

Hear the Lord



Sign of the Cross. Let's pray. (See p. 133)



quietly by yourselves

Close your eyes, sit very still and listen.



when each child has had time to think

What did you hear?

What would it be like if you couldn't hear at all?

Do you know anyone who is deaf?

If you were deaf what sounds would you miss most?



welcome the Gospel. Sing Alleluia. (See p. 220)



all stand (adapted from Mark 7:31-37)

One day Jesus was on his way to the Sea of Galilee when some people brought a deaf man to him.

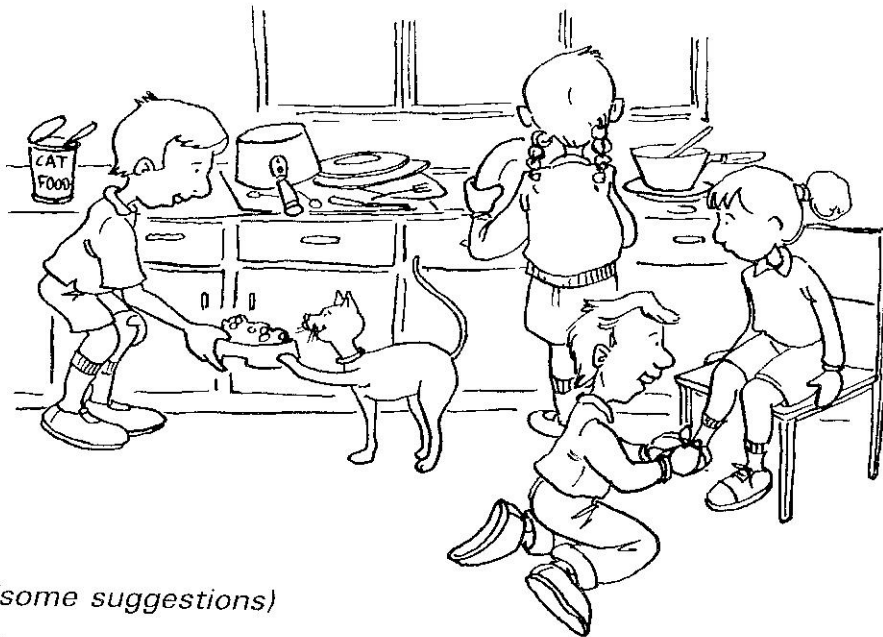
Jesus felt sorry for him.

He put his hands on his ears and on his mouth and the man could hear!

Everyone was very pleased.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.



all sit (some suggestions)

What do you think the man's favourite sound would be?

What's your favourite sound?

What words do you love to hear?

How could you speak to a deaf person?



<p>SPEAK, LORD, WE ARE LISTENING</p> <p>VISUAL AIDS</p> <p>> Pictures of doctors, nurses, Third World helpers, handicapped children</p> <p>SHARING</p> <p>Show the children the pictures and invite them to say what is happening in them.</p>	<p>- people are helping each other - bringing happiness to others.</p> <p>Today we begin with a psalm about how God helps people. Have the children say the response after each verse, and invite them to act out the verses as they hear them with simple gestures.</p> <p><i>Response:</i> My soul, give praise to the Lord.</p> <p>God is faithful forever. He gives bread to the hungry. He protects all who call upon him. He sets prisoners free. God gives sight to the blind. He opens the ears of the deaf. He raises those who feel really down. He protects widows and orphans.</p>
<p>WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL</p> <p><i>Saying together:</i></p> <p>Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus proclaimed the Good News, cured the people's sickness. Alleluia!</p> <p>A reading from the Good News given to us by Mark. Glorify to you, Lord.</p> <p>One day, as Jesus was travelling towards the Sea of Galilee, some people brought a man to him who was deaf and who could not speak properly. Jesus took the man aside so that he could be alone with him. Jesus put his fingers in the man's ears, then licked his fingers and put</p>	<p>them on the man's tongue. Then, looking up to heaven, he said 'Ephphatha! Be opened'. And immediately the man could hear and speak properly. Jesus told him to tell no one what had happened, but the man was so excited that he told everyone he met. Everyone who heard about it was amazed.</p> <p>This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.</p>
<p>DISCUSSION</p> <p>Do the children know anyone who is deaf, or who cannot hear very well?</p> <p>Do they know anyone who cannot speak very well?</p> <p>What happened to the man in the story?</p>	<p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>- Have the children mime the story. Make sure they express clearly how the man felt when he was cured.</p> <p>- Explain the meaning of 'Ephphatha', and have the children say this word. Point out how, to say it properly, you have to use your whole mouth and open it up wide.</p> <p>> On blank pieces of paper, ask the children to draw a picture that makes them happy (just as Jesus made the deaf man happy).</p> <p>> When the picture is finished, have them write a thank you prayer for all the happy events in their lives.</p>