

Sunday School Home Activities - Week of March 22, 2020



Check out some of the activities you and your families can do at home this week!

Watch this week's Deep Blue Sunday School Video: Amplify Media, a resource developed by the United Methodist Publishing House, is offering several free online videos and resources for churches. Click the link below to watch the Deep Blue Connects Spring 2020 videos. This week is Episode 4 (E4: Jesus Breaks the Bread).

<https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify/series/unitedmethodistpublishinghouse/33162-deep-blue-connects-adventure-spring-2020>



Try this Family Devotion with your family!

Read: Jesus Breaks the Bread (Mark 14:12-26)

Bible Story Focus: When we take communion, we remember Jesus and this time he shared with his disciples.

Wonder Together: When have you had a special meal with your family and friends? Begin planning a celebration meal when you can be with your friends again. What will you do together?

Memory Verse: "If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other's feet." (John 13:14)

Pray Together: Share joys and concerns, and then pray, Dear God, thank you for the many things Jesus taught us. May we love and serve others just like he did. Amen.

Ages 5–Grade 2

Hear and See the Bible Story

SAY: Today our Bible story is about a meal Jesus shared with his disciples.

- Tell the children the story, "Jesus Breaks the Bread" (Read Mark 14:12-26, refer to the Background for this Week's Bible Story included at the end of the Sunday School activity list.

- Watch the Deep Blue Adventure for Session 4 on amplify.com.

ASK: What do you enjoy most about special meals with your friends and family?

Family Time

- Bake something together, whatever you have ingredients for. Bread, cookies, cake, etc. Enjoy serving each other what you created together. Praise God for the gift of good food.
- If you have grapes, or next time you do, give each family member a cup of grapes and a utensil. Have each person use the utensil to crush the grapes in their cup. Wonder together about how grape juice is made. Eat your grapes and enjoy the juice. Your family might enjoy this article about United Methodists, Communion and Welch's Grape Juice. <https://www.umc.org/en/content/communion-and-welchs-grape-juice>

Communion Painting (Art)

- Draw a Communion cup and bread shapes. Cut them out.
- Roll pieces of masking tape and use them to secure the cup and bread shapes to a sheet of paper.
- Use washable paints or markers to paint over the bread and cup shapes, covering the sheet of construction paper.
- After the painting is dry, carefully remove the shapes and the tape to reveal the artwork created using negative space.

Blessing

- At your next family meal, turn to the person next to you and say, "Peace be with you." Have that person respond by saying, "And also with you" and then turn to the next person and say, "Peace be with you." Continue around the table giving each person a chance to say both lines. Then conclude by saying, "Amen."

Adapted from Deep Blue Connects Loving God, Loving God, Loving Neighbor, Spring 2020 Early Elementary Session 4



Grades 3-5

Hear and See the Bible Story

- Read the Bible story together (Mark 14:12-26).
- Watch the Deep Blue Adventure for Session 4 on amplify.com.

SAY: Today, we're exploring a story about a time when the disciples shared a special meal with Jesus.

ASK: What do you enjoy most about special meals with your friends and family?

Retell the story by acting out "Jesus Breaks the Bread."



Loving God, Loving Neighbor - Unleavened Bread (Cooking)

Supplies needed: 2 Cups flour, 1 TBSP sugar, 1 TSP salt, 2 TBSP olive oil, 1 Cup water, cooking spray, measuring cups and spoons, mixing bowls, spoons, forks, baking sheets, an oven, hand-washing supplies.

SAY: Today, we are going to make unleavened bread. Unleavened bread is bread that does not have a leavening agent in it such as yeast. Since this bread will not have leavening in it, it will be flat.

Adult: Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Spray baking sheet with cooking spray.

Combine all ingredients in a mixing bowl. Stir well. Dust the work surface with extra flour.

Place the dough on floured surface. Knead the dough by repeatedly folding it over and pushing down for several minutes. Divide dough into 12 pieces. Use your clean hands to shape each piece of dough into a circle and flatten it on prepared baking sheet. Use a fork to prick holes over each piece of dough.

Adult: Bake bread at 400 degrees for 10 minutes. All: Wash hands and clean up.

- Serve bread and drink to each other as a reminder of the special meal that Jesus shared with his friends.
- Make plans for a celebration meal when you can be with your friends again.

Spiritual Practice: Blessing

- Using the letters in the word BREAD, write a line of prayer that starts with each letter in the world.
- Pray this prayer at your next meal.
- As you pray, think about the meal that Jesus shared with his disciples in the Bible story.

Wonder Time

Engage in a family Love Feast. Refer to March 15 Lent Devotion for more detailed information:

<https://www.myfaithunited.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Lent-3.Devotion.LoveFeast.March15.2020.pdf>

As you enjoy this meal, be sure to make time for everyone to share something good about God's work in their lives.

Reflect on this week's Bible story from Mark 14:12-26.

- What would it be like to live in a community where strangers were so hospitable that they would let you use a room in their house for a meal?
- How did Jesus feel knowing that one of his friends would betray him?
- The Scripture suggests that Jesus knew about the events about to happen in his life. If so, why didn't Jesus tell the disciples who would betray him?

Adapted from Deep Blue Connects Loving God, Loving God, Loving Neighbor, Spring 2020 Older Elementary Session 4



Nursery, Toddlers and Preschool

Jesus and the Children: Matthew 19:14

Sing and Move

Play your favorite song that reminds you about Jesus' love. Sing and dance to the music together.

Hear the Bible Story *Gather some stuffed animals and baby dolls to help tell the story. Decide which will be Jesus and his disciples and which will be children.*

- Read this Bible story to the children, using your dolls and stuffed animals as instructed in parentheses.

SAY: (Set Jesus and the disciples beside one another.) Jesus came to town, and people came to see him. Jesus was glad to see the people. Jesus told them stories about God. Jesus made sick people well. Jesus told all the people, "God loves you."

SAY: (Set two sets of children a little distance from Jesus and facing him.) One day, some mommies and daddies brought their children to see Jesus. The mommies and daddies wanted Jesus to hold their children. They wanted Jesus to tell their children, "God loves you."

SAY: *(Move the disciples so that they are between the children and Jesus and facing the children.)* Jesus' friends said, "Children, go away! Jesus is too busy to see you."

SAY: Jesus said, "No! I love children. I want the children here with me." *(Move the disciples to the side, then move the children to Jesus.)*

PRAY TOGETHER: Thank you, Jesus, for welcoming everyone. We are glad you are our friend. Amen.



Create: Handprint Heart Cards

Use paints or stamp pads or other art supplies to help your children put their handprints on a card.

Add some hearts. Mail it to someone in the church to remind them that Jesus loves them too!

Adapted from Deep Blue Nursery, Spring 2020 Session 4

Background for this Week's Elementary Ages Bible Story:

Many of the stories we know about Jesus' ministry involve a meal of some kind. There is the wedding feast at Cana where Jesus turns water into wine, the feeding of the five thousand, and the stories of Jesus eating with tax collectors and sinners. The act of eating together fostered fellowship between Jesus and his disciples, the crowds, and the outcasts. Perhaps the most well-known meal Jesus and his disciples shared is the one we refer to as the Last Supper or the Lord's Supper.

Jesus sent his disciples into Jerusalem to prepare for the Passover meal. The guest room that Jesus and his disciples used is described in Luke as a large upstairs room, probably accessible by an outside staircase. Since Jews traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover celebration, such rooms were not uncommon and were rented to visitors to Jerusalem.

During the meal, the conversation took a serious turn as Jesus began to speak of the disciple who would betray him. Jesus was trying to prepare his disciples for his death. As we read this story, we have the advantage of knowing what will happen next. The disciples, however, did not appear to understand what Jesus was talking about. As Jesus offered the bread to his disciples, he asked them to remember him as they ate it. When Jesus offered the cup to his disciples, he referred to it as the new covenant. God had made a covenant with Moses and the Israelites when God gave them the Ten Commandments. Jesus indicated that through him God was making a new covenant.

We don't have to wait for Communion to remember Jesus. Each time you share a meal with someone, remember all of the meals Jesus shared with his disciples and other followers. Fellowshiping is one way we follow Jesus' command to love one another.

Suggested Family Activities:

Note: Prior to starting any activity, be sure to sanitize hands and all supplies used to prevent spreading virus germs that can live on surfaces for several days.

- Cut out a heart of any size from any material (paper, cardboard, wrapping paper, newspaper, fabric, etc). Decorate your heart with a positive message. Tape your heart to a street-facing window to show your love to all.
- Make a rainbow of hope and place it in a window to share hope with people who pass by your house.
- Chalk your walk! Use sidewalk chalk to write encouraging messages and pictures on your sidewalk.
- Go on a family walk, practicing safe physical distancing and see if you can find, chalk messages, hearts or rainbows in your neighborhood. If not ask your parents if you can call your neighbors and ask them if they'd like to help share encouraging messages for your community.
- Make and send cards to nursing home residents or homebound persons, persons working to help our community, or one of you church or school friends to let them know you are thinking of them.
- Check out the resources for parents and families provided by the State of Ohio Department of Health. These resources include online learning links, activities for families as well as information about talking to kids about COVID-19. <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home/Family-Activities/Resources-for-Parents-and-Families>
- Use, individually or as a family, the worship and devotional resources you will receive connected with Sunday's video worship service and Wednesday Night Faith Connections and Sunday School. Share with others! Visit our website for updated resources: <https://www.myfaithunited.org/worship-by-wire/>
- Created a Sacred Space in your home for devotions, prayer and to worship together at home. Learn more here: <https://faithumchurch.wordpress.com/2020/03/21/holy-wednesday/>
- Share pictures or videos of some of the activities you and your family are doing while practicing physical distancing with church staff. What you share may inspire someone else!