



Welcome to this Family Service

Led by Nigel Lowe

'The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective'

James 5.16

A prayer of approach

Lord God, the rich man had obviously been pondering.
His thoughts brought him to his knees before you.
He thought eternal life was something he could achieve.

But he suspected there was more to know.
And he was right!

We come today with our pondering,
to bow before you,
to ask you to meet with us here,
and teach us with words of eternal life.
Amen.

Song

King of My Heart – Martin Smith and Bright City

Let the King of my heart
be the mountain where I run
the Fountain I drink from
Oh He is my Song.

Let the King of my heart
be the shadow where I hide
the ransom for my life
Oh He is my Song.

You are good
good oh (x 4)

Let the King of my heart
be the wind inside my sails
the anchor in the waves
Oh He is my Song.

Let the King of my heart
be the fire inside my veins
the echo of my days
Oh He is my Song.

You are good
good oh (x 4)

You're never gonna let,
never gonna let me down (x4)

Confession

*Spend some time thinking about things that get in the way of your relationship with God.
a time of silence*

Lord, there are so many things that can get in the way of our relationship with you. We offer them to you now and ask that you will forgive us and show us new ways to always put you first, whatever that may take. Grant us your wisdom, Lord. **Amen.**

As we bow before you now, our hearts contrite:
All things are possible with God.

You call us to yourself and bless us with the assurance that our sins are completely washed away in you.
All things are possible with God.

We thank you for your forgiveness.
We bless you, Lord.
All things are possible with God. Amen.

17 As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. 'Good teacher, 'he asked, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?'

18 'Why do you call me good?' Jesus answered. 'No one is good – except God alone. 19 You know the commandments: "You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honour your father and mother."'

20 'Teacher, 'he declared, 'all these I have kept since I was a boy.'

21 Jesus looked at him and loved him. 'One thing you lack,' he said. 'Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.'

22 At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

23 Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!'

24 The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! 25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.'

26 The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, 'Who then can be saved?'

27 Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.'

28 Then Peter spoke up, 'We have left everything to follow you!'

29 'Truly I tell you,' Jesus replied, 'no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel 30 will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields – along with persecutions – and in the age to come eternal life. 31 But many who are first will be last, and the last first.'

Sermon. Natasha is opening God's Word for us today

Affirmation of Faith

We say together in faith

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was and is and is to come.

We believe in God the Father, who created all things:

for by his will they were created and have their being.

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:

for with his blood he purchased us for God, from every tribe and language, from every people and nation.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

the Spirit and the Bride say 'Come!' Even so come Lord Jesus! Amen

cf Revelation 4.8,11;5.9;22.17,20

Song Build My Life

Build my life

Worthy of every song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You

Jesus, the Name above every other name
Jesus, the only One who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
Oh, we live for You

Chorus

*Holy, there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder
And show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me*

Repeat from top

Chorus

O lead us Lord
O lead us Lord
O lead us Lord

And I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

Chorus x2

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation

I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

And I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

Source: [LyricFind](#)

Songwriters: Brett Younker / Karl Andrew Martin / Kirby Kaple / Matt Redman / Pat Barrett

Build My Life lyrics © Bethel Music Publishing, Sentric Music

Performed by Lindsey Mackie

We are delighted that, all being well, next Sunday 17th October, Lindsey and Dave will be back with us to lead worship in person at St Andrew's – do come and join in.

Intercessions prepared by John Wheatley

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Collect

Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Song. Shine Jesus Shine – Graham Kendrick

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

Chorus

Shine, Jesus, shine

Fill this land with the Father's glory

Blaze, Spirit, blaze

*Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light*

Lord, I come to your awesome presence
From the shadows into your radiance
By the blood I may enter your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me

Chorus

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me

Chorus

Source: [Musixmatch](#) Songwriters: Kendrick Graham A Shine Jesus Shine lyrics © Make Way Music. This performance used with kind permission under CCLI Streaming Licence.

A sending out prayer

**Let the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.
Amen.**

Thank you for joining us today.

Notices can be found on your [Friday Email](#), on our [website](#),
[Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Quick Note The Church office will be open Monday & Wednesday
10am – 1pm, other days please email
office@stokepogeschurch.org or phone 01753 642331.



Scan or click to donate
Thank you for whatever you are able to give

A wise heart

Mark 10.17-31

When a rich man asks Jesus what will guarantee him access to eternal life, he is hoping that he will be reassured that his lifelong obedience to the law is enough. But Jesus knows the man's heart and how attached he is to his wealth. He challenges him to take the one step that will give him the assurance he seeks. Jesus points out that this is a challenge for everyone.

Now read **Mark 10.17-31** see p.2 for text.

A note on the passage

The man is so sure of his worthiness that he runs to Jesus. He has found it easy to please God in his comfortable life. But how will he fare if he has nothing but the offer of treasure in heaven? What is comfortable about your life? What challenge might Jesus give to you about what you need to let go of?

WORK IT OUT

How good are you at following instructions? Are you helped or baffled by a recipe, or by a manual for a piece of equipment? There are laws which protect us, such as all driving on the same side of the road, and 'social rules' which enable us to interact with people without causing offence. During the Covid-19 crisis, did you keep two metres from others because the government told you to or to keep everyone safe? When the rich man in the Gospel reading suggested that following rules made him a 'good person', Jesus suggested a different way of measuring his behaviour. How do you feel about his advice?

HAGGLE!

Play a game based on an auction. Gather the family or a group of friends. Give each person a pile of golden autumn leaves (to represent 'wealth'). Show everyday household objects and ask for 'bids' (use larger and smaller items for variety). Discuss together why some things are more valuable than others. The value of some things cannot be expressed in money terms – can you think of any? Don't forget to put all the items back afterwards.

KEEP TIME

It is easy to lose an hour or two on emails, social media, games or TV. Keep a note of how much time you spend on such things in a day. The next day, exchange at least half of that time for a time of reading, praying, being quiet. How do you think God might feel that you have shared some time with him, that your focus has shifted?



At the end of each day, think back over all you have done. Were there moments when you may have hurt God, others, or the planet? If not, then thank God for being with you and leading you in his path. If so, offer those things to God in prayer, and ask him to help you change your priorities and be aware of making choices that reflect your relationship with him.



Ask yourself: What do you make of this image – its title is 'With God all things are possible'?



Is it easier to give a little or a lot? Either on your own or with others, use your imagination. If you were given £1, how would you spend it? £10? £100,000? Does your way of thinking change as the number gets bigger? Would you start by spending it all on yourself first when it was a small or a large sum? What is the balance between generosity and greed? What informs your choices?

Name _____

Roots Activity sheet

10-16 October 2021

Mark 10.17-31

Jesus asks what is most important to us, and reminds us of what we might need to give up for God.



This is how difficult it is to enter God's kingdom if we don't put God first.

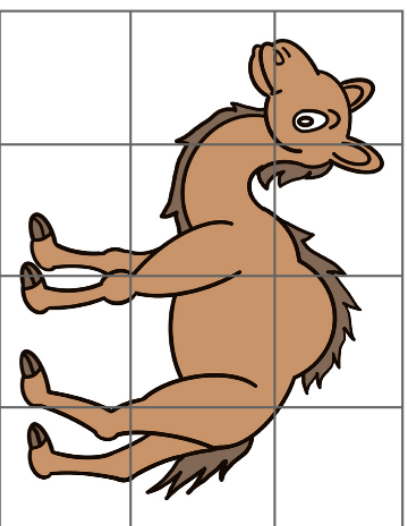
Jesus Love Write

Make a list of what can get in the way of a relationship with God. For the rich man, it was money. What else might become more important than God for some people?

...can become more important than loving God.

Draw

Use the grid to draw the camel.



Puzzle

Find these words from the story of the rich ruler.

eternal
laws
money
rich
camel
needle
kingdom
important

l	t	w	n	b	a	o	h	h	c	i	r
q	a	a	t	e	r	u	y	o	g	i	l
n	e	w	r	c	e	x	s	z	o	m	z
x	i	u	s	s	e	d	d	s	q	p	q
s	r	v	o	l	f	p	l	l	n	o	y
y	v	c	e	p	t	w	o	e	n	r	v
n	b	m	t	j	m	o	n	e	y	t	l
n	a	o	g	a	o	h	b	j	b	a	v
c	h	m	u	c	t	y	d	e	w	n	a
b	i	d	t	f	l	a	n	r	e	t	e
k	i	n	g	d	o	m	h	q	p	j	o