



My iShare 'Home' Buddy Session

iShare is our half-termly Collective Worship Learning theme explored through our daily Act of Collective Worship at ACE. Through each theme children are encouraged to learn a Bible verse and consider ways in which the Biblical principles explored throughout the theme can be applied to our daily lives. These values are central to the Christian faith, as well as being common human values.

Our current iShare Learning Theme is, '**Communion.**'

The memory Bible verse to go with this is:

Christ died for sins once and for all, a good man on behalf of sinners, in order to lead you to God. 1 Peter 3v18 (GNT).

our **iShare Learning** theme this half term is



SHARING CHRISTIAN FAMILY VALUES **iShare Learning** APPLYING OUR LEARNING TO OUR LIVES

Mixed age classes usually get together at the end of each iShare Learning theme, to review what has been studied throughout the half term's Worship, these gatherings we name iShare buddy sessions. Therefore, as we have already looked at the values of thankfulness, friendship, forgiveness and community throughout this iShare theme, we would like you to complete an iShare buddy session of your own, with your families.

'Community' is at the heart of Communion and we felt it appropriate to ask you to partake in the following adapted iShare buddy session, which we feel suits the current climate, yet still fits in with our iShare theme where children can reflect on the values already explored. With our thanks and prayers for partaking in this together.

iShare activity – Communion

Ask your child to look up the word, 'Koinonia' and find out what it means. Through 'Koinonia' we are encouraged to follow ways designed to make the community work better together (for example, currently it is thinking of and praying for each other as we keep up social distancing, stay in touch with older relatives by phone rather than in person etc...); working together as a team (calling friends on the phone to help with home learning, following guidelines, remaining a community even though divided through controls imposed upon us), to enable a more peaceful environment in the long run.

You and your child can then read....

The Ubuntu Story

An anthropologist (someone who studies the habits and customs of different tribes) had been studying a Brazilian tribe, and had often worked alongside children. As he was preparing to leave the tribe, he played a game with the children.

The anthropologist had bought lots of sweets, which he placed in a basket that was tied to a tree. He drew a line on the ground and asked the children to wait behind the line. He explained that when he said, 'Go!' the children should run to the basket as fast as they could. The first to reach the basket would win all of the sweets.

The anthropologist shouted, 'Go!' but to his surprise, the children took hold of each other's hands and ran together towards the tree. When they arrived at the tree, they shared out the sweets between them.

The anthropologist asked the children why they had done this. A young girl piped up, 'How can one of us be happy if all the others are sad?'

The anthropologist was amazed. He had studied the tribe for several months, but he felt that he suddenly understood something special about its members.

Activity

Now consider how the story is similar/different to what is happening now? How can we as a community work together but stay at a distance (e.g. *by being distant we are all working together to beat this virus; by praying we are all fed well, especially with bread, the staple food which also feeds our soul (last supper)*)?

Children create a rainbow (as some are doing so already to decorate windows) with words, phrases or sentences along the rainbow stripes for how they will show 'Koinonia' or 'Communion' during these times.

You may feel you can't hear God!

...At present, the moments we are having may discourage us from hearing God, we know what to do, we know the right things to do, but the moment discourages us. We have fear which distorts the perspectives we have. Faith does not require evidence, it requires a strong relationship with God. God does not want us to rely on our emotions, he wants us to have faith in Him. We need more than ever to hold on to the relationship we have with God. Indeed, Jeremiah 33:3 tells us... "Call to Me, and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know." (Jeremiah 33:3, NIV)

Prayer (based on Jeremiah 33.3)

Dear Lord,

Help me to call to you, to be shown great and mighty things where the presence of God may be with us all. God you may not be able to fix all of our problems, but I ask You to help us gain some perspectives on life during this troubled time. To pray for those who may be suffering in body, in spirit and in silence. I ask and pray that You look over all our family and friends, helping us to all remember our community at this time, keeping them within your loving arms and safe from harm as well as in our thoughts and prayers.

In Your loving name,

Amen

Song: My Lighthouse by Rend Collective <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=itiB52mVJ9Y> *This is a well-loved song of the children at ACE – please enjoy as a family together.*

See below for a definition of Koinonia (if unable to find online) and rainbow template to use.

Koinonia = A Christian fellowship and communion with God, or fellow Christians.

ΚΟΙΝΟΝΙΑ

