

# HOPE GROUPS



## INTERGENERATIONAL PILGRIMAGE WALK 5 - YOUNG EXPLORERS

As you move around and explore your yard or outdoor space, remember that God created all things and gave us the role of looking after it. Think about how you look after creation and what you could do better. When we look after creation, creation looks after us.

Gardens need care and attention in order to grow. Our pets need love and care too. Every part of creation has a role, even the smallest bugs and birds. Even mice have their place! Our role is live wisely and walk gently upon the earth.

Ponder all the things you are thankful for and pray this prayer together.

### Prayer to begin:

In the beginning God created all things,  
and God saw that they were good.

At our beginning, God created us  
unique and loved and wanted by God.

In all our new beginnings, God creates something new  
so we will seek God in all people, all things, and the  
whole of creation.

Oh God, open our eyes to see your presence,  
our souls to sense your presence,  
and our hearts to love your presence,  
ever here in your creation,  
and ever beyond it in eternity.  
Amen.

### Prayer to end:

Thank you, Lord, for all who care wherever they are  
**Bless them with your love**

Thank you for our pets  
**Bless them with your love**

Thank you for everything that lives in our yards  
**Bless them with your love**

Thank you for the whole of creation  
**Bless them, bless them, with your love.**  
Amen

- Step outside your back door – what can you see, smell or hear? Plants can smell to attract insects, birds are noisier at different times of the day, and everything looks much greener after it has rained.



- Do you have a bird table or bird feeder in your garden? Do you feed the birds with crumbs or seeds? I have kookaburras who love to eat the rodents in my yard and magpies who like me to feed them when I feed the chooks. We have different parrots and cockatoos that fly around, especially when there is fruit on the trees. I would much rather they did not eat the fruit!

- Is there a pot plant in your yard? Ask an adult to move it for you and see what is living underneath. What can you see?



- Do you have any pets in your yard? Or do your neighbours? What do you call your pets? Who named them? What is special about your pets?



- Do you have chickens to produce eggs? Chickens need good food, clean water, comfy home, daylight, and somewhere cosy to lay their eggs. When they are happy, they feed you so you need to look after them first.



- Do you grow vegetables or fruit or in your yard? You might not need a tractor to sow your seeds or harvest your crop, but it still takes work to dig and plant and weed and care for your food. Who in your family looks after your garden?



- Do you have a worm farm for your kitchen scraps, or perhaps an area of soil you can carefully dig over and find some worms? Worms are essential for healthy soil – only healthy soil can grow our food and plants. Everything has its place.

