

WEEKLY SERMON

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Jesus will shoulder our worries when we pray

Last year at the end of the summer term I was asked to go into one of my local schools and tell a story to the reception class.

For a few days I mulled over what type of story I might read, considering whether I should share a story which Jesus had shared with others, such as the wise man who built his house upon the rock; or the sower; or the good Samaritan.

On this occasion, I decided to use a story that I think speaks to all ages about something that can happen to any of us.

The book I read was 'The Huge Bag of Worries' which is all about a girl called Jenny who begins to get overwhelmed by all the things that are going on in her life.

In the beginning it's just a few things that worry her, but over time she feels like she's carrying a huge bag containing all her worries, and no matter what she does or where she goes, the bag goes too.

Even though she tries to speak to those around they don't seem to have time to understand. And it's only when the old lady from next door comes along, takes hold of the bag and helps Jenny unpack it that the problem is solved.

It's a far more exciting story than I've just described and if you want to read it ... let me know.

But I think most of us will at sometime or other have felt like Jenny, as we all have things that worry us; and sometimes we too don't know how to deal with them and the worries become a heavy weight for us to carry.

But, unlike Jenny, we don't need to wait for someone to come along and help ... we already have someone who is ready to carry all our worries and to help sort them out: Jesus ... and he's only a prayer away.

He may carry them for a while, till we're strong enough to peek into the bag or He may do this by sending someone to walk alongside us as we unpack the bag.

For the children at school, it helped them talk about how they were feeling about going into a new class when they returned.

Rev Lisa Senior

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