

# Healthy Church Challenge

Reflections for ages 8-10

## Hope Avenue

Think about it, wouldn't it be strange and mean if you didn't let someone join your group for a school project just because they were wearing a green shirt? What does wearing a green shirt have to do with working on a school project? It's kind of like that with worship. We are included in Jesus not because of anything we do, or have, or think, but because he loves us. We include everyone in worship not because of what they do, have, or think, but because they are loved by God. Creating an inclusive gathering is one way we can practice being a healthy church.



## Faith Avenue



Wouldn't it be difficult and very dangerous to climb a ladder without someone to hold it for you? Would playing tag be any fun if you played by yourself? We aren't meant to do those things alone. It's kind of like that with discipleship. God created us to be with one another, just like the Father, Son, and Spirit are with one another. Being a disciple of Jesus all alone is difficult, dangerous, and way less fun. God transforms us to be more like Jesus when we share life with one another. Sharing life and spending time with our church community is one way we can practice being a healthy church.

## Love Avenue

Have you ever learned or done something new when you made a new friend? Maybe you made a new friend and they taught you a new game or how to make a friendship bracelet. Maybe they're really funny and make you laugh a lot. God has made each person unique and loves them. He teaches us to love other people and value their uniqueness too. Making friends and being a good friend is one way to share God's love. Making friends with people anywhere you go, not just at church activities, is one way we can practice being a healthy church.

