



'Peter in prison'

Messy Church crafts & prayer

Margaret's chocolate bars

You will need: biscuits (malted milk, rich tea fingers or similar) butter, icing sugar, chocolate and sprinkles.

1. First make some butter icing. Beat 50g butter in a bowl until soft.
2. Add 100g sifted icing sugar and beat until smooth. Add a little milk and beat the mixture until creamy and smooth.
3. Use the butter icing to sandwich three biscuits together.
4. Carefully melt some chocolate and pour over the biscuit sandwich to make your chocolate bar.
5. Add some sprinkles to decorate your chocolate bar.



Peter in prison craft

1. Find an empty cereal box and flatten it out. Trim off the flappy ends. Carefully cut a window in one side as in the picture.
2. Use a hole punch to make some holes at the top and bottom of the window and thread some wool or string up and down to make the prison bars. Fix the ends of the wool with sticky tape. Or you could cut some thin paper strips to make the bars.
3. On a separate piece of paper draw a picture of Peter in prison and stick this into the box behind the bars.



4. Bend the card at the bottom of the prison to make a flat base so that the prison stands up. You might need to use some sticky tape across the bottom to hold it together. You now have a Peter in prison model to remind you of the story. Can you remember what happened to Peter next?

Paper chains

1. Cut some strips of paper and decorate them. You could use plain paper, coloured paper, old wrapping paper or an old magazine. Decorate with pens or stickers.
2. Bend the first strip into a circle and join the ends together using glue, sticky tape or a stapler.
3. Thread the next strip through the first and join the ends as before. Continue with lots of strips to make your paper chain.
4. Hang up your paper chain to remind you of the story!



Peter in prison prayers

Sometimes we can feel a bit like we're in prison when we can't do some of the things we like to do, but like Peter we can trust God. For our prayer activity we used an aarer (to make the prison bars) some pegs and some items to represent the things we want to thank God for.

Sit behind/inside/around the aarer and think about how you are feeling at the moment, even if you are feeling a bit sad or finding things difficult it is good to praise God by thanking him. Take it in turns to peg an item onto the aarer and say "Thank you God for" as you peg it on. You could thank God for food, your family, your pets, your toys and probably lots of other things too!

Finish with a prayer together, you could use this one or make up one of your own. *"Father God, thank you for all the good things you give us. Thank you that we can trust you and that you love us. Thank you that you have promised to always be with us. Amen"*

Pray for your friends:

Peter's friends prayed for him when he was in prison. Do you have a friend who is finding things difficult at the moment? Why not draw a picture of them and stick it up somewhere at home where you will see it every day? Every time you look at the picture say a prayer asking God to help your friend.