



Diocese of Bristol

Families growing faith at home

Church@Home is a simple all-age resource that has been created to encourage and help 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 14 June 2020
2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Love endures

Psalm 100

Time to focus...

Find a place in your home where the family can all sit comfortably - around the table, on the lounge floor etc. As you gather, if possible, light a candle to mark the beginning of your worship time. Quietly stare at the candle watching the flames flicker and glow.

Set the scene...

The book of Psalms is full of amazing poems that provide a glimpse into the character of God. In Psalm 100 the words of are a reminder of God's goodness and what it means to be one of 'God's sheep.'

Watch the story...

A fun animated song based on Psalm 100 called "[Make a joyful noise](#)".

Explore the story...

Psalm 100 is only 5 verses long, you might want to give everyone who is able to read, the chance to read a verse each, or the whole passage aloud. Invite the children to share any words or sentences that jump out at them. Find out why - don't underestimate the conversations that might happen during this time of sharing.

Take a few minutes exploring Psalm 100 and what it teaches about the character of God. e.g. He is God, He made us, He shepherds us, He is good, He is forever loving, He is faithful. Look at Psalm 100:5. What does the verse say about God's love and faithfulness? Do we deserve God's love or His faithfulness?

You use lots of different things to measure stuff. For example, to bake a cake you need scales and measures to make sure the right amount of flour, sugar, and milk are used. What could be used to measure God's love?

When building something like a house, a tape measure is used to measure the length, width, and height of different things. Can a tape measure to measure God's love?

We also use a watch to measure time. Could a watch measure how long God's love will last. The Bible tells us that God's love is from everlasting to everlasting. (Psalm 103:17) Wow! Psalm 100 declares that God is good, 'His love endures forever'. God's love is higher than the heavens (Psalm 108:4). If God's love is higher than the heavens, even the longest tape measure in the worlds could not reach that far!

End with prayer...

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your love - a love so great, powerful and so amazing, that you gave your one and only Son so that we could have eternal life. Amen.



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Love endures

Creative ideas / toddlers to teenagers

0-5s...

Activity: Have fun exploring and measuring things around the house. Depending on age see if the children can guess the answers. Why not bake some cookies together - click here for some simple [recipes](#).

Creative Prayer: Have a go making a heart shape with your hands. Holding hands take it in turns to say people/things that you love. End by thanking God for His love that lasts forever..



5-11s...

Worship: Sing along to "[His love endures forever!](#)"

Activity: Set a measuring challenge - find, guess and measure objects around the house, or look up facts on the internet such as the worlds tallest building or strange World Records. Have fun guessing the closest answer.

Creative Prayer: Have a go making a prayer heart shape and decorating it with prayer suggestions, or doodle your thanks to God, drawing little symbols or pictures of things that you are thankful for.



11-18s...

- 1) What things make you truly joyful?
- 2) Why is God worthy of thanks, praise and worship?
- 3) What are the benefits of knowing God's love endures forever? How does that make you feel?

+ Thank God that He is good and his love endures forever.

> Spend time each day this week listening to worship music.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever." - Psalm 139