



Home Church Adventures!

Well hello to you!

Sundays stuck at home as a family don't have to mean no church! Jesus said "where two or three gather in my name, there I am with them." (Matthew 18:20) - and this means at home too! This resource has been created to encourage you and your children to worship and engage with God even when you can't make it to a service. After all, church is the PEOPLE not the PLACE!

*Gather the family together, maybe round the dining table or in your livingroom. Turn off all your electronic devices (tv, gaming, mobiles, - although you might want to use them for some of the video or music clips). Don't worry if you start the session and being prompted to change direction - go with it and enjoy where the Holy Spirit takes you together! **Have fun!***

How to use Home Church Adventures...



Included are a range of different ideas - pick and choose what suits your family and the resources you have. Some involve watching something online, some using physical stuff you might have around the house, some might involve printing off the activity sheet (if you can). However, don't let it stop you from getting creative and coming up with your own ideas, games, ways of telling the story, ways of having fun together.



Always pray before you start and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and lead your conversations.



'Home Church' doesn't need to be long, and it doesn't need to be done all in one session (why not split it over a day into several parts?).

REMEMBER: Each family is different! God made each of you in your family unique in their giftings from oldest to youngest. Listen to each other, involve each other and build each other up. And **DON'T FORGET TO HAVE FUN!**



Attitude of gratitude!

In this session you might need:

- Plain paper, big sheet of paper (e.g. roll of old wallpaper)
- Colouring pens, pencils or crayons
- Child-friendly Glue stick or PVA glue
- Device to play Youtube videos
- sunflower or bean seeds, small pots and soil
- small cardboard box, collage stuff, glitter, paints and brushes
- Cake or biscuit baking equipment or packet of biscuits/chocolate bar
- A computer printer (to print off the activity & colouring sheets)



PRAY: (why not ask for a volunteer to pray! Asking God to bless and speak to you today)

Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank you for today. Thank you that you love each of us and only have good things for us. Would you please speak to us and help us to listen to what you say. Amen.



WORSHIP:

You could....

>**PLAY MUSIC:** clips from Youtube of worship songs, or music from Spotify or a CD, and sing/dance along.

Ideas: Thank you Jesus, thank you Lord for loving me!

Grateful (Elevation Worship motion) - You tube

For teeny ones: If you're thankful and you know it, clap your hands

>**HAVE A FAMILY JAMMING SESSION:** play instruments you have, or even make some from junk (like cardboard box drum, or gently tapping a mug!). Have fun being silly - God loves a 'cheerful giver'!

>**'GROW GRATITUDE':** Make a 'gratitude tree'. Draw a big tree-shape on a piece of paper (you could use the back of an old roll of wallpaper). Write or draw on the 'tree' things you are thankful for. Talk to God (pray) and say thank you for all these things! Alternatively, why not carefully hang 'thank you' notes on a houseplant, or a tree in the garden instead!



THE STORY:

>**READ** the story from the Bible, of the ten lepers healed by Jesus. (we recommend NIV or International Children's Bible): **Luke 17 v 11 - 19**

(OR read the story from a Bible picture book you may already have.)

>or **WATCH** a story cartoon on Youtube.

On Youtube, search for '**Saddleback Kids The Ten Lepers (Luke 17 : 11-19)**'

Q: Which is your favourite part of the story? Why?

Q: How do you think Jesus felt when that one man came back to say thank you?

Jesus healed ten people with Leprosy, but only one of them came back to him to say thank you - he realised that it was Jesus who had helped him. He didn't just get excited about being well again, like the nine others, and rush off. He made sure that he showed his gratitude, and said thank you to the person who was responsible for healing him. The Bible says, 'Every good action and every perfect gift is from God. These good gifts come down from the Creator of the sun, moon and stars.' (James 1 v 17 , International Children's Bible). When we stop and think about each day, we can always find things to say thank you to God for - even in the most difficult and sad situations. Just like the man who went back to Jesus, when we say thank you it not only makes that person happy for what they did, but us happy too!



Attitude of gratitude!



ACTIVITIES with stuff:

- > **PLAY A BOARDGAME:** As you play, make sure you say thank you. When you get to the end and find a winner, make sure you congratulate each other and say one thing you each did well, even if you lose (try your best not to be grumpy!)
- > **MAKE A GRATITUDE 'TREASURE' BOX:** Decorate a small cardboard box. You could paint it, colour it with pens, stick paper and shapes on it, or even glitter it! Put in 'treasure' - things to remind you of what you are grateful for. They could either be little objects (e.g. a flower - thank you for your garden etc), or a piece of paper that you have drawn or written your item on.
- > **MAKE A THANK YOU CARD:** Fold over a piece of white paper or card to make a card blank. Write, draw and decorate it. Write inside a message for someone who you want to say 'Thank you' to. Send it in the post to them, or pop it through their door.
- > **MAKE A CAKE OR BISCUITS:** Bake something yummy, and give it to someone you want to say thank you to - maybe a neighbour, friend or family member. Decorate a little label and attach it. If you are not able to bake something, you could give a packet of nice biscuits or a chocolate bar, or even a small pot plant!



ACTIVITY with printout:

- > **PRINT OFF** the fun sheet and/or colouring sheet and enjoy completing.



PRAYER / RESPONSE:

> **EACH PERSON SHARE :**

A 'Thank you' about ...the people you live with

...something good that has happened today

...Jesus (e.g. he loves you, he heals people,

...then 'Please speak to me. Help me to listen and do what you say.' Why not take a moment to be quiet and listen to what God might say.

Remember: Every answer is important to God, so listen to each other and encourage each other.

You could...

> **WRITE A THANK YOU POEM:** It could be all about God, it could be written like a prayer. Maybe you could turn the words you write into a song?!

> **GROW GRATITUDE (part 2!):** Plant sunflower or bean seeds in pots of soil. Stand them on a sunny windowsill. Every time you water them, be reminded to say 'Thank you' to God for something. Watch them grow!

> **WINDOW WORSHIP:** Draw a Thank you message for your neighbours/ bin collectors/ health workers/ teachers /anyone who serves you. put it up in your window for people walking past to see.



Funsheet: Attitude of gratitude!

GROW
gratitude!

Can you draw or write things you are thankful for in each circle



Find the 

Can you spot 8 hearts in the tree above. Put a circle around each one you find.



Attitude of gratitude!



Every
**GOOD
ACTION**
and
**PERFECT
GIFT** is

from God x

James 1v17