

LAUNCH



Sunday 27th April

Welcome to another Launch at home. Here are some activities for you to explore this week's theme. I hope you enjoy them!



Are you any good at magic tricks? Perhaps you could dig them out and impress your family! If not here is one you might learn that is apparently very easy:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jzjhcfVvWRA>

If not, you might want to watch an expert – here's "Smoothini" (what a name!)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BGeAzrCvM4>

Is what he does magic? Or some kind of trick that deceives the eye? Is there a difference between this and a real miracle?

A real miracle is something we cannot explain how it can happen and is something extraordinary. Here is one that happened to Corrie tenBoom (you may have seen a bit of her story in Glow at Spring Harvest)

Corrie Ten Boom was a Christian woman living during World War Two. Her family had compassion for the Jews who were being persecuted and they had hidden many Jews in their home. But one day they were caught by the Nazis and Corrie and her sister, Betsie, were taken away to Ravensbruck concentration camp living in horrible conditions. Betsie was very poorly. They had a bottle of vitamin drops and Corrie was worried about it running out. God challenged her to share the vitamin drops with other women in the camp too. She didn't want to; she wanted them to last so her sister wouldn't run out and become weaker. But Corrie Ten Boom was obedient, and the bottle of vitamin drops didn't run out!

You can read more of her story in 'The Hiding Place'.

What do you think it would have been like to live in a concentration camp? Would you have been willing to share the vitamin drops if they had been in Corrie Ten Boom's place?

God provided what Betsie and the other ladies needed, and Christians believe that God is their provider.

1. Sometimes he provides through natural means, through the world around us and by giving us skills and abilities to work and earn money
2. Sometimes he provides through other people like when we receive a gift or give to charity
3. Sometimes we will see him provide miraculously as he did for Corrie Ten Boom.



One of the most famous miracles of Jesus, turning water into wine, is a story of miraculous provision like this. Read the story as a group from John 2:1-11.

Jesus and his friends were at a wedding party when the wine ran out, it was Mary, Jesus' mother who found out that the wine had all gone. She was concerned and although she knew that she didn't have the means to solve the problem she went to Jesus trusting he could help.

Jesus asks the servants to fill some nearby jars with water and take a sample to the master of the ceremony. They did as Jesus said and the master of the ceremony said that it was the best wine he had tasted.

What needs do you see in their school, town, country, or the wider world?

Like Mary, we might not have the means to cure the coronavirus, solve world hunger, end people trafficking or stop all bullying at our school, but we can follow her example and come to Jesus as our provider and ask him to intervene to provide solutions and help those in need.

How do they think the servants felt about being asked to fill the jars with water? How would they feel being asked to do something like that without being told what the outcome would be?

The servants may have thought Jesus was crazy! But they were obedient. We may well too be asked by Jesus to be part of the solution in providing for the needs of those around us. Can you think of any ways we can meet the needs of others and so be part of the miracle someone else needs?

This story shows the miraculous way Jesus can provide. But it also shows how we can be part of the story if we are open to speaking out for others. Thankfully, it shows that we don't have to have all the solutions but that we can look to Jesus to meet our needs and the needs of others around us.

ACTION

Jesus had gone to a party. One day the isolation will be over and we will be able to go to parties and celebrations again! Are there any you are looking forward to.

The church should have a celebration. What do you think should happen? Could you design a programme or a poster for it? Send us a picture or get it put on our Facebook page!



Reflection

Listen to a song like you're a good good father <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ak00oFBw3c>
Look at the prayer sheet at the bottom of this document, and think of places in each area where you would like God to provide something, and write prayers in each area. Think about these questions:

- 1) Try and find three things each day this week to be thankful for.
- 2) If this story teaches us about how Jesus provides for us, what would you like Jesus to provide for you?

Memory verse: ***"Taste and see that the Lord is good."***

Psalm 34:8

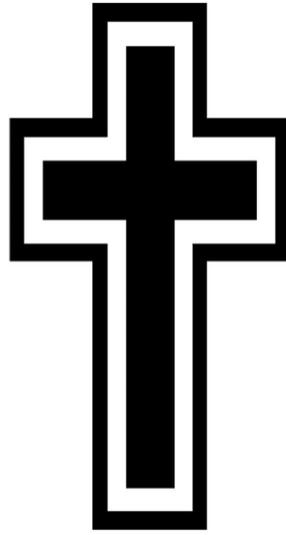
Get a drink of your favourite drink (You may have to ask your parents). As you drink it, read the verse, and thank God for all the things he provides for us from water to food, family, friends, opportunities.

Let us know how you get on with this.

Alec and Jane

My Life

My School



My Home

The wider world