

Together @ Home

Here are some activities you could do together as a family, begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.



Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring The Book of Ecclesiastes

although the writer calls themselves 'Koholet' the book is often attributed to King Solomon.



Find the passages together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your group.

A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for the wonderful world that you created and all the people in it. Thank you that you love us in spite of our messiness and mistakes.

Help us as we live our lives this week and share your love with others. May we grow in understanding and wisdom seeking to live for you every day.

We pray for all those who do not yet know you that they would see you in the beauty of creation and come to know you in their hearts and minds.

Amen

Discussion

Read: Ecclesiastes 1 v 12-18

A question for adults to ask children

The writer says that he tried to learn about everything that happens on the earth, why do you think he found it so hard ?

The earth is huge, the universe is even bigger, the more we learn about the world around us, the more we also see the things that are wrong in the world. The world we live in is full of messiness and mistakes, no wonder the writer was so frustrated.

The good thing is that God who is bigger than the universe sees and understands everything, when we don't understand things or find ourselves upset or frustrated we can go to God and speak to Him in prayer.

A question for children to ask adults

What was your favourite subject to learn about when you were my age?

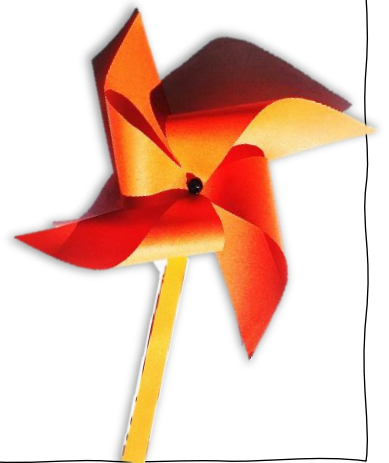
Family Activity 1

Read Ecclesiastes 1 v 6

Use the template on p3 to make your own windmill.

You will need a split pin or you could use a pin badge to create the centre.

Attach the windmill to a straw or piece of card.



A verse to remember

Ecclesiastes 12 v 13

Honour God and obey his commands, because this is all people must do.

This is the conclusion that the writer of Ecclesiastes come to after thinking about all they knew of the world. Try to learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.



Family Activity 2

Read Ecclesiastes 4 v 9-12

Our friends and family are there to help us and support us through the good times and the difficult times.

Set up an obstacle course using furniture from around your home and see if you can complete it as a family all staying connected!

Use a scarf or piece of fabric to join family members together at the ankle and complete a three-legged race.

If you have an odd number of people in your family or just two you could set up a course and time each pairing, can you beat your previous score?



Active Prayers

Ecclesiastes 9 v 13-18

These verses speak of the importance of having wise leaders who seek peace and not war. It is good to pray for our own leaders in our schools, workplaces, churches and nation. We can also pray for situations all over the world

Work together to pray some 'follow the leader' prayers, one person prays a simple prayer e.g. Dear God thank you for my teacher. You could also come up with an action to go with your prayer. Everybody else should follow the leader and echo the prayer and action.

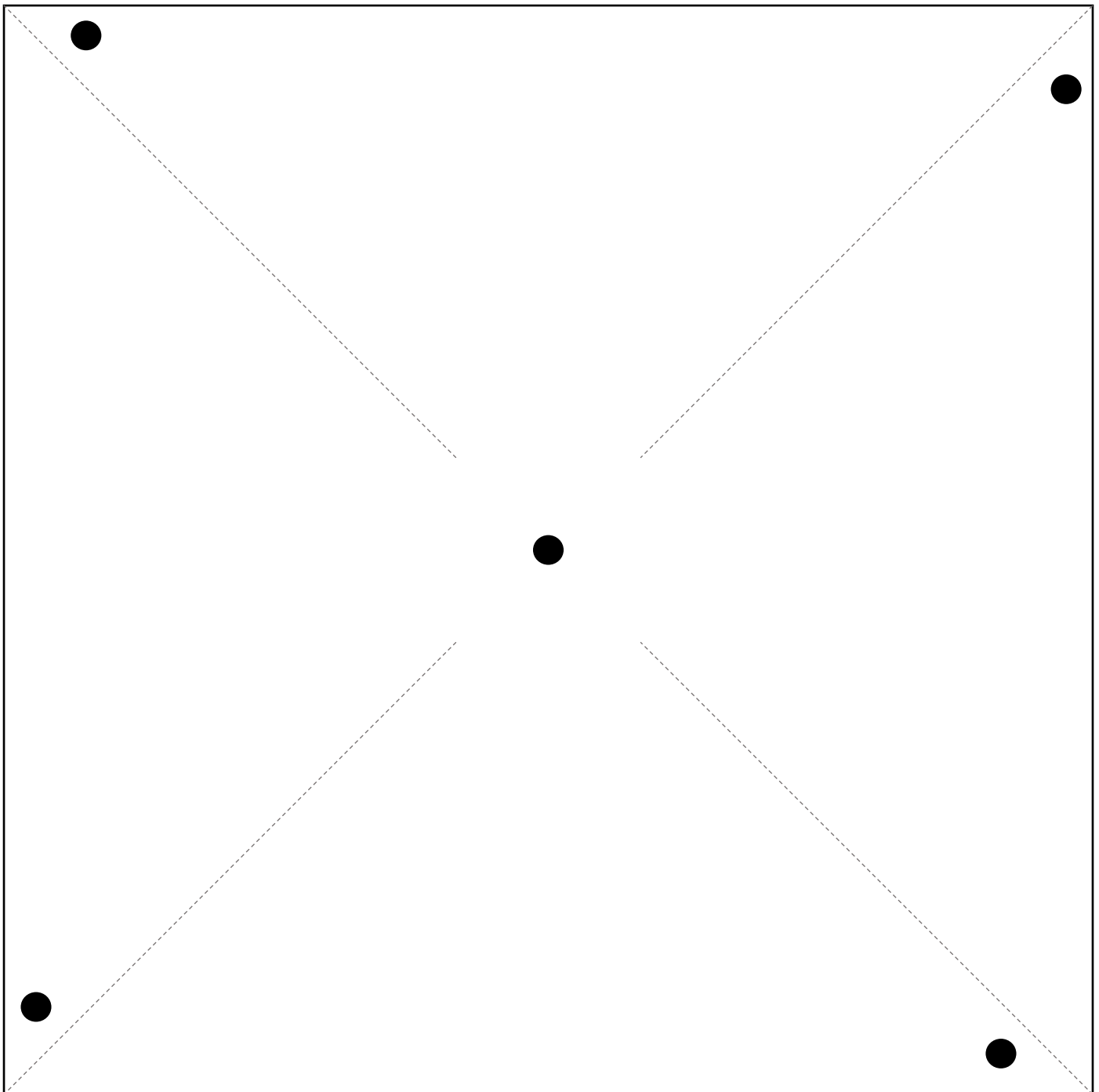
The next person could add something to the prayer or pray their own. Everybody should then follow them by echoing the prayer and action again.

Family Activity 1

Read Ecclesiastes 3 v 1-8

This **Family Reflective Roadmap** resource from www.tath.co.uk uses this passage from Ecclesiastes to explore together the ups and downs of this last season. Why not download a copy and reflect together on how God has been with you during this season of Pandemic.





How to make a windmill

Print your windmill onto paper or card.

Decorate the windmill with your own design.

Cut out the square and carefully cut along the dotted lines from the corners towards the middle.

Pierce holes where there are dots in the corners and centre. You might want to ask an adult to help with this. You will also need a hole in the top of your straw or paper stem.

Fold the points with holes into the centre of the windmill, pass the split pin through all four corners, the middle and your stem. Open out the split pin to secure.

Test your windmill, you may need to loosen it a little to help it spin.



Honour

GOD

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PUZZLE SHEET

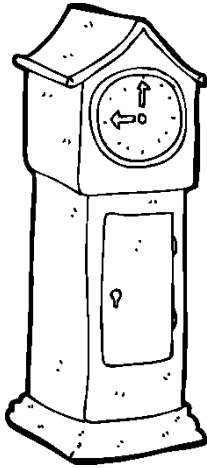
Ecclesiastes 4 v 9-10 says

Two people are better than one, because they get more done by working together. If one falls down, the other can help him up. But it is bad for the person who is alone and falls, because no one is there to help.

Can you find ten differences between the two pictures?

Ecclesiastes talks a lot about time. Colour the matching clocks in the same colour.

Which clock does not have a pair?



Colour all the shapes with a dot in to reveal a word that the writer uses a lot in Ecclesiastes 1.

