

Church at Home Family Pack – 23rd August 2020

Join us for our online service, usual time of 10:30am on Sunday at www.ccwsm.org.uk
– “see” you there!

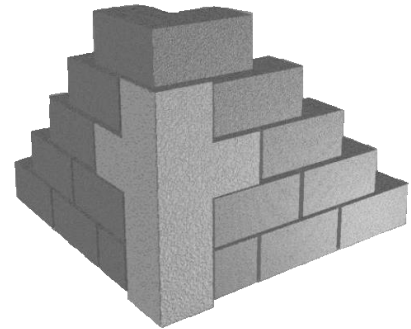
If you like, join in with the discussion of Facebook with our church family (@ccwsm)!

In some sections we make several suggestions of ideas. Some may be more appropriate to the people in your home than others. We’re not expecting you to do all of them (although you are very welcome to!). Choose the ones which best suit you or your family.

GATHER TOGETHER

A prayer to start –

God our creator, *(raise hands up)*
you made us each different, *(put hands on hips)*
yet we fit together. *(link your fingers together)*
Help us to build together, *(make building movements with your fists)*
knowing that we are building on you and with you. *(raise hands up)*
We pray in the name of Jesus,
our cornerstone. *(Make a corner with your hands)*
Amen.



Action reminder –

From the top of my head
(Touch head)
to the tips of my toes;
(Touch toes)
from the lobes of my ears
(Touch ear lobes)
to the end of my nose;
(Touch nose)
from my back, to my front
(Turn round)
to my wiggly fingers,
(stretch out arms and wiggle fingers)
God loves me!
(jump up and down)

READ TOGETHER

1 Peter 2: 3-10



International Children's Bible (ICB)

³ For you have already examined and seen how good the Lord is.

⁴ The Lord Jesus is the "stone" that lives. The people of the world did not want this stone. But he was the stone God chose. To God he was worth much. So come to him. ⁵ You also are like living stones. Let yourselves be used to build a spiritual temple—to be holy priests who offer spiritual sacrifices to God.

He will accept those sacrifices through Jesus Christ. ⁶ The Scripture says:

"I will put a stone in the ground in Jerusalem.

Everything will be built on this important and precious rock.

Anyone who trusts in him

will never be disappointed." *Isaiah 28:16*

⁷ This stone is worth much to you who believe. But to the people who do not believe, he is "the stone that the builders did not want.

It has become the cornerstone." *Psalms 118:22*

⁸ To people who do not believe, he is

"a stone that causes people to stumble.

It is a rock that makes them fall." *Isaiah 8:14*

They stumble because they do not obey what God says. This is what God planned to happen to them.

⁹ But you are chosen people. You are the King's priests. You are a holy nation. You are a nation that belongs to God alone. God chose you to tell about the wonderful things he has done. He called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ At one time you were not God's people. But now you are his people. In the past you had never received mercy. But now you have received God's mercy.

New International Version (NIV)

³ ...now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For in Scripture it says:

"See, I lay a stone in Zion,

a chosen and precious cornerstone,

and the one who trusts in him

will never be put to shame."

⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

"The stone the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone,"

⁸ and,

"A stone that causes people to stumble

and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

WATCH TOGETHER

The Teletubbies did a whole episode on dry-stone walls which you can watch here:

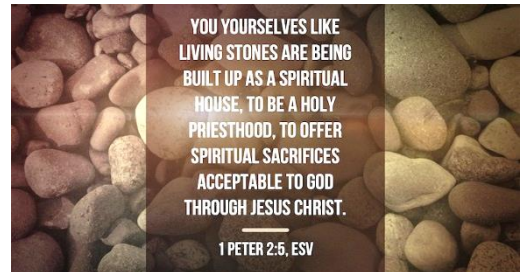
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F05Ae1ldoEA>

If the Teletubbies aren't your thing 😊 watch it from 5.10 to 7.40 to just see the section on how to build a dry-stone wall or you can watch this video instead: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_pzI21lxcc

TALK TOGETHER

- What does it mean to you to come to Jesus Christ (v.4)?

- Peter uses the picture of a building made up of 'living stones' (that's us!) built around a precious important cornerstone (that's Jesus!). Paul uses the same picture in Ephesians 2:19-22. The cornerstone forms the anchor for the foundation stones and the rest of the building is built from it. If Jesus is our cornerstone what do you think that means?



- We're told to offer 'spiritual sacrifices' to God. Read Romans 12:1-2 to help you think about what this might look like in your life.



- Meg talked about a dry-stone wall where every stone is needed and each stone has its place. If you haven't already done so, watch one of the videos about a dry-stone wall being built. Notice how the stones are all different sizes with larger ones being placed on the outside, and smaller ones unseen in the middle but playing a vital role in holding the stones together so the wall is stable. It's the same in the church. Each one of us has a vital role to play using the gifts God has given us. Some roles are more visible than others but they are all equally important.

- What do you think your role is?
- Tell the other people in your family or the friend(s) you're discussing this with what gifts you think God has given them and how they could use those for the benefit of others in the church and for the growth of God's kingdom.

PLAY TOGETHER

Build a House

You will need: Lego or Duplo building bricks, sticky labels, pens, Bibles, paper.

Make the bricks into large squares, like walls of a house.

When you have done this join the squares/walls together to make a house.

Is it possible to make the squares join together without moving any of the bricks?



It's impossible!

What do you need to do to make a house with walls that fit together? You need to interlock the bricks. Re-use the Lego or Duplo to make a "proper" house that fits together.

Read 1 Peter 2:4-5 (NIV). Where do you think the cornerstone is? Why is it important?
(It is the bottom brick that joins 2 of the walls together and it is important because everything holds together around it.)

On a sticky label write "Jesus" and stick it onto the cornerstone.

What does it mean when Peter says we are being "built together" into a spiritual house or temple? How? If you want to be part of God's building, to be part of what Jesus is doing, write your name on a label and stick it onto one of the bricks.

MAKE TOGETHER

Stone Painting



Find a selection of stones or pebbles – all shapes and sizes!

Use paint and/or pens to create a design or pattern that reminds you of today's Bible Passage. You might like to include some words on your stones like, Love, Saved, Chosen, Living etc.

Display your finished stones all together to remind you that God can use us all to build his Kingdom. No matter what our age, our gifts and abilities or our circumstances!

(Top Tip: You can create the dot patterns using cotton buds – no need for a paint brush!)



SING TOGETHER

Big Family of God – Nick & Becky Drake: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UEvJzOxm6zs>

Living Stones – Michael Card: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6di1p_zHhMQ

Living Sacrifice – Tommy Walker: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ItiNS7BYBD0>

REFLECT TOGETHER



Considering our worth to God

You will need a pile of different shaped and coloured pebbles.

Choose a pebble and hold it in your hand. Find somewhere comfortable to sit.

Hold the pebble on the open palm of your hand. Don't try to touch it with your fingers, simply hold it there. Look at it. Consider its colour and shape.

Note the markings and scratches on the surface. Imagine you are that pebble, held gently on the palm of God's hand.

Then clench your fist around the pebble. Feel how cold it is. Feel it warm up as it takes on the heat of your hand. Imagine you are that pebble, held securely in the warmth of God's hand.

Cup your hands around the pebble holding it in the centre. Imagine you are that pebble, supported and cherished by God.

Feel the pebble with your fingertips, noting the notches, the sharp bits, the smooth bits. Imagine you are that pebble, different from all the others, loved by God as you are.

Place your pebble back in amongst the others: *God, the Creator, loves and cherishes each one of us. There is a job for all of us in building a place where all feel loved and cherished.*

PRAY TOGETHER

Pebble prayers

You'll need some pebbles/stones, a bowl, and a tray or large flat dish. Put the pebbles in a bowl. Think of a person you want to pray for and pick up a pebble. Whoever picks the pebble up should pray for that person either out loud or quietly in their mind. When they're ready, place the pebble on the tray/dish. Then someone else can pick up a pebble and pray for another person. They can then place their pebble next to the other one on the tray. Keep going until you've prayed for everyone you want to pray for. You could do this throughout the week, adding a pebble each time you pray for someone.



If you live on your own you could start your own prayer cairn. When you pray for someone, place a pebble on a tray. Add another pebble for the next person you pray for and so on.

A closing prayer

Loving God who has given us gifts and talents use us to do your work so that we can help build a world where all are welcome, all are important and all are loved and cherished.

Amen.

DO IT TOGETHER

Think about the gifts God has given you. Are you using them to help others find out about Jesus or to help people grow in their faith? There are lots of opportunities to use your gifts in our church family, even though there are restrictions on what we can do at the moment. Here are some suggestions:

- Helping with the Audio Visual side of producing videos for our online services and children's/family activities
- Reading the Bible passage for our services
- Leading the prayers in our services
- Providing practical help for those who need it with shopping or in their home/garden
- Ringing people up for a chat
- Sending cards or messages to encourage people
- Making cakes for people
- Helping to clean the church
- Producing crafts for our toddler group or children's club
- Writing articles or taking photos for the weekly Connected sheet

These are just a few suggestions, you might think of other ways you can use the things you're good at. Why not contact Tom, Nicky or Phil (in the church office) to offer your services as an individual or as a family.

Email: family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk

*Action Reminder, Prayer and Reflect Together activity taken or adapted from
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Build a House – Play Together activity taken from Energize www.energize.uk.net*