

WE ARE THE FAMILY OF GOD

VISUAL AIDS

> Pictures of families of different nationalities.

SHARING

Invite the children to remember and share memories of happy times they have spent with their families. What do they like best about their family? What things do they like to

WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Say/sing together:

**Alleluia, alleluia!
If we live in love,
God will live in us.
Alleluia!**

A reading from the Good News given to us by Mark.

Glory to you, Lord.

People were bringing their children to Jesus for him to touch them. Some of Jesus' friends thought the children were being a nuisance, so they began sending them away. When Jesus saw this he said

'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them. It is to these children and

DISCUSSION

What did Jesus' followers think of the children?

So what did they do?

Are we ever like them?

Are there people we think are too much bother, and push them away?

Little brothers and sisters, perhaps?

How did Jesus treat the children?

What do you think he would want us to do?

do with their family?

Today we have a psalm about a happy family.

All say or sing the response together, and do the actions during the verses.

Arms raised in prayer

May the Lord bless us all our life.

Mime working actions

Happy are those who love the Lord, and follow his ways.

They will find happiness in their work. *Response*

'Wife' in the centre, with a circle of 'children' who dance round her

Your wife will be the heart of your family; your children will gather round in love. *Response*

Children wave and dance around Happy those who love the Lord. They and their children's children will live in peace. *Response*

those who are like them that the kingdom belongs.'

Jesus put his arms round the children, laid his hands on them and blessed them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

ACTIVITIES

> Have the children act out the Gospel.

> Give out blank pieces of paper and have the children:

either, draw a picture of happy times with their family;

or, write a prayer for their family.

