



Together @ Home



Here are some activities you could do together as a family, begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.



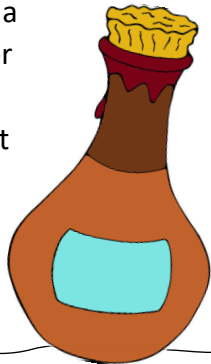
Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, the story of Mary and her perfume.

You can find it in your Bible in:

John 12 v 1–8

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children’s story version which best suits your group.



Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

- *What did Mary do with her perfume?*
- *What are some of your favourite smells?*

Mary’s perfume was very very expensive, that is why people were so shocked that she gave it to Jesus. But Mary understood how special Jesus was and how precious it was to spend time with Him.

Sometimes there is a cost to spending time with Jesus, we might have to give up doing something else that we also enjoy, but time with Jesus is precious and important

A question for children to ask adults

What are some of the things you do to spend time with Jesus and show Him how special He is to you?

A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you that we are never alone because you are ALWAYS WITH US.

Thank you that we can spend time with you and draw close to you.

We pray for those in the world who are feeling alone at the moment that they would know that you are with them.

Amen

Family Activity 1

You will need: A selection of items from around the home – perfume, soap, grass, food items etc. Blindfolds (scarves)

Collect together a selection of items from around your house and garden. Children should take it in turns to smell the items whilst wearing a blindfold – can they guess what they are smelling?

They could be nice smells e.g. chocolate, not so nice smells e.g. dirty socks or familiar smells e.g. a parent’s perfume.

Why not wonder together what Mary’s perfume smelt like?



A verse to remember

Psalm 141 v 2

“Let my prayer be like incense placed before you.”

Try to learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.

In the Old Testament temple, incense was used. The sweet smelling smoke rising up reminded everybody that their prayers were travelling to God. Our prayers and worship are a sweet smell to God. God loves to hear our prayers.

Family Activity 2

You will need: Paper and pens

Design a perfume for God.

We know that God loves the smell of our prayers and worship. Draw a bottle shape and then write or draw inside some of the ways we can worship God that would be a sweet smell to Him.

Remember we can worship in so many different ways, not just by singing or dancing but by living our lives in a way that pleases God, being kind, sharing, encouraging and loving others too.



Helping Older Children

Your child may have heard that the virus is causing many deaths around the world, do not be afraid of talking to your children about death. Lent is our journey to Easter, a time to remember that Jesus defeated death and rose again.

It is alright to be sad

In the Bible we see Jesus weep over a friend's death. It is alright to be sad when we think about death or when somebody we know has died. God is with us even when we are sad.

This isn't how God planned the world

This wasn't how the world was supposed to be. God's original plan was for a world with no sickness, no pain, nobody hurting and everybody living forever with him. It is because of sin in the world that it is not like that.

When we die, we have a new life in heaven

Even though it is hard to lose people, God has made a way through Jesus that everybody can become his friend, be forgiven for their sins and live for eternity with God. In heaven there is no pain, sickness, sadness or death.

God is bigger!

God is bigger than anything we are scared or worried about, bigger than sickness or death. When we are sad or scared or worried we can call out to God. God is always with us and always hears us. It's good to talk to grown ups who we trust too, share how we are feeling so that they can pray with us.

Active Prayer

Open a door or window from your house and send out some prayers into your community.

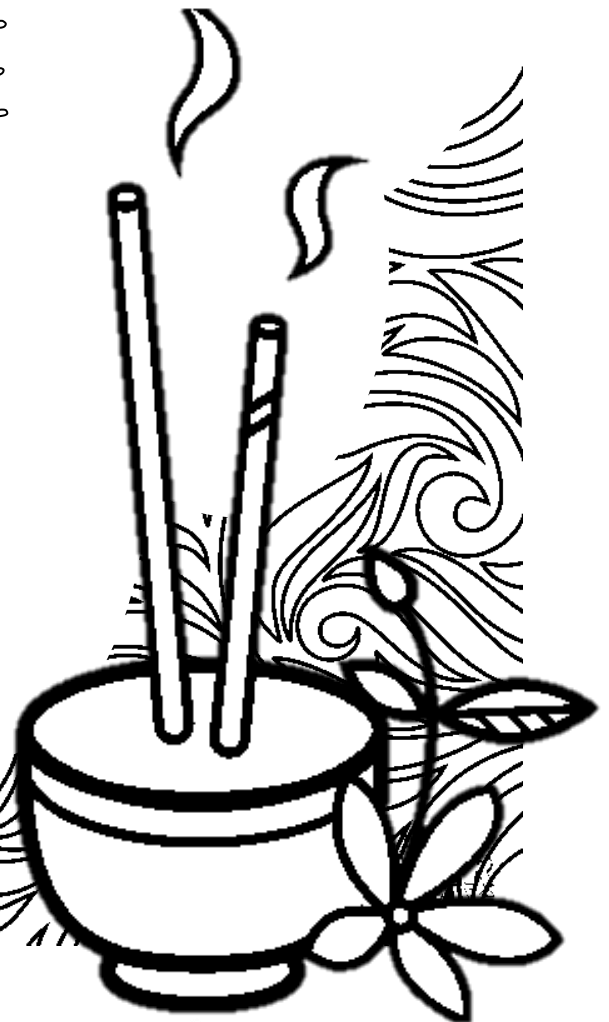
Spray some perfume out of the window or if you have bubble mixture you could blow bubbles down the street.

Just as the scent of the perfume travels or the bubbles float down the street pray that God's peace and comfort would travel out to your neighbours and community.

A colouring page you could print and colour together

LET MY PRAYERS
BE LIKE
INCENSE PLACED
BEFORE
YOU.

PSALM 141 V 2



Puzzle Sheet



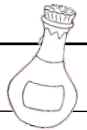
There are perfume bottles like this one hidden on the page... how many can you find?



Mmmm...something smells good – can you complete the picture to show what the boy can smell?



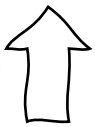
Here's something else that smells nice. Join the dots in order from a to z to find out what, then colour the picture.



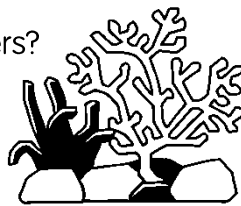
Can you guess the words from their picture clues? They are all words made from the letters of the word PERFUME.



Can you think of any others?

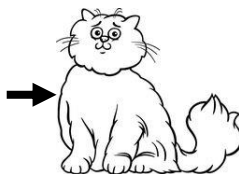
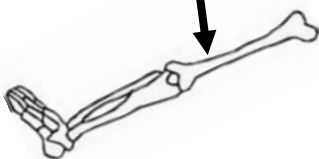


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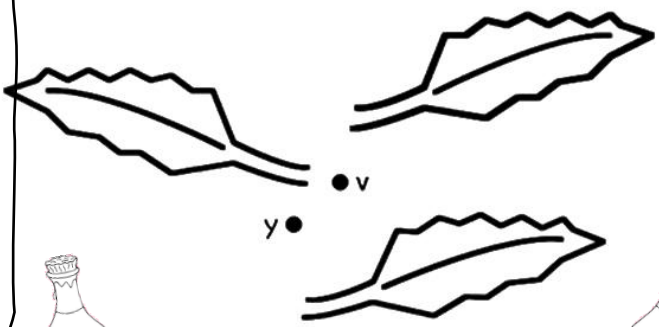
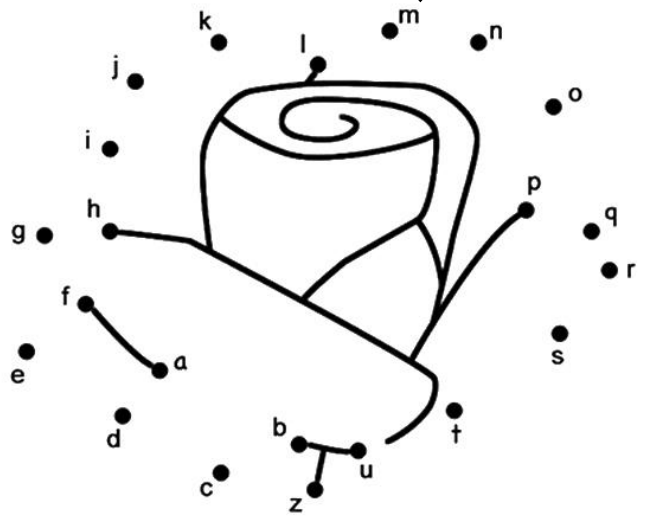
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Answers: up, free, reef, fur and femur



x • • w

Answer: There are 7 bottles hidden on the page.