

Week 4

Praying for the Church



Did you know?

- · The church has been around for about 2000 years! Isn't that crazy?!
- · In many countries it is even illegal to gather together to worship God.
- · Already thousands of people have decided to follow Jesus through online church services during the COVID-19 lockdown.
- ·Many churches are sharing what they have with the needy.

What is the church? Many of us used to believe the church was a place you go to every Sunday. But this lockdown has reminded us that the church is not a building or a place; the church is a group of people that get together to praise God. Now we know, we don't all have to be in the same place for it to be church. Many churches around the world are meeting online.

Church is a family. There is no age limit, you can be a baby or an old person, we are all the church. It does not matter where you come from or how you look like, if we believe that Jesus is Lord, then we are all part of the global church, children of the same God.

Prayer Focus

This week we will pray for our local church and the global church as well. Your local church means the group of people you normally gather with to pray to God and worship Him. The global church is all of God's people around the world who pray to the same God and follow Jesus; we call that our spiritual family. Did you know that you have family all over the world? Let us keep them in our prayers this week.



Bible Reading

Let's read what the Bible has to say about the church.

Acts 2: 42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.



Discuss

What did the early church look like?
What does God want us to do as the church?
How can you as a family apply this passage this week?



Activity

Sing your favorite worship song together as a family. If you have instruments at home, try using them to worship God. If you do not have instruments, then you can use the internet to look for your favorite song. God loves it when we praise Him.

Psalm 104:33 "I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live."



Challenge

Ask God how you can share with those around you who are in need. How can you be kind to your neighbor this week? Call someone from your local church and share with them what you learned about the church.

Pray!

Father, I thank you that we are Your church. Thank you that even though we cannot meet together under one same building, we can still be the church and encourage each other. I pray that the global church might grow during these hard times. I pray for my spiritual family around the world, especially those in countries where it is forbidden to meet as the church. Amen

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