

Jesus shares a special meal with his friends



SpT21

Luke 22:14-30, John 13:21-30

Aim: to learn how Jesus wants us to show that we are part of his family by how we treat others



There is something significant about sharing a meal together. In scripture we read of Jesus eating with people at the shore, in homes, out on the hillside and we can almost put ourselves around those tables and sense the intimacy of the conversations as we read and let our imaginations draw us in. Today we enter a meal-time in the very last days of Jesus's life and ministry on Earth where he shared shares more than food. He has important lessons to share, too. On the first occasion, Jesus does something unexpected. In a wonderfully caring act, he proceeds to wash his disciples' filthy feet. Even his closest friends found that incredibly humbling. Jesus needed to demonstrate the depth of his love and to lead the way for his people to love one another. Later, Jesus famously breaks bread and wine as he tries to explain its significance and the importance for God's people to do it again, often in remembrance of him.



Spread out a large picnic blanket. If you have a snack time, integrate this into your story time to invite children into the scene of the mealtimes in today's stories. Share fruit or biscuits.

Welcome to our snack time. I'm glad you could come! I hope we all have a lovely time together. I'm going to tell you some stories about when Jesus and his friends met to eat together today. While you are enjoying a snack you can listen.



Have a bowl of soapy water, a child sized chair and a towel ready.

Who has smelly feet? Would anyone like me to wash their feet today? Choose a volunteer from the children or a primed adult helper and proceed to wash their feet. If picking a child make sure their adult is on hand to help with putting socks and shoes back on etc. Read Jesus washes feet, pgs. 200-201

Who likes to share? It can be really tricky sometimes. Jesus was good at sharing and he didn't just share his food, he shared his life with his friends. Our next story shows him sharing food as a sign of giving everything for his friends.

Read A Meal with Jesus, pgs. 202-203. After the story break a bread roll place in a basket. Pour fruit juice out into beakers. *Jesus asked his people to remember him and think about him. Today in churches and homes all over the world people still remember what Jesus did.* Let the children finish the snack.



*I wonder what Jesus friends thought about Jesus washing their feet
I wonder what things we can do to be kind to our friends
I wonder if Jesus's friends remembered what Jesus said to them*



Read the story of the Last Supper in 'The Story of Easter' board book by Helen Dardik.

Take a look at our [Holy Week @ Home resources](#) for extra ideas



- Set up a table with bread and juice, a basket, cups, napkins etc. Encourage the children to take on the roles of Jesus and his friends or simply to share together.
- Have available a selection of pictures from the story of the last supper (e.g. [freeBibleImages website](http://freeBibleImages.com)) for the children to pick up and explore. Can they say what is happening in the pictures? Can they say which is their favourite picture? Can they articulate the way the pictures make them feel? Can they find Jesus in the pictures? Can they find matching pictures from different artists?
- Lay out a roll of wallpaper. At one end place a plate of paint and at the other some wipes, a bowl of warm soapy water and a towel. Encourage everyone to paint the soles of their feet and walk along the paper to making prints before cleaning them thoroughly at the other end
- Make a sandy foot picture (See template below) Decorate with coloured sand, glitter or coloured paper.



Teach the children Makaton for 'Always'

<https://youtu.be/oK3KWpiolEs>

Today we learned that Jesus is always loving, caring and sharing and that he wants us to always love others, share with and care for others. Help me by using the 'always' sign in our prayer today.

Dear Lord Jesus,

*Thank you for **always** sharing with us.*

*Thank you for **always** loving us and for*

***always** showing us the way to love others.*

*Help us to **always** remember the things we learn from our Bible stories.*

*We love you **always** and forever.*

Amen

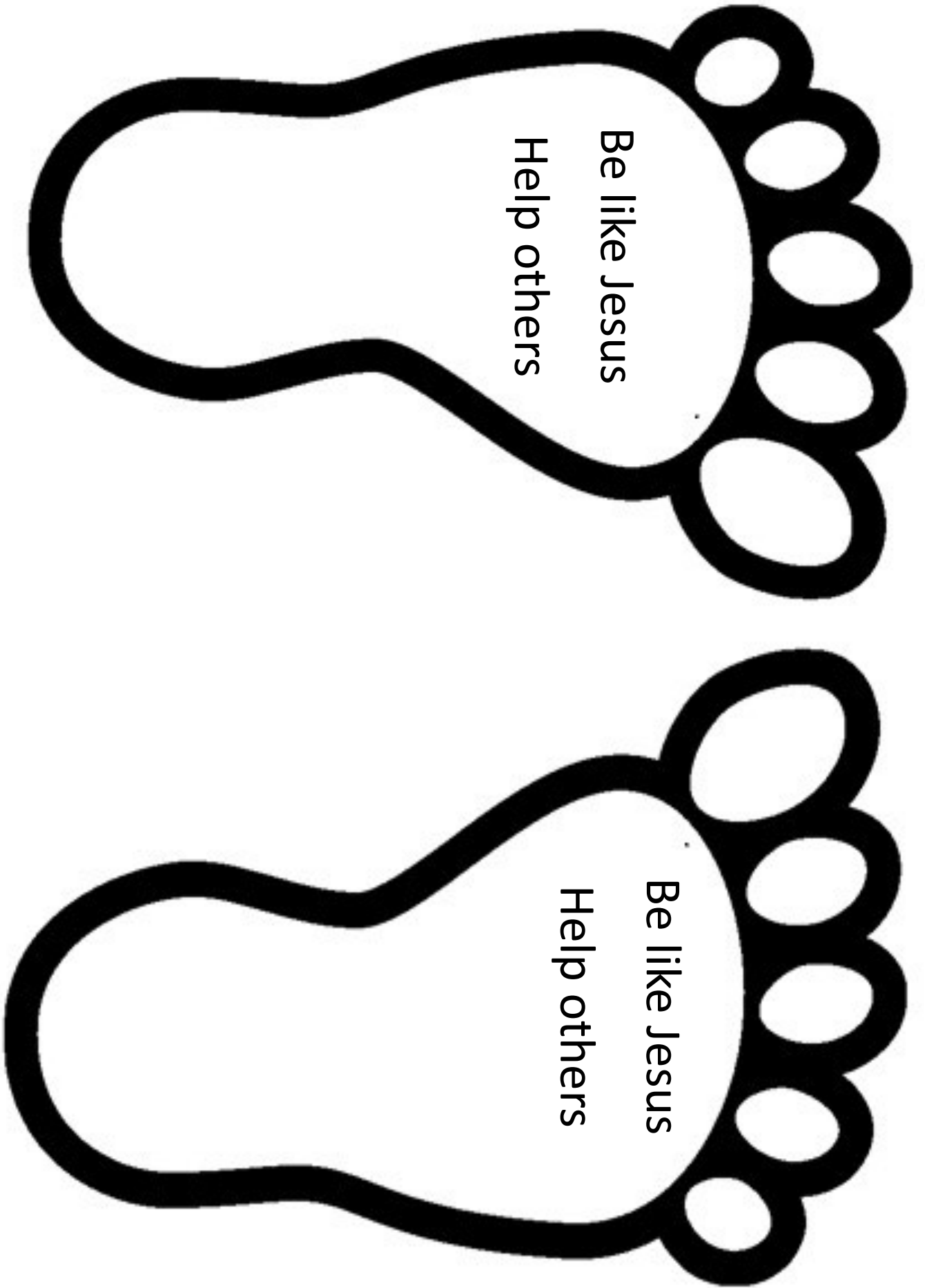


- Jesus' love is very wonderful
- He says that you're amazing
- Shine
- Our God is a Great Big God



Give every family a copy of the prayer (see below) to use at home

Watch a short clip of the story:
<https://youtu.be/r-F9p279tTQ>



Cut out then decorate with coloured sand, glitter or mud and leaves from outdoors.

Makaton sign for 'Always'

<https://youtu.be/oK3KWpioIEs>

Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank you for always sharing with us.

*Thank you for always loving us and for
always showing us the way to love
others.*

*Help us to always remember the
things we learn from our Bible stories
and love you always and forever.*

Amen

Makaton sign for 'Always'

<https://youtu.be/oK3KWpioIEs>

Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank you for always sharing with us.

*Thank you for always loving us and for
always showing us the way to love
others.*

*Help us to always remember the
things we learn from our Bible stories
and love you always and forever.*

Amen

Makaton sign for 'Always'

<https://youtu.be/oK3KWpioIEs>

Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank you for always sharing with us.

*Thank you for always loving us and for
always showing us the way to love
others.*

*Help us to always remember the
things we learn from our Bible stories
and love you always and forever.*

Amen

Makaton sign for 'Always'

<https://youtu.be/oK3KWpioIEs>

Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank you for always sharing with us.

*Thank you for always loving us and for
always showing us the way to love
others.*

*Help us to always remember the
things we learn from our Bible stories
and love you always and forever.*

Amen