

## Church at Home Family Pack – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Join us for our online service, usual time of 10:30am on Sunday at [www.ccwsm.org.uk](http://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 and your family.

### GATHER TOGETHER

#### A prayer to start –

Lord, we gather together, very far from perfect;  
and we know it.

But you are a patient God who waits  
for us to grow into your completeness,  
your perfection.

Join us together this morning,  
and make us all one in your love.

**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 3: 8-18



#### International Children's Bible (ICB)

<sup>8</sup> Finally, all of you should live together in peace. Try to understand each other. Love each other as brothers. Be kind and humble. <sup>9</sup> Do not do wrong to a person to pay him back for doing wrong to you. Or do not insult someone to pay him back for insulting you. But ask God to bless that person. Do this, because you yourselves were called to receive a blessing. <sup>10</sup> The Scripture says,

“A person must do these things  
to enjoy life and have many, happy days.

He must not say evil things.

He must not tell lies.

<sup>11</sup> He must stop doing evil and do good.

He must look for peace and work for it.

<sup>12</sup> The Lord sees the good people.

He listens to their prayers.

But the Lord is against

those who do evil.” [Psalm 34:12-16](#)

<sup>13</sup> If you are always trying to do good, no one can really hurt you. <sup>14</sup> But you may suffer for doing right. Even if that happens, you are blessed.

“Don't be afraid of the things they fear.

Do not dread those things.

<sup>15</sup> But respect Christ as the holy Lord in your hearts.” [Isaiah 8:12-13](#)

Always be ready to answer everyone who asks you to explain about the hope you have. <sup>16</sup> But answer in a gentle way and with respect. Always feel that you are doing right. Then, those who speak evil of your good life in Christ will be made ashamed. <sup>17</sup> It is better to suffer for doing good than for doing wrong. Yes, it is better, if that is what God wants. <sup>18</sup> Christ himself died for you. And that one death paid for your sins. He was not guilty, but he died for those who are guilty. He did this to bring you all to God. His body was killed, but he was made alive in the spirit.

#### New International Version (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. <sup>9</sup> Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. <sup>10</sup> For,

“Whoever would love life

and see good days

must keep their tongue from evil

and their lips from deceitful speech.

<sup>11</sup> They must turn from evil and do good;

they must seek peace and pursue it.

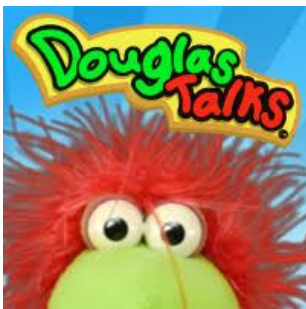
<sup>12</sup> For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous

and his ears are attentive to their prayer,  
but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

<sup>13</sup> Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” <sup>15</sup> But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, <sup>16</sup> keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behaviour in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. <sup>17</sup> For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit.



## WATCH TOGETHER



**Douglas Talks...**

'Let it go' - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vBriOMwWGoM>



**Persecution** is a hard thing to understand for those of us who can normally meet in church and worship Jesus openly. We may have experienced some kind of bad treatment because of our faith but this video by the Open Doors charity helps our understanding of what is happening in other countries. (suitable for all ages)

Here is **Hami's story** - <https://vimeo.com/396427169>

## TALK TOGETHER

- How can we be kind and humble and show love for each other?
- Why shouldn't we insult people who are horrible to us?
- How does God want us to treat people who are mean to us?
- What about if someone is making fun of us or making life difficult for us because we're a friend of Jesus?
- How can we know real happiness? Do you think Peter is right?



## STUDY TOGETHER

### Verse 9 (ICB)

<sup>9</sup> Do not do wrong to a person to pay him back for doing wrong to you. Or do not insult someone to pay him back for insulting you. But ask God to bless that person. Do this, because you yourselves were called to receive a blessing.

### Verse 9 (NIV)

<sup>9</sup> Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

*This is not an easy thing to put into practise but Peter is not the only one in the Bible to point out that retaliation is not the Christian way.*

### Don't retaliate, instead...

- Matthew 5: 38-48
- Romans 12: 17-21
- 1 Thessalonians 5:15

### Why should we not retaliate?

- Psalm 34: 12-16 (*Peter quotes these verses*)
- 1 Peter 2:21-23
- Matthew 6:12-15

## PLAY TOGETHER

Tom talked about choosing 'The Christian way forward' – choosing love and forgiveness not anger and revenge...



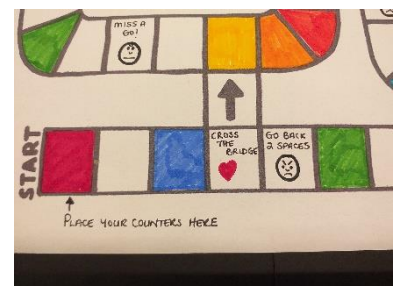
**For very young children** – make a trail around the house or garden of angry faces (revenge) and happy faces or love hearts (forgiveness and love).

They have to follow the trail to the end collecting only all the happy faces (or love hearts) and receive a blessing (treat) at the end!

### Make a board game to play



Draw out and decorate your own board game. In our example, if you land on an angry face you go back a number of spaces or even miss a go! If you land on a heart you get to cross a bridge and jump ahead and if you land on a happy face you can move forward a number of spaces →→→moving forward the Christian way!

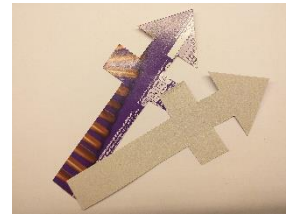


## MAKE TOGETHER

### 'Love is the way forward' Spinner

You can make the spinner with card from your recycling box or coloured card and paper. Decorate it however you want and write the words 'Love is the way forward' on the arrows. You can use a straw or a stick to make the heart spin as you rub it between the palms of your hands – no matter which way the arrow points, love is the way forward!

If you want to make a heart to hang up then add a loop of ribbon or string instead of a straw or stick.



1. Cut two hearts out of card (make sure they are the same size)
2. Cover the back of each heart in glue and sandwich the straw or stick in between
3. Decorate your heart – you can use paint, coloured paper, pens or pencils
4. Cut out two arrows – draw the shape of the cross to represent Jesus and make the top into an arrow shape. Make sure these are both the same size.
5. Colour in/Decorate your arrows and add the words 'Love is the way forward'
6. Stick the arrows on to your heart spinner so that they line up.
7. Roll the stick between the palms of your hands to make it spin!



### Secret Assignment!

**Secret Assignment: Make a secret house church.**

Open Doors is a program that helps persecuted churches and Christians. We are looking for people who are persecuted in their homes and who are looking for a way to pray for the persecuted church.

**What you'll need:**

1. A shoe box, large enough to hold a shoe.
2. A piece of cardboard, large enough to hold a shoe.
3. A piece of paper, large enough to hold a shoe.
4. A piece of string, large enough to hold a shoe.
5. A piece of paper, large enough to hold a shoe.

**What to do:**

1. Make a secret house church in your shoe box. Use the shoe box to hold your secret house church. Use the shoe box to hold your secret house church. Use the shoe box to hold your secret house church.
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Open Doors is a program that helps persecuted churches and Christians. We are looking for people who are persecuted in their homes and who are looking for a way to pray for the persecuted church.

### Open Doors have a secret assignment for you!

Click on this link and find out how to make a Secret House Church from a shoe box and use it to pray for the Persecuted Church.

[https://media.opendoorsuk.org/document/pdf/Secret%20Assignment-colouring%20sheet-2020%20update.pdf?\\_ga=2.33183102.1335652539.1600791972-1018089867.1600791972](https://media.opendoorsuk.org/document/pdf/Secret%20Assignment-colouring%20sheet-2020%20update.pdf?_ga=2.33183102.1335652539.1600791972-1018089867.1600791972)

## SING TOGETHER

Forgiveness - *Lifeway Kids*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NW9L3tU-w8s>

God is for me - *Lifetree Kids*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZmMFCMiT-ac>

A heart that forgives - *Kevin Levar*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=indCvnD4Ji4>

Forgiveness - *Matthew West*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h1Lu5udXEZI>

*Peter tells us that we should ask God to bless the person who has wronged/hurt us. Perhaps this week you could sing this blessing each time you think of them:*

**The Blessing (Kids):** <https://youtu.be/uiWZXLsdE9w>

## REFLECT TOGETHER

### *Playdough Reflection*



If you don't have playdough at home, here's a simple way to make your own.

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/playdough-recipe>

Take a lump of playdough and form it into the shape of a person.

Jesus practised what he preached – he didn't fight back when people were mean to him. As you read the things that Jesus went through mould your playdough to reflect what happened to Jesus. If you don't want to use playdough, find a quiet corner and slowly read through the statements of what happened to Jesus.

- Jesus was arrested. He listened to the leaders and people tell lies about him.  
*(Make your playdough man stand with head hanging down.)*
  - Jesus was mocked. He had a crown of thorns and a purple robe thrown onto him.  
*(Add a crown and cloak.)*
  - Jesus was whipped 39 times.  
*(Make scratches over the back and legs of your man.)*
  - Jesus was nailed to a cross and left to die in the sun.  
*(Make a cross and place your figure onto it.)*
- And yet Jesus forgave the people who killed him.

Jesus never asks us to do anything that he isn't prepared to do himself. Pray that we will be as willing to forgive our enemies instead of retaliating as Jesus was.



## PRAY TOGETHER

Lord Jesus,  
it's hard to be nice to everyone,  
but we pray that you will help us.  
Give us the courage  
to risk being kind,  
and help us to act in loving ways,  
to those we meet each day.  
**Amen.**

## DO IT TOGETHER

**If you are in a situation where you have 'been wronged' by someone.**

**Follow the steps that Tom gave us:**

Try not to have a 'knee-jerk' reaction – to react too quickly



**1** – Take some time out to think

**2** – Pray about the situation and pray for the person



**3** – Talk it through with a wise Christian friend

**Aim to become a person of Grace**



Open Doors works in over 60 countries, supplying Bibles, training church leaders, providing practical support and emergency relief, and supporting Christians who suffer for their faith. In the UK and Ireland Open Doors works to raise awareness of global persecution, mobilising prayer, support and action among Christians.

Why not find out more about their work here: <https://www.opendoorsuk.org/>

Email: [family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk](mailto:family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk)

*Prayers and Action Reminder taken from*

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