

## Top Tips on Family Worship at Home

Whilst some families might not be attending services, 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 crises – suggestions can be found in the **Action** section.

\*\*\*\*\*

### A Junior Church session for Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September

**Big Idea:** **How many times?**

**Starter activity:** Display a large amount of money, e.g. a jar full of coins, or a cheque written out for a million pounds, next to a few copper coins.

Ask the child/ren how they would feel if they owed someone the big amount and were told not to pay it back. If someone owed them the small amount, would the children still make them pay it back?



**Bible Story:** **Matthew 18.21-35**



**I wonder...?**

- How do you think Peter felt when Jesus told him how many times he had to forgive someone?
- Is it easy to keep forgiving someone?



### Creative Prayer Activity:

#### **Wax-resistant painting** or **Forgiveness poster**

*Exploring a painting that conceals an important message*

**Wax-resistant painting** *You will need:* sheets of white paper; a white wax crayon or a candle; watery dark-coloured paint and large brushes; aprons and newspaper. ?  
Beforehand, write either the word 'Forgive' or 'Sorry' on the sheets of paper, using a wax crayon or a candle

In the session, give out the prepared sheets of paper and ask the child/ren to say what they can see. The wax-word should be invisible on the paper. Remind the group that there was something missing from today's story. Ask them what it was.

Ask everyone to paint over the whole of their sheet with the watery paint. As they do so, the hidden word will be revealed.

Remind the children that although the man was forgiven, he didn't then go and do this to others.

**Forgiveness poster** *You will need:* a large sheet of paper or card; glue; collage materials such as shiny shapes, sequins, stickers and shiny paper.

Talk with the child/ren about who forgives and who is forgiven in the story. In the end, forgiveness is worth more than all the money that is owed.

Create a sparkling, shining 'Forgiveness' poster, as a reminder of how precious forgiveness is. On a sheet of paper or card, draw the word 'Forgiveness' in large letters. Ask the children to make the word 'Forgiveness' look as precious as they can.

Display the poster as a reminder of how important it is to forgive



**Prayers:** Help us, Lord

Help us, Lord,  
to always remember

to forgive as you forgive us.

Again and again and for ever.

**Amen.**

Lord God,  
help us to understand  
how good it feels  
to forgive  
and to be forgiven.  
Help us to remember that  
you forgive us  
again, and again.  
**Amen.**



**For the week: Questions for reflection**

If someone annoys or upsets you this week... can you try to stop, count to seven and forgive them?

What other actions could you take to help you forgive?