

St Mary's Wollaton Park
Online kids' church, Sunday 31st May 2020

Today we talked about how God is in charge of suffering and hard times. In fact, we can still be happy in hard times because God can use hard times in good ways – to help us see more of God and to help us keep going as Christians.

An Accident

We saw that Becca had a bump, and she was sad – she was going through some hard times. But, she said that because of her bump, she had been able to see something and to learn something and that was a really good thing.

Bible time

We looked at a verse in the Bible from James 1:2-4

“My brothers, you will have many kinds of troubles. But when these things happen, you should be very happy. You know these things are testing your faith. And this will give you patience. Let your patience show itself perfectly in what you do. Then you will be perfect and complete.”

We will all go through hard and sad times at some point in our lives. In fact, many of us are going through hard and sad times right now! But the Bible says, even when we go through hard and sad times, we can still be happy. That is because;

- God is in charge of all the hard and sad things
- That means he can use the hard and sad things to make good things happen
- The best good things he makes happen, is that he uses hard and sad things to show us more things about God, and to help us keep going as Christians
- And that is truly amazing as there is nothing as good as God.

Binoculars

We had a look through Binoculars. Binoculars help to focus our attention on just one thing by blocking out all the other things so we can just focus on one thing.

God uses hard times a bit like that – to block out other things to help us focus more clearly on one thing – him! God uses hard times to help us focus our attention on God so we can see him better and keep going as a Christian.

Things to do at home

- Why don't you make a pair of binoculars for yourself (instructions below.) You could write the Bible verse from James 1 on them to help you remember why God lets hard times happen.
- You could listen to some songs:
Remember the Lord by Colin Buchanan <https://youtu.be/kGdttb4p21c>
Never Be Shaken by Maranatha Kids <https://youtu.be/HUo7eK1KBOQ>
God is Bigger by Awesome Cutlery <https://youtu.be/-IJVGvqNWSI>
If God Made the Sun by Dumbrocks https://youtu.be/Cg5kc3u_tw
You Never Let Go by Matt Redman <https://youtu.be/b61wsBdqrKM>

All these songs are on a YouTube playlist at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLdU24OqkUmI5qWVCDPZQC-ke-naSoPtC->

How to make Binoculars

You will need;

- 3 toilet rolls
- Some scissors
- A piece of string
- Some colouring pencils
- Some cellotape

1. Take your three toilet rolls. Cut one of them in half.
2. Position the small toilet roll between the other two toilet rolls. The two long toilet rolls act as the eye pieces and the small toilet roll acts as the nose bridge.
3. Cut 2 pieces of cellotape and roll them to make them double sided. Stick one on either side of the smaller toilet roll. Stick the large toilet rolls to the smaller toilet rolls.
4. Decorate your binoculars.
5. Make a small hole at the top of each of the two long toilet roll tubes.
6. Cut a piece of string long enough to go around the neck.
7. Tie each end of the string into one of the holes.

