



Curiosity - content ideas for Christian collective worship

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| <p>Definition:</p> <p><u>Curiosity is a disposition to want to know more or to learn more about a wide variety of things. This can include wanting to know more about God.</u></p> <p><i>Christians believe curiosity is about God and for God. It is an expression of worship. Being curious honours God by exploring the depths and breadth of his creation and who he is. The Bible suggests that curiosity, the desire to learn and acquire greater wisdom, to gain insight and understanding is to be part of our life.</i></p> |  <p>Key Bible Character – Zacchaeus</p> <p>Zacchaeus was a dishonest man whose curiosity resulted in a life changing encounter with Jesus.</p> | | |
| <p>Questions - What does it mean to be curious? How can I be curious every day? When might curiosity be most helpful? How does it make me a better learner? How does curiosity help me understand other people? How does curiosity help me understand myself?</p> | <p>Key Bible verse: “Call to me and I will answer you and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.” Jeremiah 33:3</p> | | |
| | <p>Bible stories and verses linked to curiosity</p> | <p>Bible chapter and verse</p> | <p>Key message</p> |
| <p>1</p> | <p>Zacchaeus</p> | <p>Zacchaeus - YouTube Luke 19:1-10</p> | <p>Zacchaeus was eager to see Jesus. He left behind all thought of business to climb a tree and get a glimpse of him. Being curious involves action. It involves looking and noticing; so make a habit of it. Look at the people around you, the weather, the buildings. Try to really notice something you’ve always seen before.</p> |

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| 2 | 'I meditate on all your works and consider what your hands have done.' | Psalm 143:5 | Christians believe God did not make a boring world. He made a complex, fascinating world and it never fails to offer something about which to be curious. Being curious about these things – from tiny insects to enormous planets, from the languages of the Earth to the patterns made by numbers – could bring us closer to the idea of a creator God. |
| 3 | Moses and the burning bush | Exodus 3 – 4 (94) Moses and the Burning Bush - YouTube | Christians believe our imperfection and the things we struggle with are fully seen and known by God and it doesn't scare him or stop him from using us in great ways. Moses didn't feel up to the task that God set him, but he was curious enough to approach the flaming bush. When we use our curiosity to explore who knows what we could discover. |
| 4 | Who do the crowds say that I am? | Luke 9.18 | Jesus was always asking questions. Whenever questioned, he would ask a question back motivated by his curiosity. He truly wanted to know what was behind every question – why the person was asking. Too often, when we are posed with a question, we are quick to jump and provide an answer based on the information we currently have available to us. Curiosity means we should delve deeper like Jesus did to really understand other people. |
| 5 | 'It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out.' | Proverbs 25:2 | God has hidden so much within the world that humans have been searching out and discovering and coming to understand over hundreds and thousands of years. This why remaining curious throughout our life is so important and something which has driven so much scientific discovery. It takes a curious mind, like that of the king in Proverbs 25:2, to look beneath the surface and discover new possibilities. |
| 6 | Pharisees were close minded | The Parable of the Pharisee and Tax Collector - YouTube | The pharisees were religious people who thought they were better than everyone else. Jesus and the Pharisees didn't always get along. When Jesus clashed with the Pharisees during his time teaching, it wasn't because he thought everything they did was wrong. It was just that the Pharisees thought they had learned and mastered everything. They were supposed to be the experts on God's ways but they didn't act the way God wanted them to act. They weren't curious enough to |

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| | | | understand one of the main points of the law was to love people the way God has loved us. |
| 7 | Jesus heals a man | God's Story: Jesus Heals A Man - YouTube Luke 5:17-26 | People came to see Jesus and hear him teach. They heard about his miracles and were curious to know more about him. Curious people ask questions and search for answers. Their minds are always active. Since the mind is like a muscle which becomes stronger through continual exercise, the mental exercise caused by curiosity makes our mind stronger and stronger. People also had to decide, as they do today, who they believe Jesus to be. |
| 8 | Baby in the bulrushes Lion Storyteller Bible – The Secret Baby p.28 | Exodus 1-2 video | When the baby could not be hidden any longer, his mother put him in a basket made of "bulrushes" and placed it among the reeds by the river bank. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river and became curious about what she could see. Then she discovered the basket with the baby inside. |
| 9 | Jesus washing the feet of the disciples | John 13:3-5 Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet - YouTube | Jesus was both servant and king, yet he washed the disciple's feet, even the feet of the one who would betray him. What a curious act this must have been for his disciples to witness. Here was God himself, in Jesus Christ, taking the form of a servant and washing the dirty, smelly feet of the disciples...even the feet of an enemy (Judas Iscariot), to give us an example of serving others. |
| 10 | Nicodemus | John 3:1-21 NICODEMUS BIBLE STORY Kids on the Move - YouTube | Nicodemus is best known for being so curious about Jesus that he secretly met Jesus at night because he feared being seen by the Jewish leaders. He was a Pharisee and very wealthy. |
| 11 | Pentecost | Acts 10-11 | On the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit arrives and the disciples find themselves speaking languages they have never learned – a very curious event - all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" |