

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2020

Topic: Following God

Morning all. I have attached 3 tasks that you can undertake. None of them require too much equipment so should all be manageable. Hope you have fun.

Roxan

**Task 1: Follow him Actively!**

*Equipment*

None.

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Ask the children what they think it means to follow God and let them suggest answers!

Now ask them how many ways they can follow God, for instance, you can follow God *enthusiastically*, you can follow Him *seriously*, you can follow *joyfully* etc.

If your group is brave enough, sit them in a line and ask each child in turn: "Susan, show us how you follow God joyfully"

And the child should do a quick improvisation to show God being followed in that manner; for instance, get out of bed saying, "Hallelujah! Thank you God for this wonderful rainy day". Continue along the line until all the children have had a go.

If your group is less confident, divide the children into groups of 3 and give each trio an adjective. Ask them to make up a short role play showing how to follow God in that particular way. The children can then perform the role plays.

Say that there are many ways in which we can follow God, some more positive than others! How do the children think God wants to be followed?

**The Point:** This activity invites the children to think about how we can follow God and how we should!

## Task 2: How to Follow

### *Equipment*

Bibles.

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Read these passages and discuss them together in small groups.

John 8:12

- What does Jesus say that He is?
- What does it mean to “walk in darkness”?

John 3:19-21

- Does this help you to understand more easily what Jesus means by walking in the light and the dark?
- How are people who walk in the light and following God different to people who walk in the dark?
- Do you think following God is a good thing to do?

1 John 2:6

- Christians claim to follow Jesus, which is what the name “Christian” means! What does John say that these people should do?
- How closely should Christians try to imitate Jesus?
- Why is it important for us to live in the way Jesus showed us, the way God would like?
- What things do you think you need to change in your life if you want to follow God better?

Matthew 16:24-26

- What must people do if they want to follow Jesus?
- What does it mean to “deny yourself”?
- Do you think that we have to give up things that we enjoy in order to follow Jesus?
- Why do we need to “take up a cross”?
- What is most important – this world, or heaven?
- How would our lives be different if we really believed that Heaven was more important than Earth?

**The Point:** These passages show that following God is a whole life commitment; we should walk the way Jesus walked, live transparent lives and deal with sin.

### Task 3: Keeping Commandments

#### *Equipment*

None.

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***“By this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.”***

#### ***1 John 2:3***

Say that if we want to follow God, we must do the things He has told us to do!

Sit the children in a circle and choose a random person to start. Go round the room, and get each child to think of a commandment that God has given us to follow. (This may be hard for children from non Christian backgrounds, so let children repeat the same commandments if necessary.)

Say the verse together in between each child's suggested commandment.

Ask the children to think of a commandment that they know they need to keep better than they do at the moment (like obeying parents!)

Give a short time of silence and ask the children to pray quietly that God will help them to be better at keeping this particular command.

**The Point:** To encourage young people to learn the Bible.