



Chalk Scribble Prayers

You will need: some dark coloured construction/sugar paper, some chalk and an eraser. (You could use a chalk board or dark stones instead if you have them)



Ponder:

Psalm 86 verse 5: *Lord, you are forgiving and good. You are full of love for all who call out to you.*

We all do wrong things - what the Bible calls 'Sin'. These things make God feel very sad, and it makes a big gap between Him and us. We need to say sorry about those things.

Because Jesus died on the cross, if we say sorry and mean it, God will forgive us. We won't be punished by God, because Jesus took that punishment for us when He died. (That doesn't mean our grown ups won't tell us off though!)

But it's even better than that. If we say sorry and mean it, God does more than forgive - he forgets. He chooses to never remember the things we have done wrong! Isn't that amazing!

Do:

Use the chalk to scribble on the paper. Make it look really messy!



Pray:

As you scribble, ask God to show you what you need to say sorry for. As things come to mind, say sorry to Him.

Then rub out the chalk with the eraser, and say thank you to God for forgiving you.



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1 John 1 verse 9: *But God is faithful and fair. If we confess our sins, he will forgive our sins. He will forgive every wrong thing we have done. He will make us pure.*

When you tried to rub out the chalk scribble, did you see there was something left behind?

That can be like the wrong things we do.

Although God forgives and chooses to forget, those things can leave something behind. This is a 'consequence' (That's a good word to ponder!)

If you say something horrible to a friend, even if you say sorry, they may still be upset, or choose to ignore you for a while. It could spoil the friendship for a long time. This is a consequence of doing something wrong.

Can you think of other consequences of doing wrong things?
What could you do about them?

Ideas for Children's leaders: We got some small wooden crosses and painted them with blackboard paint.

Covid friendly: Individual dark card cut into a cross, with a stick of chalk, and a note they will need an eraser to do the activity.

Leave in a clippy plastic back for 72 hours before you need to use them or pop them round to the child and family.

If you plan to do this activity remotely over zoom or Skype, make sure instructions are in the pack, and because of the nature of the subject, make sure their grown ups are aware of what you are doing.

Give an option to talk more if this raises issues, and make sure how you do this complies with your church's safeguarding policy.