

Theme: Specials (SP501) Harvest Aim: To recognise that harvest is a time of generosity to God and also to other people as we respond to God's generosity to us.

Game: Memory game

Place a variety of foods on a tray (tins, pieces of fruit, packets) and cover them up with a tea towel or cloth. Uncover the items and spend 30 seconds looking at the food items and try to remember what's there. Cover the items again. Write down as many things you can remember. The winner is the one with the most correct items.

Craft: Harvest Collage

Make a Harvest collage using scissors, glue, magazines, coloured paper, pens to draw etc. Include fruit, vegetables, cereal crops, sugar, tea and coffee, fish in your collage. There are so many things that need to be harvested. God makes each of these things grow in the first place: he gives all our food to us.

Watch: The rich fool <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syYixa4ZRPY</u>

Story: Luke 12:16-21 (The rich fool)

What are your favourite foods? Is there anything you refuse to eat? In today's story a certain rich man grew many crops. When the summer ended and the days began to feel chilly, he sent his workers to harvest his crops. They worked hard and the crops began to pile up. And so the man stored away the food into his barns. He had huge barns, the biggest in the village – and he stored as much as he could. But then he found a problem. There was more food than there were barns! What did he do about that? What could he do with his extra grain? Maybe he could give some away and help others? But that isn't what he did. The man lay awake far into the night wondering. And then he decided! He would tear down his barns and make bigger ones! Then he would sit back and relax knowing that he would always be rich and comfortable. But as he lay there gloating, God spoke. "You fool" he said, "You have only thought about yourself and your life today, but tonight you are going to die, and what good will your money and your crops do you then?"

What did the man do wrong? Was it wrong that he had a lot of crops, or was it his attitude to them that was wrong? How should he have treated his crops? What should he have done with the extra amount? Why do you suppose he didn't give any away? It is important to be generous with the 'things that God gives us. At harvest we should be generous to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Challenge: Give it away

Research some charities charities such as Love your neighbour, food bank, world vision, Tear Fund, Christian Aid, Send a Cow etc.

Choose a charity you would like to help and think of one way in which you could help. Plan together what you can do. It might be a cake sale/sponsored car wash/donating pocket money for a week/give clothes or toys away to a charity shop/give some food to a local food bank. We are very blessed by God and that he gives us the opportunity to bless others. You have made a difference today. Ask God to use the things you have donated.

Prayer:

Find something sweet to east in your house-one square of chocolate/raisin/sweet. Put it in your mouth and close your eyes. Whilst doing that think about where this food might have come from, who might have been involved in getting it to your home. As you start to taste the sweetness give thanks to God for His provision and the gifts He has given us. Challenge is to to do this a few times in the week - Take your time when you are eating something and to consider where it has come from and to thank God for it.

For more resources check out Urban Saints Energize website: <u>https://www.energize.uk.net</u>/Login: families@stjamesinthecity.org.uk Password: Matthew19:14

