

**Holy Living**

**Theme:** Living a Holy Life.

**Prayer:** Get the children into pairs and ask them to spend a minute praying for each other.

**Games:**

**Number race:** Sit in a circle and number children 1,2,3,4,5. Place an object in the centre. Call a number; everyone with that number gets up, runs round the circle, through their gap and tries to pick up the object in the middle. Person who gets the object first calls the next number.

**Straws and Paper Relay:** You will need one straw for each player, Paper plates, Chairs, 1inch square paper (one for each player). Players are divided into teams, and each player is given a straw. Each team forms a line. A chair is placed 6-8 feet directly ahead of each team. A paper plate is placed on each of the chairs, with a paper square for each player placed on it. An extra chair is placed directly in front of the teams with an empty paper plate placed on it. On signal, the first player in each team walks towards the chair in front of them with the straw in their mouth, they then suck up a paper square and walk it back to the extra chair with the empty plate. If the square is dropped, it must be sucked up by the straw; no hands are allowed. When they have reached the extra plate they drop the square onto the plate, which then allows the second person from their team to take their turn. The game continues until each player has dropped a square onto the extra plate. The first team to complete the task wins.

**Memory verse:** *“But now you must be holy in everything you do.”* 1 Peter 1 v 15A (NLT)

**Introduction:** Read out Colossians 3 v 12 – 17. Ask the children to tell you the qualities that were mentioned in the passage. Love, compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness.

**Story:** The Story of Mother Teresa, a perfect example of a 20<sup>th</sup> century Saint! See resources.

**Application:** Here is a woman who devoted herself completely to God. She was the perfect example of what Jesus called servant hood. Mother Teresa showed all the qualities that were mentioned in the Bible passage. She could only be like that with God’s Spirit in her. We also can ask God to help us be more like Jesus.

**Prayer:** Get the children to draw round one of their hands onto a piece of paper. Ask each one to write a quality that they would like to see in their lives on the shape. Cut round the hands and stick them all on to a large piece of paper. Pray for the group that God would enable them to be more like Jesus.

**Resources:** Story outline, Funsheet

**Song:** “ Wide and long and High and Deep” ( Colin Pye, 12 New Children’s praise Songs CD )

**Extra Game:** “Arch Tag” Three or four players are ‘it’. Others in pairs hold hands and run about. If tagged they form an arch and can be freed by another linked pair running underneath.

## Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Mother Teresa was born on August 26<sup>th</sup> 1910 in Macedonia. She was the youngest of three children. Her original name was Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu. When she was a teenager she joined a youth group in her local church and through this she became interested in missionaries. At the age of 17 she became a nun and became Mother Teresa. She joined an Irish order called the Sisters of Loretto who did missionary work in India.

In India Mother Teresa went to Calcutta where she taught at St. Mary's High School. In 1944 she became head teacher of the school. Soon after this she became very ill and was sent to a place called Darjeeling to recover. On her way there God spoke to her. He told her to leave the school and go to work with the poor and live among them. In 1948 the Pope gave her permission to leave the order of nuns to start her new work amongst the poor in India.

Mother Teresa started her work by setting up a school in the slums to teach the children of the poor. She also learned basic medicine and went into the homes of the sick to treat them. In 1949 some of her former pupils joined her. They found men, women and children dying on the streets who were rejected by local hospitals. The group rented a room so they could care for helpless people otherwise condemned to die in the gutter. In 1950 the group became known as the Missionaries of Charity.

In 1952 the first "Home for the Dying" was opened in Calcutta. Over the years the number of workers grew from 12 to thousands! They worked out of 450 centres around the world from Calcutta to New York to Albania. She was one of the pioneers of establishing homes for AIDS victims. For more than 45 years, Mother Teresa comforted the poor, the dying and the unwanted throughout the world.

Besides all this Mother Teresa became famous for her efforts for world peace. She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. When she received this she asked that the ceremonial banquet should not take place and the \$6000 dollars that it would have cost should be donated to the poor in Calcutta. From 1980, homes began to spring up for drug addicts, prostitutes and battered women. More orphanages and schools for poor children were established around the world. In 1985 Mother Teresa set up the first hospice for AIDS victims in New York. Later, homes were added in San Francisco and Atlanta. Mother Teresa was awarded the Medal of Freedom, the highest U.S. civilian award. She continued her work until her death in 1997. She always stayed close to God and did what he wanted her to do. Here are some of her quotes:-

"Keep the joy of loving God in your heart and share this joy with all you meet especially your family. Be Holy – let us pray"

"Like Jesus we belong to the world living not for ourselves but for others. The joy of the Lord is our strength."

"There are so many religions and each one has its different ways of following God. I follow Christ. Jesus is my God."



Mother Teresa

G O W H W U H M Y T D B E K F  
 D E L C O M P A S S I O N K J  
 O P N A M L O V E K N R G E I  
 I O U T M K S X A S V K M U K  
 L M G G L U S E C N E I T A P  
 H U J O S E H Y Y N V T H E J  
 T P F E D K N M K H I A H P W  
 K I J K O J W E U O G D Y M Z  
 I J C Y N D P M S M R X I D A  
 N Y C E Y A I G I S O G M M H  
 D T J C X L H R G S F R X L W  
 N G H A I Y V T M J J O A D I  
 E E T T J O Y I K K W J X C J  
 S O Y L I F K B K W H F Z D P  
 S D V Y L E G J H M B C A Z R

COMPASSION  
 GOD  
 KINDNESS  
 THANKFUL

FORGIVE  
 HUMILITY  
 LOVE

GENTLENESS  
 JESUS  
 PATIENCE

"But now you must be holy in everything you do"

1 Peter 1 v 15a



This little boy is showing kindness by giving his toy to another little boy.

What ways could you show kindness or love to someone?

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