

# Service Plan | Sunday 11 July

- This service is designed for use in a small group setting, so will function differently with only 1 or 2 people. Feel free to adapt it to suit.
- It will be helpful if one person leads the gathering, and introduces each section using the suggested words, or take turns! There are some things to say together as well (in bold).
- You can access the songs and sermon by clicking on the links where they are found in the outline.

## *Introduction*

We gather together in our homes or online today, at the start of another week of lockdown, to meet with the one true God, our Creator and Redeemer, the one who grants forgiveness, reconciliation, and eternal life through the Lord Jesus Christ to all who believe in Jesus. 1 John 1 reminds us that all of us are sinners, BUT, "If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). So let's approach the throne of our gracious God, with a true heart in full assurance of faith, and pray together:

## *Confession*

**Merciful Father,  
We have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.  
We have followed too much the schemes and desires  
of our own hearts,  
and have broken your holy laws.  
We have left undone what we ought to have done,  
and we have done what we ought not to have done.  
Yet, good Lord, have mercy on us;  
restore those who repent,  
according to the promises declared to us  
through your Son, Jesus Christ.  
Grant, merciful Father, for his sake  
that from now on,  
we may live godly and obedient lives,  
to the glory of your holy name, Amen.**

And listen to these wonderfully assuring words from Romans 5:1: "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." **Amen**

## *Song*

**Speak O Lord - [Link](#)**

## *Optional Kid's Song*

**Listen Up! - [Link](#)**

## **Optional Kid's Video** (approx. 9 minutes)

Friendship with God (Part 3 - Perfected Friendships) - [Overview with discussion Q's](#)

**Quiz Worx Video** - [Link](#)

Kids' Activity sheets are here: [Ages 2-4](#) | [Ages 5-8](#) | [Ages 9-12](#)

## **Bible Readings**

The following, or another prayer may be said before the Bible readings

Thank you, Father, for making yourself known to us  
and showing us the way of salvation through faith in your Son.

Teach us through your word  
and equip us for every good work,  
for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **1 Kings 20:1–21**

<sup>1</sup> Now King Ben-hadad of Aram assembled his entire army. Thirty-two kings, along with horses and chariots, were with him. He marched up, besieged Samaria, and fought against it. <sup>2</sup> He sent messengers into the city to King Ahab of Israel and said to him, "This is what Ben-hadad says: <sup>3</sup> 'Your silver and your gold are mine! And your best wives and children are mine as well!'"

<sup>4</sup> Then the king of Israel answered, "Just as you say, my lord the king: I am yours, along with all that I have."

<sup>5</sup> The messengers then returned and said, "This is what Ben-hadad says: 'I have sent messengers to you, saying, "You are to give me your silver, your gold, your wives, and your children.'" <sup>6</sup> But at this time tomorrow I will send my servants to you, and they will search your palace and your servants' houses. They will lay their hands on and take away whatever is precious to you."

<sup>7</sup> Then the king of Israel called for all the elders of the land and said, "Recognize that this one is only looking for trouble, for he demanded my wives, my children, my silver, and my gold, and I didn't turn him down."

<sup>8</sup> All the elders and all the people said to him, "Don't listen or agree."

<sup>9</sup> So he said to Ben-hadad's messengers, "Say to my lord the king, 'Everything you demanded of your servant the first time, I will do, but this thing I cannot do.'" So the messengers left and took word back to him.

<sup>10</sup> Then Ben-hadad sent messengers to him and said, "May the gods punish me and do so severely if Samaria's dust amounts to a handful for each of the people who follow me."

<sup>11</sup> The king of Israel answered, "Say this: 'Don't let the one who puts on his armor boast like the one who takes it off.'"

<sup>12</sup> When Ben-hadad heard this response, while he and the kings were drinking in their quarters, he said to his servants, "Take your positions." So they took their positions against the city.

<sup>13</sup> A prophet approached King Ahab of Israel and said, "This is what the Lord says: 'Do you see this whole huge army? Watch, I am handing it over to you today so that you may know that I am the Lord.'"

<sup>14</sup> Ahab asked, "By whom?"

And the prophet said, "This is what the Lord says: 'By the young men of the provincial leaders.'"

Then he asked, "Who is to start the battle?"

He said, "You."

<sup>15</sup> So Ahab mobilized the young men of the provincial leaders, and there were 232. After them he mobilized all the Israelite troops: 7,000. <sup>16</sup> They marched out at noon while Ben-hadad and the thirty-two kings who were helping him were getting drunk in their quarters. <sup>17</sup> The young men of the provincial leaders marched out first. Then Ben-hadad sent out scouts, and they reported to him, saying, "Men are marching out of Samaria."

<sup>18</sup> So he said, "If they have marched out in peace, take them alive, and if they have marched out for battle, take them alive."

<sup>19</sup> The young men of the provincial leaders and the army behind them marched out from the city, <sup>20</sup> and each one struck down his opponent. So the Arameans fled and Israel pursued them, but King Ben-hadad of Aram escaped on a horse with the cavalry. <sup>21</sup> Then the king of Israel marched out and attacked the cavalry and the chariots. He inflicted a severe slaughter on Aram.

## [2 Timothy 3:16–17](#)

<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

### **Christian Standard Bible (CSB)**

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## ***Sermon***

Matthew Jones - [2 Timothy 3:16–17](#)

## ***Optional time for discussion or reflection***

## ***Prayer***

**Informal time of prayer or you could use the prayers below:**

Heavenly Father we thank you for your amazing love to us. Forgive us when we forget what you have done, when we can't see what you are doing, and when we lack the faith to believe what you will do.

We come before you as sinners in need of a saviour. As your creation who continually seek our ways instead of yours, we ask for forgiveness.

We give you thanks for the people you have given us in our lives. We thank you for those who shared the gospel with us. May we too be people who pass the gospel on to others.

We pray for this world. Help us to remember that all people of the world are known by you. Protect us from prejudice and racism. Help us to love all people as you do. Protect our hearts and minds when it comes to how we help those in need. Give us your heart and your eyes to see the needs of the people around us.

We ask for our city under the cloud of COVID once again. Protect us from selfishness. Help us to obey the procedures placed before us by the government. You have called us to honour the role that our government plays. We pray particularly for our Prime Minister as he leads our country through this time. Give him great wisdom and courage. We pray for our Premier. Give her the courage to make the right calls for the well being of all peoples. We pray she will come to know you.

We pray for our enemies. Those that persecute or ridicule us or our faith. We pray you will do a miracle in their life and help them to come to know you. We pray for those close to us who refuse to believe – please reveal yourself to them.

We thank you for the work of Anglicare. Help them to be discerning as they care for the vulnerable. Give them the resources they need. Help them to love and care in a way that reflects the Lord Jesus' humble service of others. We ask that their chaplains may have many opportunities to share the gospel in a meaningful way.

We ask you that you will bless all parents as school options are in turmoil at this time. Give them patience and time to prepare all they need to do. We pray for teachers who are working on new plans for their students.

Bless our endeavours at church to have effective ministries for our youth and children. We ask that each of these ministries be a place where children feel and are safe. May they be a place where your word is presented clearly and leaders care for the children well.

Lastly, we give you great thanks for the progress of our new buildings. Bless those that work onsite, and we pray that as they work here, they might seek you and come to know you. Keep them safe. We ask, Lord, that all this work will come in under budget and on time. We also pray we will use these new buildings to draw more people into your kingdom.

We pray all this for the glory of Jesus and in his name. Amen

### ***Lord's Prayer***

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

### *Song*

Undivided - [Link](#) (turn on closed captions for lyrics)

*A suggestion from Matthew for getting into God's Word this week - [Link](#)*

### *Concluding Prayer*

Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

# Comments? Questions? Feedback?

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and keep up to date on what is happening!

