

Welcome to Families on Faith Adventures @ Home!

This resource has been put together for you by the United Reformed Church Children's and Youth Work team and the synod CYDOs and their equivalents.

We hope you will enjoy sharing a time of faith and fellowship together as a family through these stories, games, activities and prayers.

They are designed as a 'pick and mix' of ways to experience God's message through the Bible, explore what it means to you and express that in words and action.

The Walking the Way challenges are one way of continuing our walk with Jesus throughout the week.

These ideas are designed to be intergenerational - maybe even to be shared with members of the family you can't see now except via the internet.

The resources are based on our non-uniformed children's groups, Friends on Faith Adventures and Pilots, but have been modified to make them suitable for all families at home.

Have fun!

This week's Bible story is:

A Supper to Remember

Matthew 26 v 17-30



With many varieties of activities and things to do to help explore the theme. Look out for this 'hands on' symbol.

From

and

Get to know your Bible

The Bible is like a library made up of 66 books written by many different people over many years.

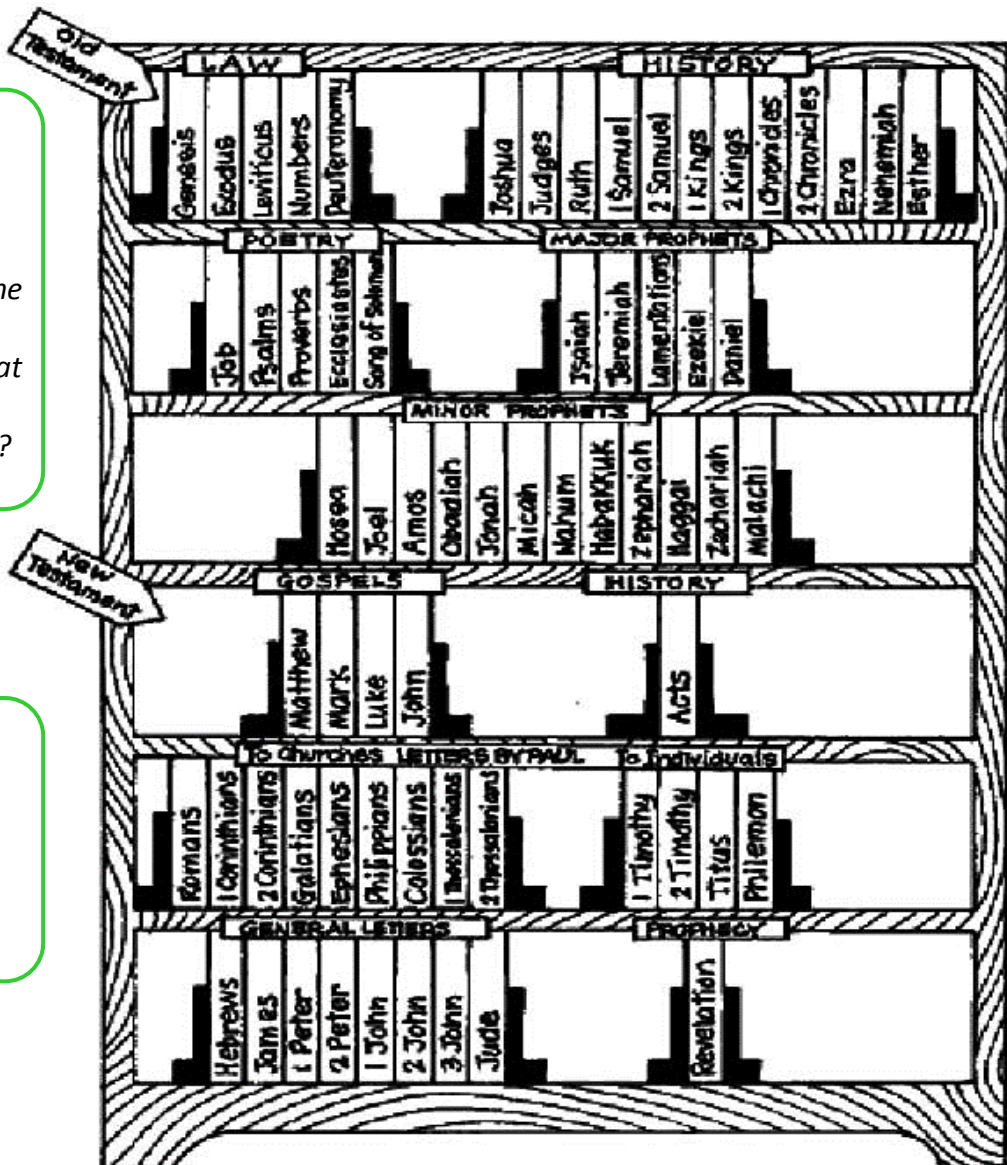
The Old Testament books were written before Jesus was born. They are the holy stories he would have grown up hearing and reading. There are 39 of these.

The New Testament tells us the stories of Jesus and his followers. There are 27 books in the New Testament.



Can you find and colour the book on the bookshelf that this week's story is from?

If you have a Bible, see if you can find the story in there.



Matthew 26: 17 to 30 Good News Translation (GNT)

On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus and asked him, "Where do you want us to get the Passover meal ready for you?"

"Go to a certain man in the city," he said to them, "and tell him: 'The Teacher says, My hour has come; my disciples and I will celebrate the Passover at your house.'"

The disciples did as Jesus had told them and prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, Jesus and the twelve disciples sat down to eat. During the meal Jesus said, "I tell you, one of you will betray me."

The disciples were very upset and began to ask him, one after the other, "Surely, Lord, you don't mean me?"

Jesus answered, "One who dips his bread in the dish with me will betray me. The Son of Man will die as the Scriptures say he will, but how terrible for that man who will betray the Son of Man! It would have been better for that man if he had never been born!"

Judas, the traitor, spoke up. "Surely, Teacher, you don't mean me?" he asked.

Jesus answered, "So you say."

The Lord's Supper

While they were eating, Jesus took a piece of bread, gave a prayer of thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples. "Take and eat it," he said; "this is my body."

Then he took a cup, gave thanks to God, and gave it to them. "Drink it, all of you," he said; "this is my blood, which seals God's covenant, my blood poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink this wine until the day I drink the new wine with you in my Father's Kingdom."

Then they sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives.

Scripture Quotation taken from the Good News Translation® (Today's English Version, Second Edition)

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EXTRA

You can watch a really good short video about the Last Supper on:

<https://youtu.be/SigoALSS1R8> or

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bv5ajWNrnt4>



Design a meal to remember...

The Passover meal and all the parts of the meal are designed to tell the story of God saving the Israelites from Slavery in Egypt. It is celebrated every year in Jewish homes, with special foods and a script to follow including questions. Jesus took this meal and gave us a new simpler meal to do regularly to remember Him and how his death has saved us.



During this time in lockdown, have a look in your cupboards and design a special meal that you can cook and eat together as a family. It might be a family favourite or something new to you that you create from the random ingredients in the cupboard. Perhaps parts of the meal can hold special meanings.

Design placemats for the meal. You could design a pattern to your meal (similar to the Passover meal) different roles for everyone in the family, someone to say grace, someone to pose questions to think about, someone to serve, and so on. This meal could be to remember times before lockdown or to remember life in lockdown and the hope of it ending soon. It could become a weekly meal, an act of remembrance in your family during the rest of this time at home as well as be a meal to revisit in months and years to come to remember this monumental period of time.



Alternatives:

Try choosing a Bible story that you relate to at the moment as a family and design a meal around it to tell the story.

Recreate a meal from a special time in your family's history, it could be from a wedding or holiday you enjoyed together.

You could send your menu and meal story to another family, swapping special meals and learning stories that are important to others.

A shared meal

Communion is a meal that we are encouraged to do together as believers. Using Zoom or other social media formats, arrange to meet online with some of the other families in your church/community and share together in a communion meal. The children could help to design the meal, placemats that can be emailed to each other, the order and words that will be used, different families can take parts of the celebration and lead.



What's in the box?

What treasures can you find to put in the box for your little ones to explore?

Perhaps older children could help find the things.

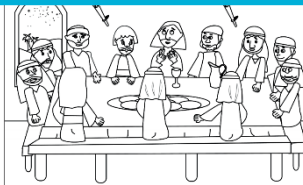


Use a box or a bag to hold the treasures and encourage any little ones to explore what's in the box/bag each week to go with the Bible story.

This week's Bible story is:

A Supper to Remember

Matthew 26 v 17-30



A cup or non-breakable glass



Some bread



A plate



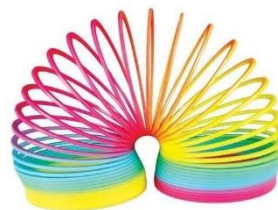
Some coloured material



A mirror



A toy dressed as Jesus



Something with
rainbow colours

Pray Together

"Jesus Said, 'Remember Me'" (Luke 22:19)

Road Map Prayers

At a time when we are not able to visit our friends and family it is good to be able to remember them in our prayers. Just as Jesus shared a meal with his friends so that they would remember him we can pray together.



Using a play mat or if you do not have you could draw a map of your own. Cut out some paper hearts and place them on the map remembering all the people you want to pray for. Sit quietly around the map. Say the names of the people you are thinking about and ask God to protect them and keep them safe.

Memory Box

Think about memories you have as a family and place items which symbolise those times; these could be photos, pictures, objects, or words.



Create a special memory box to keep your items in. (See craft ideas)

It is in the bread and wine, those special symbols, that we remember Jesus and everything he has done for us.

Using a tea light invite, in turn, each person to take an item from the box and place the light next to it. Talk to God about the special memories of the object, picture or word.



*You could use the words below for your prayers:
Lord God, with this... (name the object)*

we remember... (think about what or whom the object helps you remember) .

We pray for... (think about the person or situation which the object might represent) .

Pray Together

"Jesus Said, 'Remember Me'" (Luke 22:19)

Remembering food

Once a year everybody celebrated a special meal called the Passover. Jesus and his friends went to an upstairs room to enjoy this special meal together. Jesus broke bread and shared it amongst his friends and then he poured out some wine. He told his friends to share bread and wine together and remember him.



As you sit around the table together at your special meal share some bread together pass around some bread and pull a piece off. You could also share a drink together.

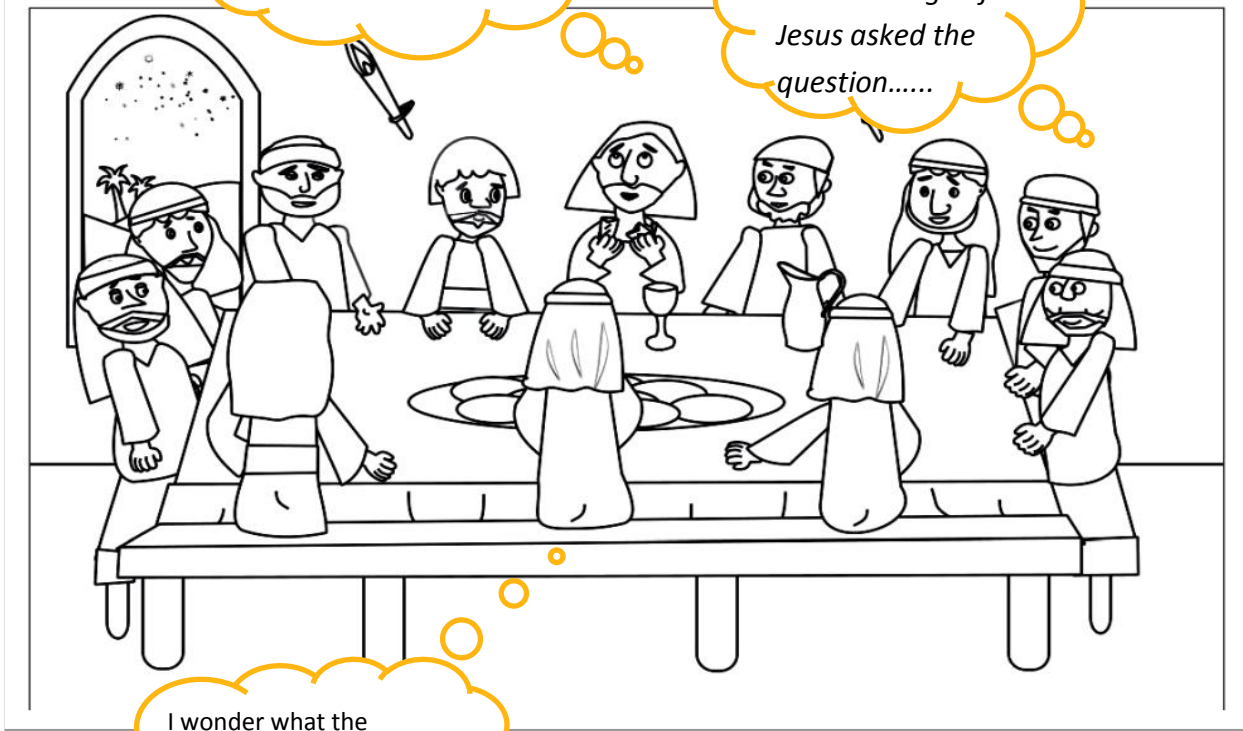
Sit quietly for a moment and remember that Jesus died for you. Say thank you to God for his son Jesus.

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not die
but have eternal life."*

John 3:16

I wonder how Jesus was
feeling at the last
supper....

I wonder what Judas
was thinking before
Jesus asked the
question.....



I wonder what the
other disciples were
thinking...



TO DO TOGETHER...

Remembering Game

Today we looked again at a meal that Jesus shared with his friends and how Jesus used the meal as a way of asking his disciples to remember him.

If we put some objects on a tray and ask each member of our house to look and remember what was there, in secret we can remove an item and asked them to guess what is missing.

Tasting Game

You will need blindfolds and some different foods with different tastes and textures. In turn, each person in the family finds a food to put in a bowl for someone else to eat whilst blindfold. Keep the foods secret.

The aim of the game is for everyone to identify the food product through taste alone. Who can identify the most?

Consider using some food like cold spaghetti or beans.

Message Toast

Place a piece of bread on a board and press a heart shape or the shape of a cross or write a message into it "I love you" Then place it into the toaster and toast it.

Memory Box

Find an empty box you could reuse to make a family memory box.

(Probably about the size of a shoebox)

Discuss together what it should look like.

What colours have meaning for members of your family?

Do you want to cut out pictures to stick on?

Or decorate it in a certain style?

How about creating a family coat of arms?

Try to decorate it as a family, with everyone contributing.



TO DO TOGETHER...

More sensory ways to explore

Baking Bread, Scones or Hot Cross Buns...

Have you ever made bread together?

It can be a really fun activity... with the additional benefit that you can eat the bread afterwards! You could follow a recipe, or you could buy some bread mix.

You use all your senses to make bread: touch, smell, hearing (for the timer!), sight and, of course, taste. If you're feeling particularly adventurous, why not make some hot cross buns.

***The rainbow is a promise from God
that he will be with us every day.***

***The Last Supper is the promise that
Jesus is alive for us all.***



Painted Bread

You will need:

1 slice of white bread

Milk

A range of food colouring colours

1 pastry brush (or a clean new paint brush)

To make the bread paint, mix 1 tablespoon of milk with 4 drops of the first food colouring colour you choose in a small container. Repeat for each of the other food colouring colours.

Dip your paint brush into the paint mixture(s) and create a masterpiece! Once you're finished you can go ahead and use the slice of bread to make a sandwich or if it's a little soggy, pop it into the toaster or under the grill to cook and dry out.

Tasty Paint

You will need:

1 can sweetened condensed milk

several drops food colouring

Mix ingredients together.

*Create image of Gods promise of love at Easter,
by painting a rainbow cross on your bread or
toast*



TO DO TOGETHER...

More sensory ways to explore

Rainbow Flatbread - remember Jesus' promise to us

Preparation time: less than 30 mins **Cooking time:** 10 to 30 mins **Makes:** 4–6 flatbreads

What you need: 200g/7oz plain or wholemeal flour
 ¼ tsp salt
 100ml/3½fl oz warm water
 2 tbsp oil (olive, sunflower or vegetable),
 plus extra for cooking

Adults may need to help prepare the following -

Toppings: tomato passata, cheese, green peppers, yellow peppers, orange peppers, cherry tomatoes (or red pepper), red onion chopped and placed on the flatbread in this order.

What you do:

Children can do this!

Place the flour and salt in a large bowl and trickle on the water bit by bit.

Mix the water and flour mixture together. Using one finger so that they don't get a whole hand covered in dough. Doughy hands can be cleaned by rubbing a little more flour onto the hands over another bowl or the bin – resist the urge to wash doughy hands as you will block the drain!

Add the oil and knead the dough – you are aiming for a soft dough. If it is too sticky, add a little more flour or if it is too dry, add a splash of water.

Knead the dough for 5 minutes – this can be done in the bowl or on a clean surface

You can cook the breads straight away or leave the dough to stand for about 30 minutes. This is a good time to make your toppings. Divide the dough into four balls (or six if you have a smaller frying pan).

On a clean surface, roll each ball of dough one at a time using a rolling pin. If you pick up and move round the flatbread often you know it hasn't stuck. (You may need to sprinkle a little flour on the surface but only use a little as too much will dry out the dough.) Don't worry if they aren't perfect circles!

Here is something for the grown-ups! Heat a large frying pan. Take a sheet of kitchen paper and rub a little oil onto the surface of the pan.

Cook each flatbread for about 2 minutes on one side – it should puff up a little. Flip the flatbread over using tongs and then cook for a couple of minutes on the other side.

The flatbread should have turned lighter in colour and may have a few spots of brown. Keep the cooked flatbreads warm, wrapped in foil or a clean tea towel, until the others are cooked.

When they are cooled a bit, spread some passata on them sprinkle them with some cheese and then arrange your toppings in a rainbow.



Alternatives:

You could put food colouring into your flat bread a different colour for each ball of dough. Use your milk paint from the bread paint activity and draw a picture on your flat bread once it is made and then slightly toast it to dry it out.

Walking the Way

Living the life of Jesus today

At Home:

***Our Walking the Way
Challenge this time is:***

Look round your home and see whether you can find one or two things or actions that help you remember people, events or places which are special to you.

Outside:

Easter is just around the corner. This is a time to celebrate that Jesus is alive. Why not decorate your path using chalk in colourful patterns?

For Others:

Some people are very lonely right now. Can you write a letter or make a card for someone you know who is home alone or in a care home to let them know someone is thinking of them?



The
United
Reformed
Church

**families
on faith adventures**

at home

Adventurers Go!

You've shared together, now share with us!

Why not send photos of your crafts, your treasure boxes, your Walking the Way challenges - or dress up to make a tableau of the Big Story and take a photo to send in.

Email your photos to: lorraine.webb@urc.org.uk
with parental permission for them to be used in publicity and online URC social media.

Alternatively, share them on our Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/URCchildren.and.youth/>

Remember you can find more resources on our website:
<https://urc.org.uk/resources-for-children-and-youth>

And if you've enjoyed these activities, why not see whether your local church runs Pilots or Friends on Faith Adventures (FOFA) when things get back to normal again.



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