

Ministry @Home



14th March 2021



These resources are to help equip & enable worship together as "family". They are intentionally intergenerational to allow space, conversation, activity & response together as the family of God. We encourage all ages to be participative & open, being responsive to God and each other.

Gather.....

- As you gather find a place that is comfortable and have the resources ready for the activities, prayer or response times ready.
- Choose 3 members to light the 3 candles (engage all ages)

Opening words of praise with lighting of 3 candles -

I will light a light
in the name of the Maker,
who lit the world
and gave everything life.

I will light a light
in the name of the Son,
who saved the world
and stretched out his hand to me.

I will light a light
in the name of the Spirit,
who is present everywhere in the
world
and gives me strength.

Together:
**We will light three lights
for the trinity of love:**
God above us,
God beside us,
God beneath us;
The beginning,
The end
and the Everlasting one.

Welcome.....

Song: Run to the Father

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HTHS4W1bPj8>

(can be sung or listened to)

Reflection time: Have a look through any photos you have of babies. Some may be of your family some may be friends. If you can, share some stories of the excitement and preparation for each baby. And maybe some embarrassing ones of when children were tiny. Today we are thinking about a lady called Hannah who wanted desperately to be a Mum.

Bible passage: Read Together **1 Samuel**
AND/OR Watch

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=02m9gnmYg-4>

Hannah was so sad that she couldn't have children and it would have been worse with Peninah being mean about it every year (at that time it was ok to have 2 wives). But not everyone can have children and it causes great heartache. Hannah took her heartache to God at Shiloh. Her prayers must have been quite loud and disruptive for Eli to think she had been drinking. God heard the cry of her heart and answered her prayer with the child she longed for. Talk together about how hard it must have been for Hannah to honour her promise to God.

But she knew God was faithful and that Samuel would be safe with Eli. Not only was Samuel safe but he grew up to hear God's voice and become one of Israel's Judges and anoints their first kings.

And God is faithful to Hannah by giving her other children. But Hannah does not forget Samuel and every year she visits bringing him a new robe. Talk about how you think those conversations would go, would they change?

Interactive Learning.....



Family Hands...

Every family looks different, and sometimes we respond well to each other like Elkanah did and sometimes we can be a bit like Peninah and hurt each other. Have everyone draw around their hand in the same way and create a picture like the one on the left. Pray, thanking God for each member of your family, apologise and forgive each other for hurt, and pray for each other's particular needs at this time. Keep the picture on display – maybe decorate it? frame it? use it as a prayer reminder.

Saying Thank You.....

It is Mothering Sunday today and it is good to thank our Mum's for what they do to help us. We have not all had great Mum's, but we have all had someone who has helped us become the person we are today, so today we remember those significant people in our lives.



Design a card or a bookmark or a huge picture for someone you love. Fold or cut the paper to the shape you want. Use a white candle or tealight to write or draw a message and picture onto the paper. Then take some water colour paints and cover over the message and what is written will show through the paint. Make the paint quite thin for a good effect. Then how about making a flower like this, cut petals from magazines or colour plain paper and add all those things your Mum or another loved one does for you. You could all add to a card for every member of your family. Place & glue them together and layer them up.



Fun and Games

One of the fun parts of being a family is playing games. Which do your family like best – is it football in the garden, monopoly, jenga or hide and seek?

Our favourites change as our families get older – how about revisiting an old favourite today?



Whilst creating chat about the following questions & share stories.....

- **How did Elkanah respond to Hannah's lack of children?**
- **How did Peninah respond to the situation?**
- **How do you think the family responded to news of Hannah's pregnancy?**
- **What are some of the hardest things you have prayed about?**
- **How has God answered those prayers?**

Reflection & Prayer Time.....

Song: Wonderful Lord

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qZWK8ZE2Pk&list=RDEMaBx11TztNpOelPK4pECURw&index=21>

As you listen to this song take all your deepest worries and hurts to God. If you feel you can, share these worries together and pray for each other.

Encourage members to read silently or aloud their prayers. Other prayers can be said at this time, concluding with the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**



Celebration....

If any of your members celebrate a birthday within the next week – sing

Happy birthday to you
To Jesus be true
May God's richest blessings
Be showered on you.



Closing.....

The Grace (with "Messy" actions)

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all,
now and evermore. Amen.**

Closing Responses.....

Song: God Loves You

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bKnv-nKABQE>

As you sing along make up some actions for this song, it should involve hugs!

From where we are
to where you need us.

Jesus, now lead on!

From the security of what we know
to the adventure of what you reveal.

Jesus, now lead on!

To make this world
look more like your kingdom,

Jesus, now lead on!

Ask different members to blow out the candles.....until you meet again

Extra Ideas

- As you go for a walk this week look out for signs of Spring. Choose your favourite flower or bush and notice how it changes.
- Mother's Day – we cannot take our Mums out this year so make her favourite meal and make sure you clear up afterwards!
- Food is always fun, take it in turns to make a family meal. Make them special.
- Search pinterest for some more Mother's Day craft ideas.