

**Ideas to help Children pray**

**NIGHT**

**20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2010**

**DAY**



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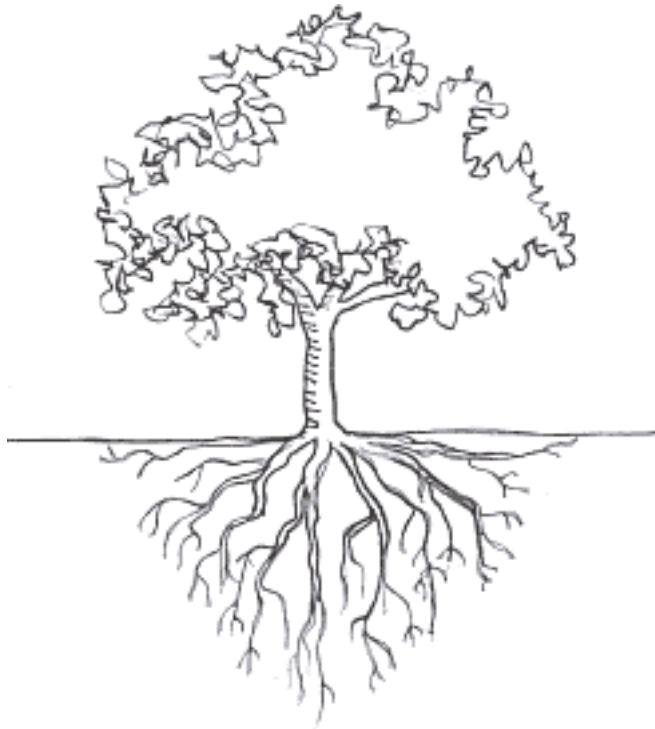
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**Day**



### 1 The connection

Take a look at the pictures below and see if you can figure out what they all have in common?



In each picture shows us smaller bits that connect together to make a bigger picture. All the rings in the web make up a much bigger web, the petals all connect together with the middle to make a flower and all the branches and roots in the tree meet in the middle at the trunk. Just like in the pictures we are part of something much bigger - the church! like our families are made up of lots of people so too is the church, and each of us have a very special job. Some people are good at playing the music in church, some like to make tea for everyone and others like to help setting up before activities. All of us are part of a much bigger picture and so it is important that we help each other and pray for each other

- Pick someone you know who helps you in church, maybe it is a Sunday School leader or someone who says hello to you as you go into church. Pray for them and thank God for role they do as part of the church.

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## **2 - Unity**

Pictures of sweets printed on the wall and a large bowl of sweets.

Ask the question:

-what is your favorite sweet? Do you know how to make the sweets? just like when you make a cake there are lots of separate ingredients that go into the sweets, on their own they are just plain but when they are all put together it makes a really nice sweet! In our churches we all have a role to play and when everything goes together it works pretty well! Take a sweet and as you eat it try and think of what you can contribute to the church. Pass a sweet on to someone else to remind them that we all work together for good and for God.

## **3 - Square Mile Church**

Items needed:

- Three Paper cups, one containing Talc powder, one with coffee grounds and the other with cereal.
- Directions: close your eyes and try to guess what are in the cups by smelling them.
- How does that smell make you feel? Does it remind you of anything?
- Read: 2 Corinthians 2 v 15 in the Bible, this tells us that we are the 'aroma of Christ' meaning we carry Jesus with us everywhere we go.
- Think: How can we show Jesus to the people we meet? Do others see God in you? How does this make them feel?

## **4 - Remembering Our Future**

- Spend some time in the 'listening space' in the centre of your prayer room. Try not to think about lots of things but try to listen to hear what God would like to say to you. Prayer means we can talk to God anytime, anywhere and he loves to talk to us to if we give him time. After you have listened feel free to go and draw anything that comes into your head or write anything down in the creative area of your prayer room.

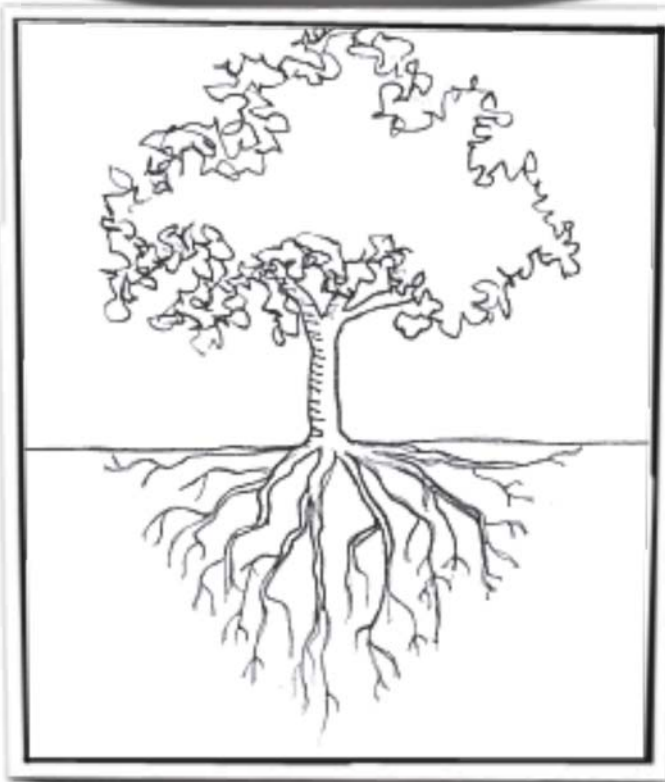
## **5 - The world church**

Items needed:

- Map
- Pair of old shoes
- Post-its
- Pens

Directions: Read the story of Ahmed from Iran. After you have read the story stand into the pair of shoes and imagine they are Ahmed's.

- Imagine what it would be like if you weren't allowed to be a christian.
- What would it be like to be made fun of if you spoke about your faith?
- Write a prayer on a post-it for all who are living in an area where it is hard to follow Jesus then stick the post-it on the map remembering others who may not have as much freedom as we do.



Take a look at the pictures and see if you can figure out what they all have in common?

Answer...

**Answer...** each picture shows us smaller bits that connect together to make a bigger picture. All the rings in the web make up a much bigger web, the petals all connect together with the middle to make a flower and all the branches and roots in the tree meet in the middle at the trunk. Just like in the pictures we are part of something much bigger - the church!

Draw some people who you know in your Church. As you draw say thankyou in your head for how they help you.

The Church is like a really big family. It is made up of lots of people, and each of us have a very special job. Some people are good at playing the music in church, some like to make tea for everyone and others like to help setting up before activities. All of us are part of a much bigger picture and so it is important that we help each other and pray for each other

- Pick some people you know who help you in church, maybe it is a Sunday School leader or someone who says hello to you as you go into church. Pray for them and thank God for role they do as part of the church. You can write a prayer or draw a prayer to God to ask God to look after them and help them.

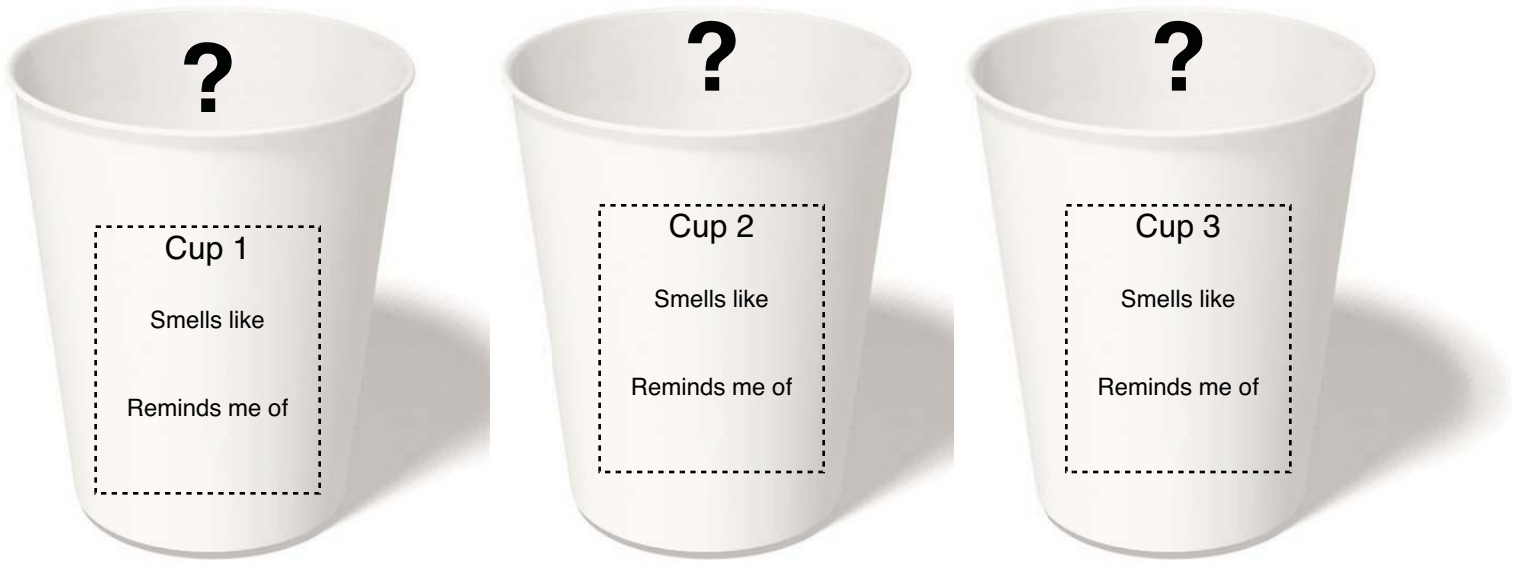








# What's in the cup?



# What's in the cup?



The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 2:15

“For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.”

How can we show Jesus to the people we meet? Do others see God in you? How does this make them feel?

Make a list of people you want to be nice to this week and come up with some ideas of what you can do.

God thankyou that you care about all the people I want to show your love to this week. Please help me to show them how much you love them. AMEN

## AHMED'S STORY...

Ahmed lives with his parents and three sisters in Tehran, the capital city of Iran. Since he was born, he was taught about Jesus, just like many of us living in Ireland. Life is very different for him though, because in his country, people are not allowed to be Christians.

Every Sunday they meet in secret for church, and always have to be very careful that they are not being followed or watched. Ahmed's uncle was arrested a few years ago and is still in prison for being a Christian.

Ahmed has friends in school and sometimes he tries to tell them about Jesus, but the last time he got into a lot of trouble with his teachers and his friends made fun of him. His parents tell him to be very careful because it can be dangerous for people to talk about Jesus.

He loves God very much and tries his best to live for Him, but it is very difficult. Pray for Ahmed and the other boys and girls like him around the world who face all sorts of dangers because they believe in the good news of Jesus.

- Imagine what it would be like if you weren't allowed to be a christian.
- What would it be like to be made fun of if you spoke about your faith?
- Write a prayer on a post-it for all who are living in an area where it is hard to follow Jesus then stick the post-it on the map remembering others who may not have as much freedom as we do.

