

FEB.
2021

CHRIS CROSS

AT HOME

...issued monthly to keep you in touch, with things to read and things to do.

Can you guess from the pictures what we are thinking about this time?



Welcome to this edition of CHRISCROSS AT HOME.

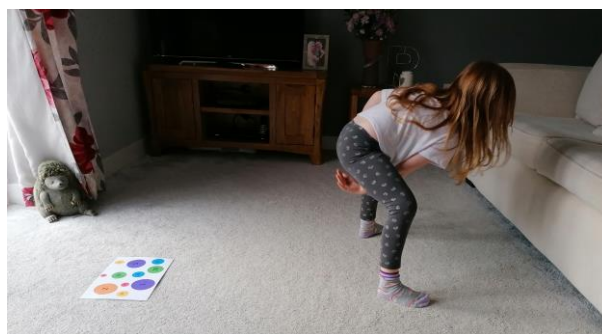
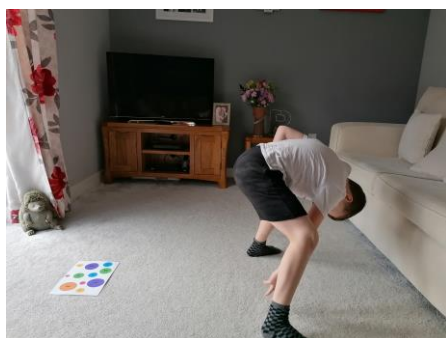
Although we are still in February, we are thinking ahead a little bit this time and are linking our story with Mothering Sunday, which will be on 14th March, when we especially show our appreciation of our Mums and all they do for us.

Included this time is a card for you to complete for your Mum and a bookmark for you to make as a gift for her. We hope you will enjoy both doing the crafts and having something to give her on the day.

Thank you to those who sent us photos of themselves enjoying the game and craft from last time's CHRISCROSS AT HOME. Two are below, and others are included later in this issue. We are always pleased to hear from you.

We continue to remember you in our prayers.

Carole



Harry and Poppy playing the coin game!

The CHRISCROSS AT HOME team



Mike and Carole



Jeannette



Isobel



Rachael



Kerry



Jackie

From Kerin



After a quiet January we enter February and March and look forward to Spring - there are some different festivals and celebrations during this time - Valentines day when we think about love, Pancake day, Lent when we prepare ourselves for Easter (may be you've given up something this year). Then there is Mothers day - this is the day when we celebrate our Mum's.

I have been thinking about some of the Mothers in the Bible and what we can all learn from them.

From Sarah we can learn patience.

From Hannah we can learn what it's like to keep a promise.

From Naomi we see how she shared her faith with her daughter in law Ruth.

From Lois and Eunice we see how important it is that we teach others about Jesus.

From Mary we can see how wonderful it is to be chosen by God to do a special job.

God has a special plan for each one of us - isn't that wonderful?!

This lock down has been a challenge for so many of us, particularly this one where it's been Winter we haven't had the wonderful weather we had last Spring and Summer. But one thing we have been able to do is spend more time with our family.

What are some of the things that you have enjoyed doing with your own family? It has been a joy for me as a mum to be able to spend more time with my children, we have enjoyed baking and cooking together, playing with lego, walking, having a family concert, camping out in the living room! This time has really taught us patience hasn't it? But it has also been a special time for us to have with our family.

Dear God

Thank you for our families and all that they mean to us. Thank you for the fun times we can have with them and for the support they give us. Please help us to be kind, loving and patient with them.

In Jesus name

Amen

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A Story From The Bible About a Mum Who Didn't Give up

Imagine how a Mum feels if her child is ill and there's no one to help. These days we are lucky: we can phone a doctor, go to a chemist or hospital for help, there are medicines available and plenty of information in books or online to give us an idea of what we should do. In the time of Jesus, there was no such support.

Once there was a Mum whose daughter had terrible headaches. It was as if there were angry voices in her daughter's head and she just couldn't get rid of them. Her Mum was desperate. She didn't know what to do.

Then she found out that a man called Jesus had come to stay not far from her home. She had heard about him and of the wonderful things he said and did in Galilee. She had the idea of going to meet Jesus with your daughter.

When she arrived, she called out to him and gave him his proper title as the special rescuer from God who was related to King David - 'Jesus, son of David... help my daughter who is ill'. Jesus' disciples wanted Jesus to have a break from all this healing and so pushed her away, but the Mum would not give up because she loved her child.

Jesus was surprised to hear someone from outside Israel having faith in God like this but Jesus was focused for the moment on rescuing his own people. It wasn't the right time for his rescue to spread to the whole world. He told the mum this but she didn't give up and called out even louder 'Please, help!'.

Then Jesus said a strange thing. He said that the things he was doing were like food on a table that was just for the Jews for the time being. Then the mum said an even stranger thing. She replied, but even from a meal on a big table some pieces will fall to the ground. Can't my daughter catch a crumb from the table?

Jesus was amazed at her good sense and persistent faith. He said that her daughter would be well because of the Mum's faith.

Mums want the best for their children. The most important thing for this Mum was that her daughter was healed by Jesus.



Before the next **CHRISCROSS AT HOME** drops through your letterbox it will be Mother's Day, which is a time when we can say "thank you" to our Mums for all the kind and thoughtful things they do for us throughout the year.

We all thought you might like to make your own special card for a very special person.

Just decorate and colour as you wish, fold along the crease so that the tops of the letters stand upright (see the picture) and it's ready to go.

Don't let your Mum see it until the 14th March!

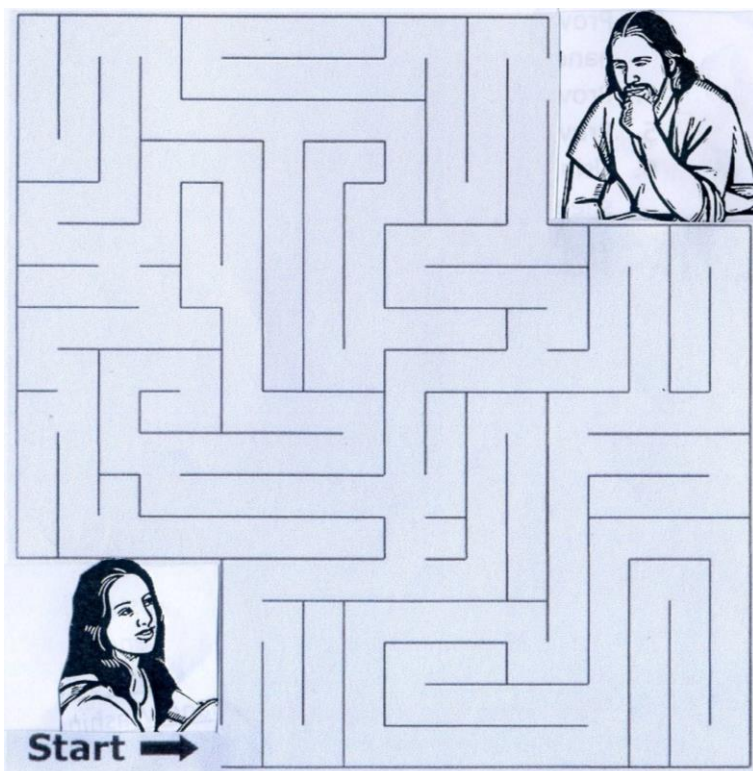
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Can you change MUM into DAD in 2 steps, changing one letter each time?

MUM _ _ _ _ _ _ DAD

.....

Can you find the way for the Mum in the story to get to Jesus?




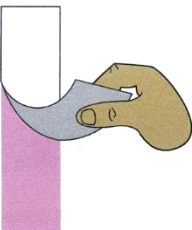
Bookmark


These are examples of how it might look.

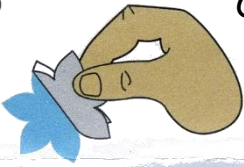


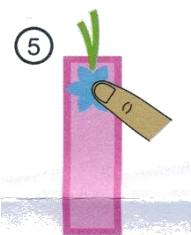
Instructions

- ①  Fold the ribbon in half. Thread the folded end through the small hole in the top of the larger piece of foam to make a loop. Push the 2 ends of the ribbon through the loop. Pull tight.

- ②  Take the backing off the smaller piece of foam

- ③  Stick the small piece onto the larger piece, leaving a small gap down each side.

- ④  Choose which flowers you are going to use. There are 6 in the pack, but you will only need 3. Then take the backing off the first one.

- ⑤  Stick the first flower onto the top of the bookmark. Choose a circle for the centre of the flower, remove backing, and put into place. Choose 2 more flowers and centres and add to the bookmark.

Keep somewhere safe until it is time to give to Mum!

Here are 3 Wordsearches using words from the story.

The first is the easiest. Choose the one you think will be best for you.

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

Words can go in any direction.
Words do not share letters.

The words to find are

FAITH ILL PLEASE HEALED JESUS HELP MUM

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

Words can go in any direction.
Words do not share letters.

The words to find are

DAUGHTER GOD HELP MUM DISCIPLES
HEADACHES ILL PLEASE FAITH HEALED
JESUS RESCUE

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

Words can go in any direction.
Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

The words to find are

DAUGHTER GOD HELP MUM DISCIPLES
HEADACHES ILL PLEASE FAITH HEALED
JESUS RESCUE



Harry, Poppy and Ashley with their purses.

From Revd. Martin

The Mother in our story was prepared to do anything to save her daughter. She went to find Jesus, but the crowd didn't like her shouting at him, and even the disciples tried to send her away. She wasn't making herself very popular, was she? But there were two things that kept her going. First was her faith that Jesus could make her daughter well, and second was her love for her daughter, which was so strong that she was prepared to face the angry crowd rather than let her daughter down. That is the type of love a Mother should have for her child (and a Father for his child as well). That is why we call God our Father, because he loves us so much that he always puts us first.

Loving God, we thank you that you show us unconditional love, and always put our needs first. As you love us, help us to show that same love to everyone else.

Amen

God bless
Martin

