



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!**



Totally TRUST!

In this session you might need:

- Plain paper
- Colouring pens, pencils or crayons
- Child-friendly chalks/pavement chalks
- Device to play Youtube videos
- A Bible (paper or online!)
- Dressing up clothes
- Sticky notes, Jenga, Duplo or Megablocks
- Different juices, soft drinks for mixing
- 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. Thank you that we can really trust you. Would you please speak to us and help us to listen to what you say. Amen.



WORSHIP:

You could....

>MAKE UP A RAP about Trusting God, or why not use Proverbs 3 v 5!

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

>MAKE a Worship wall: On sticky notes write or draw things you are thankful to God for. Stick them on a wall or flat surface (like a fridge) and talk about what everyone has put on them.

>PLAY MUSIC: clips from Youtube of worship songs, or music from Spotify or a CD and sing along. We suggest: 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart' or 'Brave' (Saddleback Kids)



THE STORY:

>READ the story of Gideon from the Bible (we recommend NIV or International Children's Bible):

Judges 6 v 33 - 40, 7 v 1 - 22

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

>or WATCH a Gideon story cartoon on Youtube. We recommend 'Crossroads Kid's Club' on Youtube:

For toddlers/younger children - God's People : Gideon

For primary age children - God's Story : Gideon

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

Q: When do you think Gideon needed to trust God?

Gideon could have gone into battle with a massive army, but then the Israelites would have said that it was THEM who won the battle not God! God wanted the Israelites to know that they could totally trust him. Gideon also had to trust that what God said was right, even when what God was asking them to do seemed a little crazy. Sometimes we face really tricky situations in life, God wants us to listen to him and follow what he says - to totally trust him!

The Bible says: 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Don't depend on your own understanding. Remember the Lord in everything you do, and he will give you success.' (Proverbs 3 v 5-6)



ACTIVITY with stuff:

- > **GET DRAMATIC!** Act out your own version of the story of Gideon. You could use funny costumes, or props from round the house.
- > **CHALK VERSE** : On a pathway use chalks to write the Bible verse: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart..." (IDEA if you don't have chalk, why not use water and a paintbrush and 'paint' the verse in water instead!)
- > **DRAW IT** : Draw a picture of people you trust (for example, a parent, doctor, teacher, friend...)
- > **MAKE A MOCKTAIL** : (a non-alcoholic cocktail!) Mix up different juices and drinks to make you own 'new' one. Give it a snappy name. Share it with each other and vote on which is the tastiest. (you

ACTIVITY with printout:

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

PRAYER / RESPONSE:

- > **EACH PERSON SHARE** one reason you think you can trust God.
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 all the things you have mentioned.

You could...

- > **BUILD UP** Using Jenga or Duplo/Megablocks build the biggest wall you can. On some of the blocks stick a sticky note, or stickytack a word or sentence of things you want to trust God for. Take some time to talk to God and pray about them.
- > **DRAW** a picture of people you trust (e.g. a parent, teacher, doctor, friend...) Say thank you to God for each of them. Ask God to bless them in their choices and what they do each day.



EXTRA CHALLENGE!

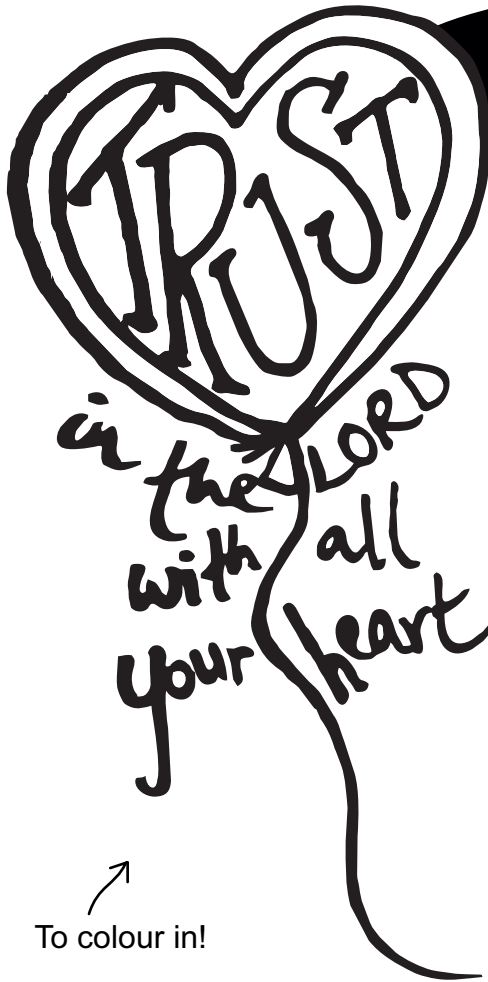
- > **BLINDFOLD DRAWING** : You will need - paper, pens/pencil, blindfold scarf. Blindfold one person using a scarf over their eyes (be very careful not to tie too tightly, and keep their nose and mouth free to breathe!). A second person should tell them which picture to draw and direct them. You could draw: An elephant, a house, or a person smiling.
- > **NOT MY ARMS!** : Pair up with another person. One person stands behind the other. The person in front puts their hands behind their back, and the person behind threads their arms through and under the front person's arms (pretending to be the front person's arms!). The person in front must use words to direct the person behind how to draw one of the pictures (ideas above in 'Blindfold drawing'!)
Alternative: try doing a trickier task like brushing a person's hair, feeding cereal on a spoon, putting on makeup/face paints!



Funsheet: **Totally TRUST**

TRUST Poem

Write a poem about trusting God. Use each letter of the word 'TRUST' to begin each line.



To colour in!

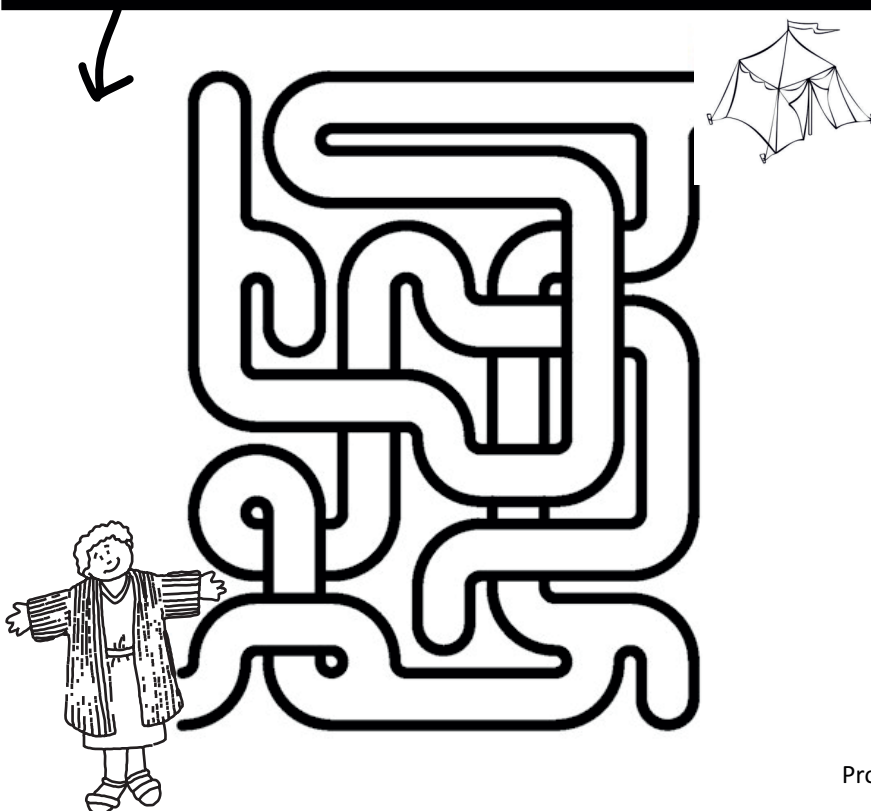
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Who do you **Totally TRUST?**

Write or draw it here!

Can you help Gideon find his way to the Midianite camp?





Totally TRUST!

