

## Children's Church at home 10 May 2020

Acts 7:55-end and John 14:1-14 'I am the way, the truth and the life'

**Craft ingredients:** A4 card, scissors, ruler, pencil, pens, glue.

Ask the children if they remember last Sunday's story: it was about how Jesus looks after us like a shepherd looks after the sheep. And because the sheep know his voice, they follow him.

**Introduction:** What would be more difficult? Explaining how to do long division or learning all the words in the Spanish dictionary? Counting all the birds in your garden or digging a hole 2 metres deep? Doing the Go-Ape course or sewing a beautiful dress for Mummy? Running to Ascot and back or doing 50 cartwheels?

Some of the things Jesus's friends did after he died and went to Heaven were not just difficult, they were scary too. But Jesus told them that he would look after them. That if they asked for something 'in his name', he would do whatever they asked. And that he was making a perfect place for them in Heaven with him.

**Story:** Read about how Jesus explained what life would be like for his friends after he had died and gone to Heaven. John 14:1-14. If you don't have this in a children's Bible, The Easy to Read version is quite clear <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+14%3A1-14&version=ERV>

Then read about what actually happened to Stephen later on. Acts 7:55-60  
<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+7%3A55-60&version=ERV>

Stephen had been working for God, just as Jesus had said, but the officials in the Temple were angry with him, found people to lie about him, and he was stoned to death. As he died, he saw Jesus and asked for the people throwing stones at him to be forgiven. And then he went to Heaven!

**Video:** <https://youtu.be/Dhn7MKFguec> this is a lovely video, all explained by children. Or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FPcMr-RomAM> a longer and more detailed account of Stephen's life.

**Quiz:** What work was Stephen doing? Who got angry with him? What did they do? Who did Stephen see as he was dying? What did he ask God to do? Where did he end up?

**Activity:** Have you got some chalk? You could chalk a hopscotch game in the garden, with Heaven at the top. Or you could scrunch up some paper into balls and use a waste paper basket to play 'basketball'.

**Craft:** see video.

**Prayer:** Hey Jesus, you've made such fantastic promises to us! Thank you! Remind us to ask for your help to do your work. Help us to be brave when things are scary and let us see you clearly, like Stephen did. Please keep our families and friends safe and happy. Amen.