

YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING GENEROUSLY PACK



About

- This pack is intended to be used alongside the resources produced by the Church of England. You can find them [here](#) & a range of resources [here](#). This resource will hopefully have a regional feel and uses local history for children and young people to explore the theme of generosity.

Suitable for

- Primary Schools
- Secondary Schools
- Youth Groups
- Sunday all-age worship
- Sunday Schools

Extra Information

- This resource has some simple pick-up and use themes as well as some ideas for settings that may require some planning or local research
- Take what you can use, ditch what you can't
- If you have any questions, please contact our youth and children's team

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP PRIMARY

Resources Needed

- Balloons ready blown up - be aware of allergies if using latex balloons; the school will know about any allergies that might inhibit this activity. You could also use medium-sized gift boxes or bags and fill them with newspaper or tissue paper to make them appear full.
- PowerPoint (for illustrations) - St Cuthbert Pictures
- Big Map of Newcastle and Northumberland

The Big Idea

- Help the children understand that generosity is a biblical principle - Matthew 10:8 - Freely you have received freely give (NIV)
- Have the young people share what they see as generous
- Support the children to look outside themselves and see where we can all be generous
- Use stories and places locally to help the children connect to the story

Outline

- Introduce the theme of being generous. Ask the young people what they think the word generous means. Be ready with a simple explanation.
- Ask for one helper to come and hold balloons for you, thank them for being generous!
- Ask the children -Can they think of a time they've been generous or someone has been generous to them?
- As they think of things, get a pupil to hold another balloon, and another and another for every one they say. Hopefully the pupil will end out dropping some or at least looking like they can't hold anymore
- Say 'we have so much we can give some away, ask one or two others to come and take a few balloons, ask how it feels to be generous to others?
- Sit the children back in their classes, and thank them again.
- Share a simple story of how generous St Cuthbert was, how he was kind, caring for strangers, he cared for animals, healed the sick, and served the community.
- Share how he lived locally, point out on the map where Cuthbert travelled and stayed, share how he helped local people - ask the young people what they think of the story of Cuthbert being generous, ask open-ended, wondering questions - I wonder how we can be generous in our communities/schools/ at home? I wonder how we can make a difference - I wonder how Cuthbert felt etc

Additional suggestions

- Link the theme to their school values
- If you have a local story about being generous, use that; maybe the school has done a fundraiser for something, or you have a local celebrity who you can talk about doing social action.

MULTI- GENERATIONAL SERVICE

Resources needed

- Use the illustration with the Balloons from the Collective worship - Balloons
- Conversation cards- print as many sets as you need.
- Photos of events, outreach, celebrations your church has hosted
- Cafe style might require cakes, scones, and refreshments
- Thank you cards

you will need the activity from Collective worship sheet

The Big Idea

- Generosity can be demonstrated by all ages - to all ages
- Finding ways for your whole congregation can feel and celebrate being part of a parish of generous people
- Celebrate and give thanks for all that people offer and do already

Service suggestions

- Have shared tables if you can - can you have a cafe-style church as a way of giving thanks for the generosity over the last year?
- If you have pews or seating you can't change easily, have discussions in pews, ask people to move around - if that works for your congregation
- Create an informal atmosphere by using different liturgy, or asking others to help lead the service, possibly the children/young people

Theme

- Emphasise how wonderful it is that people are so generous here at
- Celebrate and give thanks for all they have given, especially in these tough economic times- have a memory walk through your year with photos and people sharing memorable moments of generosity
- Generosity is in all we do as parishes, our time we give, the friendships we share, the prayers for others, and our financial giving, our sharing of gifts and talents.
- All ages can live generously



MULTI- GENERATIONAL SERVICE

Service Suggestions

- Keep your liturgy to a single page and have some fun songs/hymns
- Write thank you cards with a bible verse or 'thank you' written in
- introduce your theme for the service through the suggested activity with balloons
- Don't have a sermon and have intentional conversations around generosity
- If you are having communion, maybe have a shared administration of communion as a way to celebrate serving each other

Prayer Station Activities

- Using some uninflated balloons as props - someone blows the balloon up for each suggestion made on how to be generous until it won't fill up anymore, let the balloon go and zoom around the church (you know your congregation, this might not be for everyone!)
- Have some extra thank you cards, ask the congregation to bless others with a note of thanks for someone in their community or congregation
- Have bible verse cards and prompt people to pledge a new/different way they can commit to being generous - it could be a financial commitment, or a commitment to pray for 5 people close to them, or getting involved in a new way at church etc
-

Some helpful considerations

- It can be helpful for people to have 'plain language' or share why we use certain words like- intercessions - Eucharist- Liturgy -these are just a few that we don't hear elsewhere, so explanations help young people, new people, all people.
- Think about what you are calling your Multi-generational service, for some, they hear the words - All age, and it means Kids Service.
- Involve people so it feels like a shared act of worship rather than passive.



CONVERSAION CARDS

God has shared gifts so generously with us,
and we are all called to share generously too.
Think about all how you have been blessed,
What does it mean to you to be a steward of
generosity? To wisely use the resources
entrusted to you?
Time - Talent- Gifts

We can rejoice in the beauty of creation,
God inspires us to care for nature.
We are blessed to be surrounded by life-giving
plants, trees, and animals,
What do you think God sees in the planet
and would want us to help change?
Consider your own impact, how do we
use/abuse creation?

What brings you joy?
Are there things you are involved with or
would like to be involved with that could bring
happiness to others?
What do you find fulfilling?

St Cuthbert was a man who travelled in the
North East of England. He was generous with
his life, healing people, worshiping, praying,
and enjoying creation. He used his
gifts and skills to help others. He considered
the strangers he met could even be God. Have
you encountered someone and thought God
must have brought them to you?

What do you see in church or your community
that is a blessing?
What does it mean to you to be a blessing to
the church or your community?
Do you ever think of yourself as someone
who is a blessing to others?

For many people, more material possessions
mean a better/easier/more secure life.
We can wish, hope, or pray for more.
Thinking about your life now,
What is it that you can be thankful for?
Where do you see blessings in your life?

God is Love, and through Him we are
encouraged to love others
What does hospitality and welcome mean to
you?
How does the love and acceptance of others
reflect God's compassion?

Generosity enables mission,
Sharing abundantly in every good work,
What does it mean to you to be generous?
How do you think being involved with the
mission of your church or community
makes a difference?