

# #Selfie with God

Resource Activity: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021

Hi lovely young people!

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and wishing you all a happy and healthy new year.

**We thought we would do something slightly different to our usual activities this month and give you some time and space for prayer and reflection as we enter this new year.**

**Today is a new day and we are at the beginning of a new year!  
This activity will be focusing on our hopes and prayers for  
2021.**

Without doubt, 2020 was such a difficult year. We surely will never forget this difficult time in our lives, the people we have lost, the worry and stress we have been living under and the changes we have had to make to our lives in order to stay safe.

We have seen so many heroic acts from our keyworkers and so much care and kindness shown to those in need. Despite us not being able to be together physically, people have reached out to one another in new ways to create a closer connection to each other where possible.

Whilst we are still experiencing these difficult times, we thought it really important to spend some time in this activity, thinking and praying about the new year ahead that we are stepping into.

So often, when living through times that are difficult, we can learn so many new things about ourselves, the way we react to things and the way we relate to others. We can learn new things about our walk with Jesus also.

Before we step forward, sometimes we have to look back to see the journey we have been on.

Can you write down here, 3 things you have learnt about yourself during 2020:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Can you write down here, 3 things you have learnt about your relationship with God during 2020:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

I personally have realised that there are things I would like to do, places I want to see, experiences I want to have that I never gave much thought to before this pandemic. I also find, that I imagine living life a little differently after this. I imagine enjoying life so much more, appreciating the small things and really cherishing

time with my family and friends when we can be back together. Perhaps this is one blessing we can take from this difficult year – a new perspective. I have also learnt to really trust in Jesus that He has my future in His hands.

I have included some words below, please circle the one's that best describe how you feel on entering the coming year.

Hopeful	Unsure	Deflated	Happy	Excited
Worried	Anxious	Relieved	Cautious	Optimistic

I myself circled both hopeful and anxious, as that probably best describes the place my mind is in lately.

When so much feels out of control or uncertain, it can be easy to lose sight on who remains in control of all our lives and our futures.

Phillipians 4: 6-7 NIV says...

**<sup>6</sup>Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.**

Mark 11:24 NIV says...

**<sup>24</sup>Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.**

These are two fantastically encouraging verses that tell us that every situation we face can be lifted to God and they encourage us to understand that our prayers are heard and received.

**I would like you to take 5 minutes to find a peaceful and quite place in your home. Get comfortable and just rest. As you rest, I would like you to begin talking to God about the things that have passed this last year and also the things that are to come in the coming year.**

**Perhaps, if it's not too personal, you could write here anything you felt God saying to you in your time of peace:**

**Below I have listed some areas that not only we as a church family, but the whole world need your prayer on. Please look at the words and keep them in your heart so that as you pray over the coming weeks, these areas are being lifted to God for his guidance, wisdom and power over:**

**Prayer areas:**



**Prayer for the healing of those that are sick**

**Prayer for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one**

**Prayer for the vaccine programme**

**Prayer for those who have lost their livelihoods**

**Prayer for those who feel lonely**

**Prayer for the country and our leaders that they will make the right decisions**

**Prayer for our neighbours, that they know they are cared for**

**Prayer for our churches, that God will keep them strong and protected**

**Prayer for our vicar and his family, that God will renew spirits and give them strength and protection**

**Prayer for our church family, that God will bless them with the needs of their heart**

**Prayer for this week: Dear Lord, thank you that when we lift our prayers to you, you listen Father. Help us to trust that we are seen and heard Lord. We give to you our prayers, hopes and dreams for the coming year and lay them at your feet. We pray for protection and blessings over each one of us as we enter 2021.**

**Amen.**