



## STONE SOUP

What you will need for Stone Soup are:

1. Print off the 14 cards/paper on A4 size. Mark each card on the back in number order of the word, Caring and Sharing.
2. Develop your own story telling character so to express the different characters relating the theme you are putting over.
3. There may be a teacher, parent or helper who is keen to do this. A hat or old coat can change the presenter's character to add life to the story. Don't be afraid to express the various moods and voices.
4. Helper to manager PowerPoint Presentation,
5. Assembly Front Row: 14 children + 14 cards face down spelling CARING AND SHARING
6. Story Stone Soup

\*The action will be that the children on the front row at the assembly will stand up, turn round, and hold their cards up, which all will read: CARING AND SHARING

Story.

On a cold winter's morning, an old man was huddled over a stove, with a cooking pot on top of it.

He was looking into the pot, deep in thought, although all around him the noise was deafening with the sounds of traffic; and people rushing around were much too busy to notice him.

You can imagine his surprise when a child noticed him, and asked him what he had in his pot. He told the child he was making Stone Soup.

The child rushed home with great excitement for he had not heard of stone soup and wanted to tell everyone about it.

News travelled fast and soon the whole village was buzzing with the story the child had told them. Some people went to see the man, and asked him if he needed any flavour to his soup, to which he replied: “that would be nice, but I have no money.”

Well before you could say Stone Soup the people gathered together a list of ingredients to take to the man.

There was:

Mr/Mrs Chatterbox (always talking but not usually listening) brought: Carrots

Mr/Mrs Angry (forgot about him/herself for a moment) brought: Parsnips

Mr/Mrs Ridiculous (who was always seeking attention) brought: Leeks

Mr/Mrs Impossible (decided to please someone else) brought: Onions

Mr/Mrs Nosey (nosed through his/her own cupboard) and found: Stock Cube

Mr/Mrs Greedy (had stacks of food) brought: Potatoes

Mr AND Mrs AND (renowned for their good taste) brought: Salt and Pepper

Mr/Mrs Smelly (found something smellier than him/her) brought: Garlic

Mr/Mrs Happy (his/her garden made him/her happy) brought:  
Herbs

Mr/Mrs Attitude (liked something to bite on) brought: Celery

Mr/Mrs Rude (buted in with "I'll bring tomatoes!") brought:  
Tomatoes

Mr/Mrs Inquisitive brought: Barley

Mr/Mrs Nasty (decided to be nice) brought: Peppers

Mr/Mrs Grumpy (felt it needed a bit of a kick in it) brought: Chilli

Children pick up the card in front of you, stand and turn round  
and hold the card up for everyone to see.

What are the words you see? Caring and Sharing

## SUMMING UP

The characters, who came from all different walks of life, took their offerings to the lonely man. He was so overwhelmed with the goodness of each person, with all their different personalities, he shed a tear of joy.

The man was lonely and had been rejected. His heart had become hard – like stone. His heart was touched by the child who noticed him and got others involved. Through their kindness of caring and sharing they too found a new heart within them.



## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

The beginning of the story – the old man alone how do you think he may have been feeling?

*He didn't chase the boy away*

How do you think he may have been feeling when everybody came to give him the vegetables?

*Giving is better than receiving*



## John 6

New International Version (NIV)

## John 6

### Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

<sup>1</sup> Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), <sup>2</sup> and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing the sick. <sup>3</sup> Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. <sup>4</sup> The Jewish Passover Festival was near.

<sup>5</sup> When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" <sup>6</sup> He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

<sup>7</sup> Philip answered him, “It would take more than half a year’s wages<sup>[a]</sup> to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!”

<sup>8</sup> Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up,<sup>9</sup> “Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?”

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there).<sup>11</sup> Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

<sup>12</sup> When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, “Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted.”<sup>13</sup> So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

How does the man in the story compare to Jesus in the story of the five barley loaves?

*Jesus welcomed the boy who brought him barley loaves.*

*The people were willing to share what they had.*

*In both stories the people shared what they had with the man and with Jesus – how can we share at home, in the parish, or in the work of the Pastoral Care Project, a charity which supports our parishes and people with Dementia*

## FINAL REFLECTION

Jesus took the bread and gave thanks to God. In Jesus’ prayer he was remembering the farmers who had provided him with the barley, the miller and the baker who made the bread.

And do we remember the work of the Pastoral Care Project, in their work of reminding us of the needs of people with

dementia, and how important it is for people with dementia to have company and to share in the Bread of Life.

Let us be still...remember people who need our care and support..... now pray the Prayer for Dementia on the board