

Sunday School Home Activities - Week of August 22, 2021



Weekly home activities, great for the whole family, are designed to guide children from Nursery thru 5th grade and their families in Bible stories, engaging experiences, spiritual practices, and opportunities for reflection. Pick one to two activities to do with your family each week. Contact Kathy Schmucker, Spiritual Formation Director, for more information. kschmucker@faithumchurch.org

Welcome to Wonder

Prepare Ahead: As a family, create a Wonder Table. Find a small table or area in your home. On the table place a candle, a plant or flower, and any other special items you want to include. Use this space while gathering as a family to engage in the lesson or online worship together.

Wonder with Me - READ the Bible Story - Read the Bible story, John 12:1-8

- Roll the Wonder Cube. Take time to answer a few of the questions. *A copy of the Wonder Cube for this quarter is included in the Family Worship Kit Paper folder and in the June 6, 13, 20 Sunday School activities.*

WATCH the Bible Story and Sing with the Celebrate Wonder Music Videos

Watch this week's Celebrate Wonder Video on Amplify Media:

Amplify Media is a new resource for our congregation! This will make it easy for you and your families to access 100's of videos for adults, youth and children. To receive the log in info and our congregation's access code, email kschmucker@faithumchurch.org or text Kathy at 330-224-6138. Once you have logged into Amplify Media search Celebrate Wonder to watch this week's Celebrate Wonder Video and view the Celebrate Wonder Music Videos! Amplify Media has also recently added a section called, Cokesbury Kids, to make it easier for you to find all the great resources available for children! **This week is Summer Session 12 Mary Anoints Jesus.**

WONDER: How do you think Esther felt when she went to the king and told him she was a Jew?

WONDER Together

- How did Mary's action show courage?
- How do you show love to others?
- Who cheers for you?
- How would you react if someone poured perfume on your feet and dried them with her or his hair?
- Have you ever made an extravagant gesture of love?

PRAY together - Dear God, thank you for reminding us to love extravagantly. Amen.



SHARE the Faith Word:

COURAGE— Courage is choosing to act in faith, even when you are afraid.

WONDER: How did Mary show courage?

Scent Exploration (Sensory and Movement)

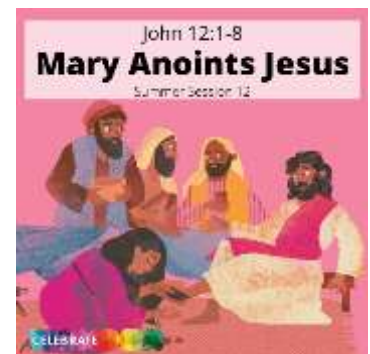
Supplies: items to smell, like candles or essential oils

SAY: We're going to explore some different scents.

- Explore your home or current space to see what different scents you can find. See if you can find a new one in every room.
- Take turns smelling the items you found.

WONDER:

- Do you have a favorite scent? What is it?
- Is there a scent that reminds you of a particular person, place, or event?
- I wonder what the perfume smelled like that Mary used to anoint Jesus' feet.



Spiritual Practice—Exploring Courage Through Discipline

- Gather together. Light a candle.

Supplies: small dish of olive oil (or similar); candle

Tip: Check for allergies before using oils.

SAY: We learned about how a woman named Mary showed extravagant love for Jesus by anointing his feet with perfume. We're going to anoint one another's hands with oil and say a blessing for one another.

- Starting with the person on your right, use a small amount of oil to make a cross on the back of the person's hand, and say the following:

SAY: As Mary showed great love for Jesus, I show great love for you.

PRAY: God, thank you for examples of great love that are pleasing to you. We pray you help us love one another and the world with the kind of love Mary had for Jesus. Amen.

- Find a time to read together the *Celebrate Wonder Family Activity Book*.



Spiritual Practice: Courage to Make Someone Feel Special

Judas thought Mary was being wasteful by anointing the feet of Jesus with expensive perfume. Mary showed courage by honoring Jesus with the perfume. It didn't matter what others thought. Think of a time you did something special for someone. How did it make you feel? How did the person feel? Pick one thing you can do to make someone feel special. Pray that you will never be afraid to do what others may consider wasteful or wrong..

Spiritual Practice: Courage Braid

Rahab was told to place a red cord out of her window so the Israelites would not harm her or her family. Rahab's courage and her discipline in a time of danger made it possible for her and her family to be saved. Braid a bookmark or bracelet from a thin red cord. As you braid, think when you showed courage in a time of danger. Contemplate how fear (one strand), discipline (second strand), and courage (third strand) go together. What else gives you courage?

Celebration Chart

Print out and place the chart on your refrigerator, kitchen table, or in an easy-to-access place. Throughout the week, have your child mark a space each time he or she completes an item on the chart. When a vertical, horizontal, or diagonal line is completed, celebrate together! *A Celebration Chart for Summer can be found in the Family Worship Kit paper folder or in the June 6, 13, 20 Sunday School Home Activities.*

Adapted from Celebrate Wonder Summer 2021 Session 10 © 2021 Cokesbury

Additional Family Activities:

- **Back to School Blessing Sunday is this week.** Join us in person or online as we pray for everyone who is beginning a new school year. Backpack tags will be available. We will offer a special blessing to students beginning kindergarten.
- **Try this Back to School Blessing Activity and Be a Blessing to Others!** – Send a card of encouragement to teachers, administrators and students you know who will begin a new school year this fall. Let them know you are thinking of them, supporting them and praying for them.
- **Resources for Talking about Race and Racism with Children:** Visit our website at <https://www.myfaithunited.org/anti-racism/>
- **Look for God Sightings,** looking for our good God in the world! Share the God Sightings you find with us. We will share them during our Wednesday Night Live worship.
- Use, individually or as a family, the worship and devotional resources you will receive connected with Sunday's Worship and Sunday School. Share with others! Visit our website for updated resources: <https://www.myfaithunited.org/worship-online/>