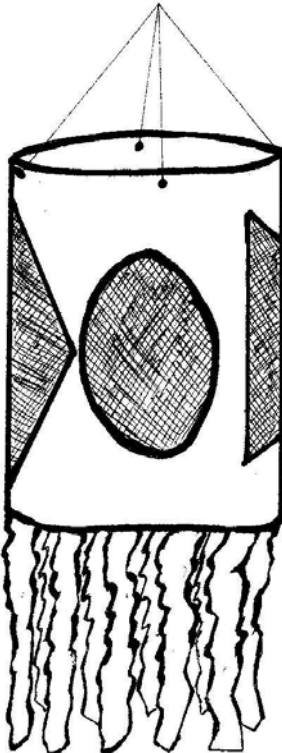


Jesus guides us

WINDSOCK

Date: 11th October, 2009 Reading: Mark 10: 17–31
What must I do?

Jesus is like a windsock. Jesus shows us what direction God would like us to go in. If we want to know what God is trying to tell us, but we are having trouble getting the message, then we can look at the stories Jesus told to find out what God wants to tell us.



You will need:

- coloured A4 paper
- sticky tape
- scissors
- stapler
- glue stick
- wool or string
- 2cm wide strips of coloured crepe paper

Method:

- ♦ Choose 2 pieces of A4 paper in contrasting colours.
- ♦ Fold one piece of paper in half lengthwise.
- ♦ Use a pencil to draw **half** shapes on the fold, then cut out the shapes.
- ♦ Open out the paper – you should have whole shapes cut out
- ♦ Using a glue stick and carefully lining up the edges, glue the cut-out sheet to the other sheet of paper. The second colour will show through. Allow a couple of minutes to dry.
- ♦ Roll the papers into a cylinder by bringing the two short ends together. Use tape and stapler to hold securely.
- ♦ Choose some crepe paper streamers and tape or staple around the bottom.
- ♦ Punch 4 holes at equal distances around the top and attach strings to hang.

Use this

- ♦ with the children's talk (next page)
- ♦ in Children's Week as something fun to make
- ♦ make with preschoolers on a windy spring day

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Children's talk: The rich young ruler

Date: 11th October, 2009 Reading: Mark 10: 17–31
What must I do?

Mark 10: 17-31:

October Year B
(just around footy finals time...)

When the wind blows, we can't see it. Sometimes we can see things blowing in the wind, and we can feel it, but we still can't see the wind. A windsock can help us 'see' the wind.

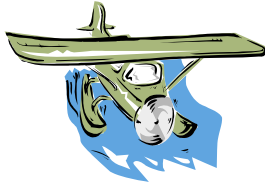
- ♦ A windsock helps the pilot of a light plane know which way the wind is blowing, and how strong it is, so he can make correct decisions about landing the plane safely.
- ♦ A windsock is sometimes placed on a high bridge over a deep ravine, so motorists can tell if the wind is too strong for them to cross the bridge safely, especially if they are towing a caravan.
- ♦ A windsock shows the coach and captain of a football team which way the wind is blowing, and how strong it is, so they can make an informed decision about which goalposts to kick to.

Now imagine you are a motorist towing a caravan over a very windy bridge.



You look at the windsock and it shows that the wind is blowing very, **very** strongly sideways across the bridge.

What might happen if you say, "I'm in a hurry to get to the next place, I haven't got time to wait," and you ignore what the windsock is telling you, and you cross the bridge anyway? *(The caravan will be really hard to control, it might tip over, you might have a nasty accident, you might even get blown off the bridge...)*



What might happen if the pilot of the light plane takes no notice of the windsock, and says, "I want to get home, it'll take too long to go round the other way," and he tries to land the plane anyway? *(The plane will be hard to control, it might crash...)*

What might happen if the football coach ignores what the windsock is telling him? *(They might kick to the wrong end, they might lose the match...)*



Just as we can't see the wind, we can't see the spirit of God either. We can sometimes see how God's Spirit has had an effect on people. We can feel the effect of God's Spirit in our own hearts and lives. But there are times when we can't see God's Spirit and we wish we could, especially in times of trouble or when we are worried about something. How do we know what we should do?

Jesus is like a windsock. Jesus shows us what direction God would like us to go in. If we want to know what God is trying to tell us, but we are having trouble getting the message, then we can look at the stories Jesus told to find out what God wants to tell us.

? What might happen if we take no notice of what Jesus is telling us? *(We might make wrong or bad decisions, things might go wrong in our lives...)*

Here's a story of a young man who asked Jesus for advice and then chose to ignore it... *(Suggestion: Tell the story with flannel board or stick puppet figures.)*

*At the end of the story draw attention to the fact that the young man goes away **unhappy**, after he has chosen to ignore Jesus' advice... OK, I know he was unhappy because he didn't like what Jesus told him, but ignoring what Jesus said didn't make him happy either. Sometimes we might not like the advice we get from God, but it will make us happy if we choose not to take God's advice?*

Do some wondering with the children:

- ♦ I wonder what the young man was thinking as he walked away?
- ♦ I wonder what the other people there that day thought?
- ♦ I wonder what might have happened if he'd given away all his wealth as Jesus suggested?
- ♦ What would you have thought if you'd been there....

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