



# Messy Church at home: June

## Do not fear, just have faith

Original session by **Carolyne Rasmussen**

Holding on to Jesus when things are really hard

### Activities

If you can't get exactly these materials, just see what you can find around the house instead!

#### 1 Jairus' house



**You will need: corrugated cardboard; cardboard; pencils; sticky tape; scissors; paint and paintbrushes; craft tissue paper**

Draw the front (facade) of the house on the cardboard, as shown in the photo, and cut it out. Use measured corrugated cardboard for the sides and roof of the house. Then use sticky tape to put these parts together (you might need help to hold the pieces together as you tape them). Paint your house as desired. Use the craft tissue to make flowers and glue them to the facade of the house.

**Talk about** how difficult it must have been for Jairus' family. Picture Jesus coming into the house, where everyone thought Jairus' daughter was dead, and saying that she was not dead but asleep. 'Little girl, I say to you, get up,' he says. Talk about the joy this family must have felt after this and how hard it must have been to not tell anyone about the miracle.

## 2 Narrative staff



**You will need: 16mm PVC clear plastic hose/tube or a plastic water bottle; scissors; marbles (two per person); glitter ‘crumbs’; glitter stars, hearts, hexagons, etc.; distilled water; a small jar (optional); glycerine**

This activity was designed by Kerstin Othmer for the Messy Church International Conference 2019.

Cut an 8–14 cm long piece from the PVC tube. Wet one marble and insert it completely into one end of the tube. Then put a small pinch of the crumbs, stars and hearts into the tube. Make sure you don’t put in too many, as this could clog the tube and prevent the flow. Fill a third of the tube with the distilled water (you can use a little jar to do this). Then pour glycerine into the pipe, making sure to leave a little space. The second marble is then moistened and pressed into the top of the tube (until it disappears into the tube to completely lock the tube). Shake back and forth a few times and you’re done. The crumbs will float, and the stars and hearts will sink.

**Talk about** how the floating or raising crumbs could symbolise the raising of Jairus’ daughter, and how the sinking stars could be the disease being defeated. Are you in a place in your life where you or someone you know need to be healed?

### 3 Prayer station

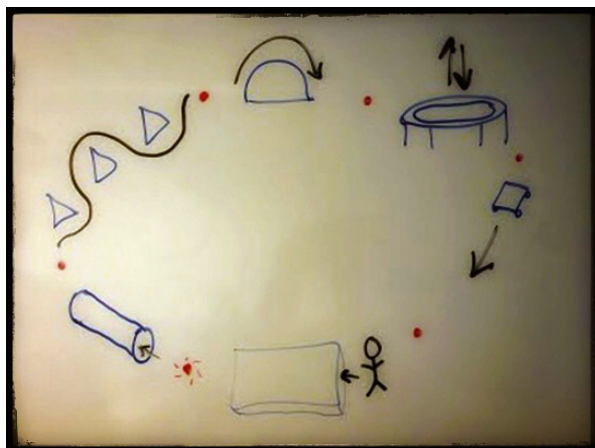


**You will need: scraps of white fabric (to represent Jesus' cloak) and/or card in different colours; textile markers; fine marker pens; pencils; scissors (zigzag if possible)**

Write a prayer on a piece of white fabric or cut out a card figure in your desired colour. It could be a prayer for a friend or a family member who is ill or even a prayer for a miracle in your life. This could be used as a bookmark.

**Talk about** a time in your life when you thought everything was going wrong. When have you been burdened down by everyday worries of this world? (You might need to explain in simple terms what this could look like for a child.) Why carry worries around when Jesus asks you to let him have them? Let them go! Are you ready to act in faith? If not, think about what is stopping you and ask God to help you.

### 4 Obstacle course



**You will need: various objects to create an obstacle course**

This all depends on your building and the space allocated for this activity. If possible, make it an outdoor one. You could even get your family to come up with great obstacle ideas.

**Talk about** the fact that even though there was a huge crowd surrounding Jesus, the woman was desperate and determined to get to him. She never gave up. The father was also desperate enough to do anything to get Jesus to come and see his daughter. Have you ever been in a situation where you felt like everything was pressing in on you? Maybe you had to fight or to struggle your way through a lot of hindrances. It could be at school or your place of work.

## Celebration

1. **Sing** your favourite Messy Church song from YouTube.
2. Read [Mark 5:21-43](#) – the story of Jesus and Jairus’ daughter – from the Bible or from a family Bible storybook.
3. Ask what everyone likes best about Jesus in this story. Pick one of these questions to answer:
  - How do you react to the idea that Jesus is bigger than any illness and death?
  - How often are you afraid in your faith? What do you do when you are?
  - How do you ‘just have faith’ when times are difficult?
4. Share the prayers on your bookmarks.
5. Say the [Lord’s Prayer](#) together, with or without actions.
6. Say the [Messy Grace](#) if you usually do that at Messy Church.

## Mealtime

In the Messy Church magazine, this session was written by a Messy Church leader from Denmark and she’s suggested making Danish sandwiches! As you make your tea, talk about how Jairus’ daughter must have been very hungry when she was brought back to life by Jesus. What would be your back-from-the-dead sandwich?

### Smørbrød (Danish sandwiches)



**You will need: rye bread (or brown bread); butter or margarine; lettuce leaves; sandwich fillings, such as meat and/or fish fillets, pâté, cheese, egg slices and mayonnaise; garnishes, such as cucumber, tomatoes, radishes and lemon slices; knives; plates**

Butter your slice of bread. Add a leaf of lettuce. Then top with your choice of cold meats, fish, cheese, eggs or pâté. Then decorate with garnish. Use your imagination or look at the photo as inspiration.

Send us a photo of you all doing your Messy Church at home!

We miss you; we hope you’re well and safe and we look forward to seeing you again.  
And until that day, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.