

## Church at Home Pack – 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Join us online for our 10:30am service on Sunday

<https://ccwsm.org.uk/service-type/sunday-service-online/>

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 or life group 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.**

*Our verse for the year is the same as last year's verse as we think about the difference being with Jesus makes to our lives*

**When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.**

*Acts 4:13*

### **GATHER TOGETHER**

#### ***A prayer to start –***

Gracious Lord God, you are ever ready to welcome us into your presence,  
so at this time we come to you with humble hearts to worship and praise you.

Over the past week we may have gone our own way,  
but as we approach you now, we find your arms outstretched in welcome.

Lord God, you accept us as we are,  
whether we come with open hearts or with the burdens of the past week still on our minds.  
So, Lord God, we approach you now with praise on our lips and in our hearts.

**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

### Acts 3: 11-20



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

<sup>11</sup>The man was holding on to Peter and John. All the people were amazed and ran to Peter and John at Solomon's Porch. <sup>12</sup>When Peter saw this, he said to them, "Men of Israel, why are you surprised? You are looking at us as if it were our own power that made this man walk. Do you think this happened because we are good? No! <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, gave glory to Jesus, his servant. But you gave him up to be killed. Pilate decided to let him go free. But you told Pilate you did not want Jesus. <sup>14</sup>He was pure and good, but you said you did not want him. You told Pilate to give you a murderer<sup>[a]</sup> instead of Jesus. <sup>15</sup>And so you killed the One who gives life! But God raised him from death. We are witnesses to this. <sup>16</sup>It was the power of Jesus that made this crippled man well. This happened because we trusted in the power of Jesus. You can see this man, and you know him. He was made completely well because of trust in Jesus. You all saw it happen!

<sup>17</sup>"Brothers, I know you did those things to Jesus because you did not understand what you were doing. Your leaders did not understand either. <sup>18</sup>God said this would happen. He said through the prophets that his Christ would suffer and die. And now God has made these things come true in this way. <sup>19</sup>So you must change your hearts and lives! Come back to God, and he will forgive your sins. <sup>20</sup>Then the Lord will give you times of spiritual rest. He will give you Jesus, the One he chose to be the Christ.

#### New International Version (NIV)

<sup>11</sup>While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. <sup>12</sup>When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. <sup>14</sup>You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. <sup>15</sup>You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. <sup>16</sup>By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

<sup>17</sup>"Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. <sup>18</sup>But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, <sup>20</sup>and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.

## WATCH TOGETHER



### **Peter and John heal a man** – Life Kids

Here you can watch an overview of Acts 3:1-26; 4:1-22, which includes our verse for the year:

<https://youtu.be/rQTFNyctPVU>



### **What's that Word: Repentance** – Crossroads Kids' Club

<https://youtu.be/q1SiHfT-SCY>

## TALK TOGETHER

What do you think it means to repent?

*(After you've chatted about this you might like to watch the "What's that word: Repentance" video in the Watch Together section)*

What does turning from going our own way and turning towards God's way look like in practice?

What does it mean in our day to day lives?

## STUDY TOGETHER

*Read Acts 3:11-20*

- By calling the people "fellow Israelites" and introducing God as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, what do you think Peter is saying to them about Jesus?
  
- Who was the murderer they released in place of the holy and righteous one? *(see Luke 23:18-25)*  
How is this event a picture of what Jesus accomplished on the cross?
  
- Who does Peter tell the people they killed *(in v.15)*?
  
- Peter describes him and John as witnesses. What did they witness?
  
- What do you think it means to have faith in the name of Jesus? *(v.16)*  
Peter uses various names/titles for Jesus in this sermon (which goes up to v.26). What are they and can they help us to understand the saving power in the name of Jesus?
  
- What did the prophets say would happen to the Messiah? *(see Is.53:4-12 for one example)*
  
- Even though the people acted in ignorance and it was part of God's plan that Jesus should become a sacrifice for the sins of the world, those who killed Jesus are still held to account for their actions? Does that seem fair to you? Why/why not?
  
- The people were guilty of the greatest sin – killing the author of life – and yet God's grace is shown to them. What response does Peter challenge them to give?  
What will be the consequences if they turn to God?  
What do you think it means that times of refreshing will come from the Lord?  
*(The Greek word used can mean rest, relief, respite or refreshment)*
  
- How does it make you feel that the author of life suffered and died for you?

## MAKE TOGETHER

### **Pancakes**

Shrove Tuesday is this week; the day that pancakes are traditionally eaten. 'Shrove' means being absolved from sins – confessing and doing penance. It involves repentance.

It isn't enough to sin, say sorry and to be forgiven, because that leaves the way open to do it all again. The idea of repentance isn't just to say sorry, but to turn away, to go in a different direction. The word 'Repent' used to be used in the army, as an instruction from the Sergeant-Major. When the soldiers were marching, if the Sergeant-Major shouted "Repent" it meant turn round and go in the opposite direction. This has been replaced by the instruction "About Turn" but it means the same.



So, if you have been doing something wrong, Pancake Day is the ideal day to stop and to go in a different direction! If you are going to make some pancakes you will need to 'flip' them or turn them over so that they cook evenly. When you are cooking yours think about the things you need to repent from and then as you flip your pancake make a promise to God to do just that!

### **Pancake Recipe: Makes 6**

100g Plain Flour

2 large eggs

300ml milk

1tbsp of Sunflower oil plus extra for frying

A pinch of salt

Sugar and lemon juice or another topping of your choice!

### **Method:**

Put the flour, eggs, milk, 1tbsp of Sunflower oil and pinch of salt into a bowl or large jug and whisk until smooth. If you have time, set it aside for 30 mins but you can start to cook straight away. Put a small amount of oil into a frying pan over a medium heat. Pour in enough batter to cover the bottom of the pan and cook them for about a minute on each side, until golden.

## PLAY TOGETHER

### **About Turn/Repent!**

Choose one person to be the Sergeant-Major. Everyone else should stand straight like soldiers on parade. The "sergeant-major" calls out "Forward March" and everyone should start marching round the



house or garden (see if you can all start with your left foot and keep in time). When the "sergeant-major" calls out "Repent!" everyone has to stop, turn around and start marching in the opposite direction. When s/he says "Halt!" everyone stops.

Let someone else have a turn at being the sergeant-major calling out commands.

*Remember that when we 'repent' to God, we're saying that we realise we've been going our own way and now we want to turn around and go his way.*

**Repent!**

## SING TOGETHER

*Song of repentance* – New Wine Worship <https://youtu.be/iE4YYHr2SF8>

*Above all* – Lenny LeBlanc & Paul Baloche <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U6cifVFVP7s>

*You forgive me* – Lifetree Kids <https://youtu.be/LO-2fm7IKcU>

*God forgave* – Lifetree Kids <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XZw6qQby24A>

## REFLECT TOGETHER

Think back over the past week: have there been times when you've pushed God's way to one side, choosing to go your own way.



Stand as you listen to the 'Song of Repentance' (see Sing Together). Start by facing one way and slowly turn the opposite way as a sign of committing to going God's way again.



Remember that when we come in repentance to God, he wipes away our sins and restores to us the joy of our salvation.

## PRAY TOGETHER

### *Wipe-away Prayers*

For this prayer you can use an etch-a-sketch if you've got one but it also works in a sandpit or go to the beach! Write the word "I'm sorry" on your etch-a-sketch or in the sand as you tell God all the things you're sorry for. Ask him to wipe away your sins (the things you think, do and say which make God sad) then wipe the words away as you thank God for forgiving you.



### *A Prayer of Confession*

Loving, gracious God, we confess our wandering from your path,  
our forgetting of you,  
our ignoring of your call to live as your people who share our knowledge and love for you with those around us.

We acknowledge our need to change,  
our need of your forgiveness,  
and your renewing Spirit in our lives.

Lord God, hear our prayer.

To all who truly repent, God says: 'Your sins are forgiven, I will remember them no more.'  
Thanks be to God.

**Amen.**

### **Prayer Acrostic**

J is for joy – breaking out like song.

E is for eternal – a life that goes on.

S is for Saviour – a Saviour who lives.

U is for us – the folk he forgives.

S is for sharing God's message of love -

the good news of Jesus, sent from above.

We thank you, Father, that in the name of Jesus we find healing and forgiveness.

Help us to share your love.

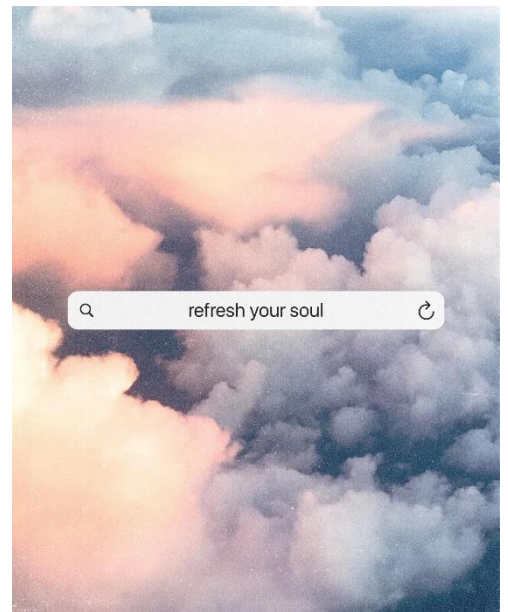
**Amen.**

### **DO TOGETHER**

*'...times of refreshing may come from the Lord' - Acts 3:19*

Life is difficult right now. We may feel overloaded, or that things just aren't working properly or running smoothly. Unlike computers we don't have a refresh button to clear things up and get things working again. But we can find deep refreshment by just making time to be in God's presence.

- ❖ Just stop and make space.
- ❖ Put down what you are doing and all that is going on.
- ❖ Sit in a comfortable chair or lie down in a heap of cushions and blankets on the floor.
- ❖ Close your eyes if you like and just say, **'refresh me Lord.'**
- ❖ Rest in the quiet and stillness of his presence.



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*Action Reminder, Prayer to Start, Prayer of Confession and Prayer Acrostic taken from  
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