

HOW TO EXPLORE THE KEY THEMES OF ASH WEDNESDAY AS FAMILY AND WHĀNAU

# ASH WEDNESDAY AT HOME

# MAKE YOU ASHES IN ADVANCE

"You can do this by burning strips on paper in a metal tin like a cake tin or a baking tray. Kia tūpato (be careful)

# LENT BEGINS

Talk about Ash Wednesday being the first day of Lent which is a time of thinking about God and focusing more on Him instead of the 'stuff' around us. Ash Wednesday is a day when we can say sorry to God and think about our lives.

# SAYING SORRY

Talk about what it means to say sorry and why we might want to do that, especially to people we love. How does saying sorry help?

# TIME TO THINK

Next encourage the children to think of things they might want to say sorry to God for and give them time to do this privately.

# CREATE

- Mix your ashes with oil.
- Create a large cross shape out of paper
- fill a bowl with water
- set out a candle
- put out some paper hearts

# SAY TOGETHER

Have one person say the words in the prayer on pg. 3 and ask the rest of the family to join in the bold type words. As they say their line, encourage them to dip their finger in the ash mixture and make the sign of the cross or a finger print on the large cross shape.

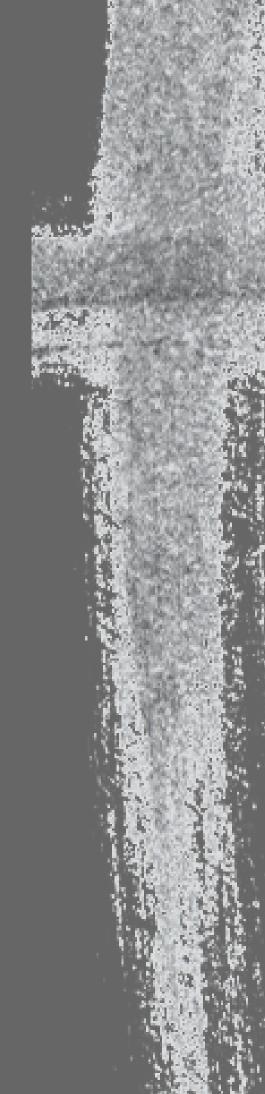


# PRAY TOGETHER

Thank you Lord that you love us and hear us when we pray We are sorry for things we have done that have hurt you and others.

We have not loved you or others as much as we could Lord, we are sorry We have not helped others as Jesus helped us Lord, we are sorry We have been impatient Lord, we are sorry We have been angry Lord, we are sorry We have been jealous of others Lord, we are sorry We have told lies Lord, we are sorry We have forgotten to pray Lord, we are sorry

\*Anyone who wants to can add to this whatever comes to mind.



## LIGHT A CANDLE

Have someone in the family say these words while the candle is being lit.

Hear us and help us, Lord Work through us so that we can share your goodness and love in the world Show us the joy and new life that J<u>esus brings.</u>

Take a heart and exchange it with someone else. Say these words together:

Thank you Lord for loving us Help us to love one another.



BASED ON AN IDEA FROM FLAMECREATIVEKIDS.BLOGSPOT.COM



#### MORE LENT AND EASTER IDEAS CAN BE FOUND AT:

### WWW.SUNZBREAKTHROUGH.ORG.NZ

