

# Lost and Found



## happyland Resource Booklet

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# Lost and Found

## All Age Resource

### Theme: Being found by Jesus

**NB:** Encourage people to bring a friend!



**Song** Choose one or two songs to play on entrance:

- Fix You (Coldplay)
- You Will be Found (from Dear Evan Hanson)
- Lost (Maroon Five)
- Lost and Found (by Lost and Found studios, theme from Lost and Found)

Invite people to think of a time when they found something (or someone!) who they had lost; how did they feel?

**Connections:** PowerPoint slide with pictures of tools used to help find something. E.g. metal detector, binoculars, magnifying glass, telescope, fishing net, etc.

## Welcome and Introductions

**Connections:** Can you guess today's theme from the music and the pictures on screen?

They are all about being found.

Have you ever found something that you had lost? Have you ever been lost and found again? What happened? How did you feel?

Most of us will have had some experience of losing something and perhaps even of being lost; hopefully we have all experienced the absolute joy that comes when we have found it again, and even more so if we have been found!

## Introduce Theme

We're thinking about being lost and found, and especially about what it means to be found by Jesus.

Let's remind ourselves of God's Big Story. God made the world and wanted us to be friends, but people wanted to do their own thing. The world got broken and so did friendship between people and God. We went our own way, wandering away from God and losing the friendship that we had. But God had a plan to fix the world which was Jesus. God the Father, send Jesus to find us. He was born on earth, he died and came back to life to rescue us. We can all choose to be found by Jesus and to live our lives with him with us, through the Holy Spirit now, and one day, we can be together with him forever in Heaven.

## Opening Prayer

Father God, thank you that you made the world and everything in it, including us.

Thank you that you made us to be friends with each other and with you.

We're sorry for the times we wander away from you.

Thank you for sending Jesus into the world to find and rescue us.

Be with us now as we explore what it means to be found by you.

Help us to accept your invitation to come back home to you.

Amen



### Song

Oh Wow! (Awesome God)     Pete James & Harvey Jessop

[Oh Wow! \(Awesome God\) - Cheeky Pandas - YouTube](#)

## Activity: Hide and Seek

Before the service begins, take some time to hide something around the church. To keep to the theme of the service, you could hide tiny toy sheep, or chocolate coins. (Make sure you keep count of how many you have hidden!)

Invite everyone to get involved in hunting for the hidden items, before sharing out the treasure (if appropriate!)

Alternatively, if you prefer a seated activity, use a film clips or PowerPoint images to share the separation and reunion scenes from Finding Nemo. Then invite volunteers to the front to re-enact the scene or invite everyone to join in where they are seated, together with the people around them, perhaps encouraging particularly good performances to share more widely!

## Confession

Just like Nemo, making a bad choice which ended up with him being separated from his Dad, we make choices which can take us away from our Heavenly Father, God and cause our friendship with Him to break too. God created each of us wonderfully and deliberately, but we're not perfect – God is the only one in the whole universe who is perfect! All the mistakes we make, and bad choices we choose, get in the way of us being friends with God. It's how the world gets broken and messy, how our friendships get broken. It's why all of us and the world needs fixing and why God needs to rescue us, to find us and to bring us back to Him.

But how? Well, it's a really good idea to say sorry to each other and God. When we say sorry, we aren't just saying sorry for the messy things we've done wrong – maybe when we've been cross or shouted angry words. We're saying sorry for our imperfect, wrong choices that get in the way of us being friends with God and take us away from him.

**NB:** This confession involves mimed actions.

**1. Gently mime washing eyes**

We're sorry God for the things people see us do, or the things we see other people do that are wrong and mess up your world.

**2. Mime washing ears**

We're sorry God for the things we hear, or other people hear us say that are wrong and mess up your world.

**3. Mime washing mouth**

We're sorry God for the things we say that are wrong and mess up your world.

**4. Mime washing mind**

We're sorry God for the things we think that are wrong and mess up your world.

**5. Mime washing heart**

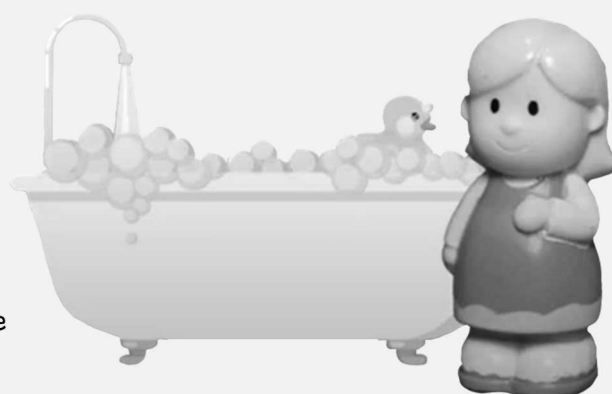
We're sorry God for the things we feel that are wrong and mess up your world.

**6. Mime washing hands**

We're sorry God for the things we do that are wrong and mess up your world.

**7. Invite people to give their hands a shake and to hold them out open in front of them**

Father God, please make us clean and help us to live clean lives for you in your world. Amen.



**Song**

**Upside Down Rob Holman**

[Youtube link here](#)

## Bible Story

This story is from the Bible. Jesus often told stories to help people to understand God's plan to fix the broken world. In these stories, Jesus explained how he wanted to rescue the people he loves so much...



**Animation Watch Happyland 'Lost and Found.'**

Find the animation on the God's Big Story Playlist here:

Talking Toddlers God's Big Story – YouTube

**NB:** If you want to supplement the animation with a reading, we suggest using a children's translation of the Bible, such as 'The Lion Storyteller Bible.'



## Song

Easter Doesn't Stop – Actions – Engage Worship - YouTube

## Talk

Adapt these points to suit, but encourage conversation, with those in the congregation chatting and responding together.

- Who here likes a party? What was the best party you ever went to? What was the reason for the celebration? If you don't like a big party, how might you choose to celebrate something special?
- In the stories we heard today, there was a party to celebrate the son coming home to his Dad. Jesus told people that Father God celebrates whenever one person chooses to come home to him. Why? Because this is what gives us the happy ending!
- I wonder how close you feel to God right now? I wonder if you can think of a time when God has felt really close? At the beginning of time when God made the world, it was good, everything was good. Adam and Eve could walk with God in the garden. It's not like that for us; we can't see God, but we can still feel him really close to us; maybe when we make ourselves really quiet and sit by ourselves, or perhaps when something amazing happens, like a new baby being born. Some people feel close to God when they come to church and worship him together, other people feel close to God in nature; God's creation.
- God gave people the choice of being friends with him or not...and people chose not to. We chose to turn away from God, to not put him first and our wrong choices broke the world and our friendship with God. We walked away from God and lost the chance to walk with God in the garden, a bit like the sheep who wandered off and the son who left his father's home and got lost.
- Do you ever feel lost? Sometimes when we're going somewhere, we lose our way and need to be found and the same can be true in life. Sometimes we get caught up being really busy or filling our lives with lots of things; holidays, hobbies, fun times; things that make us feel good but a bit like the son in the story who took his Dad's inheritance, sometimes the feeling doesn't last.
- The video we watched showed us that God needed a plan to fix things, to find us and bring us home to him. He washed the world (story of Noah), he sent rules to help people live...we know these as the ten commandments (story of Moses), he sent messages and messengers (Daniel, David) but none of these ways worked. In the end God had to send himself! (Jesus)

- Only God, who is perfect and full of love, could fix the world, giving us a way back to him so that we could be found again and reunited with our Heavenly Father.
- Jesus the rescuer showed people the way to live, but some mean leaders were cross with Jesus. They thought he was lying about being God's Son, so they put him on a wooden cross to die.
- BUT... this was part of God's plan! Jesus died on the cross as a way of fixing absolutely everyone and everything and giving us the way back to Father God.
- Father God showed how amazing and powerful he is by bringing Jesus back to life again, all because he loves the world and everyone in it!
- The world still looks and is broken but...one day there will be a time when Jesus will come back to earth and finish all the fixing. God has promised that one day the world will be like new. It will be perfect again and we will be with God, just like Adam and Eve were with Him in the garden.
- Right now, we can't be with God in quite that way. We have to wait for that special time that God has promised but the good news is we don't have to wait for God to be with us. When Jesus went back to Father God in heaven, he sent his special helper the Holy Spirit to help us. Anyone who is Jesus' friend has the Holy Spirit special helper to help them. The Holy Spirit helper helps us to begin fixing the world by loving people as God loves them.
- So, what about you? Is it time for you to come back to Father God now? Is it time for you to choose to be with Him? All we have to do is say 'Here I am,' and God says, 'there you are,' He's waiting for us, loves us and would never force us to be his friends, but he does want us to be found again.



## Song

### Lost and Found Song

Find the accompanying song, lyrics and book here: [Hope Together : God's Big Story Resources](#)

## Prayer Activity: Jesus Found Me!

Today, we have been thinking about what it means to be found by Jesus.

Lead the prayers, giving time for people to think of their responses either in their heads or by talking to those around them.

- How does it feel to know that we can be found by Jesus?
- Is this the time for you to come home to Father God?
- Is there someone you would like to pray for, who you would love to see come home to Father God?

Finish with the Lord's Prayer and then the prayer from the 'Happy Ever After' book below:

Our Father in heaven,

Hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread,

And 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 forever,

Amen



**Song**      **Big Family of God**      **Nick and Becky Drake**

[\(117\) Big Family Of God \(Official Lyric Video\) - Nick & Becky Drake // Worship For Everyone - YouTube](#)

## Blessing

In John chapter 3 verse 16 it says God loved the world so much that he sent his son, Jesus, so that we can be forever friends with God.

Father God, may we know right now how much you love us and want to be our friend.  
Please fill us with love for you, the world you made and people in it.  
Give us the Holy Spirit special helper to be with us as we wait for Jesus to come back.  
Amen

## Possible Extra Songs



**Great Big God**      **Vineyard Music**

[\(117\) Our God is a Great Big God Video with lyrics - YouTube](#)



**Bigger Than Big**      **Jay Stocker**

[\(117\) Bigger than Big - YouTube](#) Or [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NUU-6LD1D\\_0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NUU-6LD1D_0)



**O Praise The Name (Anastasis) Hillsong**

[\(68\) O Praise The Name \(Anástasis\) Lyric Video - Hillsong Worship - YouTube](#)

**Yet Not I City Aight**

[\(68\) CityAight ~ Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me \(Lyrics\) - YouTube](#)

**Amazing Grace Chris Tomlin**

[\(68\) Amazing Grace \(My Chains are Gone\) - Chris Tomlin \(with lyrics\) - YouTube](#)

**Because He Lives Celtic Worship**

[\(68\) Because He Lives \(Official Music Video\) | Celtic Worship - YouTube](#)

**The Power of The Cross Keith and Kirstyn Getty**

[\(68\) The Power of the Cross \(Official Lyric Video\) - Keith & Kristyn Getty - YouTube](#)