

Ministry @Home



28th February 2021



These resources are to help equip & enable worship together as "family". They are intentionally intergenerational to allow space, conversation, activity & response together as the family of God. We encourage all ages to be participative & open, being responsive to God and each other.

Gather.....

- As you gather find a place that is comfortable and have the resources ready for the activities, prayer or response times ready.
- Choose 3 members to light the 3 candles (engage all ages)

Opening words of praise with lighting of 3 candles -

I will light a light
in the name of the Maker,
who lit the world
and gave everything life.

I will light a light
in the name of the Son,
who saved the world
and stretched out his hand to me.

I will light a light
in the name of the Spirit,
who is present everywhere in the
world
and gives me strength.

Together:
**We will light three lights
for the trinity of love:**
God above us,
God beside us,
God beneath us;
The beginning,
The end
and the Everlasting one.

Welcome.....

Song: Open the Eyes of my Heart

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=idQ1n3cdgfo>

(can be sung or listened to)

Reflection time: (Resources needed: 1-2 nice prizes i.e., a bar of chocolate, bags of sweets, £1 coin wrapped in old scrumped torn paper that does not look very nice and 1-2 prizes that are not so nice i.e., a small can of pilchards, a dirty sock, a muddy shoe wrapped nicely in lovely paper).

Place the wrapped gifts (prizes) on the table in the middle of those who you are gathered with and ask 1-2 volunteers to choose which gift they would like and let them place it in front of themselves. Ask each person why they have chosen that gift. Once all the gifts have been chosen ask people to unwrap their gifts at the same time. Watch out for their reactions - are they pleased? Share together their reactions and answers to the following questions: Did the gift meet their expectations? Did they choose that gift because they thought they knew what it was? Did they choose the gift because of what it looked like on the outside? Does anybody regret their choice? Often we make choices because we are thinking of ourselves, we often think and put ourselves first rather than what God would want. Today we will be learning together how Jesus warns the disciples he would soon die to save them, Jesus came to save us from all the wrong choices, decisions and things we do and say that are not in keeping with God's way of living for us. You may have heard this be called sin.

Bible passage: Read Together **Mark 8.31-38**

AND/OR Watch

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PWyYKYqCFro>

In today's bible reading Jesus started to tell his disciples he would soon be dying. Peter was upset by what Jesus was saying to them, and Jesus told Peter that he did not have God's care & concerns but only human concerns. Peter did not understand why Jesus would have to die to take away our human sin. Peter and the disciples thought that Jesus would rule as their King for the time they were living. At that stage they did not realise that Jesus would return and reign as the King of Kings forever.

Interactive Learning.....

Share a Prayer.....

Almighty and everlasting God, Thank you for loving us enough to send Your one and only Son, Jesus Christ, to live and die for our sins so that we may be Your children. Thank you for being the God of all mercy and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Bake pretzels.....

Pretzels were first baked during Lent because they can be made using only water, flour, and salt. The shape came from a posture of prayer, with arms crossed and hands on opposite shoulders. A monk made dough into this criss-crossed shape, and the pretzel was born! a simple recipe here: [Making Pretzels: A Traditional Activity for Lent \(buildfaith.org\)](http://buildfaith.org)



Flowers and weeds.....

If you have access to a garden, park, playground or soccer field, take a walk with your family/bubble group. Take a look at a patch of grass (or a garden bed), ask those who you are with to point out the weeds. Discuss how to tell the difference between the weeds and the plants or grass. What do you think should be growing there instead?

Next, try to pull up a weed. Discuss if it was hard or easy. What would make it easier? (soft ground, right tools). What happens if the top is pulled off, but the root is left in the ground? (it grows back).

Share together the following questions as you enjoy being in God's creation, remembering that Jesus gave his life for us and we need to take care of our faith in him by spending time with him just as we care for our garden, parks and fields.

- How are weeds in the ground and sin in our hearts alike?
- What can we do to make the "soil" of our hearts healthier to prevent sin from taking root?
- Which is a better way to get rid of weeds and sin permanently? Pulling up or cutting back?
- What are some good tools to "pull out" the sins in our lives?
- What happens if we get tired or too busy to pull out the weeds or take care of the lawn or gardens?
- Could this be the same for our hearts that our faith needs care and attention too?



Ichthus fish

From card or foam create an Ichthus symbol – the ichthus symbol was used by early Christians to show they were followers of Jesus. Display your fish to show people you are trying to follow Jesus' example and making the right choices. For those who would like a challenge, try creating a Jesus Fish Beaded Safety Pin <https://www.crafts-for-all-seasons.com/Jesus-fish-beaded-safety-pin.html>



Whilst creating chat about the following questions & Share stories.....

- I wonder why Jesus reacted to Peter as he did in the bible reading....
- I wonder why Peter reacted the way he did - have you ever reacted quickly like Peter before?
- I wonder what Jesus is teaching us through this story....
- I wonder what the following means to you- "True discipleship means that we first acknowledge Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour. Then we follow in His footsteps, remaining faithful to Him all the days of our lives."

Reflection & Prayer Time.....

Song: No Longer Slaves

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PQqkXg-C9jo>

(can be sung/read aloud or listened to)

Whilst worshipping create a prayer chain by writing your prayer request on strips of paper, then gluing to form a chain.



Encourage members to read silently or aloud their prayers. Other prayers can be said at this time, concluding with the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**



Celebration....

If any of your members celebrate a birthday within the next week – sing

Happy birthday to you
To Jesus be true
May God's richest blessings
Be showered on you.



Closing.....

The Grace (with "Messy" actions)

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all,
now and evermore. Amen.**

Closing Responses.....

Song: Let Your Kingdom Come

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YcSWpVKKMcS>

(can be sung/read aloud or listened to)

From where we are
to where you need us.

Jesus, now lead on!

From the security of what we know
to the adventure of what you reveal.

Jesus, now lead on!

To make this world
look more like your kingdom,

Jesus, now lead on!

Ask different members to blow out the candles.....until you meet again

Extra Ideas

- <https://sundayschool.works/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Lesson-Get-Behind-Me-Satan.pdf>
- <https://childrensministry.com/3-quick-childrens-sermons-jesus/>
- <https://www.umcyoungpeople.org/lead/jesus-predicts-his-death-a-free-lesson-on-following-jesus-from-matthew-16>
- [Lent & Easter Resources
Diocese of Rochester | Seasonal resources \(anglican.org\)](https://www.dioceceofrochester.org/resources/seasonal-resources)