**Esperanza Lutheran Church Sunday Funday**

**January 31, 2021**

**All Ages**

**Bible Story: House on the Rock**

**Emphasis:** Jesus tells stories to help people learn about God.

**Bible Background:** Jesus tells us a story about building a house on sand and building a house on rock. He tells stories to teach about God. This parable is about building our lives on following Jesus and believing in  God.  Trust God and you we will be on solid ground. Jesus says if you listen to me, you are building your life on the sturdy rock of God. If you listen to other’s, you are building your life on ideas that are like the sand that will just blow away. People were amazed by Jesus and his wisdom.  He was a great teacher and peoples hearts were changed by his words.

**Read the Bible Story!:**  (Spark Bible: House on the Rock, Pages 282 - 285. NRSV Matthew 7: 24-27)  Jesus tells the story of a wise person who built their house on a rock and the foolish person who built their house on sand.

**Questions:**

1. **Jesus loved to tell stories. What is the word that people who study the bible use for Jesus stories?** (Parable: it is a simple story to tell a moral, spiritual lesson. Jesus loved telling parables!)

1. **In this parable/story,what did the people build their houses on?** (Rock and Sand)

1. **Who was wise and who was foolish?** (the person who built their house on a rock was wise and the person who built their house on sand was foolish)

1. **In this story/parable Jesus wanted everyone to know who is solid as a rock?** (God! ...God is our rock)

**Activity:** find some rocks in your yard and put them in a basket or a bowl. Set the basket in front of you and your child. Share with your child that sometimes, we talk to God when there are things that worry us.  We know we can rely on God in good times and bad times.  We can always rely on God. God is like a strong rock.  Pass that basket of rocks to each other.  Choose a rock for yourself and have your child choose a rock too. Say that we are going to hold tight to our rocks as we think about our worries.  Then share with your child something that worries you.  Have your child hold their rock and tell you, a worry.  Let your child know that whenever we have worries, we should remember that God is our solid rock.  God will help us. Let’s pray to thank God for being like a rock.  We can thank God for taking care of our worries.  Hold on tight to your rock and say (or shout!) **God is my rock!**

**Emphasize: God is our rock! We can give God all our worries.**

**Hold hands and end in a Family Prayer:** Dear God, we thank you for being our rock. We rely on you in the good times and the not so good times. Thanks for being with us when we have worries.  We are glad you are strong like a rock! Amen.