

SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR: PROPER 15C

Please refer to [Guidelines for Children's Addresses in Worship](#) document produced by the LCA Department of Liturgics and Grow Ministries - download guidelines [here](#).



CHILDREN'S ADDRESSES

MAIN POINT

To help us to understand divisions and to pray for those who do not yet believe.

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Jesus said: Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. (Luke 12:51-52)

AIDS

Opposing sport team uniforms or flags – or pictures of two opposing teams.

ADDRESS

Talk to the children about some of the simple things that divide families.

Imagine a family that loves sport, but do not follow the same team. Maybe that sport has divided that family. When their teams play against each other they may even cheer against each other. Show aids.

It is sad but true, there are many things that divide our families. And for some people, Jesus divides their families too! In some families not everyone believes in Jesus or comes to church. This is sad, but we need to understand that Jesus said this could happen!

Even though he came to die on the cross to save the whole world, there will be some people who will not want to believe. Even though Jesus wanted everyone to be on his team, he knew it wasn't going to be that way. There would be some people who would follow him, and others who would not follow him. That makes Jesus sad, and it makes us sad too.

What will we do about that? We will love those in our families who do not follow Jesus and we will pray for them!

PRAYER

Jesus, we love you and we want to follow you day by day. We pray for those people in our families who do not yet believe in you. Help us to love them like you do, so that they might one day choose to follow you too. Amen.

You may wish to hand out *Growing Faith at Home*, *Worship Notes* or another resource before the children return to their seats.

For more information about Grow Ministries and other resources for ministry to children, young people and their families, please contact:

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