



Lift High the Name of Jesus

Devotions and Activities

1. THE NAME OF JESUS

When I (Kristyn) was younger I loved to name my teddies and dolls. I usually used names of friends and family that I loved and when I named them they became more real to me and more special. Do you like naming your toys? Have you been part of all the conversations around naming a new baby brother or sister? In the Bible we read of real people with real names that often mean something very important and tell us what they will do or what they are like. The name Jesus means 'Saviour, Messiah'. God told Mary to call Him this when He was born as it would tell us all He would do - Save the world from every sin and pain and darkness and bring life that will never end to all who believed in Him. No one else can do this for us. We are called to 'lift high the name of Jesus' so that people will hear this good news. How do we do that? Sing it out so that all can hear and also show it is Jesus we love first and best by following Him in our lives...

Activity - can you draw or paint a banner with some of the lyrics from this song? For example 'Lift high the name of Jesus' or 'Jesus, our King' or 'Jesus, our light'

2. LEARNING TO SING

What's the first sound a baby makes when they begin to talk? 'Mamamama'! Psalm 139 tells us that we are wonderfully made by God. He saw us when we were growing inside our mother and He knew every every word we would speak and every step we would walk before any of them ever happened! He has made our minds and our feelings and our skills and our imaginations. We are unique with our own set of fingerprints, and factory of dreams inside our hearts! Each person is special to God and He has no favorites. He delights to hear every single voice that sings out to Him. We may be just okay at singing or find it very hard to do or be one of the strongest singers but God hears us and delights to hear us sing to Him. Like so many things it's good to learn to sing when you are young and then it will always be a joy to you and you will become better and better at it. The chorus of this song says 'oh sing, sing my soul and tell all He's done'.

Activity - ask your parents or an older friend what their favourite hymn or song was when they were a kid ask them to teach it to you!

3. COURAGE TO SPEAK

When I (Kristyn) was 9 I made a special badge with 'I love Jesus' on it and I wore it to school one day. I remember my teacher asking me if it was true and I told him yes it was! In different ways we have so many opportunities to tell and show that we belong to Jesus. Children are very good at speaking out! Psalm 9 tells us that God delights to hear the voices of little children talking about all He has done and praising Him, in fact it speaks very loudly to all the grown ups. Often people listen even more closely when it is children who are singing. When we hear children sing our hearts are filled up with beautiful thoughts and with deep joy. Do you sing? Are you part of a children's choir? Perhaps you could join one and then together with lots of other children have courage to sing out the good news of Jesus.

4. BIG EYES

We love special treats in our family particularly ice cream! We love seeing the eyes of our little girls go wider with delight when an ice cream is put in their hand. What are some of the special treats you enjoy with your family and friends? Do your eyes go bigger with excitement?! When we think of God who made every single star in the sky and every single hair on our heads and then think of all Jesus has done that we could become children of God, our eyes should go bigger with excitement! We are part of the most incredible adventure as we follow the Lord Jesus. May your eyes be big and bright and voices too as you sing to Him!