

Shout for joy

Worship the Lord with gladness

Leader's guide

Gavin Whitehouse has given us a great opportunity to help familiarise your group with Psalm 100; it is a reminder that the Lord is good and that his love never ceases. An energetic song full of positivity.

Warm-up

The melodic line is entirely on the lower stave, with the upper stave adding decoration. If a few voices are to add the upper line, this will need careful rehearsal to ensure some of the tricky pitches and independent rhythms are secure. Warm up with a 'round' to encourage the independence of different parts.

Prayer

Dear Lord,
We choose to worship you with gladness today. We say thank you for all you have done for us and all you have given to us today. We shout for joy as we sing your praises! Amen.

Bible verse

'Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.'

Psalm 100: 1-2

Activity

Shout for joy

Get the group to think of something they are thankful for. Take it in turns for each member to speak; start very quietly, then get each person to get a little louder. The last person should have to shout what they are most thankful for.

We want everyone to be able to hear our worship and thankfulness to God.



Thought

Ask the children to shout out a word that describes how they feel about their day (eg fun, boring, exciting, sad).

Our feelings can change all the time, but no matter how good or bad our day has been, it is always possible to 'worship the Lord with gladness' as we always have something to be grateful for. Sometimes praying and thinking about all the good things God has given us can help us to feel glad.

Personal challenge

Each morning when you wake up and every evening before you go to sleep this week, try and think of three things that you are thankful for.

Group challenge

When the children see each other at a rehearsal or on a Sunday, perhaps they can ask each other how they are feeling and pray with each other about it. They can also encourage each other to worship with gladness by asking each other, 'What are you thankful for today?'

