

CREATIVE PRAYER RESOURCES FOR THE CALL TO PRAYER

Praying for people to return to church

The parable of the lost sheep (Luke 15.3-7) tells the story of a lost sheep to help people think about how God will search out those who are lost to draw them to himself. This prayer idea is a way of praying for those who we want to be drawn into relationship with God.

Preparation

- Make a background of hills using different coloured paper
- You might like to include a sheepfold or a shepherd to represent God
- Decide how to represent the sheep. These could be cut outs or pieces of cotton wool. Provide enough sheep for everyone to pray for at least one person or group of people
- If you're using this as a prayer station in a prayer room, having black pens to draw a head and legs on a cotton wool sheep works well.



To use the prayer response

- Hand out the sheep to the congregation
- Read the parable of the lost sheep from Luke 15 or a suitable paraphrase
- As you read the story, invite them to hold their sheep and pray for someone who they want to be found by God
- Get them to bring their sheep to the background—this symbolises the part we might play in them being brought back by God
- Glue the sheep to the background
- Once all the sheep have been glued on, say a prayer giving thanks for God drawing people to himself and the celebration that goes on in heaven when people are drawn back to him.



