

# HOPE GROUPS



## INTERGENERATIONAL PILGRIMAGE WALK 1 - HOME

Pilgrimages are religious journeys which people take to learn more about God and faith. Whilst we are not currently able to go very far and can only leave home for an hour, we can still go on pilgrimages.

Why not decide on a pilgrimage walk and invite someone else or another family to do the same walk. Even though you are not able to walk it together, you can share what you discovered and talked about afterwards.

### BEGINNING

Begin each walk in the same way:

- gather together quietly
- light a candle saying, 'This candle reminds me/us that God's light will never be extinguished.'
- pray:  
*Creator God,  
Guide my/our feet as I/we walk this pilgrimage today.  
Open my/our eyes to see your goodness.  
Open my/our ears to hear your call.  
Even though I/we walk alone,  
I/we know others walk this pilgrimage too.  
Amen*
- blow out the candle and start your pilgrimage
- at the end of each section, ask for a volunteer to lead a prayer if you are a family or pray your own prayer if you are a sole pilgrim.

### KITCHEN

Begin in the kitchen.

What are you thankful for?

Think about the journey of our food from the paddock to the plate.

Perhaps you grow some of your food.

How has lockdown affected the way you buy food?

Think about favourite meals and places to eat.



There are many stories of food in the Bible. Retell one of your favourites or read the feeding of the 5000 from John's Gospel.

### JOHN 6:1-14:



After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup>A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup>Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup>Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup>When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' <sup>6</sup>He said this to test him,

for he himself knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup>Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' <sup>8</sup>One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup>'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' <sup>10</sup>Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. <sup>11</sup>Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup>When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' <sup>13</sup>So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup>When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

## LOUNGE

Move into the lounge.

Do you have photos of family members?

Who do you miss seeing at the moment?

Families and friends often gather in the lounge for a chat, a cuppa, perhaps Bible studies, games.

Think about celebrations or gatherings that have taken place in your lounge.

What plans have you made for future gatherings?



Retell a story about a party in the Bible or read about the wedding at Cana.

## JOHN 2:1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup>Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup>When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no

wine.' <sup>4</sup>And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' <sup>5</sup>His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' <sup>6</sup>Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup>He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. <sup>9</sup>When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup>and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' <sup>11</sup>Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

## BATHROOM

Move into the bathroom now.



We are so fortunate that we are able to wash in clean running water and that we have plumbed sanitation. So many people around the world do not and that causes disease, illness and early deaths.

Think about those living in drought areas of Australia where showers can only be 2 or 3 minutes. How long do you spend in the shower? Water is a precious resource.

Think about how important hand hygiene is at the moment – we're all very careful about washing our hands and using sanitiser to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

During Jesus' time, there were strict rules around hygiene and washing. These were important but they also had spiritual significance for Jewish people. Unfortunately, some people took the rules to a

ridiculous level and worried more about washing their hands than the words they spoke to other people.

Can you think of stories in the Bible about keeping clean? Here is a story from Mark's Gospel about how the Pharisees were keen to keep the rules about washing but didn't worry as much about how they treated other people.

### MARK 7:1-9

“ Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?’ <sup>6</sup>He said to them, ‘Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, “This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; <sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.” <sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.’

<sup>9</sup> Then he said to them, ‘You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition!’

### BEDROOM

How comfy is your bed?



We all need to rest. We need sleep in order to keep our bodies healthy and able to learn, work and play. No-one can survive without sleep – ask a new parent!

There are people who are without a bed for the night, forced to sleep in parks and shop doorways. They have no home.

Some choose not to live in houses, others have no choice.

Some people live in their cars – not very comfortable but at least it's warmer than the street.

God was very clear that people need time to rest and God even set an example for us for the Sabbath. This is the story from Genesis after God had created the world in 6 days. On the 7<sup>th</sup> day, God rested.

### GENESIS 2:1-3

“ Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup>And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. <sup>3</sup>So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.