

TALK ABOUT and TAKE HOME IDEAS

Mealtime card

- When was the last time you said, 'It's not fair'?
- What's been the best way of sorting out unfairness in your family?
- What makes it hard for you to remember to pray?
- When is your best time to pray?

Take-home idea

Challenge yourselves to add a routine to your day, namely the habit of prayer. Talk together as a family about when the best time would be to do this together or on your own. Turn a paper plate into a clock face and decide on your special prayer moment in the day, filling in the hands of the clock to say when that will be. Make one clock face for yourself to keep in your room and one for the family which you stick up prominently somewhere.

The next **Messy Church** is
on **Sunday 16th June 2019 3:30** as usual in the hall.

The meal will be our annual BBQ in the vicarage grounds—it's also Father's Day - Dads and Grandads very welcome!

Please put the date in your diary and invite other families to come with you. Dates for other Messy Church services on the third Sunday of each month in 2019 are -

Other Messy Churches this year are....

21st July; 18th Aug; 15th Sept; 20th Oct; 17th Nov and 15th Dec

At All Saints Messy Church, we are aiming to offer something for families who want an opportunity to be together in a relaxed, supportive and creative environment. We try to make our programme an imaginative mixture of family, fun, friendship, food and faith.

In the coming weeks, please think about Messy Church and if you could be a helper. We usually run 6 activities each month, could you help with one of them? Talk to Peter or one of the other leaders for more information.

Next Sunday, 25th join us for our

Morning Celebration service for families and everyone!

Morning Celebration is in the main church building we will have our Morning Celebration Service which will start with breakfast at 10:00 am, It includes puppets telling part of the story, songs, an activity and lots more. It will finish about 11:30 For more information email or visit our website

messychurch@allsaintscoton.org

www.all saints coton.org



All Saints, Chilvers Coton

**Sunday 19th May 2019
in the Parish Hall**

Welcome to Messy Church

**Pray, Pray, Pray!
Jesus turns his attention to
persistent widow and
the uncaring judge.
Read more inside....**

From 3:30pm **Welcome, Drinks and Craft Activities**
Please register then help yourself to a drink and take part in the activities. Please take time to read the bible story and the reflection before you start the activities and take time to do the "**talk about..**" for each of the activities.

4:30 pm Celebration Time....

4:50 pm Meal Time

You can find more information about the theme & activities inside

Please take this home with you

Today's Story: "Pray, Pray, Pray!"

Bible Bit.

Jesus told his disciples a story. He wanted to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said, 'In a certain town there was a judge. He didn't have any respect for God or care about what people thought. A widow lived in that town. She came to the judge again and again. She kept begging him, "Make things right for me. Someone is treating me badly." For some time the judge refused. But finally he said to himself, "I don't have any respect for God. I don't care about what people think. But this widow keeps bothering me. So I will see that things are made right for her. If I don't, she will someday come and attack me!"'

The Lord said, 'Listen to what the unfair judge says. God's chosen people cry out to him day and night. Won't he make things right for them? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, God will see that things are made right for them. He will make sure it happens quickly. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find people on earth who have faith?¹

Luke 18:1-8 (N1RV)

When I was a child, I used to write letters to my great-grandmother. Although it took some time for each letter to make its way to her, and then for her response to make its way back, it was worth the eager anticipation when I'd check the mail and see her letter. I'd swiftly read it, tuck it away with the others and get busy writing another. I was disciplined in my determination to stay in close contact with her despite the distance between us. Things have changed. Gone are the days of handwritten letters that outline the details of our daily lives and events. Instead, we can pass a short, impersonal email to anyone, anywhere around the world, and, once they've written their own quick response, and feel as if we've had a great conversation.

The widow was diligent in her quest for justice. She never wavered despite the fact that the judge was unjust and unwilling to meet her requests. The judge openly says he doesn't fear God, nor does he respect anyone. He has no patience for the nagging widow until she finally wears him down and, out of annoyance, he gives up and gives her what she wants. She is exactly what God wants us to be.

The widow is the antithesis of what communication is today. There is no instant gratification for her. Instead, like the way God calls us to pray to him, she is persistent, knowing what she wants and waiting patiently for her request to be answered. These are the two words we should be focusing on: persistence and patience. We aim to be persistent in our prayer and communication with him, and patient for how and when he answers these prayers.

For a world now used to instant responses, praying persistently and waiting for our own 'justice' is going to take practice. It's easier to think only of ourselves and forget about prayer when things are going well. We need to remember that praying is not only in a time of crisis. We cannot send an email to God and expect a response within the hour. So, instead, we have to practise the same amount of determined prayer as the widow.

Like the determination and diligence I had for staying in communication with my great-grandmother, I will endeavour, like the widow, to stay unwavering in prayer and keep striving for the same communication with God. Will you join me?

Lindsey Goodyear

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

1 Personal Persistent Prayer Planner

God loves to talk with us. Draw or write things on the planner that you could talk to Him about.

The woman in the story got what she wanted because she was persistent, and kept asking.



Talk about What things do you think God gets asked for most? What do you talk to God about? What do you ask God for?

2 Prayer Pot

You will need: paper cup; decorate it with the "Prayer" sticker and with foam shapes and jewels.

Take 6 craft sticks and write on them different things to pray for. Then pop them in the prayer pot.

Talk about the sort of things that help us keep praying.



3 Jelly Bean Prayer

You will need some felt tip pens and a piece of pipe cleaner. Colour in the pages of the booklet and fix together with a piece of pipe cleaner.

Put a bean of each colour into your bag.

Talk about what keeps you trusting in God. What encourages you to pray?

4 Not giving up

Try some of the challenges: hula hooping for 5 minutes, doing 10/20 or 30 keepy uppies, juggling for a minute, scoring 3 baskets in a row or building a tower of bricks. Will you persist and succeed, or give up?

Talk about what it feels like to have to keep on trying. Why do we find it so difficult to keep praying to God?



5 The Unfair Judge

You will need cardboard cut-out, felt, Scissors, glue stick, eyes and felt tip pens.

Use the cardboard cut-out of a man, felt to make the robes and headgear. Give him a cross expression.

Talk about what guidelines you would use to try and workout what is fair and just.

6 Gavel snack

You will need a large round biscuit, a chocolate finger biscuit and half a mini roll.

Construct a hammer with the chocolate finger and mini roll. Fix the cut end of the mini roll to the round biscuit with chocolate spread. (see picture)

Talk about how prayer can help us to make good judgements.

Extra time! Finding Faith