

CHEEKY PANDAS

Family Service

Adore

The following are suggestions of what you might wish to include in an All Age/Family Service, whether on line or in church. Please adapt and change to ensure all essential elements for your denomination/church are included.

It incorporates the *Cheeky Pandas videos* for you to use in the teaching slot.

There are 11 in all so you have the possibility of using them in 11 family services. Please use as much or as little of these outlines as you wish.

There is also an *activity pack* available for each service outline. Each one has a Biblical text, an application, a craft activity, a game, a food challenge and a prayer. You may wish to enable families to have them prior to services. Please feel free to adapt to your local situation.

Inclusion of sung worship is still a matter of local guidance so we have not included anything specifically here. There are however songs included in the *Cheeky Pandas Videos*.

What you will need

- The *family activity sheets* to send to families prior to the service if you wish to use them.
- If you are wishing to include the craft activity during the service you will need to provide the following along with the activity sheet for use in church:
 - The template for the treasure box printed on card, scissors, glue sticks and the small treasure label .
 - Children may also wish to draw a pattern on their box, so coloured pencils would be helpful.

For this Family Service you will need:

- Copies of whatever words you wish the people to say in a format that is appropriate to your setting.
- Craft materials if including the optional craft activity within the service.
- Items for the prayers to use symbolically. They are:
 - A soft toy; a picture of a family; a special memento from long ago; a plant or some flowers a cross or a picture of Jesus.



Theme: Adore – The Bible text is Matthew 13:44-46

Background reflection

These parables concerning the Kingdom of God are easy reading. In many ways they seem quite charming and logical. After all if you knew that there was a great treasure haul in a field why wouldn't you go and buy it quickly and secure the treasure for yourself? However we gloss over it's challenge. The man sold EVERYTHING to secure the treasure. Surely that isn't right? Selling everything for some treasure and treasure that isn't even given any detail. So the challenge is there EVERYTHING.

So reflect for a moment on what you may have been called to give up, freely surrender, give away because of this treasure that is the Kingdom of the living God.

The challenge of scripture is of sacrificing that which gets in the way of us being the Kingdom people God calls us to be. In the typical teaching style of Jesus, the fine details are not coloured in for us. This isn't a blanket contract, a one size fits all affair. It is rather an invitation to enter this Kingdom relationship in obedience to the God of love regardless of what it costs. For some the cost will appear too high and the treasure too insignificant. To others the pearl, the treasure of Kingdom life far surpasses anything else.

Welcome

Our theme today is *Adore*.

Call to worship

Leader: We are not once a week friends.

All: We are the family of God.

Leader: We are here to receive God's love.

All: We are the body of Christ.

Leader: We are here together to share in worship.

All: Our Father God has called us to worship Him together.

Leader: So let us draw near to God.

Sung worship *can be inserted here if suitable.*

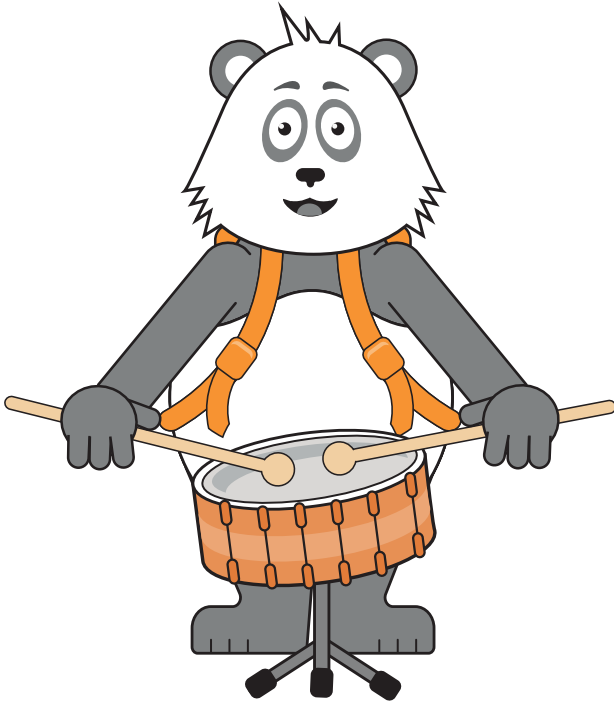
Prayer for the day

For this new day we give you thanks. We thank you for our families and friends and for all the precious things we have in our lives but most of all we thank you for the gift of Jesus with us. Amen.



Saying sorry

If singing is permitted you may wish to try this saying sorry song – To the tune of Thank you Lord for this fine day.



All:

Sorry Lord for getting things wrong.
Sorry Lord for getting things wrong
Sorry Lord for getting things wrong.
Right where we are.

Thank you Lord for forgiving us.
Thank you Lord for forgiving us.
Thank you Lord for forgiving us.
Right where we are.

Sorry Lord for being unkind x3
Thank you Lord for forgiving us x3
Sorry Lord for ignoring you x3
Thank you Lord for forgiving us x3

Saying sorry (alternative option)

Saying sorry with our hands: people do the actions while the leader says the words. You may wish them to be said by everyone if the words can be on a screen.

Leader: *Make a fist.* Lord we are sorry for the times we have got angry other people.

Leader: *Point away from yourself.* We are sorry for the times we have blamed other people when it was us who had done something wrong

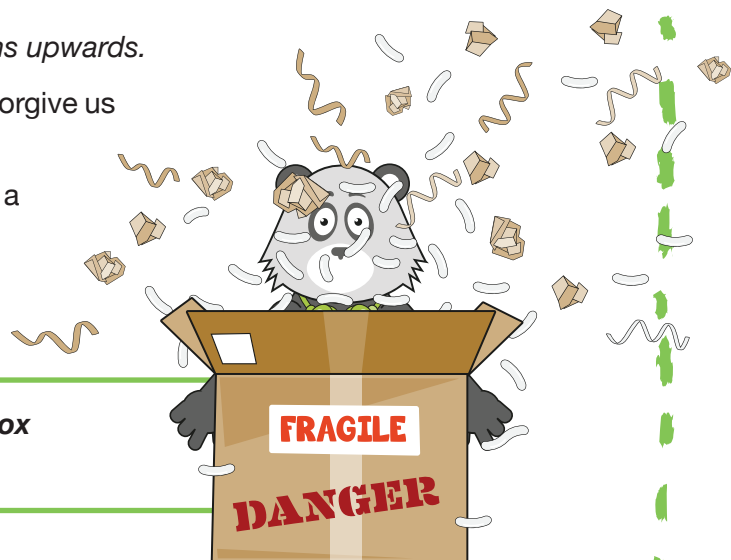
Leader: *Put your hand over your mouth.* We are sorry for the unkind words we have spoken which have hurt other people.

Leader: *Hold both hands open with the palms upwards.*

All say: Thank you God that you love us and forgive us when we get things wrong. Amen.

Leader: so our theme today is **Adore**. It is a strange word but it is when something is very precious to us that we would do anything to hold onto it.

Watch - Cheeky Pandas Video: The Wrong Box
(The optional craft activity could go in here.)



Craft Activity

The optional craft activity could be used here.

Prayers

Leader: our prayers are about things that are precious to us

Taking each item out at a time.

Leader: First I have this soft toy. Perhaps you have one or can remember having one that you used to cuddle and it gave you comfort.

All: Loving Lord Jesus, we thank you for all the things and people that bring us comfort, especially when we are unwell or scared.

Leader: Now I have this picture of a family. Some families are near and some are very far away. Some families have lots of members some have very few. Let's bring families to Jesus.

All: Loving Lord Jesus, all families are different and all are precious to you. Thank you for our Church family where we all belong.

Leader: A special memento – Using similar words such as these. This is a very old It is precious to me because it belonged toetc.

All: Loving Lord Jesus, help us to value special things, however small, that used to belong to someone else as they come with precious memories of them.

Leader: Now I have these flowers/plant to remind us of the precious gift that God places all around us, His creation.

All: Loving Lord Jesus, help us to value every tiny bit of your wonderful creation. To see beauty in trees and plants, in birds and animals, in seas and skies.

Leader: Now I have a cross/picture of Jesus . Now for my most precious gift, that of having Jesus as my special friend.

All: Loving Lord Jesus. Thankyou for being there for us and wanting to be our special friend as well. We ask that you would also become a special friend to those five friends that we pray for so that they too may know your love. Amen

(Remind them of the activity sheet and the food challenge)

The Blessing/Grace

We say the grace together or a similar blessing.

