

**Church at Home Pack –  
14<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – Remembrance Sunday**

Join us in church for our 10:30am service on Sunday or watch live at home on

<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 –***

Father God, this morning we take time to reflect on lives that were given and on the peace that we have.

We remember the past and look to the future.

We cannot change what has been but do not need to repeat its mistakes.

So as old and young come together before you, take the very best of our lives;

bind us into one people of faith and help us to share our common values,

love of Jesus and care for each other

**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)*

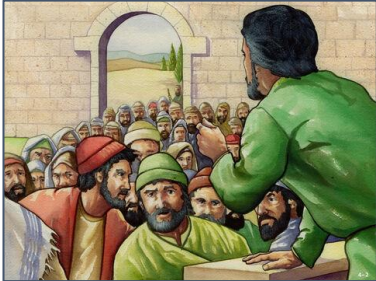
## READ TOGETHER

### Nehemiah 10:28-33



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

<sup>28</sup> The rest of the people took an oath. They were the priests, Levites, gatekeepers, singers and Temple servants. And they were all those who separated themselves from foreigners to keep the Teachings of God. It was also their wives and their sons and daughters who could understand. <sup>29</sup> They joined their fellow Israelites and their leading men. They took an oath, which was tied to a curse in case they broke the oath. They promised to follow the Teachings of God, which they had been given through Moses the servant of God. These people also promised to obey all the commands, rules and laws of the Lord our Master.



<sup>30</sup> They said:

We promise not to let our daughters marry foreigners. And we promise not to let our sons marry their daughters. <sup>31</sup> The foreigners might bring goods or grain to sell on the Sabbath. But we will not buy on the Sabbath day or any holy day. Every seventh year we will not plant. And that year we will forget all that people owe us.

<sup>32</sup> We will be responsible for obeying the commands. We will pay for the service of the Temple of our God. We will give an eighth of an ounce of silver each year. <sup>33</sup> It is to pay for the bread that is set out on the table. It is to pay for the regular grain offerings and burnt offerings. It is for the offerings on the Sabbaths, New Moon festivals and special feasts. It is for the holy offerings. And it is for the offerings to remove the sins of the Israelites so they will belong to God. It is for the work of the Temple of our God.

#### New International Version (NIV)

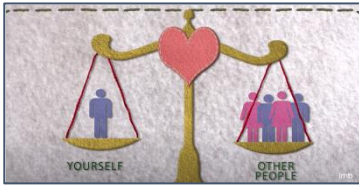
<sup>28</sup> 'The rest of the people – priests, Levites, gatekeepers, musicians, temple servants and all who separated themselves from the neighbouring peoples for the sake of the Law of God, together with their wives and all their sons and daughters who are able to understand – <sup>29</sup> all these now join their fellow Israelites the nobles, and bind themselves with a curse and an oath to follow the Law of God given through Moses the servant of God and to obey carefully all the commands, regulations and decrees of the LORD our Lord.

<sup>30</sup> 'We promise not to give our daughters in marriage to the peoples around us or take their daughters for our sons.

<sup>31</sup> 'When the neighbouring peoples bring merchandise or grain to sell on the Sabbath, we will not buy from them on the Sabbath or on any holy day. Every seventh year we will forgo working the land and will cancel all debts.

<sup>32</sup> 'We assume the responsibility for carrying out the commands to give a third of a shekel each year for the service of the house of our God: <sup>33</sup> for the bread set out on the table; for the regular grain offerings and burnt offerings; for the offerings on the Sabbaths, at the New Moon feasts and at the appointed festivals; for the holy offerings; for sin offerings<sup>[c]</sup> to make atonement for Israel; and for all the duties of the house of our God.

## WATCH TOGETHER



**Heart, soul and mind – IMB:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8xb7qliEwaE&ab\\_channel=IMB](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8xb7qliEwaE&ab_channel=IMB)



**Love God, Love Neighbour – fteleaders (The Fund for Theological Education):**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VlbnaOV8Ehk&ab\\_channel=fteleaders](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VlbnaOV8Ehk&ab_channel=fteleaders)



**Law – The Bible Project:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BGO9Mmd\\_cU&ab\\_channel=BibleProject](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BGO9Mmd_cU&ab_channel=BibleProject)

## TALK TOGETHER

- What are some things in life which you think are better to do with others rather than on your own?
- What about in church? What do you think it's important to do/say with others?

## STUDY TOGETHER

### **Read Nehemiah 10:28-33**

- Who gathered together (v.28-29)?
- What did they agree to do (v.29)?  
It may seem strange to bind an agreement with a curse but this was language the people of God were familiar with having heard the law – see Deuteronomy 11:26-28
- What does this response to hearing the law tell us about the people?
- Why do you think they made the promise about marriage in v.30? (See Ezra 9:10-12 for some background)
- In Israel's past, marrying people who turned their hearts away from God led to terrible consequences for the nation as a whole. So, the people in Nehemiah's time are effectively promising not to repeat the mistakes of the past. Are we ever in danger of doing that?
- What issues do you think face God's people today in relationships and marriage?
- What two "Sabbath" promises do they make and why do you think they make them (v.31)? You might like to look at Deuteronomy 5:12-15; 15:1-2.
- Are there any principles we can learn from this that we could apply in our lives today?
- Think about your own business activities. How can you follow God's way and be seen to be different in the way you go about your work or interact with others in business matters?

- The final area addressed by the people is worship. How would you summarise what they agree to take responsibility for (v.32-33 – *but you may also like to scan down v.34-39*)?
- What responsibilities, if any, do you think we have to enable worship to take place and all to have access to it?
- How does Jesus summarise the Law in Matthew 22:37-40? Does this help you to think about how you can live God’s way in your personal relationships, work and worship?
- Are there any other areas of life in which you find it challenging to follow God’s way? How can you encourage and help each other to stay committed to God?

## PLAY TOGETHER

Choose a game your family or friends like to play. As you play, every five minutes each person has a chance to change the rules. Does it make it more complicated or more fun to play?



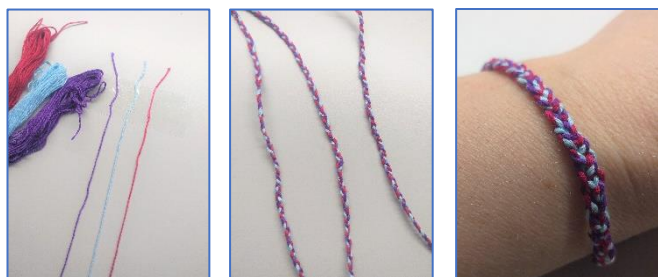
## MAKE TOGETHER

In today’s sermon, Angeline helped us to think about living God’s way in three areas of our lives. And in the Bible reading, we see that the people promised to live God’s way together.

Make a **Promise Band** and as you wear on your wrist make a promise to live God’s way together as God’s people.

To make a band you will need three strands that can be plaited. The strands can be thread, wool, ribbon, paper or crepe paper – whatever you have. Try to find three different coloured strands to represent each of the areas we thought about today. Plait them together. If you are using thin thread, you could make three plaits and then plait those together to make a thicker band.

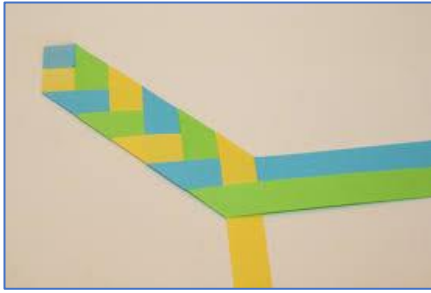
Here are some ideas:



Made with embroidery thread or wool

Made with crepe paper





Made with paper strips

If you make a paper band, make a hole in each end to thread some ribbon or wool through. Then you will be able to attach it to your wrist/



## SING TOGETHER

**Love the Lord** – KidSpring Children's Ministry/NewSpring Worship:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVfMpjfsWQA&ab\\_channel=KidSpringChildren%27sMinistry](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVfMpjfsWQA&ab_channel=KidSpringChildren%27sMinistry)

**Love the Lord** – Lincoln Brewster:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EAbEfffqLdc&ab\\_channel=LincolnBrewsterVEVO](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EAbEfffqLdc&ab_channel=LincolnBrewsterVEVO)

**Rejoice in the law of the Lord** – Chicago Church of Christ (Greg Petit, 1989): The revelation

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QM4I5wGEoGY&ab\\_channel=ChicagoChurchofChrist](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QM4I5wGEoGY&ab_channel=ChicagoChurchofChrist)

**Take time to be holy** – Master's University Chorale (William D Longstaff, c.1882):

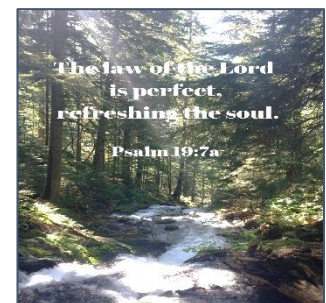
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yz-i5riSt-U&ab\\_channel=FirstLast](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yz-i5riSt-U&ab_channel=FirstLast)

## REFLECT TOGETHER

*The instructions of the LORD are perfect,  
reviving the soul.*

*The decrees of the LORD are trustworthy,  
making wise the simple.*

*(Ps.19:7, New Living Translation)*



Listen to this song based on Ps.19 – 'The Law of the Lord is perfect':

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMpPQa3O-q8&ab\\_channel=LevitesMusic](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMpPQa3O-q8&ab_channel=LevitesMusic)

You may like to read the Psalm as you listen. Ask God to show you if there is any area of your life in which you are not following his perfect, wise and trustworthy way.

You may like to use the prayer of confession below.

## **PRAY TOGETHER**

Love the Lord your God,  
*(point to the sky)*  
with all your heart,  
*(point to your heart)*  
with all your mind,  
*(point to your head)*  
with all your soul.  
*(move your hands to make a circle in front of you)*

Come, love your neighbours,  
*(point at everyone around you)*  
with all your heart,  
*(actions as above)*  
with all your mind,  
with all your soul.

Come, love yourself  
*(hug your arms around yourself)*  
with all your heart,  
*(actions as above)*  
with all your mind,  
with all your soul. **Amen.**

### ***A Prayer of confession***

God said: 'Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy.'  
For the times when we have not loved you with all our heart, mind, soul and strength:  
Lord, we are sorry.  
Restore your holiness in us.  
For the times when we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves:  
Lord, we are sorry.  
Restore your holiness in us.  
Jesus came that we might become holy;  
let us rejoice in his goodness and grace. **Amen.**

### ***Prayers for Remembrance Sunday***

Lord, I have no memory of war.  
Yet –  
I remember what it's like to feel scared;  
I remember what it's like to feel sad;  
I remember what it's like to lose something precious to me.  
Help me to use my own memories  
in understanding what this act of remembrance is all about  
so that I can join my prayers with those who do remember. **Amen**





We pray for those who have been injured or disabled through war.  
For those who have lost homes and security through conflict,  
for those who have lost loved relatives in wars,  
for those who face danger and take risks for peace,  
for all those, especially children, caught up in current conflicts,  
for refugees and all those in need of aid and other help.  
God of encouragement and Saviour of the despairing,  
comfort those who remember past sacrifices and guide us in building a just and peaceful community for all. **Amen**

## **DO TOGETHER**

Jesus said that all of God's laws hang on these two commandments: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" and "Love your neighbour as yourself". In our sermon today we particularly thought about doing this in our relationships, our work/business dealings and in our worship.



Cut out a heart-shaped piece of card or paper. Carry it with you as you go about your day as a reminder to follow the law of the Lord in these and other areas.

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

*Action Reminder and prayers taken or adapted from*

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