

Together @ Home

Here are some activities you could do together as a family, begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.



Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, the story of Philip and the Ethiopian

You can find it in your Bible in:

Acts 8 v 26–40

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your group.



A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you, for the story of the Ethiopian who wanted to know and understand more about Jesus. Thank you for the clues that you left us throughout the Old Testament about your plan to send Jesus.

Thank you that your message of love and hope is for the whole world. Help us to be people who share your message with those we meet.

Help us to be like Philip this week, to study our bibles and come to know more about you so that we can share your word with others.

Amen

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

Where did the verses that the Ethiopian man in the story was reading, come from?

The man in the story was reading from the book of Isaiah in the Old Testament. Isaiah is one of the Prophecy books in the Bible, God spoke to Isaiah and told him to write down a message for his people. The message spoke about a saviour who would come and take a punishment that he didn't deserve. Philip knew that this message was speaking about Jesus.

In fact there are many verses in the Old Testament which told people about Jesus – they spoke about who he was and what would happen to him, God's plan to make a way for our sins to be forgiven is spoken about throughout the books of the Old Testament.

A question for children to ask adults

What is your favourite verse from the Bible?

Family Activity 1

You will need: Lego or other plastic figures (or something to represent the people in the story), any packaging/junk modelling materials you can find.

Create your own dramatic retelling of the story using items from around the house – why not craft your own chariot for the Ethiopian to ride in, set up a bowl of water for the baptism to take place in.

Use some waterproof toys or figurines to represent the characters. You could share out the roles getting different family members to voice the characters. Why not film your finished story and share it with another family?





A verse to remember

Luke 2 v 10–11

The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news that will be a great joy to all the people. Today your Saviour was born in the town of David. He is Christ, the Lord.”

This is a verse we normally think about at Christmas, but it is a great reminder that Jesus was the promised Saviour and that his good news was for all people! Try to learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.

Family Activity 2

You will need: A Bible (or two)! A timer

Have a Bible race, these Bible verses are all from the Old Testament but speak about Jesus, who can find them the fastest?. If you have two Bibles have a race to see who can find each verse first, otherwise take it in turns but time yourselves to see who is fastest.

Isaiah 7 v 14

Micah 5 v 2

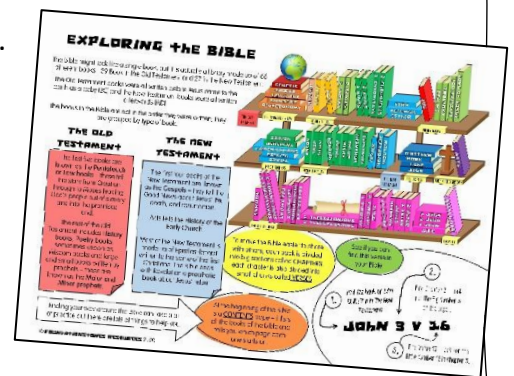
Psalms 78 v 1–2

Isaiah 9 v 1–2

Isaiah 35 v 5–6

Zechariah 9 v 9

This sheet on exploring the Bible is available in the 'Other Resources' section of the Together at Home Website. www.TatH.co.uk



Active Bible Study

Philip was able to share the good news because he had a knowledge of the Old Testament Scriptures and was confident in his faith and knowledge of Jesus. How can we equip and prepare our children to do the same?

Why not try following the S.P.E.C.K Bible study method together – read the story again and work together to seek out the following things within in. This method can be applied to any Bible Passage.

S – SIN – Is there a sin to avoid in the passage?

P – PROMISE – Is there a promise of God to hold on to in the passage?

E – EXAMPLE – Is there an example to follow in the passage?

C – COMMAND – Is there a command of God to obey in the passage?

K – KNOWLEDGE – What knowledge can I draw from this passage about God and about me?

Give everybody a chance to answer and contribute on each question. Different people will find different things within the passage. Think about how you can apply what you have learned to your own lives and how it will change the way you live for God.



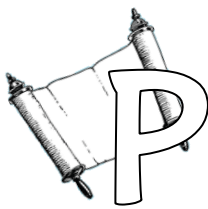
A colouring page you could print and colour together

Luke 2 v 10-11

The angel said to them,

"Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news that will be a great joy to all the people. Today your Saviour was born in the town of David. He is Christ, the Lord."

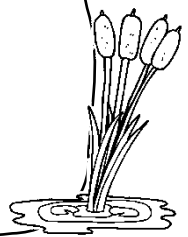




Puzzle Sheet

In Jesus' time the scriptures were written on large scrolls. How many can you find hidden on the page?

Finish the picture... to show what happened at the end of the story



Although the man in the story was called an "Ethiopian" he was not from the country we know as Ethiopia today. But he is a good reminder that the Good News about Jesus is for the whole world. Can you find these different countries in the word search?

o o k f n w g c m a e p t h n
 i s m a d e g b i m m s e o t
 n a p c r p u p i n d i a r l
 i a v m r d o f j r p w m h u
 j c a g y i m e c u v h m q n
 a n g r h r u a c f g a a d u
 y r k t c w m i y n b p w l q
 v p e e a e h l e q a e i d u
 a u h y n m s a b q y r c b s
 j m v d i q q r h m u c f o j
 a d e j h q c t n p c t q l h
 i j e r c t w s j p i u m i q
 i u x m i s b u y z o x x v e
 g f z b l c m a n i g e r i a
 w o v x b v a i s s u r l a s

Ethiopia

Russia

China

Nigeria

America

France

Peru

Australia

Japan

Bolivia

Germany

India

The man in the story was reading from the book of Isaiah a prophetic book of the Bible. Can you unscramble these Old Testament prophetic books?

j n a h o

l a m c l h a i

g i g a h a

a s o h e

