



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!**



Don't Worry!

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
- Piece of plain, light, cotton fabric (e.g. an old pillowcase!)
- Bubblewrap
- Collage materials (e.g. old magazines, coloured paper etc.)
- 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....

>**SING**: the classic chorus "Cast your burdens onto Jesus. He cares for you (Higher Higher...)" (Type 'Cast your burdens onto Jesus' into Youtube to find music links.) Make up your own actions to the words. Sing it **LOUD** and sing it **QUIETLY**! You could also try singing it in a silly style, like 'operatic' or 'Rap'!

>**MAKE a Worship flag**:

Method 1: Cut an old bit of light coloured cotton fabric (like from an old pillowcase if you want to sacrifice it!), use felt tip or permanent pens to decorate it with colourful patterns.

Method 2: Decorate a plain piece of paper with colourful patterns and worship words (you could use pens, pencils, crayons, paint or collage!).

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

>**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'!



THE STORY:

>**READ** the story from the Bible. Jesus is on a mountain teaching his disciples about how God wants his followers to live (we recommend NIV or International Children's Bible):

Matthew 6 v 19 - 21, & 25 - 34

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

>or **WATCH** a story cartoon on Youtube. On Youtube, search for '**Saddleback Kids Don't Worry**'. This should take you to a cartoon clip featuring Matthew 6 v 25 -34

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

Jesus taught his disciples to think about what was important to them. Was having clothes the most important? Was yummy food and drink more important? Was having money and stuff most important of all? He also said that the most important thing you should want is God's kingdom and doing what he wants. Then he said if you focus on that, God will sort out giving you all the things you need. So we don't need to worry! If he can look after the birds and plants, he will look after you even more!



ACTIVITIES with stuff:

- > **BUBBLEWRAP POP!** Find some bubble wrap and pop the bubbles - each time you pop a bubble it reminds us that God can take our worries and take away their power over our lives.
- > **GET DRAMATIC!** Act out
- > **GO FOR A NATURE WALK/INTO YOUR GARDEN:** Spot the amazing things that God has created. You could even play 'Eye Spy' and see who can guess the thing you have spotted
- > **MAKE A COLLAGE:** Use pictures from old magazines, coloured paper, buttons, or whatever you can find. Cut out, and glue them onto a piece of paper or card to make a flowers and birds picture (Jesus mentioned these in the story!). You could write 'Jesus said: Don't worry about tomorrow!' on the picture too!



ACTIVITY with printout:

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



PRAYER / RESPONSE:

> **EACH PERSON SHARE :**

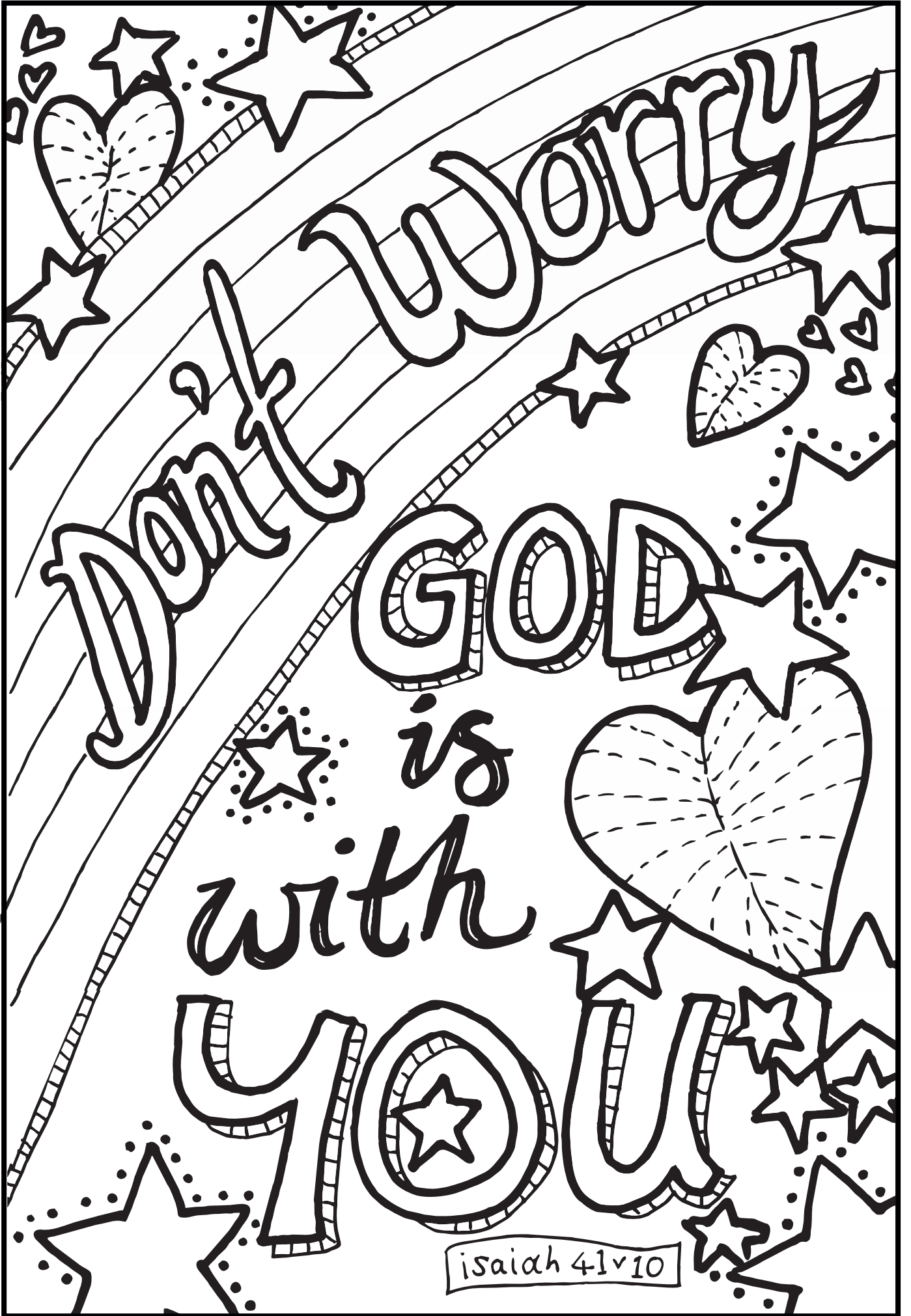
- ...one good thing God has given you that you can say thank you for. It could be clothes, a home, being healthy, your favourite food!*
- ...one thing that worries you.*

Remember: Every answer is important to God, so listen to each other and encourage each other. Take some time to talk to God in prayer, thanking him for providing for you. Ask him to help you with all the things you worry about.

You could...

- > **DRAW & PRAY** Each draw or write something you worry about on small bits of paper, pray for them and ask God to help* (In the Bible He promised you He would if you ask!). The when you have prayed for them, scrunch up those 'worries' into balls or rip them up!
- > **PRAYER DUNK!** Why not set up a waste bin or cardboard box on one side of the room and take it in turns to try and throw your scrunched up 'worries' into the bin! Remember "cast your burdens [worries] onto Jesus. He cares for you!"

**NB: If anyone doesn't want to share to everyone their worries written on the paper, don't force them. Turn the paper face down - you can still pray, asking God to deal with that worry. God is good, He knows!*



isaiah 41:10