

JESUS

CHEEKY PANDAS

The Missing Guitar Pick

Key Learning: We are all like the sheep that wander away from the Shepherd, but Jesus always comes to find us because we are so special to Him.

'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.'

Luke 15:4-7

Session Outline

1. Informal welcome as families arrive

2. Official welcome

Introduce the title, theme, and all members of your team to all present, including the person to contact if they have technical issues or concerns.

- Outline what will happen during this session, how long it will take, and the key learning for today's session.
- Ensure they have any resources needed for the activity in the video.

Saint of the Day

St Augustine was a rebellious Christian teenager who lived a dissolute life and ran away from his mother. He got involved with all kinds of bad things.

However, he was also multi-talented and very intelligent. After meeting St Ambrose, he had an encounter with Christ causing his whole life to change. From then on he lived to help others come close to Christ.

You will need...

- Video link
- A cuddly toy
- Presentation for Prayer



3. Opening prayer

Heavenly Father,
We get lost sometimes and need our friend Jesus to come and find us. Help us to open our heart to hear Him calling us.

We make this prayer in Jesus' name.

All: Amen

4. Warm-up activity

Ask the children to type the names of their cuddly toys and hold them up to the camera for us to see. One of the leaders could mention a few names and ask a few children to tell everyone why they like their cuddly toy.

If one of the leaders also has a cuddly toy, they could introduce it and talk about how good it is to have friends. This is an ideal opportunity to introduce the saint of the day as our heavenly friend, who helps us on our journey.

5. Saint of the day

Today's saint is Augustine. His mum was a holy woman, but he didn't want to be like her; so when he got older: he ran away and lived a very different life. Then one day he met a Bishop called Ambrose. Jesus touched the heart of Augustine through the words of Bishop Ambrose. Augustine experienced the amazing love of God and gave everything up to follow Jesus. He wanted everyone to find God so found different ways to tell people about his friend, Jesus. Here is one of his sayings:

'Let the children come,
the poorly to the doctor,
let the lost come
to the redeemer,
let them come;
don't let anyone forbid them...
We all got lost together; let us
all be found together in Christ.'

Sermon 115,4

6. Watch Video

We are going to watch a video with some new friends, the Pandas. They get up to all sorts. Let's see what happens today: maybe we can even help them somehow.

8. Family challenge

Encourage the families present to talk about today's session using the following questions:

- What did you learn from today?
- What questions do you have?
- What experiences have you had about getting lost and then being found?

If you will send the questions via email, mention it here so people can subscribe to your email list.

7. Group discussion

After the video, help the children explore the theme through using the following questions:

- What happened to Milo?
- How did he feel when he lost the pick?
- Have you ever lost anything that you really liked?
- Who did the Pandas meet who also lost something he loved?
- How do you think Jesus feels when we turn away from him?
- Why does Jesus come looking for us?

If you have enough facilitators this can be done in smaller groups, using multiple rooms. However, if this is not possible, you can also ask people to respond via the chat and then ask them to tell you a little more.



9. Parish announcements

We would love to see you at the following events/services:
Sunday Mass at ____ am/pm or online via:_____

Next week our session is called 'The Duck Awards' where we will explore the theme of praise. We would love you to bring something small from nature that you find in your garden, or on a walk. It should be **something you think is beautiful**.

10. Closing prayer

Begin with the Sign of the Cross
Prayer Intention: Today we pray for people who feel lost: those who have turned away from God and really miss His love.

Our Father - Hail Mary - Glory be

Leader: St Augustine,

All: Pray for us.

Leader: Mary, help of Christians,

All: Pray for us.

Finish with the Sign of the Cross