



# Authorised Mess — JUDE

## Your details

Name: Cerys Hughes and Mark Hatcher

Church: Holy Trinity, Hadley and Christ Church, Wellington, Telford

<b>Bible book</b>	<b>Jude</b>
<b>Theme of session</b>	<b>Missing pieces</b>
<b>Notes</b>	

## Session details

<b>Categories of activities to get a mix</b>	<b>Activity name</b>	<b>Instructions</b>	<b>Resources needed</b>	<b>Reason for doing this activity</b>
Younger participants	Cloud mobile	Decorate the cloud shapes and glue cotton wool to both sides. Attach some string to each cloud, then tie the string to the stick to make a mobile—see the clouds sway in a breeze.	Small garden support sticks, string/ribbon, cloud shapes cut from thin card, materials to decorate, cotton wool, glue, scissors, hole punch.	In Jude 12 (GNT), it says that those without faith are 'like clouds carried along by the wind, but bringing no rain.'
Older participants	Sea storm bottle	Half-fill the bottle with oil and then add water to an inch from the top. Add several drops of food colouring. Add ¼ antacid tablet and watch the bubbles.	Empty 500 ml plastic bottles, vegetable oil, water, food colouring, antacid tablets.	Jude 13: 'They are like wild waves of the sea, with their shameful deeds showing up like foam...'



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Girls	Star jewellery	Thread star-shaped plastic beads to make necklaces, bracelets or key rings.	Star-shaped plastic beads, threading elastic and cord.	Jude 13: '... They are like wandering stars...'
Boys	Biscuits of doom	Decorate plain biscuits to look (and taste!) as gruesome as possible.	Large plain biscuits (Rich Tea), coloured icing (black, green, purple and so on), icing pens, popping candy, sour sherbet and anything else gory you can find!	The whole letter from Jude is about the darkness and horribleness of a sinful life without God.
Word-based	The Letter from Mess	Write letters to the Sunday congregation to tell them about your Messy Church and perhaps ask them to pray for you.	Writing paper/postcards, envelopes, pens, colouring pens, stickers and other materials to decorate.	The Letter from Jude is a letter that was written to the early church. The Letter from Mess is a way of linking with Sunday congregations and sharing some good news.
Food-based	Fruit kebabs	Make fruit kebabs with a selection of fresh fruits.	Wooden kebab skewers, a selection of fresh fruits.	In Jude 12, it says that those without faith are like 'trees that bear no fruit.' Life with God is fruitful and juicy and yummy!



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Explores global aspect of faith	Rainmaker	Decorate the tube with the paper and other materials. Then, twist a strip of the foil to make a spiral, and glue one end to the bottom of the tube and the other to the lid. Pour in some rice.	Empty crisp tubes, coloured paper, pens, sequins, stickers and other materials to decorate, kitchen foil, dry rice.	Jude 12 refers to clouds that bring no rain. Thank God for the rain and all that it gives us. Think of those countries that have little rain and how it affects them.
Opens up great art/Really messy	Tree painting	Paint a large tree/vine on the paper and add brightly coloured hand, finger and foot prints as fruits.	Roll of paper, paints, paint brushes, large trays, soapy water, paper towels.	In Jude 12, it says that those without faith are like 'trees that bear no fruit.' Life with God is fruitful.
Quiet	Prayer fruits	Cut out fruit shapes from the brightly coloured card. Write a prayer on the 'fruit', then attach some thread and hang on the bare branches.	Bare branches firmly set in a plant pot, brightly coloured card, fruit templates, pens, hole punch, thread.	In Jude 12, it says that those without faith are like 'trees that bear no fruit.' Life with God is fruitful.



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## Celebration suggestion

**Song:** 'Come on and celebrate' from *Essential Worship Song Collection*. For details, see [http://www.musicroom.com/se/id\\_no/079415/details.html](http://www.musicroom.com/se/id_no/079415/details.html).

Talk about letters – the kind of letters we receive, and the ones we like/don't like receiving. Talk about other ways of communicating: telephone, email, text and so on, and how we probably send fewer letters now than we did many years ago because we have many other ways of communicating.

Explain how the early church didn't have all these modern ways of communicating and so letters, like that from Jude, were written to guide and help them. Jude's letter warns about bad people and those who do not know God, and makes some comparisons—link this to crafts you have done.

Trees that bear no fruit, clouds that bring no rain... it's all very empty. Ask people what their lives would be empty without and discuss. Then say something like 'Well, for me, I couldn't live without... cake! But the trouble is, although I love to eat cake, I'm not very good at making them! So, I thought, we could make one here today... will you help me?'

Provide a chef's hat, apron, mixing bowl, spoon and a large shopping bag with empty packets inside for all the ingredients—empty flour bag (blown up to look full), empty egg box, empty butter tub, and so on. Ask everyone to call out the ingredients you will need and invite people to come up and find them in the shopping bag and put them in the bowl. Every time they discover the packet is empty, throw it over your shoulder and say something like 'Ah well, we can manage without that, let's try something else...'. Continue until the bag is empty and show the empty bag and the empty bowl... 'how sad!' Compare the empty bowl to a life without Jesus, then pull out a 'here's one I made earlier' big cake and show how full a life with Jesus is.

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, Thank you for giving us in Jesus all the ingredients we need to live a good life for you. Help us to remember to keep him at the centre of our lives each and every day. Amen.

**Song:** 'Our God is a great big God' from *Great Big God* CD, Vineyard Records. For details, see <http://greatbiggod.com/>.



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## **Meal suggestion**

- ✿ Hot dogs (have vegetarian sausages available too)—because life without God is like a finger roll without the sausage!
- ✿ Fruit kebabs (made in the activity)/cake (from the celebration).

## **Faith in Homes suggestion**

Try making something together as a family—a cake, some biscuits, a pie or a meal. Talk about the ingredients. How would your creation turn out if you didn't have the right ingredients? Enjoy eating your creation together.