Memory Verse:

(God said) "I will never leave you or forsake you." Hebrews 13:5
 Forsake means abandon or reject (push away).

This verse is another reminder that Jesus will always love us, no matter what. God said He would never leave us or abandon us, and we need to trust Him to take care of us.

Learn this verse with these actions:

I – point to the sky (as if pointing to God)

Will – clap once

Never – shake head "no"

Leave – arms out in front, move from left to right, index fingers pointing as if leaving (kind of like directing traffic to go to the right).

You – point to someone

Or

Forsake – bring your hands into your chest and push them forcefully out in front of you, palms facing out.

You – point to someone

Hebrews 13:5

Practice this a few times.

Craft – around 10 minutes

Make book marks with the memory verse on them. Say to children that they can keep the bookmarks, or look out for someone today who might be lonely, to give to them as a gift.

Pray – 2 minutes

Gather the kids around you and say the following prayer for them before you let them go:

“I pray this blessing over each one of you.

Each of you is precious in God’s sight.

God sees you every minute of every day, he knows how you feel and what you are thinking, and he loves you.

I pray that you will come to know and love and trust Jesus with all your heart for all your days.

May the Lord bless you and protect you.

May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord show you his favour and give you his peace
Amen.