**A Time for Shouting**

**Welcome (Parents and Carers asked to stay until after the Opening Prayer)**

Welcome back to Friends on Faith Adventures. We are looking forward to going on a journey and nobody knows where we will end up. All we know is we have got our crate filled with adventure and an open path ahead. So, hold on tight and enjoy the ride!!

Let’s hear about FOFA bear and FOFA cam’s adventures this week and how everyone got on with the Walking the Way challenge. (Encourage everyone, including parents and carers, to join in.)

**The Opening Prayer**

We are friends together *(shake hands with both palms facing towards body)*

On a faith adventure (*point to forehead with thumb. Hold other hand with palm facing up and bring the side of your first hand down so that it goes across the palm of the second hand just below the fingers)*

With the Bible as our mapbook *(draw cross with thumbnail on back of hand then put hands together and open like a book)*

And Jesus as our guide *(use index fingers to point into palm of each hand in turn).*

God, be with us in all that we do *(point up, then make index finger into a hook shape and move down as though pulling down towards you)*

And go with us wherever we go *(point outwards).*

Amen *(two thumbs up with hands apart, bring hands together)*.

**The Alternative Prayer**

Lord, help us to be:

**P**repared for adventure

**I**n all we do.

**L**oving and caring,

**O**pen to others

**T**ogether as one community

**S**haring the love of Jesus on our way.

Amen

**Fun Together**

*What you will need:*

* Nothing

**Cheerleaders**

Get into pairs and all play “rock, paper, scissors” simultaneously. (Participants hide their hand behind their back and on the count of three bring their hand forwards in one of three positions. A fist indicates rock, a flat hand indicates paper and a pretend scissor movement indicates scissors. Paper beats rock, rock beats scissors, and scissors beat paper). The losing partner then becomes a cheerleader for the winner. The winner goes to compete against the winner from another pair and each cheerleader cheers their player on. Then the three gather to cheer on the winner of that game as they play against the winner from another group. It continues until the last two people are in and everyone is cheering for one or the other. This game can get VERY noisy! Be aware of any children who are particularly noise sensitive and allow them to opt out if necessary or use ear defenders.

**‘My Name’s Joe’ repeating campfire songs.**

This is a campfire style song that is a repeating song so you sing one line and then everyone else is to repeat it.

This song works better if you shout the lines.

Hi, my name is Joe and I work in a button factory.

Last night my boss said "Joe, are your busy?"

And I said "No."

So he said "Press this button with your left hand."

*(press button with left hand continuously)*

Hi, my name is Joe and I work in a button factory.

Last night my boss said "Joe are your busy?"

And I said "No."

So he said "Press this button with your left hand."

*(press button with left hand continuously)*

and "Push this pedal with your right foot."

*(push pedal with right foot continuously)*

Hi, my name is Joe and I work in a button factory.

Last night my boss said "Joe are your busy?"

And I said "No."

So he said "Press this button with your left hand."

*(press button with left hand continuously)*

"Push this pedal with your right foot."

*(push pedal with right foot continuously)*

and "Pull this lever with your right hand."

*(pull lever with right hand continuously)*

Hi, my name is Joe and I work in a button factory.

Last night my boss said "Joe are your busy?"

And I said "No."

So he said "Press this button with your left hand."

*(press button with left hand continuously)*

"Push this pedal with your right foot."

*(push pedal with right foot continuously)*

"Pull this lever with your right hand."

*(pull lever with right hand continuously)*

and "Push this pedal with your left foot."

*(push pedal with left foot continuously)*

Hi, my name is Joe and I work in a button factory.

Last night my boss said "Joe are your busy?"

And I said "No."

So he said "Press this button with your left hand."

*(press button with left hand continuously)*

"Push this pedal with your right foot."

*(push pedal with right foot continuously)*

"Pull this lever with your right hand."

*(pull lever with right hand continuously)*

"Push this pedal with your left foot."

*(push pedal with left foot continuously)*

and "Hit this button with your head."

*(hit button with head continuously)*

Hi, my name is Joe and I work in a button factory.

Last night my boss said "Joe are your busy?"

And I said "YES!"

**Today’s theme is about how we can be proud to follow Jesus and that it is ok to shout it to the world.**

**The Big Story - A Time for Shouting - Matthew 21 onwards**

*You will need:*

* Pair of ear defenders or a pair of over-ear headphones
* Head scarves x3
* Hammer
* Piece of wood
* Toy Donkey or a picture of a donkey
* Paper palm leaves
* Bread
* Chalice or cup
* A wooden cross
* Toy handcuffs x2

*(Reader 2 to have ear defenders on at the start of the session)*

Reader 1: SO, today we are going to hear about how shouting is part of the Easter story. Are you ready to start?

Reader 2: *Has ear defenders on and pretends to be completely unaware of the fact that Reader 1 is talking. )*

Reader 1: *(looks at Reader 2 and talks louder)* I…. SAID…ARE… YOU… READY …TO…START?

Reader 2: *(still unaware of Reader 1)*

Reader 1: *(goes over to Reader 2 and lifts one ear piece)* OI! ARE YOU LISTENING, ARE YOU READY TO START?

Reader 2: *(removes ear defenders in shock)* Ok there’s no need to shout.

Reader 1: Well I did ask three times, and anyway why are you wearing those?

Reader 2: Well you said today was all going to be shouting so I decided to defend myself.

Reader 1: Not all shouting! All about shouting and how it has a place in the Easter story.

Reader 2: In the Easter story? Really?

Reader 1: It all started with a donkey. *(Take a picture of a donkey or a donkey toy out of the bag)*

Reader 2: But donkeys can’t shout!

Reader 1: Yeah, I know, so let’s start at the beginning. There was once a man working in his workshop, we shall call him Joe. *(Get a young person to be Joe go into the bag and get out a hammer and some wood and start hammering)* One day Joe was working away and two men came and started to untie Joe’s donkey. *(Choose two volunteers to pick up the donkey and start to take it away, and get Joe to mime shaking his fist at them)* Well, he wasn’t happy about this and went out to ask them what they were doing .

Reader 2: Too right. You shouldn’t take things without asking.

Reader 1: Yes, when Joe asked them, they said that the master had sent them, and he needed his donkey for a while. Well Joe wasn’t sure, but for some reason he trusted them, and they did say it was for the master, so he handed over the donkey and got back to work.

Reader 2: Joe is very trusting.

Reader 1: Yes, he was. The next thing that Joe heard was a lot of shouting and singing coming down the road. Joe got up from his work, went outside and what did he see but a huge crowd of people shouting and singing while a man rode through the town *(Get the other children to be the crowd and get paper palm leaves out of the bag for each)* ON HIS DONKEY! That made Joe feel very proud! He heard the people shouting, “Praise to the king, Alleluia!” They were heading for Jerusalem and the man on the donkey was Jesus.

Reader 2: Ok, so there was just the one shouting incident? Is that it?

Reader 1: Be patient, that’s not the end of the story! So, once they were in Jerusalem Jesus and his friends met together to have a party to celebrate Passover *(Get some children to be Jesus and the disciples and mime having a meal together).* The room was full, there was lots of laughing and joking between the friends and the volume got louder and louder, when suddenly someone shouted “Hey, be quiet! Jesus wants to say something.” Jesus rose from the table and broke a loaf of bread and shared it round the table. He said “This is my body broken for you.”*(Get bread out of bag and share with the children).* Then he took some wine (*get chalice out of the bag*) and said, “This is my blood, shed for you” and he passed it round for everyone to have a sip. When he had finished, he said, “Tonight one of you will betray me and give me to the Romans.” Well, as you can imagine, the shouting stopped and everyone was very puzzled and thoughtful.

Reader 2: No, I bet that shut everyone up. Was there any more shouting?

Reader 1: Well, what Jesus had said came true. Judas, one of his friends, betrayed him to the Romans and they arrested him and took him to Pilate who was the governor at that time. *(Put handcuffs on Jesus and one other volunteer).* Now Pilate couldn’t see what Jesus had done wrong so he took him out on his balcony in front of the people of Jerusalem and told the crowd they could choose who he should save, whether he should save Jesus or a man named Barabbas who was a violent murderer.

Reader 2: This isn’t difficult, Jesus - he had done nothing wrong.

Reader 1: Pilate asked the people who should be freed, and the noise started to grow. “Barabbas, Barabbas then it got louder Barabbas, Barabbas, until eventually the whole crowd were shouting BARABBAS, BARABBAS! *(Get the children to shout Barabbas starting quiet and getting louder)*

Reader 2: WHAT! But Jesus hadn’t done anything wrong.

Reader 1: I know but the chief priests and elders had got to the people and convinced them to save Barabbas instead. So, Jesus was sent off to be crucified.

Reader 2: Well that has to be the worst case of shouting ever.

Reader 1: I wish it was. There was another, worse, shout in the story. Jesus was taken off to be crucified which was a horrible way of killing someone by nailing them to a cross *(Take a cross out of the bag).* And although Jesus knew that his father, God, had a plan for him to rise from the dead, he was in a lot of pain. While on the cross, he shouted out “My God, my God, why have you left me?” and cried out before he died.

Reader 2: That sounds horrible. I don’t like leaving the shouting there.

Reader 1: That’s good because we are not going to. A few days after he had died, some of the women that knew Jesus went to his grave and found he wasn’t there *(Choose three children to be the women and put head scarfs on them).* They thought Jesus had been taken and they started to wail and shout. But then a man came to them and asked them why they were shouting and wailing. They told him that someone had taken their friend’s body. He said to them “Do you not recognise me?” and at that point they realised it was Jesus. Well, if you thought the women could shout before, then you hadn’t heard anything! They ran all the way back to Jesus’ friends shouting and praising God.

Reader 2: So, Jesus had become alive again?

Reader 1: Yes, we call it resurrection.

Reader 2: Wow that really is something to shout about. Maybe we should shout about Jesus more

**Creative Adventure**

**Megaphone Madness!**

*What you will need:*

* Sheets of thin A3 card with the template printed on them. (You can make them bigger if you like)
* Cardboard rolls
* Glue/sellotape
* Scissors
* Felt tip pens/coloured pencils

Activity

Print the template of the cone onto the A3 thin card and ask everyone to colour them in. (If this isn’t possible, create a thick card template and use it to draw the outline on each person’s piece of card. They can then decorate them with their own designs)

Once they have finished colouring the cone, cut and curl it into the cone shape and glue the flap on the design to complete. Repeat the same process with the smaller cone shape. Attach the small end of the small cone to the small end on the large cone to create the mouthpiece of the megaphone.

Now take the cardboard tube and cut a number of slits in one end and splay the end out. Glue this to the base of the megaphone to create a handle. Now your megaphone is complete, challenge everyone to go out and spread the word of Jesus as loudly as they can.

**Wondering questions to use during creative time:**

I wonder how it felt to be a part of the procession into Jerusalem?

I wonder who you would be in the story?

I wonder what it means to shout for Jesus?

**The Adventure Map**

Explain the Adventure Map and how a lot of the books were written shortly after Jesus’s time. They tell us about what Jesus said and did and how his friends lived their lives, sharing with others how to be good followers of Jesus.

Take the group to the Adventure Map that you have created on the wall. Get the group to find where on the Map today’s story came from. Choose one or some of the things created by the group to be photographed and attach this to the wall to create a visual reminder of where the story came from and your adventure together. The aim is that in a year you will have lots of reminders of the stories and where in the Bible they come from. Use a piece of string or ribbon to connect the photo of the craft work to the book of the Bible.

**Walking the Way**

**This is a time to invite the parents and carers back in to share what the children have been up to during the session. They will also be here to hear about the Walking the Way challenge and the tasks (should they choose to accept them) that the children (and parents) are about to undertake.**

For the Younger: FOFA the bear

This is FOFA. FOFA likes nothing more than to go on an adventure; FOFA is a little more adventurous than me. FOFA believes that faith is a journey and that’s why FOFA would love to take you on a journey with him and walk the way of God in our everyday lives. Each session FOFA would like to go home with one of you and add to FOFA’s scrapbook of things you do together. FOFA doesn’t mind if you draw a picture of what you have done, take a photograph or just write a story about it. FOFA also doesn’t mind if you just come and tell the rest of us what you got up to together. But because FOFA’s memory isn’t very good as FOFA’s brains are made of stuffing, it would be better to save the memories in the book if you can. At the end of our time together we can always remember the great adventures we have been on together with FOFA and hopefully you will walk a little closer with God.

For the Older: FOFA cam

This camera is your window on the world. You have one shot at this, so choose carefully. You will be given a very precious piece of equipment – a FOFA cam. You have one photo to take with the camera, that records one thing – a way you have met the challenge. If there are other people in the photo, please ask their permission first and explain this photo will be put on display here. Bring back the camera and your photo next time to share your moment - and remember you only have ONE shot at this!

Every time we will choose someone to take FOFA bear and someone to take FOFA Cam to help them with the challenge – but we can all have a go at the challenge!

Our Walking the Way Challenge this time is: To think about how often we shout out about what Jesus does for us. Look for ways that you can shout about the love of Jesus this week. For instance – create a poster to stick in the window at home or in the car that shares the message about Jesus’ love.

**Adventurers Go!**

So, today’s story was about how during the Easter story there are lots of times we can hear shouting, some good and some bad. But how often do we hear shouting for Jesus today? Not very often, I think. So maybe we need to take that on ourselves and shout for Jesus a little more.

**Prayers (choose one/both)**

Prayer

Lord sometimes we don’t shout your name enough.

We keep the amazing things you do for us quiet.

Help us to shout your praises more,

So that your name can be heard all over the world.

Amen.

Active Prayer

The shouting prayer.

Spread out throughout the room. Ensure everyone has their megaphone from creative time. The first person should shout out the first line of the prayer and shout the name of another person across the room and tell them to pass it on (e.g. “Charlie, God is great! Pass it on”) then Charlie has to pass it on to another person across the room and so on until each person has passed it on. You could use the prayer above for this or come up with some simple statements of faith for the children to shout around the room. If you want to make it really loud you could have more than one statement at a time being shouted.

**End Prayer Every Session: Altogether**

**We are Friends on Faith Adventures, travelling together with God.**

**Adventurers go! Amen**

***What you will need:***

**Game:**

* Obstacles for course
* Blindfolds

**Story:**

* Pair of ear defenders or a pair of over ear headphones
* Head scarves x3
* Hammer
* Piece of wood
* Toy Donkey or at least a picture of one
* Paper Palm leaves
* Bread
* Chalice
* A wooden cross

**Craft:**

* Sheets of thin A3 card with the template printed on them. (You can make them bigger if you like)
* Cardboard rolls
* Glue/sellotape
* Scissors
* Felt tip pens/coloured pencils

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Location** | **Possible hazard** | **Action required** | **Action taken** | **Signature** |
| **During session** | Pens on clothing | Supply protective clothes to children and warn of possibility of damage to clothing |  |  |
| **During session** | Shouting and loud noise, children may be sensitive to noise | Supply ear protection or suggest the loudness be toned down. |  |  |
| **During session** | Scissors, cutting hands clothing | Make sure you use child safe scissors |  |  |