

# Together @ Home

Lectionary Edition  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March  
Fourth Sunday in Lent



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 Jesus healing a man born blind.

You can find it in your Bible in:

**John 9 v 1–41**

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

**The other passages we will be thinking about at church this week are:**

1 Samuel 16 v 1-3  
Ephesians 5 v 8-14  
Psalm 23

## A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for the story of Jesus healing the blind man which reminds us that you can perform **MIRACLES**.

Thank you that we can call out to you for help.

We pray for those in the world who are scared at the moment; for those who want to be angry with you, that you would comfort them.

Amen

## Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

*How do you think the different people in the story felt about the healing?*

*The man who was healed? The disciples? The Neighbours? The Pharisees?*

Everybody saw the situation differently, for some it was a miracle, for the disciples a chance to learn from God. For some it was an opportunity to be angry with God. We are in a difficult time at the moment but we can choose to use every experience as a chance to trust in God and believe that we can still see miracles today.

A question for children to ask adults

The man in the story was so changed by his meeting with God that people did not recognise him.

*Can you tell me about a time when you were changed by meeting with God?*

## Family Activity 1

You will need: Old magazines, letters, junk mail, envelopes etc., paper, glue.

Cut up old paper and magazines that you do not want any more into small squares. Help the children to sort them into different colours, look out for any bits that are brown or muddy colours or blue watery colours.

Use them to create a collage of the story, on one side use the brown pieces to create a muddy picture, draw Jesus and the blind man in the picture.

On the other side of the page use the blue and green pieces to create a Pool of Siloam and draw the man finally being able to see.



## A verse to remember

### Psalm 23 v 1 "The Lord is my shepherd."

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.

You might want to read the whole Psalm and spend some time meditating on Gods promise that he will be with us and provide for us even in the most difficult times.

## Family Activity 2

You will need: A blindfold/Scarf, toys, water bowl

Set up an obstacle course of small toys, one family member is blindfolded, and another family member must guide them through the obstacle course using only their voice. Put the water bowl at the end of the course to be the Pool of Siloam.

Older children can follow simple directions e.g. "two steps forward", "turn left".

Younger children will find it easier to follow the voice e.g. "this way", "come towards me".

Use this game to think about what it would have been like to be the blind man who could suddenly see.



## Active Prayer

Search for items around the house that remind you of other people – photos of families and friends, shopping deliveries, toys, letters.

Pray for the people they remind you about – friends, family, those working in shops, those working in the postal service.

Pray that they would know God and be brave.

## Helping Older Children

*Older children might be asking why God would allow the current virus to hurt people in the world. The Bible tells us that we live in a fallen world, that God did not intend for it to be like this. We might not always be able to see God in our circumstances, but He promises that He will never abandon us, He is always with us.*

### Encourage Older children to...

**Keep praying** – God always hears our prayers even if we don't see Him answer them straight away.

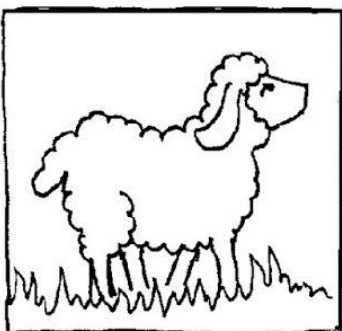
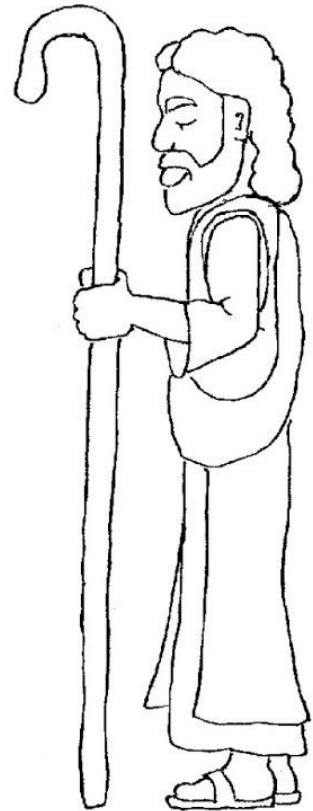
**Keep trusting** - God has good plans for us and there is always hope.

**Keep showing love** – God can use us to encourage and bless others in difficult times.

Remind them of the story and encourage them that this is not a punishment for our sins but that we can pray for it to be a time that God's goodness and love can be shown to those who do not know Him.

A colouring page you could print and colour together

The Lord  
is my  
shepherd;  
I shall not  
want.



Psalms 23:1



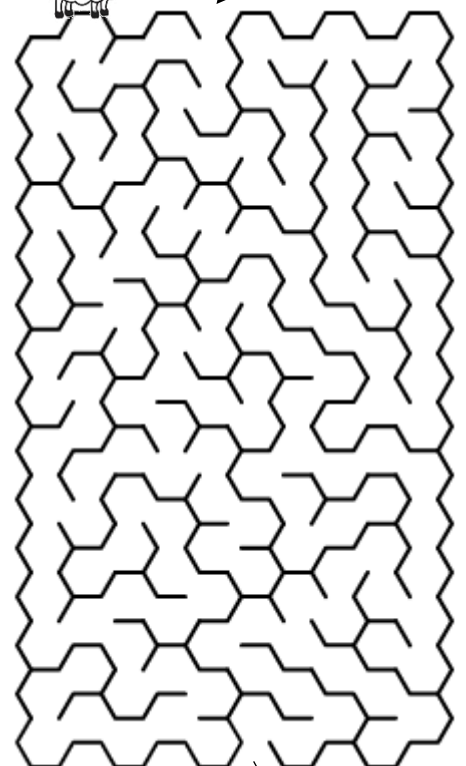
# Puzzle Sheet

The man in the story was born blind and then Jesus healed him. Complete the picture to show the first things you think that he could see

There are sheep like this one hidden on the page... how many can you find?



Can you help the shepherd to find his way back to the lost sheep?



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

Can you find all these words in the wordsearch?

Jesus  
disciples  
blind  
mud  
saliva  
healing  
pharisees  
pool  
Siloam  
miracle



Answer: There are 8 sheep hidden on the page