

Youth group @ Home

Sunday 12th July 2020

Christian Character – Session 12: God's strength

Good morning and welcome to session 12 of Youth Group @ Home. Why not go through today's session with family or friends? You could always Zoom call some friends and go through the activities together.

Activity

To start us off with this week's session, come up with three things in your head and then share them with a friend or family member.

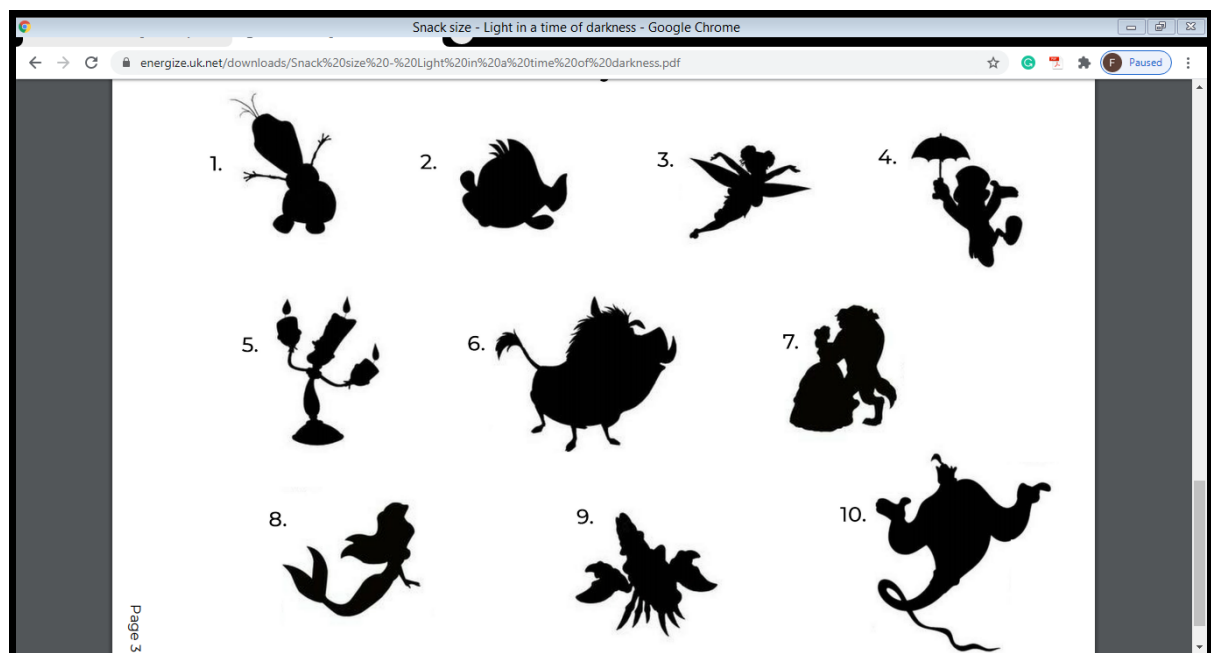
Thing one: A good thing from the previous week

Thing two: A bad thing from the week

Thing three: A prayer for the coming week

Activity

Which Disney character? Can you name each of these Disney characters from their silhouettes?



Answers

1. Olaf
2. Flounder
3. Tinkerbell
4. Jiminy Cricket
5. Lumiere
6. Pumbaa
7. Belle & Beast
8. Ariel
9. Sebastian
10. Genie

Bible Study

Take a look at 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Consider these questions:

- 1) What does this passage teach us?
- 2) What could this passage teach you about yourself? Is it telling us we should/shouldn't behave in certain ways?
- 3) What does this passage teach us about God? Does this passage highlight an element of who God is? What He is like? What He thinks of us? Etc.

Think

What is strength? Take a moment to write down a few things that come to mind when you think about strength. Do you think of muscles and superheroes like Captain America?

Let's look at why Captain America was chosen to become the super-soldier: Watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ip8Pynrt4-U>

This part of Captain America's story is similar to David's. Captain America was chosen as the first Super Soldier because of the strength of his character, not of his biceps! The Bible says that "if you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones" (Luke 16:10) and we believe this speaks of strength as well as other talents and resources. If Captain America, or David in the Bible, can be faithful to what is right when he has a small amount of strength or influence, then when given more he was able to remain honest and a good leader. Against all odds, David went on to fight and defeat a physically strong giant of a man called Goliath in battle (see chapter 17), wrote loads of songs which are in the Bible book of Psalms, and became what many believed was the greatest King Israel ever had. He didn't lead a perfect life, but God chose him for a job, and equipped him for the role he was given. God looked beyond the surface, into his heart, and recognised the potential of his inner strength, and God took care of the rest.

The important thing to remember, is that David couldn't have done all the things he did without God. David had weaknesses – he was physically weak and small – but through God's strength in his weakness, David defeated Goliath. It is alright for us to have weaknesses, because God is so strong and so powerful, He can and will, use us despite what we might think of ourselves.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 (MSG) says; 'My grace is enough; it's all you need. My strength comes into its own in your weakness.'

In other words, it doesn't matter what our weaknesses are – God is strong enough to deal with our short fallings, in fact, when we are weak and allow God to use us despite our weakness, it allows God's power and strength in us to shine all the more, because it becomes obvious that we aren't working on our own.

Activity

Who is strongest person you know? Why? Have a look at this list of characteristics below, which of these characterises mean strength to you?

- Patient
- Kind
- Content, not jealous
- Modest, not boastful
- Humble, not proud
- Uplifting, not critical
- Forgiving
- Truthful
- Keeps going
- Faithful
- Hopeful
- Sticks at it

Pray

In this coming week try to take time to ask God how He wants to work in your life and use you. Maybe think about some areas of weakness you have and pray about how God could work through these weaknesses.

Maybe pray about this verse, Isaiah 40 verse 31: *"Those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint."*

Remember, you can pray anytime – day or night – God is always listening to you and He loves to hear your voice.

We really hope you enjoyed this session. If you have questions you want to ask, or want to request a certain topic for a future session, you can email me: Freya@Bedhampton.Church.