



Home Church Adventures!

Today's Adventure is...

BE



Bzzzzzz



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 you are 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!



BE family

In this session you might need:

- Plain paper
- Colouring pens, pencils or crayons
- Child-friendly Glue stick or PVA glue
- Device to play Youtube videos
- A computer printer (to print off the activity & colouring sheets)
- Old magazines, newspapers, leaflets with people on
- Playdough
- Gingerbread baking equipment
- 'Slot together' toys - lego, Mr Potatohead, jigsaws, marble run etc



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 made each one of us different and unique. Would you please speak to us and help us to listen to what you say. Amen.



WORSHIP:

You could...

>**GOD LOVES US ALL PRAISE PICTURE:** Cut out pictures of people from old magazines, newspapers and leaflets. Try and find pictures of people of different ages, nationalities, skin colour, hair colour, disabilities, hair styles, men, women, boys and girls! Make a poster on an A4 or A3 piece of paper celebrating the wonderful differences that God has created in people. When you have finished making it, talk to God (pray) and say thank you to him for making us all unique and special.

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

I am a friend of God (who am I that you are mindful of me)

Every move I make, I make in you

We are family (Sister Sledge) ...yes, I know its not a worship song, but its fun to dance to!

>**HAVE A FAMILY JAMMING SESSION:** play instruments you have, or make some from junk



THE STORY:

>**READ** the passage about 'One Body, Many Parts', from the Bible. (we recommend NIV or International Children's Bible):

1 Corinthians 12 v 14-27

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

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

On Youtube, search for '**Bible stories for kids Mr Potatohead One body many parts**'

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

God made people. He made EVERYONE! And he made each one of us different - different coloured hair, skin, eyes, body shapes. Some people have body differences - like how different parts work, or even they might have been born without an arm, or leg, or find learning some stuff tricky. However, God makes it clear that it doesn't matter what we look like, how old we are, whether you are a boy or girl, or what skills we have we ALL have a role to play in God's family - the Church. Being in God's family we all have important jobs to do to work together. Not everyone's job is big and impressive, they could be quiet and humble - but God says they are all important. Being part of God's family is important too. When one part of God's family is sad and suffering, then it makes us sad too. When one part is happy, then we can celebrate with them. God has a plan for YOU, and a special part to play in his family - the Church.



ACTIVITIES with stuff:

- > **MAKE DOUGH PEOPLE:** Using playdough, make people! See how many different people you can make. Big, small, disabilities, different colours, crazy patterns - all sorts! (there's a home make 'playdough' recipe added on the 'Xtra' page)
- > **BAKE (!) DOUGH PEOPLE:** Using a basic gingerbread biscuit recipe, make people shapes biscuits. Decorate with coloured icing and sweets. IDEA: You could decorate them as people you know, and give them to them as a gift to bless them!
- > **MAKE A PEOPLE PUZZLE:** Find a picture from a magazine, or print out a family photo. This needs to be A5 or A4. Stick your picture onto light card. Cut the picture up into several pieces (8 or 10 are plenty, but less if you have a younger child). Mix up the pieces and see if you can put it back together. Why not challenge someone else to complete it, or see who can do it the quickest!
- > **SLOT TOGETHER PLAY:** Play with toys that need lots of different parts putting together to work. For example: Mr Potatohead, Lego technix, marble run (or make your own!), jigsaw puzzles. Adults: why not include your child to help you when you are mending something to see how all the different parts work together!



ACTIVITY with printout:

- > **PRINT OFF** the colouring sheet, enjoy completing and display somewhere to encourage others!



PRAYER / RESPONSE:

- > **EACH PERSON SHARE :**

...one brilliant thing that you can do!

Q: How can you use your 'brilliant thing' you mentioned to make God happy?

...Talk to God (pray). Thank him that he gave us all special gifts and talents to work together as God's team! Ask him to help you to use your gifts wisely and encourage others too.

...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 also...

- > **ENCOURAGEMENT POSTCARD:** Use the template on 'Xtra'. Send a postcard to someone at church that has a particular job (e.g. welcome person, Sunday School teacher, tea-maker) - try and think of those that do the kind of jobs that are important but not always noticed (e.g. cleaner, person who prints the news sheet!). Cut out the card and decorate the reverse side with a message like 'You are special!', or 'You are an important part of God's team!'



Home-made playdough

Home-made playdough is super cheap and fun to make. It can be made in whatever colour and smell (!) you have resources for, as well as being able to add in great extra sensory textures. As a bonus, unlike shop bought playdough, it is totally biodegradable (unless you add in non-biodegradable texture).

You will need:

1 cup (250ml) Water
4 cups (500g) Plain Flour
4tsp cooking oil (we used sunflower!)
1.5 cups (300g) Table Salt
Food Colouring

Method:

1. Pour water into a large bowl, add the oil.
2. Add food colouring (if you wish!)
3. Add dry ingredients (flour, salt, glitter) and stir well.
4. Knead the mix in bowl until it combines. If still dry add up to 1/4 cup of water.
5. Knead on worksurface until smooth.
6. Store in an air tight container or clip-foodbag.
7. Have fun!

Why not experiment by adding...



- > Glitter (try and source biodegradable)
- > Smell - with a couple of drops of fragrance oil, or vanilla/almond /orange essence.
- > Texture - dry rice/lentils



Encouragement postcard template

Photocopy this template onto card, cut it out. On the reverse side decorate it with happy pictures or encouraging words like: 'You are special!', 'Thank you for all you do!', 'You are an important part of God's team!' Send it to someone at Church to encourage and bless them,



Dear	
Thank you for being so good at ...	
You are an important part of God's team!	
From,	
	<small>Home Church Adventures - Adventures in Colouring</small>

