

Praying With Children

How often do we listen to children in our churches?

Depending on the size/ format of your church, why not invite all the children to come to the front of church - or break into smaller groups with a few children in each group - and dare to ask them some or all of the following questions?

Do you like coming to church?

What does God look like?

What does God do for you?

Why do we pray?

Who was Jesus?

What is the Holy Spirit?

Do NOT interrupt or correct the children. While they are speaking listen carefully and note their answers onto a whiteboard/ flipchart.

When they have finished remember to thank them and invite them to return to their seats.

What they have shared is what you as a church have shown/ taught them of God.

Offer their prayers to God—and to the church/ young people's team. Feel free to use the following prayer - or why not ask a child to write one?

God, you spoke to us
through the child Samuel.

God, you spoke to us
through the child Jesus.

God, you speak to us today
through our own children.

Help us to hear
faster than Eli
with less surprise than Mary and Joseph
and with the promise to our children always to listen to what they have to say to us

In Jesus name:
Amen

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