

4. Activity

Young ones

1. Use the template of the rainbow. Draw in the things you would like to **thank God for**. Say a thank you prayer out of your head.
2. Draw a picture of something **beautiful**. Say a prayer about it.
3. Draw a picture of something that **makes you feel alive**. Say a prayer about it.

Juniors

Colour the rainbow template. Make up three prayers and write them under the rainbows. Cut out the shapes. Paste on to card and use as bookmarks. You may want to write a prayer for someone special and give them it as a bookmark.

Tips for learning difficulties

Young children and those with learning difficulties do not understand the idea of death. They often believe that dead people or pets can come back to life. The story of Lazarus is less startling and less miraculous for them than it is for the older child. An emphasis on trusting God and having faith in prayer is easier for such children to understand.

5. We come together

Parents can be invited to join in at this stage.

Focus

As at the start of the session, light the candle; lay out four flowers: a bud, a full bloom, a dead flower and a dried flower.

Gospel

Jesus said: "Didn't I tell you that if you have faith, you will see the glory of God?"
Jesus looked up toward heaven and prayed: "Father, I thank you for answering my prayer. I know that you always answer my prayers. But I said this so that the people here would believe that you sent me." When Jesus had finished praying, he shouted, "Lazarus, come out of the tomb!" The man who had been dead came out.

Prayer

Let's make up a prayer together.

- ◆ Let's thank God for listening to our prayers: Lord, we are so happy because you are listening to us.
- ◆ Let's tell God how glad we are that we can trust him: Lord, I know I can always trust you.
- ◆ Let's tell God how grateful we are that he makes us feel alive: Lord, thank you for my fingers and toes, my eyes and my nose, for making the world a beautiful place.
- ◆ Let's make up our own prayers. What do you want to thank God for today?

Share

Share the work from the activities.

Sing

"Thank you God for... right where we are"

