## Primary Years Encouragement – 07.07.2020

# Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. John 15:15

#### Hello CYM

How are you all on this beautiful day? What have you been up to this past week? Maybe some of you have had your haircut, been to a wedding or enjoyed time with family at a restaurant with the easing of lockdown restrictions this past weekend.

I have noticed these past few weeks that instead of speaking to my friends on the telephone or zoom, I have been seeing them in their garden or for a walk. This has taken some getting used to, as I just want to give them all a hug, but I am enjoying being with them again and sharing how thankful I am to them for standing strong together in this very difficult time in our lives.

So this weeks encouragement is based on the theme of 'friends'.

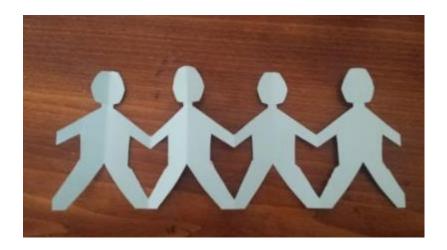
#### **Activity**

#### Craft

Make an origami chain of friends.

We will be doing this craft together on the live streaming service this Sunday at Crawley Baptist Church at 10.00am

On the front you could write their names and colour them in, and on the back, you could write all the things that you love about each friend.



#### Crossword

Have a go at the attached crossword on the story about the man lowered through the roof.

#### Game

Charades. This is a great game to play at home, over Zoom or with friends and family in a park with a picnic. Enjoy ☺

#### Story

## A Hole In The Roof (New Testament – Matthew 9:1-8, Mark 2:1-12, Luke 5:17-26)

Jesus was at a house, preaching. Many people gathered there because they heard he was healing the sick. The house was overflowing with people. Many had to stand outside. There was no room left, not even outside the door. Down the road there lived a man who could not walk. He was paralysed. His friends believed Jesus could heal him. They carried him to the house. It was still too crowded. So they carried him up to the roof.

The man's friends made a hole in the roof and lowered him down to Jesus. Jesus saw that the men had faith. He knew how much they loved their friend. Jesus said to the man, "Your sins are forgiven." The man stood up and walked! The crowd praised God.

#### **Encouragement**

We are all aware by now that social distancing will be a part of our everyday lives until our amazing scientists have got a vaccine. This will take a little

getting used to. But what can not be taken away from us is the relationships we have with family and friends. I am sure you have been really thankful of those relationships these past few months. By standing strong together, we will get through this pandemic. We may have to face some storms along the way but we will also have a lot to celebrate too and what better people to spend that time with, is our family and friends. In the story above, a group of friends faced a storm. Their best friend was sick and unable to walk. They brought their friend to Jesus who not only gave their friend some solid advice, He also made their friend better. By staying in touch and walking life together with your family and friends, we will all stand strong together.

#### **Prayer**

Father God

Thank you for this wonderful story of friendship.

Help us to encourage, support and love our friends in the good and challenging times.

May you help us to continue to stay safe to protect ourselves and others whilst enjoying some time together outside.

Thank you that you are our best friend and that you are always with us.

In Jesus name

Amen

**Worship Song** 

My Best Friend (Hillsong Kids)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5fD4bCYalEc

If you need any craft supplies, food and toiletries, or just a phone chat over coffee, please call me on 07969959442.

**Every blessing** 

Denise

## The Man Who Was Lowered Through The Roof

#### Crossword

# Take Up Thy Bed

Jesus once healed a paralyzed man who was lowered through a roof by some dear friends. Read the story in Mark 2:1-12. Find the underlined words in the word search.

A large <u>crowd</u> blocked the way to <u>Jesus</u>. The paralyzed man's <u>friends</u> opened up the <u>roof</u> and lowered him down before Jesus.

When Jesus saw their <u>faith</u>, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, thy sins be <u>forgiven</u> thee."

Jesus told the paralyzed man, "<u>Arise</u>, and take up thy <u>bed</u>, and go thy way into thine house."

Immediately after Jesus spoke to the paralyzed man, he arose, and took up his bed - healed! The crowd was amazed and praised God.

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