

Worship Touchstone

Bible BINGO(Can be done online or in-person)

Getting kids to pay attention in church can be tough. Bible BINGO is a fun, interactive activity designed to help kids listen to the lessons and the sermon. Each week, download a new bingo card from the folder of resources, then simply listen to worship (online or in person) and cross-off any words you hear from that week's service. If you get a BINGO, you can either turn your card into the office or snap a photo and send it to your pastors for a prize. It's a win-win! Don't have regular access to a computer or printer? No problem!! We can send you some cards to play along whenever you are able to make it to a service, live or virtual, or you can make your own using the provided template.

BINGO Template (3x3 w/pictures)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1V4-VYkECs57o8jiwgfA1CbNHdBGEhx57/view?usp=sharing>

BINGO Template (3x3 Blank)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ppluuReLZp2mldv1-i9p0iKwzyOUvOhL/view?usp=sharing>

BINGO Template (5x5 w/ words)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/16EdWsfbeYq0FhlyUFeYMPcXnnGvLZG0t/view?usp=sharing>

BINGO Template (5x5 Blank)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tCgCN8wllNveZUP9yCu-cUn0qt1E5kXs/view?usp=sharing>

Attend Worship

Sounds like a “no-brainer,” but one of the best ways to get your kids involved in church is, drumroll please...to go to church! However, we completely understand that life gets in the way and every Wednesday or Sunday, week after week, may not be possible.

As a family, try to attend worship 4 times in a 5 week period. If you can't be there in person, you can always watch the service on Facebook or YouTube. If your kids are older, ask them when they would like to attend/watch. When they get a say in when they do church, they are less likely to see it as a chore. If your kids are younger, give them a simple, quiet activity to do during the service (coloring, blocks, puzzles, etc.). Whether in person or virtual, make worship the “background noise” while they are playing - they don't need to pay attention to every detail or even understand everything, but the more you model the practice of attending/watching, the more apt your kids are to continue it as they grow.

Have a wall calendar or family schedule? Color/mark the weeks you attend to give the kids a visual reminder of their participation and to keep track of which 4 out of 5 weeks you go! Don't have one? Print the template below!

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Weekly Worship Calendar Template

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jUH4TdVrMseThRHperP0dw3d3FQ5wV9N/view?usp=sharing>

Read a Lesson/Lead the Prayers of the People

Any teacher will tell you that the more you read, the better a reader you become. Reading in church is a great way for kids to not only get involved in the worship service, but practice a life-long skill. And the best part? Regardless of your child's reading level, diction, fluency, speech impediment, volume - you name it, it doesn't matter - church is one of the SAFEST and best places to do it, and we won't let your child fail! Our pastors are ready to read alongside your child and help them be successful.

If you are not ready to come back to church in person, we can arrange for you and your child to record the lesson. The pastors will then edit the reading into the video for that week's service.

If you and your child are interested, contact Prs. John or Tim. They will help you determine which lesson/week would be a good fit for your child, as well as how to best help them based on their reading and/or comprehension level.

Offering

One of my favorite stories about offering was from a Thrivent Financial Associate whose grandmother gave her one dollar in dimes each week for an allowance, and then immediately took one dime back for the offering at church. As she grew up, she was so used to giving 10% of her earnings to church, she automatically set aside some of her allowance, and then paycheck, to the weekly offering and is now able to tithe a portion of her income.

Try to give something every week, every two weeks, or every month. Set a schedule and decide what you will contribute— an offering at church or a food item for the Free Little Pantry. Teach your kids the importance of stewardship and how their contributions can help the church and people in need.

Write the prayers of the people (See Prayer Touchstone)

There are several formats you could use to write the prayers check out the Prayer Touchstone for more information! Here are just a couple:

Help prepare for worship

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You could volunteer to set-up the altar, light the candles, run the video and microphone system (requires some training), etc.

Share a talent in worship

What is your special talent? Singing? Playing an instrument? Greeting people? Cleaning? Serving during worship? All of your gifts are just that, gifts! They can be used in worship to give glory to God!

Individual Worship

Have you considered that God desires your adoration and worship even when not gathered in community? What are some ways you could worship individually? Light a candle? Sing a song? Say a prayer?