

Church at Home Family Pack – 4th October 2020

Join us for our Harvest 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 on Facebook with our church family (@ccwsm)!

In some sections we make several suggestions of ideas. Some may be more appropriate to you or the different people in your family 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.



GATHER TOGETHER

A prayer to start –

We thank you, generous God, that love us and bless us with what we need.
Some get less, some get more;
some grumble, some are grateful;
some rejoice, some are angry.
Help us to see as you see, and to be as generous as you are. **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

Ruth 4: 13-17



International Children's Bible (ICB)

¹³ So Boaz took Ruth and married her. The Lord let her become pregnant, and she gave birth to a son. ¹⁴ The women told Naomi, "Praise the Lord who gave you this grandson. And may he become famous in Israel. ¹⁵ He will give you new life. And he will take care of you in your old age. This happened because of your daughter-in-law. She loves you. And she is better for you than seven sons. She has given birth to your grandson."

¹⁶ Naomi took the boy, held him in her arms and cared for him. ¹⁷ The neighbours gave the boy his name. These women said, "This boy was born for Naomi." The neighbours named him Obed. Obed was Jesse's father. And Jesse was the father of David.

New International Version (NIV)

¹³ So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When he made love to her, the LORD enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son. ¹⁴ The women said to Naomi: "Praise be to the LORD, who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel! ¹⁵ He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth."

¹⁶ Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him. ¹⁷ The women living there said, "Naomi has a son!" And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

These are the verses which were read in the service but you might like to read the whole story of Ruth. It's only four chapters in the Bible or your children might have a story Bible version.

WATCH TOGETHER



Watch again –

Chester Whigget's Popsicle Stick Theatre tells the story of Ruth

<https://youtu.be/5Kt0geKYNs4>



Douglas Talks –

Today Douglas has some ideas about how and why we should be generous, just as God is generous to us.

https://youtu.be/gcN_8DFTKWw

TALK TOGETHER

Terry talked about two important things that we should be: faithful and generous.

Our example is God who is faithful to us even when we let him down and who has given us so much.

Being *faithful* means sticking by someone even when it's hard.

- Who was faithful in the story we heard today and how did they show their faithfulness?
- Think back through your journey with God. How has he been faithful to you?
- How can you be faithful to God?
- How can you be faithful to your friends/family?

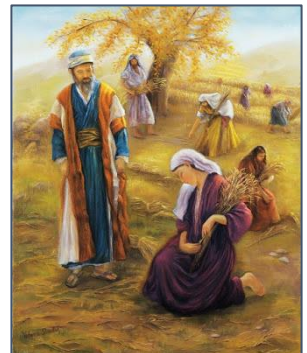
Being *generous* means sharing what we have with others.

- Who was generous in the story we heard today and how did they show their generosity?
- Think of all the things God has given you.
- Think about all the things you have. What do you have lots of that you could share with others?
- Is there someone you know, or people you're aware of in the world, who need your generosity?
(Remember that in the sofa interview we heard about people who have been generous in different ways, not just with money: maybe someone needs you to be generous with your time)

STUDY TOGETHER

Read the following verses to find out all the ways Boaz was generous in the story of Ruth.

- Ruth 2:2-3 (see also Leviticus 19:9-10; Deuteronomy 24:19-22 – to find out where this practice came from and why)
- Ruth 2:8-9
- Ruth 2:14
- Ruth 2:15-16
- Ruth 2:21-23
- Ruth 3:15-17
- Ruth 4:9-10



God has a lot to say about being generous. What do these verses say about how God wants us to share what we have and take care of those in need?



- Deuteronomy 15:7, 10-11
- Proverbs 19:17
- Matthew 25:31-46
- Hebrews 13:16
- James 2:14-17
- 1 John 3:17

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has produced a report on UK poverty 2019/2020

(<https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/uk-poverty-2019-20>)

According to them, 14 million people are living in poverty in the UK (where their resources are not enough to meet the cost of their minimum needs). This includes 4 million children and 2 million pensioners. What can/should we do to help those who find themselves in this situation?

What do you have that you could share with others?
How can you be generous with what you have this week?

A generous person will be blessed because he shares his food with the poor
Proverbs 22:9

PLAY TOGETHER

God is Faithful! He keeps his promises!

So, know that the Lord your God is God. He is the faithful God. He will keep his agreement of love for a thousand lifetimes. He does this for people who love him and obey his commands.

Deuteronomy 7:9

Print out or draw pictures of an ear, a heart, flowers and birds (on the same picture), a cross, a picture of heaven (or what you think heaven looks like!). Hide the pictures around your home. Tell the others in your family that you've hidden pictures that remind us of God's promises. Can they find them?



When all the pictures have been found sit together and chat about the pictures. After you've looked at each picture and talked about what it means you could all say together, "God is faithful. He always keeps his promises."

Ear: God promises he will always hear us when we talk to him. We can talk to God anywhere, anytime, and he will hear us.

Heart: God promises that nothing can separate us from his love. No-one loves us as much as he does!



Flowers and birds: God promises to take care of us, just like he cares for the birds and the flowers.

Cross: God promised to rescue his people from sin. He sent Jesus our Saviour to die for us so that we can be friends with him

Heaven: God promises that everyone who believes in him will one day live with him forever in a new heaven and earth. There will be no more sadness or pain.

With younger children you could use short phrases to help them remember what each picture reminds us of:

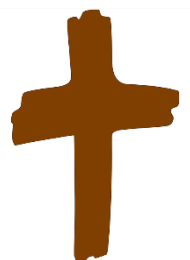
Ear: God listens

Heart: God loves

Flowers and birds: God cares

Cross: God saves

Heaven: With God forever



MAKE TOGETHER

Make a stem of grain to remind yourself that God is always faithful and generous.

In the story of Ruth, a symbol of God's generous provision for her and Naomi was Boaz allowing her to collect the fallen grain in his field so that they didn't starve. God was faithful and looked after them in difficult times. Just as he is faithful to us now.

Our stem is made from a rolled sheet of newspaper – this represents the difficult times we are living through right now.

The 'ears' of grain are cut from an empty food packet – a symbol of God's generous provision is the food we have to eat.

You can, of course, use whatever you have available to make yours.

- Roll the newspaper tightly and glue down the ends.
- Cut a slit down the stem from the top to open out a flat piece on to which you can stick your grain shapes.
- Cut some thin strips from the outer part of the newspaper tube and peel back to look like leaves.
- Cut out 16 grain shapes from an empty food packet.
- Write the words 'God is always...'
- Write the letters from the words FAITHFUL and GENEROUS on to each ear of grain.
- Glue the ears on to form the words – FAITHFUL on one side and GENEROUS on the other.



SING TOGETHER

Give a little – Jovis Bon Hovis: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hl6rICWzz0q>

Our God's generous – Nick & Becky Drake: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xea8YOllJyc>

Not forgotten – Hillsong Kids: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iNIPpqt8_Sl&t=104s

Through it all – Lifetree Kids: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPdDB2jIMjc>

Generous Giver – Vintage Worship: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-5JowPZH-w>

Faithful God – I Am They: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xea8YOllJyc>

REFLECT TOGETHER

Alphabet Generosity



Take a sheet of paper and draw a line (lengthways) down the middle. Write the letters of the Alphabet down the left-hand side. In the first column, next to each letter, write down or draw pictures of the things you have (your gifts and talents or possessions) beginning with that letter. Then think about how you could use those things **GENEROUSLY**. Write or draw those thoughts in the second column. You might not be able to think of something for every letter and feel free to use 'ex' for the letter X – maybe you have something 'excellent' that you can use!

For example....

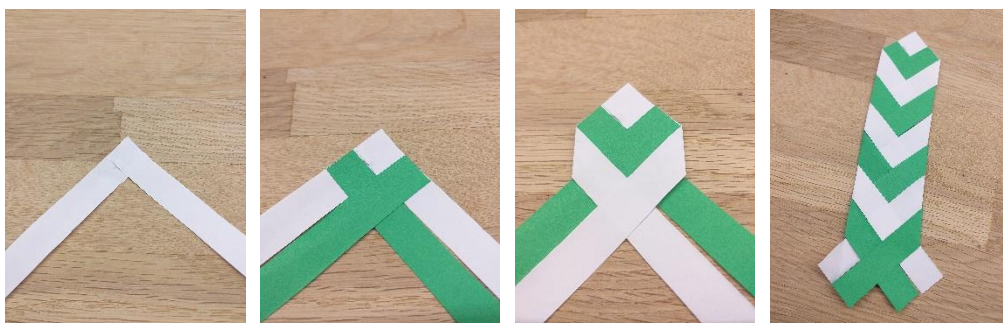
D might be DIY		<i>and you could use this generously by</i>		Helping a neighbour fix something
F might be Food	→		→	Donating to a charity like FoodBank
L might be Listening	→		→	Calling a friend or chatting to a neighbour who lives alone
T might be Toys	→		→	Sharing or giving some to someone who doesn't have many or to a charity

PRAY TOGETHER

Prayer Braid

Take 4 strips of paper about 1cm thick - 2 of one colour to represent GOD and 2 of another to represent YOU. Stick and fold the paper strips together as shown in the pictures:

Take the YOU paper strips and stick them together.
Lay over the GOD paper strips and stick them down.
Now begin to fold each colour in turn over and over...



Take some time to think about how God has been faithful in your life and in particular, over the last few difficult months during the pandemic. God promises that He will never leave you. He has been with you from the very start. With each fold you make in this prayer braid, notice how God is closely intertwined with you. The braid is stronger than the paper strip on its own. We are stronger because of our faithful God.

Thank God for his unending faithfulness. For being there no matter what. For being there even when we can't see it.

DO IT TOGETHER

In last week's 'Connected' Bev encouraged us to demonstrate our thanks to God for his generosity to us and gave us a few suggestions:



- Donate food or money to Emmanuel's work at The Beacon, or Somewhere to Go
- Donate food or money directly to the Foodbank in North Street
- Make an extra special purchase and place it in the donation box at your regular supermarket
- Make a donation to CAP, Christian Aid or Tear Fund

Email: family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk

Prayer and Action Reminder taken from

© ROOTS for Churches Ltd (www.rootsontheweb.com) 2002-2020 Reproduced with permission

Game adapted from Ministry to Children

Generosity Alphabet adapted from Urban Saints Energize

Prayer Braid adapted from Flame Creative Ministry