

## Friends

Last Sunday at Windsor I did a little interactive children's address in which they flipped "pancakes" which had choices on: Would you be interested in your friend's toys even if they weren't something you understood or appreciated, or would you destroy them or laugh at them? Would you side with someone who was struggling, or with the strongest person in the room, even if they were the class bully? That sort of thing. You will remember of course that last week was the week in which we heard the story of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, and so it made sense to look at some of the things that we might be tempted by, and we had only just had Shrove Tuesday, hence the pancakes.

As I got the things out of the bag that they were in, I realised that there might be a lesson in the frying pan itself. I have one of those styles of cookware where the pans don't have handles, but you can attach one when needed. It makes storage a lot easier. So I asked the children what they thought and if they could say something theological in the frying pan; which was Jesus, and which was us – the handle or the pan? I want to share the answers with you because they were really very good, and because there was a lot more service afterwards, and so even the people who were there may well have forgotten.

Jesus, they said, is like the body of the frying pan. Jesus is God, and God is eternal, like a circle which is the shape of the frying pan. The body of the frying pan is big and so is God. Indeed one child reminded us that we sing a song that says: Our God is a great big God. The handle isn't really any good for anything unless it is connected to the frying pan, but then it is really important. Finally, the handle can connect and disconnect from the frying pan and often does.

I had thought that they would say that the handle was like Jesus, - connecting to us he is able to guide us in the right direction - but their answer was so good, that I wanted to share it with you all, and also to thank the Sunday School leaders at Windsor who are clearly encouraging our children to think theologically and deeply as they go about their lives.

God bless, Vicci