**Esperanza Lutheran Church Sunday Funday**

**February 7,2021**

**All Ages**

**Bible Story: House on the Rock**

**Emphasis:** Jesus tells stories called parables.  Jesus wanted everyone to know that God is our rock!

**Bible Background:** Jesus tells us about building a house on sand and building a house on rock. When the rains came down the house on the rock stood firm.  There were many people on the mountain listening to Jesus when he told this story about building on rock and sand.  They were very surprised what a wonderful teacher Jesus was.  He used stories to teach that helped people understand who God his father was like.  He wanted them to trust God because God was sturdy and strong, like a rock.

**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.  Then the rains came down and the house built on the rock stood firm.

**Questions:**

1. **Where were the people when Jesus was teaching this story?** (on a mountain)

1. **What is better? To build your house on sand or rock?** (on rock! House built on sand will wash away and crash..when the rains come down.)

1. **How can you stand firm and trust God?** (By praying and thanking God for being as strong as a rock. By learning about God and how much God loves us.)

**Activity:** Jesus says, “Build your house on a rock and it would not wash away”. He was telling people by using a parable/story to build their life on God who is solid and strong.  Take a basket of rocks and pour water over them.  Together, watch as the water flows through them as the rock's stand firm.  You can also take sand or dirt and pour water over  thatP and watch the sand or dirt wash away.  Talk about how God created mountains that are made of rock and have stood firm for thousands of years.  God and God’s creation are solid.  We are able to depend on God, our rock.

**Emphasize: God is our rock! We can give God all our worries and trust God to help us through anything.**

**Hold hands and end in a Family Prayer:** Dear God, we thank you for being our rock. Thank you for making the beautiful mountains and vast oceans. We are glad you are strong like a rock!  Amen.