

# Faith Adventures Youth Resource



Free to use – please acknowledge when using beyond local church children's and youth work so others can find and use the resource themselves.

*Embedded in Faith Adventures: Children Together, this youth resource is intergenerational in nature and designed to foster God-connection in church, home and beyond.*

For guidance on the purpose of the resource and how to use it as a launch pad for your engagement with children and families, please use this link: [www.bit.ly/How-To-FAYR](http://www.bit.ly/How-To-FAYR)

## Title: Hebrews 10: 23–25

**Theme:** Why Worship?

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### Introduction: What would be helpful to know in my planning?

Welcome to a month of material in which we'll be exploring church traditions. In this first session, we'll be exploring why we worship, rather than what worship actually is.

There is no right way to worship. Different faiths, different denominations, different churches, and even different individuals all have their own ways of worshipping the same God. Worship doesn't have to be in a church on a Sunday (although it usually is). Worship doesn't have to be the same every week. Different people will get different things from different parts of worship – and that is worth celebrating.

We will be offering the chance to explore alternative ways of worshipping rather than just thinking about what usually happens in your own context.

Just remember to emphasise that worship is any way in which we glorify God. It can be done by yourself but, like many things, it can be better when you're not on your own and we worship together with other people.

## Together – prayer and games

Let's start our time with God and each other well

Use this opening prayer or encourage young people to open the session with a prayer of their own.

*All mighty God,*

*Be with us as we learn more about you through stories and people in the Bible.*

*Help us to walk in your way and follow your path.*

*Be with us as we make decisions that affect our lives, and the lives of those around us.*

*Amen*

Alternatively, you may join with the widgeit prayer found in Faith Adventures: Children Together, or else the Lord's Prayer found at the end of this session.

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This week's games introduce the idea of there being different parts of Sunday morning worship.

### **Active game – Corners**

Before the session, create a list of statements to read out to the group – they will have to respond to the statement by choosing which they think is the correct corner, and running to it.

Label the four corners of the room – Please, Thanks, Sorry, Praise

Gather the group in the centre of the room before you read the first statement. Ask them to re-gather after each round.

#### Examples

- A friend gives you a birthday card... How do you respond?
- You ate someone else's lunch by mistake. When you realise... How do you respond?
- Your brother has a new bike, and you'd like a turn... How do you respond?
- The person you sit next to in class has done a brilliant piece of work... How do you respond?

*For older groups: the last person to a corner can be 'out', or those with a different answer to the leader – unless they can successfully defend their opinion!*

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### **Quieter game – Creations**

*You will need:*

- paper

- pens

*What you do:*

Sit in a circle or a line. The first person draws something that might resemble a head. Fold the page over so the picture is hidden. The next person is to add to the picture by drawing a body of some description. This continues round the whole group until all have had a turn. Open the picture to see the creation. Explain that we all worship God differently, but everyone's aim is the same – to show God love.

## Experience – Bible story and songs

Hear, watch and sing the Bible story

This link takes you to Hebrews 10: 23–25 in *The Message*

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews%2010%3A%2023%20-%2025&version=MSG>

You may wish to research different versions of this reading on [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)  
Recommended versions to try are NRSV, Easy-to-read, The Message, NIRV

<sup>23-25</sup> So let's *do* it – full of belief, confident that we're presentable inside and out.  
Let's keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going.  
He always keeps his word.  
Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out,  
not avoiding worshipping together as some do but spurring each other on,  
especially as we see the big Day approaching.

*The Message* Copyright © 1993, 2002, 2018 by [Eugene H. Peterson](#)

**Watch:** How to Worship God with Joyful Hearts, by Kids Bible Avenue  
<https://youtu.be/PJiai71IBio?si=IcBsMYmFuoRm33SZ>

### An opportunity for reflection

- What are your thoughts on this video?
- Has it missed any ways of worship?

**Listen:** I choose to worship, by Rend Collective  
<https://youtu.be/ldtLxbtlicA?si=HICScqQWkugLNA9a>

### An opportunity for reflection

- I wonder if worship is a choice

## Explore – ways into the theme

Ideas and activities to explore this week's Bible passage together

### A new way to explore the theme

This is a new way to explore the Bible passage and the theme for this week.

Alternatively, you may wish to use the Explore section from this week's Faith Adventures: Children Together to guide your exploration of the theme this week.

### You Choose!

Print out the picture prompts (appendix of this resource) or use photographs from your own building which symbolise different aspects of worship you might experience on a Sunday morning. Place the pictures on a table, or the floor, at one end of the room. Mark out a masking tape line across the room – from left to right – and label one side 'important'; the other 'not important'. Have blank paper and pens available to be used during the explore section.

Ask the group members to look at the elements of worship and place them on the scale to show how important they think they are. They should decide as a group where each image belongs. Group members may not agree, but some may change their mind as a result of the discussion – the group may need to find a way to reach a compromise.

Ask the group to think about aspects of worship that may be missing from the images provided; are there any things they would like to include more regularly in worship? They could add their ideas to the line using the blank paper provided.

Imagine now that out of all the worship elements shown you can only keep three of them. Which three would you keep? Now whittle it down to two elements to keep. And lastly, take it down to one element. How hard was this exercise? Can you worship God in just one way?

*For those meeting in smaller spaces, create a labelled masking tape scale across a table – using the smaller pictures to prompt discussion.*

### Modern parables

This section includes references to TV programmes, films, books, TED talks, TikTok etc aimed at this age group that will have been widely seen, or where a clip is available to use as a stimulus for discussion. You may also enjoy the picture book recommended for Faith Adventures: Children Together and explore the relevance of the story to the theme of the session in more depth – young people and adults are often well tuned in to the deeper meanings in materials aimed at younger people and the authors are often very aware of the adults reading the books to or with younger ones.



**Chicken Run** – Building a flying machine scene, by Rotten Tomatoes Family.

At this point in the film the chickens come together to work as a group and build a flying machine to escape.

I wonder why it is important to meet together.

## What can be achieved by worshipping together?

### Group discussion

- Is there a wrong way to worship?
- We call judges 'Your Worship'. Are they like God?
- What might you bring to worship?

### Personal reflection

- Have you ever felt God close during worship?
- I wonder what the word inventive means to you in the context of worship?

## Express – prayer and creative activities

Praying together: enabling your group to respond spiritually

### Praying together

**Prayers** Respond to the theme by writing or saying a short prayer. Alternatively, use the creative prayer from Faith Adventures: Children Together for this session or use the prayer activity below. Alternatively, light a candle and play some music while you listen and talk to God together.

### Create own

The Bible passage encourages us to be inventive – so let's try and create something new.

Invite your group to write something for everyone to use in worship. This could be a written prayer – or a new worship song.

When writing songs, particularly for younger children, it is often helpful to already have a tune in mind that they will know. Try writing a worship song to the tune of 'Frere Jacques'.

It could have actions, or a refrain, and you could accompany it with musical instruments/percussion that you have made yourselves. For examples of musical instruments, see <https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/FACT-Mar-Week-2-2026.pdf>



### Spoken Prayer

Awesome God,  
help us to find ways to worship you to experience your awe and wonder...  
(leave space for young people to name things that help them; this might include ways of worship such as particular songs, or spaces they feel God's wonder such as in a forest)

Creator God,  
may we find ways to use our creativity to come close to you in worship...  
(leave space for young people to name things that help them; this might include playing an instrument, drawing a picture, using their body)

Encourager God,

show us ways we can encourage each other to be close to you...

(leave space for young people to name ways they might encourage others, such as inviting their friends to a service or youth event)

Amen

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## Responding together

This is an opportunity for a social justice challenge, some research, craftivism, or a craft or STEM activity. You may have a specific activity chosen but free choice is also an option. Here are some suggestions for this week's theme. Choose whatever will work best for your group.

## Worship styles

As well as each person having their own worship styles and preferences, different dominations of church, such as Methodist, Baptist and Church of England, have preferred styles of collective worship too. As do other faiths and cultures.

- I wonder what similarities and differences there are.
- I wonder if you have discovered anything new about worship.

<https://blog.churchsupplier.com/denominational-traditions-understanding-different-worship-styles/>

<https://www.deseret.com/2015/3/18/20478968/5-major-world-religions-how-do-they-worship/>

## Challenge

Discipleship doesn't stop when you walk out of the church door – it is a part of everyday life. Take a challenge with you and try to make it part of your week.

You may think of your own suggestion of what you as an individual or a group might do in the coming week in response to what you have explored today. If not here are some suggestions:

- Use one of the 'conversation starter' questions or the question below to talk with someone of a different generation or from a different setting and share your questions, thoughts, insights together. **I wonder what your preferred way of worship is.**
- Research something suggested by JPIT Resources ([jpit.uk](http://jpit.uk)) or *Commitment for Life* ([cforl.co.uk](http://cforl.co.uk))
- Did you discover a different way of worship which you would like to try, such as meditation on God or being creative? Could you implement it into your life this week?

Thank you for exploring the **Hebrews** passage with us.

Please let us know what you liked or what you would find useful by emailing [sharon.lloyd@urc.org.uk](mailto:sharon.lloyd@urc.org.uk) or by sharing it on [www.bit.ly/FACT\\_FB](http://www.bit.ly/FACT_FB)

  
The Lord's Prayer

  Father,  who art  in  heaven,  hallowed be  thy  name.

 Thy  kingdom  come,  thy  will be  done

 on earth  as it is  in  heaven.

 Give us  this day  our  daily  bread

 and  forgive us  our  sins As  we  forgive  those  who  sin  against us

 Lead us  not  into  temptation  but  deliver us  from  evil

 For thine is the  kingdom, the  power and the  glory





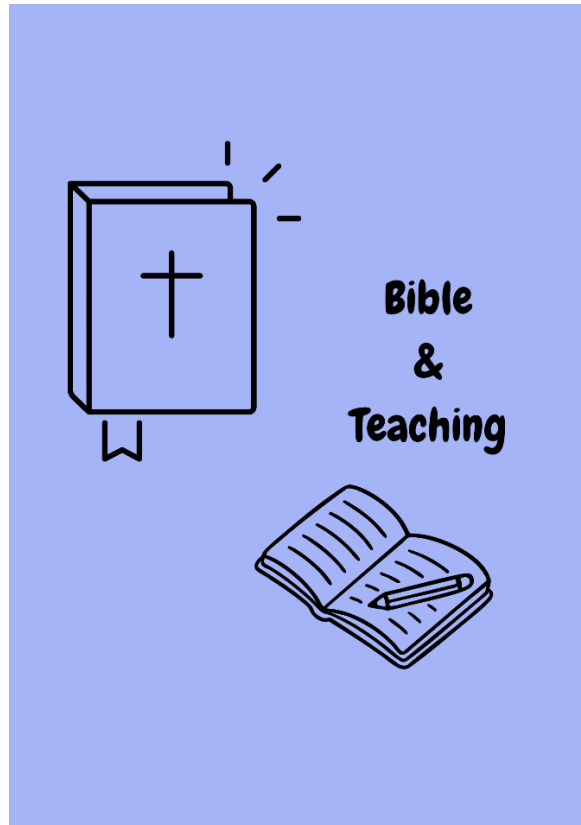
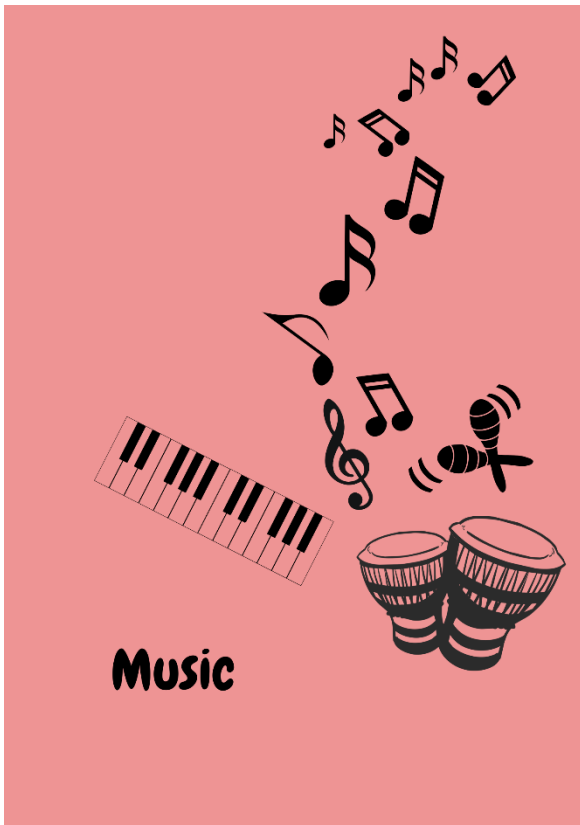
 For ever  and  ever .  Amen

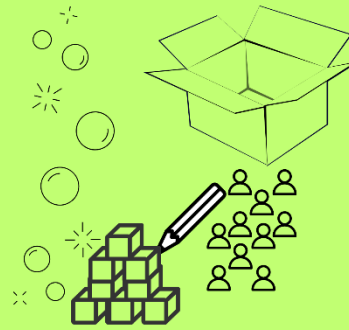
Table-top size images



## Drinks & Snacks



## Play



## Helping Others



## Seeing Friends



Larger versions

