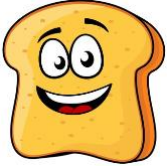


St Andrews, Immingham 'Holy Toast'

/Session 7 – June 2021
TOASTIES PAGES
JUNE is here!



Well we have made it halfway through the year already. As I write it is half term holiday, that means I am late getting this done. We have been traveling the country for a few days visiting family and friends for the first time in ages!

As we enter a time of no feasts or festivals in the church year, (called Ordinary time), I am reminded just how much the first followers of Jesus travelled hundreds of miles spreading the good news of being a follower of Jesus. They walked, rode donkeys and horses, sailed in small and large boats and slept wherever they could at times. Meals would have to be shared or bought in towns and water gathered from streams and wells as they went along. Jesus told his disciples to travel in pairs, this was to keep their faith strong and look after each other. They also relied on other followers of Jesus to give them food and shelter as they had very little money.

Jesus taught them to rely on God's love for them as they told people about His ways and how Jesus was the son of God. They healed people, prayed for them taught them and baptised them. Soon whole communities were living as Jesus taught, sharing what they had, helping those who were struggling. They paid their taxes without complaint and did their best to be honest. This does not mean they were always liked, sadly, some people saw them as a threat as they didn't follow the old ways, business people were not making as much money and they even called them a 'secret society' who were up to no good.

Those early days must have been so exciting and very scary, it wasn't long before they were wrongly accused of doing magic and having weird powers. Because they didn't think Caesar was God the Roman soldiers were told to find them and hurt them to stop others learning their ways. The Jewish leaders said they were saying bad things about God and lying about their laws and ways of being religious, so they hunted them as well.

As they shared more and cared more so they loved more and became happy they now had a new hope as they learned dying was not the end of things.

St Andrews, Immingham 'Holy Toast'

At that time the followers of Jesus were not called Christians, we will call them Christians from now on as it is easier to say.

Most people who are Jewish are born into a Jewish family and worship God in different ways to Christians. Jesus confused them when he said he had come to show them how their laws should be lived, not stop all of them. Many of these new Christians were called Gentiles before following Jesus, they were not Jewish, and they often had many gods and faith in different ways. The disciples spent a long time teaching them new ways of living and the good news spread fast as they travelled along the Roman trade routes.

The keepers of the sacred Jewish laws were called Pharisees (pronounced: Fari seas). We must not be angry about what they were doing; they thought it was the right thing to protect their religion and their laws as they did. After all this had been their way of living for thousands of years. However, the what they did was cruel and mean as they hunted Christians and killed them.

One of the greatest hunters of the early followers of Jesus was a man called Saul. He had his own small army, and he had spies to tell him where Jesus disciples and their groups were hiding. He was very good at his job and people feared him as he had power to have them killed or thrown in jail or take their money and their homes. He was very mean.

In those days it was common for Jewish people to have two names; Saul was also known as Paul, one name was Hebrew as he was a Jew and the other was Roman as he was a Roman citizen.

You know we spoke about Jesus appearing unexpectedly to thousands of people? Well, he did it again! Saul had never met Jesus or seen him in the flesh before His crucifixion. He was travelling from Jerusalem to find more Christian churches and destroy them. Luke tells us the story in the Bible in the book of Acts.

As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

"Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

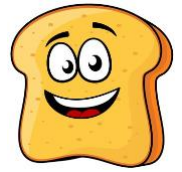
"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

St Andrews, Immingham 'Holy Toast'

The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. Paul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

—Acts 9:3–9, NIV

We can guess Saul was NOT the man you invited home to tea with your Christian mates, well, Jesus spoke to a man called Ananias and told him to go to Saul and put his hands on him and pray for him to be healed. WHAT!!! Jesus doesn't give him chance to say 'no' as he tells him, "He has been praying and he is expecting you to heal him."



He does as he is told and immediately Saul (who now wants to be known as Paul) gets his eyesight back and is baptised by the Holy Spirit. Ananias then spends several days with Paul teaching him. How about that!

Paul then starts his travels teaching people all about Jesus and how amazing He is, how wonderful life is learning new things about God, how we can all share in this love and how we can depend on God like no one else. He made sure people understood the Holy Spirit was the power behind his words and he started many churches. There are 13 books in the Bible written by Paul and Luke was one of His disciples and he travelled with Paul writing about his adventures as well.

Luke was a very intelligent man who had a good understanding of healing people with medicines as well as relying on the Holy Spirit to guide him. He was a historian and an artist and he wrote over a quarter of the New Testament in the Bible. We owe him a big thank you. Other historians at that time write about him and Paul. The good news of Jesus spread far and wide and many wrote the stories of Jesus down so you and me will know it is not a crazy made up story. Always try and read an 'Authorised' version of the Holy Bible so you get the best possible translation as some people have rewritten it and changed it.

There are so many fascinating stories in the Holy Bible and we shall do more as time goes by.

If you don't have a Bible yet – please let us know.

St Andrews, Immingham 'Holy Toast'

Lets pray:

Dear Jesus, we thank you for stopping Saul doing bad things and helping him do good. Thank you, Holy Spirit, for giving him the words to say and protecting him on all his adventures so we can all know of your ways. Please protect all the people who are just like Paul in the world today. Make me brave if you choose to speak to me and ask me to do great things in your name.

Amen.

You Tubes

Sorry, there may be adverts. Please make sure you have an adult to watch with you, it is so much fun.

<https://youtu.be/Eu5bBDRpzPM> The wise man built his house.

<https://youtu.be/rLZ67inPx-4> Saddleback Kids - Pauls conversion.

<https://youtu.be/IIXFy3zjJh4> Saddleback kids - Pauls ministry

https://youtu.be/XIb_dCIxzo Bible Project - Overview of St Luke.

For adults and older children.

Fact file

Paul travelled about 10,000 miles by foot!

He was shipwrecked about three times.

Paul was arrested at least 3 times.

Paul started his ministry when he was 33 and was killed when he was 68 years old.

Sometimes his teaching went on a long time, a man called Eutychus fell asleep listening to him and fell out of an upstairs window and died! Paul hugged him and brought him back to life! (Acts 20:7 -12).

Paul was a tent maker by trade and carried his tools with him and he enjoyed his work. He probably earned some money to pay his way as he travelled.

People wanted to hear Paul talk as he was a very practical man; his writings are still studied as they make good sense.

Because Paul was a Roman citizen they could not crucify him, so they executed him instead.

St Andrews, Immingham 'Holy Toast'

Quiz:

Did Paul ever meet Jesus?

What is the name of his disciples who wrote about Pauls adventures?

How many times was Paul shipwrecked?

What did Paul enjoy making?

How many names did Paul have?

Where was Saul travelling when Jesus spoke to him?

What was the name of the man who healed Saul?

Tongue Twister

**Latin Paul Hebrew Saul Hebrew Saul Latin Paul, Ananias
healed him!**

ACTIVITIES!

Blindfold games are always popular – make sure they have plenty of safe play space.

Knock knock whose there – games to drive you mad.

Random Acts of kindness – make someone happy with a home made card or lovely picture.

Take a happy selfie and send it to a family member you haven't seen in ages.

St Andrews, Immingham 'Holy Toast'



St Andrews, Immingham 'Holy Toast'



It was necessary for the apostles to write many letters encouraging and advising leaders in the many churches they established.

St Andrews, Immingham 'Holy Toast'



RaisingOurKids.com

Paul traveled to many places telling about Jesus.

St Andrews, Immingham 'Holy Toast'

Name: _____

Date: _____

st paul

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

- | | | | |
|------------|------------|--------|-------------|
| max | paul | romans | corinthians |
| ananas | preach | jesus | damascus |
| missionary | conversion | jews | holy spirit |
| decaption | saint | saul | |

Name: _____

Date: _____

Early Church

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

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| journey | epistles | apostle | acts |
| corinth | saul | damascus | baptism |
| antioch | blind | missionary | conversion |
| christianity | st - paul | Jerusalem | |