

This Week's Worship: Who is in Jesus' family?

Opening

Wherever we come together,

God is with us.

God is here.

We come together to say sorry

We come together to say Thank you

We come together to ask for God's help

We come together to hear God's story

We come together to celebrate God's love.

Wherever we come together,

God is with us.

God is here.

Saying Sorry

Hold onto a stone and think about things that you have done this week you would like to say sorry for.

God loves us and forgives us when we are sorry for wrong things we have done.

For times this week when we have made others sad.

We are sorry.

For times this week when we have not helped others

We are sorry.

For times this week when we have not looked after your creation,

We are sorry

For times this week when we have been selfish

We are sorry

Put the stone in a bowl of water

As we leave these things behind, may God forgive us and give us a new, clean start today.

Amen

Saying thank you

To join in you will need: some slips of paper, some pens and an empty jam jar (you can join in without this for the first few weeks but can then join in when you have had the time to put some things in the jar!)

Ask each person to draw or write down on one of the slips something they would like to say thank you for and put it in the jar. As we pray, pull a slip out of the jar and say thank you for what is written on it.

Continue to fill the jar during the week.

God, you are amazing and you have given us good things. We thank you for all your gifts to us.

Thank you for...

Amen

Thank you for...

Amen

Thank you for...
Amen

Continue until everyone has had a chance to say something.

Story and response

Listen to this week's story or read a story from the Bible. This week we are looking at a famous Bible verse from Mark 3.

I wonder which part of this story you liked the most?
I wonder what surprised you about this story?
I wonder what this story makes you feel?
I wonder where you are in this story?
Do you wonder anything about this story?

Prayers

Jesus says that anyone who loves and follows God is a member of his family- it doesn't matter if they are related to him or not. This means that God's family is enormous and many kinds of people are our brothers and sisters- not just people who are like us or who we like. Sometimes very unexpected people are in Jesus' family. How do you know that you belong to your family? What are your family values or the rules that your family lives by? What are the family values of being in Jesus family?

You will need: Household objects

Go around your house and find an object that you think stands for something special about your family. It might be a teddy to show that you love each other or a photo that shows you have fun together or a mixing bowl to show that you work together to make good things. Bring your item and tell everyone else why you have chosen it. Then pray the prayer below:

Dear God, thank you for the families you have given us. Thank you for people who love us and people who we love. Thank you for the things that make our families special. Thank you that we are also members of your family. Help us to follow you and to love others as you love us. Amen

Close

Wherever we come together,
God is with us.
God is here.

May God bless us.
May we know that we are loved
May we know that we are cared for.
May we know God's hope.

God is with us
God is here
Amen.

Extinguish the candle.

