

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - 27 September 2020



“The son went out moved by regret.”

Something to Think About

There are people in the world who promise to do something, but never get around to it. Then there are those who seem reluctant to get involved but later decide to join in fully! Can you think of some examples in your own life?

The Story

In today's gospel, a father asks his two sons to go and work in his vineyard. The older son refuses, but later he changes his mind and goes out to work. The younger son tells his father he will go, but he doesn't. Jesus used this story to show the importance of following God with our actions. Like the younger son in the story, the Jewish leaders said they would obey God but did not. They refused to follow the Messiah! It was the outsiders - the tax collectors and others considered 'sinners' - who listened and followed. This is another example of the mystery and reversals evident in God's Kingdom.

The Scriptures

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus said:

"I will tell you a story about a man who had two sons.

Then you can tell me what you think.

"The father went to the older son and said, 'Go work in the vineyard today!'

His son told him that he would not do it, but later he changed his mind and went.

The man then told his younger son to go work in the vineyard.

The boy said he would, but he didn't go.

Which one of the sons obeyed his father?"

"The older one," the chief priests and leaders answered.

Then Jesus told them:

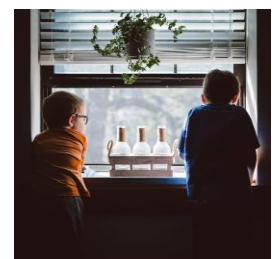
"You can be sure that tax collectors and bad women will get into the kingdom of God before you ever will! When John the Baptist showed you how to do right, you would not believe him. But these evil people did believe. And even when you saw what they did, you still would not change your minds and believe."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Video

Click to watch the video.

[The Parable of the Two Sons](#)



Group Discussion

Talk together about the statement, 'Actions speak louder than words'.
Discuss what it means to be a person who keeps her/his word.
In our faith journeys, we can say YES to God and try to live good Christian lives.
Or we can say NO to God and reject the gospel.
What does it mean to say YES to God?
How should we act? How should we speak? What should we believe?
Jesus wants us to follow him and to be sincere in our actions and our love.

Praying For Others

Leader: Let us pray now for the leaders of our Church, our world, for those in our community and for our own needs.

Reader: We pray that our leaders will be people we can trust. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for children without parents. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for all who are sick. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray that our words be sincere and genuine. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer

Say this prayer together during the week.



Dear Lord,
Help me to choose words and actions
that show love and care for others.
Bless me as I try to make good choices
every day.
Amen.

Group Activity

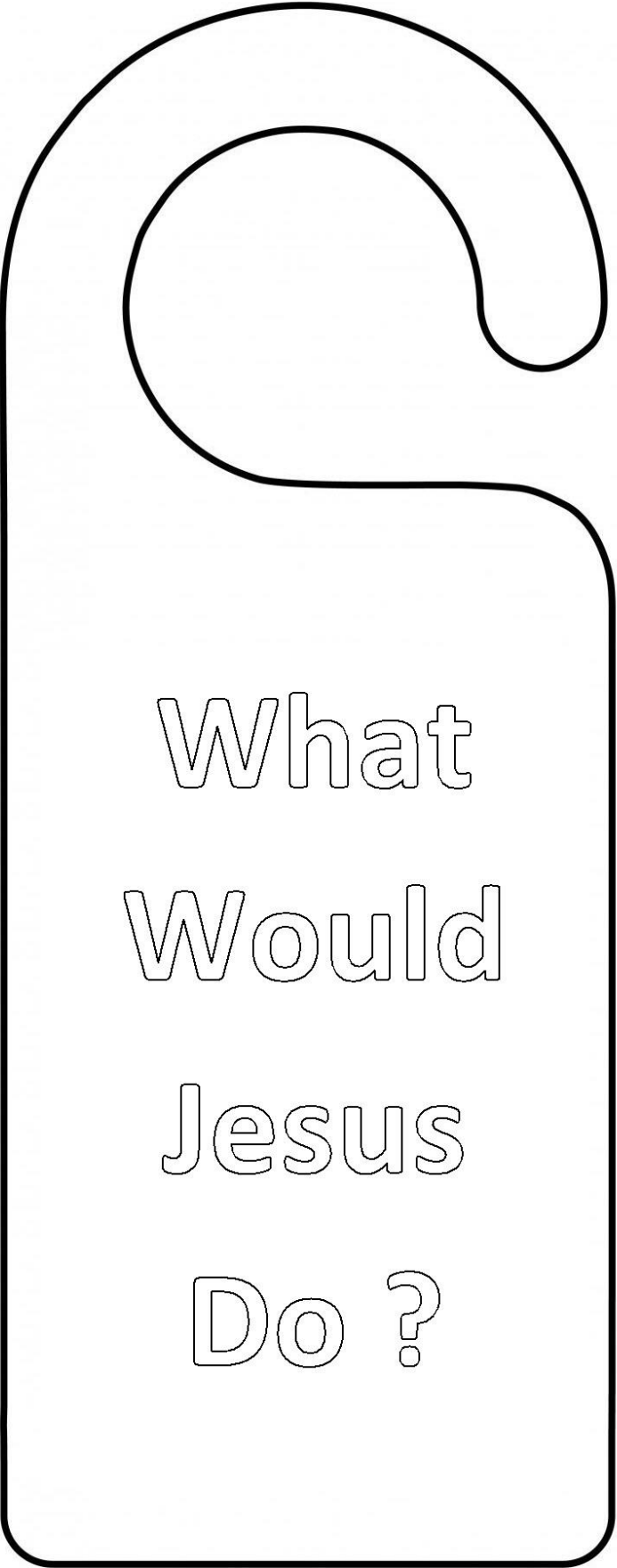
When we are faced with difficult decisions, and we aren't sure how we should act, a good question to ask ourselves is: "What would Jesus do?"

This week, make a door hanger to remind you of this question.

Decorate the door hanger (template attached) in whichever way you like.

You might like to draw situations where people are acting in ways that are good and loving.

When you have finished, place it on your bedroom door, or any other door that you will see often this week. When you have a decision to make, ask yourself, "What would Jesus do?"



What
Would
Jesus
Do ?

**MUM ASKS JACK TO
FEED THE DOG.**

**'YEAH, SURE!' SAYS
JACK. BUT THEN HE
KEEPS PLAYING HIS
GAME AND DOES
NOTHING.**



**DO
YOU**

**REMEMBER THE TWINS
JACK AND AVA?**

**WHO GETS
THE BEST
REPORT CARD
?**

**DAD ASKS AVA TO
MAKE HER BED.**

**'NO, I DON'T FEEL
LIKE IT,' SAYS AVA.
BUT THEN SHE
GOES TO DO IT
ANYWAY.**

