

The Rock, Sunday 12th July 2020

Sharing the best friend

Warm up

Dance to, join in with the actions
and sing our Rock song.

This video has the words:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcAG4PbNXaA>

This video has the actions: <https://youtu.be/8dbOgbRxC1M>

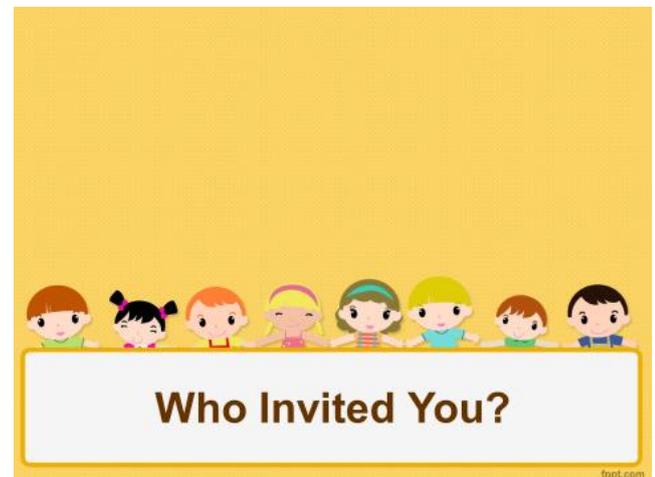


Getting started

Ask the children if they have ever been to a party and what the party was like- ask them how they were invited to the party, and by who.

Say that people come to parties because someone invites them.

Say it's the same with Christianity. Sometimes people become Christians all by themselves – they read the Bible and they meet Jesus. But most Christians are first of all invited to church, or told about Jesus, by someone who already knows him.



The Point: To begin to see how evangelism works.

Story/ teaching time

Equipment

Headdresses (tea towels and wool/string), a tunic (you could adapt a pillow case or a kaftan)

This is an interactive story based on based on John 1:35-42

Children could dress up as John the Baptist (wearing a tunic), or Andrew, Peter or another disciple (tea towel headdresses) or Jesus (also a headdress) and act out and think about the reactions of the different people in the story.

Say that John the Baptist had an extremely important job. He was supposed to tell everybody that the Messiah was coming. Messiah means saviour, and the Jews had been waiting for this person for thousands of years.

John was popular and a lot of people followed him to listen to his teaching about the Saviour.

One day, John saw Jesus and he said, "Look! There he is! The Saviour, the Lamb of God!"

The next day, John was walking with two of his followers. Again he saw Jesus and again he said, "Look! That's the Saviour that I've been teaching about!"

The two friends looked at each other, full of excitement. They hurried after Jesus and followed him.

Suddenly, Jesus turned around, "What do you want?" he asked.

"Where are you staying, Teacher?" they asked.

"Come with me," Jesus said.

One of the disciples went with Jesus straight away, but the other didn't.

This was a man called Andrew, and before he went with Jesus he rushed home to find his brother, Simon. "Simon, come quickly! We've found the Saviour!" he cried, and he took his brother to Jesus.



When Andrew got back to Jesus, Jesus smiled at both men. Then he looked at Simon – "Simon. I will call you Peter!"

Comment that the disciples were all invited to meet Jesus by other people.

God would like us to be like Andrew... Andrew was so excited by his new friendship with Jesus that he wanted other people to share it, so he invited his brother.

God would like us to be excited by Jesus, and to tell other people about him.

The Point: To see how Andrew invited Peter to meet Jesus, and to realise that this is a job for us as well.

Summary

- Tell the story based on John 1:35-42
- Invite the children to dress up and act out parts of the story
- Link to how we should be excited to tell others about Jesus

Craft and activity ideas

1. Equipment

A4 paper, small pieces of paper in circles and arches, pens, glue, blue paper.

Create a collage of Andrew and the other Disciple meeting Jesus.



Start by sticking down a piece of blue to be the river.

Then add people – use a circle for the head and an arch for the body. The children will need at least 3 people - 2 disciples and Jesus, but they might also want to add in John the Baptist and Simon Peter.

Use a pen to add in other details – faces, hair, the sun, and any buildings they might like to add.

The Point: A story reminder. This activity follows the story of Andrew inviting Peter to meet Jesus.

2. Equipment

Dominoes

Say that people becoming Christian is like a domino run – one person tells a friend, the friend tells someone else, that friend tells someone else and so on... For 2,000 years people have been telling their friends about Jesus and the church has been growing.



Let the children set up domino runs – the type that when one domino is knocked over the next falls and then the next in a cascade.

They can be simple, or they might want to make more than one domino fall at once, starting a second stream.

Let the children enjoy playing with the dominoes.

The Point: An illustration of the way that the Christian faith spreads from person to person.

3. Equipment

Small pieces of paper/ card, pens.

Say that it is important to invite people along to church, or to tell people about Jesus yourself. Think about who they could invite to join us at The Rock or to do our online activities perhaps.

Design an invitation.

Pray together that the people who are invited will join in with our Rock activities and our group meetings when we start again

Prayer

Ask the children to discuss people that they know, to pray that they will have a chance to talk to them about Jesus, and to invite them to The Rock. They can choose more than one person if they like!

They should pray that they will be bold in telling people about Jesus.

The Point: to focus on specific people that we would like to evangelise.



THE ROCK

(Material taken from Energize by Urban Saints - <https://www.energize.uk.net/>)