



And, remember, if our children and young people have dreams and visions, the Church (and church) has to give them opportunity to share and to help them realise that future – not continually give them reasons why “it’ll never work.” What might that mean in your situation?

Together

How do I help my group to come together and get started with the theme?

Gathering prayer

Jesus, our friend

(use alternate index fingers to point and tap the middle of opposite palms)

Be with us today

(two hands, palms up in front of you, move up and down twice)

As we share together,

(two hands, palms up in front of you, move one forward and one back and alternate twice)

Pray together,

(hands together, palm against palm, as though praying)

Play together,

(hands to each side, palms up, make two small circles outwards)

And get to know you better,

(point up with one hand)

As children together in your family

(one hand out, palm down in front of you, move it sideways and up in three ‘steps’ as though to indicate children of three different heights)

AMEN

(Two thumbs up, and bring fists slowly together to meet in front of you)

OR

Thank you, God, for bringing us together today.

Help us to grow closer to you in all we do.

Help us to speak and to listen, to learn and to grow together,

Adventuring together with you wherever we may go.

Amen

In-person Game – Full to the brim

This is a fun and simple game to play with a group of two or more. It’s a lovely way to play with the idea of pouring out.... like God pours out the spirit.

Everyone has a bottle of water or a shared jug.

There is a large glass on the table.

The leader starts by half filling the glass and explaining that we will all take it in turns to add some water – let’s see how long we can keep it going before it overflows. You might want to show them this clip. <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/FpRFeH5iSjk>

You can always have a consequence for the one who makes the water spill.



Alternative game – Flapping Fish and Feathers



The Holy Spirit through the Bible

You could do a remembered Bible approach here if you have time. Ask the children to draw or write parts from the Bible that spoke about the Holy Spirit, then put them in Bible order as a group.

Or simply prepare a Holy Spirit timeline

havppprhave







Anyone would think there wouldn't be room for anything else – but the love of our families and friends surrounds us and is there for us throughout our lives. Think of who these people might be. Fill the spaces in the jar with sand.

Now the jar is full. But is it? The holy spirit fills every part of our lives and fills us to the brim with God's love. Pour in water until the jar overflows.

Everyday with Jesus – Walking the Way

What could we do this week to carry on what we've learned? Maybe members of the group could come up with a suggestion. If not, get them to choose from these two challenges:

- Go outside for a walk and see where you can see evidence of the wind blowing, whether it is stormy weather or just a gentle breeze. Think about how the wind can make things happen, even though you can't see it, just like God's Holy Spirit. Thank God that the Spirit is for you just as much as anybody else.
 - When you say your prayers, make some time just to be quiet and listen for God. You may not hear God speak, but if you are still and patient, you may find yourself knowing what God wants to say to you.
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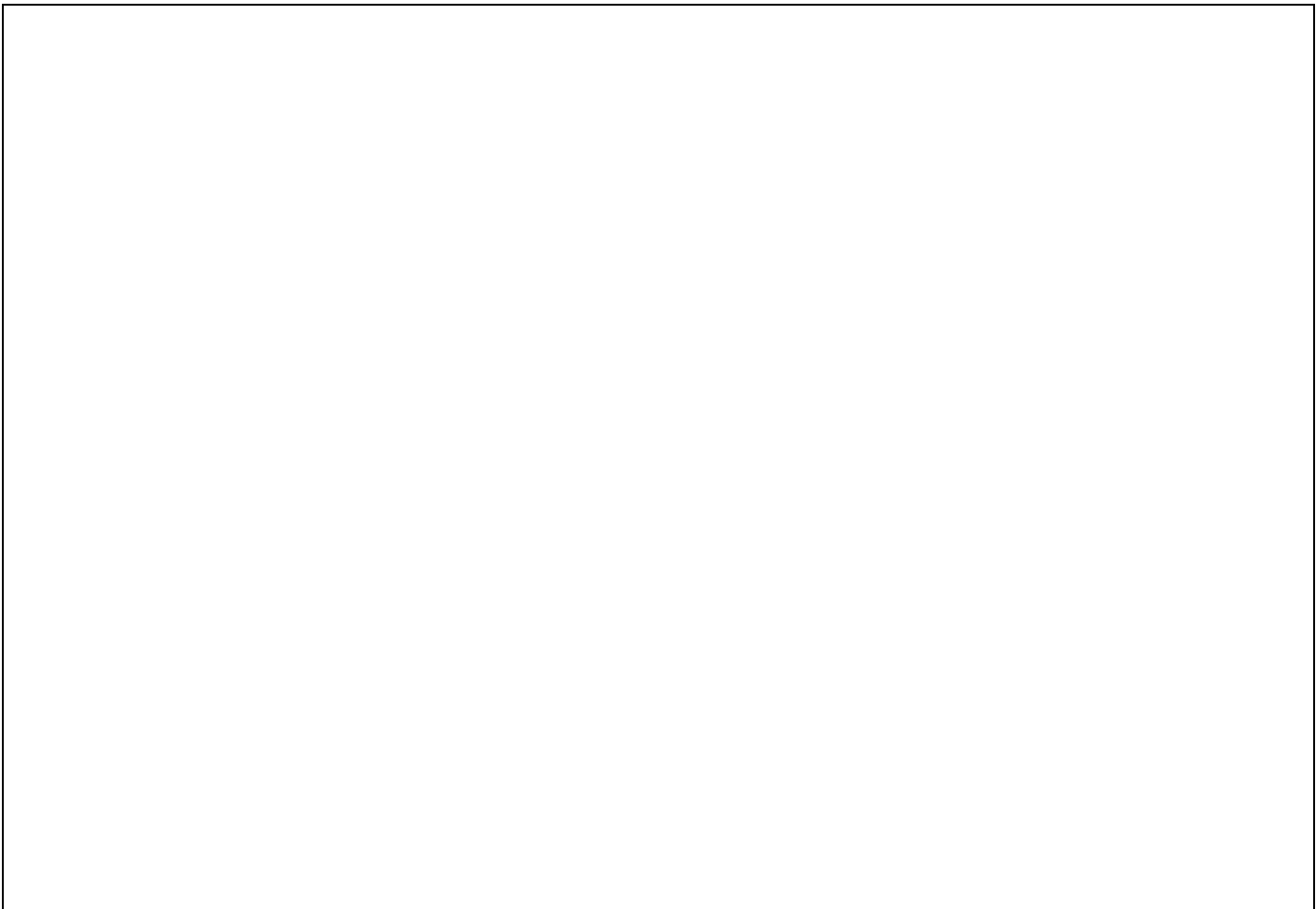


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