

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 18th October

Big Idea: **Positive Influences**

Starter activity:

Prepare some resources focusing on people who are known for having a positive influence on others - provide a selection of pictures, storybooks and newspaper articles. Encourage the child/ren to sit and discover more about those who have been a positive influence.



Bible Story:

1 Thessalonians 1.1-10;

You could focus on this extract:

For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers.



I wonder...?

How do you think the Thessalonians felt when they heard that they should set an example to other believers? Do you think they felt proud, or scared?

How would you feel if someone at church asked you to set a good example to other people in church? Would be surprised, worried, proud or confident?



Creative Prayer Activity: Mirror prayers

Focus on how we can live a life worth imitating

You will need: a mirror per child

- Ask the children to sit so they can look into a mirror. Explain that you are going to ask them some questions to think about.
- As the children look into the mirrors, say: God looks at you and loves you. What does God want you to be? How will people see God’s love reflected in you? How will you be a good influencer?
- Allow some time for the children to reflect, then finish by praying:

Lord, just as Paul and the Thessalonians were, help us to be good influencers, showing you to others. Amen.

(If you have time, the child/ren can have a go at a self-portrait, or try drawing one another/someone in the family)



Prayers:

<p>Jesus, our only true guide, is with us always. We go forward with him. Amen.</p>	<p>Lord God, we thank you for the super people around us. Help us to imitate them, and grow to be the people you want us to be. Amen.</p>
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For the week: Questions for reflection

Take time this week to thank those who have an influence in your life, particularly those who have helped you get to know God.

Can you be a good influence this week – at home, at school, with friends?

