

WEEK 1: Getting Together

Big Question: Why do we go to church?

HANGOUT

1. Discuss: Have you worked together with anyone this summer to accomplish a fun task, like building a fort or putting up a tent? What was it? Do you think it's better to work in a group or to do things alone? Why?
2. Explain that in the church, we also get to lots of fun and meaningful things together.
3. Introduce today's Big Question: Why do we go to church?
4. Discuss:
 - Can you think of a way the church works together to serve others?
 - What is your favourite way to worship God with other people?
 - What are some of the other things we do together at church? (sing, dance, pray, learn, give, share snacks, make crafts, have fun!)

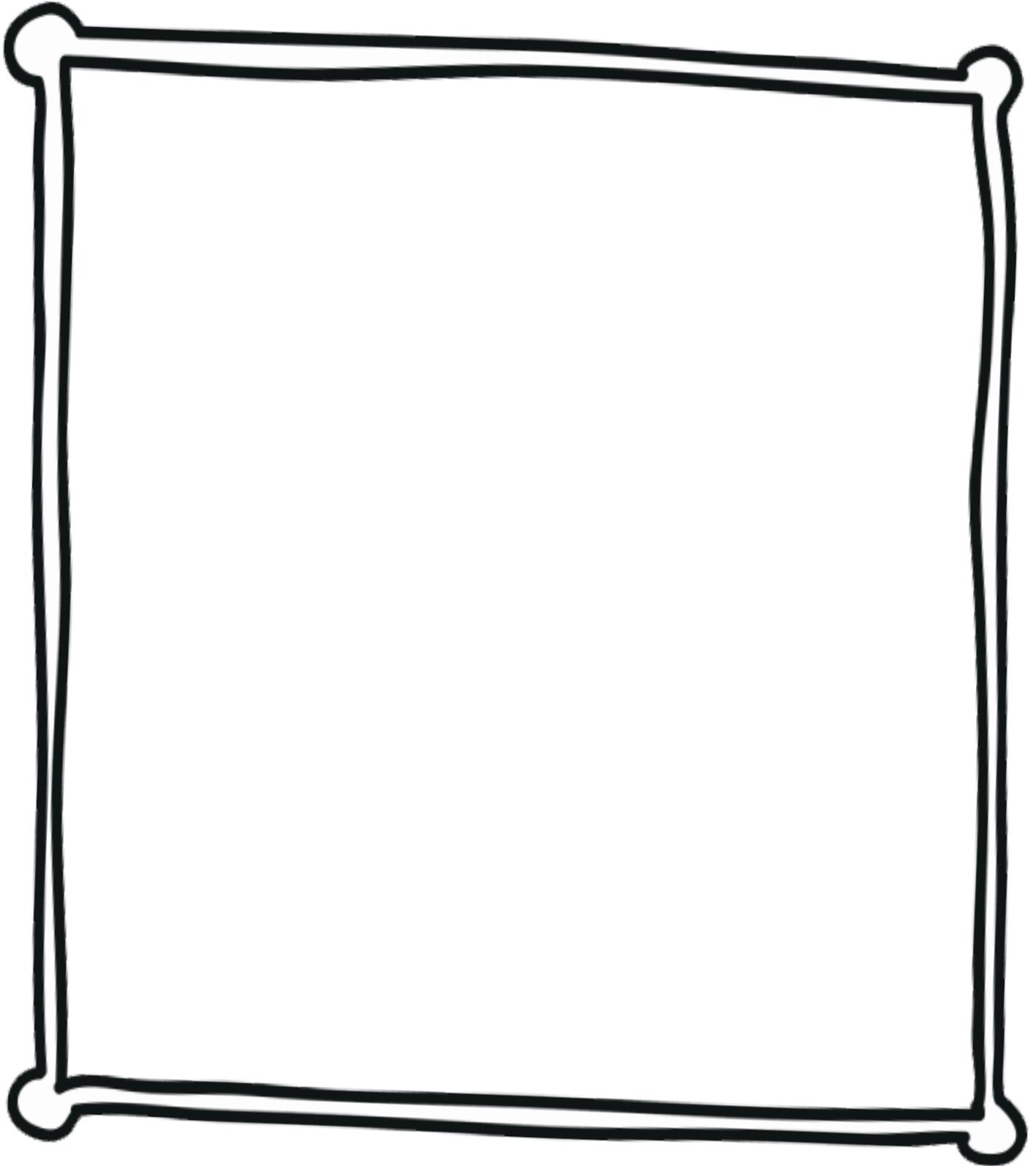
Watch this week's video on the Kids and Youth playlist at youtube.com/themeetinghouse

HEAR

5. Look up and read Acts 2:42-47 and Hebrews 10:24-25.
6. Discuss:
 - In Acts 2:42, what kinds of activities did the early church do together? (devoted themselves to teaching, to fellowship, to sharing in meals, to prayer)
 - Do you know what "awe" means? (a sense of wonder or amazement) What do you think it means when it says that a "deep sense of awe came over them"? (verse 43).
 - In verse 45, what did the members of the early church sell? (their property and possessions) Who did they share the money with? (those in need).
 - Why do you think they sold their things to share the money with people who had less?
 - In Hebrews 10:24-25, what does it say we should do for one another? (stir one another up to love, help one another do good works)
 - How do these verses help to answer this week's Big Question: Why do we go to church?

HUDDLE

7. Using the provided activity page and markers, encourage everyone to trace an outline of their hand.
8. Ask the kids to colour in each finger to look like a little person with a face, hair, etc.
9. Explain that just the way that the fingers are all connected to the hand, we are all connected to Jesus and each other in the church. Encourage everyone to think of five reasons why the church is better when we are together!
10. Write one reason over each finger (assist with writing as needed). Prompts: Serving, Giving, Learning, Worshipping, Singing, Praising, Sharing Meals, Praying.



**Let us consider how we can stir up one another to love.
Let us help one another to do good works. | Hebrews 10:24**

KIDS

Big Question: Why do we go to church?