

Creative Prayer Ideas with (or without!) Children

Introduce the time of prayer as a fun activity-be led by child's interests.

Enjoy fun time worshipping with music- play a favourite worship song and sing /dance/jump/clap along, burning off some energy in process. Talk about a favourite lyric, and sing along to refrain. Try making own music with instruments, banging saucepans etc. Tidy up instruments together ready for next activity.-10 mins

Talk about God making the world and the people and animals and making all things good. (Genesis 1). Could have fun with lego/similar or playdough or drawing, creating new animals, worlds, imagining how it must have been fun for God creating everything. Could even mix ingredients for something delicious like a cake or lunch, illustrating how God knew how to make things good. Sadly some bad things happen in the world , like Corona virus- but that isn't from God. Introduce idea we can pray/talk to God to help good overcome the bad and ask God to help us and others, if we feel sad or fearful.

With pens and paper- child draws self in middle of big piece of paper (leave lots of space around figure). Can be stick man type drawing! Child thinks of things they may be worried about, writes them in list near picture. Help child talk to Jesus, telling Him all the worries and asking for His peace and comfort. Draw a heart around all worries to show God has them covered. Could cut out a heart shape and colour it and stick it over all the worries. Use verse- John 14 :1 'Do not let your heart be troubled, Trust in God' and 'Gods perfect love drives out Fear'. 1 John.

Draw friends/family/pets around drawing of child, and help child pray for each one. Draw a line from child to person showing prayer connection. Thank Jesus for them. Perhaps write letters/draw picture to send to them.

Make prayer /praise/ thank you flags- find short sticks outside (or roll up paper) as support, then decorate and attach triangle of paper, like a flag, by wrapping it around stick with Sellotape. Have fun waving it and declaring whatever is on flag. Tie up piece of string somewhere to make bunting. Cut out triangles of paper and write/colour on each one something you're praying /thankful for. Attach to string with peg/Sellotape etc. Add to it in coming days.

Make a well deserved cuppa/squash and biscuit, think of lots of child's favourite things and have fun saying thank you to Jesus for them.

