

National Junior High Sunday 2020

“Take the Log Out” based on Matthew 7:3-5

Creative Worship Elements

by Donna Parcell

- Set up a station with different sizes of branches - small twigs up to large branches. Invite people to reflect on how each one of us has “logs” that block our vision. Think about things that might be keeping you from seeing things more clearly, or things that are keeping you from understanding your neighbor. Ask for God’s help to remove those obstacles. Pray for wisdom and understanding.
 - *Online worship translation:* Either prior to worship or as a follow-up activity, invite participants to take a walk and find a stick to remind them of this week’s scripture/lesson. Suggest placing the stick somewhere they will see it multiple times a day, remind them to consider what might be blocking their vision.
- Hang prisms in a window. Note that the same light enters the prism, but because of the inner mechanism of the prism, the light is broken up and seen in different colors when it leaves. Reflect on the idea that while people may experience the same situation, they are influenced by their experiences, fears, unconscious biases, triggers, trauma, and needs. Everyone will react and see things differently. Seek to understand differences rather than becoming defensive or argumentative. Pray to see people through Christ’s eyes.
 - *Online worship translation:* Either prior to worship or as a follow-up activity, invite participants to find a lens/prism (eye glasses? A water glass with a thick bottom?) around the house. Play with the prism in sunlight, noting the observations above.