



Diocese of Bristol

Families growing faith at home

Church@Home is a practical resource that has been created to encourage and help church families enjoy a time of worship, explore the Bible, pray together and grow in their faith in the comfort of their own homes.

Church@Home provides a fun, engaging and easy-to-follow session every Sunday using a Bible reading selected from the Church of England Lectionary. Each session lasts approximately twenty minutes and provides age-related material for toddlers to teenagers to accommodate everyone in the family. Thought-provoking questions, fun activities and crafts bring the Bible story to life as well as creative prayer ideas to help families focus, learn and grow in their faith together. Additional teaching and craft suggestions are also provided for families with very young children.

Church@Home can also be used as a fun way to help families connect with other families on Sunday mornings too during this time of distancing. Invite everyone to begin **Church@Home** at the same time and perhaps set up a WhatsApp group where families can share what they have done, or discuss the topic further together.

If your family or families in your church are using **Church@Home** please let us know. We would like to keep in contact, find out how you are doing as well as hear how **Church@Home** is helping families grow in their faith, so that we can share and inspire others during this time of distancing.

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Thank you ❤️



Sunday 26 April 2020
3rd Sunday of Easter

Believing is seeing Luke 24v13-35

Time to focus...

Today's title 'believing is seeing' is similar to last week - can you spot the difference? As you gather as a family, find something that can be used as a blindfold - if possible have enough for every family member as the prop will be used during the prayer time. To begin with, be still and invite God to be with you as you worship as a family...

Set the scene...

The Bible story tells an amazing story about someone important talking with some men on a road to a place called Emmaus, but they didn't recognise the person.

Watch the story...

Listen to the story of '[the road to Emmaus](#)' .

Explore the story...

The men on the road had just been through a hard time. Can your family recall what they had just endured? They had just seen their friend Jesus crucified on a cross so He would not have been their first guess as to whom they were talking to on the road.

- Why do you think disciples didn't recognise Jesus?

Here's what Jesus said to them: "Do you find it so difficult to believe what was written by the prophets in the Scripture? It was predicted by the prophets that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering His time of glory.

Jesus had to open their eyes to see it was Him.

Invite each family member to pick up a blindfold, hold them over your eyes and to take the blindfold off their eyes when you say, "Open our eyes" in the prayer.

End with a prayer...

God, thank you that Jesus died for our sins. Not only did He die, but He defeated death and rose again. Thank You that Jesus is alive and working in the world today. Open our eyes, (remove blindfolds) because we want to see Jesus! In Jesus' name we praymen .

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

Luke 24:30-32



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3rd Sunday of Easter

Believing is seeing

Creative ideas / toddlers to teenagers

0-5s...

Activity: Play 'hide and seek' or even better... 'sardines!'

In 'sardines' one person hides and everyone else searches for the hidden person. Whenever a person finds the hidden person, they quietly join them in their hiding spot. Soon, the hidden group starts to look like a bunch of sardines!

Fun experiment: have fun showing how Jesus revealed himself to his disciples making **invisible ink** with lemon juice. Create hidden pictures and then reveal the images to each other using lemon juice and revealing your pictures to each other

5-11s...

Worship: Chosen by Maisie aged 9: "**Every move I make**"

Activities: Check out the activities and fun experiment above - they are great fun to do with children of all ages.

Wordsearch: Visit the next page for a wordsearch related to the Emmaus story.

Creative prayer idea: You will need paper, pens and scissors. Draw around your foot and decorate with words, pictures and **Bible verses** that remind you that God is with you always. Place them around your home as a reminder.

11-18s...



- 1) If Jesus were alive today would the world recognise him?
- 2) Why do you think God kept the disciples from recognising Jesus?
- 3) How can you help others to recognise Jesus?



Pray that God reveals himself to you when you least expect it.



Next time you are faced with a dilemma, think 'what would Jesus do?'

"Faith is taking the first step even when you can't see the whole staircase"
- Martin Luther King, Jr

Emmaus Wordsearch...

J	U	V	S	W	L	O	H	S	T	A	Y	D	P	I
T	D	I	S	A	P	P	E	A	R	E	D	N	K	S
A	H	D	F	T	H	E	M	P	B	E	E	R	O	C
W	B	A	L	J	C	N	V	O	D	V	S	O	Y	R
R	D	G	N	I	N	E	V	E	E	L	B	A	T	I
J	R	P	I	K	U	D	Z	L	S	V	M	D	L	P
G	E	P	W	E	S	B	E	C	H	I	L	C	E	T
N	C	R	S	Y	N	S	D	G	V	L	M	R	P	U
G	O	E	U	E	R	I	S	E	N	L	K	O	F	R
M	G	M	S	S	B	H	E	X	M	A	I	S	N	E
A	N	M	E	T	A	L	K	I	N	G	N	D	K	S
T	I	A	J	E	J	L	O	R	D	E	F	O	A	L
U	S	U	D	F	R	D	E	D	L	B	R	S	T	O
S	E	S	T	R	A	E	H	M	Z	B	R	E	A	D
U	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S	S	E	R	J	Y

Find these words - remember to look backwards and diagonally...

Answers are on the next page >>>

DISCIPLES

ROAD

EMMAUS

JERUSALEM

TALKING

JESUS

CLEOPAS

VILLAGE

STAY

EVENING

TABLE

BREAD

THANKS

BROKE

EYES

OPENED

RECOGNISED

DISAPPEARED

SCRIPTURES

HEARTS

ELEVEN

LORD

RISEN

SIMON

Emmaus Wordsearch ANSWERS...

