



Show and Tell

Children's Story

Cycle A, Epiphany 2,

Title: Show and Tell
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Church: Fort Garry Mennonite Fellowship, Winnipeg, MB
Text: John 1: 29-42
Theme: Jesus' baptism and John promoting Jesus.
Needed: Pre-arrange for a few children to bring show and tell items. Have a supply of paper and crayons for drawing available.

Gathering Activity:

Welcome the children and show them something that is special to you, preferably from your childhood, or your children's childhood. Explain why it's important to you. Feel free to share memories associated with this item. Explain that today's scripture from the Gospel of John (show them John 1) includes a story where John does a kind of show and tell with Jesus, so today's children's story will help us understand how John and Jesus felt when he did that. Invite everyone to become quiet and to imagine John and Jesus sitting there with them. Relax and imagine it yourself and be thankful for the Holy Spirit who helps us connect with Jesus in this way. Once a worshipful silence is established, begin the story.

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Story:

Many of you are in day care, nursery or regular school. Do you have a time where you can bring things that are important to you and talk about them? When I was in school, my favourite time was sharing time. Some call it *Show and Tell or Learning About You* time. It was important because I could show and tell others about something that was special to me. Once, a boy brought his grandfather from far away to school for show and tell. The boy's eyes shone, his face was flushed and the words tumbled out of his mouth because he was so excited about sharing his grandfather with his friends. I wonder what is important to you. I have asked ____ and _____ to bring something to show us. Please tell us why it is important to you ... Thank you for sharing a part of yourselves with us. We enjoyed learning about you.

How do you feel when you get to share something that you find really exciting? When I shared my _____ with you, I was happy that you listened and were interested as I talked about something that was important to me.

In the Bible reading today, we heard about John who was excited when he saw Jesus walking toward them. Jesus was very special to John, especially after he had baptized him. John was so excited he shouted out that Jesus was coming. He told the people he knew Jesus was the Lamb of God and he, John, had actually seen the Spirit of God land on Jesus in the form of a dove at his baptism. Many people believed in Jesus because of John's show and tell.

Prayer:

Thank you God, for sending Jesus and blessing him at his baptism. Thank you for his cousin and good friend, John, who told others how special Jesus was and is. Help us show how special Jesus is too, by living in his way and telling others about Jesus and his wonderful, fair love. Amen.

If you would like to draw a picture, during the rest of worship, that shows what you think is special about Jesus and Jesus' love, you can take some paper and crayons back to your seat with you.

Wondering questions:

- I wonder why John was so excited about Jesus.
- I wonder what each of us thinks is special about Jesus.
- What kind of things can we show and tell others about Jesus?