Top Tips on Family Worship at Home

Whilst our usual pattern of Sunday service and Junior Church is put on hold, we hope to resource households to continue to worship and pray together and be a place of Christ’s light in our world during these uncertain days.

Here are some top tips to get started:
1) Find a time in the day that works for you.
2) Don’t expect it to be silent – it will be messy! Go with the flow.
3) Encourage everyone to contribute, both adults and children.
4) Be flexible on timing and ready to adapt or shorten the session if your children get restless - there’s no point in making this a battle!
5) Use the events of the past few days to explore where you’ve each met God or seen him at work.
6) Involve your children and young people with what the church is doing during this CV-19 crisis – suggestions can be found in the Action section.

Key for age groups:

- **Infants**
- **Juniors**
- **Seniors**

**Church session for Sunday 7th June: Trinity Sunday**

**Big Idea:** Worship and Witness

Jesus tells his disciples to let the world know about His love and promises to be with them always

**Prayer**

- Glorious God, present in creation;
- Jesus Christ, risen and ascended;
- Holy Spirit, inspiring and transforming;
- be present among us,
- as we worship you today.

*Amen.*
Bible Story: Matthew 28: 16-20

Questions to discuss

- What kind of feelings did Jesus’ disciples have in the story?
- Did they do what he told them?
- How did you first hear about Jesus?
- Is it easy to tell people about Jesus? Why or why not?
- What is the Trinity? Clue: it’s mentioned in this passage! Why is it important to us? Think about the words of the grace that we say often: “the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore”

For infants, use this version of the passage and do the actions together:

Jesus’ disciples went to the mountain. They were going to meet Jesus. (*walk across the room*)

When Jesus arrived, they worshipped him. (*kneel down*)

Jesus told them that, because they loved God, (*cross hands across heart*) they should go and tell others all about God. (*walk forward*)

They should teach people everything Jesus had taught them. (*lift up arms*)

Then Jesus told them something very special – that he would always be with them. (*put hands together as if praying*)
Activity: Jesus loves all of us, whoever we are and wherever we come from

You will need: playdough or cookie dough

Lay out playdough in different colours and people-shaped cookie cutters. Encourage your child/children to make lots of different people to represent all those wanting to find out more about Jesus.

Or make biscuits if you prefer and use food colouring to make lots of different coloured people!

Make a journal to record your walk with Jesus

You will need: A5 pieces of coloured card, decorations, pens, A5 pieces of plain paper, ribbon.

- Talk about how we can reflect on our life with Jesus. One way is to spend a few minutes at the end of the day thinking back over the day and writing down what was good, what was difficult and where God was.
- Make journals for writing these reflections in. First fold a piece of card in half like a book cover and decorate it in any way you choose. Fold eight plain pieces of paper in half and stack them inside each other to make the pages.
- Fix the journal pages inside the cover by tying a piece of ribbon around the fold.

Creative Prayer Activity: Five Friends (for all groups)

Pray for your friends

- We can use our fingers to remind us to pray for five of our friends who might not know Jesus yet. Use a water-based felt tip to write the name of a friend or family member on each finger.
- Pray a simple prayer for each person: Father God, help (insert name) to know that you love them
Prayer:

Jesus said, go and make disciples.
With our friends, we are friends of Jesus;
with our families, we are friends of Jesus;
at school, we are friends of Jesus;
everywhere we go, we are friends of Jesus.
Jesus, give us actions and words
that show others we are your friends.
Amen.

Finish your session with the grace

For the week:

Reflect on how Jesus welcomes all people equally, regardless of colour or
gender or background, and this is one of the reasons we can be proud to
call ourselves Christians. St Paul said:

For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. **There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.**

Galatians 3:27-28 New International Version