***Sunday school materials - 25/04/2020***

***Jesus in unexpected places!***

***PAWPRINTS.***

The aim of this session: To introduce the story of the Encounter with Jesus on the road to Emmaus. This story is one of the most famous stories of an encounter with Jesus. The people didn't even realise until afterwards that it was Jesus who was walking with them.

In these days, when our children are home for an extended period of time, isolated from normal interaction, let's pray that at the end of the time they would realise that it was Jesus who walked beside them. Let's believe that their hearts will burn within them so that they can trust in him forever.

***An unexpected meeting!***

#### ***Equipment***

DVD of The Miracle Maker and the means to play it. Or use the clip in the link.

Summary of clip: In this clip, Jesus comes alongside two of his followers on the road to Emmaus.

Start of clip: 1:17:50

End of clip: 1:20:53

Length of clip: 3:03

OR:

There is a link to a YouTube clip here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wR4xhA4Mb6A> stop the clip at 4 minutes when the animation ends

Ask the children how the disciples must have been feeling at the beginning of the video clip. Why were the two going to another town? Why do you think Jesus didn’t tell them who he was straight away?

What does Jesus tell them on the walk? How do the two recognise him in the end? What do they do as soon as they recognise him? How do they feel at the end of the clip?

Are these two disciples changed by meeting Jesus on the road? Why? Why is this meeting more important than Jesus just having a chat with two of his friends? (It is one of the things that changes everything because it was proof that Jesus really did rise from the dead!)

The Point: To tell the story.

***Warmed hearts.***

#### ***Equipment***

Salt dough or air drying clay, tea light candles.

This activity will work well with the following Teaching Time activities: all.

Say that the two disciples on the road said that their hearts felt warmed when Jesus was speaking to them. Ask them what they think that means. Say that the disciples’ hearts’ were recognising Jesus before their heads did!

Give everyone some dough or clay and let them make it into a nice chunky heart shape. Get them to push the tea light into the middle to make a hole for it. They can use a pencil or spreading knife to mark patterns on if they want to. Scratch initials onto the bottom and let dry.

The Point: To remind the children of the disciples’ hearts’ being warmed when they talked to Jesus.

#### ***Prayer hearts.***

#### ***Equipment***

Ingredients as detailed in the main description, rolling pins, heart cutters, baking trays, oven, baking paper.

Say that the two disciples on the road said that their hearts felt warmed when Jesus was speaking to them. Ask them what they think that means. Say that the disciples’ hearts were recognising Jesus before their heads did! You’re going to make gingerbread hearts to remind you of this.

**Makes: 25 biscuits**

Ingredients:

125 g unsalted butter

100 g dark muscovado sugar

4 tbsp golden syrup

325 g plain flour

1 tsp bicarbonate of soda

2 tsp ground ginger

Writing Icing (optional)

Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 170°C, gas mark 3. Line baking trays with baking parchment. Melt the butter, sugar and syrup in a medium saucepan, stirring occasionally, then remove from the heat.
2. Sieve the flour, bicarbonate of soda and ginger into a bowl and stir the melted ingredients into the dry ingredients to make a stiff dough.
3. Turn out onto a lightly floured surface and roll to a thickness of about 5 mm. Dip biscuit cutters into flour before cutting the dough. Place the heart shapes onto the lined baking trays and bake, in batches, for 9-10 minutes until light golden brown.
4. Remove from the oven.
5. When completely cool, decorate with the icing. The gingerbread biscuits can be stored in an airtight container for up to two weeks.

The Point: A reminder that Jesus can warm our hearts.

* Discuss the disciples' saying that their hearts felt warmed when Jesus was speaking to them.
* Make the biscuits.

***Worship*** : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jAh0avXdgJ0>