

Back to School

→ with God ←



Children's Prayers, Activities & Crafts

A good variety of games and prayer activities are contained in the **BSG22 All-age Service**. The following are given as suggestions for use during the All-age Service for those who may find it hard to sit still – or in Sunday School/Kids' Church following the **BSG22 Children's Talk**. They could also be used in a midweek club.

Prayer Activities

- **People who help me**

You will need: paper and pens to draw around hands, or pre-cut hand shapes in different colours.

Talk about people who help us at nursery or school and either draw them or write their names on different colours of paper hand shapes.

Encourage children to be thankful for the different ways they help (teaching us new things; helping us cross the road; serving lunch; helping when we fall and hurt ourselves etc).

Create a thank-you poster, sticking all the hands on it. This could be shown to the church family, or even given to the local nursery or primary school.

- **People who need God's help**

*You will need: A sticking plaster for each child. (Make sure they are hypoallergenic, such as [these ones](#) or similar), or else print off cardboard plaster shapes (**BSG22 Sticking Plaster Prayer Template**). You will also need pens (Sharpies or similar if you are using real plasters). Make a white box with a slit in the lid. The words and red cross are on the same template as the plasters.*

Ask the children to write the name of someone who needs our help and prayers on a sticking plaster. It might be someone they know personally, or others in the community or further afield. After they have done this, lead in prayer. You may like to ask the children to name in turn the people who are needing prayer. After praying, put the plasters in the box.



- **Praying for one another**

Encourage children to pray aloud for each other from an early age. Invite them to pair up and chat about the return to school. What are they looking forward to? What are they worried about? After three or four minutes, encourage them to pray for one another in their own words.

Exploring the Bible – Luke 10:25-37

- Involve the young people in telling the Parable of the Good Samaritan through drama. See **BSG22 Children's Talk**.
- For younger children, print **BSG22 Good Samaritan Story Pictures**, one per child. After reading Luke 10:24-37 or telling the story, invite them to draw a road along the bottom of a piece of A3 paper. They might also like to draw a nice bright sun in the sky. Once they cut out the story pictures of the Good Samaritan, help them to stick them in the right order on their road.
- For older children, use the **BSG22 Who is my Neighbour Prayer Chooser**. Print one per person. Children will have fun making the chooser, and it gives an opportunity for them to think of family and friends and chat about how they might help them.

Response Activity

- **What would you do? Game.** Make up four scenarios. Ask the children to respond to show what they would do in each situation:
 - A) Help the person myself
 - B) Go and get help from an adult
 - C) Don't help at all
 - D) Tell the person to help themselves.

To give their answer, the children could either run to four sides of the room labelled A, B, C and D, or chat in small groups and decide on a group answer. Possible scenarios might be:

- A child is hurt in the playground at school.
- A child is crying in the park.
- Your neighbour at school can't do their sums.
- Your friend has forgotten their packed lunch.

Crafts

- **Donkey Craft**

This craft reinforces the memory verse. Print off the **BSG22 Donkey Craft Template**.

Colour in the donkey and cut it out. Attach two spring-clip pegs for its feet.

